



PACIFIC MOUNTAIN ALLIANCE FOR INNOVATION

THAT'S NEWS | September 2009

RETC Board of Directors



Meet the talented group of leaders who will move the Regional Education and Training Center to the next level of achievement.

Bob Guenther, spent 34 years as a mechanic and foreman at the Centralia Power plant and is a local businessman and is actively involved in community activities. He serves on the Executive Board of the Washington State Labor Council, Board of the Lewis County EDC, Centralia College advisory boards and is an officer on the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council. Bob works for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 77 as the governmental liaison.

Jim Agnew, Director of Training for International Union Operating Engineers (IUOE) local unions 302 & 612. Jim's construction career began as a graduated apprentice in 1985. In 1992 he was appointed Training Coordinator for Western Washington Operating Engineers/Employers Training Trust, and Director in 2003. He has served on the board of directors of Washington Crane Safety Association, Western Apprenticeship Coordinators Association, National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators, and the Tower Crane task force/Master Crane operator task force. Jim is an accredited crane operator examiner.

Dr. Ed Brewster, has served as President of Grays Harbor College since 2004. Dr. Brewster spent 8 years at Pierce College in a variety of positions. He earned his EdD at Oregon State University. He previously served as President of the Association for Community College Administrators, is a Board member of the GH Chamber of Commerce, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council, GH and Pacific counties' Economic Development Councils, and is also a member of the Aberdeen Rotary.

Dr. Linda Kirk Fox, Washington State University Associate Vice President and Dean. Dr. Fox has worked in the Cooperative Extension programming for 28 years, serving as county extension educator, as state specialist in family economics, and as a department head at University of Idaho. Since moving to WSU in 2002 she has led an organization of nearly 800 extension employees in 39 counties and 10 learning centers, and several colleges.

Joe Kinerk, Executive Director, New Market Skills Center. Mr. Kinerk has served over 30 years in education and has been with New Market Skills Center for the past 19 years. Mr. Kinerk is an advocate of career and technical education. He serves on the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council and is an active member in the Olympia community. He is active in his church and the Youth Exchange Program through Rotary.

Robert Wilson, Business Representative, lives in the Willapa Valley and operates a cattle farm. Bob was employed by Weyerhaeuser for 18 years and, while at the Mill in Raymond, he completed apprenticeships for millwright and pipefitter. He has served in numerous capacities for IWA Local 130, International Association of Machinists. Mr. Wilson attended Grays Harbor College and the University of Oregon. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Administration from The National Labor College in Maryland.

Troy Nutter, Manager, Training & Procedures, Puget Sound Energy has worked for PSE since 2001. Prior to PSE Troy worked in multiple energy technology related positions and is a journey level electrician. Troy serves on multiple boards and commissions including the Center of Excellence for Energy at Centralia Community College, Washington Trades Credit Union, Washington DeMolay and Department of Labor Apprenticeship Review Panel. He is actively involved with youth development projects at a local and international level.

Mike Edwards, President Emeritus, Thurston First Bank. Mike served as the Supervisor of Banking for the State of Washington and as an advisor to Chairman Alan Greenspan and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington, D.C. He also served as Chairman of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, a national organization of state banking supervisors. Mike has served as president of three community banks in Washington State. Mike is immediate past president of the Economic Development Council of Thurston County and has served on the board since 1989. He is involved with numerous community organizations and activities.

Peter Heide, Senior Director Forest Policy, Washington Forest Protection Association has nearly 40 years of experience in industrial forestry in Washington. For the past ten years he worked for WFPA and negotiated a variety of forest policy and regulatory matters for the association. His previous experience includes forest management and public affairs work for Plum Creek Timber Company, and silviculture and forest nursery management for Scott Paper Company. Mr. Heide serves on numerous local and state boards and was recently appointed by Governor Gregoire to the Washington Biodiversity Council. Mr. Heide holds a Master of Science degree in Forest Management from the University of Idaho and a BS degree in Forestry from Humboldt State University.

GBERT ...Is What??

Green Building Energy Retrofit Training is a 90 hour program that introduces the basics of green construction and the tools of the construction trade. It provides awareness to the “whole systems” approach to weatherization and offers a framework for learners to understand the basics of sustainable building and buildings as systems. Students receive an overview of the certificate programs for sustainable building, including: LEED, U.S. Green Building Council; Living Building Challenge, Cascadia Region; Green Building Council and Built Green Program, National Association of Home Builders.

This summer 21 students from Grays Harbor area completed GBERT at the Regional Education Training Center (RETC) @ Satsop. Partnerships with Local #26 Plumbers & Pipefitters, Evergreen Depot, South Sound Solar, Conservation Services Group, and Climate Solutions made the program possible.

All the students, ranging from 16 to 24 years of age, received an OSHA 10 hour General Industry Certification and a .5 elective credit awarded through Hoquiam High School. Hoquiam woodshop teacher Laurie Howard taught the hands-on class. Following the class students were hired by local Grays Harbor area businesses...just the right combination of learning and performing.

For additional information about construction related training contact Matt Gordon - 360-482-1754 matt.gordon@retc-satsop.org



Training Locally Helps Company Stay Competitive

Olympic Panel Products is the largest and most advanced manufacturer of overlaid plywood in North America. Their top-quality products can be found in the cabinetry and countertops of homes, in advanced long lasting freeway signs, and in specially coated plywood for concrete forms.

A sophisticated manufacturing operation, computer controlled equipment peels, dries, and presses the veneer. Even the older equipment is computer controlled and requires a skilled operator. When something goes wrong, it is extremely expensive to bring in the equipment manufacturer representatives to fix the computer interface.

Olympic Panel decided that training their existing staff was a more cost effective choice for repairs. WIRED dollars helped pay for the cost of the training, which was conducted at Olympic College. Six employees took the classes to help them achieve their certifications.

As a result, the company will save maintenance dollars, workers increased their skills, and more value is added to the company. Helping to keep our companies competitive strengthens our region.

For information about customized job training for your business contact Jon Kime - jon.kime@retc-satsop.org 360-482-1758



Hot Pressing Veneer



Sam Loomis

Equipment at Olympic Panel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Satsop Development Park
Open House —October 16,
2009

Pacific Mountain Industry and
Innovation Expo - -
November 6-7, 2009
At Little Creek Casino,
Shelton

CONTACT US

For more information contact:

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