



SIB Tips...

Issue 55, March 2018

A newsletter of ideas for UBC Sisters
Committees to use to be more effective

Sisters See Carpentry as a Career, Not a Job

Chemistry or Carpentry? That's the career choice Jessica Benson faced after earning a degree in Chemistry. She chose Carpentry for several reasons. Make sure you click the link to read about Jessica in the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership newsletter.

And she is not alone. Five women in the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters (NRCC) made the same choice. Their previous careers ranged from medical assistant to chef. You can read their stories in an article that appeared in the Baltimore Sun newspaper.

What do these Sisters' choices say about the UBC? One answer came from Tim Miller, director of the center where the NRCC women attended training. He said, "When I go to career fairs, I tell candidates I'm not offering a job, I'm offering a career."

Welcome to your new career Sisters!

In Solidarity,

International Sisters in the Brotherhood Committee

Regional Updates:

Industrial Council

Sisters in the Industrial Council continued their community initiatives. The **Kentucky SIB Committee** bought a bed for a 17-year old girl as part of their “bedz for kidz” campaign.

The **Vicksburg, Mississippi SIB Committee** gave away a bag of goodies every day during Valentine’s week. They held a drawing to select the lucky person who was the SIB’s Valentine for that day.

Nice Industrial Council!

Canadian District

Sisters in the **Atlantic Canada Regional Council SIB Committee** continued their outreach at local community colleges. They are speaking at high schools and participating in job fairs, with the goal of sparking interest in UBC careers.

More specifically, Cape Breton is working with their training coordinator to hold an event to give high school students a day of hands-on carpentry experience.

Great Canadian District!

Eastern District

In the New England Regional Council, Sisters in the **Western Massachusetts SIB Committee** made great strides in getting work opportunities for women. Smith College agreed to include diversity goals in a \$100 million-dollar library project. These goals are 7% Women, 16% People of Color, and 10% Minority and Women Business Enterprises. Sisters also received positive press in two articles posted on the College website.

Click [here](#) to read more and see the photos.

Maintaining their focus on work opportunities at colleges, 11 Western Massachusetts Sisters made a one-hour and 30 minute drive to participate in the Williams College forum on “Diversity in Construction.” The forum focused on hiring practices for College construction projects, and attendees included 80 students as well as some staff. Lisa Clauson, SIB Chair, and other Sisters have been pursuing construction opportunities at Williams College for a while.

Click [here](#) to read more and learn how the students are supporting this initiative.

Eastern District (continued)

Western Massachusetts Sisters also continued their efforts to build a pipeline of female construction workers with Girls in Trades (GIT) events. Their latest event (a job fair) was held at Springfield Technical Community College, where over 100 students attended. Two Sisters delivered presentations, and the event attracted much media attention.

Click [here](#) to read more and see the photos.

Outstanding Western Massachusetts!

In the New York City & Vicinity District Council, SIB Chair Tammy Rivera, received a full-page feature in Construction Dive, a newsletter that covers commercial and residential construction. She was one of five women interviewed to commemorate Women in Construction Week, March 5 – 11, 2018.

In the article, Tammy describes her pride in construction work, praises her colleagues, and stresses the important role of women. She also talks about the benefits of working Union versus Non-Union.

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

Congratulations Tammy!

The **Northeast Regional Council SIB Committee** continues to successfully recruit and train women pre-apprentices. Their latest success includes five women who attended training in Arbutus, Maryland. In a Baltimore Sun newspaper article, the women explained their excitement about pursuing careers as Carpenters.

In the same article, Susan Schultz, SIB committee chair and director of the NRCC Sisters in the Brotherhood recruitment program, explains that the Council wants women to think about Carpentry as a long-term career choice, not a short-term job. This sentiment is echoed by Tim Miller, director of the Arbutus training center.

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

Eastern District (continued)

Making news of her own, Susan Schultz was interviewed on WTbQ radio station by Barbara Martinez, Director of Communications for the Orange County, NY Chamber of Commerce.

During the interview, Susan talked about the NRCC's recruitment program for women. Susan also praised the Carpenter's Union, emphasizing the benefits workers receive and highlighting that Carpentry offers a long-term career option.

Barbara's excitement about careers in the trades came through as well. She personally encouraged listeners to explore such opportunities. And on a more personal note, she fell in love with the phrase, "Sisters in the Brotherhood," citing it several times throughout the interview.

Click [here](#) to listen to this exciting and informative discussion.

Great work NRCC and congratulations Susan!

Midwestern & Southern Districts

Sisters in the **Central South Regional Council SIB Committee** attended the Women in Industry Conference on February 22, 2018. They also volunteered to help a church group in Winnie, Texas as part of the hurricane Harvey relief effort.

Wonderful Central South!

Sisters in the **Michigan Regional Council SIB Committee** are helping the Women Build and Habitat for Humanity organizations. They are also helping to connect families with a mobile food bank.

Very good Michigan!

In the North Central States Regional Council, Pewaukee, Wisconsin Sister, Jessica Benson, made news by choosing a career in Carpentry over Chemistry. In an article that appeared in the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership (WRTP) newsletter, Jessica explained that even though she has a degree in Chemistry, working in the trades is what she loves. She likes the different projects and believes Carpentry will give her a broader range of experiences.

Click here to [read](#) the entire article.

Congratulations and welcome Jessica!

Midwestern & Southern Districts (continued)

Western District (continued)

Sisters in the **St. Louis and Kansas City Regional Council SIB Committee** have been focused on recruitment, politics, and community. With an eye on recruiting women, Sisters participated in a meeting hosted by the Heartland Women in Trades group. Titled, “Meeting of the Minds,” participants explored ways to start a Policy Group on Tradeswomen Issues (PGTI) group that models the Boston, Massachusetts SIB. And while this was a preliminary discussion, a decision was made to invite key players to further explore starting such a group.

Gearing up for the mid-term elections, Sisters joined Brothers in the fight to prevent the Missouri legislature from turning back the clock on workers’ rights. “Proposition A” is one critical issue on the ballot.

Click [here](#) to read more and see the photo.

Sisters are also taking advantage of the many “career day” events held at high schools. They are showing up and telling students about career opportunities in construction.

Click [here](#) to see a photo of one such visit.

Additionally, Sisters showed up to help raise money for a worthy cause – the Carpenters Scholarship fund. It was a popular Mouse Race event.

Click [here](#) to see the fun photos.

Terrific St. Louis and Kansas City!

Western District

In the **Northern California Regional Council SIB Committee**, Sisters continued their outreach to Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and High Schools. They also participated in two career fairs: Women Can Build and Calaveras United School District. On the political front, Sisters attended the California Democratic Convention.

Excellent Northern California!

Your International SIB Committee

Canadian District:

Amanda Leggette, aleggette@myparc.ca

Eastern District:

Sue Schultz, sschultz@Northeastcarpenters.org

Midwest/Southern Districts:

Barbara Pecks, bpecks@ncsrcc.org

Western District:

Amber McCoy, AmberMcCoy@PNCI.org

Keep These Items In Mind

Have a tip?

We welcome your news for the SIB Tips newsletter. Please email your news to your district representative on the International SIB Committee.

Looking to Start a Committee?

There's a document on the Resources page in the UBC Sisters web site that will help you get started.

Don't Forget: Get in the Loop!

Join the UBC's texting program!

Get news and information about the UBC delivered straight to your mobile phone. Here's how:

Text UBC to 91990 (USA) for UBC info

Text UBC to 52267 (Canada) for UBC info

AND

Get news and information about the Sisters in the Brotherhood program!

Text SIB to 91990 (USA) for Sisters-only info

Text SIB to 52267 (Canada) for Sisters-only info

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