



## Ohio GROWs Quarterly Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter October 1 – December 31, 2010

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### DIRECTOR'S CORNER - Judy Ennis

Happy 2011!!

**PLEASE REMEMBER - this is the last year of the grant and all training must be completed by October 31, 2011.**

Visit the Ohio GROWs website [www.ohiogrows.org](http://www.ohiogrows.org) and check out the calendar section to find the schedule of Ohio GROWs classes and enroll now. This grant has been funded through ARRA funds and will not be extended so don't be left out of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

As of December 31, 2010, seventy-six individuals have successfully completed all three of the training classes (Solar, Wind and Energy Efficiency) earning the Capstone Certificate. Local 38 leads the list with 21 of their members achieving this certification followed by Local 575 with 14 members. In addition, Locals 8, 64, 540, 648, 972 and 1105 all have individuals who have earned this Capstone Certificate. This is an outstanding accomplishment and we extend congratulations to these individuals.

This newsletter contains a copy of a very **brief survey (pg 8)** that we are sending to all the Training Directors. We encourage **EVERYONE** to fill out this survey and return to this office either by fax, email or snail mail. We are conducting this survey so that we may capture the Training Directors thoughts, as well as yours, on how the Ohio GROWs grant is functioning for them and their grant participants. If you are finding some glaring deficiencies in the grant operation, we still have time to correct them once we are made aware. And if you find that it is going well, we need to know that too. These surveys will show the DOL, when they arrive for their monitoring visit this spring, what our "customers", **YOU**, think of the grant.

## ENERGY SOLUTIONS SUMMITS

We are excited to announce another training opportunity the OELMCC has made available to NECA contractors and IBEW members. The OELMCC was awarded a grant through the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) which will enable them to hold five Energy Solutions Summits across the state.

**Phase 1 Training - The Screening Audit** is being offered in four, one-day seminars with classes running from 1:00-7:30 pm. The Phase One seminar will offer skills that enable contractor staff to identify energy efficiency project opportunities in commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities. All major systems are assessed including the building envelope, mechanical and electrical systems.

**Note: No matter where you are located in Ohio, you may participate at any of the locations below. Favorable room rates near these facilities are available.**

(The Toledo and Hudson seminars have already occurred at the time of press)

**West Chester- Wednesday, March 16**  
Meridian Conference Center @ Wingate  
by Wyndham  
For the Cincinnati and Western Ohio  
Chapter areas.

**Columbus - Thursday, March 17**  
Electrical Trades Center  
For the Central Ohio Chapter area.

**Phase 2 Training - The Preliminary Energy Assessment (PEA) Audit** is being held at the Electrical Trades Center in Columbus on April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The Phase Two seminar is a more in-depth energy audit where the auditor collects the detailed information required to quantify potential energy savings and the financial benefits of implementing appropriate EE measures and practices. During a PEA audit, the auditor collects detailed information about the facility's energy usage patterns to

determine the facility's Energy Utilization Index (EUI). These seminars are led by Mark Toda and Bill Paletski, senior technical specialists with the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program (Penn TAP) with Penn State University. These seminars serve to enhance the training being done through the Ohio GROWs grant and will better prepare our journeymen and apprentices to be the premier providers in the "green economy" future.

**This is a two-day follow up to the Phase 1 seminar. Classes run 1:00-7:30 pm on day 1 and 7:00 am - 1:30 pm on day 2.**

**Columbus - Wed. & Thur., April 13 & 14**  
Electrical Trades Center  
For all Ohio chapter areas.

**Please check out the OELMCC web site at [www.oelmcc.org](http://www.oelmcc.org) for additional information and to register for these FREE seminars.**

## NAME THE DOCUMENTARY CONTEST

**NAME THE OHIO GROWs  
DOCUMENTARY and win an  
exciting prize!**

**DEADLINE March 1st**

**We are currently accepting  
suggestions for a name for the  
documentary which will be ready for  
release in late March.**

**Please email your suggestions by  
March 1st to: [jennis@tejatc.org](mailto:jennis@tejatc.org) or  
[mkujawa@tejatc.org](mailto:mkujawa@tejatc.org)**

## 4th QUARTER CAPSTONE CERTIFICATES

Below are the sixty-three additional individuals who have qualified for the NJATC Capstone Certificate which indicates that they have successfully completed all three classes: photovoltaic, wind/competent climbing, and building automation (energy efficiency) that comprise the grant. These individuals are:

### Local

8 Stephen Brown  
8 Stephen Hardie  
8 John Kazmierczak  
8 Michael Kehoe  
8 Kent Mantey  
8 John P McGrain  
8 Jacob Meyers  
8 Kevin Miekis  
8 Gilbert Park, Jr  
8 Richard Stringham  
38 Michael Ballard  
38 Craig Besserer  
38 Eric Conley  
38 Benjamin Fienga  
38 Salvatore Giuliani  
38 Nicole Glovitch  
38 Richard Jirousek  
38 Stephen Kaspick, Jr  
38 Kenneth Kay  
38 Robert Luda  
38 Thomas Meisterheim  
38 Daniel Metzger  
38 Steve Meyer  
38 Timothy Rolinc  
38 Patrick Walsh  
64 Frank Curtis  
64 Richard Deemer  
64 Jim DeSimone  
64 Richard Devito, Jr  
64 Bruce Finamore  
64 Vincent Gould  
64 John Howard  
64 John Kelly  
64 Matthew Martin  
64 Roger Peskor  
540 Stephen Bierbower  
540 Justin Brenner  
540 Damus Cole

540 Michael Legg II  
540 Daniel Robinson  
540 Matthew Sherwood  
540 Jason Smith  
575 Bobby DeHart  
575 Jerry Easter II  
575 Donald Leeth  
575 GuWayne Lewis  
575 John Marsh  
575 Eric Mills  
575 Bryan Pitts  
575 Benjamin Pollard  
575 Gary Price  
575 Mark Rittenhouse  
575 Guy Sands  
575 Scott Wilbanks  
575 Ryan Williams  
575 Robert Woolf  
648 Michael Gregston  
648 Sean Jelliffe  
648 Theodore Jelliffe  
648 Matthew Von Stein  
972 Matthew P Martin  
972 Jason Morris  
1105 Dwayne Lashley

**Congratulations to Nicole  
and all of these gentlemen!**

We have many individuals who have completed two classes and only need one more to join the list of those who have earned the Capstone Certificate. Your JATC Training Director, Field Coordinator and this office all have records so if you are unsure how close you are to earning this certification or if you have any questions regarding the Capstone Certification, please give one of us a call. Your JATC Training Director must apply to the NJATC for the Capstone Certificate.

## PROGRESS & PROMOTION

### Frank Piatt – NECA Field Representative

It's exciting for me to see the progress that we have made with the training under Ohio GROWs. With over 1,500 people taking training and 76 attaining Capstone Certificates, we have something to be positive about. It is good to take a step back and look at what has been accomplished and to consider the positive impact that all of this training will have for our industry and the lives of those participating.

Thank you to all the Training Directors who have been working faithfully to get Journeymen and Apprentices enrolled in the classes. It added workload to your already busy schedules and for that I am most appreciative.

Thank you to all the Business Managers and Chapter Managers who have been supportive of the grant and have been encouraging attendance.

Thank you to the contractors who are encouraging employees to attend and looking at jobs where trained workers can utilize their new skills.

Finally, thank you to our Ohio GROWs staff - Judy Ennis, Marsha Kujawa, Mike Hassell and Mike Hines. These hard working and faithful people have contributed much to this effort and it wouldn't be successful without them.

We definitely are making progress but we must continue to promote the benefits of the training and encourage participation. I encourage all involved to look at more ways to get people enrolled. This may mean some different approaches, such as:

- Utilizing alternative sites for training - consider classes held in contractor shops or in outlying metro areas.
- Scheduling classes days, nights and weekends. Remember there is financial assistance available for those needing help with childcare.

- Consider new ways of promotion. Involve your local LMCC's in promotion and giveaways.

It is all worth the effort to make sure our IBEW-NECA workforce is trained for the future. Please join me in celebrating our progress and promotion for a successful finish.

## PRODUCTION PHASE OF OHIO GROWs VIDEO COMPLETE

As you all know, we're creating a seventeen minute documentary-style video that captures the Ohio GROWs training experience. The program will be used as part of our final report to the Department of Labor and also to highlight the high standards and fine work of our people and organizations.

Planning for the video began in July of 2010, and the production phase officially began with the first "on-location" shoot in September. Since that time, our producer, Jeff Betts, has logged nine additional shoots to capture the full range of our training. Jeff and the WBGU crew have also conducted numerous interviews that explore our program and its goals, in addition to visiting actual jobsites.

With production now completed, the focus will shift to the editing phase. All of the various pieces will be sorted, evaluated and organized to create the finished video. Jeff will be working with roughly twelve hours of footage, so we'll give him a couple of days to complete the job! Our hope is to have the completed program in hand by the end of March.



## TRAINING “BANK”

When we first started training under the Ohio GROWs grant, the OELMCC Committee assigned each Local a number of training slots they could use for each of the three classes: photovoltaic, wind/competent climbing and building automation (energy efficiency). **DO NOT STOP TRAINING** just because you feel you may exceed your numbers. The OELMCC has decided that as of January 2011 we will put all the unused numbers in a “bank” and allow a Local who needs more slots to draw out of the bank. Your Field Coordinators will work with you to draw down additional slots so that you may accommodate all of your brothers and sisters who are asking for training in the three areas of the grant. This is one bank where you cannot be “overdrawn”. **KEEP TRAINING!** It is important to the success of our industry to have our journeypersons/apprentices receive this state-of-the-art green energy training.

## ODDS AND ENDS

The Department of Labor has a new reporting system called the Recovery Act Date (RAD) System. We are required to input information regarding each of the grant participants. One of the areas that RAD requires is the date of birth, not just the age of the participant. Please be sure when your participants are filling out an application for Ohio GROWs that you are using the application that asks for date of birth and not just age (rev 081310). You can find this application on the web site at [www.ohiogrows.org](http://www.ohiogrows.org) under forms.



## PLEASE WRITE/PRINT CLEARLY

We have to take the information from the application and enter it into the RAD system and if we can't read the writing it makes it very difficult to have accurate information in the RAD system.

Remember, the grant-in-aid is paid off of the class attendance sheet when the individual successfully completes the training. The registration fee, which goes to the training JATC, is paid off of the first day verification on the attendance sheet. Please have all attendees sign the attendance sheet immediately upon the start of the class each day, not when the class is completed.

Please make sure all boxes in the middle of the application are filled out. The only box that is optional is the one asking for race. All the other boxes must be completed as this is required information we are to report through the RAD system.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who issues certificates for the training?

The training JATC must order the certificates from the NJATC for the participants. The Field Coordinators and this office will keep a listing of those participants who successfully earn the capstone certificate from the NJATC. The home JATC should keep copies of the certificates earned by their members and when all three classes are completed, apply for the capstone certificates.

### How do I register my members for a class?

The training director or designated individual should contact the training JATC to register their members. The Ohio GROWs web site has applications and class registration forms the individual can complete.

### How long do I wait for reimbursement?

Before this office can send in the request for reimbursement from the requesting JATC site, we first must have received the signed attendance sheet from the training site. This is needed to reimburse the grants-in-aid of \$400 for those participants completing the training. Once we have the signed attendance sheet and the travel expense report (including original receipts) from the participants, the invoices are sent to Frank Cloud, our fiscal agent in Hamilton, Ohio, twice a month. Frank then draws down the money from the federal government, which can take up to three days. Once the money is deposited into the checking account, checks are written, delivered to Don Bolling for his signature and then the checks are sent out to the JATC's. This procedure can take between 2-4 weeks depending on all of these factors. Timely reimbursement is dependent on many people.....starting with the training JATC.

**DOL requires the date of birth for all participants. Please make sure you are using the updated Ohio GROWs Application form for all of your classes (rev 081310).**

**All the required Ohio GROWs forms can be found on the web site at [www.ohiogrows.org](http://www.ohiogrows.org) under FORMS. Check the lower right hand corner for revision dates and make sure the forms you are using have the same revision date.**

**If you would like an interactive Ohio GROWs Travel Expense Report, please email [mkujawa@tejatc.org](mailto:mkujawa@tejatc.org) and the file will be emailed to you.**

**DEADLINE for articles to be included in the next issue is Friday, May 6, 2011**

### Quarterly Report – Ohio GROWs Mike Hassell – Field Coordinator

With the weather soon to warm and the work outlook improving, now is the time to take advantage of the training opportunities available thru the Ohio GROWs grant. Encourage others to sign up and participate in this unique opportunity.

The 50 MW solar field planned for a site near Zanesville is progressing. The actual location was recently moved about one mile south of the original location and will now be in Noble County. This project will be the largest solar array east of the Rocky Mountains and could potentially create up to 300 jobs. Contractors pursuing such projects can be assured they have access to a pool of highly skilled and appropriately trained professionals who have completed Ohio GROWs classes.



## Quarterly Report – Ohio GROWs Mike Hines – Field Coordinator

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I would like to single out our training directors this quarter. Believe me, having been where you are, I understand the pressures associated with the job. Every one of you has plenty of responsibilities dealing with the everyday maintenance of your program without added job responsibilities associated with the grant. Dealing with apprentice and journey level classes, fiduciary responsibilities, your local, your instructors, your committee, the NJATC, taxes, audits, and on and on. It is most normally a thankless job. Let me correct that and just say “THANKS”. I appreciate all that you have done and all that you continue to do.

My focus has been to push the grant to break the inertia and help to get it started. But I know that each of you who have put on classes can see their value and intend to do as much as you can to continue your participation. So I intend to refocus. For you to be able to continue training, you will need a good supply of applicants. We have picked off the low hanging fruit and will need to work a little harder to get through to our members who have not yet applied. I will be glad to attend union meetings, apprenticeship meetings, NECA meetings, or whatever functions will help to keep you in a good supply of applications. I have spoken to each of you and encouraged you to put on differently scheduled classes. That is if you have been doing day classes; try an evening and weekend class. If you have members working four day weeks, try a series if Friday session. If you have been doing evening sessions, understand that your numbers will mount much faster if you are able to do a day class and finish it in a week. If you have instructor problems that prohibit an expanded schedule, let me know and we will try to work out an instructor trade to be able to accommodate everyone or consider training another member(s) to instruct those classes.

The second year will go quickly. Remember that as far as training goes it is a ten month year and one

month is already gone. All training is to be done by the end of October. Summer has been hard time to get people into classes. So the time is NOW. Please let me know any way I can help.





# Ohio GROWs Evaluation Form

JATC LOCATION/LOCAL #: \_\_\_\_\_

TRAINING DIRECTOR: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

My overall experience with the Ohio GROWs grant is:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Excellent								Poor	
My participants found the grant training valuable to them:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	
My participants were able to take advantage of training they may not have been able to take without grant assistance:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	
My Field Coordinator (name) _____	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
has maintained contact with me and has been able to answer my questions:	Agree								Disagree	
The Ohio GROWs office has provided me with timely assistance:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	
The Ohio GROWs website is a valuable and useful tool:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	
I would participate in another training grant similar to Ohio GROWs, if available:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	
I believe my industry has benefited from this use of ARRA funds:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Agree								Disagree	

General comments regarding Ohio GROWs: