



UA 400 Pipe Trades and Mechanical Contractors Association Hold 2nd Annual Kick Off Your Future Competition for High School Students

Kaukauna, WI (April 15, 2019) — The UA 400 Pipe Trades and Mechanical Contractors Association (MCA) held their Kick Off Your Future competition at the UA 400 training facility on April 9, 2019. Tech Ed students from 17 area high schools competed to construct their own field goal project using 10 feet of 2-inch carbon pipe and the welding process of their choice. Schools attending the event included Appleton East, Appleton West, Ashwaubenon, Bayport, Bonduel, Clintonville, Fox Valley Lutheran, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Menasha, Neenah, New London, Oconto Falls, Preble, Pulaski and West De Pere. Local contractors who participated in the event included August Winter and Sons, Hurckman Mechanical Industries and Tweet Garot Mechanical.

Projects were judged on correct dimensions, weld quality and overall design/accuracy/creativity. The winners of this year's competition are as follows:

- 1st Place – Ashwaubenon High School
- 2nd Place - Bonduel High School
- 3rd Place - Kimberly High School

“We started the Kick Off Your Future event last year with seven schools participating. This year, we had 19 area high schools competing for the first-place and a Miller Electric Welding Machine donated to their school,” said Jeff Knaus, business manager – financial secretary/treasurer of UA 400. “That shows a significant increase in interest and awareness of the career opportunities within UA 400 Pipe Trades and the Mechanical Contractors Association. A career that includes paid on-the-job training and classroom instruction. Plus, a great salary and benefits that you may not receive with a four-year college education.”

For winning first place, Ashwaubenon High School team members received a Wire Feed Welder from Miller Electric for their school, gift cards for the Packer Pro Shop and passes to the Packer Hall of Fame.

“As a teacher for students entering the trades, and also someone who works closely with multiple skilled trades people during my employment during the summer months, it's critical that we help students understand the importance of the apprenticeship programs and how it can impact their future,” said Jeremie Meyer, Technology & Engineering Instructor at Ashwaubenon High School. “I have personally worked with many UA 400 trades people over the years. Their commitment to holding up high training standards and their willingness to help



educate students has made a very positive impact on my students. Two of the three students that were on our team are already pre-apprentices for UA 400.”

For more information on training and apprenticeship opportunities at UA 400 Pipe Trades, contact Scott Wenger, Training Coordinator at 920.462.0407 or scott@ua400.org.

About UA 400 Pipe Trades

The UA 400 Pipe Trades, headquartered in Kaukauna, Wisconsin with an office in Fond du Lac, is comprised of approximately 2300 members serving eighteen counties in Northeast Wisconsin. The organization is affiliated with the United Association of Plumber and Pipefitters with an estimated 345,000 membership throughout the United States and Canada. The group’s mission is to be the preferred choice for industries, employers and workers specializing in plumbing, pipefitting, HVACR service and pipe fabrication as well as training for its members and qualified manpower to their 105 signatory contractors. The UA 400 takes pride in their partnerships and contributions to serve local communities with organizations such as Cerebral Palsy Telethon, Special Olympics, Rebuilding Together, Heat’s On Program, Harbor House and Salvation Army. To keep up with the latest news and to learn more about UA 400, visit <http://www.ua400.org> follow us on Facebook and YouTube.

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