



Ed Galvin, 51, UA Local 78 Plumbers, Foreman

"Before I got into the union, I worked for Culligan for about six years, and really wasn't going to be able to raise a family on that wage, so I wanted to get in and make a better wage."



Jose "Junior" Vargas, 37, Iron Workers Local 416, Journeyman

"It starts with my grandfather and then to my dad and then me -- that's why I go by Junior, because I work together with my dad."

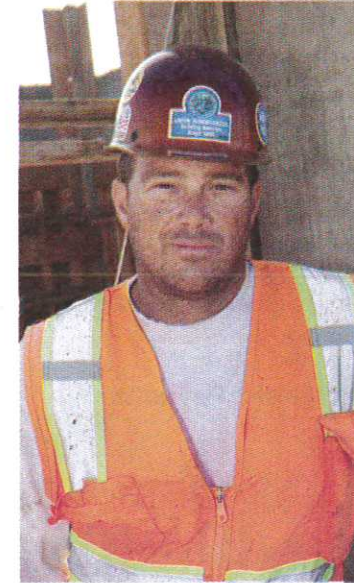


Richard Bebo, IUPAT Local 1136, Drywall Finishers, Superintendent

"I joined the union because you've got full medical benefits for your family, you get a union pension, and you get paid by the hour a lot better than if you worked non-union."

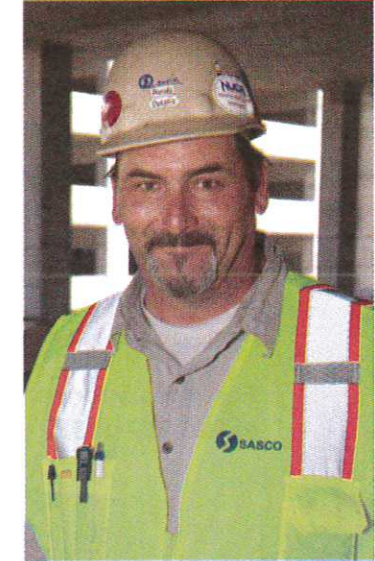


(l-r) From UA Local 709 Sprinkler Fitters, Marc Espinoza, Mark Hanna, Ricardo Campos and Juventino Herrera. "It's been a really well-kept job site and really well-coordinated," says Hanna, an apprentice.



Ryan Tico, 42, Iron Workers Local 416, Journeyman

"I like the union way of life. The safety, training, the camaraderie and the unity. We're all in it together, trying to fight for a living wage, that's what I like."



Randy Dykstra, 47, IBEW Local 11, General Foreman

"I joined the union because I saw a better everything: the working conditions, the pay, the pension, the retirement, the health benefits, and the fact that it's more a family atmosphere."