



## Tradeswomen compete in Iron Artist competition

Eleven union tradeswomen competed in the Iron Artist “sculpt-off” competition Aug. 25 held at the School and Community Reuse Action Project (SCRAP) in North Portland. The “Hammer Swingin’ Sisters” team was sponsored by Oregon Tradeswomen Inc., a non-profit organization that recruits and promotes women in the trades. The team represented a significant number of women from the labor community, including Hilary Colbert, Lisa DeMers, Judy Fortune, Donna Hammond and Tara Webb, all members of Electrical Workers Local 48; Christie Kern of Carpenters Local 247; KC Cutts, Irais Gandarilla and Delle Kemmer of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16; and Lela Brown and Amy Sprengelmeyer of Plumbers and Fitters Local 290. The contest involves teams creating giant sculptures out of recycled materials using a list of approved tools. The theme this year was “Farm,” and The Hammer Swingin’ Sisters put together a wind-farm sculpture ((photo below). They didn’t win, but they did receive the “Most Teamiest” award. “It’s been great fun getting ready for this competition,” said Sprengelmeyer, team captain. “I feel we’ve built a solidarity that goes beyond our individual crafts.” All proceeds from the event benefit SCRAP. For more information about Oregon Tradeswomen, call 503-335-8200 or visit [www.tradeswomen.net](http://www.tradeswomen.net).



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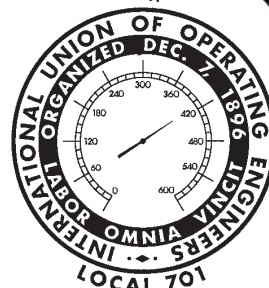
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