

Opportunity News

Noticias de los centros de oportunidad del VML

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VML welding graduates now employed

By "Al" Klinge

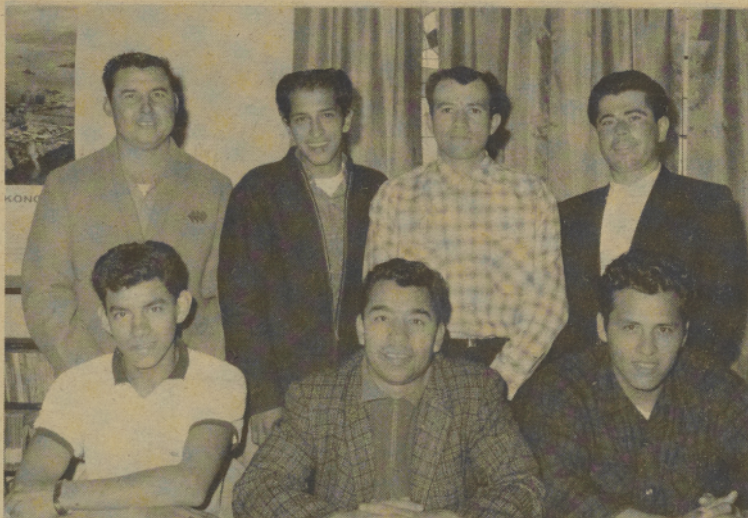
Weeks ago twelve farm workers enrolled in a welding class by the V.M.L. and held Technical School.

Some of these men had only farming up to the seventh grade. Going to school once more was a new experience.

Welding was a new challenge. They found it much different from going to a regular school. The learning was from the hands. In this school they worked with their hands and learned by doing. This proved to be interesting. Their success in passing the course seemed to bear

A question now was, would former farm workers be able to find employment as welders? The question was answered by Juan Ruiz, Woodburn Area Supervisor, who had followed their progress with much interest, working with the Gunderson's Engineering Corporation of Portland to give these men take welding tests. Continued on page 2)

NUESTRA MAS sincero agradecimiento para V.M.L. por habernos dado oportunidad de aprender este oficio y haber encontrado este trabajo por medio de V.M.L. muchos podrán encontrar estas oportunidades. — Victor Parras, Genaro Arce, Jr., Leonardo Ortiz, Gilberto Ruiz, Felix Ruiz, Jr., Bernardino Mercado.



ABOVE ARE six men who successfully passed welding school and are now working at welding jobs. With them is Juan Ruiz, Woodburn Area Supervisor, who has been instrumental in helping these men. BACK ROW, left to right: Victor Parras, Leonardo Ortiz, Gilbert Ruiz, Bernardino Mercado. FRONT ROW: Felix Ruiz, Juan Ruiz, Genaro Arce.

Por "Al" Klinge

Hace once semanas 12 trabajadores de labor iniciaron una clase de soldadura patrocinada por el Salem Technical School.

Unas de estas personas habían asistido a la escuela solamente hasta el año séptimo. Era una experiencia nueva volver a escuela.

Soldadura era un desafío nuevo. A los estudiantes les pareció muy distinto de una escuela regular donde de todo lo que aprendieron era en libros. En esta escuela trabajaron con las manos y aprendieron por hacer. Salió muy interesante para ellos y su éxito en pasar el curso de soldadura prueba su valor.

La cuestión a este punto era, sería posible para estos trabajadores de labor encontrar trabajo como soldadores? La respuesta salió cuando Juan Ruiz, Supervisor del área de Woodburn, quien tuvo mucho interés en el progreso de estos señores, hizo un acuerdo con el "Gunderson's Engineering Corporation" de Portland, para que estos señores tomaran un examen de

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ic asks, 'what is the natural job for you?'



Story and photos by Rick Simon

ZIEGER, of the State Department of Labor, put a few facts on the blackboard. He revealed that an unskilled laborer makes about \$1.00 an hour, while a worker with some special education makes over \$5.00 an hour. He also pointed out that in the unskilled area there are many people trying to get jobs but few are available. But for even in the skilled area, there are only five people available for every job. As a result of these facts the students now feel more confident about their ability to find

"How much am I worth?" Twenty-eight people asked themselves this question this week during a three day job finding class. They found that their value was a lot higher than they expected.

The classes were held at the Salem First Presbyterian Church, on April 4, 5, and 6. They were sponsored by the Adult Education Department who attended were people who have been in VML classes and are now looking for work. Some were G.E.D. graduates.

Many guest speakers talked to the classes about job and education.

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"¿Qué tan grande son mis habilidades personales?" Veinte y ocho personas se preguntaron esto durante clase de tres días titulada "Como encontrar trabajo." Se dieron cuenta que sus habilidades eran más altas que lo que ellos pensaban.

Las clases tuvieron lugar en el First Presbyterian Church de Salem el 4, 5, y 6 de abril. Eran patrocinadas por el Departamento de Educación para Adultos del VML. Las personas que asistieron eran personas que han asistido a clases del VML y ahora están buscando trabajo. Unos eran graduados del G.E.D.

Muchos expertos les hablaron

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BREAK IN GRAPE STRIKE

The grape strike at Delano, California, took a turn toward victory for the farm workers on Wednesday of this week. One of the largest employers, the Schenley Industries, signed an agreement to recognize the farm workers' union as the bargaining agent for farm workers in Tulare and Kern counties. This is the Independent National Farm Workers Association, whose leader is Cesar Chavez. (Last week the Opportunity News printed an article about Chavez and the strike.)

AVANCE EN LA HUEGLA DE UVAS

La huelga de uvas en Delano, California, se acercó más a victoria para los trabajadores de labor esta semana. Uno de los patrones más grandes, Los Schenley Industries, firmó un acuerdo a reconocer a la unión de trabajadores de labor como el representante para pescadores en los condados de Tulare y Kern. Esto se llama La Asociación Nacional Independiente de Trabajadores de Agricultura, y el director es Cesar Chavez. (La semana pasada el Opportunity News presentó un artículo sobre Chavez y la huelga.)