THE MAGAZINE OF IBEW LOCAL 26
SERVING MARYLAND, VIRGINIA AND WASHINGTON, DC

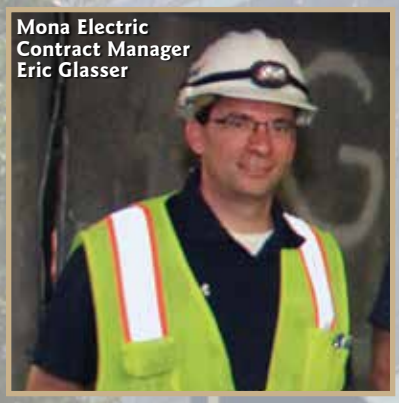
In Charge

3RD QUARTER 2014
VOLUME 7, NO. 3

Higher Learning and High Technology Come Together at George Washington University Thanks to Mona Electric

Page 8

Higher Learning and High Technology Come Together at George Washington University Thanks to Mona Electric


Mona Electric Contract Manager Eric Glasser


General Foreman Pat Latham, Business Manager Chuck Graham, and Superintendent Jerry Watson


Subforeman Juan Quintanilla and Oscar Lobo


Joe Jackson


From left, Rodney Thomas, Maurice Wigfall, Roy Peters, Shane Burke, Chris Schug, and Juan Sempertegui


Mario Abreu


Christopher Mickley and Kevin Hopson


Joshua Callahan


Darrell Graves, Business Manager Chuck Graham, and Sub-foreman Donald Fitzhugh


Ike Paschal

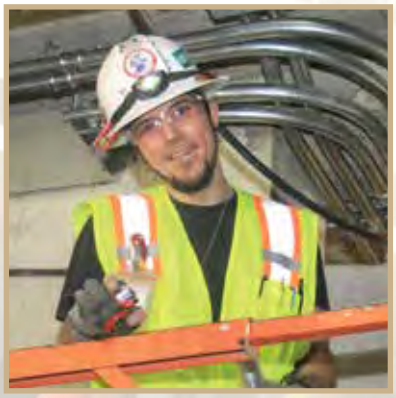

Danilo Martinez


Paul Carros and Foreman Randy Donahue

President George Washington had a vision of creating an institution of higher learning dedicated to inspiring future leaders. The George Washington University stands today in the heart of the District of Columbia as an honor to his foresight. The university was created through an act of Congress in 1821, more than 20 years after Washington's death. Although our first president did not live to see this come to fruition, his vision has had a tremendous impact on the students who have furthered their education through the school, as well as on the city of Washington, DC which is proud to host this world-class university.

Daniel Bedard

Business Manager Chuck Graham, Ben Riddle, and Phil Riddle



David Schaefer

Macaire Tchepnda

Paul Carros and Foreman Randy Donahue

David Icenhower

Rick Lee

Jeff Viering

Daniel Weinstein

Ademola Aina

Steve Preston

Subforeman Bob Nelson

Isiah Brown

William Buckley, Jr.

Greg Carr

Dillon Alfred

Fire Alarm Foreman Richard Yuracka

Shane Palazzo

Helping to ensure that GW remains a leader in higher education are the men and women of Local 26 working for Mona Electric. They are part of the crew charged with constructing GW's new Science and Engineering Hall (SEH), a state-of-the-art multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary teaching and research building. The building will include the School of Engineering and Applied Science, as well as departments within the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences. Under the direction of general contractor Clark Construction, the new building with eight above-grade floors has risen on the corner of 22nd and H Streets, NW, to centralize most of the school's science and engineering instruction under one roof.

GW is the largest university in the District with more than 20,000 students, hailing from all 50 states, DC, and more than 130 countries. The university is located on three campuses—Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon in DC and the GW Virginia Science and Technology Campus in Ashburn, VA—as well as a number of graduate education centers across the region. As an urban campus, the school has long dealt with the challenge of classroom instruction being spread out across multiple buildings so as to utilize all available classroom space. The new Science and Engineering Hall addresses this challenge by providing a centralized location for science and engineering research and teaching.

The building was a long time in the making as GW's Board of Trustees approved construction of the building more than four years ago. Groundbreaking was held in the fall of 2011, and a full 42 months of construction time was built into the schedule for the new facility. Mona Electric came on site in June 2012 and is expected to complete the vast majority of its work by this November.


Jameka White

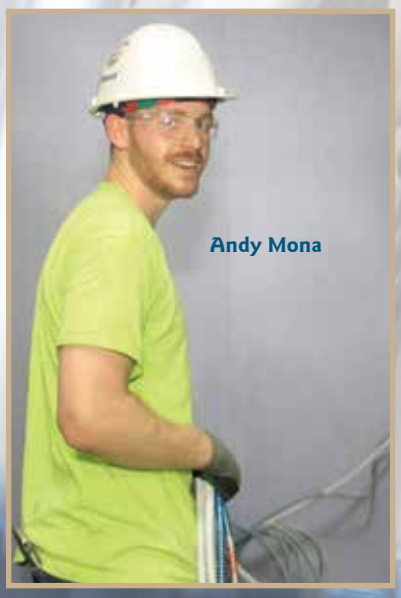

Safety Manager Victor Flores and Jonys Lobo


Eric Cox


Chris Mayo and Muhammad Khan

26


Joe Moniz


Andy Mona


Juan Zurita


Danis Velasco


Christopher Piper


Business Manager Chuck Graham and Adelaina Acosta

Joshua Collinson

Business Manager Chuck Graham, Rick Roberts from Capitol Controls, and General Foreman Pat Latham

Mona

Jimmy Adams

Fire Alarm Foreman Steve Delaney, Sr.

The overall project, which has included everything from the demolition of an existing parking garage to unique construction of specialized laboratories, has been no small undertaking. Leading the Local 26 team for Mona Electric has been Superintendent Jerry Watson; General Foreman Pat Latham; Foremen Randy Donohue, Darrell Graves, Richard Yuracka (fire alarm), and Steve Delaney (fire alarm); and Subforemen Donnie Fitzhugh, Bob Nelson, Kenny Blinkhorn, Shane Palazzo, and Juan Quintanilla. At peak, about 80 Local 26 members worked on the project. In all, the team will be putting in about 160,000 manhours.

The building, with eight floors above ground, two floors below for teaching and research space, and an additional four below for parking, totals nearly 500,000 square feet. The total cost for the project is estimated at $275 million with over $20 million assigned to the electrical package.

On the outside, the new Science and Engineering Hall looks like a beautiful and modern piece of architecture. On the inside there is a vibration-free and particulate-free nanotechnology fabrication facility, imaging facility, research and teaching labs, commons area, and an auditorium. There are laser curtains in select labs, smoke curtains in the teacher tower areas and 7,500 feet of plugmolds in the labs. Particularly unique is the three-story high-bay with strong slab and strong wall construction (reinforced surfaces that can withstand testing against intense vertical and horizontal loads) for conducting large-scale experiments.

The electrical contract includes the hook-up of two medium voltage feeders running from the building to the switchboard on the ground level; all power distribution; all electrical and AV rough-in; a complete fire alarm installation; installation of two 1500kw generators for emergency power, which will also provide emergency power for three nearby residence halls; two 4000A switchboards; two 80kw UPS raceway for the security system; and a lutron diming system. By the end of the project, the Mona team also will have installed 6,500 fixtures and 104 individual lab panels.

Superintendent Jerry Watson describes the job as "a monumental task." He added, "We went from 30 guys to 80 guys, but everyone is working together and we're going to get it done for GW."

When the project is complete, the new building will allow engineers to work alongside chemists, biologists, and physicists to promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. Additionally, by combining science and engineering into one building, space will be freed up throughout the campus for other courses of study. The creation of this facility affords the School of Engineering and Applied Science and the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences more research labs than ever before, which will enable GW to be even more competitive in seeking federally funded grants and other opportunities for research.

George Washington's vision for a school to train future leadership certainly could never have included the modern campus that GW is today. But, ironically, it is just the corps of leaders he had hoped to create who have come together to build GW into a preeminent higher learning institution. From the professors and administrators who run the school to the talented electricians who have built the school, GW is the result of a collaborative effort guided by the vision of one of our nation's greatest leaders. 26