In the April 2011 NEIEP’s Corner in the *Elevator Constructor*, we announced a contest for photos of eye-catching shots that illustrate the jobsite experience of elevator constructors. We are thrilled to announce that a photo submitted by Shawn Estill of Local 12, Kansas City, has been chosen as the winner. This laudable photo depicts a mechanic testing for voltage on a brake switch. Congratulations, Shawn!

Frank Belio Jr. of Local 18, San Diego, has won 2nd prize with his photo of mechanic Pat Allen and apprentice Tony Jordan performing a jack and casing removal and installation. And 3rd prize goes to Randy Ward of Local 74, Tampa, for his detailed image of a sleeve bearing chain oiler.

Photos submitted for this contest will be become a part of NEIEP’s database of digital images used in the curriculum, on the web site, and in other NEIEP publications. Even though this year’s contest is over, we’re always accepting photos of equipment as well as constructors at work. Digital submissions are preferred. Send them to development@neiep.org.

Congratulations to all three winners! These photos are also posted on neiep.org. Login and click on the banner for Photo Contest Winners on the main page.

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**1st Prize Photo** – Shawn Estill, *Local 12, Kansas City*

**2nd Prize** – Frank Belio Jr., *Local 18, San Diego*

**3rd Prize** – Randy Ward, *Local 74, Tampa*
For years, NEIEP has offered basic training in hydraulic installations that touches on the importance of the hydraulic valve. Apprentices enrolled in Course 800, Advanced Topics in Elevators, learn the foundations of hydraulic theory and maintenance procedures. An online supplemental virtual valves lab, where students can experiment with a virtual simulation of the technical aspects of hydraulic valves, is accessible on the NEIEP website.

This fall, NEIEP will ship Maxton UC4 and EECO UV-5 cutaway valve models to classrooms across the US. In this first phase of enhanced valves training, students will benefit from viewing the inner workings of these valves. These new visual learning tools are an excellent resource for students and instructors, adding a new dimension to NEIEP’s classroom training in the intricate valve installation, repair, and service process.

National Coordinator John Spinella is excited about the project, saying that “these tools will be good for apprentices and experienced mechanics who haven’t handled valve systems in a while. They’ll help students learn about the sometimes dangerous workings of hydraulic valve systems in a controlled environment, without the stress and pressure of seeing them for the first time – or the first time in a long time - on the job, under the gun.”

The second phase of our expanded valves training (expected to begin in Fall 2012) introduces a new Continuing Education course. In the CE22 course on hydraulic valves, students will become familiar with basic valve operation, set up and adjustment procedures, repair and maintenance routines, as well as multiple valve set up situations. This course will feature a new valve simulation lab combining both a Maxton and an EECO valve. This simulator will provide a practical learning experience, in which students can interact with a working model of these valves integrated with a piston and a controller to simulate a real world hydraulic installation. All of this will be helpful for apprentices as well as for experienced mechanics who’ve only worked with valves occasionally or who simply need a refresher on this equipment.

Because our new cutaway hydraulic valves are designed for visual inspection only, NEIEP is currently looking for donations of older, used valves for CE students to disassemble and examine in the classroom. If you have access to old valves and would consider donating them for student use, please contact your local JAC or NEIEP Area Coordinator.

We are pleased to announce ADP iPayStatements, a new benefit for all NEIEP employees. Through ADP, our payroll provider, we are able to offer you access to your earnings statements and W-2 forms 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

In addition, you can make changes to your W-4. Simply type in your changes, print the form, sign it and forward the completed form to your Payroll Department for processing. You will be prompted to complete a registration process during which you need to answer a few security questions and select a password. Your password is case sensitive and should contain between 8 to 20 characters and at least one alpha and either one numeric character or special character. You will be assigned a system generated User ID.
The security questions will be used to verify your identity if you ever forget your user ID or password.

Your Registration Pass Code: NeiepESS (required for registration). Go to https://portal.adp.com to begin the registration process.

Upon completing the registration process, you may access your pay statements at https://portal.adp.com.

We hope you will enjoy this new feature. We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with this exciting new way of viewing your pay information.
CE023 FINANCIAL TOOLS FOR THE TRADE INTRODUCED THIS FALL

Through a partnership with Port Jobs Seattle, NEIEP is pleased to be able to offer a course in basic financial literacy and management, *Financial Tools for the Trades*.

If you are an apprentice, now is the time to start building your financial foundation so you can have the lifestyle you want. But this isn’t just a course for apprentices. While you may have finished your apprenticeship years ago, the information in *Financial Tools for the Trade* is also useful and relevant for experienced elevator constructors. It doesn’t matter what stage of your career you’re in - everyone needs to know how to manage their money, especially in a tough economy.

*Financial Tools for the Trade* provides an easy to understand overview of topics including:

- creating and sticking to a budget;
- setting up spending and savings plans;
- reading & understanding credit reports;
- managing debt and fixing your credit;
- guarding against identity theft;
- setting up an emergency fund in case you get laid off; and
- planning for long term goals like buying a house, and saving for your kids’ college funds or your own retirement.

This is a useful, important course for anyone who is concerned about keeping their finances organized and on track. It points out things to think about as you’re getting started with managing your money, sharing tips and tools that were specifically designed for working in construction and maintenance trades. With a little planning and a few tools, apprentices and mechanics can be prepared for financial ups and downs.