

IMI



CASE STUDY

February 2001

Each year, the International Masonry Institute and the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers offer plaster upgrade training to the membership. According to Owen Jones, Field Representative for the Wisconsin District Council, "Plaster membership has grown at a rapid pace, and there is a high demand for both new and restoration plaster work."

Thanks to the training provided at the International Masonry Institute's National Training Center in Fort Ritchie, Maryland, and local training throughout Wisconsin, the design and construction industry is assured of a ready supply of trained craftworkers to perform all types of plaster construction.

This is what the Kohler Co. discovered when they decided to convert the Kohler



KOHLER CO. Kohler, Wisconsin



OWNER: Kohler Co.

PLASTER CONTRACTOR: Cottrell Plastering

LOCAL UNIONS: International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local #6, Oshkosh, WI and Local #9, Wausau, WI

"It was a pleasure to use some of the ornamental, dentil and other plaster methods, since so much of today's work is simply thin-coat."

Mansion into a high-end resort. Cottrell Plastering brought in up to six union craftworkers at a time from Oshkosh and Wausau to perform the work. Since Local #11, Sheboygan, had full employment for its local plasterers, the contractor called on other local unions to fill the needs of the project.

Built in the 1920's for Walter Kohler, a son of the founder of Kohler Co., the restoration included many types of plaster work. Ken Jolin, a member of Local #9 since serving his apprenticeship in 1968, says, "It was a pleasure to use some of the ornamental, dentil and other plaster methods, since so much of today's work is simply thin-coat."

As Walter Kohler said in the 1920's, "The Village of Kohler is a place where simple things done well will never be out of style."



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The International Masonry Institute is a labor/management cooperative serving the interests of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers and the contractors who employ its members.

The International Masonry Institute presents programs in four broad categories: apprenticeship and training, market development and technical services, research and development, and labor/management relations.

To reach the IMI office nearest you in North America, call 800.464.0988.