



# THE HEART OF THE UA

*We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.*  
—Winston Churchill

## Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 392, Cincinnati, Ohio, Member Promotes Free Medical Screenings

**B**rother Lou Doll, a proud member of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 392, Cincinnati, Ohio, was on the job for 36 years; 21 of those years he went to work every morning at the Fernald Plant, also known as the Feed Materials Production Center (FMPC), located outside of Cincinnati. The FMPC was involved in the production of nuclear weapons during the Cold War.

Brother Doll's familiarity with the dangers of working around extremely hazardous materials convinced him of the need to get checked regularly to make sure his health hadn't been affected. It has also led him to do what he does now—which is running the Building Trades' National Medical Screening Program's (BTMed) outreach office for construction workers who have worked at Fernald, Mound, or GE Evendale.

"If you worked construction on a Department of Energy site, there is no reason not to receive a medical screening—not when everything is free," encourages Brother Doll. "There were definite exposures to asbestos and radioactive materials during my time on the job that take awhile to develop. So these things need monitoring, and that's why it's important to get checked periodically."

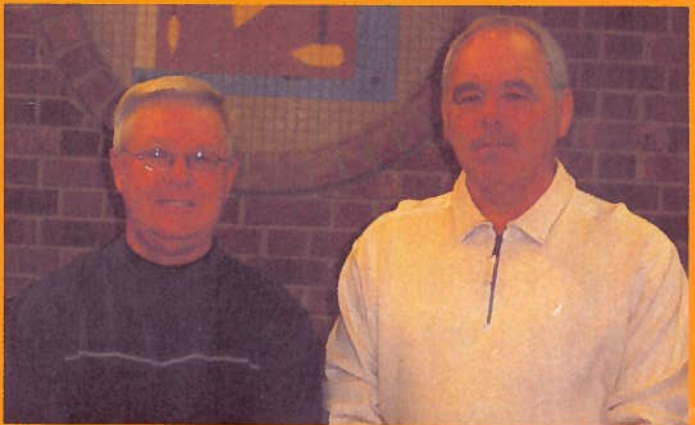
The free medical screenings offered are run by the BTMed program, and most offices are staffed with former construction workers. Enrolling in the program is an easy process consisting of only two steps, a work history interview and a medical examination. In step one, Brother Doll stated, a specially trained building trades' worker or a worksite expert conducts a work history interview to determine what exposures to hazardous material the former worker may have had and the types of illnesses that are associated with that exposure. Brother Doll is involved in this process, and he uses his expertise, which comes with firsthand experience.

"I can identify with the guys coming in," explains Brother Doll. "I worked with them every day. I'm one of them."

Step two is the medical examination in which tests are performed to determine if illnesses have developed from exposure risks, as well as a complete checkup for other health problems. Following the exam, the participant receives a results letter that indicates which findings could be work-related.

"If you have a health problem you don't know about," Doll elaborates, "the program will offer you an opportunity for early detection. This is pivotal to maintaining good health. You will be able to file a claim and, if approved, all of your related medical bills will get covered, and you will have a stronger opportunity to receive compensation. But it all starts with this program."

Many BTMed participants have discovered illnesses that they would not have known were present and then gained access to government-funded benefits to treat those problems relating to their work at Department of Energy (DOE) sites. The screening program has enabled many workers to file a claim with the U.S.



Brother Lou Doll is pictured with retired Local 392, Cincinnati, Ohio, Business Agent Rick Hurrelbrink.

Department of Labor under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA). The EEOICPA offers workers medical coverage for the illness from the date the claim was filed, and a compensation lump sum payment could also be applicable.

"I am healthy and have not had to utilize the program, but I will continue to get screened. I feel very passionate about my union Brothers and Sisters, and I want them all to take advantage of this worthwhile program. It is our responsibility to ensure that we stay healthy."

If you have worked at one of the covered DOE/AEC sites listed below, please contact the Building Trades Medical Screening Program at 1-800-866-9663 or 513-681-0864 or contact [www.btmed.org](http://www.btmed.org).

### Covered DOE/AEC Sites:

- |                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Amchitka                        | Mallinckrodt        |
| Argonne West                    | Mound               |
| Battelle Labs                   | Oak Ridge           |
| (King Ave. and West Jeff)       | Paducah             |
| Brookhaven                      | Pinellas            |
| Brush Luckey                    | Piqua               |
| Fernald                         | Portsmouth          |
| GE Evendale                     | Rocky Flats         |
| Hanford                         | Savannah River site |
| Huntington Pilot Plant          | Weldon Spring       |
| Idaho National Laboratory (INL) | Yucca Mountain      |
| Kansas City Plant               |                     |

If you, or someone you know, has given generously of their time and labor for a good cause or has been involved in extraordinary charitable activities, we want to know about it.

All submissions for this page should be made through your local business manager, who will forward them to the office of General Secretary-Treasurer Patrick Perno.

Please include as much information as possible, as well as photographs, preferably in color.