



## **Carpenters Union hosts pinewood derby workshop for Boy Scouts**

Members of Omaha Carpenters Local 427, Interior Systems Local 1306 and Millwrights Local 1463 helped 114 Boy Scouts from the Boy Scouts of America Mid-America Council build pinewood derby cars January 9 and 16.

The events took place at the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters union training center, located at 10761 Virginia Plaza in Papillion, Neb. Twenty-some members were on hand to staff six stations for the participants: design, cutting, shaping, weight, paint and wheel stations.

Not only did the scouts, ranging from ages 5-12, get to make the pinewood derby cars, but their siblings and parents got in on the act, too.

“After the success of the event last year, we accepted the challenge of raising the bar and executing a clinic that would yield the scouts a completed derby car this year,” said Representative Chris Merk. “Everyone was very appreciative and asked if we would be doing it again next year. We will continue to support scouting and do our best at providing these boys an experience they won't forget.”

The “fee” to participate in the pinewood derby car workshop was to bring an item that could be donated to an area food shelf, as well as \$1. Not only were 194 food items donated, but \$135 was collected as well, all of which was donated to the Tri City Food Bank in Papillion.

This is the second year members of the Carpenters Union have held this event for area Boy Scouts. They hope to serve even more Boy Scouts and their families at next year's pinewood derby car event.

The Carpenters Union has aided the Boy Scouts organization in the past, including building a climbing tower at Little Sioux Scout Ranch. Later this year, members hope to be involved with the Boy Scouts summer camp as well as their Jubilee celebration in the fall.

“This is an unparalleled event for our families and another example of the generosity of the Carpenter's Union members,” said Lisa Russell, Director of Support Services for the BSA Mid-America Council. “We are fortunate to have such a strong relationship.”