

## Could You Pass the Test?

Here is your chance to test your drywall knowledge. Below are some of the questions from the 125-question written test portion of the Live Drywall Contest. Some of the test questions here have been altered, and we can't give you the answers in order to maintain the integrity of the original test. But go ahead and try it. If you don't know an answer, maybe it's time to hit the books!

**1. A late development in the manufacture of gypsum wallboard that benefitted the taper most was the**

- Length of the wallboard
- Thickness of the wallboard
- Tapered edge
- Color of the covering paper

**2. Another development very beneficial to the taper was the**

- Introduction of larger nails
- Introduction of perforated tape and improved joint compounds
- Introduction of metal tape
- Use of muslin tape

**3. The federal law governing wages and hours is designated by**

- Taft-Hartley
- Fair Labor Standards
- Walsh Healy
- Landrum-Griffin

**4. The present system of apprenticeship in America originated in the**

- Middle Ages
- Nineteenth century
- 1930s
- 1940s

**5. The Fitzgerald Act of 1937 established the**

- Minimum number of hours for apprenticeship agreements
- California Division of Apprenticeship Standards
- Nationwide system of promoting apprenticeship
- System of apprenticeship existing in California

# Eight Compete in Drywall Contest



Bradley J. Tyler was a drywall contestant from California.

**D**rywall tools, from tapers to trowels to knives to studs, were lined up on the drop cloth like a surgeon's instruments, all shiny and prepped for surgery. But this operating room held eight contestants who are vying to give their gray, lifeless patients the smoothest surface possible ... and maybe win the \$500 grand prize.

For the second year, the International Joint Painting, Decorating and Drywall Apprenticeship and Manpower Training Fund has held its annual Live Drywall Finishing Contest in conjunction with the annual convention of the Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industries—International. This year's contest was held March 12-16 in Las Vegas, Nev.

One of the annual services that has been presented on behalf of the IJATF for some 20 years, the live

drywall contest attracts regional apprentices from the United States and Canada who have one year of local training. "Eight slots are available," said Gary L. Monroe, fund administrator. We have two from Canada and six from the six painting and decorating districts of the International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades." Apprentices learn about the contest through bulletins received through the local joint apprentice and training committee.

### How It Works

Each contestant is graded for three areas of expertise. First, 10 percent of the total score comes from a 125-question written test. Another 10 percent is based on the freestyle texturing of the apprentice's choice. Finally, layout, application and actual finishing of

**6. Workers' compensation laws have been enacted so that a workman injured while on the job may receive benefit payments**

- a. Only if the injury was the employee's fault
- b. Only if the injury was the employer's fault
- c. No matter what caused the injury or who was at fault
- d. If the worker is insured through an authorized insurance carrier

**7. Placing of gypsum wallboard panels so that butt joints occur at framing members is called**

- a. Butt joint
- b. Dimple
- c. Tapered joint
- d. Back blocking

**8. Untapered butt ends of gypsum wallboard panels at the ceiling corner are called**

- a. Scuffed surface
- b. Column
- c. Back blocking
- d. Furring

**9. Raised joint caused by excessive application of joint compound by hand or machine application**

- a. Butt joint
- b. Hump joint
- c. Tapered joint
- d. Dimple

**10. The inside vertical face of a window or door frame is called a**

- a. Hawk
- b. Jamb
- c. Stud
- d. Butt joint

**11. Raising of face paper nap as a result of excessive sanding is**

- a. Scuffed surface
- b. Column
- c. Back blocking
- d. Furring

**12.  $\text{CaSO}_4\text{PH}_2\text{O}$  (hydrous calcium sulfate) is better known as**

- a. Lamination
- b. Type X wallboard
- c. Skim coat
- d. Gypsum



*Kevin Sandheinrich, the winner of the contest, finished his module with rows of faux brick topped off with a stucco swirl.*



the module accounts for 80 percent of the final score.

Contestants are matched up with their modules, which are built to the same specifications, via a lottery.



*Clayton Lawrence won the second-place prize. Skip trial was his finish.*



This year's modules were erected by the Carpenters Joint Apprentice and Training Committee of Las Vegas., Nev.

Each module is 8 feet in width by 8 feet in height by eight feet in depth. Modules have one standard finished opening, one finished opening with an arched head and an octagonal finished opening. Other features include a drywall ceiling with facias and soffits, and an interior corner radius.

In the two and a half days of the contest, the contestants must embed the tape, block, sand and point

up to a finished product that can accept paint or wallcovering.

The top three winners receive a commemorative plaque; the first-place winner is awarded \$500, second place receives \$300 and \$200 goes to the third-place finisher. The judges receive a plaque of gratitude, and all contestants receive a participation plaque in addition to the complete

set of drywall finishing handtools, which this year were donated by Marshalltown Trowel of Marshalltown, Iowa.

And the industry's generosity doesn't stop there. United States Gypsum Company, Chicago, donated the building materials for the modules, including framing metal, drywall, fasteners and joint treatment material. Falcon Manufacturing Limited, Kelowna, B.C., Canada, provided eight 3-foot aluminum ladders. Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation of Brookfield, Wisc., donated eight ½-inch drill motors for the event.

## **The Winners**

Gary Monroe announced the winners at a reception held at the end of the contest, saying the final scores of the top three were separated by a mere four points.

Kevin Sandheinrich of Belleville, Ill., who found out about the contest



tion by watching the pros transform a gray square into a piece of art. □

*Next year's Live Drywall Contest will be held during the joint exposition and annual convention of AWCI and the Ceilings and Interior Systems Construction Association, April 25-29 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tenn.*

*Left: Megan Laight, who came in third, was the only contestant to use a hawk and trowel. Photo above: Gary L. Monroe (right), fund administrator, announced the winners at a reception held at the end of the contest.*



from Robert Luchs of Local Union No. 1199 in St. Louis, Mo., had done some farming and other odd jobs but found a career in drywall. He finished his module with several rows of compound-formed faux brick topped off with a stucco swirl. Sandheinrich won the contest's grand prize. (Contestants must tape and smooth all four walls of the module but they are required to apply their finish of choice to only one exterior wall.)

Second place was awarded to Clayton Lawrence, who used a skip trial texture finish. Lawrence is from Pitt Meadows, B.C., Canada, and is a member of Local Union No. 2009.

Megan Laight of Weston, Ont., Canada, was awarded third place for effectively using drywall finishing techniques to create a brick oven on the module wall. Laight was the only contestant to use a hawk and trowel as opposed to a bread pan and broad knife, on the second coat of the tape. This is a regional preference, Monroe said.

The other contestants were William Bourke of New Jersey, Brad Hildreth of Washington, Sean P. Kimball of Massachusetts and Bradley J. Tyler and Jack Ward, both of California.

Other winners were the 1,900 people who attended the annual convention. Many of those attendees got a first-hand drywall educa-