



most strenuous part of the ride with a 2-3 percent grade uphill and goes for miles until you reach the town of Pilot Grove, Missouri. The restored railroad museum is at the depot at Sedalia and worthwhile to visit. An overnight stay at Liberty Park, Missouri and the next day brings us to Clinton, Missouri our destination.

We ate, showered, had our bikes loaded on a Rider truck while we headed back to St. Charles, Missouri on a Mid-American Bus. To view details on this trip, log on to www.mostateparks.com.

By VICKI KASKUTAS, Washington University School of Medicine
Fall Protection Project - A Partnership Between the St. Louis Joint Apprenticeship Program and Washington University

HBA Contractors Attended Fall Prevention Seminar

On July 14, 2008, 11 contractor representatives attended a two-hour Fall Prevention Seminar hosted by the Residential On-Site Safety Initiative (ROSSI) at the Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program (CJAP). ROSSI is a partnership between OSHA and the Home Builders Association of Greater St. Louis (HBA) in conjunction with the Carpenters' District Council. ROSSI is committed to making residential construction safety and health core elements of all phases of construction.

During this seminar, researchers from Washington University School of Medicine and CJAP Instructors discussed the modified Fall Prevention Apprentice Training at CJAP and technological advances in fall prevention equipment. The group discussed the results from surveys of more than 1,000 CJAP Apprentices, and fall protection behaviors observed at 200 local residential construction sites.

Falls were surprisingly common – more than half of the Apprentices knew someone who had fallen at work, and 16 percent of the Apprentices had personally fallen from height in the past year. Learning experiences designed to address gaps in the Apprentice's preparation to work at heights were demonstrated during this seminar.

Ladder climbing is addressed in several of the class sessions, since ladders are the most common source

of falls, yet ladder use is often not perceived as risky. Proper truss installation methods are discussed with early term Apprentices and practiced with upper term Apprentices, since work observations of truss setting showed that Carpenters frequently worked in unprotected positions.

The contractor representatives discussed the new fall prevention training content, methods, and materials. They toured the residential training program and were shown new equipment to provide anchorage for fall arrest equipment and protection of openings during the home construction process. Future opportunities to implement interventions to reduce falls from heights were explored with the contractor representatives. The team of researchers and instructors are planning future projects to improve the fall safety of Carpenters in the St. Louis region.

