

# LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 60, Issue 4

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Thursday, April 9, 2009

## LAYOFFS HIT MEMBERSHIP

Today will be the last day of work for 200 of our Brothers and Sisters given layoff notices connected to the federally mandated WARN Notice issued February 10, 2009. The Company has cited the global recession for the 200 layoffs and for an additional 1,200 temporary lack of works (TLOWs) that will begin on or about May 4, 2009.

The members affected by the 200 permanent layoffs were offered, and many have taken advantage of, informative meetings prepared by the Department of Labor and the Company to let them know what benefits and resources are available while on layoff. President **Jim Pifer** and Business Agent **Pat Rafferty** attended the meetings to answer questions during and after the sessions.

The permanent layoffs couldn't have come at a worst time as many (93) recently hired workers were still on temporary assignments. Compounding the problem, most of the workers given notices had less than one year of service, which meant they don't have recall rights. To insure that these workers would have rights back to the Plant, the Union and the Company came to an agreement on "Special Primary Recall" rights for those workers. The agreement also provides a broader look at a laid off workers work history when considering returning them to jobs within the Plant.

## HOVIS TO SWEAR IN OFFICERS

UE General President **John Hovis** will swear in the recently elected Local 506 Officers at the beginning of the 3rd Shift meeting on April 16th. John will also give a brief address on the National Union at each meeting.



Brother Hovis has served as General President since 1987, prior to that John was UE's Director of Organization. He has been a UE member for almost 40 years. As a machinist employed by Westinghouse, he served as shop steward, local vice president and local president before joining the UE field staff. President Hovis has led the UE Bargaining team in national negotiations since 1994 and has participated in UE-GE National Negotiations since 1985.

## NOMINATE CONVENTION DELEGATES AT APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Nominations to fill (4) rank and file delegate's seats to the 71st UE Convention can be made at the April 16, 2009 membership meetings.

New Haven Connecticut will be the site of the convention. It will convene on Sunday, September 13, 2009 and will conclude on Wednesday, September 16, 2009. The delegate election will be conducted during the membership meetings on Thursday, May 21, 2009. The four successful candidates, the officers and seven board members will participate in workshops and be assigned to specific committees where they will help develop UE policies and programs for the next two years.

## APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Agenda:

- ❑ UE General President **John Hovis** will swear-in all recently elected Local 506 General Officers at the Third Shift Meeting and speak at all three meetings.
- ❑ Nominations will be held for Rank and File Convention Delegates. (See related article).
- ❑ The Legislative Action Committee will recommend endorsements for the May 19, 2009 Primary elections.
- ❑ Committee reports, Officer's updates and general business matters will follow.

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND TIMES ARE:**

**Thursday, April 16, 2009 (All meetings)**

**7:20 a.m. (3rd Shift)**

**1:00 p.m. (2nd Shift)**

**3:20 p.m. (1st Shift)**

## PRESIDENT FUSCO AND B.A. RAFFERTY THANK 506 MEMBERS

It has been a tremendous honor and pleasure serving our great UE Union and representing the Members of Local 506 for the last several years. During our tenures we went through good times and bad, but through it all, we always knew we had the backing of the 506 Members. And you should know that we have always been very grateful for your support.

This past month, members elected a new Business Agent, **Wayne Burnett** and a new President, **Jim Pifer**. Wayne and Jim have our full support and we have offered to do anything we can to facilitate a smooth transition. We are confident they, along with the other newly elected and re-elected officers, will do well in serving the membership and continuing the strong tradition of UE Rank and File Unionism.



President Frank Fusco (l) and B.A. Pat Rafferty (r) pictured on the opening day of the 2007 UE-GE Contract Negotiations.

## ELECTION COMMITTEE AND TELLERS THANKED

It's a long day and busy day for the Election Committee and Tellers, but election after election 506 Members step up and volunteer for this important function of the union. We wish to thank the following members for the fine job they did overseeing the election:

Committee:

**Don Brown (Chairman)**  
**Bill Crawford**  
**Ben Dabrowski**  
**Dennis Fisher**  
**Jeff Morealli**  
**Bill Nash**  
**Tim Newara**

Tellers:

**Bryan Guzowski**  
**Doug Henry**  
**Mike Hess**  
**Kevin Ireson**  
**Larry Kisielewski**  
**Rich Laskowski**  
**Bob Noel**  
**Bill Piano**  
**John Taccone**

## FROM THE CHIEF PLANT STEWARD

First of all I would like to thank everyone for your support, the past two years and present. I will never forget who put me here. And I pledge my loyalty to you forever. There are some hard times coming up now. And we are going to have to help each other whenever we can. This Local has been through this before. And made it through the hard times. And that is what we are going to do now. March 27 we had our step two. We had thirty cases that were heard, some were payment issues discipline, overtime, Lean Issues and the most important Farmouts. We ended up with 12 hold cases, 12 closed and 6 went to step three; four of the cases that went to step three were farmouts. May 19 will be our next step three in Cleveland. We have submitted eighteen cases, hopefully they all will be heard at that meeting

Mike Hayes

## WORKER MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Since 1989, Unions have observed Workers Memorial Day each April 28th to remember those who have died or suffered work related injuries and diseases on the job. April 28th was chosen because it is the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. As in the past, the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council will sponsor a **memorial service in Erie City Council Chambers at 6pm on Tuesday, April 28, 2009**. During this short service, a bell will be rung as names are read for each Erie County worker who lost their lives in the workplace since April 28, 2008.

## Recent UE 506 Retirees

*Bldg#5*

Raymond Bleil  
Gary O'Harrow

*Bldg#6*

Steve Felege

*Bldg#7*

Steven Apa  
Robert Konert

*Bldg#10/#26*

Joseph Caspar  
John (Jack) Dillon  
Leonard Oldland  
Ottmar Schroeder  
Dennis Sprake  
Charles G. Williams  
Raymond R. Zielewski

*Bldg#12*

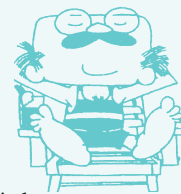
Daniel J. Laird  
James W. Redmond

*Bldg#18-T/#60/#63*

Dennis Bradick  
Paul Buki  
Nick Ciccone  
Tam Huu Phan  
William Skopow  
Anthony Trippi

*M&C/Plant Services/  
Building Maint.*

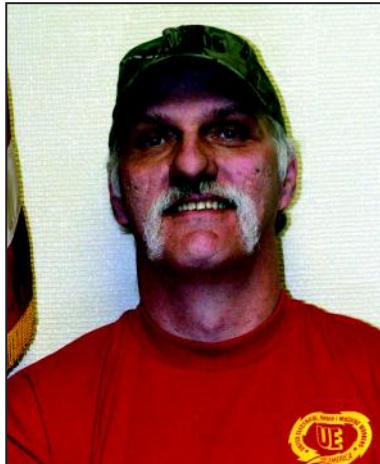
Richard Davidson  
John J. Lindvay  
Rodney E. Mellquist  
Stephen Roward



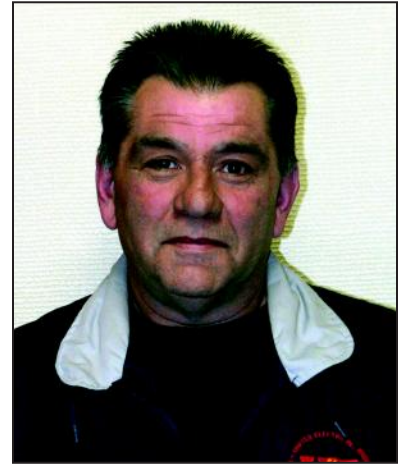
# LOCAL 506 OFFICERS (2009-2011 TERM)



**Wayne Burnett**  
*Business Agent*



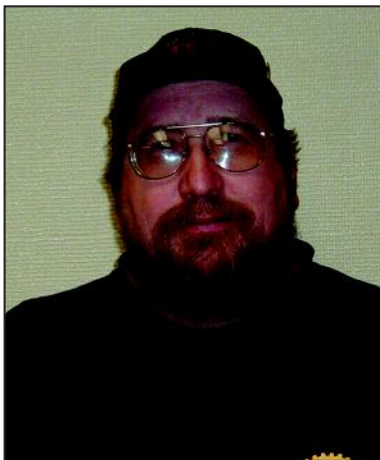
**Jim Pifer**  
*President*



**Mike Hayes**  
*Chief Plant Steward*



**Steve Hyzer**  
*Treasurer*



**Denny McLaughlin**  
*Vice President/Recording Secretary*



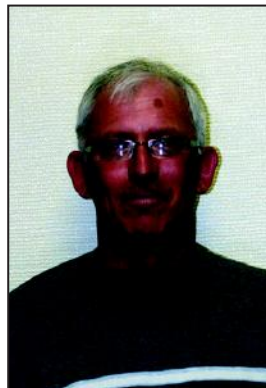
**Scott Duke**  
*Sergeant at Arms*



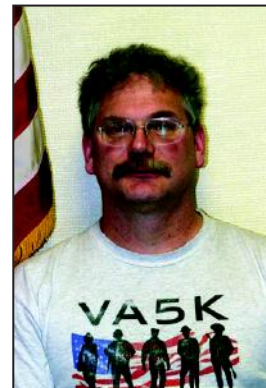
**Don Cornelius**  
*Trustee*



**Bob Plonski**  
*Executive Board  
Member at Large*



**Dave Adams**  
*Executive Board  
Member at Large*



**Matt McCracken**  
*Executive Board  
Member at Large*



**Don Way, Jr.**  
*Trustee*

**Note on the Elections:** Candidate Norah Carnahan came in third place in the Executive Board at Large race, however she works in the same Division as Matt McCracken who received more votes. Only one person can serve from any Division

## SPORTS SHORTS

By Chairman Dennis McLaughlin

Sitting here writing my last Sport Short for the membership, makes one reflect on the last eight years of being your Sports Committee Chair. Thanks for all of the support the membership has shown your committee. To all who joined in our 506 bowling last weekend at Eastway Lanes, a big thank to you as well! We had 40 teams bowling. The results will be out in next month's 506 News.

Your Sports Committee is gearing up once again this year with a full roster of events. There are events that allow you to participate as individuals, or with groups, teams, or even families. One thing I know for sure, any one of these activities sure beats a day at work, and it's a great way to support your union and community.

The following are upcoming events your Sports Committee will either be involved in or sponsor:

On May 20th the boats will shove off on the French Creek Float! If you have not signed up yet, you can fill out an application or do so on the day of the event at the Wattsburg Fair Grounds at 8:30 AM.

Also on June 6th and 7th, the 2nd annual Lawrence Park Sandlot Volleyball Tournament will take place at the Nagle Road Volleyball Courts, starting at 9AM.

We are pleased to announce that the Annual VA 5K Run/Walk is back in 2009! It will be held on Flag Day - Sunday, June 14, 2009. More info will be out in the near future.

## SPRING SAFETY SHOE SALE

Raven Rock Workwear is having a 25-50% off sale on safety shoes; included in the sale are Timberland, Chippewa and Rocky products.

**THE SALE WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 28, 2009  
FROM 6 AM TO 4:30PM  
IN THE BUILDING 4 (POWERHOUSE)  
PARKING LOT**

**- Payroll deductions are available -**

*This is not an endorsement of any business or product - It has been printed for your convenience.*

## THANK YOU LOCAL 506

Thanks go out to everyone who attended and or contributed to the event benefiting Jack Fisher. The money will help defray medical expenses while Jack undergoes treatments. 600 people attended the event that raised \$13,000. Jack is the President of the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council and his brother Bob is a 506 Member.

## Easter Greeting

It's hard to look forward to the Easter Holiday knowing 200 Local 506 Members will be on LOW beginning Monday. But in this season of renewal, let us renew our commitment as a Union that we will do all we can to facilitate their return to the Plant.

### HAVING A PERSONAL PROBLEM?

**\*Please note - Dave Adams has a new pager number:  
824-0141**

Call when you need guidance or advice.

Call when you need information or a referral

Call when you need help - Call NOW

Contact UE Local 506 Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

**Liaison Dave Adams at Page No. 824-0141 or**

**Call an EAP Counselor at 875-4EAP (Ext. 4327)**

### AA MEETING SCHEDULE

Where: Building 2-1, Bay A-Column 8, Mezzanine

When: Thursdays 1<sup>st</sup> Shift 11:30 am

2<sup>nd</sup> Shift 7:30 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Shift 3:00 am

| MAY 2009   |                          |                           |  |                              |                                    |          |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                   | TUESDAY                   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY                     | FRIDAY                             | SATURDAY |
|  |                          |                           |  |                              | 1                                  | 2        |
| 3  | 4                        | 5                         | 6<br>LEGISLATIVE<br>ACTION<br>COMMITTEE<br>MEETING | 7                            | 8                                  | 9        |
| 10<br>Mother's<br>Day<br> | 11                       | 12                        | 13<br>R.A.G.E.<br>MEETING                          | 14<br>G.E.B.<br>MEETING      | 15<br>G.E.B.<br>MEETING            | 16       |
| 17   | 18<br>E-BOARD<br>MEETING | 19<br>STEP III<br>MEETING | 20<br>CSF<br>MEETING<br>10:00 am                   | 21<br>MEMBERSHIP<br>MEETINGS | 22                                 | 23       |
| 24   | 25<br>MEMORIAL<br>DAY    | 26                        | 27   | 28                           | 29<br>R.A.G.E.<br>BOARD<br>MEETING | 30       |
| 31   |                          |                           |  |                              |                                    |          |