

LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

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Friday, February 12, 2010

DIVISIONAL CHIEF STEWARDS TO BE SWORN IN

The newly elected Chief Stewards will be sworn in at this month's membership meeting. Although there were minimal changes in this election, the task of this position remains great. For the experienced ones, the fight continues and for the newly elected, the fight has just begun. It is so very important that we not only reach out to each other, but you must communicate with each other so we remain as one. Remember, as an elected official, we are servants and it is our responsibility to serve this membership to the best of our ability.

VICE PRESIDENT/RECORDING SECRETARY AND E-BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE ELECTED

On Thursday January 14th, the two vacant Board positions left open due to retirements were filled in a special election. **Roger Zaczyk** (V.P./Rec. Sec.) and **Tim Newara** (E-Board at Large) will serve in these positions until the 2011 elections. We appreciate all of you who showed interest in these two positions and we thank all of you who took the time to vote.

SAFETY COORDINATORS REMAIN INTACT

After discussions with the company and the safety steering committee, the company has decided to keep the original number of safety coordinators at twenty-five. For the areas that lost coordinators due to retirements or eliminations of the positions, elections have or will take place. We commend this decision and hopefully our working environment will remain safe.

VACATION (SHUT DOWN) FOR 2010

There have been numerous calls about vacation time being locked out in the computer system. The company has informed the Union Hall that the scheduled shutdown will take place FW 27 and FW 40.

S & SP SWITCH TO FIDELITY EXPLAINED

During last months' membership meetings, there were questions asked about the change that occurred with the Saving and Security Program. Since this is new to our members, we thought it would be best to have someone who understands this new program come and answer questions concerning this change. **Jim Alonge**, (Financial Advisor) from Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney will address the membership at this months meetings on this topic.

Jim has been a vital part of this Local for many years and hopefully his input will be will be beneficial to our members.

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Agenda:

- General Business matters and Committee updates.
- Swearing in new Chief Stewards.
- Saving & Security Program Switch to Fidelity explained.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND TIMES ARE:

Thursday, February 18, 2010 (All meetings)

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

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

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

NEWS N VIEWS

By President Jim Pifer

COMPANY PROPOSES NEW SHIFT START TIMES

Several months ago **James Saylor**, Manager of Union Relations told the officers that the company intended to change start times in certain areas from the established 7am to 3pm and 3pm to 11pm times to 6-2 and 4-12.

We at that time requested bargaining if the company did indeed plan on changing starting times. Last week we had a discussion with **Doug Dickinson** and the Union relations staff.

There is at this time many questions yet to be answered and issues to be resolved before this Executive-Board or Officers can recommend to the membership that it is the right thing to do.

We have heard loud and clear from this membership that they are tired of being moved from the area that they are assigned to work in, to other areas and in a lot of cases different classes and codes.

We ask the membership to think about this very carefully.

Currently in most cases if I start at 7am and I leave 4 hours early they would just have the 2nd shift operator come in early and stay for his normal shift. Or if I work 2nd shift and I am coming in late 1st shift would just stay over for coverage until I come in.

If there is a two-hour gap between shifts the above scenario cannot happen. If I start at 6am and take 4 hours vacation and leave at 10am, the 2nd shift operator won't be able to work from 10am to 2pm take 2 hours off then work his 4pm till 12am shift!!

If I work the 4pm till 12am shift and I take 2 hours personal and report to work at 6pm, the operator on 1st shift will not be able to stay and cover simply because his shift ended at 2pm and the next shift does not begin until 4pm.

There is only one way to cover for this, by moving someone that is already at work into that area. These are only two examples of the many problems of a two-hour gap between shifts.

Brothers and Sisters if you are opposed to this two hour gap in shifts it is imperative that you tell your manager and your chief steward so your Officers and Executive-Board can constructively work this out with the company to satisfy the needs of both sides.

JOB PRESERVATION COMMITTEE TO MAKE PITCH FOR NEW WORK

As most everyone knows by now GE has signed an order with Transnet Freight Rail [TFR] for 100 locomotives. We have requested from the company a list of all work that is not going to be manufactured at the TFR Engineering site due to labor content rules, so that our Job Preservation Committee can have the opportunity to put together a proposal to do all other work at Erie GE by our own 506 members. They have agreed to our request and said we will have a meeting with them within the next couple of weeks.

CONTACT INFORMATION VERY IMPORTANT

This is just a reminder that it is very important that you update your personal contact information in case of an emergency. The company will be issuing a form for this purpose and you should take the time to fill it out. Also, please remember that if you change your address, the Union hall needs that information. We do not receive these changes from the company.

MY CO-WORKERS KEEPER

My Brothers and Sisters, while 2009 was a year that we would like to forget, unfortunately, it will remain on our minds for some time. As we entered into the New Year, as of now, it seems to mirror last year. To the employees who were affected by the down turn in the business and to our present employees, we remain hopeful that some breakthrough will occur and the company will get some orders.

Meanwhile, to those who remain employed, you must be vigilant to what is going on in your work areas and consider how this lack of business has affected not only you, but also your co-workers. There are times when things happen that we have no control over and we feel that this membership is intelligent enough to make the right decisions.

However, we cannot use the "Out of Sight, Out of Mind" mentality, which causes mixed feelings between the remaining employees. We all must do our part for the benefit of all UE Local 506 members and should there be a positive turnaround in the business, then maybe our laid off Brothers and Sisters will be recalled.

STILL BEHIND ON RETIREES

Although things have slowed down somewhat, (doing retirement packages) we are still behind on getting recent retirees their strike defense refunds. As I have stated before, we can only process them as we receive them from the company. Our office staff is working very hard to get them out as quickly as possible.

HOLIDAYS FOR 2010

New Year's Day	Friday, January 1
MLK Jr. Day	Monday, January 18
Good Friday	Friday, April 2
Memorial Day	Monday, May 31
Independence Day	Monday, July 5
Labor Day	Monday, September 6
Veterans Day	Thursday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 25
Day after Thanksgiving	Friday, November 26
Christmas Eve	Thursday, December 23
Christmas Day	Friday, December 24
New Year's Day (2011)	Friday, December 31

*One Floating Holiday - Requires Business Leader Approval.

**Due to New Year's Day falling on a Saturday, it will be observed on Friday, December 31, 2010. As a result, 13 holidays will fall on the 2010 calendar and 11 on the 2011 calendar.

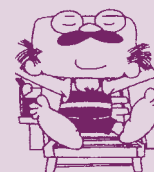
CHIEF PLANT STEWARD'S REPORT

There was a Step II Grievance Meeting on January 29th, thirty-six cases were heard, fifteen cases were closed, sixteen cases were put on hold. Some of the holds were waiting for the company to fill positions, code consolidations, loss of trade groups and placements of jobs by the medical center. Five cases were sent to Step III. We also have a Step III meeting on February 16th and four cases will be heard at this meeting.

We had our Stewards classes on January 26th and we had a good turn out. A lot of important information was given out to better serve and protect this membership from unjust discipline and days in court.

Our National Representative **Steve Tormey** did a great job giving this workshop.

RECENT & PAST RETIREES



We realize that employees want to see the names of their former co-workers published in the UE News or UE supplement, and here are a few.

If we miss someone, it is not intentional and they will appear in another issue.

James E. Benson	Dennis Flaherty
Linda Upton	Russel Gross
Carl Kosnik	Greg Landis
Leonard Reslink	Richard Rodland
Carl Schrader	Gale Hansen
David G. Pfadt	David Bogdan
Craig L. Webb	Randy Covey
William Piano	Thomas Diraimo
Samuel F. Johnson	Larry Hales
William Holby	Becky Seib
Donald Stankiewicz	Sandra Terry
Nathaniel Ingram	Richard Chilcott
Dave Poeta Sr.	Irene Crockett
Thomas Foote	Kenneth Domsic
Mitchell G. Lee	David Lange
Richard Conaway	Alfonso Narducci
David Lesnieski	Kathleen Orzepowski
Thomas Moore	Gary Wycech
Randy Brant	James Hazen
Michael Cochrane	Larry Majerski
Linda K. Nies	Scott McFadden
Daniel Barczyk	Robert States
Susan C. Peretto	Robert Flack
Raymond Zuzak	Gary Wegmiller
Kenneth Denning	Dennis W. Atkin
Nicholas Tech	Irene Baker
Robert Bogart	Richard Plymyer
Neil Conaway	John Sauers
Thomas Dewitt	Robert Dzuricky
Robert Dunn	Jerome Rzodkiewicz
Phil Fish	Blaine Fassette
James Kane	Lewis Hellyer, III
Donald Lafferty	Thomas Gebhardt
Joseph Lawson	Richard Krol
Robert A. Noerr	Richard Swarik
Charles North	Walter Sills
James Pesta	Lloyd Sherred
Gerald Pruyne	Kenneth Munger
Patrick J. Rafferty	John Straneva
Mike Rastetter	John Eller
Ronald J. Rice	Roger W. Partsch
Ricky Rickett	Douglas Willey
James R. Ross	David Troutman
Jerome J. Seth	Patrick Hido
James K. Shaffer	Ted Firment
David D. Silka	John Nupp
Larry E. Strong	John Voytkd
Leonard Wienczkowski	Dennis Lowers
Douglas Case	Robert Piatkowski
Frederick Davis	David Pacansky
Gregory Figurski	Mitchell Montgomery
Michael P. Goss	Philip Kaminski
Gerard Miller	Gerald Newell
Dale Pier	Jerome Ostrzeniec
Michael J. Chersario	Robert W. Lafferty

VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

In today’s world, it is important how we express ourselves. Someone else could take words and gestures that may be ignored by some very seriously. We must be very careful how we conduct ourselves in the workplace. The company has a zero tolerance policy concerning workplace violence and any perceived threat could result in some kind of discipline. We have plenty of other issues and this is an issue that we should avoid at all costs.

We all know how hard it is to get something reversed once it has been handed down. Having a little **Respect** for each other might be the best cure.

UNITY COUNCIL HERE TO HELP

The Unity Council was formed to help address discrimination and harassment issues in the Plant. If you have a need to talk with someone from the Council you can reach them at the following numbers:

Chairperson Cyndy Casey, Bldg. 6 824-0150 (pager)
 or 725-2417(Home)
 Don Brown, Bldg. 63 490-4433 (cell)
 Scott Duke, Bldg. 12 875-6239 (shop - 2nd shift)
 Tim Newara, Bldg. 10-26 875-6054 (shop-days)
 Rich Laskowski 875-2348
 UE LOCAL 506 HALL 899-3108



SPORTS SHORTS

The 8th Annual Hometown Heroes Bowling Tournament
 Sunday, February 28, 2010 • Time 12:00 Noon • Eastway Lanes
 Mail (or drop off) entries to: UE Local 506
 3923 Main Street • Erie, Pa.16511



See your Chief Stewards or Stewards for Application Forms.
 For more information contact the Voluntary Office at the Erie VAMC at (814) 860-2453

In Sympathy

The Officers and Executive Board of UE Local 506 wish to extend our sincere condolences to the families and friends of any 506 members that may be mourning the loss of a love one.

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 1st Shift 11:30 am
 2nd Shift 7:30 pm
 3rd Shift 3:00 am

MARCH 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 LAC MEETING	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 RAGE MEETING	11	12	13
14 Daylight Savings Time Begins	15	16 E-BOARD MEETING	17 St. Patrick's Day LOCAL 618 UNION MEETING	18 LOCAL 506 MEMBER- SHIP MEETINGS	19	20 First Day of Spring
21	22	23	24	25	26 RAGE BOARD MEETING	27
28 Palm Sunday	29	30 First Day of Passover	31			