

LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 61, Issue 2

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Friday, March 12, 2010

CHIEF STEWARDS 2010-2011

Chief Plant Steward **Mike Hayes** administers the oath of office to the newly elected Chief Stewards who will serve the next two years.

These individuals have and are committed to doing their very best to represent the employees of this union. Although they may have unique areas they cover, make no mistake about it, as being part of the executive board, their duties expands throughout the compounds of the workplace.

Pictured Below, L to R: Dale Rosenthal, Bldg. 5; Ron Dombrowiak, 18T-63; Giovanni Caputo, Bldg. 10; Leo Grzegorzewski, Bldg. 2; Bob Herrick, Bldg. 12; Patte Dillen, Bldg. 6; John Milliron, M&C; Greg Engel, Bldg. 18; Bill Crawford, Bldg. 7; and Chief Plant Steward Mike Hayes.

MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Agenda:

- General Business Matters
- Update on Code Consolidation
- Committee Updates

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND TIMES ARE:

Thursday, March 18, 2010 (All meetings)
 7:20 a.m. (3rd Shift)
 1:00 p.m. (2nd Shift)
 3:20 p.m. (1st Shift)



CHIEF PLANT STEWARD'S REPORT

By Mike Hayes

On February 26th we had our Step II Grievance meeting, 29 cases were heard. Some were Farm outs, payment issues, code consolidation, lean rates, code elimination, Loss of trade groups, medical center issues and discipline. We ended with 15 hold cases, 6 closed and 8 went to Step III.



Wednesday, March 3rd we had our Step III Grievance meeting with the Company, 6 cases were heard, 2 of which were sent back to Step II, one of the 2 was on lay off procedure the other was on farm out procedure. We should have the company's position on the other four within ten days.

I have been spending a lot of time talking to laid off workers on where they are at on recall also, those who are looking at the website to find the least senior by code. We have the fourth updated list sent by the Company; hopefully this one is right this time, so people can have the correct information they have been looking for.

COMPANY TO RECALL 51 PEOPLE

On March 9th at 8:00 a.m. the company notified the officers that they are going to recall 51 U.E. 506 members. The final details have yet to be clarified.

Of the 51 recalls, 39 will be permanent and 12 will be for 90 days.

Even though we still have many more brothers and sisters still to be recalled, this is a step in the right direction.

We believe after talking to the company that the steps the E-Board and Officers have taken went a long way to getting these 51 people recalled. As painful as this has been for a lot of us, if we would have shut all doors these 51 people would not be back.

We will give a full and complete report at the next membership meeting. Remember brothers and sisters we will continue to do what ever we can to get more recalls.

For Immediate Release



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Erie VA Medical Center
135 East 38th Street • Erie, PA 16504

News Release

Contact: Public Affairs
814.860.2097

Sarah.Gudgeon@va.gov
Connie.Faluszczak@va.gov

HOMETOWN HEROES BOWLING TOURNAMENT DONATES TO WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM

March 1, 2010 – The 8th annual Hometown Heroes Bowling Tournament, sponsored by the UE Local 506 Sports Committee, raised \$7,454 for Erie VA's Women Veterans Program on Sunday, February 28, 2010.

The proceeds went to benefit local women Veterans by providing funding for care that goes above and beyond health care needs including a Celebration of Women Veterans event, baby gift baskets for local pregnant women Veterans, health education materials, and outreaches as well as support of homeless women Veterans.

More than 145 bowlers, a record number of participants, came out to Eastway Lanes on Buffalo Road for a little competition to support this cause.

"We love to bowl and it is even better when we are doing it to help local Veterans," says Mike Callaghan, a local fire fighter and Veteran who bowled with a team from the fire station. "They're Veterans. Period. Men and women, they all deserve community support for their service."

Matt McCracken, Chairman of the UE local 506 Sports Committee at General Electric, believes supporting our Veterans is a community-wide effort that he says is a noble cause to support.

"Today's military has changed and women Veterans are a growing population in the military and we are proud to support local women Veterans," said McCracken. "Partnering with Erie VA for the past eight years to make a difference in the lives of Veterans has been very rewarding."

The UE Local 506 Sports Committee already signed up to host this event again next year. This committee also hosts a golf tournament each summer to raise money for Veterans. Last year's golf tournament benefited Erie VA's annual Welcome Home event held for local Veterans.

NEWS N VIEWS

By *President Pifer*

As most everyone knows by now we have started discussions with the company on consolidating some of the current classes. We will attempt to keep the members up to date as much as possible thru Chief steward meetings with their stewards and Stewards meeting with their departments.



As I write this article we so far have had two meetings with the company and one with the E-Board. The first meeting consisted of the company telling us how they would like to reduce the number of classes. The second meeting was us telling the company what we needed for the membership to be interested in further talks.

After these negotiations are complete the members will have the opportunity to vote to accept or reject further code consolidation. If any changes are made to the classes or any agreements are made from our proposals it will be clearly spelled out in writing and signed by both sides.

In order for any agreement to be possible both sides have to be credible. In other words if the company comes up with something that is totally one sided the Officers and members will totally reject it.

On the flip side we must be willing to work with the company if it benefits members who are currently working and also benefits members who are currently on permanent lay-off status.

The members should expect nothing less than an honest effort from both sides.

On another issue, if you feel you are being harassed or intimidated by someone from management I strongly suggest that you document everything you possibly can.

Had a meeting with the company on March 4th, about bringing work into the plant. The discussion centered on the South African order. What we learned was the order is broken down into four parts from us doing the first 10 Locomotives complete, than the last 90 built in kits with three different stages of kits, with each stage South Africa doing more of the work.

What we need from the company is a list of all the work that is not scheduled to be done at the Erie plant. The Job preservation committee can then put a proposal together to bring that work into the Erie plant.

MY CO-WORKERS KEEPER

by *Business Agent Wayne Burnett*

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.

HISTORY OF EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)

The current EAP had its humble beginning in October of 1972. Former UE President **John Mancini** felt that "Every G.E. employee who needed help from alcoholism would get the best medical and therapeutic counseling" possible, thus starting a relationship with Erie Crossroads Rehabilitation Center. This was negotiated locally with GE and by July of 1974, the drug abuse policy was implemented.

The purpose was to help employees remain gainfully employed and continue to be productive members of society. During those time periods and even today, hundreds of our employees have been helped through the EAP.

These meetings are held on Thursdays in Building 6 in conference room 150. If you feel you need this service, don't hesitate to attend one of these sessions. The hours are 1st shift 11:30 a.m., 2nd 7:30 p.m. and 3rd 3:00 a.m. **Dave Adams** is the UE Liaison for the (EAP) and very knowledgeable in this area. He can be reached at 824-0141.

G.E. INSURANCE CONTINUATION

If you are currently laid off and receive invoices from the G.E. Insurance Continuation Center – **they must be paid or your insurance benefits will be discontinued.** If you are unsure if you have any outstanding invoices, call the

G.E. Continuation Center at 1-800-242-7419 to confirm. If you do, you should make arrangements to pay them. The call can be made between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern standard time.

RECENT & PAST RETIREES

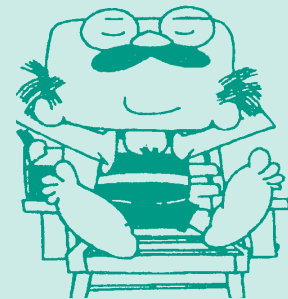
We realize that employees want to see the names of their former co-workers published in the UE News or UE supplement, and here are a few.

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

Robert G. McCarty
Lawrence S. Oseicki
Raymond E. Carter
George F. Pancurak
Thomas A. Dickson
Jack E. Proper
Rex Diemer
Robert C. Renner
Robert Domis
Leonard J. Rzodkiewicz
Dennis Donahue
Timothy K. Sayers
Thomas Ekendore
Paul K. Schuller
Alan E. Finch
Gary A. Singer
Timothy Gornikiewicz
Michael A. Straub
Michael Goss
John Z. Subotnik
Howard Growley
Earl J. Tenney
John Harmon
William Velez
David Jarzomski
Mark Woodard
Michael T. Lossie
Robert C. Adams
Kenneth A. Minns
Daymon H. Amory
Gary Stephenson
William G. Bellis
George Tousey
Walter P. Bish
William R. Stephenson
Donald Brei

Paul Wadding
Mark Burick
Walter Zawistowski
Edmund J. Cieslak
Gary L. Altimus
Louis D. Cioccio
Ronald J. Buettner
James Corder
Ronald A. Cage
Thomas Dipaola
John Dolak
Dennis Donahue
Howard L. Frantz
Jesse Dunlap
Michael J. Gluvna
Richard Force
Gregory E. Greiner
Leo J. Gladitz
James E. Hall
William P. Henry
Joel D. Hart
Clyde A. Huff
John M. Henry
Henry E. Johnson
Daniel Krepps
Fredrick J. Kowalczyk
Robert S. Lewis
James W. Way
Leroy J. List
Paul A. Michalak
James R. Matusiak
Stanley G. Mizikowski
Blake K. Mayo
Robert A. Page
Michael T. Nelson
Henry J. Piorkowski

Thomas J. Nogee
Ronald D. Ploss
James J. Raid
David W. Robson
Michael Smyklo
Charles Sweeny
Bruce W. Wagner
James P. Wyant
Donald M. Dinardo
Dennis Double
Earnest A. Duck
Wayne D. Festa
Nancy A. Friend
Richard A. Godzwa
George F. Gorny
Roy L. Green
Kenneth Hedderick
John W. Henneberry
Ronald M. Holden
Daniel G. Hornyak
Dale R. Hutchinson
Donald W. Weaver
Regina Heidelberg
Jerdead Johnson
James J. Klein
Joseph M. Kozik
William R. Lambright
Richard L. Lewis
Floyd McClelland
Larry D. Minch
Edward Muck
Duane E. Osborne
Freddie Parker
Barbara Pierce
Robert N. Portenier
Darlene Pruyun



James L. Rogan
George A. Ruppertsberg
James F. Schoening
David E. Smith
Gregory J. Supp
Thomas J. Welch
Donald R. Brooks
Andrew T. Bucho
Daniel W. Ames
John M. Avione
William E. Batson
France L. Beason
Brian Berchtold
David L. Blair
Timothy Borkowski
Roger Brown
Richard A. Canavan
Sandra A. Chandley
Betty Deboe
Thomas F. Elder
Timoyhy J. Enders
Dee Engel
John Fisher
James M. Froneck
Fred Grabler
Keith Gross
RW Hughes
Marilyn Hunt
Leslie Illig
Harry P. Izbicki
Patricia Jones
Robert E. Jones
Jeffrey E. Husband
Larry Fields

UE 506 BOWLING TOURNAMENT EASTWAY LANES – APRIL 3, 2010 – 11:00 A.M.

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Each event shall consist of three games bowled on one pair of lanes assigned by the tournament directors.
2. Entrants shall use their highest book average for the 2008 – 2009 Season. If the bowler’s current average of 21 games is 10 pins or higher, the current average is used.
3. If no 2008 – 2009 average, the bowler’s highest current year average with a minimum of 21 games will be used.
4. Entrants who do not bowl in a league, but bowled in last year’s tournament may use that average.
5. If entrant has none of the above, then they use:
Men – 170 Women – 130
6. Handicaps will be 80% of a 210 scratch.
7. Teams may consist of both men and women.
8. No multiple awards (Example) if one wins high game they cannot win high series.
9. All UE members in good standing, past or present are eligible to bowl.
10. All prize money is based on a full 40-team complement.
11. One in four entrants will cash. 100% of prize money will be awarded.
12. The decisions by the tournament directors are final.
13. Check-in begins at 9:30 a.m., and bowling starts at 11:00a.m. sharp.
14. This is a non - sanctioned tournament.

Team Name: _____

Captain’s name & home phone: _____

Building _____ Shift _____ Shop Extension _____

Line-up:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Prizes	
1.	\$400.00
2.	\$200.00
3.	\$150.00
4.	\$130.00
5.	\$120.00
6.	\$110.00
7.	\$100.00
8.	\$ 90.00
9.	\$ 75.00
10.	\$ 75.00

\$50.00 high game – actual men
\$50.00 high series – actual men
\$50.00 high game – actual women
\$50.00 high series – actual women

Entry fee:
 \$85.00 per team
 \$8.00 bowling
 \$9.00 prize money

Entries close Friday, March 26, 2010
Make checks payable
UE 506 Sports Committee



ACTIVE UE 506 EMPLOYEES ONLY AS OF 2/10/2010

The Union annually request data from the Company that shows how many “active” workers there are in each service range.

Service (Whole Years)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
# of Employees (UE 506)	9	15	4	229	278	197	10	80	32	11	37	45	12	8	42	9	19	28	76	72	87	16	14	13
Service (Whole Years)	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	
# of Employees (UE 506)	16	12	16	29	44	49	78	60	40	44	165	189	50	24	36	16	9	5	2	4	2	1	1	

UE YOUNG ACTIVIST PROGRAM

Our National Union has started the process of seeking young members (age 35 or under) who are interested in becoming more active in this Union. The purpose is to seek future leaders who will not only carry on the practices of our Union, but also realize the importance of being active within the community.

This is a very important time for not only our local, but for this nation. Unions have taken a significant hit over these past years and we must regroup in order to survive. We cannot rely on our government to always do the right things, so we must get back to the basics.

There will be a number of events coming up this year, and if you are interested, (male and female) please let us know. E-Board member **Dave Adams** is taking the lead in this process and can be reached at 824-0141 or contact your Chief Steward.

HAVING A PERSONAL PROBLEM?

Dave Adams 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

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.

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 |

APRIL 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 April Fool's Day	2	3
4 Easter 	5	6	7 LAC MEETING	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 RAGE MEMBERSHIP MEETING	15	16	17
18	19	20 E-BOARD MEETING	21 LOCAL 618 MEMBERSHIP MEETING CSF MEETING	22 Earth Day LOCAL 506 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS	23	24 EASTERN REGIONAL MEETING
25	26	27	28	29	30 RAGE BOARD MEETING	