

LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 62, Issue 5

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Friday, April 15, 2011

National President to Swear in Officers



UE National President John Hovis will swear in the elected Officers at the 3rd shift meeting on April 21st. He will also speak on the upcoming National Contract.

John has been a UE member for over 40 years and has served this organization (UE) in many areas throughout his career.

He has led the UE Bargaining team in national negotiations since 1994 and been very instrumental in UE-GE National Negotiations since 1985. Hopefully, John's experience and insight will help us prepare for what looms as a difficult contract.

Constitutional Amendments Proposed

Two constitutional amendments were submitted at the March membership meeting. The first deals with Article V, section 12 and was submitted by Roger Zaczek.

The second was submitted by Tim Newara and deals with Article II, section III. These proposals will be discussed with the Executive Board and brought to the membership at the May meetings to accept or reject them.

Proposed Changes

Article V, Section 12

Currently Reads: The term of the Officers shall

expire at the regular membership meeting in the month of April beginning in 1991 and every two years thereafter. Successors will be installed at that meeting.

Proposed Change: The term of the Officers shall expire at the regular meeting in the month of October, beginning in 2014 and every two years thereafter. Successors will be installed at that meeting. General office Election: April 2011, April 2013 and October 2014.

Article II, Section 3

Currently Reads: Special meetings may be called upon the request of Fifteen (15) members in good standing. The request must be in writing and must state clearly the purpose for which the meeting is called and no other business shall be transacted.

Proposed Change: Special meetings may be called upon the request of 10% of the current membership in good standing. The request must be in writing and must state clearly the purpose for which the meeting is called and no other business shall be transacted.

See "Erie Worker to Worker Rally" insert.

April Membership Meeting Notice

Agenda:

- Swearing in Elected Officers
- National President John Hovis to speak on Contract
- Committee Updates

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AND TIMES ARE:

Thursday, April 21, 2011 (All meetings)
7:20 a.m. (3rd Shift)
1:00 p.m. (2nd Shift)
3:20 p.m. (1st Shift)

Together: No Other Way Will Suffice

By BA Wayne Burnett



Brothers and Sisters:

One sometimes has to look back at the past to determine what the present and the future might be. When you look at the current contract, which is about to expire, we need to take note of what went on between then and now.

In 2007/08, the work was plentiful and our members once again showed what they could do when called on. Much of this work was done while changes were being made daily. This company enjoyed record profits that most companies (worldwide) would be very envious of.

In 2009, the whole world fell victim to one of the worst recessions since the great depression of 1929. While many businesses collapsed and went under, GE continued to prosper.

Our union was devastated with one of the worst announcements (lay-offs) in the history of this local. Although the economy is beginning to turn around and our laid-off members are being called back to work, let's not forget the fact that this company never suffered those financial losses that closed many businesses.

Let's not forget that they continue to buy other businesses, and haven't contributed to the pension fund since the late 80's. They actually received a refund from the Federal Government. Imagine yourselves paying more taxes than a multi-billion dollar corporation.

Shortly, we will be engaged in one of the most important contracts we have ever faced. We are not facing a company who had to be bailed out by Wall Street. Instead, we are dealing with the giant of all giants, who continues to grow and feast off the labor of workers all over the world.

Now when it's time to take care of those helped make those profits, (past and present) GE wants to reward us with medical insurance that could bankrupt an employee or a covered family member with a major condition. There are thousands of retirees who can barely make ends meet, yet GE is sitting on billions of dollars. This, my Brothers and Sisters is only the

tip of the iceberg, so imagine what lies beneath the surface. We need everyone to be on the same page for this upcoming contract and we must be on one accord. Together is the only way we will get through this.

Treasurer's Report

By Steve Hyzer



One of the most frequently asked questions I hear is "what happens with our union dues?" I know I give a detailed account at each and every membership meeting in the form of a financial report, yet this can sometimes sound like gibberish. This is the first in a series of articles to help you understand.

The largest portion of our union dues, approximately 61% goes for the National per capita. This is paid to the national union. The national union has two primary functions: To serve the locals and members and to organize new members into the union. Local dues support a wide variety of activities, which are designed to build and strengthen the union. At the national office in Pittsburgh, these activities include the work of the research, education, legal, international, shipping, accounting, auditing and UE News departments, as well as UE political action.

Servicing and Organizing

Across the country, International Representative and Field Organizers assist UE locals with grievances, arbitrations, negotiations, and other local issues while organizing new members into the union. Dues money pays the rent and expenses involved in organizing campaigns. A portion of the per capita is used to pay the salaries, benefits, and travel expenses, of the national officers and the UE staff.

Education and Resources

Dues are used to produce and publish various education manuals, such as the UE Steward's kit and the Leadership Guide (which I compiled a lot of this information from). This information is made available to all UE Locals at substantially reduced (and often, heavily subsidized) prices. With the exception of a fee for auditing services, help from all national union departments is available to UE locals without charge. The national's UE news is sent to all members monthly along with other publications that are sent out periodically.

President's Update

By President Roger Zaczyk

Thank you all for your support. The elections are over and it is time to focus on the contract negotiations.

May 24th kicks off the contract talks in New York City, and most all of us have received in the mail what GE feels is a major cost to the business . . . your health care.



Our focus is clear, take care of those that got us the benefits we currently enjoy, take care of those who make the GE one of the most prosperous companies on the planet, and take care of those who will follow.

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. 5 (shop - 1st shift)
- Tim Newara, Bldg. 10-26 602-4132 (shop-days)
- Rich Laskowski 875-2348
- UE LOCAL 506 HALL 899-3108

Legislative Action Committee Update

The LAC recommends that all 506 members get registered to vote and exercise that right.

The last day to register for the springs primary is April 18, 2011. . . . The courthouse will be open till 8:00 pm that day.

Divisional Chief Steward Election

An election for Plant Services Chief Steward will be held to finish out the term of John Milliron who was elected as Vice President/Recording Secretary.

The term ends in January of 2012. Those interested in filling this position can place their name or the name of another qualified candidate starting on 4/25/11 and ending on 4/27/11 at the union hall.

They will be required to sign an acceptance form and given a questionnaire that must be returned to the union hall no later than two (2) scheduled working days from termination of nominating period. Qualifications will be posted in the 506 news or a special bulletin. The Division's election committee will then follow the procedures of the constitution.

RECENT LOCAL 506 RETIREES



- Robert J. Reinhart
- Aristides Katos
- William Bogdanski
- John E. Burns

- Dennis L. Drab
- Harry F. Lombard
- Susan P. Resinger
- James A. Williams

COLA Increase

Effective April 18th, 2011, GE workers covered under the UE-GE National Contract will receive a sixteen-cent (.16) per hour cost-of-living adjustment. This is the final COLA adjustment under the current 2007-2011 Contract.

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.

VOTE . . . MAY 17TH Primary Elections . . . VOTE

UE 506 Bowling Tournament Results

Top Ten	Team Finish	Pins	Prize
1st	High and Hard	3365	\$400.00
2nd	X Men	3312	\$200.00
3rd	Strike Force	3311	\$150.00
4th	Got Out of Six	3275	\$130.00
5th	X Moonlighters	3270	\$120.00
6th	Rubber Five	3262	\$110.00
7th	Knuckle Heads	3261	\$100.00
8th	Circle K Boys	3256	\$90.00
9th	9 I's	3252	\$75.00
10th	Gutter Dusters	3246	\$75.00
<i>High Game Men Winners</i>			
	Rich Davis	289	\$50.00
	Tim Boetger	289	\$50.00
<i>High Series Men Winner</i>			
	Greg Figurski	735	\$50.00

<i>High Game Ladies Winner</i>		
Sandy Lee	191	\$50.00
<i>High Series Ladies Winner</i>		
Ruby Church	524	\$50.00

We would like to thank everyone for showing up for this event.

The winners may pick up their checks at the union hall any time Wednesday or later.

Pictured left to right, below: Dave Chadwell, Steve Hyzer, Matt McCracken and Roger Zaczyk

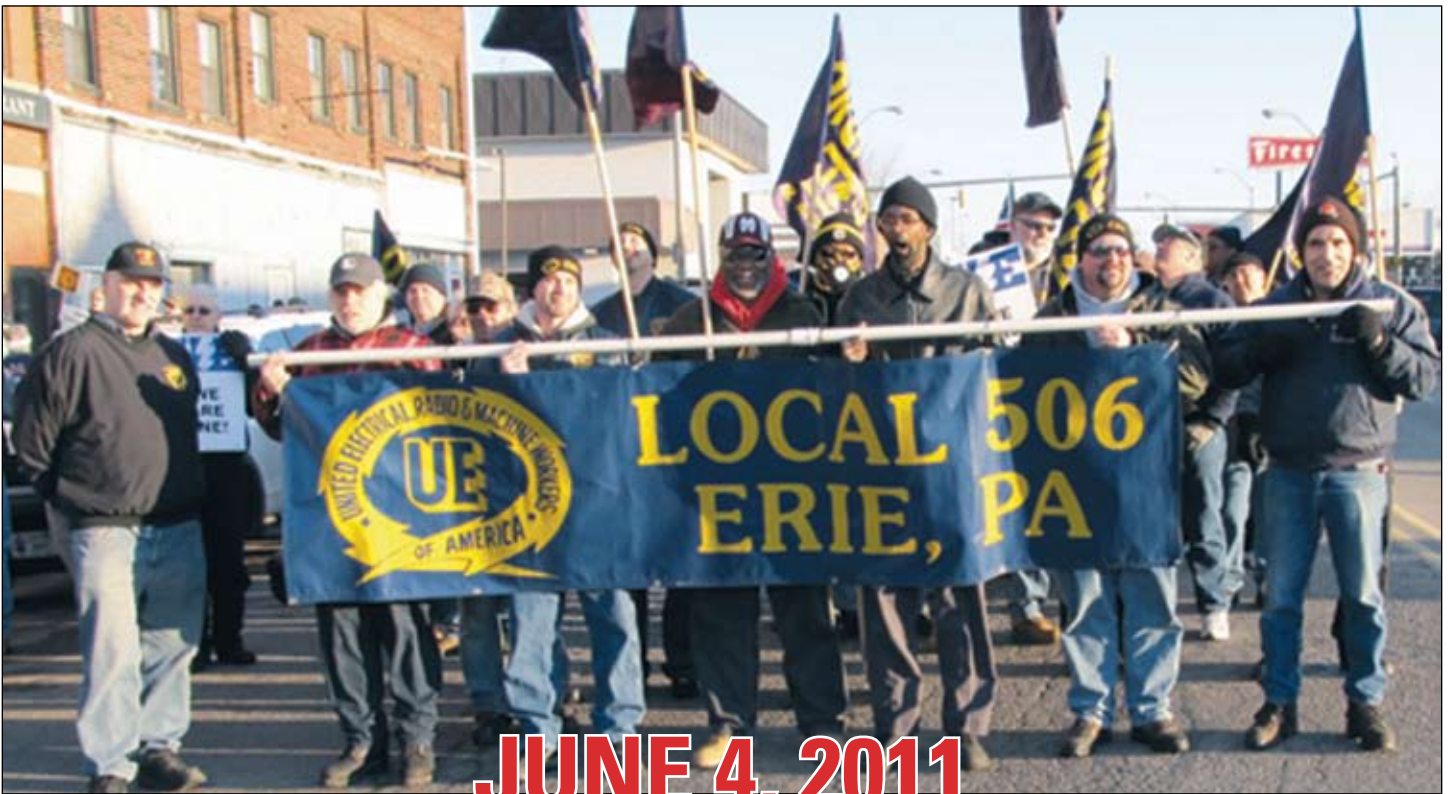


Charities for Children, Inc.

Many members of our UE 506 were once again involved in the 23rd Annual Charities for Children, Inc. Adult bowling tournament held at Eastway lanes on March 27, 2011. CCABT Rick Makowski, President from Bldg. 24 tells us it was another successful year. With the help of UE members, CCABT Sergeant at Arms Carl Daugherty (Bldg. 60), Dan Biletnikoff (Bldg. 5), Beth Biletnikoff and Valarie Pinetti, (both Bldg. 10) and UE 506 retiree's Ken Shaffer, CCABT Exec. Board Member, Howard Frantz, Jerry (Rocky) Rzodkiewicz and Bill Warren. The total raised this year was \$24,438. They now have a 23 year grand total of over a ¼ million dollars \$256,701.00. These totals express the generosity of our entire tournament, 44 Tournament Sponsors, including UE 506, 62 Participating Sponsors, 32 Volunteers, and the 395 paid bowlers. They want to thank everyone from UE 506 / GE who participated and helped to make this Erie's most prestigious adult bowling tournament. Instead of the bowlers winning money they donate it to their charity choice.

You can check out their web site: <http://www.ccabt.org> for the soon to be released results of the tournament and future updates.

MAY 2011						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 L.A.C. MEETING	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11 R.A.G.E. MEMBER-SHIP MEETING	12	13	14
15	16 E-BOARD MEETING	17 Primary Election	18 618 MEMBER-SHIP MEETING	19 506 MEMBER-SHIP MEETINGS	20	21
22	23	24 START OF NAT'L. NEGOTIATIONS	25	26	27 R.A.G.E. BOARD MEETING	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31				



JUNE 4, 2011

"ERIE WORKER to WORKER RALLY"

Sponsored by

UE LOCAL 506

and

Affiliate Locals

When: Saturday, June 4th

Where: Hammermill Center

(Gannon Auditorium)

West 6th and Peach Street

Erie, PA

Time: 12:00 to 1:30 P.M.

**Food and Drink, along with Erie's "Annual Rib Fest" at
Perry Square Park across the street from Gannon.**