



LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 62, Issue 7

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Friday, July 15, 2011

National President John Hovis To Retire

After forty years on the battle field, UE General President **John Hovis** is finally headed for what we all eventually want and deserve...retirement.



John has been a dedicated member of UE and as he moved through the ranks, he elevated himself at every turn to defend and fight for the workers of not only GE, but workers all over the country.

John worked at Westinghouse where he was a machinist. He served as a shop steward, local vice president and president before joining UE as field staff. John served as UE's Director of Organization before becoming General President in 1987.

He has led the UE Bargaining team in national negotiations since 1994 and has participated in UE-GE National Negotiations since 1985.

With one of the most difficult economic periods in this locals history, John decided to stay for the recent contract negotiation. He knew brothers and sisters that this would be one of the most trying times this local has faced since the sixty-nine strike.

That dedication alone shows how compassionate he was about the welfare of this union. As a first timer in a national contract, I know that John as well as others put their hearts and souls into this contract. The decisions that were made in New York were made in the best interest of you, the members.

This company had an agenda unlike any other

and I want to thank John and the rest of the UE team for giving us the opportunity to fight another day. As in any war, battles will be won and lost, but the fight will never be over. John, hopefully, your successor will follow your lead and continue the fight, but you my friend, enjoy your retirement... you deserve it.

Convention Delegates To Be Elected

At this months membership meetings, delegates to the 72nd National Convention will be elected. The convention will be held in Pittsburgh from September 25 through the 29th.

Those elected will be expected to participate in various workshops or committees where UE policies and programs will be developed for the next two years.

July Membership Meeting Notice

Agenda:

- General Business
- Committee Updates
- Vote for Convention Delegates

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & TIMES ARE:

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

Unity Council Help

With so much movement going on in the plant, if you feel the need for intervention concerning a workplace problem or a situation that could lead to a problem, please call the union hall.

We will contact someone from the Unity Committee to address your concerns. Remember: turning to each other instead of on each other is the way to go. That's unionism!

Bikers gear up to attend the CBC Rally.



Chief Plant Steward's Report

By Mike Hayes

Well, I hope everyone had a good shutdown. Time off out of the shop in hot weather is always good.

On June 17th we had our Step II meeting and 24 cases were heard. Some were about payment, farmout, management doing bargaining unit work, overtime, discipline, and testing issues. Nine cases were put on hold, ten cases resolved and five will be going to step III. July 29th will be our next Step II meeting.

Stewards classes are in the planning right now. Hopefully, we can start them back up in the August time frame. Stewards, good job on welcoming new hires and recalls, and showing them around. Keep up the good work.



National President John Hovis gets his point across at the CBC Rally.



President's Update

By Roger Zaczyk

With the battle of Contract negotiations still fresh in our minds, I personally want to thank all of you who helped voice our Unions spirit, Job well done.



For those who have recently been hired, welcome to Democratic Rank and File Unionism.... And thank you for being this Unions future.

The CBC representative's that I had the privilege of working with in New York City, had the same focus....Bargaining an agreement that will continue to enable the Union body to move forward.

Not every concern or issue was resolved by the recent agreement, but, every issue and concern was discussed at one point during the 4 weeks of negotiations. The negotiating committee, representing thousands of Union members did give GE your message.

96% of eligible UE 506 member's voted June 29th—I have never seen that many people taking the time to voice their opinion for the 12 contract ratification votes I have participated in. That credit can only be given to the Executive Board, and the Department Stewards system, that made sure everyone was up to date with information....GOOD JOB!

Following the lead of your contract negotiators made for the success of an agreement that has some things that are not as good as we would like, but not something impossible to live with...Thank You members.

There are two sides to every coin, and it would be wrong for me not to mention the self proclaimed "CONTRACT INFORMATION EXPERTS". Educating those individuals on the true ways of democratic rank and file unionism can only be done by years of experience here in Local 506, and having those individuals involved in the everyday struggles as department stewards, divisional Chief Stewards or Executive Board Members....Providing ACCURATE, UNBIASED INFORMATION, and enabling the members to analyze that information so that they, the members can make a informed decision, is TRUE LEADERSHIP.

This membership has elected, and will continue

to elect those candidates who they feel will do what is in the best interests of the membership.

By my count, there where 3,176 members eligible to vote on the 2011-2015 contract, 3020 members voted. 2,275 voted accept.

Thank You for showing your wisdom and level headed support to keep this union moving forward.

Contract Experience

By Business Agent Wayne Burnett

My brothers and Sisters; I've been involved in this union for many years and have probably encountered every situation here at GE that one could face in their everyday lives. There were times when some of those situations were not very pleasant because they were things that this union has always fought against.



When you see acts of discrimination, favoritism, employees turning against their co-workers, selfishness, you have to know that these things hurt unions and are the reasons why unions were formed in the first place. There are a lot of dedicated people in this union that have poured their hearts into doing the right thing when they see something wrong.

That's all our responsibility and when we stand back and watch these situations occur and say nothing, it sends the message that it's ok. As we faced this giant during the recent contract negotiations, I realized that if those who were involved in these negotiations had held any one of these acts in their hearts, given the times, it would have hurt us in New York.

The point I'm trying to make here is simply this: No matter what the situation, whether good or bad, we must always do the right thing for the people we represent. I experienced that during my time in NYC and although we didn't achieve everything we wanted to achieve, we left nothing on the table. We know there are those who will say what they would have done differently if they were there, but they weren't. In four years, they will have their chance, but the members will have the final say.

4TH ANNUAL UE/VAMC WELCOME HOME "FORE" VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT

9:00 a.m. SHOTGUN START

WHEN: **Sunday, August 21, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.**
 WHERE: Riverside Golf Course (Cambridge Springs, Pa)
 WHY: Homeless Veterans
 ENTRY FEE: \$80 PER PERSON

SCRAMBLE FORMAT
 LIMITED SIGN-UP FIRST 120 GOLFERS
 Foursome not required.
 Singles or Pairs accepted

INCLUDES: 18 Holes Greens Fee + Cart, Hot-Dog & Beverages on Course, and Steak Dinner/Awards
 SIGN UP: For applications, please see your Chief Steward or Sports Committee Member or at the Volunteer Office at the Erie VA Medical Center. Registration begins @ 8:00 a.m. day of tourney.

**Make check payable to the UE 506 Sports Committee and drop off or mail applications to
 UE 506, 3923 Main St. Erie, Pa. 16511**

**** ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 2011 @ 4:00 pm ****

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE TOURNAMENT - Please contact Matt McCracken @ 824-0148

ENTRY FORM - (please print)

FIRST AND LAST NAME

FIRST AND LAST NAME

1. _____ (M or F)

2. _____ (M or F)

3. _____ (M or F)

4. _____ (M or F)



Busting down the doors to get to the CBC Rally

RECENT LOCAL 506 RETIREES

Edward L. Noyer
 Leonard Purdue
 Paul R. List
 Theresa Welsh
 Charles F. Adameck
 James A. Kerner
 Kenneth Pierkowski
 Jose A. Colon
 Martha Johnson
 Donald M. McMahon
 Shirley A. Chylinski
 Hazen J. Dibble



Kenneth S. Easton
 Bertha L. Henley
 James E. Kinstler
 Stefan F. Rastetter
 Eugeniusz Z. Sambor
 John S. Tibbits
 John Dylewski
 Thomas J. Falvey
 David A. Gates
 David C. Nowak
 Edward J. Gorski

AUGUST 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 L.A.C. MEETING	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 R.A.G.E. PICNIC	11	12	13
14	15	16 E-BOARD MEETING	17 618 MEMBER-SHIP MEETING	18 506 MEMBER-SHIP MEETINGS	19	20
21 UE/VA Golf Tournament Riverside Golf Course	22	23	24	25	26 R.A.G.E. BOARD MEETING	27
28	29	30	31			