

LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 63, Issue 3

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Friday, March 16, 2012

Special Chief Steward Election

Due to personal reasons, recently elected chief steward Herb Prody, Building 6, has stepped down. Therefore an election will be held to replace him. Qualified candidates (those who served as steward or alternate steward for at least one year) and are permanently working in the division are qualified to run.

Members in good standing, nominating themselves or another may, starting Monday, March 26 through March 28, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Place their name or the name of another qualified candidate for this position at the union hall. Self nominations will immediately sign an acceptance form and receive a questionnaire form.

Those nominating others will be responsible for transferring acceptance/rejection and questionnaire form to whoever they nominated. All questionnaire forms must be turned in on Friday, March 30 by 4:00 p.m. The qualified candidates will be published in a special bulletin for building 6. An election will be held sometime in April following the rules of the constitution and handled by the Election Committee.



Useful Phone Numbers

There are still some employees who didn't realize the purpose of the Bank of America Card that they received from GE and may have discarded it. Depending on the option you chose for your medical coverage, the card contained your HRA (health reimbursement account). To get another (or additional) card, call 1-866-994-5857.

Other phone numbers that may be useful are (1-866-838-9374, HealthAmerica), (1-800-551-2445, UnitedHealthcare), (GE Benefits Center, 1-800-252-5259), (GE Employee Assistance Program (EAP): 1-866-272-6007, option 1), (CVS Caremark: 1-800-509-9891), (Dental- MetLife: 1-888-529-8474), (Vision-Davis Vision: 1-800-433-9375), and (Health Coach: 1-866-272-6007, option 2).

Hopefully, you are reading any and all correspondence you receive from the company for it may contain info that will be beneficial to you. If you do have other questions, please contact Leo Grzegorzewski at ext. 5213 or Steve Hyzer at ext. 3692 or call the union hall at 899-3108. Once again, keep in mind that we may not have all the answers, but we will do our best to get them.

March Membership Meeting Notice

Agenda:

- ☐ General Business
- ☐ Committee Updates

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & TIMES ARE:

Thursday, March 22, 2012 (All meetings)

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

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

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

President's Report

By Roger Zaczyk

It was decided by the National Officers and approved by the GEB to move forward with a committee starting a process of insuring the survival of this Union financially going into the future. This Per Capita Task Force met for Two days this past month discussing all possible scenarios.

The desire was, along with budget adjustments, coming up with a system that quickly ends deficit spending.

A balanced overall rate, structured for both the high wage locals, and the lower wage locals, needs to be struck so that when the convention in 2013 arrives, the plan can be approved by the delegates. The GEB will hear the various plans at their May 2012 meeting.

EDUCATE, EDUCATE, EDUCATE.....That's what has been going on every Monday this month. Stewards, and non stewards alike, have been schooling themselves with where the UE has come from, what the UE is doing on a day to day basis in the shop, and where this Union needs to go. Eastern Regional President, Deb Gornal, and General Secretary Treasurer from the National office Andrew Dinkelaker, have been educating the members on many, many issues. Thank You Deb and Andrew!!

The Constitution committee has been meeting over the last several weeks, and by membership day, all their recommendations for "HOUSEKEEPING", should be complete.

There has been much dialogue over the last two months concerning AMBULANCE SERVICE from the GE plant. Jennifer Farrar, from EMERGENCY CARE of Erie has agreed to speak to the membership at this months meeting, and to answer any questions.

Chief Stewards being sworn in



Chief Plant Steward's Report

By Mike Hayes

First of all I would like to touch on our Stewards Classes which started on March 5th. So far, many new stewards and new hires have attended. We have discussed the history of the UE and how we started, along with the struggles this union has gone through over the years. I want to thank everyone who has served this Union as well as those presently serving. You all have a lot to be proud of.

Our next Step II will be on March 23rd and some of the cases are on job posting, farm out, overtime payment and discipline. Our next Step III meeting will be on April 19th in Erie and several cases will be heard. Gene Elk, the (UE National) Secretary GE Conference Board will come to Erie prior to the Step III so we can prepare and review our cases.

Buildings 63, 60, 18T, and 18E

By Chief Steward Doug Wolf

I would like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to be chief steward! I look forward to serving each and every one of you for the next two years. I have to say that it is great to have everyone called back from the lay-off last year, along with the addition of more people in Buildings 63, 60, 18T, and 18E.

It is great to see the company investing in Buildings 63, 60, 18T, and 18E. As you may all know some areas need more help. Investing in new machinery and tools will help us be more productive and efficient in our jobs.

If you want to be educated on how to be a steward, there are steward classes for anyone who is interested. The classes occur every Monday in March at 7:20am, 1:30pm, and 3:20pm and are open to all employees.

The next few years look good for locomotives and O.H.V. and other areas. We all know that U.E. employees make the best products in the world!! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me! I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you!

Thank you!

RECENT LOCAL 506 RETIREES



Wesley R. Barczynski
James A. Bowen
Robert E. Bender
Michael R. Chase
Richard Burkholder
Albert B. Cochran
Michael Cafini
Darlene Davis
Dan L. Gorman
Steven C. Duckett
Douglas C. Hayes
Daniel T. Ebert
William F. Lane
Ralph Edes
Daniel J. Iavarone
Sally A. Dyer
David L. Korynoski
David R. Edwards
Richard Kunik
Gerald First
Roger E. Lilley
John W. Fischer
Gary L. Miller
Maryann Galbraith
John C. Schaffer
Thomas Golembeski
Frank R. Suroviec
Lorraine M. Haibach
Mary E. Stewart-Flowers (618)
Mark H. Heberlein
James A. Hellyer

Darryl D. Bunting
Bruce B. Kikola
Dale P. Ebner
Matthew J. Killion
Gary L. Foster
Robert J. Kozik
Dennis A. Gray
Mark Kubacki
John G. Haibach
Paul S. Lindquist
William G. Harman
John W. Malene
Donald Herrmann
Kris D. Miller
Angelo S. Iavarone
Thomas H. Nichols
Robert M. Kubiak
Randy L. Niedermeyer
Bruce Maloney
David M. Nies
Robert J. Mazur
Mark D. Noonan
Julio E. Negron
James S. Pekelnicky
Darryl O'Baker
Gary D. Penoyer
James S. Pakielia
Jeffrey A. Pratt
Edward L. Roberts
Michael E. Rick
Michael A. Ruhling

Donald B. Sceiford
Anthony J. Sobczak
Russell K. Shadeck
Charles L. Smith
Dennis P. Tanner
Robert E. Sosey
Daniel J. Thompson
Thomas M. Stewart
Elmer J. Welte
David W. Swartwood
Sanford B. Wilson
Alan Taylor
Gary M. Peters
Richard K. Testi
Raymond M. Weismiller
Patrick J. Wilczynski
Thomas R. Bevan
Thomas M. Burick
Kevin S. Ferrie
Francis M. Freeman
James A. Goss
Diane M. Grant
Daniel J. Greathouse
Margaret J. Hardesty
Murlyn R. Hart
David L. Inman
Thomas J. Jacobic
Suzanne L. Kestel
Sandra Koons
Larry D. Lasher
Theodore M. Luba

Ken Parke
Daniel J. Stubenhofer
John E. Wesmiller
David P. Bemis
Kathleen J. Burkett
David M. Carroll
Charles R. Craig
James E. Dilimone
Daniel A. Dillen
Eleanor M. Fish
Jacquelyn I. Glass
Edward B. Breishaw
David Grove
Sean Lynch
Dennis J. Mansfield
Bradley J. Meely
James R. Rothenberger
David J. Scott
Louis C. Watford
George Zaczek
James A. Becker
Gregory B. Bricker
Matthew J. Costello
Jacqueline M. Crossley
Michael R. Kennedy
David E. Mongera
Richard A. Vella

President Roger Zaczek, BA Wayne Burnett, CPS Mike Hayes & Treasurer Steve Hyzer with Recent Retirees...



CSF Election

The Employee's Community Service Fund of GE (CSF) Administrator elections for Building 5 are scheduled for April 6th, 2012. Nominations will be accepted for Building 5, March 19th thru the 23rd. Nominating posters will be found in these buildings at each CSF Bulletin board and other prominent areas.

Should an election be necessary, election notices listing the nominees and voting times and locations will be posted on Monday, April 2nd 2012. Nominees must be a member of the CSF and work in the represented areas. Those accepting nomination must commit to the responsibilities of a CSF Administrator.

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

By Wayne Burnett

Yesterday is gone and will not be back. The things that happened yesterday (whether good or bad) cannot be changed. It is now a memory. On the other hand, today, there is an opportunity to make a difference in something (good or bad) that may have occurred yesterday. Most of us dwell so much on the things that happened yesterday, that it takes away from the things we can accomplish today. Are you living for today or reliving yesterday?

Then there is tomorrow; remember the saying, "Never put off for tomorrow what you can do today". Keep in mind that tomorrow is not promised to any of us. So whatever happened yesterday, let it be and make the best of today and hopefully tomorrow will be better than today.

On Tuesday March 13th a group of Young Activists gathered to discuss the future publication of the National UE addressing the question of how to become active in the Union. The group compiled a long list of suggestions that will help express how we communicate what defines the UE, the value in being an active member, and how to become active.

The Young Activists later participated in a nationwide conference call to work on the publication with Director of Organizing Bob Kingsley, Al Hart, (Editor of the UE National News) and other Young Activists. The group will review a first draft later this month and then make any changes deemed necessary. Hopefully, the publication will be finalized by the end of the month.

Coordinators Corner

You may have never thought about how unions and health and safety are related. In the years between 1900 and World War I, journalists, businessmen, and labor unions pressed for changes in many areas of American life. The public also became interested in work safety at this time. Major disasters such as New York's 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, which killed 146 workers, led to union campaigns for improvements, especially for fire safety laws.

However, safety and health as a widespread labor issue came with the rise of strong unions in the 1930's and 1940's. Unions actively lobbied for legislative and regulatory remedies for health and safety programs. The health and safety program still remains a part of the union program today. The Safety Coordinator program allows the union to be more focused on safety related issues and helps to ensure that the company is doing their part.

Health and Safety in Local 506 began to take shape with the development of the Safety Steering Committee and the Safety Coordinator program. Before talks began in the early 90's, we had 13 different divisions with 13 different safety programs. Everyone was doing their own thing. There was not a coordinated effort to make sure that safety was a focus plant wide. Safety Committee negotiations began in 1992 and an equal number of UE members, and Company representatives sat down to talk about safety.

GE hired a neutral third party to chair the negotiations. The idea behind the safety positions was not only how to keep employees safer, but also how to have equality in health and safety across the plant. Union and management began to work together to resolve safety issues. There were no longer one-sided decisions being made about workers safety and the management was no longer trying to "fix things" through discipline.

The Company has, and always has had a contractual obligation to safety and working conditions. In our national agreement, Article III, Working Conditions states, "The Company will provide systematic safety inspections, safety devices, guards, and medical service to minimize accidents and health hazards on its premises." It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that GE lives up to this agreement. Health and safety is an ongoing effort. We have to continue to strive for a safe work place.

UE 506 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

EASTWAY LANES – APRIL 7, 2012 – 11:00 A.M.

TOURNAMENT RULES

- Each event shall consist of three games bowled on one pair of lanes assigned by the tournament directors.
- Entrants shall use their highest book average for the 2010 – 2011 Season. If the bowler's current average of 21 games is 10 pins or higher, the current average is used.
- If no 2010– 2011 average, the bowler's highest current year average with a minimum of 21 games will be used.
- Entrants who do not bowl in a league, but bowled in last year's tournament may use that average.
- If entrant has none of the above, then they use: Men – 170 Women – 130
- Handicaps will be 80% of a 210 scratch.
- Teams may consist of both men and women.
- No multiple awards (Example) if one wins high game they cannot win high series.
- All UE members in good standing, past or present are eligible to bowl.
- All prize money is based on a full 40-team complement.
- One in four entrants will cash. 100% of prize money will be awarded.
- The decisions by the tournament directors are final.
- Check-in begins at 9:30 a.m., and bowling starts at 11:00a.m. sharp.
- This is a non - sanctioned tournament.

Team Name: _____

Captain's Name & Home Phone: _____

Building _____ Shift _____ Shop Extension _____

Line-up:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Entries close:
Friday, March 30, 2012

Make checks payable to:
UE 506 Sports Committee

Entry fee:
\$100 per Team

Hometown Heroes Bowling Tournament

The recent "Hometown Bowling Tournament" put on by the sports committee was a huge success. This year's proceeds totaled over \$7100 and the Erie VA Medical Center is the beneficiary.

Since 2003, this event has raised over \$65,000. Although it was a fun day for those who enjoy bowling, remember that we are the true winners. Let's give thanks to the ones who fought to give us the freedoms we enjoy today.

Once again, the sports committee along with the VAMC would like to thank all the sponsors and all that participated in this event. We would also like to thank the building #5 employees for their extra contributions to this event. Stay tuned for the next sports committee events, one being a paint ball outing. Info is coming.

Below, left to right: Dave Chadwell, Karen Rubay, Joe Smith, Steve Hyzer, Roger Zaczek, Sheila Schiberl and Matt McCracken



New Medical Center Hours...

starting Sunday 3/11

- Open **Sundays** at 10:30 pm through **Friday 11:00 pm**.
- Closed for **GE Holidays** and **weekends**.
 - Employees will need to report to Security to report injuries or medical problems.
 - There will be a physician or nurse on call when the Medical Center is closed.
- 875-2034 is answered 24/7 by either the Medical Center Staff or Security.

Change of Address Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Local _____

Return Form To: The Union Hall
3923 Main Street • Erie, PA 16511

AA Meeting Schedule

Where: Building 6, Room 150, Conference Room

When: Thursdays, 1st Shift 12:00 noon

2nd Shift 7:30 pm


3rd Shift 3:00 am

Remember

If you need to talk to someone concerning personal problems or shop related problems, (worker on worker) there are two important avenues you can travel. One is the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or the Unity Council.

We have union members who are available for either or. If your situation warrants a more professional intervention, you can contact Keith Eller (GE EAP Counselor) at 875-4327. Otherwise, see your union rep or call the union at 899-3108.

APRIL 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4 L.A.C. MEETING	5	6 Good Friday	7
8 Easter 	9	10	11 R.A.G.E. MEMBER-SHIP MEETING	12	13	14
15	16	17 E-BOARD MEETING	18 618 MEMBER-SHIP MEETING	19 506 MEMBER-SHIP MEETINGS	20	21
22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26	27 R.A.G.E. BOARD MEETING	28
29	30					

