



LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

Volume 65, Issue 12

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Friday, December 12, 2014



Merry

C H R I S T M A S

FROM THE
OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD AND OFFICE STAFF
OF
UE LOCAL 506

SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE

ELECT TWO LOCAL 506 TRUSTEES

Local 506 Trustees Dave Chadwell and Rick Steele were recently elected to the Executive Board, therefore a special election will be held during the December 18, 2014 Membership Meetings to fill the vacancies (**Voting will be conducted only while meetings are in session**).

Seven nominees have returned Acceptance Forms and Statements of Qualification. **Candidate statements can be seen on pages two (2) and three (3)**. All candidates have pledged to uphold the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America and the Constitution and by-laws of UE Local 506. The Candidates have also stated that they are familiar with the provisions of the UE-GE National Agreement.

DAN BOJARSKI

OFFICES HELD: Steward and Alternate Steward.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 17 Stewards, 17

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek: I have served as UE Convention delegate 2007, and also as an Alternate Steward and Steward for 3+ years. I would appreciate your consideration to serve our Local as Trustee. Thank You.

SIGNED: Dan Bojarski.

STEVE HYZER

OFFICES HELD: 6 years Alternate Steward, 14 years Steward, 7 years Trustee, 2 years Chief Steward, 5.5 years Treasurer.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 23 Stewards, 23

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek: I've held this position previously for 7 years; as well as 6 years Alternate Steward, 14 years Steward, 2 years Chief Steward, and 5 ½ years as Treasurer of our Local, Sports Committee and Legislative Action Committee. I'm committed to scrutinizing the finances and making sure the items are properly documented.

SIGNED: Steve Hyzer

LEE SINGLETON

OFFICES HELD: Alternate Steward 1½ years.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 20 Stewards, 20

SIGNED: Lee Singleton

MIKE SADLER

OFFICES HELD: Steward 3 years.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 17 Stewards, 17

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek: Steward - 3 years, Election Committee 1 - year.

SIGNED: Mike Sadler

JOSEPH SMITH

OFFICES HELD: Alternate Steward 2 years, Steward 4 years.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 23 Stewards, 23

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek: I've worked counting and putting in order of UE 506 bowling tournament on Sports Committee 4 years, Election Committee 5 years, Steward 4 years, Alternate Steward 2 years.

SIGNED: Joseph Smith

MARILYN SIMMONS

OFFICES HELD: Alternate Steward 2 years.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership 12 Stewards 12

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek: I am a 10 year UE 506 member working in building 18C. I have been an alternate departmental steward in the past. I have attended 12 special steward/member training classes and participated in FMLA, ACA and CBC training workshops. In addition I was involved in the "Keep it made in Erie" campaign, the bowling tournament to benefit the Women's Veteran Fund raising money for my fellow sisters and brothers. I have also been a teller in the general elections.

My experiences and insights gained from these

Continued on Page 3

training classes has inspired me to become more involved in our Local Union. I have also had classes in accounting in the past.

I am asking for this opportunity to serve as your Trustee and to perform the duties of that office. Thank You.

SIGNED: Marilyn Simmons

GREG ENGEL

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN LAST 24 MONTHS:

Membership, 8 Stewards, 8

State briefly your qualifications for the office you seek. I have served this local in many different capacities in the few years I've been a member, including Alternate Trustee and Trustee. I've also served on the Executive Board for several years, in the position of Chief Steward. Being a Board member gave me a deeper understanding of the importance of an organized and documented financial picture.

The position of Trustee is not a token position to be taken for granted. It is a vital part of the business end of this Local, vital that the finances of this Local are looked at with more than one set of eyes. This helps create the financial transparency of our local any time it is called into question by our members or a regulatory office, the financial transparency of our dues money. The transparency that is core element of UE!

SIGNED: Greg Engel



VA Medical Center thanking the UE 506 Members for their continued support. Accepting the award are several members of the 506 Sports Committee.

President's Report

By Scott Slawson

I would like to start out by thanking the members for their support in making the 2014 Toy Drive a great success. This year we were able to provide a Christmas for many area children that otherwise would not have had a visit from Santa. I would like to give a special thanks to Knights of St. John for their generous donation to our Toy Drive.

The company recently requested to enter into bargaining with us over "continuous operations" under Article V (b) of the National Agreement in some of the lab areas. We responded by informing the company that "that language only applies to jobs such as the powerhouse for reasons of the protection of equipment and materials and process orientated jobs such as chemical, plastic, silicone and glass operations". Because the labs do not fit into either of these categories we are not interested in negotiating "continuous operations" at this time. In the axle machining area of 18T we are still talking with the company about replacing aging equipment in an effort to prevent the TOW of the axle machining area. The company's own numbers show this new equipment would be both a sound investment and a profitable one, however they seem to be reluctant to commit. As of this article there are still 96 people on the street. The company is claiming the recall list should be exhausted by March of 2015 due to the high volume and the amount of retirees.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



506 President, Scott Slawson swears in Buildings 5 and 6 Chief Stewards, Craig Krol and Jeremy Burick.

National Director Bob Kingsley Speaks to 506 Members

National Director of Organizing, Bob Kingsley attended the November Membership meeting. Brother Kingsley explained the many reasons to organize the GE, Fort Worth Locomotive Assembly Plant. Chief among those reasons is to combat the practice of “whipsawing” union and non-union facilities against one another. Simply put the term whipsaw describes a tactic whereby a company will inform the Union shop that they must match the cost of the non-union facility or the work will be moved to the cheaper shop.

In 6 months Contract Negotiations will begin, the facts are the CBC will be representing 17,000 Union workers at negotiations, that is half the number we represented in 2007. Clearly, some of our contract goals will include improvements in healthcare, wage increases and job security, to mention just a few, but for 4,500 CBC members who won't be GE employees at the end of 2015, due to plant closings and the sale of appliances, their goals will be much different. As Brother Kingsley stated in his report “The source of power during negotiations comes from the membership on the floor”.

The lesson is simple, when you enter into contract negotiations numbers matter, the more voices you have the stronger the message, “if we leave these non-union GE facilities unorganized we do so at our own peril”.



Director of Organizing, Bob Kingsley addresses the membership on the need to organize. Along with Vice President/Recording Secretary Michael Ferritto and President Scott Slawson.

Local 506 2014 Retirees



Building 6

Rodger Confer
Susan Juhas
Nancy Lecker
Sherry Synder
Martin A Varhola
James R D'Albora
Donna M Rose
Thomas J Trocki
Daniel Pollock
Richard A Zelina
Barry L Walk

Building 5

Randy Edwards
James M Haft

Building 10

Edgar Fields
Greg Jurkiewicz
Calvin Pifer
John Worf
John H Hauser
Paul S Messenger
John J Perry
Robert Feikls
Allen P McClelland
William F Bentze

Building 26

James Harvey
John Szymanowski

Building 12

Christopher Gressley
David Jackman
Mark Kooker
David C Vogt
William W McGee
Jack Cochran
Alan Hauser
Gaila Dotson Brown
James M Chadwick
Richard A Mittner
David H Kitchner
Bryon K Filby

Building 18C

Catherine Gocal
Patrica Raimondi
Fred Wagner
Victoria Ann Lynch
James Oylewski
LeanoraHarkless
William Matlock
Kenneth Halfast
Richard C Pierce
Robert Bailey
Gerald E Feige
Donald Shattuck

Anthony A Funaro
Darrell R Kissell
David J Grochulski
Linda A Rozanski
Edward L Kohl
Karen A Baker

Plant Services

Richard Bird
Scott Rider
James C Prosperi
Guy Barrett
Zechariah Gaines
Benny Randolph
John A Jaworski
Christopher Wolski
Gary Conroe
James H Roden
Richard Bull
Ronald Baginski
Gerald R Vandressel
Donald J Shaffer
Mark T Smolinsky
Arthur J Wilder
Nora Carnahan

Building 63

Gary Zukowski
George Lemock
Robert L Winschel
Angelo A Cipriani

Building 7

Joan Norton
Timothy Bonnell
Clifford L Morehouse

Building 2

Patrick W Kerner
Richard B O'Rourke
Eric McCray
Ron Burchick
Gerald Damico
David Eller
Danny Foor
Jan Mierzwa

Building 18T

Michael Boros
Laura J Cochran
David Hart

Building 60

David M Fiorelli
Nathaniel McClung
David T Hauser
David Adams

Hall

Bonnie J Ruff

L.A.C. Report

By Mike Ferritto

! URGENT!! URGENT!

In recent news there have been discussions of legislation that will be brought to vote in regards to **Federal Private Pension Laws** and the **Trans Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement**.

So the question is....

“Why does this concern us?”

To start, the pension legislation that has been characterized as a “lame-duck sneak attack on pensions of already-retired workers” is a concern for any worker that **is** or **will** be eligible for a defined pension benefit that has been negotiated or promised to them. Since 1974 cutting solvent pension plans has been against the law. Bipartisan leadership in the House Committee on Education & and the Workforce are working on a bill that would change that. That bill would be a part of omnibus spending package. This would be part of the federal budget and would be voted on with an all-inclusive up or down vote.

Why should this concern us?

In short legislators are trying to address the fiscal distress of the nation’s 1400 or so underfunded multi-employer pension plans on the backs of the people on fixed incomes who can afford it the least. Furthermore, this will give companies with fully or over funded pension plans the ability to cut benefits.

The next piece of legislation that should be a concern to us is the Trans Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement (TPP).

This deal is currently being brokered in secrecy by lobbyist and representatives of Multi-National corporations behind closed doors.

During the Bush 2 administration Senate passed the president’s request for fast track trade negotiating authority. With that authority President Obama will be able to present legislation for another up or down vote on this trade bill.

From past free trade bills going into effect we have learned that the passage of new trade pacts don’t equate to more jobs or higher incomes for American workers. For example NAFTA, “no protections were contained in the core of the agreement to enforce labor or environmental standards.” As a result, NAFTA tilted the economic playing field in favor of investors, against workers, and the environment, resulting in a hemispheric “race to the bottom” in wages and environmental quality.

Why should this concern us?

In just 9 years after NAFTA being signed into law

the U.S. trade deficit with Canada and Mexico caused the displacement of production that supported 879,280 U.S. jobs. Most of those jobs were high-wage positions in manufacturing industries. NAFTA has also contributed to rising income inequality, suppressed real wages for production workers, weakened workers’ collective bargaining powers and the ability to organize unions, and reduced fringe benefits.

That, Brothers and sisters, could directly affect us.

Your leadership has contacted your respected representatives. Now, your concerns and opposition to the passage of these potential pieces of legislation needs to be heard. Please support our efforts by contacting your representatives.

Congressman Mike Kelly
(814)454-8190

Congressman Glenn Thompson
(814) 353-0215

Senator Pat Toomey
(814)453-3010

Senator Bob Casey
(814)874-5080

C. P. Steward’s Report

By Leo Grzegorzewski

I am pleased to tell the membership that our backlog of Step II Grievances are down to just 33 cases. With the help of your Chief Stewards as well as your Department Stewards, we have been able to resolve many cases before getting to the Step II grievance level. Last month’s step II grievance meeting was held on November 21, it went fairly well, we argued a total 35 cases. There were 6 cases that could not be resolved and were sent on to step III. 11 cases were put on hold pending further investigation and will be revisited at the next step II meeting. 18 cases were closed or resolved. Unjust discipline, overtime and pay issues were the bulk of the subjects discussed. The next step II meeting held December 19th. We are in the process of scheduling the next step III meeting sometime in January around the 3rd or 4th week. There are currently 28 cases at the step III level waiting to be heard. The goal for the grievance procedure is to have good quality grievances heard in a timely manner. A reminder to all Department Stewards when filing grievances fill out a grievance action sheet along with the grievance. **The grievance action is to be given to your Chief Steward not the company.** If you do not have one ask your Chief Steward for copies or come to the hall.

In closing I would like to take this time to wish all of our members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Agenda:

- Election for Trustee (2)
- Nominations for Sergeant-at-Arms
- Officers updates
- Committee reports and General Business Matters

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & TIMES ARE:

Thursday, December 18, 2014 (All meetings)
 7:20 a.m. (3rd Shift)
 12:30 p.m. (2nd Shift)
 3:20 p.m. (1st Shift)

Nominations For Sergeant-at-Arms

At the December Membership meeting we will hold nominations for the position of **Sergeant-At-Arms**. Former SAA Jeremy Burick has been elected Chief Steward of Building 6.

The Sergeant-At-Arms shall greet and verify all members and visitors, preserve order and compile the attendance record of Membership and Steward Council meetings. The term will expire 2017.

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Restroom Havoc

I am sure by now that almost all of you have seen the sad state of the restrooms lately and brought it up to your PTA, BL, and even your SC. I will hopefully help explain what has been happening and give some updates. As you know the old cleaning crew was "replaced" by a "new" crew. The first week was brutal and the second was about as bad, now I think they have turned the corner and are making a bit of progress but keep in mind these are new employees in a new area with a new boss so if you see them please kindly let them know if there is a problem. Better yet, buy them a pop and introduce yourself to them. Flying off the handle on them is not going to get them doing a better job. If you notice a problem in your area please call ext.6177 and give the location and nature of the problem. If a problem exists you can put in a Safety Concern.

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3
4	5	6 Member Involvement and Education Meetings 7:15, 1:00, 3:15	7	8	9	10
11	12 618 Membership Meeting	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	20 E-Board Meeting	21	22 506 Membership Meetings	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AA Meeting Schedule

Where: Building 6, Room 150 Conference Rm.

When: Thursdays
 1st Shift - 12:00 noon
 2nd Shift - 7:30 pm
 3rd Shift - 3:00 am

Change of Address Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Pay Number _____

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