



LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

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Friday, September 11, 2015

Save the Date: October 12 – November 6 Annual Benefits Enrollment for 2016

You must take action if you wish to:

- Change your medical, vision or dental plans
- Make a change to your covered dependents
- Change your working spouse contribution
- Contribute to a Health Savings Account (HSA for Option 3)
- Contribute to a Flexible Spending Account (FSA for Options 1 and 2)

Also keep in mind...

- Beginning in January 2016, your WageWorks account will have the new “Auto Reimbursement” feature. With Auto Reimbursement, WageWorks will process incoming claims and send the funds to you – so you won’t need to go onto the web site to process claims or submit receipts. You may choose during annual enrollment to keep “Pick and Process”.
- Want to receive a reminder whenever WageWorks processes a claim automatically? You can turn on email or text notification through the WageWorks web site.
- Under Options 1 and 2, if you have an FSA account, those funds will be used first, before drawing on your HRA.

Look for announcements on informational meetings, or watch for details on benefits.ge.com. Have questions or want help making your election decisions? Call the GE Transportation Benefits Help Desk at 814-875-6883.

Be confident choosing and using your benefits! Attend an educational session with the Benefits Help Desk team at the Customer Innovation Center

(CIC).

Ensure you arrive promptly at the beginning of the session.

Mon., Oct. 12 th	Tues., Oct. 13 th	Thurs., Oct. 15 th	Fri., Oct. 16 th
7:30am-8:30am	11:00am-12:00pm	7:30am-8:30am	11:00am-12:00pm
1:30pm-2:30pm	1:30pm-2:30pm	3:30pm-4:30pm	1:30pm-2:30pm
3:30pm-4:30pm	3:30pm-4:30pm		3:30pm-4:30pm

Amendments To The Constitution

Proposed Constitutional Amendments must be submitted by the end of the September membership meetings. The proposed amendments will be discussed and voted on at the November membership meetings. All proposed amendments must be in writing and given to the Recording Secretary.

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Agenda:

- General Discussion
- Officers updates
- Committee reports and General Business Matters

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & TIMES ARE:

Thursday, September 17, 2015 (All meetings)

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

12:30 p.m. (2nd Shift)

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

President's Report

By Scott Slawson

As you are well aware, in 2013 we had a massive transfer of work to the newly built Fort Worth facility. That transfer had an impact on the entire Erie plant. After many years of developing and building EVO locomotives and Off Highway products the company decided near 20% profit margins were not enough and took these products away from the very workforce that made the Transportation Division a success.

Due solely to this transfer of all domestic locomotives, A/C wheel, and all related components we are left as the International build site. Much of our livelihood now depends on our ability to secure overseas orders and build them here in Erie but there is a real threat to that in the reauthorization of the EX-IM bank.

The Export-Import bank has been in existence for nearly 80 years. It gives companies the ability to bid on work and secure orders with foreign nations. Without this type of secure financing companies such as GE and Boeing in most cases cannot even place a bid. This type of financing also helps equal the playing field for US workers when dealing with many of the free trade acts that have cost us hundreds of thousands of good manufacturing jobs. The EX-IM bank is one of the only areas of government that actually produces a profit and has an almost nonexistent default rate.

The decision to reauthorize is sitting at the Congressional level right now. It is important for the future of many good manufacturing jobs around the country that the EX-IM bank's existence is allowed to continue. The company and the Union obviously have different reasons for wanting this. For the company it's about profit and orders. For us it's about having jobs and supporting our families. It has been stated that as many as 1500 industrial manufacturing jobs in the Erie area alone could be impacted by this decision.

Recently the company made it known that they are exploring options for a new corporate headquarters. Dallas was on the short list of places they were researching. On August 28 GE publicly announced they were taking Dallas off the short list of potential relocation sites because of its political resistance to the EX-IM bank. The UE, both at the Local and National level have been strong supporters of the reau-

thorization and have been very active and vocal in this process. The company made a ripple in the pond with its Dallas announcement. Maybe, due to the fact that Texas's opposition to EX-IM affects so many of our jobs, GE should look at making a splash by shifting a substantial portion of the EVO and A/C wheel work back to Erie.

Final Negotiation Tally

At the March membership meeting we asked the members for permission to withdraw the cost of contract negotiations and the contract rally from the interest in the Strike Defense Fund. The following are the totals a complete breakdown will be available at the union hall.

Delegate Expense	\$16,047.28
Rally Cost	\$78,726.98
Total	\$94,774.26

Strike Defense Refunds and Retiree watches are also deducted from the interest from the strike defense fund.

125 watches	\$9,654.40
Strike Defense Refunds	\$89,438.75
Total	\$102,956.35
Grand Total	\$197,730.61

C.P. Steward's Report

By Leo Grzegorzewski

On Thursday, September 3, 2015 we had a Step III grievance meeting in Erie at the Hilton Garden Inn on Peach and I-90. There were 23 cases heard and here are the results. 5 cases were put on hold. 18 cases were settled or closed. There were several wins at Step III that set precedent for the future.

On Friday, September 4, 2015 we had a Step II grievance meeting at Erie Hilton Garden Inn on Peach and I-90. There were 40 cases argued at that meeting. Here is how we fared. 20 cases were put on hold because of new UR staff appointments and not being prepared. 20 cases were settled or closed. At the Membership Meeting on September 17, 2015, I will have more detail pertaining to these cases.

Labor Day Parade

After an absence of almost 30 years organized labor showed it still knows how to throw a party. Thanks to the herculean efforts of **Rosann Barker** and 506's own **Jason Trayer** more than 30 local unions marched in this year's Labor Day Parade.

Over a thousand spectators lined the parade route as "floats" wound their way thru the streets and Union members were passing out candy to the youngsters in the crowd. The **McDowell Marching Band** provided the music. Thanks to all who attended.

Pictured below: **Don Brown, Scott (Bay Valley Foods in North East), Mike Michaelson and John Reitz** along with the award winning UE 506 float



Odds and Ends

By FF

We have been fielding a number of calls concerning Locomotive orders for next year. Railroads are parking a portion of their fleets due to the decline in freight shipments. Coal, oil and new car shipments which have been major customers for the railroad industry in the past are rarely seen on the tracks these days.

The rumor mill is working hard and everyone knows someone who has the inside scoop. We have spoken to the company and they have no answers yet on the number of locomotives forecasted for next year or what the local employment numbers will look like.

If you are injured at work, you are required to report the injury to the medical center. You are NOT required to be treated by the medical center, you must however, treat with a doctor on the list of Worker Compensation Doctors that is posted at the Medical Center. You are required to treat with those doctors for 90 days before you can see you own doctor. Failure to do so will result in denial of you worker comp claim. If you have any questions call the hall at 899-3108.

2015 National Convention

The 74th UE National Convention was held in Baltimore, Maryland, August 16th thru the 20th.

Pictured are Officers, Delegates and Board Members attending various workshops.



Convention Delegates



Delegate Dave Newton & E.B.M. Ricky Steele



Pres. Scott Slawson



E.B.M. Matt McCracken

Safety

School is back in session so let's take a moment to think about safety. Once again we are sharing the roads with school busses, bicyclists, crossing guards, and children walking to school and the bus stop. Please take the proper safety precautions and drive slowly through neighborhoods and near schools.

Beyond road safety have you thought about the risks your children face day-to-day at their school. Take a moment and discuss playground safety, tips for riding the bus, the importance of paying attention while they are walking (head up, phone down), and new teen drivers safety.

We may not put a lot of thought into backpack safety, but we should. When choosing a backpack look for something that isn't too large. The more space your child has, the more space they will use.

Explain the importance of using both straps when carrying a book bag. Using one strap may look cool, but it shifts the weight to one side of their body and causes muscle pain and posture problems.

Lastly, sit down with your child to discuss what is absolutely necessary to have for the next day in class. If it's not essential, leave it at home or in their school locker.

Having A Personal Problem?

Contact UE Local 506 Employee Assistance Program liaison **Bob Herrick** at 899-3108. Or call **Keith Eller** at 875-4EAP (Ext. 4327)

AA Meeting Schedule

Where: Building 6, Rm. 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

Locomotive & Control Employees FCU

The Locomotive & Control Employees FCU at the corner of East 38th and Tuttle has been serving the employees of GE since 1936. We are small enough to give you the personal attention you deserve and big enough to offer you all the services you need!

It's important to know that you can belong to more than one credit union so please stop in and see us at 1286 East 38th Street or visit us online at:
www.locomotivecontrolefcu.com

Whether you are purchasing/ refinancing a vehicle or home, planning for retirement, consolidating debt or building you savings we are here for you and our rates are very competitive. We offer all the great services you need from savings to checking to IRA's, Christmas clubs and vacation clubs, ATM cards, Free Home Banking and Free Bill Payer. We also have direct deposit and payroll deduction.

Remember we are on the corner of East 38th and Tuttle.

Bring this ad in and we will make the first deposit in your account!

We look forward to serving you and fulfilling all of your financial needs.

OCTOBER 2015						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <small>Columbus Day Annual Benefits Enrollment Begins thru 11/6/15</small>	13 <small>E-BOARD MEETING</small>	14 <small>R.A.G.E. MEETING</small>	15 <small>506 MEMBER-SHIP MEETINGS</small>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 <small>R.A.G.E. BOARD MEETING</small>	31 <small>Halloween</small> 