



Volume 72, Issue 1
Friday, January 15, 2021

LOCAL 506 UNION NEWS

3923 Main Street, Erie, PA 16511
<http://www.uelocal506.com>

© 21 Biroszak Printing Co. Inc.

Phone: (814) 899-3108
Fax (814) 899-0666

Workday

We have received countless inquiries from members who have been laid off requesting assistance with logging onto workday. Members, active or laid off, who experience difficulty signing onto Workday should contact their HRM. The issue may require a password reset. Your HRM has access to reset your password or provide access to your benefits information. The union has made multiple requests the company updates its system to allow access for laid off members for six months from the date of separation. This would provide a seamless transition for members and eliminate unnecessary work for the HRM's.

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORY

Buildings 2, 6, 10, 24, 50, Campus Services

Jennifer Bevevino Email: jennifer.bevevino21@wabtec.com Phone 814-528-1662

Buildings 12, 18 truck, 63, Security, Drafters

Jeremy Anderson Email: jeremy.anderson@wabtec.com Phone 814-323-4722

Buildings 5, 7

Andrea Pietras Email: andrea.pietras@wabtec.com Phone 814-875-3132

Buildings 10, 26

Russell Chase Email: russell.chase@wabtec.com Phone 814-323-2877

Human Resources and Labor Relations Manager

Phillip Johnson Email: phillip.johnson@wabtec.com Phone 814-431-8457

Employment Leader

Beth Pollard Email: beth.pollard@wabtec.com Phone 814-875-2720

Eastern Region Delegates Nominations

UE Eastern Regional Delegate and Alternate-Delegate Nominations will be taken from the floor during membership meetings on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

UE Local 506 Constitution allocates Delegate positions for the three Local 506 Officers. The names of nominees for the four additional Delegate positions will be placed on a ballot and a vote will be conducted during the March 18, 2021 membership meetings. The four candidates receiving the highest vote totals will assume Regional Delegate status. The next three candidates will serve as Alternate-Delegates. ⚡

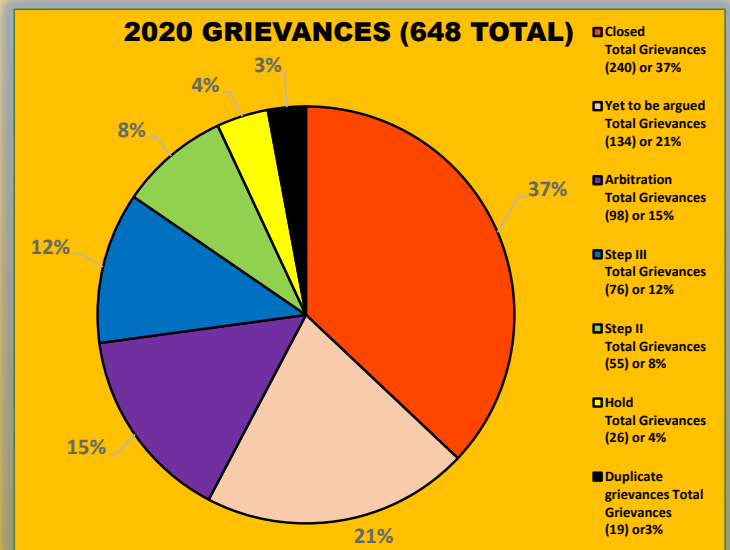
Chief Plant Steward's Report

By Leo Grzegorzewski



Looking back at 2020 is not easy for most of us. COVID-19 dominated our lives over the past year. Daily news reports of infections and deaths were constant reminder of how bad this pandemic is. Since March, we also dealt with isolation, business closings, and shortages that made our lives difficult. New vaccines and therapeutics give some hope we will get back to normal soon. If COVID-19 was not enough to deal with, recent elections did not make our lives any easier. In my fifty-nine years, I have never seen our country so divided. I personally witnessed family, friends, and U.E. 506 members often engaging in heated debates, with little compromise from either side. I remember not long ago you could have civil discussions and differences with friends and family without an argument. Sadly, some may never speak to each other again. All over an election? WTF! My hope is, time will heal the scars of the wounds caused by this division.

Listed are the 2020 grievance totals for the year. in 2020, local U.E. 506 filed 648 grievances. Of the 648 grievances filed, we argued 514 or 79% of them through Step II, Step III, or are in arbitration. The grievance committee also processed over thirty unsettled grievances from 2019 in 2020. Currently, we have six arbitrations at various steps in the process. They are the 19 code pay issues out of bldg. 10, Continuation of Benefits, Layoff and Recall procedure, Bumping (down) rights, Temp Transfers, and Time and Attendance grievances. They represent at least ninety-eight grievances. As you can see by the chart, Wabtec and its lawyers are not settling many grievances. Let's hope 2021 is better than 2020. Be safe and stay healthy. ⚡



UE Local 506 Toy Drive

Once again, we would like to thank all of you who contributed to our 2020 Toy Drive. Our warmest appreciation goes out to 506 members, Local 618, Plant Security, retirees, and the folks in the community who dropped off toys or monetary gifts. Your contributions made this year's drive a great success. In total we raised over \$15,000.00 to benefit the Erie Family Center, Martin Luther King Center and the Union City Family Center. Special thanks to Board Member-At-Large Jason Trayer and our Chief stewards for their efforts during this difficult year. ⚡



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

Out of an abundance of caution, we strongly encourage everyone to attend membership meetings via Zoom. A maximum of 50 people will be permitted during membership meetings. Anyone in excess of 50 will be asked to attend the meeting via Zoom. All in attendance will be required to wear a mask and asked to help disinfect their area before departing.

Agenda:

- ⚡ Financial Report
- ⚡ Officers Report
- ⚡ Committee Reports and General Business

Membership Meetings & Times

Thursday, January 21, 2021

- 7:30 a.m. (3rd Shift)**
- 12:30 p.m. (2nd Shift)**
- 3:30 p.m. (1st Shift)**

President's Report

By Scott Slawson



Happy New Year! As we welcome in 2021, we also hope to see some positive change. While Corona virus infection rate and death continue at a rapid pace there is a sign of hope on the horizon. The immunization shot is finally becoming available and should soon be coming to a location near you. The experts are saying this virus should be under control late this year and we should be able to return to some form of normalcy by then. In the meantime, I continue to urge everyone to take all available precautions. Maintain social distancing, wear your mask when around others, wash your hands and sanitize regularly. We have had many members and family contract Covid and some of us have lost loved ones to it. These precautions are as much for them as they are for you. Please look out for each other and do the right thing.

As the new year rings in our struggles with the company continue. We have completed the layoffs and all told we currently have 406 of our brothers and sisters awaiting recall. I want to thank those that took a save-a-job to help mitigate the number of layoffs. Congratulations to you and best of luck in your next stage of life. We continue to press the company on all the same issues we have been fighting through over the last year and a half. The company seems fit to want to continue down the path they have been following. Many of the grievances we have are related and will be cleared up one way or another after some arbitration hearings. The company is still refusing to arbitrate via zoom even though we are doing step 3 grievance meetings that way. I can only assume they know they are wrong in many of their positions and want to ride that out as long as they can.

They are starting to try to ramp up the Vendor Managed Inventory throughout the plant. These programs have always fallen flat on their face and we always take the blame. The company's claim is always the same. It will save money. It never does because they never measure how much time is lost when we are waiting on VMI or farmed out parts. Instead, they want to talk about how poorly your efficiency is (because you have no parts). It always amazes me that when we were self-directed through piece work, we could build close to 1,000 locomotive per year on top of everything else that was done in this plant and now we struggle to build 300 but yet we get the blame. News Flash! The workforce is never to blame for the inadequacies of poor management!!

The continuous improvement committees have started back up and hopefully it won't go the same way as all the programs before it. So far, meet the new program, same as the old program. If the company was truly interested in bringing work into the Erie plant, they would do it and stop giving us lip service!

In closing I would like to address what happened at the Capital Building and not from a political view. It was an absolute travesty what occurred. Our government, whether Democrat, Republican or Independent finally got what they wanted. Absolute division amongst the masses to give them the impunity to do whatever they want. I hope people take time to reflect the fact that there are many in politics that do not care about you, your family, your community or your needs. I also hope people wake up to the fact that OUR government and our democracy, whether or not you like them and it, was put in serious jeopardy that day. Only time will tell how much damage may have happened on the National Security front.

In light of Dr. Martin Luther King Day on Monday I feel the following quote is appropriate for us as we begin the new year. "Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

The Officers and Executive Board would like to wish everyone a Happy Martin Luther King Day. ⚡

Trade Petition TA-W 96182

TRADE PETITION TA-W 96182 - With the assistance of the PA Rapid Response UE 506 filed a new Trade Petition for certification on September 4, 2020. The previous petition expired on September 28, 2020. We are still awaiting a decision from the US Department of Labor. If members would like to view the status of the pending decision go to https://www.doleta.gov/tradeact/petitioners/taa_search_form.cfm. When prompted, enter the petition # 96182. Determinations are updated weekly. Any case listed that has a blank in the date and decision blocks is currently under investigation and a determination will be issued soon. The previous petition expired on September 28, 2020, along with eligibility for TRA in some cases. Please read the following information to understand

qualifying separations for TAA and TRA and the impact on benefits eligibility.

Note: Please call your elected representatives local offices' and request their assistance in gaining approval of our latest Trade Petition TA-W#96182.

Senator Bob Casey, Phone: (814) 874-5080

Senator Pat Toomey, Phone: (814) 453-3010

Congressman Mike Kelly, Phone: (814) 454-8190

“Separation” categories as they apply to TAA and TRA.

Duration of the Separation. (Total or Partial Separations)

- **Partial Separation**- Reduction of work hours and wages below 80% of average wages and hours.
- **Total Separation**- Lack of work layoff of 7 or more consecutive calendar days.

Total or Partial Separation occurs with regard to the TAA petition coverage dates or timeline.

Regulations require the state agency to look back all the way to the petition impact date for a Total or Partial Separation and a regular UC claim that the worker either opened, had already opened, or could have opened and use that to establish the TRA Weekly Benefit Amount.

Within the petition coverage dates, we can have a **First Separation, Most Recent Total Separation, First TRA Qualifying Separation** and **Most Recent TRA Qualifying Separation**.

- **First Separation:** The first one which occurs within the certification period of a certification of group eligibility for TAA benefits. This separation can be *either a Total or Partial Separation*. This means that a worker may establish eligibility for TAA benefits (other than TRA and RTAA) with either a Total or Partial Separation from adversely affected employment covered under the certification. ***The First Separation need not be a “Qualifying” Separation (defined below) to establish eligibility for TAA benefits, with the exception of TRA.*** At least one Total Separation is required to establish RTAA eligibility.
- **Most Recent Total Separation:** This is the Total Separation that has occurred most recently within the petition certification period. The Most Recent Total Separation may or may not be a “TRA Qualifying Separation”. **The Most Recent Total Separation is important because it establishes all of the time-based deadlines associated with TAA.**
- **First TRA Qualifying Separation:** This is the First Total or Partial Separation that occurs in the petition coverage period that qualifies the worker for TRA. In order to be a TRA Qualifying separation, in the 52-weeks, preceding the Total or Partial Separation, the worker must have 26-weeks in which they earned \$30 or more dollars ***from the certified employer*** AND *was entitled to (or would be entitled if they applied) unemployment insurance for a week within the benefit period (1) in which such Total or Partial Separation took place, or (2) which began (or would have begun) by reason of the filing of a claim for unemployment insurance by such worker after such Total or Partial Separation;* Some of the 26-weeks of work can be substituted if the worker was on workers comp or “employer authorized leave”. **The First TRA Qualifying Separation is important because it established initial eligibility for TRA, and sets the TRA Weekly Benefit Amount.**
- **Most Recent TRA Qualifying Separation:** This is just the most recent separation that meets the requirements mentioned above. **The Most Recent TRA Qualifying Separation is important because it establishes the “eligibility periods” the worker can receive TRA. For Basic TRA- 104-weeks from The Most Recent TRA Qualifying Separation, additional TRA- the 78-week period beginning with the end of the 104-week Basic TRA period and finally Completion TRA the 20-week period beginning with the end of the 78-week additional TRA period.**

Example 1: If a recalled worker has Total or Partial Separation due to a “TLOW”, and attempts to open a UC claim and is determined not financially eligible, this scenario can be a **First Separation**, but it is not a **TRA Qualifying Separation**. Even if the worker had the required 26-weeks in the previous 52-weeks, at the time of separation there was no entitlement to regular UC with which to establish the TRA Weekly Benefit Amount.

Example 2: If a recalled worker has a Total or Partial Separation due to a “TLOW” and opens a UC claim that may be totally based on earnings with employer(s) other than GE, or is based on earnings from GE and other employers, BUT the worker does not meet the “26-weeks in the previous 52-weeks” test, this scenario could also be a **First Separation**, but even though the worker was financially eligible for UC, it will not establish a **TRA Qualifying Separation** because the worker did not meet the requisite “26-weeks in the previous 52-weeks” test for TRA.

So, a Total or Partial Separation can establish eligibility for all TAA benefits with the exception of TRA, in order for a Total or Partial Separation to also be a TRA Qualifying Separation, the worker must meet the “26-weeks of work with the certified employer in previous 52-weeks” and must also establish entitlement to regular UC, already have an unexpired UC claim at the time, or could have established entitlement to UC at the time, had the worker filed a claim. ⚡



UE Local 506 Retiree's *Congratulations!*

Congratulations to the following members who retired or accepted a save a job in 2020. The Local would like to wish them the best of luck in retirement.

Thank you for your dedication, you will all be greatly missed.

2020 Retirees

Dale Mitchell	Jams Carullo	Doug Monroe	Kevin Ireland
Melvin Johnson	Jeffrey Zahner	John Rankin	Russell Johnson
Bob Herrick	James Duchnowski	Myra Yokoff	Michael Omelian
Anthony Borelli	Thomas Astemborski	Michael Warhola	David Krol
Odis Hamilton	William Dillen	Eric Smith	Kenneth Moore
Christopher Chizewick	Kenneth Rosenquest	Gerry Majersky	Mary Ransom
Joseph Cicero	Paul Martin	Matthew Stoops	David Samsel
Donald Ensbrenner	Jeffrey Rumzie	Patricia Thomas	Benedict Scheck
William Federowicz	Louis Rosswog	Becky Eccles	Robert Sulecki
David Felix	Michael Reyda	Cinda Walter	Charles Vogel
Tim Hershelman	Kevin Maston	Darlene Jones	Mark Watson
Kevin Hirz	Robert Knight	Steve Hyzer	Willie Willcott
Brian Long	Michael Feiler	Gregory Walk	James Young
Jeffrey Morgan	Steven Bojarski	Danial Wykoff	Mark Allgeier
Matthew Ryan	Thomas Bobrowicz	Richard Flemings	Richard Cooper
Jeffrey Stankiewicz	Matthew Banta	Lori Rewers	Eric Kosack
Timothy Wallace	William Wayand	Mark Sonney	David Bork
Donald Engman	Pat Snider	Robert Waterhouse	James Haynes
Dave Allgeier	Peter Curry	Kevin Weed	Glen Palmer
Samuel Troup	John Thur	Richar Lebow	Craig Vandervort
James Wisniewski	Clifford Stover	Michael Rudzinski	Michael Peterson
David Rhines	Ronald Tuberson	James Ayers	Michael Rowan
David W. Brown	Ross Russo	Douglas Ballman	Philip Wroblewski
Vincent Saraceno	Richard Davis	Barry Bateman	Michael Jelinek
Morris Hyde	Timmy Hart	Joseph Buterbaugh	Stevenson Blanks
Frank Italiani	Jason Kaday	Tammy Droney	John Hall
David Greer	Jeffrey Jeska	Charles Easton	Brian Hepler
Tod Peters	Cindy Rose	Timothy Ellsworth	Thomas Bendure
Wayne Blankenship	Anthony Majczyk	James Genis	James Cavicchio
Albert Sabol	William Payne	David Glowacki	Doug Deiner
Terry Benson	Mark Vantassel	Paul Grubbs	Barbara Hill
Timothy Penfield	Norma Kent	Allen Hemme	Randall Lawrence
Ceola Russell	Thomas Kostreba	Douglas Henry	Edward Sterling
Renae Toup	Kenneth Leuschen	Robert Hess	William Hammerman
			William Dawson

Important Numbers and Websites

Employment Leader

Please contact Beth Pollard at (814) 875-2720 or beth.pollard@wabtec.com.

For Questions Related To U.S. Employee Benefits,

Please contact Wabtec Benefits Service Center at (866) 860-4260

For Questions Related To Erie PA Health Services

(Wabtec Medical Center), Please contact Charlie Ramsey at (814) 875-2034 or charles.ramsey@wabtec.com.

HAVING PAYROLL ISSUES?

Call Steve Pettys at 875-6505

CALL TO REPORT – 875-4000

FMLA 1-844-372-1594

If members or their loved ones are struggling with alcohol dependency you can get help

Call (814) 452-2675 or go to Website: www.nni.org



HIGHMARK – 1-800-811-0391

E-MAIL – highmarkbcbs.com

AETNA – 1-866-317-6989

E-MAIL – aetna.com

BCC SMART CARE – 1-800-685-6100

E-MAIL – www.mywealthcareonline.com/bccsmartcare

CVS – 1-877-347-7444

E-MAIL – caremark.com

METLIFE – 1-800-942-0854

E-MAIL – microsite.ehr.com

DAVISVISION – 1-800-999-5431

E-MAIL – microsite.ehr.com

LINCOLN FINANCIAL DISABILITY CLAIMS – 1-844-829-5509

E-MAIL – www.MyLincolnPortal.com

WABTEC PAYROLL/ENROLLMENT INFORMATION – 518-690-4612

E-MAIL – microsite.ehr.com/Wabtec



JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS VIA ZOOM



The Officers will be conducting the January, Membership meetings via Zoom webinar and in-person. It is easy to join the meeting via smartphone, tablet, computer or landline. For the best experience download the zoom app via smartphone, tablet or computer. If you would just like to call and listen, there will be a phone number for landlines as well. Only members are invited and are required to verify their membership. **To assure that members who would like to attend the January membership meeting via Zoom are sent a proper invitation we are requesting that members email the following information to uelocal506solidarity@gmail.com. This is also an effort to avoid unnecessary emails and assure email address accuracy. Once members receive a proper invitation to their requested meeting, they will not be required to submit additional emails going forward.**

Members requesting invitation please email the following information to uelocal506solidarity@gmail.com

Name

Building

Meeting (shift you would like to attend)

Telephone Number

Membership Meetings & Times

Thursday, January 21, 2021

7:30 a.m. (3rd Shift) 12:30 p.m. (2nd Shift)

3:30 p.m. (1st Shift)

FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 L.A.C. MEETING 	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 618 MEETING	11 STEP II (Tentative)	12	13
14 Valentine's Day 	15 Presidents' Day 	16 506 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MARDI GRAS 	17 Ash Wednesday	18 506 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 STEP III (Tentative)	26	27
28						