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Union Voice

From The Desk Of Rita Rogers



Hello All

Oh what busy and interesting times! We're getting a few calls from members concerning issues

discussed by management during crew meetings etc.

The plant chairs and I will continue to communicate any information that we get the facts on.

Becky Ledbetter has been assigned to assist at Hawker Beech Craft. She assisted me as co-council in an arbitration case and did a great job! We are preparing for the outsourcing arbitration case along with a few others and appreciate the assistance from those that are called upon.

Rita
ADBR

multiply your political and economic power by 6. Then by 36. Eventually by 31 million. Take control.

Help you and 31 million other unemployed Americans organize, work together and get back to work.

The second one is Twitter and Facebook. Both are social networks. You can sign up to follow us on your local lodge website.

www.II733iam.com If you have the capabilities of receiving SMS text messages then you can sign up to have them sent straight to your cell phone any time there are postings.

Twitter can be a helpful tool. Our next contract is a short 18 months away. It's time to get prepared and to be ready. By subscribing to the SMS text, anytime a posting is made to Twitter or Facebook that needs to be forwarded to the membership in a timely manner a large number of our members can know what is going on without having to go home and check the website to see if there is any news. No waiting for flyers to be handed out at work. No waiting on word of mouth. You can be on top of what is happening. You can get your information instantly and can get the news as it becomes available.

Facebook also a social network which can also be a source of quick information as well as all the causes that are important to our membership. You can sign up for

several causes of which a couple are sponsored by the IAM. Jobs Now and UCubed along with several others like the Solidarity Effect, Employee Free Choice and Thank a Soldier. Plus many more.

Check out these social networks and sign up to follow us. You will need to have your own Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Next is what they call RSS Feeds

What is RSS? RSS (Rich Site Summary) is a format for delivering regularly changing web content. Many news-related sites, weblogs and other online publishers syndicate their content as an RSS Feed to whoever wants it.

Why RSS? Benefits and Reasons for using RSS

RSS solves a problem for people who regularly use the web. It allows you to easily stay informed by retrieving the latest content from the sites you are interested in. You save time by not needing to visit each site individually. You ensure your privacy,

by not needing to join each site's email newsletter.

It IAM&AW has an RSS feed that your Local Lodge website has posted on it's main page. The IAM post new news content regularly to their RSS feeds.

So check out your Local Lodge website today. Stay on top of what is going on within your local as well as in your union.

The illegal we do immediately; the unconstitutional takes a little longer.

—Henry Kissinger

The Lord's Prayer is 66 words, the Gettysburg Address is 286 words, there are 1,322 words in the Declaration of Independence, but government regulations on the sale of cabbage total 26,911 words.

You do what you can for as long as you can, and when you finally can't, you do the next best thing. You back up but you don't give up. --Chuck Yeager

Twitter and Facebook

by Larry Wilson
Communicator

Have you checked out your local lodge website recently? There have been some additions that will be of interest.

The first one is UCubed. The Machinists Union Introduces UCubed: An online movement to unify the unemployed. It went live January 15th, 2010. It's designed to help the unemployed or underemployed. <http://www.unionofunemployed.com>

You lost your job. You're not alone. Millions of Americans face the same challenges. You want your job back. You want your life back. But you can't do it alone. Neither can anyone else. We all need each other. Let UCubed help you connect. Form a cube, and

February Monthly Meeting

Saturday February 6th, 2010

E-Board Meets at 8:30 am

Regular Meeting at 10:00 am

Wichita Area Union Label

and Service Trades Council

29th Annual Chili and Hobo Supper

Come join us for all you can eat chili, hobo stew, desserts, and beverages, while playing BINGO and winning many prizes.

February 13, 2010

5:30 until ?

3830 S. Meridian

Adults \$6.00

Children 6 yrs to 12 yrs \$2.5

5 yrs and younger FREE





February:

Is Heart Health Month

Well this is your sister coming at you again from the safety committee. We meet every second Wednesday in the old first aid room at plant two at 4:00 pm. Please come join us and give your input on how we can be safe at home and at work.



February is known as the month of love. We see heart shaped boxes of candy and all sorts of things to let someone special to us know how much we love them. We buy any and everything we can think of to let that other person know they are loved.

But the one thing we don't do is to let good ol' number one know that. We just overlook the fact how important our heart is to our own body. We think that this won't happen to me and that this only happens to men that are overweight. Women are the main ones that think heart attacks is mainly a man thing. We also know women have them too. It doesn't just happen in the winter time. It can strike at any time and most of the time you don't have any kind of warning.

They call this - The Silent Killer. One of the signs is aching joints and numbness in the hands. So it's not too late to start getting your main muscle into shape. Change the way you eat, get off that couch and do something. If you don't have the money to go to the gym try house work, it can be a real workout. Instead of going thru the automatic car wash try washing and drying off your own car. If you have a little one you know how much of a workout picking them up, putting them down and playing with them can be.

If you have a neighborhood store walk to it instead of driving and see how much money that saves you. Because you can only carry so much home with you, therefore you will buy less. Plus you get a good workout in the process.

With the way stress is always in our faces and with the job market and economy the way it is. This can be leading up for a heart attack to happen. So let's think more of ourselves. As I've said before, things aren't as bad as them seem.

In the month of February the Heart Association has a drive called Go Red for Women which uses a Red Dress as their symbol. Give what you can so we can help in the fight to stop heart disease. And then that sweet heart can say I love you and you will be telling them the same thing by living a little longer.

I wish you all a Happy Valentines Day. With all solidarity your sister, Linda Ligons



Day Trip to Dodge City

By Linda Wilson

As a fan of history, I thought a trip to Dodge City would be a learning experience. I am especially fond of American History during the mid to late 1800's. Over the Christmas furlough, we took the drive west down highway 400, approximately 150 miles to check it out.

Winter may not be the best time to go. It was a very foggy day and the visibility on the trip was very low. We couldn't catch much of the scenery and the sun did not break through until we reached Dodge City.

Many of the attractions and activities are seasonal outdoor activities. It was too cold to do the Trail of Fame walking tour and the trolley tour was not available. It only runs from May to August.

Boot Hill Museum and Front Street is at the original sight of Boot Hill. It depicts life in the 1870's old west with restored buildings. They have summer re-enactments and are open year round. There is admission charged to go past the gift shop.

There are other attractions and events that are not history related. There is a city zoo that is free. The raceway park has stock car and sprint car races. And of course there is the Boot Hill Casino. It has slots and table games. The slot machines seemed to all be alike; the only difference was the amount of the bets. I'm sure that eventually they will be adding more machines that are

different and more fun.

They also have an annual rodeo called Dodge City Days. As well as a rodeo they have a craft show, barbecue contest, kid fest and parade. It runs from July 30th thru August 8th 2010.

For more information you can go to www.visitdodgecity.org. This website gives a good listing of attractions and activities and community information.

The Executive Council of the IAM&AW

Has voted unanimously to oppose any health care reform legislation that is funded by taxing the value of worker's existing health care benefits.

"For decades, IAM members exchanged substantial wage increases for the best possible health insurance," said IAM President Tom Buffenbarger. "Now, in a bizarre turn of events, their insurance premiums will be subject to a forty percent excise tax if the Senate version of health care reform becomes law. Democratic leaders have the power to stop this travesty and I urge them to do so, quickly and completely."

"IAM members are rightfully outraged over the bait and switch tactics at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue," said Buffenbarger. "They were promised health care reform. Now they face health care deformed by backroom deals."

No single issue brought more union members onto last year's campaign trail than Republican threats to tax health care benefits, and the Democrats' pledge to protect those benefits. "Like NAFTA, the health care excise tax is an issue with the potential to reverberate for years," said Buffenbarger. "Machinists have long memories. And they will long remember who taxed their benefits after pledging on the campaign trail not to do so."

Boston Tea Party

by Larry Wilson

The way things are going we as American citizens need to stand up and say enough is enough. No taxation without representation. I'll be happy and eager to go out and get a musket to join the revolt.

From the large financial institutions that are still doling out millions upon millions of dollars in bonus's, cadmium being found in the jewelry coming from China that parents are buying for their kids which is a very



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toxic metal, to the large companies that have all the elected representatives in their hip pocket.

Where's it going to stop? What's it going to take to turn this around? I for one am ready to stage a protest. If it takes something like the original Boston Party then so be it. Maybe instead of dumping tea into the Boston Harbor maybe it should be toxic trinkets and toys laced with lead or cadmium coming from China.

Something has to be done.

The U.S. trade deficit jumped to the highest level in 10 months as a slowly improving U.S. economy pushed up demand for imports. The Commerce Department reported that the trade deficit jumped 9.7 percent to \$36.4 billion in November. Americans do so love their Chinese made products.

We as Americans should demand that fewer jobs be outsourced to countries that don't pay their workers a decent living wage. I'm constantly hearing from the powers to be at Hawker that the hourly people need to stay competitive or we need to keep our competitive edge. How can we when we are competing with those greedy companies that send good paying American jobs to countries that pay their workers low wages. Has anyone noticed that even though the cost to produce products made in slave labor countries, that the prices don't come down to reflect the cheaper labor costs? Or is it just me. I wonder.

The government needs to wise up also. When the U.S. is forced into poverty due to the lack of good paying jobs, I ask who is going to pay the tab? Surely not the American tax payer, because there won't be such an animal.

To all those Multi-National companies Hawker included, whose going to purchase your products if there is no one left in the world that can afford what you produce? Think about it. It's coming. It's time to be a true American Citizen, stand up to these companies and our own government and say. **Enough is Enough.** Finally does anyone have a good Musket for sale? I'm fired up and ready.

Stand and Fight for What is Right!