

The Union Voice

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International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers
Local Lodge 733, District Lodge 70
Wichita, Kansas

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President's Day



A Proper Thanks to Wall Street

by Jim Hightower

No doubt you'll want to join me in sending a heartfelt "thank you" to Lloyd Blankfein, Jamie Dimon, John Mack, and Brian Moynihan.

They are, respectively, the chief banking whizzes at Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, Morgan Stanley, and Bank of America — the four biggest Wall Street firms whose get-rich-quick recklessness brought our financial system to its knees and wrecked our economy. During the last year and a half, these four collected nearly half-a-trillion of our tax dollars to bail out their sinking institutions.

Despite this public generosity to save them, these too-big-to-fail giants still are not meeting their obligations to us. Instead of making loans that America's cash-starved businesses must have so they can start generating jobs again, the Wall Streeters have gone right back to the same sort of high-risk investment gimmicks that caused our country's economic mess.

They've also used our money to take over some smaller banks in order to make themselves even bigger. And — of course! — they've returned to the charming practice of lining their own executive pockets with multimillion-dollar bonuses.

Meanwhile, we taxpayers are still owed about \$120 billion that we doled out to save the financial system — money that should now be going to other budget needs. To get it back, the White House has proposed a new Wall Street tax on the 50 largest banks — most of which are now raking in huge profits from speculative investment schemes that bankers developed by using dirt cheap federal funds.

Yes, a proper way to thank Blankfein, Dimon, Mack, Moynihan, and others for the way they're treating us is with this tax. But it will be paid by the banks, not by the bankers who did the damage. So, let's also show a little personal gratitude to the greedheaded bank barons by assessing a windfall tax on the absurd bonuses they plan to pay themselves.

—Jim Hightower is a nationally syndicated radio commentator and the bestselling author of Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go With the Flow. For more information visit www.jimhightower.com.



Dissatisfied With Your Work? You're Not Alone, Survey Finds

Fewer than half of Americans are satisfied with their work — even though many feel fortunate to have it, according to a new survey.

The 45 percent satisfaction rate for 2009 was the lowest level ever recorded by the Conference Board research group in more than 22 years. In 2008, 49 percent of those surveyed reported satisfaction with their jobs.

The drop in workers' happiness can be partly blamed on the worst recession since the 1930s, which made it difficult for some people to find challenging and suitable jobs. But worker dissatisfaction has been on the rise for more than two decades.

"It says something troubling about work in America. It is not about the business cycle or one grumpy generation," says Linda Barrington, managing

director of human capital at the Conference Board, who helped write the report.

Workers have grown steadily more unhappy for a variety of reasons: Fewer consider their jobs to be interesting, incomes have not kept up with inflation, and the soaring cost of health insurance has eaten into take-home pay.

[See Survey Page 3]

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 \$2.50

5 yrs and younger FREE



Visit us on the Web!

www.II733iam.com

PLANT CHAIR REPORTS

Shaun Junkins
1st Shift Plant Chair

In the month of January our grievances are still leveled out.

We did get two favorable step 3 grievance answers from H.R. These two grievant's both with more than 30 years of seniority and where laid off to the street. We are waiting for the answer from the arbitrator on the grievance that we heard in November.

In plant one there has been a couple of employees written up for ROC 16 restricting output and ROC 21 wasting time during working hours. We have grievances on these reprimands and we are still investigating these grievances.

EBS made it through all the plants to give employees a chance to look at their benefits and or make changes to their plans.

In Solidarity,
Shaun Junkins

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 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.11733iam.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

Welcome To Our New Union Members

Michael Huynh
Wilfrid Martin

February Issue

important to our membership. You can sign up for several causes of which

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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.

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.

Senate will take up jobs bill next week

By STEPHEN OHLEMACHER

WASHINGTON - Senate leaders plan to pass a jobs bill as key Democrats and Republicans neared agreement on a proposal to give businesses a tax break for hiring unemployed workers.

Passage would mark a rare bipartisan achievement in a Congress that has been sharply divided along political lines.

The Senate will start work on the bill, said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. If the bill is passed when the Senate takes a President's Day break, it would hand President Barack Obama a badly needed political victory.

"We want to work with the Republicans and it appears to me, on the jobs program, they want to work with us," Reid told reporters. "We do believe very emphatically that we will be having a bipartisan bill."

Passage of a bill with both Democratic and Republican support would contrast sharply with the way Congress has done business for the past year, a reflection of the Democrats' diminished power since Republican Scott Brown scored a stunning victory last month in a special Senate election in Massachusetts. With Brown seated, Senate Democrats will no longer have a filibuster-proof majority in the body, meaning they will need at least some Republican support to pass legislation.

Democrats believe a jobs bill that includes tax breaks Republicans support is a good way to break the ice, while also reflecting Obama's renewed emphasis on job creation.

"We heard the message of Massachusetts," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y. "They said focus immediately, and don't take your focus off, jobs, the economy, helping the middle class."

The tax break for hiring unemployed workers is modeled after a proposal by Schumer and Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah. The measure is an alternative to Obama's proposed tax cut of up to \$5,000 for each new worker that employers hire.

The Senate alternative would exempt companies from paying the employer's share of Social Security payroll taxes for new workers hired this year, as long as those people had been unemployed at least 60 days. It would save companies 6.2 percent of the new workers' salaries that are subject to Social Security taxes, and would cost about \$11 billion over 10 years, according to updated estimates.

Safety Corner

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 they 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



Survey

{Continued From Page 1}

When the Conference Board's first survey was conducted in 1987, most workers — 61 percent — said they were happy in their jobs.

The survey of 5,000 households was conducted for the Conference Board by TNS, a global market research company.

One clue that may explain workers' growing dissatisfaction: Only 51 percent now find their jobs interesting — another low in the survey's 22 years. In 1987, nearly 70 percent said they were interested in their work.

Conference Board officials and outside economists suggested that weak wage growth helps explain why workers' unhappiness has been rising for more than 20 years. After growing in the 1980s and 1990s, average household incomes adjusted for inflation have been shrinking since 2000.

Also, compared with 1980, three times as many workers contribute to the cost of their health insurance — and those contributions have gone up. The average employee contribution for single-coverage medical care benefits rose from \$48 a month to \$76 a month between 1999 and 2006.

Workers under 25 expressed the highest level of dissatisfaction. Roughly 64 percent of workers under 25 say they were unhappy in their jobs. The recession has been especially hard on young workers, who

face fewer opportunities now and lower wages, some analysts say.

Report Sees Dim Retirement Prospects for Low-Wage Workers

Many future low - and moderate-wage earning retirees will face a bleak financial future unless the government offers additional means of assistance, according to a new report.

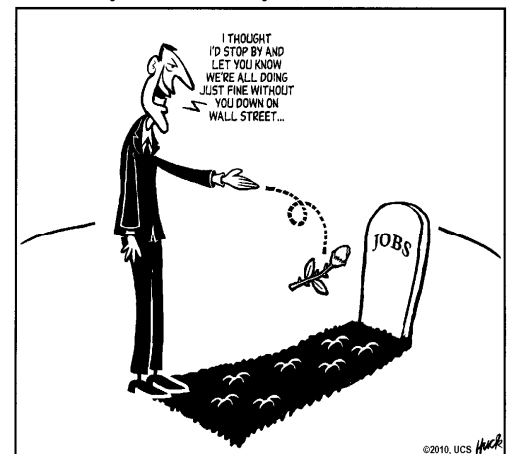
The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College said that workers in nearly one in three households retire with no pension coverage and rely exclusively on Social Security. And even if current federal law is unchanged, the report said, Social Security will provide less income in the future relative to pre-retirement earnings.

The report, Pension Coverage and Retirement Security, by Alicia Munnell and Laura Quinby, found little success in various legislative efforts to encourage small employers to establish retirement plans for their workers.

“Designing simpler plans in the hope that they will appeal to small business has not worked in the past and is unlikely to work in the future,” the report said.

The authors said that bipartisan legislation under consideration that would create a mandatory retirement system of automatic payroll-deduction IRAs may well not work, given the expected decline in Social Security income and the modest balances in 401 (k) plans.

They pointed out that health care costs continue to rise, meaning higher premiums for Medicare Part B and a new Part D drug benefit. These higher premiums will mean smaller and smaller Social Security checks, they noted.



Buy America Works: Longstanding United States Policy Enhances the Job Creating Effect of Government Spending

For more than 70 years, the United States has had domestic sourcing or “Buy America” laws on the books to ensure that American-made goods and materials have preference over imported products with respect to government procurement and infrastructure projects. Including domestic sourcing requirements in job creating legislation would be the most effective way to ensure taxpayer dollars are used to create and maintain jobs and manufacturing capacity to the maximum extent possible, thereby vastly improving the stimulative effect of government spending. Under current law, domestic sourcing requirements apply to general government procurement, materials for highway and transit infrastructure investments, projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Recovery Act), and elsewhere. “Buy America” is a proven job creation tool that is broadly supported by Congress, the American people, and hundreds of local governments throughout the United States. Domestic sourcing laws comply with our international trade obligations and are utilized by numerous foreign governments. For all of these reasons, “Buy America” provisions should continue to be utilized in infrastructure and other spending bills so that our manufacturing base can thrive and so that more Americans can earn a paycheck and contribute to the overall welfare of the nation.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND BUY AMERICA ARE NEEDED TO REVITALIZE AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

The deterioration of our industrial base, caused in large measure by a drastic shift of employment to overseas factories, is cause for alarm as lawmakers search for answers that will result in more than just a “jobless recovery.” To put it simply, the manufacturing sector has been disproportionately slammed by this recession. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, manufacturing employment has fallen by 2.1 million jobs since December of 2007.

Even worse, the steady and increas-

ing decline in manufacturing in the United States has been ongoing for a much longer period. According to an article by Richard McCormack in the January/February 2010 issue of *The American Prospect*, Manufacturing employment dropped to 11.7 million in October 2009, a loss of 5.5 million or 32% of all manufacturing jobs since October 2000. The last time fewer than 12 million people worked in the manufacturing sector was in 1941. In October 2009, more people were officially unemployed (15.7 million) than were working in manufacturing.”

Moreover, the nation is in a fragile and jobless recovery after the fastest and most severe economic contraction since the Great Depression. In 2008, the country lost 2.6 million jobs; the largest loss in over sixty years. At the start of 2009, approximately 750,000 jobs vanished in a single month and unemployment reached 10.2% and has remained at 10% for the last three months with no appreciable signs of decreasing in the short term.

Substantial federal, state, and private investment in our highway, transit, sewer, and clean energy infrastructure, must be made if the United States is to revive our economy and create good manufacturing jobs.

Given the dire problems the economy has experienced and continues to experience, the inclusion of domestic sourcing requirements in an upcoming job creation bill is the smart thing to do. It would ensure that the materials used in a myriad of infrastructure projects are produced by workers and companies in the United States to the maximum extent possible. It would also minimize taxpayer funds going to pay for materials produced overseas, re-employ manufacturing workers here at home, and help bring back production capacity in sectors of our economy that have been hard hit by the brutal downturn, including the steel industry.

Indeed, a 2008 Government Accountability Office (GAO) study describes the benefits of “Buy America” policies, noting that potential benefits include “protecting domestic employment through national infrastructure improvements that can stimulate eco-

nomics activity and create jobs.

China, European nations, and many other foreign governments have already made commitments to heavily invest in their industrial base, which is an important step in capturing the technology that will support sustained employment in the 21st century. We must do the same if the United States is to successfully compete now and in the years to come.

The rest of the article can be found on the website:

http://www.americanmanufacturing.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/buyamericaworks2_10v2.pdf



Workplace Structure: Union vs. Non-Union

The structure and the power relationships of a workplace where there is no union are very different from those in a unionized facility. In the non-union workplace, employees are simply a collection of individuals, organized into groups according to the employer’s needs. Workers are categorized based on what type of work you do, the location in which you perform your work, the shift you may happen to work on, or other factors relating to the ways in which the employer chooses to get the work done. Some employers deliberately structure the work and the workplace precisely to discourage the unionization of their employees. With a union, those who work for a particular employer are no longer just a bunch of individuals; they are a collective unit, as well. The union has the right – and the legal obligation – to speak with one voice, on behalf of all of the employees in what is known as the “bargaining unit.” This means that the employer loses the power advantage of dealing only with individuals, one-on-one. With union representation in place, the employer has to reckon with the union as the collective voice of all the union-represented workers.

YEAR	Shaun Junkins		Sam Humble		Juice Bruner	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
Verbal	13	5	10	10	9	7
Step I	4	2	16	5	5	0
Step II	0	8	3	8	6	2
Step III	1	1	1	2	3	0
Arbitration	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total Active	18	16	30	25	24	9
Closed	4	1	14	7	0	3

SECOND & THIRD SHIFTS				
YEAR	Joe Kniep		Donovan Walker	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
Verbal	21	3	14	4
Step I	0	2	5	1
Step II	5	1	1	1
Step III	1	1	2	0
Arbitration	1	1	0	0
Total Active	28	8	22	6
Closed	26	6	0	1

TOTALS	
2009	2010
67	29
30	10
15	20
8	4
2	1
122	64
44	18

Tennessee Helps Fund VW Plant, But Who's Getting the Jobs?

When Volkswagen of America won a \$566 million incentive package from the state of Tennessee to build a new plant in Chattanooga, state officials said it was worth the money because of all the jobs the plant would bring.

Well, it's not working out that way, says a local group, Volunteers for Local Hire. According to the group, there was nothing in the 2008 deal that required the company to use Tennessee labor to build the plant. As a result, the workforce "is increasingly being comprised of out-of-state workers employed by out-of-state contractors, as well as many foreign workers from countries such as Honduras, Mexico, Bolivia, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico," the group says.

"With an unemployment rate that reached 11 percent in the summer of 2009," the group says, "there is a plethora of qualified Tennessee contractors and workers who could, and should, be employed on this project."

Another side effect of the deal, the

group says, is that because of the give-aways to Volkswagen, the city of Chattanooga is increasing the stormwater fees that it assesses on local business and schools. The agreement stipulates that all fees and taxes on its site at Enterprise South are to be paid by local governments, not the corporation.

Thus for Hamilton County schools located in Chattanooga it means an increase from \$115,000 per year to \$385,000 — an increase of over 300 percent.

"These costs are going to have to come from our reserves and our classrooms," said Hamilton County Board of Education Chairman Kenny Smith. "That's a very hard cost to absorb at this time of year."

Volunteers for Local Hire identifies itself as a not-for-profit grouping of local organizations and individuals organized to ensure that current and future local commercial and industrial development funded through, or in part, with Tennessee taxpayer funding, should adhere to stringent "local hire" provisions that mandate preferred status to local contractors and workers in the awarding of contracts for both project construction and operation.

Senate Legislation Takes Aim at 'Independent Contractor' Scam

Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate aimed at closing a tax code loophole that lets employers classify employees as "independent contractors" and thus avoid paying payroll taxes while at the same time denying workers fair benefits and wages.

The legislation, S. 2882, the Taxpayer Responsibility, Accountability and Consistency Act, is similar to a bill introduced in the House last summer.

The "independent contractor" loophole cost the government \$34.7 billion in tax revenues between 1996 and 2004, said Senate bill sponsor John Kerry (D-Mass.).

Kerry said the bill would ensure that workplace protections such as workers' compensation, Social Security, Medicare, overtime, unemployment compensation and the minimum wage

{See SCAM on Page 6}

It Is Easier To Buy American Than You Thought

Dont worry about the Hondas - just buy light bulbs?

by ImageBandit ~ Found on the website <http://www.sodahead.com/business/it-is-easier-to-buy-american-than-you-thought-dont-worry-about-the-hondas---just-buy-light-bulbs/question-304957/?link=ibaf>

In our current economic situation, every little thing we buy or do affects someone else...and perhaps even their jobs! So, after reading this e-mail...I think the lady is on the right track. Let's all get behind her!

She wrote: This past weekend I was at Kroger. I needed 60 watt light bulbs and Bounce dryer sheets. I was in the light bulb aisle and right next to the GE brand I normally buy was an off brand labeled "Everyday Value." I picked up both types of bulbs and compared the stats - they were the same except for the price. The GE bulbs were more money than the Everyday Value brand but the thing that surprised me the most was the fact that GE was made in MEXICO and the Everyday Value brand was made in - get ready for this - the USA in a company in Cleveland, Ohio.

So throw out the myth that you cannot find products you use every day that are made right here.

So on to another aisle - Bounce Dryer Sheets....yep, you guessed it, Bounce cost more money and is made in Canada . The Everyday Value brand was less money and MADE IN THE USA! I did laundry yesterday and the dryer sheets performed just like the Bounce Free I have been using for years and at almost half the price!

So my challenge to you is to start reading the labels when you shop for everyday things and see what you can find that is made in the USA - the job you save may be your own or your neighbors!

If you accept the challenge, pass this on to others in your address book so we can all start buying American, one light bulb at a time!

Stop buying from China PS. Aqua Fresh toothpaste is made in Moon Township, Pennsylvania ...near Pittsburgh ! (We should have awakened a decade ago.....)

Let's get with the program.... Help our fellow Americans keep their jobs And create more jobs here in the U.S.A.



{Continued from Page 5}

are affordable to all employees.

"This is about leveling the playing field and ensuring that America's workers receive the protections and pay they deserve. We cannot continue to reward businesses who refuse to play by the rules," Kerry said.

The law would require employers to document a "reasonable basis" for not treating an individual as an employee.



"Seek out that particular mental attribute which makes you feel most deeply and vitally alive, along with which comes the inner voice which says, 'This is the real me,' and when you have found that attitude, follow it."
-- James Truslow Adams

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We are the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. We belong to Local Lodge 733 of District Lodge 70 in Wichita Kansas. We represent the workers of Hawker Beechcraft. We strive to give our members a voice on the job. Feel free to visit our website at www.l733iam.com. It is jam packed with information to help you. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact us. We have provided the numbers above.