“High Noon” at the East Hartford Corral.

It is with great concern that I must write about the serious situation that has been surfacing in different areas of the shop, in regards with disputes.

The Company has come up with a new and improved way to clear the deck, all they have to do now is increase the levels of anxiety, increase the harassment of our members, make their lives miserable by sending all the work out, in other words:

*Make sure that coming to work is a nerve racking odyssey that the members must endure everyday they come in.*

The result is to create an environment in which everybody is “on edge”, a few words turn into direct confrontation and in some cases screaming, shoving, pushing etc...

*Brothers and sisters don’t fall victim to the extreme situations that the Company has created within our walls.*

Keep your cool above all cost, don’t let a few seconds of Ire and anxiety ruin your Job, which you have kept over the years with a lot of sacrifice.

Don’t aid the company in getting rid of you.
It looks like they already have a plan to eliminate as many hourly people from this place as rapidly as they can. After all, their own guy couldn’t wait to let the cat out of the bag and boast on Wall Street that, “anywhere but Connecticut”. So much for “Our Future”.

Don’t fall for the Provocations by the Boss or from another member.

Walk away and don’t engage, the Job you save could be your own, besides that of the other person.

Don’t believe that H.R. is your friend and that the victim will get justice. In H.R.’s Book they get rid of both, the aggressor and the victim. Talk about getting two birds with one stone. This is a very difficult year for all of us.

The Contract is only months away, you must get ready for whatever happens.

*Patience is a virtue and these days, we need all that we can get.*
Again we must focus our attention on what is going on in TMC. It looks like the Gang in charge there is determined to emulate the efforts that were put in CARO to turn that organization into what it is now, a skeleton of what it once was. We heard from management about the so-called “Casting Problems” but at the same time thousands of parts already in the shop mysteriously disappeared from one day to another, only to resurface at the Vendor.

How could this be? Mr. Why-Man goes on saying that he is doing everything possible to preserve Jobs in TMC, that he has absorbed people from Caro, that he has not laid off anybody and that he is bringing in F135 work that is more important to our future. At the same time he starts the Furloughs: as of now he boasts they are voluntary, but makes us ask this question: If they send all the work out to the vendors to keep them “Qualified” why doesn’t (Why-Man) keep the work in the shop and our members working instead of furloughing them?

Does it makes sense that work that has always been done in House in the Coatings area is now being sent to some Coating vendor in quantities never seen before?

Does it makes sense that parts for the F-135 that has priority get put back in the waiting to run list because some Boss says that is the way it has to be. Wouldn’t that make us late with our delivery? Is that part of the new excuse of why the Vendor must do our work?

At the letter 22 meetings Why-Man has been asked to produce a list of all the work that he has brought into the shop to offset the thousands of parts that he has sent out.

We are still waiting, all we get from H.R. and Why-Man is another sad story. Another “Casting Problem”, Yeah, right. Not even Broadway plays get so many problems with the “Castings”, one thing for sure the “Cast of Characters in TMC Management’ is second to none when it comes putting on a show.

The end result is that our members suffer, our members are the ones that have an “Overcast” in their future if this situation continues.

There was a time that Mr. Why-Man asked the people in the meeting: What has gone wrong in here that our injuries are going up instead of down in TMC? Somebody in the audience responded: Well to start, “You showed up, Maybe you are Jinxed” How many places has Mr. Why-Man been that have gone down hill? Do you have the answer? Is it more than one? Was he in North Haven? Was he in CANMC?

We definitely need a “Crystal Ball” to see what they have in mind for our members in TMC. But rest assured that your Union is not sitting Idle waiting for another story from the TMC Gang. We are following all our options in the contract to deal with this immense problem and we will do what we have to do in order to survive.

Keep those records coming to the Union Hall, we definitely need them.
Incredible as it seems, women currently make, on average, 78 cents for every dollar a similarly qualified man earns for the same work. When President John F. Kennedy signed the original Fair Pay Act in 1963, women made 59 cents on the dollar. This means the wage gap closes by less than one cent per year, and is so dramatic that a woman would have to work 15 years longer than a man earn the same amount.

This explains why Pay Equity Day is always on a Tuesday in April; it symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, to catch up to what a man made the previous year, and Tuesday is the day her wages catch up to a man’s from the previous week.

To help you or your organization mark Pay Equity Day, PCSW offers a sample lesson plans for teachers who wish to raise students’ awareness of pay inequities; a sample resolution for towns to enact; a sample letter to the editor for citizens to amend and send to their local press. For a great “Got Equality?” button, call 860-240-0016; and for pay equity materials.

Source: Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
18-20 Trinity St., Hartford, CT 06106 www.cga.ct.gov/pcsw 860/240-8300; Fax: 860/240-8314

What is up in the crazy time line of CARO and Cheshire? It seems that there is more work then there has been in a long time in CARO! Now that the company has closed second shift it is very hard to get all the work out or in for that matter. It is pouring in.

It has been over heard on the shop floor that the amount of work coming in is more then there has been for a VERY LONG TIME. There is not enough room for all the people to work now that the shifts have been combined into one! Everyone is doing their best to get the work out and to keep the customers happy.

There is still a surplus of people in Cheshire and hopefully there will be jobs opening up to satisfy that surplus.

It is a crazy situation and the question is what clock is the Company going by??? Only time will tell!
The Next Monthly Meeting is
April 11th @11:00 am
“Spring into Action and get to The Monthly Meeting. It is very important to go to the meeting to get the latest information about your jobs!”

The Kitchen Committee of the Machinist Club would like to send out a gigantic “THANK YOU” to everyone that made the dinner season a success. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

District 26 and all the affiliated Locals lost a major asset in the past month when Anne Marino, who served as Secretary and Executive Assistant, passed away suddenly. Although few of you ever met her, the invaluable work she did for all of us will be forever appreciated.

WEBSITES:
www.iamLL1746.org
www.iamdistrict26.org
www.goiam.org
www.shopunionmade.org

EAP Corner
For IAM Local Lodge 1746: P&W in East Hartford and UTC Power in South Windsor.
Please feel free to contact me with any of your issues or concerns and know that it will be in total confidentiality.
Cell: 203-444-0267
Pager:860-708-4186
Lenny Ward

Here are some of the officers email addresses to contact with your concerns and suggestions.
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Don't Forget Red Shirt Friday to Support Our Troops

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