



Local Lodge 1746

insight

357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06118 – Telephone: 860-568-3000

May 2015

Volume 15 Issue 5

Worker's Memorial Day, April 28, 2015



Left to right: Norman Jones, Bob Dennin, Gary Stickels, John Hanusovsky, Deb Belancik, Kirby Boyce, Ron Lariviere, Brad Chase

As a new Safety Representative, I was invited to attend my first Worker's Memorial Day (WMD), something I had never heard of. WMD is memorialized around the United States every year on April 28th, the first being held in 1989. April 28 is the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration being formed. According to the program handed out, "Workers Memorial Day was initiated by the AFL-CIO after the collapse of the Connecticut L' Ambiance Plaza, (April 23, 1987) and the devastating loss of Worker's lives." The quote used yearly is "Mourn for the Dead; Fight for the Living" by Mother Jones. The main theme is to "Speak out For Safe Jobs." The service we attended was sponsored by the CT AFL-CIO at the State Capital. In the past year, we unfortunately lost 42 fellow workers in jobs as varied as a librarian to DOT workers to a firefighter in Hartford. Every worker must be protected and as you can see, even a librarian's job has its hazards.

The AFL-CIO invited many inspiring speakers and several local and U.S. senators and representatives. One of my favorite speakers was Salvatore Luciano, President of the CT AFL-CIO. He spoke specifically about 4 of the 42 lives lost this year, one of which was the librarian. His call to arms was, "Let's fight like hell to protect workers so I don't have to introduce anyone next year!" This resonated with me and it is in this spirit that we need to watch out for each other and fight for safe working conditions today and every day.

Another speaker who is obviously an impassioned advocate for safety in the workplace is Steve Schrag, Co-Chair of ConnecticutCOSH, the CT Council on OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH. He shared the startling statistic that 10% of work related deaths are attributed to workplace violence. As he quoted Mahatma Ghandi, "A man is but the product of his thoughts what he thinks, he becomes", he was telling us we can become safer in our work and reduce violence in the workplace by collectively thinking that saving lives on the job is more probable when we all believe in it.

A second theme of WMD that was introduced is called "What can we change without a tragedy?" This is where we can all help the cause of safety. There was talk about texting and driving and how much it increases not only the odds of accidents but also the odds of DOT worker deaths. We were all asked to make the promise not to text and drive. Visit www.itcanwait.com for more information on how you, too, can avoid texting and driving. There are several apps out there that disable your phone from receiving texts and calls while driving. Some even reply for you that you are driving. Being proactive is the best way to save lives instead of waiting on a tragedy to inspire change.

Another initiative that was discussed is a campaign called Shatter the Silence to reduce workplace assault and violence. According to ConnecticutCOSH, Connecticut is the first of the states to have its entire Congressional delegation join the campaign to "Shatter the Silence." There is a letter to the U.S. Secretary of Labor calling for federal OSHA regulations to protect workers against assault and violence in the workplace that our Connecticut representatives have signed. They called for as many of us as possible to say thank you to our congressmen and senators who support this important call to action.

Following the speakers was a solemn parade to the Worker's Memorial at the edge of Bushnell Park led by the Hartford Fire Fighters Honor Guard and the Connecticut Fire Fighters Pipes and Drum Corp. There, wreaths were placed in remembrance of workers who lost their lives on the job in Connecticut in the past year. The ceremony was respectful, but inspiring. The entire memorial was extremely moving and relevant. It was the first one I attended but it certainly will not be my last. Therese Hervieux



The next Monthly Meeting is
Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 11:00 am

EAP Corner

For IAM Local Lodge 1746: P&W in East Hartford
Please feel free to contact me with any of your issues or concerns and know that it will be in total confidentiality.

Lenny Ward-EAP Coordinator
LAP-C Certified
NAADAC / NCAC Certified
AFL-CIO Union Peer Counselor
SAP (Substance Abuse Professional) Certified.)

Fax 203-787-4180
Phone 203-787-4180

The Letter 31, UPS project, remains in the forefront of everyone's minds. To date there have been 10 901s placed as 176s and 5 through job postings. The next group slated to attend Asnuntuck should begin early in June. As the process gets further along more 901s will be placed, filling spots left by those who opt for the SSP. In East Hartford we remain optimistic that no one will be involuntarily laid off due to this process. My thanks to everyone who has gone or will be going through the process of retraining for new skills.

To the members of Local Lodge 1746
I'm reaching out for someone to Represent Local lodge 1746 for the United Way Campaign. They will be working with me. There is training that will be given. If you are interested please give your name to President Nancy Flagg or you can contact me, Deb Belancik at 860 565 4766 or by email at debra.belancik@pw.utc.com

Here are some of the officers email addresses to contact with your concerns and suggestions.

Nancy Flagg
president1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net

Ted Durkin
vp1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net

Howie Huestis
st1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net

Rodney Conlogue
rs1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net



WEBSITES:

www.iamLL1746.org

www.iamdistrict26.org

www.goiam.org

www.shopunionmade.org

Remember Our Troops Red-Shirt Friday's!

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President Nancy Flagg; Vice President Ted Durkin; Recording Secretary; Rodney Conlogue, Secretary Treasurer; Howard Huestis, Conductor/Sentinel; Roy Chambers, Trustees: James Bullock, Brad Chase and John C. Taylor

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Nancy Flagg -*Editor, layout and design,* Deb Belancik, Therese Hervieux



Bulletin



As most of you know, the security guards (IFSOA) are in contract negotiations with Pratt & Whitney. Their contract expires this Sunday, May 17, 2015.

As members of the IAM what are we to do if the guards go on strike?

In the event the guards fail to reach an agreement with the company and vote to strike, our contract requires that IAM members report to work as usual. We know that this would be a difficult situation for many.

The IAM supports IFSOA in their efforts to reach a fair agreement and know that they are committed to do whatever possible to achieve that goal.

If there is a strike, we ask that all IAM members show your support and walk their picket line before and/or after your shift.

Support the GUARDS