



Local Lodge 1746

insight

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SIKORSKY....WHY They Went On Strike!



WE SALUTE & THANK OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF TEAMSTERS Local 1150, who voted to conclude their strike against UTC-Sikorsky, and return to work on Monday, April 3rd. They had been on strike at Sikorsky Aircraft for six weeks, since February 20th. They took a stand against **corporate greed** and the rising cost of healthcare, an they proudly walked the line for six cold weeks.



Going on strike is never an easy decision: **union members VOTE DEMOCRATICALLY to strike, and when to return to work.** Nobody strikes because a 'fat cat' high up in the union tells you to. People strike to maintain good health insurance, wages and other benefits needed by their families. These days, many Americans go on strike **just to keep their jobs.** Likewise, very few strikers vote in favor of a sub-standard contract *because they like it...*As Teamsters' Eastern Region Vice-president John Murphy noted, *"We will return to our jobs with our heads held high, knowing that our courageous actions against the power of big business in this country will ultimately make a difference."*

Thank you to all of our members who supported the Teamsters in their strike against UTC/Sikorsky. Our local made a donation to the Teamsters strike fund, and continues to take donations in both the financial office and the Machinists Club.

On Wednesday March 12, a bus sponsored by IAM Local 743, Hamilton-Sundstrand will be departing Connecticut for the UTC Stockholders' Meeting in New York City. There are still



seats on the bus for those who want to attend...If you hold UTC stock, get your admission ticket at: www.utc.com/investors/shareowner_tickets/index.htm

For more info contact
Tony Walter @
860-752-9480



"The Good, the Bad & the Ugly" Rally at the Gold Building

1746 President Taylor & VP Bullock

Jobs and Health Care Top IAM's 2006 Legislative Agenda

Fair Share Health Care

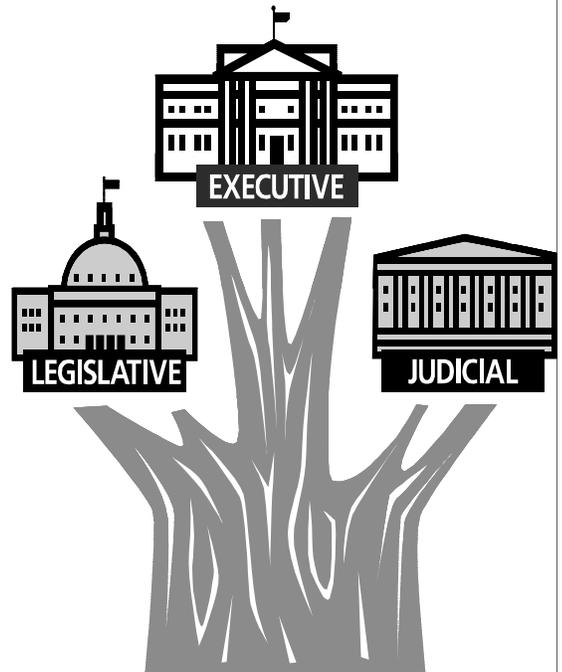
Senate Bill SB 462, *An Act Concerning a Fair Share Surcharge* was reintroduced this session in the Labor and Public Employees Committee. The Fair Share Health Care Bill requires large retail companies with 5,000 or more employees to provide health insurance for their workers or pay into a health care fund to cover them.

Wal-Mart's refusal to pay decent wages and provide affordable health insurance to its workers forces them to rely on state sponsored health insurance programs at taxpayers' expense. In 2005, Wal-Mart had profits of \$11.2 billion, yet Connecticut taxpayers subsidized Wal-Mart's health care plan at the tune of \$5.4 million.

S.B. 462 passed out of the Labor Committee and was referred to the Senate. The bill will go to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee after April 6. Unfortunately, the Connecticut Business & Industry Association has misconstrued this and other labor legislation as creating an "unfriendly business climate." The bill faces fierce opposition in the Finance Committee. Therefore, we have targeted a number of swing members on the committee. Specific targets are Ryan Barry (Manchester 240-8585), Michael Christ (East Hartford 240-8585), Thomas Gaffey (Meriden 240-0425), Anthony Guglielmo (Vernon, Stafford 240-0574). For a complete list please go to:

<http://growjobsct.blogspot.com>

During the next few weeks, we are asking members to call or write their legislators to support **S.B. 462**. We are also compiling an e-mail list for calls to action when votes become imminent. For more information or to get involved contact Laurie Julian at GrowJobsCT (860) 828-0359 or ljulian@snet.net. The session ends May 3 *and this is an election year*. Let's put pressure on our elected officials, **and remind them who put them into office.**



Save Connecticut Jobs

H.B. 5279, An Act Concerning the Retention of Jobs In Connecticut and the United States.

Representative Joe Aresimowicz introduced this bill, similar to the outsourcing legislation which last year passed the Senate but "**died in the House**" before the end of the session.

HB 5279 directs the state to do a comprehensive study of how much the state buys in goods and services *beyond the borders of Connecticut and outside the United States*. The bill also requires that businesses receiving state contracts report where they are having the work done, with penalties if they do not report truthfully. The bill just passed out of the General Administration and Elections Committee. We believe the state should lead by example. **JOBS** is supposed to be the **Number 1** priority of the State Legislature this year; so let's ask your legislators to start with passing this bill and stop displacing workers and their families!



MORE ON FAA ALCOHOL & DRUG TESTING RULES

As we enter April, the new rules implemented by the FAA, are taking effect. Most of you have been to the training class, and have also taken your drug test. There have been many questions asked, and we have attempted to answer all of them accurately.

There are a lot of questions concerning use of **prescription drugs**. The answer to most inquiries is that you are able to take prescription drugs, provided they were prescribed recently, and you are taking them as prescribed only. Please see your doctor if you have specific concerns over medications you are taking.

It is important to keep in mind also, that there are specific FAA rules regarding use of **alcohol** that have to be observed. You cannot consume alcoholic beverages within 4 hours of reporting for work. You cannot consume alcoholic beverages during work hours. The rules are firm, there are no exceptions. Common sense is the prevailing rule to follow. If alcohol is present on your breath, supervision may send you to medical for a breath test. This is of course, after they have followed the requirements necessary to do so.



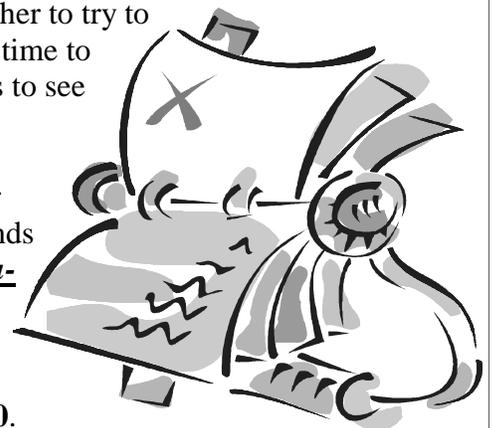
If you still are having problems using illicit drugs, or alcohol, please contact a professional. It can be your personal physician, or the union EAP coordinator (Lenny Ward for the East Hartford campus), or a counselor of your choice through the company EAP program.

When you become part of the **monthly random pool**, your names are added to the list presently being utilized. The District 26 EAP Coordinator for the Union, Earl Schofield, is present when the selection process is done. **NO** names are added to the list of those to be tested during the month, after this list is generated. Your immediate supervisor is part of this monthly pool also.

The Union, HR Department, the FAA training providers, P & W medical staff, regulatory compliance personnel, and even some members of supervision have all worked together to try to make sure everyone has been provided accurate information, and has time to get “clean” prior to providing your initial drug test. None of us wants to see any individual get a positive result.

My personal thanks to those individuals I have been working with for their understanding that this is part of Federal Law, and out of the hands of P&W and the Union. **We simply have no control of the FAA regulations, and they have to be enforced exactly per those regulations.**

If you still have substance misuse problems, contact Lenny Ward, 708-4186 (pager) or myself, Earl Schofield at the union hall 568-3000.



Cancer Study Update

The study is moving along well. Since word hit the airways about lack of participation I have been getting floods of phone calls from members and retirees that would like to get involved with the researchers. We are finally moving in the right direction. This study represents members both hourly and salary from basically all locations. Just to touch down on a few facts, first there is the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Component of the P&W Cohort Mortality and cancer incidence study. This is done by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of public Health, Department of Biostatistics. Doctor Gary Marsh, PhD is the Principal Investigator along with Jeanine Buchanich, MPH project coordinator , and Frank Lieberman, M.D Co-Investigator. There are a few more researchers involved too numerous to mention along with a study staff.

The historical cohort Study includes all persons that were ever employed from 1952 to 2001 at one or more of 8 Ct. Sites, North Haven, East Hartford, Middletown, Rocky Hill, Cheshire, Southington,- Aircraft road, Southington -Newell Street, Manchester Foundry, Maine, Florida & Georgia. Employees moved around from plant to plant or they moved to other states with there jobs /work. On the data collections there were more than 257,000 unique individuals enumerated in the cohort study. I have a copy of the full content of the slide presentation. This is just a short version but there is much more information on this Cohort study.

The second part of the study is Exposure Reconstruction for Brain Cancer Epidemiological Study in Seven Connecticut Jet Engine Manufacturing Facilities. This is being done by Dr Nurt Esmen, PhD Principal investigator, Steve Lacey, PhD - principal Scientist, Kathleen Kennedy, MS - Project manager, Roger Hancock, MCE,CIH,CSP ,Senior Research Specialist. They are from the University of Illinois at Chicago, Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, School of Public Health. The group recreates plant processes used by P & W workers. Using old data bases, they developed a complex job dictionary with currently 312,305 unique entries. These have to be separated by facility. Some facilities had the same operations and the same product lines. There are also roughly about 5000 anonymous work histories entries; there are 11,000 entries with missing job codes.

Standard operating process sheets were also used in this part of the study. They are using the SOP's as a standard information source. Also a part of this is looking at ionizing radiation and metal working fluid exposure, along with electromagnetic fields and the characteristics of hexavalent chromium exposure. They have spoken to several "30+ year" employees about job processes and how the health aspects of the job were handled years ago,

There is still much to be done and progress to be made. We made great strides just getting this study started. This is the largest study of its kind in the world. This will benefit the Aerospace industry as a whole and make working conditions safer and healthier for our future. If any one would like a complete report, please notify me at work-860-565-4766, or at the Union Hall- 860-568-3000.

Or Email me - debra.belancik@pw.utc.com and I will send you a hardcopy.

*Have a Safe Day,
Deb Belancik,
IAM D-26 Health & Safety Coordinator*



Nominations for 5 Members to UTC Power (Fuel Cells) Negotiating Committee Will be Held at Sunday's LL 1746 Membership Meeting. Elections, if necessary, will be held on Wednesday, May 10th, 2006, at the Union Hall

Another Name Change at UTC Fuel Cells
(But some things just remain the same)

It has been announced that **UTC Fuel Cells** will now be called **UTC Power**. This move will be made to aid in marketplace name recognition for all of the power solutions being offered through **UTC Power**. This seems to be a well thought out strategy and will not have any negative effect on our bargaining unit.

The largest negative for our bargaining unit however remains the same. This of course is the ongoing saga of the erosion of work traditionally done by our members and taken away by management. We have pursued this through the NLRB and arbitration, resulting in a ruling in our favor. Sadly though, the company "*powers that be*" refused to recognize the facts; they have repeatedly offered as "resolution" nothing more than **BUSINESS AS USUAL**. *And to think that this entire disagreement began with our membership buying into the hollow assurances of a short term need, by giving something up in a truly selfless way for the betterment of our company!* Kind of makes one rethink the meaning of the words *integrity* and *loyalty*, doesn't it?

With the continuing support of the leadership at LL 1746 and the advice of our legal counsel, it appears as though we will be forced to take this issue back to arbitration *Our membership deserves more than BUSINESS AS USUAL!*

See, some things **DO** just remain the same.



*"I'd love to meet with your Union Committee...
but right now I'm buried in paperwork."*



Next Monthly Meeting

April 9th at 11:00 am

Spring ahead! Show up to the meeting!



AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS...

To fill unexpired term ending January 13, 2008, will be held at the April Monthly Meeting. Candidates are: Denise Kniss, D-45638 and Ron LaRiviere, D-41407. Polls close at 1:00 p.m.



Stanley Tabor; D-954 [1923-2006]

Brother Stanley Tabor was a long-time member of our local, and worked in Department 954, Experimental Machining, in East Hartford. Stan had over 25 years with the IAM when he retired from Pratt in 1990. He passed away on March 20, 2006, and will be missed by family and friends.

Edward Charles Hubball, [1947-2006]

Quality insurance inspector in the North Haven & EH Pratt & Whitney plants. He will be remembered most fondly as a hard worker and devoted family man. He passed away on March 10, 2006 and will missed by all who knew him.

Richard McCusker, March 30th. Father of Sarah and her brothers Patrick and Richard, Jr...all LL 1746 members who work at Pratt & Whitney. Our condolences to you all and your entire family.

To everyone who contributed to the Friday dinners at the Machinists Club. We will be back serving dinners again in the fall and look forward to seeing you all again!



Get Involved

We are looking for letters from you the members!

Report your news, announcements or anything you would like to share!

locallodge1746@snetnet
Please email your announcements & messages. Items for the next issue must be emailed by May 1st, 2006.



WEBSITES:

www.iamLL1746.org

www.iamdistrict26.org

www.goiam.org

www.shopunionmade.org

LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:

**John Taylor, President; James Bullock, Vice-President;
Bill Coney, Recording Secretary; Nancy Flagg, Secretary Treasurer;
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Earl Schofield, Deb Belancik & John Perretta**