



357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06118 – Telephone: 860-568-3000 April 2012 Volume 10 Issue 4



## The Goodbye "Gift"

On February 29<sup>th</sup> brother ADBR Jim Parent retired after many years of dedicated service to the members of District 91, which is now District 26. His long career of fighting for the rights

and benefits of all of IAM members, including the 2 court victories against the almighty PRATT, came to an end last month. It would have been a very happy occasion if it hadn't been for the vindictive gift that the company gave Brother Parent for his retirement. It wasn't a watch or a gift certificate, nothing of the sort. It was laying-off 46 bargaining unit members on March 09, 2012 the day before the retirement party that District 26 was giving Jim Saturday March 10, 2012. It must be a coincidence that the brunt of the force laid off consisted of former members of Local lodge 1746A who were assimilated into East Hartford Local 1746, after the Cheshire plant closed on July 01, 2011.

After a hard fight during the meet and confer and the 2010 negotiations, in which Jim sailed the ship to a contract where there were going to be jobs for everybody affected, the company had to show what a bunch of "Good Fellows" they were. After the VSO and 6 transfers to "Need" in the Middletown facility, the damage was mitigated to 30 brothers and sisters laid off. Could it have been avoided? We think so.

First, the company refused to absorbed about 4 members into the Occ. Group 400 which were on loan to Middletown from their jobs as Occ. group 900 in East Hartford, for about 6 months prior, despite efforts from both local union presidents (1746 & 700). The company's response was not interested. Rather than give the job to about four 900's (former 901's), the

company decided to continue encouraging and allowing Salary to do 901's work, even though the 2<sup>nd</sup> step agenda is full of grievances about salary doing 901's work.

- Rather than getting rid of a yellow badge welder in TMC and give the job to the surplus welder in EHRO the company said again *not interested* to the Union request.
- Rather than getting rid of 3 yellow badge mercenaries working as Occ. Group 904 in the scrap yard, sorting scrap metal and giving those positions to members of the Occ. Group 900 affected in the surplus,the company's answer yet again! *Not interested.*
- Rather than offer the VSO package to other Business Units in East Hartford and in Middletown for the other affected 400's and 176's Occ. codes which the Union requested. Company's answer! *Not interested*.

Brothers and sisters, Pratt's bunch shows us every day what their plan truly is, one broken promise after another. This is not a good sign for our good and welfare.

They lured 20 members into FAR-145 Modules, with the promise of growth and security. The place lingered for months until they decided to pull the plug on the enterprise, affecting 15 members in East Hartford.

In the rest of the "M" Bldg. (EHRO) all of Hutton's associates abandon the place, some went with him while others left for other places. Nobody took

left for other places. Nobody took Attila the Hen with them. They left her behind and now she is in charge of the entire EHRO. Our guess is that Hutton left his French Lieutenant Henchwoman to finish the job he started back in 2009, when he threw EHRO under the bus with CARO and Cheshire.



Brothers and sisters, the last time we had a reduction in force of this magnitude was in the summer of 2009 here in East Hartford. There were all types of OCC groups back then from 176, 344, 583, 585, 520, 901, 801, 400 and others, that went to the unemployment line. Since the moment they left, the leadership of Local 1746 did not waste one minute nor stop one moment, fighting to get those members their jobs back.



The facts speak for themselves, before any person got hired from the street or was able to change OCC. codes, every member that was on the active layoff list that wanted to come back, came back, whether in East Hartford or Middletown. Two members in the 583 code got their jobs back 4 days before their

recall rights expired. There are only 2 members from CARO in the 400 code that are still out, but they went down in the recall list because of the reduction in force of 400 and 901 that Cheshire had in 2010.

Despite all the negative propaganda from dissident factions and or disgruntled members, the fact remains that since we can't stop a layoff, we sure as hell have and will fight with all the tools at our disposal for our brothers and sisters that suffered a job loss, to get them back to work.

At this time the Company has already recalled one laid off 900 OCC. group member into a 901 opening in East Harford (he was a former 901from Cheshire). Also, the company is schedule to recall 4 more OCC. group 900's, for a need in Middletown of 901s.

Right now we have about 38 members in our Local that got laid off from UTC POWER last year, and despite all our efforts, there has only been one recalled because the company has about 23 fuel cell units that they have not been able to sell and are sitting in the parking lot. Orders are not coming in and the situation is not pretty there. But the company has said that as soon as those units sell, and production starts, they will call back our members there.

<u>Local Lodge 1746 leadership never forgets</u> <u>their members that suffer job losses.</u> We have done it before, and we are prepared for the fight again. We will not rest, until all our members are called back to work. Whether here in East Hartford or in Middletown.





"No wonder restructuring is going nowhere. You laid off the guy in charge of eliminating jobs."



## **ConnectiCOSH** legislative concerns 2012

SB 274 An act concerning chemicals of high concern to children HB 5116 An act requiring labeling of food packaging that contains Bisphenol-A, SB 93 An act concerning a mercury thermostat collection and financial incentive program, and HB 5218 An act concerning toxic fire retardants in children's products. SB 274 is the comprehensive bill and is the main focus of the Coalition's efforts this year. HB05233an act concerning workers' compensation for firefighters HB05236 an act concerning volunteer fire departments and ambulance companies and the definition of employer under the occupational safety and health act HB05291 an act increasing the minimum wage, removing the minimum wage tip credit, and increasing penalities for failure to pay the minimum wage. 5121-an act concerning the use of organic pesticides on school property and authorizing municipal regulation of the use of pesticides on residential property 88-an act concerning the public's right to know of a sewage spill 275-an act concerning workplace violence prevention and reporting 5311-an act concerning public works projects that are privately funded 5199-an act concerning discriminatory hiring practices and unemployed individuals 154-an act concerning state employees and violence and abusive conduct in the workplace

The Connecticosh Organization (Connecticut Council of Occupational Safety and Health Organization) Which I am Co-Chair along with Steve Schrag are working on a few issues of Legislation for 2012.. We hope to get these heard. We are union based and have the support of the IAMAW, and other unions. We work very diligently for our safety and health for all workers and families' well-being. We do all types of safety and Health training for people and their workplaces. There are also companies that call on our staff to do EH&S training. Ben and Jerry's ice cream Company in Vermont is one of them. We are especially doing the training for migrant farm workers. These are hardworking people and sometimes whole families that work to pick our produce that we so enjoy. We work proactively with the owners of the farms' to help everyone that lives and works on the farm property. They are very appreciative. We provide this as a free service for them. We are a 501C3. This is a nonprofit group. Some of our board members are from Yale and UConn. They provide expertise for all of us. If anyone has any questions about connecticosh please be free to contact me.

> Yours in Solidarity. Deb Belancik





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