

Local Lodge 1746

insight

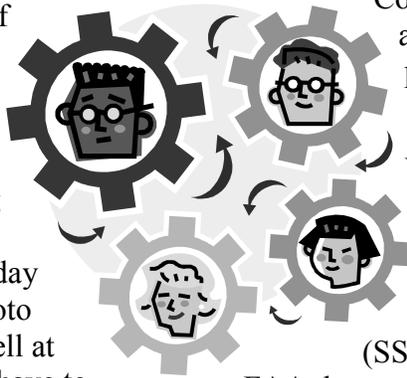
357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06118 — Telephone: 568-3000

August 2007 Volume 10, Issue 8

“LABOR PEACE” or “A PIECE OF LABOR”

The company wants to negotiate early... We wonder why that is? Perhaps it's so they can guarantee **labor peace**, so as to increase their chances of winning the Military 767 Global Tanker contract. It will be a financial windfall, possibly worth billions of dollars to whoever is awarded the contract. Recently, Pratt & Whitney packed the hanger in East Hartford with various dignitaries such as Governor Rell, Senator Lieberman, Boeing & Pratt executives, as well as assorted customers and vendors. It was a great day for back slapping, handshakes, and photo opportunities ending with Governor Rell at the controls of a flight simulator. You have to give it to P&W; they can really put on a dog and pony show. **We certainly hope Pratt gets the engine contract for the 767 Tanker.** Combined with the record number of contracts that P&W announced at the Paris Air Show, you would think that the company could offer their dwindling CT bargaining units some job security--***if they were really interested in settling the contract early. NOT!***

When your negotiating team learned that Pratt wanted to negotiate early we immediately demanded that they change the contract expiration date from December. P&W said **no way.** Your negotiators also demanded that PWA guarantee jobs and grow their business in Connecticut. **P&W said they couldn't do that either.** In spite of record numbers of orders, and huge, double-digit profit increases, they refuse to offer us any job security, not even to replace those 300 that may take the SSP (as they did in the 2004 contract).



According to the magazine “Aviation Week & Space Technology” (June 18, 2007) Pratt has made **employment guarantees in Poland where 6,000 are employed.** The number employed in Poland alone far exceeds the bargaining unit in all 3 Connecticut plants (less than 4,200). They are also building a plant in **Bulgaria**, because orders have quadrupled for the P&W Polish plant. According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce (in Bulgaria), Pratt may employ another **6,700 employees** there. Pratt also plans to build plants in India, Turkey and China.

We used to do much of that work here in Connecticut. There has been a hiring freeze here for quite some time. We continue to lose bargaining unit members to Special Separation Packages (SSP), attrition, surpluses, as well as the FAA drug pool. They don't replace anybody... hourly, that is. They want to have at least another 300 take an SSP **without replacing them.** The last SSP took 172 members away from us in East Hartford. With the threat of losing the Voluntary Early Retirement Insurance by Nov. 1, 2007 ***we could lose many more than 300.*** We are down to 2,146 bargaining unit members in East Hartford, and sinking fast.

Many of us are working ungodly amounts of overtime because the company refuses to hire, and we had better work the overtime because they will vend work out if we don't. One would think with the average age of our workforce that this would be problematical for our health, injury rates, and our insurance rates. What is really galling is that P&W just had a safety stand down due to us supposedly having the worst injury rate. The average age is close to 55, average seniority is around 27 years, and we work lots of overtime. **Do you think these statistics might be factors have something to do our high injury rate?**

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Outdoor Barbecue Safety

By Deb Belancik

The National Fire Protection Association has these tips for safe handling.



Gas Grills



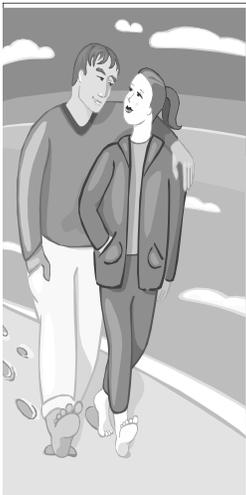
- Liquefied petroleum gas (propane), used to fire gas grills, is highly flammable. Propane is contained under pressure in a steel cylinder. **It has the explosive force of 6 sticks of dynamite.**
- Never use a gas grill inside any structure.
- Never transport propane gas canisters in a trunk of a car.
- Never leave a gas or petroleum container in a car.
- Always store propane tanks in the upright position so the relief valve is on top. Otherwise, the tank could expel liquid propane if the relief valve activates.
- Inspect propane grill hoses and connections prior to use. Make sure all fixtures and caps on propane canisters are working and tightened properly. If the hoses are deteriorated or fittings loose, do not use the grill until you correct the problem.
- Never let young children use a gas powered barbecue grill.
- Keep children and pets away from the area.
- Keep propane canisters in a shady or cool location outdoors. Do not store them on porches, balconies, in garages or on decks.
- A recent safety innovation has changed the valve and relief system on small propane tanks. Propane cylinders manufactured after April 2002 must have overfill protection. Older versions have a star-shaped handle, while the newer ones have a 3 pronged handle. Most propane filling stations offer an exchange tank service, and no longer fill older model tanks. Be sure to use an updated tank.



Charcoal Grills



- Charcoal grills should be used only on a non-combustible surface
- Never use a charcoal barbecue in an enclosed space or inside the house. Charcoal produces carbon monoxide, which can be deadly.
- Do not use lighter fluid on a fire that has already been started. If you need to use starter fluid, use only charcoal lighter fluid to start the grill and follow directions on the container. NEVER use gasoline or other flammable liquids to start a grill.
- When disposing of ashes or used charcoal, pour water on the charcoal or ashes so they will not restart a fire.



May 7th Food-share Walk Against Hunger -Update

The final amount collected by the IAM Local Lodge 1746 walking team was \$7,477.00! This was not only a record-setting collection, but our team also finished first place in the “civic group” category.

What is even more impressive is how much this amount collected will help those in need. Thanks again to all of the hourly and salary people who so unselfishly donate to this event, and of course to those who walked.

Howard Haberern, Chairperson,

Local Lodge 1746 Community Services Committee



Continued from Cover

By properly staffing the bargaining units with hiring, Pratt would lower the average age, the vacation day factor, and overtime costs, as well as improve on the injury rate. They want **“labor peace”** so they can guarantee no **“work interruptions”**, yet they refuse to commit to keep jobs here in Connecticut. Pratt wants another **“piece of labor”** by having us do the same work with **fewer and fewer** people. Looks like any new jobs created **are headed for Bulgaria.**

If Pratt can guarantee 6,000 jobs for Poland and plan 6,700 for Bulgaria, certainly they can offer us a strong job security clause, and commit to growing their employment in Connecticut, USA.

Letter from IAM Brother



I am a recent retiree of Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, but every time I hear about another major contract for them I get excited.

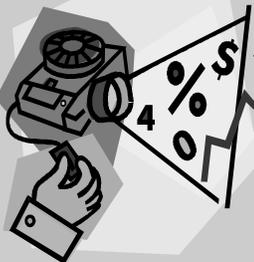
These new contracts bring more money in to the state of Connecticut but more importantly, bring job stability to my friends and former co workers, who were just like a family to me. These contracts are also a double edged sword. Who is going to be doing all of this work? Certainly not Pratt and Whitney. This company vends out a major portion of their work to outside vendors and contractors. These companies do not have the same caliber of employees as Pratt. They do not have the training and the experience as the employees of Pratt. The average person at this company has at least 25 to 30 years experience, compared to just a few years that their vendors have.

When I was employed at Pratt I held several positions: Health and Safety Rep , machinist and also worked in the Supplier Quality Clinic. This last position had me dealing with the tons of junk that these so called outside contractor's would manufacture for us. They made ton's of garbage causing us to scrap out millions of dollars of parts yearly. I wish

Pratt would wake up, add more people to our own work force, keep the work in house and keep these parts

100% UNION MADE.

JOHN DELEONE



LOCAL 1746

“ ALL YOU DO IS TYPE THE JOB CODE, AND POOF! THAT JOB IS VENDED OUT! THIS WILL BE A HOT ITEM! ”

Absentee Ballot Reminder

As indicated in the July 16th letter to all Local 1746 members and retirees, **absentee ballots** are available for the October 10, 2007 Local Lodge Executive Board, Shop Committee and Audit Committee elections. **Written requests** for absentee ballots must be received by the Local Lodge Recording Secretary no later than 30 days prior to the election. According to the IAM Constitution [Article II, Section 3] absentee ballot requests shall be made **“...by delivering in person or mailing such request...”** to the Recording Secretary of the Local. This means you must either hand deliver your request, **“in person”**, or send it by mail. *You cannot have a steward, or anyone else, bring your request to the hall for you.* Completed absentee ballots **must be returned by mail.**

One final note: there are NO absentee ballots available for the Contract Ratification Meeting, to be held on Sunday, August 19th.



7th Annual P & W United Way Poker Run

This year's bike run raised \$5000, which will be donated to the United Way Campaign to help those in need.

Thank You to everyone who helped and contributed!



The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Local (Sunday Aug. 12th) is cancelled, due to the Contract Ratification Vote on Sunday, August 19th, 2007.

The Contract Ratification Meeting will be held at Chevrolet Music Theater, 95 South Turnpike RD, Wallingford, CT. Doors open at 9:30am; Meeting starts at 11:00am. Members only, no guests, bring picture ID. Bus transportation from East Hartford available. Call 860-568-3000.



Congratulations to Steve & Carla Sager on their new baby girl, Ava Marie 8 lbs. 2 oz. born July 27th, 2007



William H. Jones is proud to announce his engagement to Cynthia J. Russ.

There really cool new T-Shirts available at the union hall the prices are cool too!!

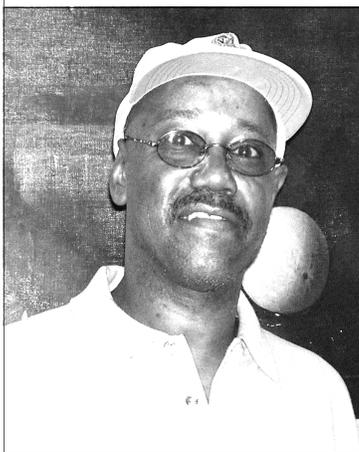


Looking for something to do with the family? Go to Thompson Speedway on Thursday nights and root for Brother Nick Bazzano in the 82 car during the **Limited Sportsman Race!!**

For schedules, directions, prices and other information go to www.thompsons Speedway.com.

EAP Corner

For IAM Local Lodge 1746, East Hartford P & W and UTC Power (Fuel Cells)



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

IAM LL 1746 Employee Assistance Professional

WEBSITES:

- www.iamLL1746.org
- www.iamdistrict26.org
- www.goiam.org
- www.shopunionmade.org



Please email your announcements & messages.

Items for the next issue must emailed by September 1st, 2007.

localodge1746@snet.net



Don't Forget to Wear RED on Friday's



LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:

John Taylor, President; James Bullock, Vice-President; Bill Coney, Recording Secretary; Nancy Flagg, Secretary Treasurer; David Batchelder, Conductor/Sentinel; Howard Huestis, Brad Chase, Ron Ouellette; Trustees

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