



Local Lodge 1746

insight

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

December 2017 Volume 17 Issue 9

The President's Report

by Kirby Boyce



As 2017 comes to a close, I want to wish each and every one of our members a Happy Holiday and a prosperous New Year. Pratt & Whitney has hired well over 150 members in our East Hartford plant this year, and are slated to hire at least 100 more in 2018. On the flip side of that, we have also had our share of terminations and suspensions. Our Local is hoping to see a decrease in that number going in to 2018. We are proud of all of the new members, who have come in to a totally different work environment and fit right in among our seasoned veterans. We have heard nothing but good things about the new members coming in. Hopefully the better quality work we put out equates to the more work we can pull in, ensuring long careers here in East Hartford.

There has been lots of interest in new members becoming more active within the Local. We currently have openings for shop stewards on 1st, 3rd, and possibly our AWW shift. Anyone that is interested, please drop by the hall so that I can get your name and contact info. The Local is looking in to having a steward training class sometime between now and January. The completion of Steward training is mandatory before you can wear the badge of a shop steward. Once we come up with a solid date, I will reach out to those who are interested.



To all of our Stewards, EH&S reps, and Training Coordinators. Thank you for all that you did for our membership in 2017, and I look forward to the same commitment to serve our members in 2018. I want to remind each and every one of our members, Machinists Local Lodge 1746 is your Union. Without you there would be no “us”.

Combustible Dust: Deadly and Costly

Last month, the Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA) announced a \$1.8 Million fine against a Wisconsin corn milling company, Didion Milling Inc., after a May 2017 dust explosion killed five workers and injured another twelve. One worker lost both legs after they were crushed by a railcar. OSHA pointed to leakage of highly combustible grain dust and the company's failure to correct those leaks as the likely source for the explosion.

Didion was slapped with 14 willful violations, eight of which were considered egregious. Violations included failure to perform required maintenance on operating equipment, failure to implement a house-keeping program to control dust accumulations, and lack of employee training. The company has been placed on OSHA's Severe Violator Enforcement Program. Didion president Riley Didion disputed the severity of the charges, saying they are a “family-owned business” whose officers share the pain with their devastated workforce. That won't bring back the lost workers to their loved ones, however.

We have our own dust issues in East Hartford, and OSHA reports metal dust can ignite just like grain or wood dust. If you have concerns about leaky dust collection systems or accumulating dust, please notify your safety rep. (Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor)



Didion Milling Inc.'s Cambria, Wisconsin facility is left in ruins after a May 2017 grain dust explosion kills five and injures twelve.

This Month in Union History: December 1955

By Therese Hervieux



In December of 1955, the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) joined together to become the AFL-CIO that the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Union is now affiliated with. Prior to the AFL-CIO merge, the two organizations had a long history of rivalry and disagreement. The joining of the two created the largest advocate for trade unions with a peak membership in 1979 of 20 million members.

The AFL-CIO website explains its purpose as follows; "The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) works tirelessly to improve the lives of working people.

"We are the democratic, voluntary federation of 56 national and international labor unions that represent 12.5 million working men and women.

"We strive to ensure all working people are treated fairly, with decent paychecks and benefits, safe jobs, dignity, and equal opportunities. We help people acquire valuable skills and job-readiness for the 21st century economy. In fact, we operate the largest training network outside the U.S. military.

"Our work is anchored in making sure everyone who works for a living has family-supporting wages and benefits and the ability to retire with dignity. We advance legislation to create good jobs by investing tax dollars in schools, roads, bridges, ports and airports, and improving the lives of workers through education, job training and a livable minimum wage. We advocate for strengthening Social Security and private pensions, ensuring fair tax policies, and making high-quality, affordable health care available to all.

"We fight for keeping good jobs at home by reforming trade rules, reindustrializing the U.S. economy and providing worker protections in the global economy. We stand firm in holding corporations accountable for their actions.

"We help make safe, equitable workplaces and give working people a collective voice to address workplace injustices without the fear of retaliation. We fight for social and economic justice and strive to vanquish oppression in all its forms."

Strength is in numbers and hopefully the AFL-CIO and other organizations like them will continue to be able to fight for our good union jobs for a long history to come.

Source: <https://aflcio.org/about>

RIDII: What it is and What it Isn't

By John Hanusovsky

Brothers and Sisters, in November we had 73 RIDII submissions. That was the most active month since we started the program in March. Your submissions have given us the opportunity to correct many potential hazards that might have otherwise gone unidentified. Hopefully these efforts will lead to avoiding injuries to yourself or your co-workers.

So, what is a RIDII?

It is a Proactive a program that identifies, reports and corrects a Potential H&S Hazards.

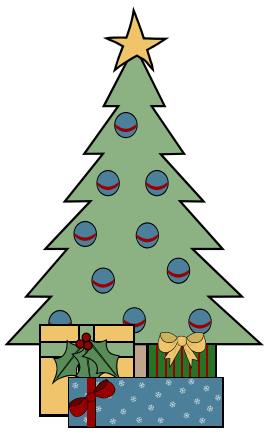
What *isn't* a RIDII?

- 1) A RIDII is not behavior based, and it is not punitive. We don't accept reporting the behavior of a co-worker. Our Local Lodge by-laws prohibit turning in fellow Union members activities that could lead to disciplinary action. Any such submissions will be Voided.
- 2) RIDII's aren't for reporting actual injuries. All injuries need to be reported to medical. If you need immediate medical attention, call 5-1111. When you report your injury to medical, an Incident Tracking report is generated through the EHS Desk ITA system and tracked by your health & safety rep with the company at ITA review meetings. RIDIIs for actual injuries should be voided because they are not "near-hits", they are actual hits.
- 3) Ditto for environmental releases or spills. These need to be called in to 5-1111 so that the ITA report is properly generated. The corrective action to the spill will also be tracked through an EHS Desk ITA Environmental review. RIDII is not designed to circumvent the ITA process.
- 4) RIDIIs should not be submitted for snow or weather issues. Please call Facilities and Services at 5-9999 (860-565-9999 from your cell phone), after calling please follow up with a Plant Maintenance Request (PMR) if possible. (Click "Quick Links on the MySite home page and select "Plant Maintenance Request System") Provide the parking lot location or post location and the condition that needs to be corrected. This phone call will provide a faster response to the conditions. If a RIDII is submitted the computer system response time will delay the corrective action.
- 5) Quality or Production issues. RIDII is a Health and Safety program. This type of submission is not related to health & safety and will be voided.

So far the RIDII program has awarded more that \$13,000 to our membership, and recently the RIDII Development Team won a UTC EHS Leadership award, which isn't a common occurrence for a union-based activity. But the true reward is harder to see: the injuries that don't happen, and the improved lives of members and their families enjoying their lives more fully.



The RIDII Development Team was awarded the UTC EHS Leadership award this past summer.



Join Your Friends
At the
MACHINISTS CLUB
Open at 3 pm
on

Wednesday, December 20, 2017
With a Holiday Buffet

Served from 4 pm until the food is gone!!!



Featuring the Music of We 3 from 7 to 11 p.m.!



Recently seen on an IAM Bulletin Board in TMC:

“Please send a Christmas card to this 4-year-old girl battling cancer. She loves getting Christmas cards and has a mailbox set up in front of her hospital room.”

**Please send cards to:
Ruby Mae Millea
Floating Hospital for Children
Neely Pediatric Bone Marrow Unit
6th floor
755 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111**

What a great way to help lift a little girl's spirits this holiday season!



Holiday Gate Collection Friday, Dec. 8th

This Friday, your union activists will be conducting the annual Holiday Gate Collection, rain or shine. This fund helps us support workers at Pratt who are facing extreme emergencies. Many of your brother and sisters have benefited from this fund, and someday it might even help you.

The Officers and Representatives of Local Lodge 1746 wish you a safe and happy holiday season.



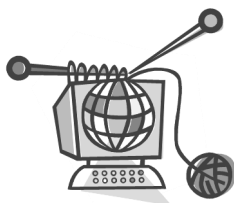
The Next Monthly Meeting is December 10, 2017 at 11:00 am

Elections will be held for District 26 Delegates. Also, Delegates for CT State Council of Machinists, New England Conference of Machinists, and Greater Hartford Labor Council will be elected.

Remember Our Troops Red-Shirt Friday's!

In Memory of

**Maxine Baker
Diane Gilliam
Sydney Gardner**



WEBSITES:

www.iamLL1746.org

www.iamdistrict26.org

www.goiam.org

www.shopunionmade.org

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

- * Kirby Boyce
President1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
- * John C. Taylor vp1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
- * Howie Huestis rs1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
- * Kurt Burkhardt st1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net



**Insight welcomes
your opinion!**

Send your feedback to
1746news@gmail.com !



The EAP Coordinator for IAM LL 1746 is **Lenny Ward**. Brother Ward is LAP-C Certified, an NAADAC / NCAC Certified AFL-CIO Union Peer Counselor, and SAP (Substance Abuse Professional) Certified.

Contact Lenny with any personal issues or concerns and be assured that he will work with you with respect and complete confidentiality.

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

November RIDII Winners

**Ken Bowman
Shanta Cribbs
Ray Denmark
Edy Flores
William Nicol**

**Kelly Omasta
Michael Pise
Armando Rodriguez
Chris Inzatari
Neil Tammaro**



Congratulations!



LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:

**President Kirby Boyce; Vice President John C. Taylor; Howie Huestis, Recording Secretary;
Kurt Burkhardt, Secretary Treasurer; Roy C. Chambers, Conductor/Sentinel;
Trustees: Bruce Blais, James Bullock, Brad Chase**

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

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