

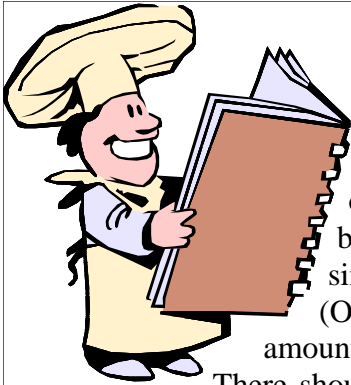
Local Lodge 1746

insight

July 2006

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

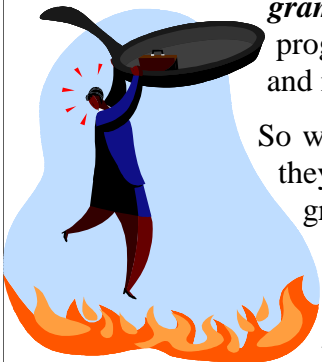


“Recipe for Disaster”

If you want to ruin a long-time, profitable business and run it into the ground all you need to do is come up with the **Recipe for Disaster**. First, create and foster a culture of “overtime addiction” and let it stew over time. Then throw in a whole lot of neglect by ignoring the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) regarding training. Put this on simmer for a lengthy period by not following the Contract in regard to Article 12 (Overtime) and Letter 4 (Guidelines for O/T). This allows for huge disparities in the amount of overtime between employees...often in the hundreds, if not thousands of hours.

There shouldn't be more than a 40 hour difference from one employee to another at any given time. Many of the overtime problems are a result of NO TRAINING being offered employees, who are then not asked for OT. Nor are they charged “NQ” hours on the OT sheets so lack of company training is not exposed.

Letter 14 (Technical Training) of the CBA it states, “The Company and the Union both recognize that a trained workforce is the most important ingredient to any successful business and that our future depends on being able to deliver technical skills to our current and future workforce”. **BULL....!** Nothing could be further from the truth! If the company adhered to this part of the CBA, why has the Principle Maintenance Inspector (FAA) for the three CT overhaul and repair stations (CARO, EHRO, & Cheshire) stated that he will pull the FAA license to do overhaul and repair in CT if the companies training program doesn't come up to FAA standards? He has stated that it is “...*beyond belief that this company doesn't have a viable and comprehensive training program.*” He also declared that there is no local control of training in the business units, that the program is not timely or flexible, and that our program is under the microscope regionally and nationally.



So what does CARO management do three days later at a mandatory employee meeting? Do they talk about the FAA taking away our overhaul & repair license due to our training program?? Do they talk about the importance of well trained employees, and how they intend to do the training??? No...CARO management used this time to speak to their captive audience by extolling the virtues of “ACE” and how we need to clean up the areas and paint the floors. They urged us to ***work harder and turn the parts around faster...***

Yet they have **decimated the third shift**, lost contracts, continued to vend out work, and have **failed to train employees** - on a monumental scale.

The recipe for disaster gets even more interesting, because CARO/EHRO and Human Resources have instituted a “pilot program” to track the costs of both stewards and employees during grievances. The company creates grievances by violating the contract. Rather than resolve the grievances (which they created) & follow the Contract (which they signed) they choose to monitor and high-light the expense of grievances in CARO and EHRO...***Just another excuse for the bean counters and top Pratt executives to move more work out of Connecticut??***



The Smoker's Shrinking Box



Smokers, you certainly are an adaptive lot. The government, the scientist, the company, the non-smoker—they're all conspiring to deny you the pleasure of your butt. Used to be you could light up wherever and whenever you wanted. As long as you weren't flicking your coals onto the top of a hydrogen tank or blowing your smoke into the face of a newborn, people couldn't say or do much about it. Then came the surgeon general's report on the effects of secondhand smoke in 1986, and whoa!!!! Did the world take a turn for the worse, or what? "Sin Taxes" drove the price to over \$5 **a pack**, restaurant bans relegated you to the parking lots, and company policy drove you out onto the sidewalks of Main Street, huddled together under umbrellas like *Les Misérables*. Cross-country air plane rides? *Fuhgeddaboudit!!!*

Last week, Surgeon General Richard Carmona issued a 670-page report updating the effects of secondhand smoke on non-smokers, and it isn't pretty. Carmona stated there is "overwhelming scientific evidence" that non-smokers are dying from "involuntary smoking", to the tune of 35,000 a year from heart disease alone.



The Surgeon General reported that, "*even a few minutes around drifting smoke is enough to spark an asthma attack, make blood more prone to clot, damage heart arteries and begin the kind of cell damage that over time can lead to cancer.*" Children living in homes with smokers are especially susceptible to the negative effects of secondhand smoke, including bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS. Carmona urged smoking parents to go outdoors, saying that even opening a window doesn't help.

With news like this, if you've been waiting for anti-smoking bans and policies to be overturned, don't hold your breath. Expect your smoking world to grow even more restrictive as more states jump on the bandwagon (with Connecticut and sixteen others) and ban smoking in public buildings. Look for private venues to reconsider their leniency toward smoking as well. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. says that the Surgeon General's report is "overblown". But who are we to believe...a company whose officers have already been exposed, indicted, and sued for lying? ***Now more than ever, it's time to quit smoking***, and people are willing to help you if you just ask. If you won't do it for yourself, do it for your loved ones, especially your children.



If you need help to stop smoking or other issues please contact your Union EAP Representative



Lenny Ward (2nd Shift) Turbine Module Center.

He has an in-plant office to meet with you privately.

He can be reached at 708-4186 (pager) His office # is 557-3645.

Cancer Study Information

Myself and Carol Shea-from the ***Worked to Death*** group of P&W brain cancer victims-met with Senator Dodd's aid Edward Mann on June 28th. It was a positive meeting and we spoke about changing laws and statutes of limitations (time limits) for reporting work-related diseases and injuries. We went over Workers' Compensation issues for workers at Pratt & Whitney, where there have been over 350 cases of Glioblastoma multiforme brain tumors (all P&W's CT facilities from the 1950's to the present time).



We are currently working with Connecticut AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Lori Pelletier to set up a meeting with State Senator Edith Prague, who is very concerned about workers' job-related health & safety issues. We need to communicate these issues to the general public and get people to contact their State Representatives and other elected officials. We need your help on this. Together we can make it happen. For more info call **Deb Belancik**, IAMAW District 26 EH&S Coordinator: 860-565-4766

Machinists Back “Ned Lamont” for US Senate

The Connecticut State Council of Machinists endorsed Ned Lamont in the August 8th Democratic Primary for US Senator. Delegates voted overwhelmingly to support Lamont after both he and Senator Lieberman addressed the Machinists gathering in Groton, CT over the weekend of June 23rd thru 25th. While Senator Lieberman’s continued support of the war in Iraq was a big reason delegates backed Lamont, his support of President Bush on other issues, and his vigorous support of “**free-trade agreements**”--which have led to massive losses in US manufacturing jobs--were also noted.

STATEMENT BY DEMOCRATIC U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE NED LAMONT:

I am seeking your support in the race for the United States Senate because of my profound disappointment at what George Bush and his allies are doing to America. **I believe that the war in Iraq has diverted far too many of our dollars, and too much of our attention, from our needs back home.**

WAR IN IRAQ: Three years ago, President George Bush rushed our country to war in Iraq and Senator Lieberman has cheered him on every step of the way. There was no imminent threat to America...no weapons of mass destruction. Today, America is no safer, Israel is no safer, Iran is more dangerous, Osama bin Laden is still at large, and our brave troops are stuck in the middle of a bloody civil war. Our best chance of success requires that the Iraqis take control of their own destiny. While we will continue to provide logistical and training support as long as we are asked, our frontline military troops should begin to be redeployed and should start heading home.

HEALTH CARE: While our government continues to spend more than \$250 million a day in Iraq, we have not made universal healthcare affordable and available to all Americans....employers should be required to pay their fair share for insurance for all full-time employees, and that all uninsured children must be covered.

JOBS: Connecticut has lost 75,000 manufacturing jobs in the last six years, many replaced by retail and service jobs which pay less and have reduced healthcare and pension benefits. Today, the middle class is getting squeezed and most people living in poverty or near poverty are employed, ***but not earning enough to get by.*** Many of our high-skill jobs are being sent overseas, drawn by low wages and no benefits. I support strictly-enforced fair trade policies which level the playing field, and that give American products the same access to Chinese markets that Chinese products have to American markets. I would support only reciprocal trade agreements which include strong labor and environmental standards.

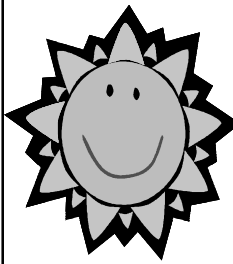


Senate Candidate Ned Lamont (D)



The Democratic & Republican party primaries will be held on Tuesday, August 8th.

Unaffiliated voters may change their party registration at their local Registrar of Voters until 12 Noon, Monday, August 7th, if they wish to vote in a party primary.



**Beat the Heat!! Come and Chill-Out
At the Next Monthly Meeting
July 9th, at 11:00 am**



POKER RUN

To Benefit

The United Way

**FREE EVENT PIN
WITH EVERY TICKET**

A Calling For All Motorcyclists !

**FREE EVENT PIN
WITH EVERY TICKET**

On July 15 (rain 16) 2006, our 6th annual Poker Run will begin and end at the Pratt & Whitney Airport Museum & Hangar off of Silver Lane, East Hartford CT.

*\$20 per hand - Food - Prizes - Mileage Pool - 50/50
Registration and Departures will be from
8:30 until 10:00 AM; Last check-in is at 1:00 PM.
Awards Ceremony will follow a BBQ lunch at 1:30*

*Further Details: email
thomas.reitsma@pw.utc.com
Or phone Tom at 860-565-3054*



WEBSITES:

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

Get Involved

We are looking for letters from you the members!

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



Please email your announcements & messages. Items for the next issue must emailed by August 1st 2006. Email: locallodge1746@snet.net



The Morant family (Carrie, Marva Morant, & Barbara Dancy) would like to thank you for the love you shown during the death of our mother (Helen Morant, May 5, 2006). Thank you very much, David Morant & family.

Brother John Kulowski (D-901) thanks the Local Membership for the donation to the Search Dog Foundation in memory of his wife Carol, who passed away in June.

LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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Bill Coney, Recording Secretary; Nancy Flagg, Secretary Treasurer;
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