

Local Lodge 1746

# insight

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

June 2007

Volume 10, Issue 6

## HYPOCRISY, DOUBLE STANDARDS & THE LAW

### INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATIONS

are equivalent entities under the law. When a person or a company reach a settlement over a dispute or negotiation it is considered an agreement. It is a pact. It is a harmony of opinion, a covenant if you will, and when signed, it becomes a *legally binding contract*. **In effect, it is law.**

**In Letter 14** (Technical Training) it reads there is an “*understanding and agreement between the Company and the Union concerning the necessity of providing job-based training to bargaining unit employees*”. How hypocritical is that statement, when it is the Company that retains *the sole right and responsibility to direct the operations of the company and the assignment of ALL work* per Article 1 (Management Functions)? We need to put some juice into the contract language in **Letter 14** that is punitive to the company if they don’t comply. Perhaps we should delete **Letter 14** from the CBA, pull out our training coordinators and then see what the FAA has to say about the lack of a training program at P & W.

**Letter 20** (Indirect Subcontracting) states, “*The Company will discuss with the Union whether it is compatible with good business judgment to have any of that work (Trades-F & S, MTS, Tool & Die) performed by current bargaining unit employees and/or employees on layoff with recall rights*”. This process (discussion) is supposed to allow us to bid on non-production work. In **Letter 20** meetings we do just the opposite. The company gives us reams of data from jobs they already vended out and we go over it asking them why we didn’t do the jobs. Invariably we are told it was too big a job and we (PWA) don’t have enough people to spare from the hundreds of job tickets for repair jobs that they are already behind



on. If you think that is the definition of insanity it gets worse.

The Company can’t even tell the Union how many yellow badge vendors are in the plant doing trades work on a given day. How can it be cost effective to bring a serviceman in to fix a machine when we know it costs \$1,000 a day for them just to enter the premises? The last sentence in **Letter 20** says “*any decision to subcontract work remains the sole discretion of the company*”. I’d like to tell UTC shareholders just how bad PWA is wasting their money by vending out our work. However, in signing the CBA the Union agreed to protect the confidentiality of any Company sensitive and proprietary information disclosed during the **Letter 20** meetings. Believe me; I’ve seen the millions wasted on vendor costs, just in the Trades...work which was previously performed by our bargaining unit members in a timely, safe and cost-effective manner.

The “**Purpose**” in our collective bargaining agreement (CBA) states, “*it is the intent and purpose of the parties to promote and improve the industrial and economic status of the parties*”. In 2004, during our last negotiations we had about 4,359 people in IAM District 26 that was comprised of Cheshire, Middle-

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town, and East Hartford. At this time we are hovering around 4,000 Can somebody explain to me how PWA has *improved the industrial and economic status of the parties?*

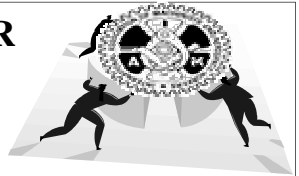
Remember this when it comes time for the STRIKE VOTE in December....because if you



don't vote strike, you vote to accept, and must abide by, the contract language you were not willing to go on strike for.

## IRAQI TRADE UNION TOUR

Saturday, June 16, 12 noon till 2pm  
Machinists Hall, 357 Main St, E.H.



A chance to meet and talk with union leaders from the Iraqi union movement. Meet the head of the Iraqi Federation of Oil Unions, who was imprisoned under Saddam Hussein's regime. Also featured is the president of the Electrical Utility Workers Union, who, along with her 7-year old son, has received death threats because of her actions supporting workers' rights.

Hear how Iraqi unions are fighting for labor rights, to improve conditions in their workplaces, and to improve women's equality in the face of sectarian divisions, foreign occupation and the daily violence that surrounds them.

Sponsored by CT AFL-CIO, CT State Council of Machinists

## Connecticut Council on Safety and Health Awards Carol Shea, Founder of "Worked to Death" Group

The Connecticut Council on Safety & Health (ConnectiCOSH) held its annual Awards Night Dinner on Friday May 18, 2007 at AFSCME Council 4 in New Britain. **Carol Shea** was the recipient of *The Ed Egan Award* for her courage in starting her group, "**Worked To Death**". She exposed Pratt and Whitney on the brain cancer Glioblastoma Multi-form that was suffered by workers at Pratt, including Carol's husband, John. It was heart wrenching to see her husband going through this terrible illness that finally took his life. She made a vow to her husband that she will follow through with this action.

Carol is a courageous and aggressive woman. She is fighting for her husband and other fallen workers. Her goal is not about money, *but about the safety and health of workers*. She wants to make sure that nothing like this happens to others and to see that other families do not go through what her family did.

I was proud to make the award presentation to Carol. This is a very big honor in the name of OSHA Officer and Safety and Health trainer Ed Egan, who was truly the workers' friend. He was well known for his *Electrical Show*, a demonstration for safety with electrical hazards. Ed Egan passed away several years ago and we at ConnectiCOSH decided to have an award in his name, the **Profiles and Courage**

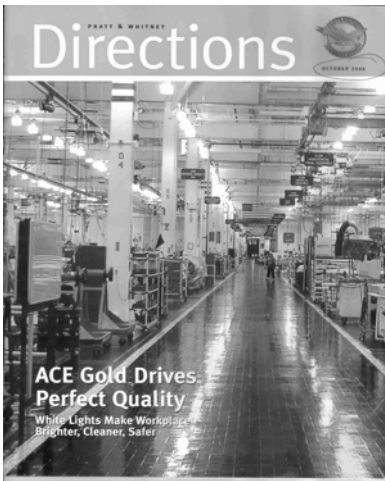
**Award**, for a person doing great things for others in the field of worker safety and health.

Carol Shea has been a great inspiration to us, especially when it comes to the P & W cancer study. She holds their feet to the fire to get things done for the *Worked To Death* group and for all workers' health and safety issues. She meets with legislators and political figure heads, as well as the researchers and union members. She has always been there for the P & W cancer project. Carol came to Local Lodge 707, North Haven, in 1999 for help in getting it started. The IAM has worked with her every inch of the way.

I am proud to call Carol my friend. Maybe what the world needs is a few more Carol Sheas. I'm thankful she is in our corner. She gives back unselfishly to others and has worked tirelessly on the cancer study, and in the fight for workers' safety and health.



*Carol Shea [r], founder of "Worked to Death" received ConnectiCOSH's Ed Egan award from Deb Belancik [l], IAMAW District 26*



## “Pretty” Gets the Work?

Back in 2006, Pratt & Whitney’s *Directions* booklet featured P&W president Steve Finger stating how **ACE GOLD** would “*delight our customers*”, so that “*We would just blow the competition away*”.

In the same booklet Mr.

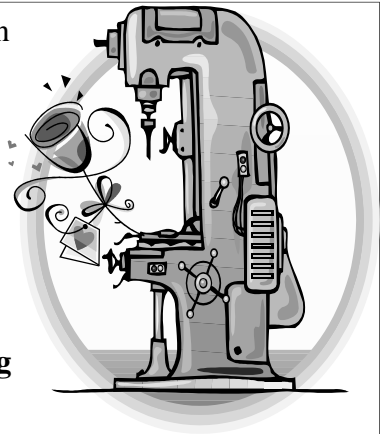
Finger said he wanted all of Pratt & Whitney to be **ACE GOLD** in two years. Are we getting there? If we do “*get there*”, does that really mean the customers will come back, and that our work currently vended out will come back too? According to Mr. Finger, “*all customers get their commitments fulfilled on schedule 99% of the time*”, if we reach **ACE GOLD**.

Members on the floor have been curious about all the money being invested to bring the entire plant up to the **ACE GOLD** status. It seems like everywhere you go there is something going on, *mostly scraping and painting the floors*. Concerned members wonder how much all this “sprucing-up” costs. What is the effect of endless painting and other ACE projects on turn times? When the floors are being painted it stops production and turn times are lost. When asked about the cost of the floor being painted, management’s response was that the cost would be *coming out of the landlords pocket* and not the Department or Business unit’s pocket. What a relief!!! Management claims ACE GOLD will please the customers with minimal costs and shortened turn-times. So basically the new paint could be a good thing, if the end result is getting more customers, getting our work back and decreasing our turn-times – all because the work environment looks better.

What about all the crappy machinery that keeps breaking down, preventing us from getting the work out on time? Some of our ancient equipment has been painted over so many times that it’s the only thing holding it together! Our competitors have all new state of the art machines. Will getting **ACE GOLD** with our freshly painted old machines impress our customers into bringing back work lost

because of excessive turn times? There is no question of how nice the place looks after it’s been all spruced-up and straightened out. The main question is:

Will “Pretty” help us keep our jobs and bring back our work????



## Walk against Hunger

On May 6th members from Local Lodge 1746 showed their interest in giving back to their community by volunteering to participate in the annual **Foodshare Walk Against Hunger**. *This years walk by members of Team IAM Local Lodge 1746 produced a record high collection in excess of \$6,000.00!* The official total amount collected is not available from Foodshare yet. What is so impressive about this is that it is **more than twice** what was collected last year. Also, for every dollar collected, \$10.00 worth of food can be purchased by Foodshare. This means that our collection will be helping those in need with over \$60,000.00 worth of food.

I would first of all like thank those of you who took the time from your busy schedule to attend. Hats off to Jim Bullock, Rodney Conlogue, Nancy Flagg, Judy Harvey, Lisa Hill, Gerry Martin, Scott Meduna, Steve Merrick and grandson Anthony, Jasper Mills, Dian Mitchell, Waynette Pelzar, Hector Torres, Avy Wong, and my 8 year old niece Shaina. Also to our friends from the Postal Workers Union, Kathy Wynn and Bob Murphy. Second of all I want to thank all of you who donated. There are so many of you who gave so unselfishly, and many without even being asked. Both salary and hourly employees donated. This generosity shows what a class act you all are.

Thanks again and give yourself a hand.

Howard Haberern, Chairperson, IAM LL 1746 Community Services Committee.





## The Next Monthly Meeting is Sunday, June 10th at 11:00 am

It's Summertime be cool and  
come to the meeting!



**Andy Gorski and  
Linda Kolpak** are  
pleased to an-  
nounce their new  
Grandson Kaden

Bradley Kolpak, born 5/21/07,  
9lbs 6oz. and 20" long. **Wow!**  
Congratulations from everyone  
at *insight* and Local Lodge  
1746, IAMAW.



"First, we get rid of the armored vehicle..."

### June 2007

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     |     |     | 1   | 2   |
| 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |     |
| 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
| 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  |
| 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |

6 Months Until New Contract

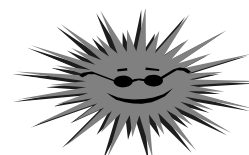
### WEBSITES:

[www.iamLL1746.org](http://www.iamLL1746.org)

[www.iamdistrict26.org](http://www.iamdistrict26.org)

[www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org)

[www.shopunionmade.org](http://www.shopunionmade.org)



Please email your  
announcements &  
messages.

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

[localldodge1746@snet.net](mailto:localldodge1746@snet.net)

# Don't Forget to Wear RED on Fridays

### 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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