

Local Lodge 1746

insight

October 2006 Volume 9, Issue 10

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

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SPECIAL SEPARATION PACKAGE (SSP)



I'm sure by now that everyone has heard about the company extending the Special Separation Package (SSP) to all those who signed up. The rumors are true and **all 264 employees who signed up for the package will be able to leave.** Employees who are planning to take the SSP in October and November will receive letters inviting them to attend an **Informational Session**, to be held at the East Hartford hangar. There will be a question and answer period that will cover severance, pension, retiree life and retiree medical insurance.

The sessions will be on **Saturday October 14th** and **Saturday October 28th** with two (2) sessions being held each day; at **9:30 am and 1:00 pm.** Employees will receive letters that contain the time and date they can attend, along with their spouse/guest. Employees who are leaving at the end of September will be mailed the pertinent information they will need (the same info that will be presented at the Informational Sessions.)

The SSP program consists of: One week of Severance for each completed year of service with the company; a \$15,000 Lump Sum Payment; Life Insurance coverage for 30 days; One (1) year of current Medical & Dental coverage paid for by the company. Employees are retirement eligible and can start pension payments at time of separation.

Your IAM LL-1746 brothers and sisters wish you all a healthy, and happy retirement. Best of luck, and may the Good Lord bless you and those around you.



Collection For Our Connecticut National Guardsman Serving in Afghanistan

Connecticut has approximately 350 National Guard soldiers serving in harms way in Afghanistan. The level of hostility has greatly increased in the last few months. Our Community Services Committee has been collecting items that our troops are in need of, and would greatly appreciate. This is an ongoing collection, which will end only when they come home.

We are asking that both salary and hourly employees bring in these needed items. You only need to hand your donation to any employee who wears a Union badge and they will gladly bring it to the union hall for you. You are of course also welcome to bring any items to the hall yourself and hand them over to any of our office staff. Cash is also accepted and allows us to purchase what is in greatest need.

To date we have already shipped four boxes of items to our troops and much more could be used.

Items that are in need:

Entertainment: AA/AAA batteries, Music CDs and DVD movies, sports and news magazines

Toiletries: deodorant, shaving cream, razors, after shave, shampoo

Non perishable food items: canned tuna and sardines, Cup of Soup, Slim Jim's, Beef Jerky, salami, Hickory Farm items (**no cheese**), crackers, pretzels, Combos, Fruit Roll-Ups, dried fruit, nuts, Cereal & Granola Bars, single-serve Microwave pasta & chili, Ground Dunkin Donuts coffee & tea bags.

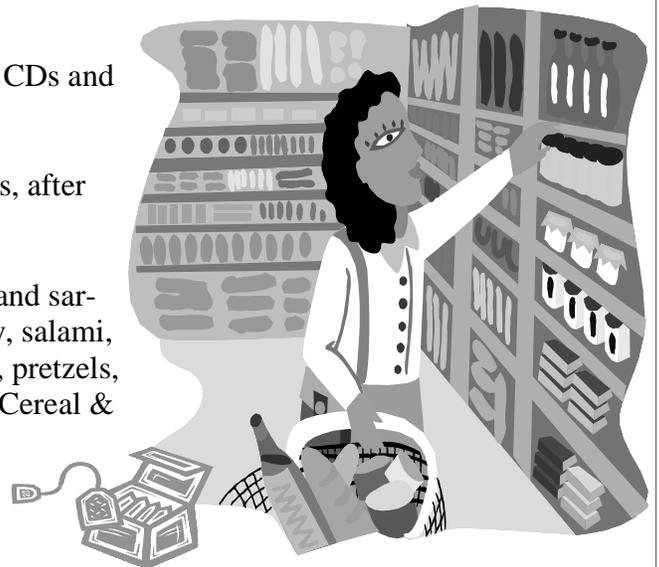
No potato chips, Nacho chips, home-made food items, or candy that can melt.

In addition, any hourly or salary Pratt employee or member of their family who is serving in either Iraq or Afghanistan is eligible to receive these care packages. Just let us know your mailing address.

What better way to show our brave men and women that we have not forgotten them than by donating a few items. If each employee was to donate just a couple of items, we would have quite a sizeable shipment. Thank you to those of you who have already donated, and thanks in advance to those of you who plan on donating.

The Membership of Local Lodge 1746 has allocated \$1,000 to pay for the shipments of these collected items.

For more about this collection or any questions, please contact Community Services Chair Howard Haberern at pager 708-1355.



A Spy in Our Midst



There once was a fellow from EHS Global
Who thought that the workforce was at his disposal.
Though smallish in stature, a Napoleon-ite
He sought to be Manly, to prove all his might.
When asked of his credo, he said "I'll be Frank.
Joint efforts with hourly folks are a crank.
I care not for their pensions or family jewels,
I'll nail them for breaking the Cardinal Rules.
I couldn't care less if they love me or hate me
I'll make their heads spin with my Concept of Safety."

So out in the plant amid engines and tools
He searched for the breakers of Cardinal Rules.
In shadows he slithered, 'round corners he lurked.
A spy in our midst, a detestable jerk.
Discovering some poor bloke in violation
He'd subject the man to intense tribulation
And leave him for others to say what his fate be
by threatening his job in the good name of safety.

The workers would worry and shudder and bellow
From the terrible legacy wrought by this fellow.
The fellow kept up in his quest to find fault
While true safety programs soon ground to a halt
Though union officials would fight every case
Cooperative spirits were now laid to waste.
And all of the gains of a half dozen contracts
Were cast in a pall by this one fellow's bushwhacks.

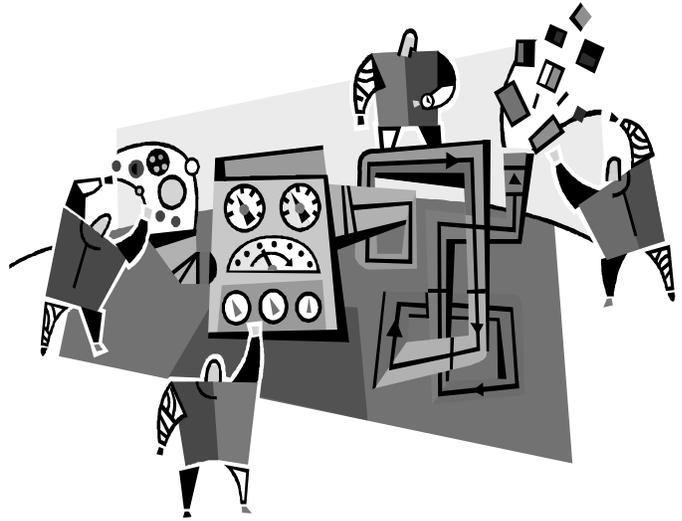


But one sunny day, we can only hope when
After going to battle again and again
For somebody's job, then his bosses may deem
That his Concept of Safety is just simply mean.
They'll pack up his desk and they'll fly him to Texas
Where his Concept of Safety will no longer hex us.
The burden once lifted, the workers will sing,
And the morale of the workforce will soar on a wing.

Cancer Update: October 2006 by Deb Belancik

Roger Hancock, Senior Research Specialist working with Dr. Esmen of the University of Illinois at Chicago, was here in East Hartford the week of September 11. He was tasked to research the High Speed Grinding processes. We spent much time in the K building. We spoke to many employees, both hourly and salary, about the part processes, types of coolants and other metal working products used throughout Pratt and Whitney.

Roger was very interested in how the North Haven plant was laid out. We also discussed the solvent cleaning processes that were used throughout Pratt & Whitney. We then walked to the different grinding areas to see the various types of machines that are used in the East Hartford facility. We spoke to quite a few of the machinists that were running the machines, and they explained the processes that they do now vs. the way things were done years ago. Roger was quite impressed with our members that he spoke with. They were all so very helpful. We also spoke to some salary folks who gave us valuable information as well.



Come to the Pratt and Whitney Cancer Update and Informational Session.

When: Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 7:00p.m

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center; Cromwell, CT

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU...



It is extremely important to hear from each and every one of you to make this study accurate and complete. Your information and input needed. Get your questions answered from the researchers first hand. Second shifters will be allowed to attend (unpaid). It will not be held against attendance or incentive time.

THE EXPERTS WILL BE THERE

Dr. Gary Marsh, PhD – Epidemiology
Principal investigator, University of Pittsburgh

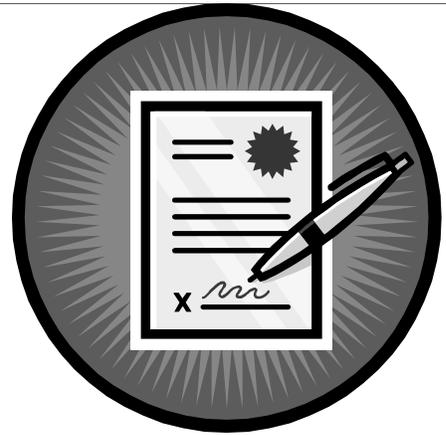
Dr. Nurtan Esmen, PhD – Exposure Assessment
Principal Investigator, University of Illinois, Chicago

Dr. Frank Lieberman, M.D. – Genetics
Principal Investigator, University of Pittsburgh

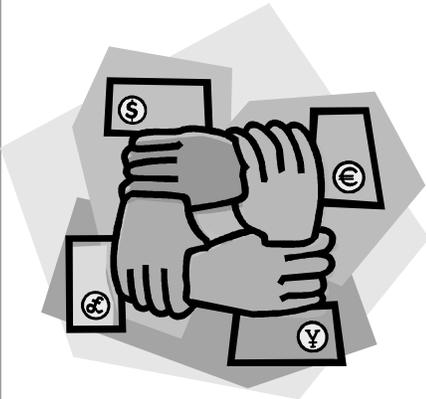
Please contact Deb Belancik IMAAW District 26 EH&S Coordinator for more information at:
860-565-4766 or e-mail to debra.belancik@pw.utc.com

Whose Job Is It???

It has come to light that many jobs here at Pratt are being vended out. Work that has traditionally been performed by the bargaining unit. This is nothing new, but it seems that the company is getting more flagrant at disregarding our agreement and associated letters written into our current contract. In module centers this is done under **vendor assist**. While sometimes this is legitimate, the company is stretching this out as much as they can. In the skilled trades MTS and F&S it is totally unacceptable.



There are more vendors doing construction and maintenance than there is staff in the bargaining unit performing the same tasks. Many people retire or move on to other positions in the company and are not replaced in a timely manner, if replaced at all. For years our equipment and buildings have slipped into disrepair due to years of neglect and lack of preventive maintenance. People are being put into management positions that have absolutely no clue as to what their workers do. Would you hire an accountant to oversee the building of a jet engine or, would you rather have skilled personal and engineers overseeing the manufacturing process? Does hiring competent supervisors make good business sense? I think so, don't you?



While vendors are doing work in our facility, who is overseeing their work? Are they working to the same standards that we are? Many machines and equipment are being installed with little regard to the workers who have to maintain them. This can't go on. Pratt has brought outside companies in to fix many problems that our own employees have told them about for years. Why aren't these problems fixed when we first bring them up?

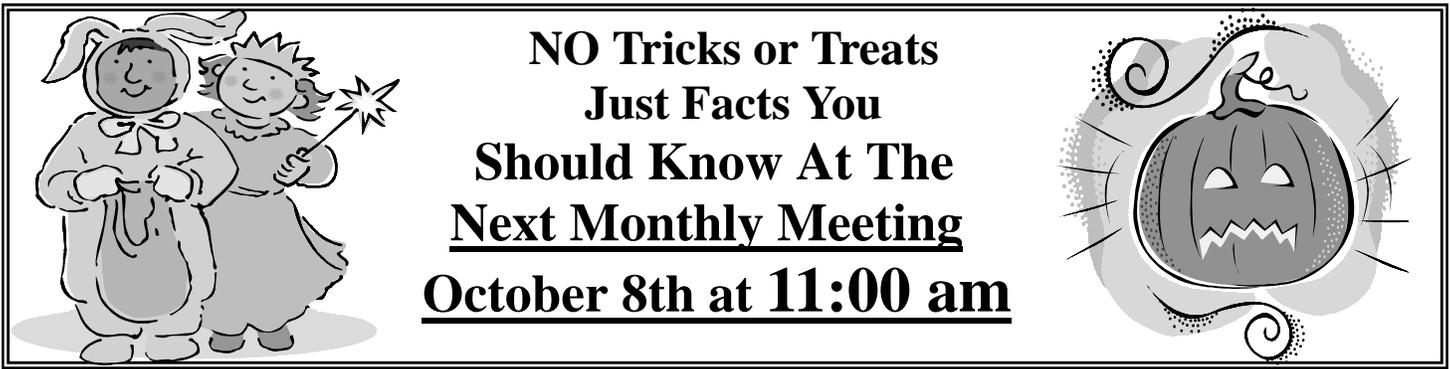
Mr. Chenevert is globe-trotting to China and India. Do you really think he is there on vacation? He is outsourcing thousands of our Connecticut jobs to China, Russia, Poland and elsewhere. Engineering jobs are being sent to India. A new P & W joint venture in Bulgaria has also been proposed. Our work is under attack. UTC is in Poland looking for a partner to build helicopters. Sikorsky's work is under attack as well as Carrier's.

With the latest SSP offer, Pratt is further eroding its hourly Connecticut workforce by another 264 people...Do you think they will be replaced???. If we don't help ourselves now, there won't be anything left for us to do. Little by little we are being dismantled here in East Hartford.

It is our jobs we are fighting for. Jobs for the younger worker who has a growing family, for the seasoned worker who has 1 or 2 contracts left before he or she retires, and for our children-who we hope can work here someday. If we sit by and think someone else will do this for us we will all be sadly disappointed.



**OUR CONTRACT WITH PRATT IS UP IN
13 SHORT MONTHS
THE JOB YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN!**



“YOU WILL BE MISSED”



**William Riggs - Department 346
(1947 - 2006)**

Brother William Riggs was a welder in Department 346, liners. He had only worked at Pratt for a short period of time. Bill was very dedicated to his job. He passed away on July 31 2006, and will be missed by family, friends and co-workers.

**In Memory of a CARO Friend:
Jeffrey B. Johnson (1947-2006)**

We note, with sorrow, the passing of Jeffrey B. Johnson, Sr., on July 21st of this year. Jeffrey worked at P&W for over 40 years. Most recently, he was a welder in CARO. Jeff will be missed by all of those who knew and worked with him.

We also offer our condolences to Sister Jewell Fluellen, who lost her mother, Ruby Allen, on October 2nd , 2006.

WEBSITES:

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

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH**

Based on interviews, questionnaires, voting records and their positions on issues that affect our members, the Connecticut State Council of Machinists has endorsed the following Candidates:

Governor—John DeStefano

U.S. Senator—Ned Lamont

U.S. Congress—1st District, John Larson; 2nd District, Joe Courtney; 3rd District, Rosa DeLauro; 4th District, Diane Farrell; 5th District, Chris Murphy

CT State Senate (Districts Listed)—3rd, Gary LeBeau; 5th, Jon Harris; 6th, Don DeFronzo; 7th Bill Kiner; 19th, Edith Prague; 22nd, Bill Finch; 31st, Tom Colapietro

CT State Representative—9th, Geronimo Valdez; 14th, Kathy Hale; 20th, David McClusky; 24th, Tim O'Brien; 24th, John Geragosian; 26th, Peter Tercyack; 30th, Joe Aresimowicz; 48th, Linda Orange; 56th, Claire Janowski; 73rd, Tony Piccochi; 81st, Zeke Zalaski

Please email your announcements & messages. Items for the next issue must e-mailed by Nov. 1st 2006: locallodge1746@snet.net

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