



Local Lodge 1746

insight

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

September 2007 Volume 10, Issue 9

UTC - Extraordinary Arrogance

Never underestimate the arrogance of United Technologies (UTC). They approached the IAM back in June with a request to open negotiations early so as to have “**labor peace**” during the coming months. They actually told us that they *needed our help*. We immediately asked them if they would be changing the date of the contract since “**our help**” was so important to them. Their answer was an emphatic NO!

We told them up front -loudly and clearly- that if we agreed to negotiate early **we needed job security** for our present and future members. We mentioned their “sins of the past”, meaning concession negotiations in the early 1990’s which had very negative consequences for our bargaining unit. We reminded them of the \$100 million in IAM concessions, CT tax breaks, and savings from the energy consortium in CT, *as well as the hourly wage-freeze and extra year added to the Contract in ‘93*. These things were done to keep good IAM jobs in P&W’s CT plants (about 9,200 hourly jobs, at the time). Today there are only about 4,135 hourly jobs left in the three remaining P&W plants in CT. In East Hartford we are down to 2,131 in the bargaining unit. By now, everyone knows that the company refused to commit to even maintaining current employment levels in CT...and that’s the reason the membership strongly **REJECTED** the company’s “*Underwhelming Offer*” last month.

Early in these negotiations UTC stated that to remain competitive they needed to *drastically reduce overtime costs*. This was followed with their desire to cull another 300 jobs from the bargaining unit. You’ll remember we lost 264 jobs just a few months ago to an SSP buyout package that was originally only intended for 100. Isn’t the reason the company asks people to work overtime because of their inability to keep up with customer schedules and demand? UTC’s continued mantra of *lean manufacturing* is all about *doing more work*



with less people because it’s cheaper to pay overtime than to hire. Now UTC complains about the high cost of overtime yet wants “even fewer” of us to work for them. There’s nothing like having your cake and eating it too.

Our trades jobs have all but disappeared and Letter 20 (Indirect Subcontracting), sadly to say, is a joke. All of us know there is a sea of yellow badge vendors doing our trades jobs. The company can’t or won’t tell us how many vendors are in the shop on a given day. Trades jobs don’t go out to bid to our trades groups, **per the present contract**, and the yellow badges have free reign. Case in point; a vendor recently moved 13 machines and charged the company almost **a million dollars**. There seems to be an unlimited budget when it comes to vendors doing trades jobs.

We scrape and paint for ACE initiatives while machines sit idle and work is vended out. The company uses “surplus to need” so as to not hire in areas of need, then works overtime in the areas where people were surplus. They even loan people across business units

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and off shifts for overtime into surplussed areas. To put the arrogance of UTC into perspective, while the company was seeking to negotiate early (for *labor peace*) we came across an e-mail indicating that they were “looking to move all recurring production work out of D.O. and into the supply [vendor] base”. They recently had a surplus in D.O. due to *lack of work*, and also force-loaned others to Middletown for two months. Are they now planning to vend out what little work is left?

These are just a few examples of why we need **STRONG JOB SECURITY** language in our Contract. The Union was very clear about the importance of Job Security, not only for our current membership, *but also for the future jobs that a strong Pratt & Whitney, committed to Connecticut, would bring to the state.* The company ignored this, resulting in the membership’s decisive rejection of the company’s early offer....So just for the record, **let’s make this very clear:**



**JOB SECURITY WAS, IS, AND
WILL BE OUR
NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.**

The annual Pratt and Whitney Employees United Way Campaign



is upon us. Once again we encourage our members to show their generosity. Each year regardless of the climate in the shop we need to continue to show our communities how we care and haven’t forgotten them.

I have personally witnessed many of the helping agencies and they really do make a huge difference to so many people in need. I have also witnessed them in the helping of our brothers and sisters from different unions who are on strike and in need. Remember, this yearly campaign is not about Pratt and Whitney or our union; it is about us sharing with our neighbors.

Please show your true generosity again and give to those who really depend upon us. Take the time to attend the solicitation meetings in September for your area and please give.

*Thanks in advance,
Howard A. Haberern
Chairperson IAM Local Lodge 1746
Community Services Committee*

The 2007 United Way Cam- paign Loaned Executives

for the Greater Hartford Area Campaign met on Friday, August 24, 2007 at Riverfront Park in Hartford for a Teambuilding Event. Representing the Pratt & Whitney Campaign are Frank DeMaio from the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), and Cheryl Benson from the salary segment. Both these individuals have a long history of Community involvement, and will spend the next 3 months representing themselves to the Community on behalf of United Way. They will assist in raising a large portion of our overall United Way Campaign Goal (which will be announced on Sept. 7, 2007). We wish them well, and know they will not only assist in raising significant dollars, but also in representing our P&W workforce in a positive manner.



REMINDER:

For those of you that designate their donations, remember the *United Labor Agency*, (#5098); and the *Guide Dogs of Ct., R.I. and W. Mass.* (#5373) when you fill out your pledge forms.

**Thank you,
Earl Schofield, 2007 United Way Employee
Campaign Co-chairman**



United Way “Breakfast With The Boss”

Our Local Lodge President, John Taylor, will be serving breakfast at two “Breakfast with the Boss” events on the following are dates:

**Tuesday, Sept. 11th @ the Willow Street Cafeteria;
6:30-9:00am**

**Thursday, Sept. 20th @ OBG Cafeteria;
6:30-9:00am**

I am hoping for a good hourly turn out. Rodney Conlogue, Claudette Kostek, and myself will be assisting President Taylor taking orders. Keep us busy by attending and also by asking your co-workers to attend. Rodney, Claudette and myself have tickets for both events. Tickets are also available at the door. It only costs \$5.00 and the company allows at least an hour for attendance. Please leave a generous tip for John Taylor. All tips and money raised are donated to United Way’s 2007 Campaign.

*Thank you, and hope to see you there,
Howard A. Haberern, Chairperson, IAM Local 1746
Community Services Committee*

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 participated and contributed money!!

5th Annual IAMAW CT State Council of Machinists~ District 26 Kevin Pope MNPL Golf Tournament



**When: Sunday, October 7,
2007**

**Where: Oak Ridge Golf
Club, Feeding Hills, MA**

**Time: 12:00 P.M. with a
shotgun start**

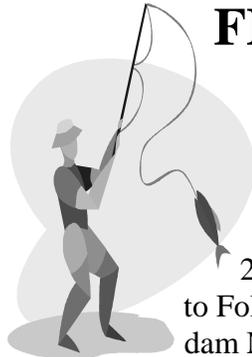
**Check in for the event
will start at 10:30 A.M.**

**Lunch will be served at
11:00 a.m.**

**Dinner will be served at
6:00 p.m.**

**Cost: Golfers’ fees will be
\$100.00 for each player**

1st ANNUAL F&S FISHING DERBY FOR UNITED WAY



Saturday October 20th 5 am –
2 pm Check-in Pot Luck Picnic
to Follow Connecticut River – Had-
dam Meadows State Forest Boat
Launch Fish from shore or by boat

\$10 Entry Fee per Person

**Prizes awarded for Largest Bass, Northern Pike
and All Other Species Category**

**Contact: Jerry Martin at (860)708-4006 or by E-
mail gerald.martin@pw.utc.com
Entry deadline: October 12, 2007**

The tournament will be played “Best Ball”, with foursomes winning as a team. Entry fees will include your golf, carts, lunch at check in and dinner. The proceeds from the tournament will go to MNPL and the Connecticut State Council of Machinists.

**To get an order form contact:
ADBR Jim Parent**

at District 26; 860-828-0359.

Names of the players are due by October 1, 2007.

Important Announcement from Cancer Facilitation Workgroup

Change to University of Pittsburgh Brain Cancer Study



University of Pittsburgh researchers are still seeking participation in their study of current and former Pratt & Whitney employees diagnosed with brain cancer. This study includes both employees who have been diagnosed with brain cancer and some employees that have not been diagnosed with brain cancer but are similar in some way (like age or gender) to an employee with brain cancer.

Eligible employees and their families have already been sent study packets but many of these have not yet been returned.

In an effort to increase participation, University of Pittsburgh is now offering two incentives – every participant

will now receive a \$10 gift card and will be entered in a drawing for one of three \$300 gift cards at the end of the study.

If you have received a study packet but have not returned your consent forms, it is not too late to do so.

If you need new forms, please call 1-866-621-1172 (toll-free) to request them.

If you previously declined to participate and would like to reconsider, please call 1-866-621-1172 (toll-free) to get a new set of forms.

If you have already participated, look for your gift card to arrive in the mail soon.

Due to study restrictions, University of Pittsburgh cannot enroll volunteers into the study – only call to request forms if you have already been contacted by Pitt researchers in the past.

If you have not been contacted by researchers, please spread the word about the gift cards to friends and co-workers who have received packets.

For more information please contact:

Deb Belancik, IAM District 26 EHS Cancer Study Coordinator; 860-565-4766



September 11, 2001: The Dust Still Lingers

By Joe Durette

The attack on the World Trade Center in New York on September 11th, 2001 remains one of the

darkest days in American history. Our great nation was dealt a staggering blow; the grief and anger we felt as a nation touched virtually every citizen of this country on a personal level. In the days and weeks that followed, much of that grief and anger in many hearts was replaced by newfound resolution, a re-kindled sense of patriotism, and a spirit of volunteerism. Nowhere was this more evident than in New York City itself, where thousands of people flocked to participate in rescue, recovery, and clean-up activities at Ground Zero.

Unfortunately, in all the commotion and confusion following 9/11, occupational exposure to these volunteers was hardly foremost on anyone's mind. Today, the terrible realization is coming to fruition that these rescue workers may have been exposed to toxic or deadly dust while working in Ground Zero cleanup efforts. In January 2006, retired NYPD detective James Zadroga died from sarcoidosis, a rare disease that causes lesions on target organs such as the lungs, the liver, the skin, and lymph nodes. An Ocean County, NJ medical examiner determined three months later that his death was directly attributable to exposure from Ground Zero dust. Then, in May 2007, New York City's chief medical examiner Dr. Charles S. Hirsch officially added the name of Felicia Dunn-Jones to the list of WTC attack victims. Dunn-Jones, a U.S. Dept. of Education attorney, was caught in a dust cloud from the collapse of the first tower and died of sarcoidosis five months later. Her name will be included on the memorial wall of WTC attack victims when it is constructed at Ground Zero in 2009.

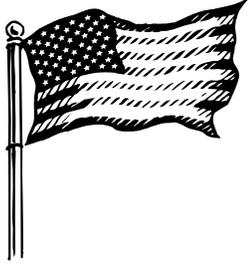
Exposure to Ground Zero dust has been linked not only to sarcoidosis but other debilitating diseases as

well, including pulmonary fibrosis and asthma. Unsafe levels of asbestos suggest that asbestos-related problems are not far off in the future. Workers and volunteers at Ground Zero who develop exposure-related medical problems, including mental health problems and post-traumatic stress, are covered under New York's Workers' Compensation Act. Other covered sites include the N.Y.C. morgue, the Staten Island landfill, the Staten Island/Lower Manhattan barge, or anyone serving in Manhattan south of Pike or Canal Streets.

If you or someone you know volunteered to help clean up Ground Zero between Sept. 11th, 2001, and Sept. 12th, 2002, it's important for you to file with the state of New York, even if you aren't feeling any adverse effects at this time. The deadline for filing has been extended until August 13th, 2008. As of May 2007, only 14,000 of an estimated 100,000 eligible people had registered. Those who fail to register by the deadline will *not* be eligible for benefits even if they develop symptoms at a later date. Go to: www.nycosh.com or call 1-866-WTC-2556 for information or to obtain a registration form.

Heroes come in many different forms, and those who are suffering today because they stepped forward to help in our nation's time of greatest need should not be forgotten, they should be adequately compensated.





The Next Monthly Meeting is Sunday, September 9 at 11:00 am

*Nominations for Local Lodge Executive Board,
Shop Committee and Audit Committee this Sunday!*



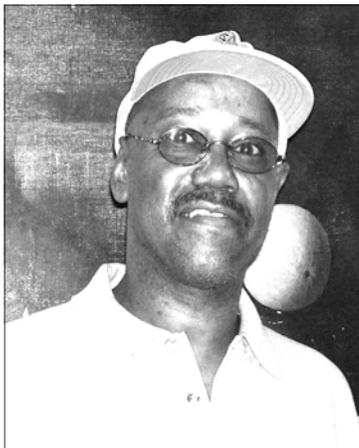
There really cool new T-Shirts available at the union hall the prices are cool too!!



Looking for something to do with the family? Go to Thompson Speedway on Thursday night sand 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 East Hartford Local Lodge 1746 and
UTC Power (Fuel Cells) in South Windsor.



*Please feel free to
contact me with
any of your
issues and
concerns and know
that it will be in total
confidentially.*

*Cell
203-444-0267
Pager
860-708-4186
Lenny Ward*

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
October 1st, 2007.**

localodge1746@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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