



357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06118 – Telephone: 860-568-3000 September 2014 Volume 14 Issue 9

September has arrived, although the first few days felt more like July! Children of all ages are back to school and politicians are focused on the November elections. Also, the 2013 Contracts have finally arrived so if you haven't received one, please ask a Steward, H & S Representative or stop by the hall.

We continue to meet with the company over all of the issues relative to Letter 31 of the new agreement. Since our last monthly meeting, the company has recalled one Occ 400 to Experimental, 2 Occ 583's to TMC and are in the process of indirectly recalling 7 more employees from Family 5 (Occ 344 and 583). Getting our folks back to work has been and continues to be a priority.

I have appointed two members to be training coordinators and they are Glyn Liburd and John C. Taylor. Welcome aboard.

Since the untimely death of our beloved sister Linnea, I have been attempting to write and edit the insight. If there is anyone who would like to volunteer to edit this newsletter, I would welcome the assistance. We would also appreciate any contributions or suggestions for articles. Fraternally, Nancy Flagg On Wednesday, August 27, I was led away by an East Hartford police officer. No, I wasn't arrested, I volunteered to be locked up to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Dian Mitchell, my partner in crime, and I were transported by cruiser to Hartford where we attempted to add to the generous donations I had already received. After an hour and raising a total of \$961.00 we were released for good behavior.

I want to thank everyone who donated and remind those who didn't that you may still donate on-line. Just go to <u>MDA.org/lockup</u>, click on "Find a Jailbird". Type in my name — Nancy Flagg –. You can then donate. This website will be available until early October.



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# Machinists Union Endorses People's Climate March Sept. 21 in NYC

Kensington, CT July 12, 2014 – Delegates to last month's Connecticut State Council of Machinists (CSCM) semiannual conference, voted unanimously to endorse and participate in the historic People's Climate March set for Sunday, September 21, 2014 in Manhattan.

The march coincides with a September 23 global summit on climate change called by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, frustrated at the slow pace of progress on this crucial issue. Ban Ki-moon will propose an aggressive global pact to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the end of 2015.

The CSCM delegates represent more than 10,000 active and retired Machinists Union members in Connecticut from industrial sites including Pratt & Whitney, Hamilton Sundstrand, Electric Boat, Stanley Works and other IAM-represented workplaces around the state.

The resolution (attached) states: "We recognize that working people will suffer disproportionately from the current patterns of investment and neglect that do not prioritize good jobs, clean air, and healthy communities."

The resolution adopted by the delegates declares that they: "Endorse the People's Climate March and support the demand for an ambitious, binding, and fair agreement for emission reductions to foster a sustainable adaptation to the effects of climate change."

CT State Council President John Harrity said: "Let's be clear. Climate change is the most important issue facing all of us for the rest of our lives. And as the resolution points out, working families and the poor will bear the brunt the catastrophic consequences we are already beginning to experience."

Harrity continued, "I am proud of the CSCM delegates, and their clear understanding of how crucial this issue is. I am hoping that hundreds of Connecticut Machinists can make the short trip to New York for this historic event. When our kids, and grandkids, ask 'What did you do to help stop this disaster?' which they will surely ask if we do not take drastic steps immediately – Machinists Union activists can say, 'We helped save the world. We were there on September 21.'''

I am submitting a poem written by Don Merrill, It hits the nail on the head for all of us. Remember to watch out for each other and keep yourselves safe on the job. Don't forget to ask for a MSDS for the chemicals that you work with. You have a right to know what you are using, you can always call out a union safety rep at all times if there is an issue. They are in your corner and can help...Get involved in the VEHS committees, you will be trained on the committee you chose. We can always use another set of eyes and ears out there,

#### I chose to look the other way

I could have saved a life that day,

But I chose to look the other way. It wasn't that I didn't care: I had the time and I was there. But I didn't want to seem a fool, or argue over a safety rule. I knew he'd done the job before: if I spoke up he might get sore. The chances didn't seem that bad: I'd done the same, he knew I had. So I shook my head and walked on by: He knew the risks as well as I. He took the chance, I closed an eye; and with that act I let him die. I could have saved a life that day, but I chose to look the other way. Now every time I see his wife, I could have saved his life that day. That guilt is something I must bear, But isn't something you need to share. If you see a risk that others take that puts their health or life at stake, The question asked or thing you say; could help them live another day. If you see a risk and walk away, then hope you never have to say, I could have saved a life that day, but I chose to look the other way.

Yours in solidarity, Deb Belancik

## FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is something that is talked about every year during fire prevention week in October. Why is it so important? If you were to look back 100 years ago there was no fire prevention in place, people went to work and really didn't give it much thought.

As the workday was just about to end at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory on Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> 1911 disaster struck. 146 people were killed because of poorly planned procedures in the factory. 123 women and 23 men didn't make it home that weekend. The oldest victim was 43 and the youngest was just 14 years old.

As a result of that fire many of the union's policies were put into place. We fought for safer working conditions and child labor laws. The unions fought hard to make a safe work environment. No more would there be locked doors so people could not get out and no egress route.

Several years ago, we had the Rhode Island nightclub fire, again a huge loss of lives (100) and 230 injuries. When you go to a place with lots of people, know your surroundings, how to get out and where the nearest exit is.

This also holds true when you are here at Pratt. If you smell smoke or see flames pull the nearest box, or call the fire dept. at 5-1111 or (860)565-1111 from a cell phone. If you pull the box the fire dept. knows where you are calling from, if you use the phone stay on the line (if possible) and give all the information you can with a building and column number

If you are reporting an injury have a 2<sup>nd</sup> person meet the fire fighters and guide them to the person that needs the help. There is no punishment for pulling a call box, or calling the fire dept. There is a box near every exit don't be afraid to pull it on the way out. When you exit don't line up at the turn style, use the fire doors but note that the crash bars work after maintaining contact for 15 seconds. That way everyone can exit out of the building quicker. The activity of the building alarm will unlock the crash bars.

Thank goodness we have come a long way since the shirtwaist factory fire. Hear the union safety reps work with the fire dept. to make everyone safer. All of our firefighters care about your safety. Feel free to ask questions on fire safety as they are our experts.

Remember to keep calm, and orderly. Always take a few moments when you are at a meeting, in a different plant, or workstation to know your surroundings same holds true when out at a hotel or nightclub. Hopefully a fire is disaster will never happen but taking a few moments to prepare is the best way to stay safe.



The Next Monthly Meeting is Sunday, <u>September 14, 2014</u> at 11:00

### **EAP Corner**

For IAM Local Lodge 1746: P&W in East Hartford and Clear Edge Power in South Windsor. Please feel free to contact me with



Please feel free to contact me with any of your issues or concerns and know that it will be in <u>total confidentiality.</u>

Lenny Ward-EAP Coordinator LAP-C Certified NAADAC / NCAC Certified AFL-CIO Union Peer Counselor

SAP (Substance Abuse Professional) Certified.)

> Fax 203-787-4180 Cell 203-444-0267

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

Nancy Flagg president1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net

Ted Durkin vp1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net

Howie Huestis <u>st1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net</u>

Rodney Conlogue <u>rs1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net</u>

#### ALL in the FAMILY on UNIONS

Edith Bunker: I don't know why you're so upset, Archie. I remember when you use to picket. <u>Archie Bunker</u>: That was different, Edith. I was walking the picket line for my union. I wasn't out screaming in the street. When we picketed, we done it the American way, on the sidewalks, dressed nice, walking up and down with our signs. Peaceful, no violence. <u>Edith Bunker</u>: Except when somebody crossed the line, then you broke his head. <u>Archie Bunker</u>: It's the only way to teach a scab a lasson. That was not violence. Edith. that was

Archie Bunker. It's the only way to teach a scab a lesson. That was not violence, Edith, that was education.

WEBSITES: <u>www.iamLL1746.org</u> <u>www.iamdistrict26.org</u> <u>www.goiam.org</u>

www.shopunionmade.org

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