



The War Continues

By Howard Huestis

The battle was won but the war still goes on. This round of negotiations/ strike was historical in all aspects. As we continue to be the highest paid aerospace workers with a single tier system in the country, we also gained historical job security language that says there cannot be any layoffs to units that have work at a vendor. We also have a much quicker way to get new work covered under the terms of Letter 22, and this is still one of best in the country.

Let's look at the gains for retirement security. We got \$19 dollars added to the defined pension, raising it to \$113 a month per year of service, and an extra year to accumulate the pension multiplier. For the non-defined pension plan, we got \$25.11 added to the plan for \$118 total and in Year 3 of the Agreement we will get a 100% match to our traditional 401k up to \$115. There were also historical losses, with the loss of an 80-year defined pension and pro- rata vacation for those that have a seniority date of December 2001, but those in that bracket will receive vacation a lot faster than those of us who had to wait 25 years to get that fifth week.

Strikes are always very difficult and there will always be significant struggles with gains and losses. We just endured the longest legal strike in the 80-year history of Local 1746 and in 80 years of negotiations with Pratt & Whitney, holding the line for 23 long days through warm days and cool nights, in sun, wind and rain. I wish I had the time and space to call out every Brother and Sister by name that put in 200% effort of what we asked of them. And just to set the record straight, not one of our elected and appointed Union Reps from 1746 received any pay other than strike benefits while on strike.

I want to thank all of you for your resilience and solidarity. Only 20% of our members had ever been on strike against Pratt, but we all held it together and delivered the company that their Last Best Final offer submitted to us at the end of Round One just wasn't good enough. And with only 0.4 % of the hourly workforce crossing our picket line—and earning the lifelong sentence of Scab as a result—we showed management that we had the



Striking LL1746 members pose on Silver Lane in front of Scabby.

wherewithal to fight for what we believe in. I also want to thank our community, local politicians and ALL the support from other labor organizations, and a special shout out to Ed Harthorne and his team at the CT AFL-CIO for all the support they gave us.

Now the war continues, and now we are at Step 2 on **Thursday**. The Union has filed many grievances:

Grievance 1: The Company has created an unfair labor practice against the members of the I.A.M, Local Union 1746, in that the company and its agents are falsely accusing members of picketing on Company property. *(Picket lines were drawn erroneously and used against us.)*

Grievance 2: The Company is in violation of Article 7, Section 5 in that a verbal agreement was not adhered to. *(P&W gate openings and closures shell game during strike.)*

Grievance 3: The Union grieves that the company is in violation of Letter 2 of our current agreement. *(Revoking our **purchased vacation** agreed upon in 2022 contract.)*

Remedy requested: That the company cease immediately from this practice and that any and all vacation time be given back immediately.

Grievance 4: *(In regard to the installation of cameras throughout the shop while we were out on a labor dispute.)* The company is subjecting the Members of LL 1746 to:

Union Grievances, continued

- Hostile work environment.
- Unjust and undue surveillance.
- Violation of their privacy.
- Retaliation of a labor dispute.
- Failure to negotiate working conditions with the Union.

Remedy requested: That any and all cameras be removed immediately and the company show respect to our members and your employees.

Grievance 5: The company failed to negotiate a fair contract which put members of Local 1746 to go on strike and further ruined their incentive vacation time.

Remedy requested: Reinstate the incentive dates

Grievance 6: The company is in violation of multiple Quality Cardinal Rules in that work was being performed by unqualified, uncertified, untrained, and not drug tested per FAA requirements replacement employees. Thereby jeopardizing the quality and integrity of work, jeopardizing the jobs of all hourly bargaining unit employees, and putting the public in grave danger.

Remedy requested: That the company provide proof to the Union that all replacement employees were qualified, certified, trained, and drug tested per FAA requirements to perform any and all work that was performed.

Grievance 7: The company retaliated against our members by holding a mandatory captive audience meeting. (In the hanger on Thursday, May 29th.)

Remedy requested: That the company adhere to their own policies on retaliation and adhere to the law on captive audience meetings.

Grievance 8: The company took medical insurance away from the Bargaining Unit Members.

Remedy requested: Cease and desist from this DEPLORABLE ACT and bridge the insurance from when it was removed for everyone, especially for the ones that were in or who had loved ones in the hospital or needed immediate medical treatment.

Note: deductibles were not reset.

The company continues to make our return a nightmare as it paid us the \$0.57 COLA on top of it being rolled in our wages. They state they are not going after repayment but it will be zeroed out for the next pay period per the CBA. They also shorted us anywhere from 3 to 5 cents in our GWI. And they took out double union dues in May when the membership actually owed no dues as we were out of work for the practical majority of the month. So there will be a separate check on June 12th with the GWI fix and refunding the dues the company took out from week 5/1 and 5/8, as well as the \$20 that they took out last week.

In Solidarity, President Howard Huestis

Local 1746 Receives ConnectiCosh Award



Brother Joe Durette and Sister Therese Hervieux join President Huestis in accepting the ConnectiCosh award.

Congratulations to our Local for an award from ConnectiCOSH. Howie was presented an award on behalf of our Local for Leadership and Advocacy for the Health and Safety of Connecticut Workers. Howie Huestis and John Hanusovsky have worked hard the last few years since Covid to host the annual ConnectiCOSH Safety Conference and provide an accommodating space for this event. Many technical challenges were overcome to allow for interactive zoom in several breakout training sessions as well as the meeting in the main hall. Thank you to Local 1746 for your commitment to health and safety of workers in CT.

Brother Merrick Honored for a Lifetime of Union Service

Steve Merrick achieved 50 years as a Union Member in the IAM and is now a Lifetime Gold Member. Steve has a long and storied history within our local and our district. From being arrested and fighting for our right to hand out the Union Newsletter to being threatened at gun point for participating in organizing campaigns, Steve has fought tirelessly for our Union and its members. As a past Local President and ending his career as District Business Representative for our District 26, Steve has always given his full efforts to our members and championed our rights as union members. If you ever want to hear amazing stories about the history of our local, invite Steve for a cup of coffee and sit back and enjoy. He is a wealth of knowledge and interesting lore.

Congratulations Steve on a lifetime of Union activism!

By Therese Hervieux

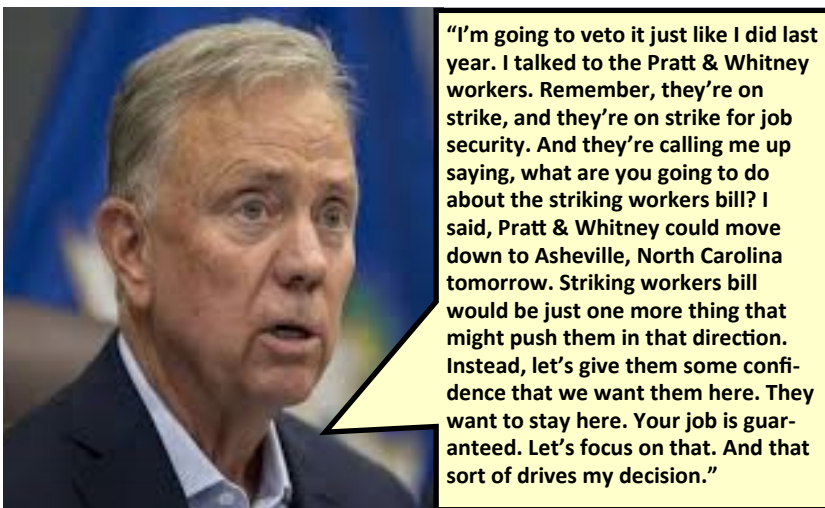


Connecticut Legislative Update

Getting Inside Ned's Head

by Joe Durette

The Unemployment Insurance for Striking Workers bill has advanced to exactly the same point it had in 2024. SB 8 passed the State Senate in late May by a 24 to 11 margin and the State House of Representatives passed it two days later by an 87-59 bipartisan margin, which is a huge number but not veto-proof. However, just like last year, Governor Lamont has threatened to veto the bill, and there's no reason to think he won't do it, seeing how he carried through on the threat in 2024. In spite of the Senate making UI for Striking Workers a priority bill in the most recent session, despite vocal support and personal calls by nearly every Federal Representative Connecticut has, as well as his own Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysciewicz and Attorney General William Tong, and despite the fact that the states of Oregon and Washington have just passed and signed into law their own versions of the bill, Ned has remained steadfast in his determination to kowtow to corporate America and kill the bill. It's almost like he's Shane Eddy's golf partner or something. Here's a direct quote from Ned:



First of all, vetoing the bill in the face of all the labor leaders, representatives, and members of his own administration is pretty shocking, but to say he's doing it for Pratt & Whitney Union Members is simply outrageous. In case you missed it, Ned, we just finished walking the picket line to win stronger job security language, and there is no job security language whatsoever in SB 8. All it does is help to level a playing field that is already stacked against us. Had SB 8 been signed last year, we would've had a stronger position at the bargaining table this year, and our members might not have had to endure the cold cruelty of health insurance suspension, the revocation of ratified vacation benefits, and the implementation of undue surveillance in the shop, and with numerous other company-sponsored spankings. Ned's attempt to somehow pin relocation threats—something that Pratt has been doing for decades—on the backs of unions is just disingenuous doublespeak. And it says nothing about the fact that SB 8 isn't just about Pratt & Whitney, it's about union shops and workplaces throughout the state, whose members

knocked on doors and manned phone banks twice to put him into the Governor's mansion.

Ned has played his cards close to his chest about seeking a third term, but recently he has hinted he might try. If he does, he'll do it without the support of the Fighting Machinists and the other hard-working unions of the CT AFL-CIO if he follows through on his veto threat, the ones who put their feet on the streets to help elect what is perhaps the most labor-friendly legislature in Connecticut history. A second veto in the face of such labor support would relegate Ned's bust alongside Joe Lieberman's in the CT Governor's Hall of Shame for gross betrayal of the constituency that supported him in favor of corporate CEOs and lobbyists.

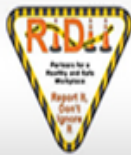
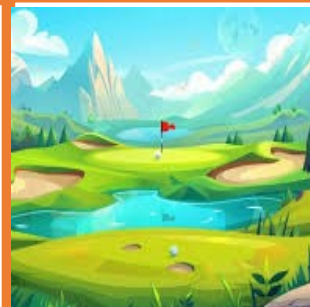
But it's not too late. We still have a chance to save Ned from his wrongheadedness. We can deliver the message that, if he can push back against his golf buddies, yacht buddies and banking buddies, and deliver SB 8 for unions and working families, labor would stand behind him if he chose to run a third campaign or honor his legacy if he chose to retire. On Monday, June 16th at 6 p.m. labor activists across the state will rally at Ned's mansion in West Hartford and urge him to sign SB 8 into law. We would love for you to be there, and we would love for your families, friends and co-workers to be there. There's a flyer on Page 4 for you to register, but don't worry about that. Just come. Parking is a little tough in that area, but there are some helpful instructions as well, and a link to Woonerf to help avoid those pesty parking meters. I hope you'll come, this is so important for us.



Smiles Abound as Senate Bill 8 Passes the State Senate



There will be no Monthly Meeting In July. The next monthly meeting will be held on August 18th at 11a.m. in the Grace Baker Hall.



April/May RIDII Winners

Kevin Pham	Shelly Acosta-Portelles
Mark Walter	Edward Bedard, Jr.
Juan Mendoza	Kyle Beauchesne
Raymond Ross	Tomasz Gubernat

Parking near the Governor's mansion may be found on the following streets:

- ◆ Prospect Ave
- ◆ Asylum Ave
- ◆ Whitney St
- ◆ Fern St
- ◆ Terry Rd
- ◆ Sycamore Rd
- ◆ Wheaton Rd
- ◆ Woodland St



www.woonerf.com

Download the Woonerf App for iPhone or Android to pay for metered parking on your phone instead of the meters, and add time easily if needed.



WEBSITES:

www.iamll1746.org
www.iamdistrict26.org
www.goiam.org
www.ctaflcio.org

LOCAL LODGE EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Howard Huestis
president1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
 Vice President Geronimo Valdez
vp1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
 Secretary/Treasurer Joe Swain
st1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
 Recording Secretary Teesha Grant
rs1746@ll1746.comcastbiz.net
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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Joe Durette, Editor
 Therese Hervieux, Co-Editor
1746news@gmail.com

PICKET GOV. LAMONT'S MANSION

MONDAY, JUNE 16TH @ 6PM
 990 PROSPECT AVE, HARTFORD CT

Demand that Gov. Lamont side with workers, not CEOs by signing SB 8 into law!

RSVP at
bit.ly/picketlamont



ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Local Lodge 1746
 Women's Committee



Donations are needed to stuff 1000 backpacks for the children in the EHPS community.

Drop off supplies at the Union Hall, drop off boxes on site, or with a member of the LL1746 Women's Committee. **CASH Accepted.**



Donations must be turned
 in by August 01, 2025.

CONTACT THE UNION HALL AT 860-568-3000 Or
 THERÈSE HERVIEUX at 860-280-8459



ITEMS NEEDED:

Pencils, Pens, Crayons (regular and skin toned), **Colored Pencils**,
1 Subject Spiral Notebooks,
Markers, Highlighters, Erasers,
Glue Sticks, 12" Rulers, Folders,
Pencil Boxes/Pouches