



Update IAM LL 1943

December 1, 2010



Election Information

Absentee voting begins at 1:00 p.m. today at the Union Hall. Absentee voting will continue from 7:30-noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday through December 8th. The last day of voting will be Thursday, December 9th from 6 a.m.-5 p.m. The votes will be counted at the VFW Social Center on 5049 Central Avenue across from Eastern Bowling Lanes. All members in good standing, including any members on sick leave, vacation, layoff with recall rights, or whose discharge is under grievance, will be eligible to vote as long as they were hired and applied for membership before September 10th, 2010. Service charge employees are not eligible to vote. **Voting is your duty and your right as a member, and we encourage everyone to vote for the candidates of their choosing.**

Action Needed

Local Unions plan to pack Middletown City Council Chambers on Tuesday, December 7 at 5:30 p.m. As we reported last week, Council is considering a resolution urging the State of Ohio to rewrite collective bargaining law. Specifically they wish to void the arbitration process for public safety employees; who already do not have a legal right to strike. Without these rights, the City would be free to impose any terms they want on these Union members. We have been in contact with the firefighter's union, other unions, and IAM Local 2535 at Aeronca. Everyone in the local labor community realizes it is very important that we send a strong message to City Council to reconsider this resolution. **We need bodies at the City Building in Middletown Tuesday, December 7th at 5:30 p.m.!** If you are working 3-11's or otherwise find it impossible to make it Tuesday, the Ohio AFL-CIO has a link where you can e-mail Mayor Larry Mulligan, urging him to oppose the resolution. The link is http://act.aflcio.org/c/227/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=987 Those of you of who receive the newsletter via e-mail will receive this link along with your newsletter. A link will also be on our website, www.LL1943.org. Read the letter and if you approve the contents, send it to Mayor Mulligan.

Surveys

Next week we will begin distributing contract negotiation surveys to all members of the Union, through your Delegates/Stewards and Committeemen. This survey is different from the survey we conducted last year in that it is specifically tailored to get your opinion on what is important or essential to improve in our next contract. The IAM Strategic Resources Department will scan the surveys and tabulate the results. The results will be shared with the membership and will guide the Executive Board in contract negotiations. There will be space for you to write in additional comments to further communicate your priorities or offer more specific ideas on what you believe needs addressed. Take the time to fill out the survey and return it to your Union rep. This survey should not be shared with or talked about with **ANY** member of management. It is internal Union business of great importance to the entire membership. Loose lips sink ships.

Retiree Luncheon

This year's retiree luncheon will be held next Wednesday, December 8th at the DAV in West Middletown. The event starts at 10:00 a.m., and we are in need of members to volunteer. If you are interested in helping, please call Ed DeVault at 425-3679 ext. 14. Help spread the word to retirees you know who are not working in the mill, to spend time together with us next Wednesday.

Children's Christmas Show

This year's show will be held at Danbarry Cinemas on State Route 122 in Middletown next Saturday, December 11th. Admission is free, toys will be raffled, and Santa will make an appearance. We do not yet have a listing of movies. The doors will open around 8:30 a.m. We hope to see everyone there!

Grievance Report

We have 283 grievances in the system and await one answer from an arbitrator. Two members are discharged. Eleven Step II's are scheduled for next Friday, and 24 cases are scheduled for arbitration. We have 93 cases in the court system to compel the Company to arbitrate.

Vote Absentee 7:30-Noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m. today through next Wednesday

Vote 6:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 9th

Your Executive Committee

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Website: www.LL1943.org

IAM LOCAL LODGE 1943

Interesting Read

Below is an article from the Parade Magazine by Connie Schultz. The article titled “The Place My Father Didn’t Want Me to See” was circulated during Labor Day weekend. After reading the article no one will have to point out the similarities to what we do, it is eerily familiar. We work in some of the nastiest, dirtiest, smelliest, darkest places known to man. We work long hours, rotating shifts, and deal with some of the most adverse conditions. It is during these times you can’t help but stop and ask yourself “why?”. The answer is because “they” depend on us. “They” can have many meanings. To some “they” are our wife and kids. “They” can also be the entities that rely on our tax dollars. The Police and Fire Departments that keep us safe or the school systems that provide our children with the education they need to succeed. Whatever face you attach to “They”, one thing is for sure; “They” need us. It is working class Americans like yourselves that keep this country going. Your hard work, long hours, and resiliency set the example for the generations to come. As your Union we ask you to stand tall, hold your head high. Even if you can’t always say you are proud of who you work for, be proud of what you do! No matter how big or how small, every job in this mill contributes to the final product going out the gates. Be proud of your work, be proud of making steel, and be proud to be a Union Member.