



Update IAM LL 1943

January 20, 2010



ON THIS DATE IN 1943 THE AEIF WAS FOUNDED.

News From Other AK Plants

Every two months, we meet with union presidents from AK's other facilities. Butler reports having 1260 active members, no hiring of new employees, improvement in stainless sales, and much lower shipments of electrical steel to NAFTA customers. Their contract does not expire until October 2012. Ashland reports having 751 active members, 130 new hires, no moperators, and 1400 grievances. Their blast furnace is running at full capacity, and they report difficulty getting jobs posted that the new hires are working. Their contract is the next to expire in September of 2010. Ashland's two coke plants have roughly 230 members and are represented by a separate Local, whose president was unable to attend. Their contract expires in October 2011. Coshocton reports having 339 active employees, and no contractors working in the plant. Their members just approved a 3 year extension to the current contract with a \$1000 signing bonus in each year. No other changes were made to the contract. Mansfield reports having 250 members, no one currently laid off, and some hiring. Most of their members were laid off for over half the year in 2009. They expect some layoffs later this year. Zainesville reports having 213 members, with 150 currently laid off. Of those 150 laid off, roughly 40 are on voluntary layoff. This is the only AK plant with layoffs at this time. Their contract expires in May 2012. Rockport reports having 199 members, and some hiring to replace workers who have decided to work for Thyssen Krupp in Alabama. They continue to report difficulties with their plant manager and their contract does not expire until 2013. We reported having 1655 members at AK Steel, difficulty with getting jobs posted, and improving production in most of our departments. We have 60 new hires, with 8 in maintenance. Our contract expires after Ashland's and Mansfield's in September of 2011. Throughout the Company, there are roughly 4900 hourly employees, with 150 laid off in Zainesville, and active hiring at 4 plants.

Biggest Loser

Forms can be found at the Union Hall, Benefits Office, and Medical building. This year's 12-week competition starts the first week of February and ends on April 30th. Pick a team name and turn in the forms to Medical by January 31. Initial weigh-ins will take place on Tuesday, February 2 through Friday, February 5. Weekly weigh-ins will follow on your choice of Thursday or Friday of each week. You can weigh-in at any time of the day or night before or after work. Weekly prizes will be given to the team that loses the most weight and the team that loses the most combined percentage of body weight. At the end of the competition the team winning each category will receive \$250 per team member. As long as you weigh-in at least 9 of the 12 weeks you will receive a t-shirt at the end of the competition. Towne Athletics offers discounts to AK employees, with membership rates starting at \$15 per month. Forest Hills also has a few exercise machines in their weight room to help your team win the competition. Good luck!

Dealing With AK Medical

Article X Section A 2 of our contract states, "Whenever the Company Physician detects a medical condition which, in his judgment, requires further medical attention, the Company Physician shall advise the employee of such condition or advise him to consult with his personal physician." We have three recent incidents at AK Medical which illustrate the importance of understanding this language. Two involved employees injured at work who received stitches performed at AK Medical. **If you are injured on the job, the Company Physician may examine you, but you are not required to be treated at AK's facility.** We recommend you obtain treatment from a licensed physician whose only concern is your well being. Another member was sent out for a drug screen, which he passed. AK Medical detected high sugar in his urine and gave him a blood "stick test" to check for sugar. They felt his sugar levels were too high and sent the member home. The contract provides for medical to advise the employee of the sugar in his urine, not to require a blood test. The employee was within his rights to refuse the stick test and see his own personal physician about the situation if he so desired.

Grievance Log

There are 216 active grievances in the system and we await answers on 5 cases. Nine members are discharged. We have 10 step II's scheduled this week, and 25 cases are scheduled for arbitration. 93 cases are still in the court system with the Company appealing the court's order to arbitrate.

Your Executive Committee

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