



# Update IAM LL 1943

January 6, 2010



## **Sad News**

Michael Lange, a seven-year member from Steelmaking Operations, passed away Friday, January 1st at his home in Trenton from an apparent heart attack. Michael leaves behind three adult children and a wife of 27 years. He was a brother-in-law to Jimmy Gross in Track Repair. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family as they try to deal with his untimely death. Michael was only 47 years old.

## **Clark Steel Update**

We continue to meet with the Company in an effort to bargain successfully over the effects of the plant closure. We are discussing severance pay, accrued vacation, health insurance, and issues surrounding the 401 (k) plan. We will be meeting with the Company again this Friday.

## **Biggest Loser Is Back**

You might want to hold off on that New Years resolution to lose weight because the Biggest Loser competition is coming soon. During our last competition two years ago, we had 59 teams of 4 members each who lost over two tons of weight. (to be sure, most of it was all muscle) This year's 12-week competition starts the first week of February and ends on April 30th. Here is how it works. Find three co-workers (the bigger the better) and fill out a registration form and workers compensation release. Your team can be made up of any combination of hourly, salary, male or female. (Those who had a surgical weight loss procedure during the last twelve months are ineligible to participate.) 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. Registration forms are available at the Union Hall, Benefits Office, or Medical Department. They will also be available at toolbox meetings starting soon, and your delegate may also have copies. The previous competition worked well for everyone, in particular the teams "Pie Are Squared" and "The Average Joes" won the \$2000, and several weekly prizes. Young or old, man or woman, big or small, most all of us could stand to drop a few pounds. Why not do so and have the Company pay for it at the same time?! Get your team together today.

## **Benefit For Aidan Lee Truett**

Members of the Steelmaking Department have planned a benefit in memory of Aidan Lee Truett at the DAV in West Middletown, starting at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday January 16th. The Truett family is dealing with the loss of their one-year old son and unexpected expenses. This benefit will include a spaghetti dinner, live music, and karaoke for only \$5 per person or \$8 per couple. There will be a 50/50 and other merchandise to bid on during the night. Take your spouse out for an inexpensive meal and fun for the evening and at the same time support a union brother in need.

## **Grievance Log**

We have 211 active grievances in the system and await answers on 5 cases. Seven members are discharged, and thirty arbitrations are scheduled. There are still 93 cases in the court system that AK has appealed the lower courts ruling to arbitrate.

## **AEIF Labor History**

The AEIF was chartered on January 20, 1943. The first agreement was reached on December 7, 1944, three years to the day after our nation was attacked at Pearl Harbor. The agreement was 71 pages long and contained 25 articles. 29 delegates came from departments such as open hearth, fabricating, alloy plant, and "colored at large". Shift differentials were \$.04 for 3-11's and \$.06 for 11-7's. There were 6 holidays. (No Christmas Eve, day after Thanksgiving, Good Friday or Martin Luther King Day.) Employees with more than 5 years of service received 2 weeks vacation. There were no health benefits or pension although there was sick leave and life insurance. Under Safety was this tidbit, "An injured employee, while in a condition of shock following the accident, shall not be interrogated by management, except the medical department."

## *Your Executive Committee*

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