

SOAR

Feb. 9, 2016

1:30 p.m.

President Jerry Redington called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Roll Call of officers was taken with all present except Wayne Komprood and Gary Kraft. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as read.

The Treasurer gave her report. Geri reported that we have increased our donations to the Toys for Tots each year for several years. Over \$600 was given during the Insurance informational meeting for retirees.

The regular order of business was suspended so we could listen to our speaker. President of the Local, Don Hill, reported what is happening at the tire plant. Sales on tires have not been good so the members don't always get 40 hours a week. There are 90 on layoff at this time. When they have been laid off for two years they will be terminated and this should begin to happen in the near future. Forty-two members retired last year and so far five in 2016 leaving the work force at about 300. Health insurance now cost members about \$100 per week. Anyone needing tractor or ATV tires should contact the Union with the possibility of purchasing directly from the plant. Tours of the plant can be arranged for interested groups.

Don also said that negotiations at Valspar are progressing. There are about 50 workers. The School District employees have about 150 members and do not negotiate their contract until 2017.

Jerry announced that VEBA trustees will be meeting Mar. 14.

We hope to update the website and Facebook pages with new information.

Several retirees have passed away this month.

A card will be passed around for signatures to thank Tony Balsamo for his time and effort as the Benefit Rep. Tony retired in January after many years of service. Benefit Representative duties are being handled by Don Hill and Mary Meier.

Leo Patterson was collecting information about his life insurance from Goodyear. He suggested people might want to track this down now while you have time and memory of what you should have.

Susan suggested that we begin our plans for the Retiree picnic. Geri Hendren will contact Willie Kreeger and Larry Dyson to see if they can help. A reservation will be made for the Jane Addams Center in Cedarville in either May or June. We will finalize the rest of the plans at a later date.

Gary Allen's name was drawn for the Attendance prize. He was not present. The sum will be \$125 next month. The purpose of this prize was to encourage members to come but it does not seem to have helped. It was suggested that we reconsider this promotion.

We adjourned at 2:45 p.m. A fellowship time followed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Walt, Secretary