



March 28, 2013
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5 Ways to Contact your Union

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United Steelworkers

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The Classifieds

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN

by Cecelia Stacy

As many may know, I had the opportunity to attend a "Women Of Steel" workshop held in Pittsburgh, PA, March 10th through the 13th.

We opened the event by have a "Stuffed Purse" collection. We were asked to bring a purse that would be given away full of necessities such as toiletries, hand sanitizer, combs and brushes, tooth paste and toothbrushes, and the list could go on and on. Let me take a moment and say that the numbers were great, there was 1,000 women at this 70th Anniversary event. There were too many purses to count. All the purses and their contents were donated to the victims of hurricane Sandy.

There was a choice of 21 classes and since our contract ends June 30, 2013, "Basic Collective Bargaining and Understanding a Collective Bargaining Agreement" was one I welcomed with open arms. This workshop helped me better understand the components of a collective bargaining agreement: why certain words are used, what to avoid, and what is required. I'm grateful for the experienced leadership we have within our GNC Team. Thank you Mary Jane Zimmerman, Jacqueline O'Neal, and Lori Holden. I also was able to take a class on "Arbitration case/Study Review". From this workshop,

I was educated on what could turn a case one way or the other, why one might rule one way or another, and the opportunity to learn skills of arbitration.

Our newsletter is just one source of our social media contacts, it is our desire to effectively reach different audiences not only through our monthly newsletter but through our web site and face book as well (usw745.org)

I've been chosen to Chair the Women of Steel committee. It's my desire to get more women engaged in an organization that builds power and solidarity.



In Unity there is strength; we can move mountains when we're united and enjoy life. Without unity we are victims. Stay United!

IMRF Seminar

Jon Renner will present an Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Seminar on Saturday, April 27, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Freeport Public Library. Please contact Mary Jane Zimmerman at 815-235-3895 or Cecelia Stacy at 815-908-9814, if you are interested in attending.

**Highlights of District 145
Unit Membership Meeting**
March 12, 2013

Report of Membership

Actions: Our President, Dale Sandell, reported that no board action was taken and focus was given to the contract. Titan Tire's contract had run out November 17, 2012 and a new four year contract was just agreed upon. This new contract allows for a small increase in wages, a vacation increase, and most importantly, the highest pension of all the USW plants. Congrats to Titan Tire!

Committee Reports:

GNC- We have one grievance at level 3 and two at arbitration level. Our first arbitration case has a date set for May 22. This is also a contract year. Your GNC committee has been hard at work reviewing the current contract and negotiating for a new contract for next year.

Advisory Council- Set to meet in April.

Old Business: Questions concerning the Obama Healthcare Program is a concern for many of our members. As we get answers, we will give them to you. No news to report at this time.

New Business:

Women of Steel Conference- Our Unit Chair, Cecelia Stacy, attended a Women of Steel Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from March 10 to March 13. Cecelia said it was a very empowering trip for her and she was able to attend seminars on arbitration and contract & negotiations. Thank you, Cecelia, for all you are doing for our unit!

IMRF Workshop- Do you know how your IMRF benefits work? Our USW unit is presenting a Global Benefits Workshop presented by Jon Renner, on April 27, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at the Freeport Public Library.

Reservations are needed by April 11 and spouses are encouraged to attend. Look for more information to follow soon.

*Respectfully submitted,
LuAnne Beintema
Unit Secretary*

**United We Bargain,
Divided We Beg . . .**



Global Solidarity

Homemade Laundry Detergent

Mary Jane Zimmerman

1 bar of FEL-NAPTHA (soap)
(Available at Farm & Fleet in laundry section)

1 c. Borax

1 c. Washing Soda

a big pot (that holds more than 2 gallons)

2 empty gallon jugs/containers

2 gallons water (divided)

Grate bar of soap into pot. (Food processor works great)

Fill one gallon jug with water and pour into pot with grated soap. Cook until grated soap dissolves. Stirring often. When dissolved, stir in the Borax and Washing Soda. Bring to a boil, stirring often, it will coagulate. Turn off the heat. Add 1 gallon of cold water. Stir well. Let set until cool. Stir occasionally while cooling. When cool, stir well and pour into the gallon jugs. A funnel helps tremendously in filling jugs.

I use 1/2 cup per load. Detergent tends to separate between use; shake well before using. This won't make many, if any, suds. Suds don't equal clean. This is great for machines using 'he' detergent. Estimated cost is \$6.00 for 576 loads (depending on cost of the 3 ingredients and usage per load).

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**This Month's
Events**

Date: April 9
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Freeport Public Library
District 145 Membership Meeting

Date: April 14
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Union Office
Local 745 Membership Meeting

Date: April 16
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Administrative Building
Administrative Board Meeting

Date: April 27
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Freeport Public Library
IMRF Workshop

**Next Month's
Events**

Date: May 14
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Freeport Public Library
District 145 Membership Meeting

Date: May 19
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Union Office
Local 745 Membership Meeting

Date: May 21
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Administrative Building
Administrative Board Meeting

SPOTLIGHT ON:

Jermaine Ferguson

Jermaine is from Carpentersville, Illinois, and graduated from Dundee-Crown High School. He went to college at Robert Morris College, Judson College on a basketball scholarship for 2 years. He was stranded in Freeport when his car broke down. Jermaine feels this time was a blessing for him. During this time, he was introduced to a young lady, who became his wife. Jermaine and Estacia have been married for 10 years and have four children – Tremir (14), Jevon (8), Jayla (6) and Janessa (5).

"I love playing with my kids. They are my life."

Jermaine likes cooking, waterparks, sports – especially basketball and the Bulls, camping and hanging out with family and friends. When asked what he likes about his job he says he loves the kids and the awesome staff at Lincoln Douglas.

Jermaine is a hard worker, and is always willing to help where it is needed. He has worked with special needs children for 8 years – 4 years at Willowglen and four years as a Paraeducator with the Freeport School District. In 2009, he worked at S.I.T.E.; during 2010, he worked at Center School; and in 2011 he came to Lincoln Douglas.

"I love my job and the people I work with." Jermaine is great with the children he works with and is greatly respected and appreciated by the students and the staff at Lincoln Douglas.

Thank you Jermaine for all you do for the students of the Freeport School District. Thank you for being a member of the team at Lincoln Douglas!

SOAR Retiree's Minutes

Mar. 12, 2013

1:30 p.m.

Vice President Jerry Redington called the meeting to order. The February meeting minutes were approved as read. The treasurer's report was given and approved.

Geri Hendren announced that when she registered online for Silver Scripts she had a problem going on as a spouse. When she called the help line they said she should select self not spouse and then all went well. Jerry Redington said that they were working with Silver Scripts and CVS about various problems. The contract stated that there would be performance guarantees and it is felt this criterion has not been met. CVS may be fined for this breach of contract. One item is the automatic refill which was not to be available. Geri Hendren thinks this has been corrected.

Local President Dale Sandell spoke about the 50th anniversary of the tire plant. There will be an open house on April 20 for members and retirees to visit along with their families. Anyone wanting to help with guiding people around can call Ann Frint. Also call Ann for a reservation to the open house.

Dale also spoke of the upcoming ratification of the contract. All three locals will vote and will determine pass or not for their group.

President Larry Dyson is ill today. Jerry wanted to thank him for his work last meeting in explaining how to get registered online for CVS and Silver Scripts.

Jerry thinks that if we do a recycling program we might need to open it up to the union membership in order to make it worthwhile for the Stockton recycling company to run it.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Ron Duchow as a Trustee replacing Thomas Wild. The motion passed. Next meeting Ron will be sworn into office.

Helen Fullerton said that Barb Schrader is with her son and needs further surgery. Hank Page's wife is working through paperwork after Hank's death. Maury Taylor was in the paper because of his letter to the French government. Jerry said he enjoyed his time in Texas with warm weather. We received a letter from Salvation Army thanking us for our donations. A certificate was included.

It was suggested that we have Bill Wagner speak about RAMP.

A question was raised about paid up life insurance from Goodyear. You should talk to Tony Balsamo to see the amount as it differs from when you retired.

We adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Susan Walt, Recording Secretary

JUST FOR GRINS

Polish Divorce

A Polish man moved to the USA and married an American girl. Although his English was far from perfect, they got along very well. One day he rushed into a lawyer's office and asked him if he could arrange a divorce for him. The lawyer said that getting a divorce would depend on the circumstances and asked him the following questions:

"Have you any grounds?" *"Yes, an acre and half and nice little home."*

"No, I mean what is the foundation of this case?" *"It made of concrete."*

"I don't think you understand. Do either of you have a real grudge?"

"No, we have carport and not need one."

"I mean, What are your relations like?" *"All my relations still in Poland."*

"Is there any infidelity in your marriage?" *"We have hi-fidelity stereo and good DVD player."*

"Does your wife beat you up?" *"No, I always up before her."*

"Why do you want this divorce?" *"She going to kill me."*

"What makes you think that?" *"I got proof."*

"What kind of proof?" *"She going to poison me. She buy a bottle at drugstore and put on shelf in bathroom. I can read, and it say: 'Polish Remover'".*

March 28 , 2013

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Deborah Triplett	Empire	4
Jennifer Gustafson	Blackhawk	8
Mary Jane Zimmerman	Carl Sandburg	11
Doris Cline	Carl Sandburg	15
Sally Schnell	Blackhawk	18
LuAnne Beintema	FMS	20
Vicki Gorham	Carl Sandburg	24
Connie Bollon	Senior High	29
Tamilla Stidman	Empire	30

Friends and Family Discount Program

A Friends and Family Program Discount card can be picked up at the Union office at 2496 E. Maize Road or by contacting a G.N.C. member. Area participating businesses include: Butitta Brothers, CarQuest, Brightflower Nursery, Rock Hollow Conservation Club, Dairy Queen, 4 Seasons Bowling, Loescher Heating, Hampton Inn, Cimino's Little Italy, Art Ross Glass, Amsoil, Carlson Canine Camp, Freeport Quiznos, and Auto Logic.