



# Activity Report

*a brief communication from your union*

*May 18, 2017*

Good news for Freeport! The vote for ratification of the contract that we have been negotiating since October has passed on Wednesday in all three locations. The signing bonus is being processed and will be passed out before the end of May in a separate check. This is a bonus for signing the contract and not earnings and will be paid separate from your weekly earnings. This has been a long process and I want to thank everyone for all the support you have given the Negotiating Team. Thank You!

Last week on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Lon Feary and I attended the joint Union/Management Safety and Health Conference in Michigan City, Indiana. The two day conference contained a General Session and then three workshops followed each day. 3M Fall Protection, Silica Hazards, Toolbox Kit, Electrical Safety, and How to Look for Trouble were the workshops we attended. All workshops were information filled, but Looking For Trouble, was in my opinion, the best. A Management Safety and Health Program that looks at safety somewhat differently. The presenter Nancy Lessin stated, "*Some employers base their safety programs around a set of simple rules and think they have done enough. They become so fixed on enforcing the rules and punishing violators they overlook the hazards that the rules don't cover and the impediments that get in the way of following the rules. Workers are fearful of reporting accidents if they think they will be disciplined.*" Sound familiar?

The mesothelioma questionnaire and sign-up sheets are still available at the union hall. We have sent back the first set of applications and will send back the remaining filled forms in late May, so there is still time to submit yours if you so desire. Once we return the forms to the lawyers it is now in their hands to when the testing may occur and notice to you will come from them.

I would like to welcome all the new or rehired members that have come aboard in the last couple of months, good luck to you in your new career at Titan.

The next Union meeting is this Sunday, the 21<sup>st</sup>. Union meetings are usually the second Sunday of the month at 9 a.m., this month was an exception due to Mother's Day last week. See everyone there!

Mary is in the office Monday and Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help with any concerns or needs. I am available daily from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. 815-235-9713.

*Fraternally,  
Don Hill, President*

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United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

2496 E. Maize Road Freeport, IL 61032 Phone: 815/235-9713 Fax: 815/232-7762  
E-mail address: [uswlocal745@comcast.net](mailto:uswlocal745@comcast.net) Website: [www.usw745.org](http://www.usw745.org)