



Activity Report

a brief communication from your union

May 3, 2016

Upcoming events for May: The Kentucky Derby is May 7, Mothers Day is May 8, and Memorial Day is May 30. The GNC will be going to Merrillville to meet with the other two Titan plants and Director Millsap on the 26 and 27 to start going over areas of the contract in which we have concerns. Yes, it is that time of the year! The GNC has been working on areas of concern in the contract to address in negotiations; surveys will be put together over the next two months to also gather areas of contract concerns from membership.

The retirees are having their picnic at the Jane Addams Center in Cedarville on May 15 starting at noon. Everyone is invited to attend and there will be door prizes along with prizes for bingo. If you are planning on attending you can RSVP to the Union office, 815-235-9713. A dish to pass would be appreciated of either a salad or dessert. Willie Kreeger will once again be helping in organizing this event.

Birthday meetings were held Thursday, April 28, and Steve Strauss reported a slight uptick in the market that should reduce the short work weeks for the near future.

Valspar's contract expired in January. Negotiations were a good warm up for our Titan contract and I have been spending time wrapping up and getting the required signatures to make it official. Their contract had to be extended three times as Valspar membership voted down the agreement twice before it passed on the third attempt. The final signatures were in place April 26, so now it is off to the printers.

The GNC has worked on an agreement with the company that spells out how sign up for less than a 40 hour work week should work. This 60 day trial agreement makes the system consistent across the entire plant.

I have seen more and more members at the Union office talking retirement. If and when considering your retirement, you should think about starting your pension paperwork 30 days prior to your desired retirement date. Planning ahead makes this a smoother transition and any problems can be handled before your actual retirement takes place. An estimate of your retirement income can be done at any time by filling out a simple form and sending it to the steelworker retirement. Mary is in the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and I will help you on Wednesdays where we can be reached at 815-235-9713.

In the month of April we have had two new retirees: Richard Grindey and Ron Bickford. I congratulate them on their new life outside of Titan and wish them luck in their retirement.

The next E-board meeting will be pushed back to May 11 because of Mother's Day on May 8 with the membership meeting on May 15.

Ken Wolfe will be in the office on Monday, May 23, from 1:15 till 3:45 p.m. for worker's comp issues.

*Fraternally,
Don Hill, President*

It is next year! The Cubs finished April with the best record in baseball; 17wins-5 losses.

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