



# Activity Report

*a brief communication from your union*

*August 30, 2016*

The GNC spent last Wednesday, August 24 disposing grievances, and Thursday and Friday, August 25 and 26 in Merrillville, Indiana meeting with Director Mike Millsap.

Kevin Kirk, Cecelia Stacy from Unit 1(school), and I attended the District 7 Conference August 10 – 12 in Michigan City, Indiana. There was a lot of politics with the election season being the main topic covered. While Hillary and Donald were the lead topic, we heard speeches from Tammy Duckworth, Fred Redmond and several candidates for seats in Indiana. We discussed the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and how the agreement allows multi-national corporations to circumvent labor and environmental regulations, agreeing that in the end the only way to protect workers' rights is to elect labor friendly candidates who are willing to stand up to the large corporations. The conference summarized this deal as a way for the large corporations to invest in any country they want with the least amount of interference or regulations. Not good for us!

Just a reminder, Bargaining takes place at the bargaining table with the Negotiating Committee, not on the factory floor! If any form of bargaining with management is happening while you are at work let a GNC member or me know.

The realigning of the maintenance department happened the first of August with Special Power out of the plant on Friday, July 22; the realignment is to handle those jobs the outside contractors had been doing along with streamlining the maintenance needs of the plant. Hopefully it has been a smooth transition.

Many of you have questioned the whereabouts of this year's SPT report and why it has not been received as of this date. I have been in contact, in fact more than once, with Pittsburgh and they are telling me the merge of systems they recently went through was a larger undertaking than what they had first believed, and the reports would be sent when they could verify 100% it was correct. There have been glitches, in the meantime you can call 800-848-1953 and tell them you want your annual statement, and they will send it to you.

During the month of August, we have had 6 new retirees, and on August 31 all laid off members will have been issued their 24 month termination papers due to contract language.

I am still taking applications for anyone interested in becoming an E-board member as a Trustee. It's as simple as calling the office or letting me know if you are interested. The next E-board meeting is September 7 and the membership meeting is September 11.

Once again, if you are considering retirement you should start your paperwork 30 days in advance and if you decide to handle your retirement on your own, send paperwork registered mail and get a receipt, just in case!

*Fraternally,  
Don Hill, President*

Did you know there is about three times as much pressure in a bottle of champagne as there is in a car tire?

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