



ATU 1342 Newsletter

Charter Union Meeting

**August 10,
2016**
ATU Union Office
196 Orchard Park Rd.
West Seneca NY

**10:00 AM and
7:30 PM**

Agenda

- Regular Order of Business



President's Perspective

By: Vincent G. Crehan—President/Business Agent

This past month we continued our struggle for a fair contract. Please continue to call Kim Minkel at 855-7300 and leave her a message. Tell her you have been patient long enough and deserve a fair contract!

The rally we held on July 28, 2016 at the bus station went extremely well. Approximately 75 members showed up in support of our struggle. Buffalo City Comptroller Mark Schroeder showed up and spoke to the news in support of ATU Local 1342. He also joined other members upstairs to attend the NFTA Board of Commissioner meeting.

At that meeting, Vice Chair Peter Demakos attempted to silence me a couple of times. I protested and with the help of the new Chair, Sister Denise Roche, I was allowed to speak. I also read an impact statement demonstrating the hardships our members face due to the lack of raises. Executive

Director Kim Minkel thanked our members for all the hard work they do each and every day. A driver politely replied "a decent wage rate would be a better way to show her gratitude".

I just became aware of an interesting fact at the time of writing this article. Governor Andrew Cuomo receives an annual salary of \$179,000 for being the head of New York State. Kim Minkel receives \$200,000 annually for just running the NFTA! Just proof she knows how to take care of herself. Now if she would just take care of the 1100 employees who haven't received a wage increase in 8 years.

On August 3, 2016, International Vice Presidents Watson and Hamilton met with Lou Giardina (Metro's labor relations manager) to discuss our expired contract. They had a good discussion although nothing specific. They plan on meeting with

him again on August 22 or 23. I am all for it. It may help break the stalemate we are in with the company. Again, everything still has to be approved by the executive board and you, the membership.

We have also been busy reaching out to our elected officials, filling them in on the lack of meaningful negotiations on the company's part.

Finally, on August 9, 2016, we will be having another leafleting action at Coca Cola Field. This will start at 6:00 PM to 7:15 PM. It is NFTA's Employee Appreciation Night. If a union member would like to go to the game, sit in the NFTA section and wear an ATU shirt, the union will reimburse you \$7.00 for the ticket. All you need to do is hand in the ticket stub with a note you attended the game with your ATU shirt on and sat in the NFTA section.

Drive safe and enjoy the remainder of the summer.

Union Newspaper

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Alex is a 6th grade student with autism at the Boces North Tonawanda Learning Center. His teachers, Mrs. Guarnieri and Mrs. Sperazza started a newsletter to encourage their students to write about things that interest them. Alex chose to write about our new CNG buses. Here is his story.

Going to Buffalo on NFTA Metro CNG Bus

By Alex

It is summer and I'm going to Buffalo on NFTA Metro CNG Bus because it is so cool, new, lovely, and it is my best favorite ever vehicle in the world. It takes us to BNCC because I want to see a new NFTA Metro CNG Bus. It is the best happy place ever in the world too. After we go to BNCC, It takes us to Buffalo Food Court when it is time to eat lunch.

After we eat lunch, we get back on the bus. Suddenly, the bus driver became sick with Ebola and he asked me to drive the bus and do a very good job! I was so happy! I had never driven a bus before. Since I was too short and couldn't reach the brake and the gas, I had to move the seat closer and sit on a pillow so that my face could watch where I was going. Driving was good! The bus had such a large window for me to see where I was going. I decided to drive the bus to Martin's Fantasy Island in Grand Island! OMG there was a toll booth! Thank goodness, I had some money. The bridge was super-sized! People who saw me driving the bus looked so happy and couldn't believe that I would be a bus driver. When we got to Martin's Fantasy Island, I parked by all the buses without hitting any of them. All the people on the bus went in to ride on the fun rides. I took everyone to my favorite ride called the Full Tilt. We also went on Devil's Hole, the Mega Disco, and the Mind Warp. After we had fun, we went back to the bus and I drove everyone home. Then I went back to Buffalo and picked up more people that needed to go somewhere. This was a good day and I really liked being a bus driver!

When it was time to leave Fantasy Island I used a map to find all the passengers and tell them that it was time to leave. Back on the bus I told them to talk with others and sing to the music while enjoying the view. I got them home safe and I knew where all their homes were. Then I took my bus to my house because I liked it. I hope the bus driver will drive another bus instead of mine! When I got home I ate dinner, played and watched videos on an iPad. After dinner I went outside and played with Masha in the backyard and went to bed.





**A Message From
Kathryn Ehrig
Financial Secretary/Treasurer**



At the July 2016 meeting, the executive board had a lengthy discussion regarding delinquent dues. In the past, the Special Purpose Fund was used to help members who are off indefinite cover their per capita (dues to the International) after a member was out for 6 or more months. The income from the vending machines can no longer cover the cost of the per capita.

At this time the cable and DirecTV at all locations is being paid by the union from the Special Purpose account. A motion was made and passed that effective July 2016, members will now be responsible to pay the dues in full,

and after 6 months, the amount of the per capita which is now \$15.10 per month. Starting with the first calendar month you are out and continuing until your return. According to the International By-Laws, if you have not paid at least the per capita for two months, you would be suspended from membership. We will be sending out letters to the members that are out currently.

We did speak with the vending company and they are going to start putting card readers on the machines so we can start using credit and /or debit cards in the near future. If you have problems or complaints with the vending

machines please contact your board member or call the union office @ 716-825-9217.

The rally on July 28th was well attended. Thank you to all who were there. The WNY-AFL-CIO have promised their support and they have been there as well.

Anyone interested in attending the Labor Day parade please contact your Board member or the office. We need to know how many as soon as possible.

Deceased Members

Charles Franclemont—7/10/16

John Bona—7/11/16

James Kennedy—7/26/16

James Kanalley—8/2/16

Metro Anniversaries

Ball, Ricky	15	Evans, Sheila	27	Lewis, Shirley	15	Richardson, Glenda	24
Barrett, Adam	13	Evans, Demetrius	11	London, Takesha	5	Rivera, George	13
Bates, Jeffrey	2	Everett, John	16	Mariea, Robert	1	Rolon, Gemark	9
Beckwith, Gregory	3	Fitzgerald, Patrick	34	Mathews, Janice	22	Sargent, Mark	12
Bigaj, Steven	8	Fuller, Robert	37	McCarley, David	15	Scarano, Richard	20
Bishop, Leonard	7	Gibbs, Keith	15	McKinney, Jennifer	1	Sharp, Connell	15
Boice, Frank	25	Hall, John	32	Medero, Jose	3	Sirianni, Joseph	33
Borden, Christian	3	Harris, Tito	17	Mencia, Rafael	1	Sitek, Gary	5
Carter, Shawn	9	Heft, Edward	11	Montanez, Estella	9	Smith, Kimberley	7
Caruana, Dennis	9	Hoffarth, Lucas	5	Moss, Jeffrey	7	Taylor, Tracy	9
Cason, Michael	13	Hoffman, Kevin	7	Musgrove, Henry	2	Trietley, Kevin	19
Castellano, Ramon	5	Holt, Michael	9	Nieves, Jose	6	Wagner, Kenneth	9
Chihanick, David	24	Hundley, Jerome	22	O'Melia, Patrick	12	Walczak, Brad	15
Clarke, Kevin	5	Jones, Samuel	11	O'Shensky, Mary	15	Ware, Terrance	15
Culp, John	35	Jones, Retha	3	Pellish, Galen	25	Waters, Robert	5
Dierolf, Mark	5	Keith, Marlon	15	Pieszala, Eric	6	Williams, Jerome	25
Druzvik, Darren	9	Krauss, Shawn	6	Pollutro, Jerome	16	Zeigler, Robert	1
Dudziak, John	12	Lawrence, Kalvin	5	Pontrello, Joseph	5	Zipp, David	6



Balistieri, James	Curry, Gwendolyn	Holt, Michael	Moore, Bruce	Scott, Bruce
Ball, Richard	Daniels, Javan	Horton, Michael	Mule, Frank	Sebastian, John
Barrett, Adam	Data, Julian	Jackson, Damon	Neuner, Shawn	Shanley, David
Bartlemus, Ronald	Davis, Doreen	Jenkins, Eugene	Norman, Larry	Shepard, Roy
Bauer, Mark	Davis, Tahje	Johnson, David	O'Connell, Patrick	Simmons, Tawana
Beal, Keith	Diaz, Victor	Johnson, Kenneth	O'Shensky, Mary	Skulski, Norman
Beal, Vernon	Duckworth, Glenn	Jones, Carieta	Overton, Raymond	Smith, Carla
Beckwith, Gregory	Dudziak, John	Kanalley, Brian	Parker, Kenya	Spencer, Clyde
Berry, Michael	Duffin, Dawn	Kennedy, Alzo	Pawlowski, Kevin	Terry, Kevin
Biniszkiewicz, Steve	Elia, Alexander	Krause, Raymond	Price, Barbara	Tirado, Jose
Boykin, Charles	Epps, Aisha	Kuehne, Peter	Priore, Lawrence	Vincent, Ronald
Brown, Anthony	Esford, Robert	Lewis, Michael	Reid, Sheila	Ware, Terrance
Brown, Clifton	Gauss, Jeffrey	Lewis, Shirley	Riehle, Brian	Weiss, Jason
Carter, Shawn	Graves, Tiawan	Lipman, Ivy	Rivera, George	Williams, Lawrence
Castellano, Ramon	Griffin, Willie	Mack, Kareemah	Rivera, Ricardo	Wrobel, Michael
Confer, Marygrace	Hawkins, Bryan	Martin, Michael	Rogalski, Joseph	Young, Murray
Conner, Joan	Hayek, Richard	Mathewson, Charles	Schaefer, Kenneth	Young, Kathleen
Coy, Kenneth	Henry, George	McKnight, Richard	Schoenle, James	