



ATU 1342 Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 9

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September 2017

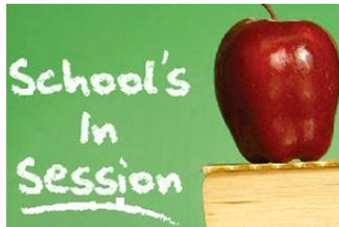
Charter Union Meeting

September 13th
ATU Union Hall
196 Orchard Park Rd.
West Seneca NY

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

Agenda

Regular order of
Business
Discuss and vote on
increase to employee
pension contribution



Drive Safely

From the President's Desk

By: Jeff Richardson

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of Labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contribution workers have made to strength, prosperity, and well-being of our Country.

Through the years, the nation gave increasing emphasis to Labor Day. The first Government of recognition came through Municipal Ordinance passed during 1885 and 1886. From these, a movement developed to secure

State Legislation. The first State Bill was introduced in the New York Legislature, but the first to become law was passed by Oregon on February 21, 1887. Four more States, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York, created the Labor Day Holiday by Legislative Enactment. By the end of the decade, Connecticut, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania followed suit. By 1894, 23 other States adopted the Holiday in honor of workers, and on June 28th of that year, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a le-

gal Holiday in the District of Columbia and the Territories.

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day Observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the Holiday for workers. Some records show that Peter J McGuire, General Secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and co-founder of the American Federation of Labor was the first in suggesting a day to honor those who from their rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold. It really doesn't matter who first started the labor movement,

Union Newspaper

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what's really important is that we enjoy benefits that the union has provided.

This month we had a bus in the Labor Day Parade. I would like to thank everyone who came out and gave their time and energy to marching in this Labor Day Parade, but next year let's make it bigger and better.

Also this month, we had union meetings with Coach USA in Erie Pennsylvania, and with Grand Island Tours in Lockport.

Alisha Morrison is doing a fabulous job as Union Executive Board Member for Coach USA. Murray Young is doing a fabulous job as Executive Board Member of Grand Island Tours. Both of those contracts have recently been settled.

As Chairman of the pension committee, here's an update on our pension. Since January of this year we've gained approximately \$18 million dollars, which is a huge plus. Go-

ing forward, we will still need to do more. I will keep you updated.

Lastly, I will continue to come out to the properties to speak to as many union workers as possible. There will be a notice generated with the dates that I will be at each location. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

In solidarity
Jeff Richardson



Happy Birthday



Andrzejewski, Thomas	Gajewski, Joseph	Lehsten, Christopher	Sahlem, Steven
Armster, Robert	Garcia, Bethzaida	Madden, Brian	Saraceno, Joseph
Augustiniak, LaQuita	Goldsmith, Wanda	Maple, Raymond	Sattelberg, Joanne
Bates, Jeffrey	Griffin, Kevin	McCabe, Joseph	Semrau, Lee
Berger, Bradley	Grimm, Randy	Mencia, Rafael	Sibiga, Michael
Boyd, Ledonia	Harper, Carl	Mercado, Michael	Smalls, Tyrone
Brown, Dwight	Hartzell, Alyssa	Miller, Angelo	Snell, Kenneth
Brunson, Jacob	Holmes, Janine	Moore, Raymond	Sweeney, Andrew
Carr, Shana	James, Kerry	Mullen Jr., Donald	Taylor, Tracy
Carson, Konji	Jeffords, Kenneth	Nesbitt, Classic	Tucker, Lisa
Cox, James	Jones, Reuben	Peters, Joseph	Vassallo, Thomas
Cremen, Donald	Joseph, Anthony	Reeves, Riel	Wacker, James
Cummings, Robert	Kanalley Jr. James	Reid, David	Wagner, Kenneth
Davis, Todd	Kelley, John	Rivera Jr., Miguel	Weber, Brian
Edmonds, Dawn	Kern, Joseph	Rogers, Daniel	Wheaton, Victoria
Fafara, Michael	Konidis, James	Rolling, Anthony	Whitney, Patrick
Ferguson, Bryan	LaMarca, Frank	Rose, John	Wilczak, Ronald
Gagnier, Randy	Lamarre, Wilfred	Ross, Ronald	Witkowski, Jason
			Zee, Lance



A Message From Charlie Sikora Financial Secretary/Treasurer



Imagine if America was devoid of unions. This shouldn't be hard. In much of America unions have already disappeared, and in the rest of the country they're battling for their lives.

Unions have been declining for decades. In the early 1950s, one out of three American workers belonged to a labor union, including the private sector. Today, only 11.8 percent of American workers are union members; and in the private sector, just 6.9 percent; this according to the Dept. of Labor statistics. The vanishing act varies by region-in the South, it's almost total.

Following the 2010 elections, a number of newly elected Republican governors and legislators in the industrial Midwest, a long-held union stronghold, moved to reduce labor's numbers to the levels of the South. The logic for this is very simple; labor is the chief source of funding and volunteers for their Democratic opponents. Voters are far more likely to vote Democratic if they belong to a union.

Former Indiana

Governor Mitch Daniels signed a "right to work" law giving nonunion members who enjoyed the benefits of a union contract the right to withhold dues to the union, making Indiana the first Midwestern state to pass such legislation. In Wisconsin, Governor Scott Walker also repealed those rights to public-sector workers. And when outraged union workers mounted a recall campaign against him, Walker beat them back handily.

Every Republican President from Richard Nixon right up to our current president has tried to split unions away their home in the Democratic Party with mixed results. Donald Trump might be the first to actually do it more permanently.

The Democratic Party should take this threat seriously. If Trump pulls it off, his incursion will indict Democrats for failing to protect their most important institutional connection to the working-class voters.

The way I see it, many Americans perceive the labor unions like the dinosaur finally shuffling

off to the graveyard. Unions don't have a large enough presence in the hottest and hippest sectors of the economy, in high-tech, fashion, and finance. The public image of labor is anywhere from 50 to 100 years old. Ford employees and management thugs fighting with baseball bats, Jimmie Hoffa testifying in front of congress over union corruption, the goons in "On the Waterfront. To the young, on most collage campuses, unions are a holdover from their great-grandparents' generation, speaking a language as incomprehensible as Old English.

But these images don't really conform to present reality. Today, there are millions more unionized teachers and nurses then unionized truck drivers and bus drivers. It's up to us all of to show those around us what unions are all about. To stop the infighting amongst each other and concentrate the fighting to where it belongs. And to teach our own children that being in a union is more than making a good buck.

Metro Anniversaries

Alford, Ruthetta	16	Hoisington, Anthony	4	Reid, Sheila	3
Billingslea, Antionette	3	Hyman, Moses	1	Rizzo, Michael	2
Boykin, Charles	3	Inglut, Andrew	31	Santana, Wilfredo	13
Brailsford, Christopher	3	Jones, Tamica	14	Scheuneman, Richard	6
Cahill, Michael	4	Juszkiewicz, Peter	5	Scime, James	5
Carr Jr, Joseph	33	Kennedy, Alzo	11	Scott Jr, Henry	5
Carr, Shana	3	King, Laquashia	2	Scott, Gerard	4
Cody, Daron	11	Kubisty, Celeste	6	Seiler, James	25
Coleman, Willie	10	Lumpkins, Demetrius	9	Shadwick, Jeremiah	17
Coleman, Brian	14	Maple, Kevin	3	Shingledecker, Paul	9
Cooper, Carmen	2	Markelonis, Michael	5	Skoczylas, Anthony	37
Depczynski, Robert	12	Mills, Thomas	2	Soto, Nicholas	6
Deperto, Darrick	12	Mule, Frank	7	Spence, Donald	24
Dimino, Joshua	1	Neal, Marquis	1	Stewart, Yvonne	14
Farrell, Shaun	10	Nobile, Shawn	4	Thomas, Theodore	4
Fraiser, Pagan	5	O'Connell, Patrick	31	Tirado, Michael	9
Galarza, Juan	11	Paddock, Jonathan	9	Tower, Jack	9
Garcia, Peggy	6	Pawlowski, Kevin	2	Vacanti, Michael	1
Giddens, Cotona	10	Penelton, Lamont	16	Wheaton, Victoria	3
Green, Demetrius	5	Pilarski, Alex	5	Wilkes, Toni	9
Green, Latia	1	Polasky, Melissa	4	Williams, Deborah	14
Hardy, Niles	1	Pufal, Joseph	6	Williams, Valdaz	3
Harge, Fred	10	Purdy, Jennifer	1	Wright, Laura	6
Harris, Gregory	1	Puryear, Shelley	16	Yash, David	6
Helm, Terrance	3				

Retired in September

Deborah Connolly

Victor Diaz

Deceased Members

Edwin Gray

8/14/17