

Local Lodge 1746

# insight

357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06108 — Telephone: 568-3000

August 2008 Volume 11, Issue 8

## “Steering Committee” Report



*“A 34% cut in our corporate ethics should return us to profitability.”*

The rationale is that the Airlines are in a crisis similar to 9-11-2001 or the SARS scare and the cause is the soaring cost of jet fuel. The present surplus is an adjustment to the workforce caused by declining orders for spares, pushing out orders for new hardware, and cancellation of routes. The effected areas are TMC, CANMC and HFB. By offering the Voluntary Separation Option the hope is to avoid involuntary lay-offs. The demand to extend the offer to Cheshire and offer transfers to that location was declined by the Company.

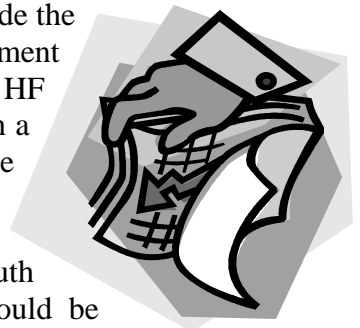
When asked directly about CARO and EHRO having anything to do with the present surplus the response was “No.” At this time the staffing levels are stable and conditions in CARO are improving. With that being said, the CARO situation is complicated by the fact that CARO is part of the same Seniority Area as TMC. The Union had requested that available capacity from TMC coatings be extended to CARO to avoid vending

coatings work but that was discounted by TMC Management. The Union had also requested CARO Management to review their “Gate Strategy” to bring some of the work back from vendors but that was turned down because they “do not want to jeopardize their improvements in turn times.”

The perception is that there is so much of our work out at vendors that any “adjustment to the workforce” should not be tolerated by the Union and in many areas there are demonstrated needs to add to the Bargaining Unit! At this time any proposal to add to the headcount for any area is shot down by the Company. The Union does have many unanswered questions for problem areas that have been raised at previous meetings and the Company made commitments to take action in the following areas:

- 1 Bring in work for Power Systems which we have not been doing. ( GG8 work from The Wood Group )
- 2 Have All General Managers reduce “Yellow Badge” contracts by a significant number.
- 3 Presented work sourced back to shops and work coming back by the end of the year in what is referred to as “Full Time Equivalents.”

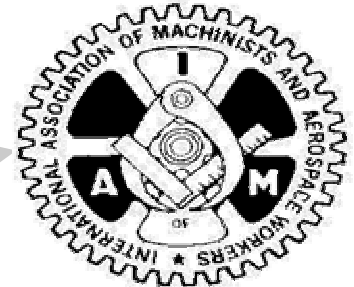
These commitments are responsive to issues that have been raised and “dampen” the present surplus, but the effect has yet to be seen in the shop. The outstanding issues to be addressed include the choice by CARO Management to permanently vend the HF Clean work which had been a Letter 22 discussion for the past 18 months and the utilization of what has become known as CAN-South for coatings work that should be done here.



*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from cover story*

The meeting concluded with a **MAJOR POINT OF CONTENTION** about the incorporation of the "indirect" Bargaining Unit Workers other than Facilities & Services into the job protection language in Letter 22. When asked about meetings for Materials, Tool Room and Machine Repair Groups, the response was "What meetings?" The incorporation of the Indirect Groups into Letter 22 Workplace Guarantees was **THE DECISIVE FACTOR** in resolving the contract in December! The Company did commit to a follow-up discussion on this but be at the ready Brothers and Sisters, we may be at **WAR** on this issue!



## Do you speak "SAFETY"?

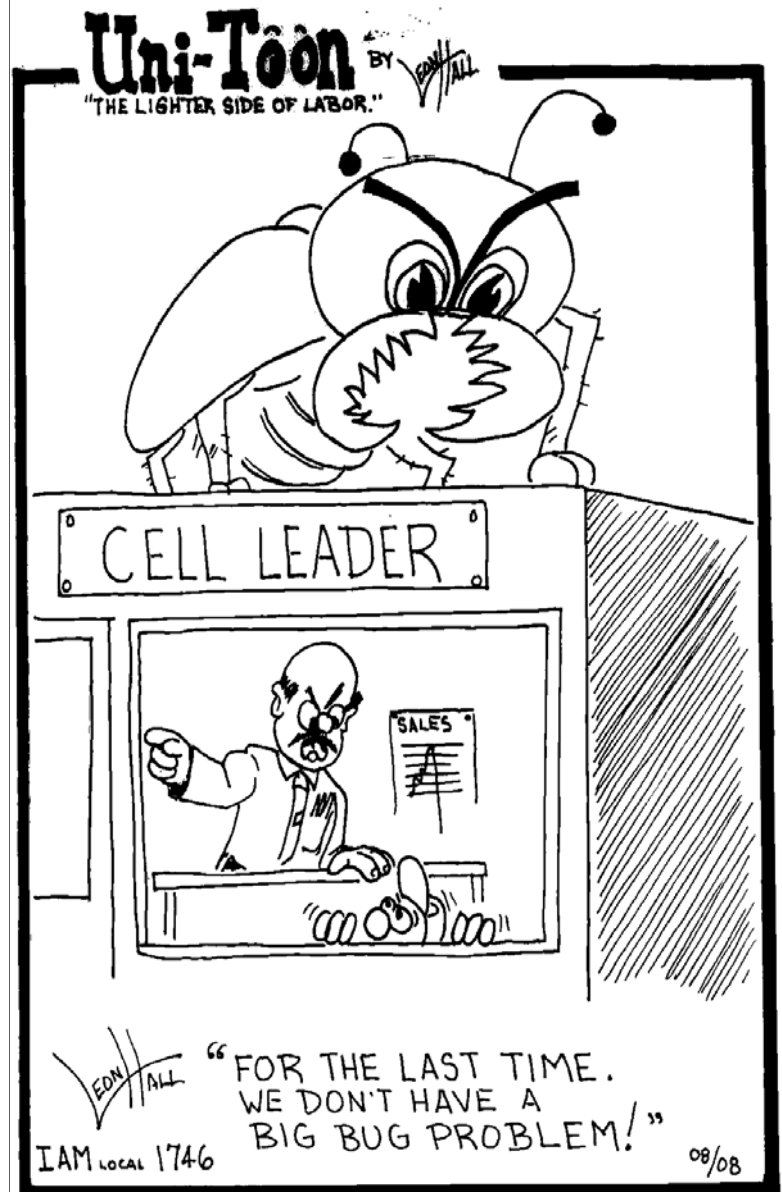


The Union and the Company have some joint committees that are dedicated to prevent and/or minimize injuries and illnesses.

One of these committees deals with Ergonomics issues, trying to look at issues from a proactive perspective instead of reacting to injuries as it was done in the past. There are many areas in the shop that have benefited by having new improved tools or by doing the work in a different way.

All of us are the eyes and the ears in the shop. If you suspect that your safety and wellbeing is compromised, or that of a co-worker, please let someone in your Ergonomic committee know so they can help you. If you do not know anyone let one of the Union Safety Reps know to get help.

Finally, consider joining the Voluntary Ergonomic committee or any of the other joint committees to make Pratt not only a better place to work, but also one that you can retire from in good health.



## An Open Letter to all Airline Customers''



It is about oil futures speculators, who have driven the price of oil up by about \$40 to 60 dollars a barrel. Their pee-pees need to be slapped or cut off by new legislation, which our testicle-less congress seems reluctant to enact.

This letter is from 12 major airlines. Signing up and would be helpful for all our members, as working people with mouths to feed. The costs of fuel is hurting us **all we need to take action** and hopefully we will get a response. This is an election year and a

good time to let our government know we have had enough corporate greed and will not stand by any longer. **TAKE ACTION NOW!**

We can also follow up with our legislative committee with congress and Senators.

The letter has logos of all 12 airlines, and signed by their CEOs. ***TELL CONGRESS TO ACT NOW TO LOWER ENERGY COSTS.*** The oil price bubble is unfairly taxing American families.

***Here is the web site address***

**WWW.STOPOILSPECULATIONNOW.COM**

- JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN
- SHARE YOUR STORY
- WARN FRIENDS
- LINK TO OUR SITE
- THE PROBLEM:  
Runaway Speculation
- THE SOLUTION:  
Reform Commodities Trading
- MEDIA CENTER:  
Press Releases & News
- POLICY BRIEFING ROOM:  
Tools for Legislators
- SOS NOW SUPPORTERS:  
About the Coalition

**SIGN UP FOR UPDATES**

***Go to the web site listed above and sign- up using  
Your Email.***



## “Cancer Study Update”

The report of the cancer study will be out sometime this fall. As of now the report is being put into a medical journal and being given to the Scientific Advisory Board for comment.

The Advisory board is made up of doctors, epide-

miologist and a person from the Machinists Union, This was a recommendation from the Director of safety and health Mike Flynn from the International. They have also been working closely with this project. The advisory board is not directly involved in the study, They over see the project and make sure it is

done correctly and with in the scope of it, .Once that is done, The union will get a brief and update of it and will be going over it with the researchers so they can explain it to us before the Annual town hall meeting.

We would like them to put all of this information in a form that we can all understand. At times,, researchers don't realize that they can get to technical.

I would like to thank, IAM International Director of Safety and Health Mike Flynn, our ADBR Jim Parent, Chiefs Chuck O'Neal, Rodney Conlogue and Paul Dickes and EH&S Representative George Livieri for there ongoing help in this project.

If any one has any concerns or issues please don't hesitate to contact me at anytime.

***Deb Belancik E mail***

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***860-565-4766 or from in shop, 5-4766***



## The Next Monthly Meeting is August 10th @11:00 am



### EAP Corner

For IAM Local Lodge 1746:  
P&W in  
East Hartford and UTC  
Power in South Windsor  
*Please feel free to contact me  
with any of your issues or  
concerns and know that it  
will be in  
total confidentiality.*  
Cell: 203-444-0267  
Pager: 860-708-4186  
Lenny Ward



### WEBSITES:

[www.iamLL1746.org](http://www.iamLL1746.org)

[www.iamdistrict26.org](http://www.iamdistrict26.org)

[www.goiam.org](http://www.goiam.org)

[www.shopunionmade.org](http://www.shopunionmade.org)



Please email your  
announcements &  
messages.

Items for the next issue  
must

emailed by

September 1st, 2008.

[localodge1746@snet.net](mailto:localodge1746@snet.net)

# Don't Forget to Wear RED on Fridays



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