

Local Lodge 1746

# insight

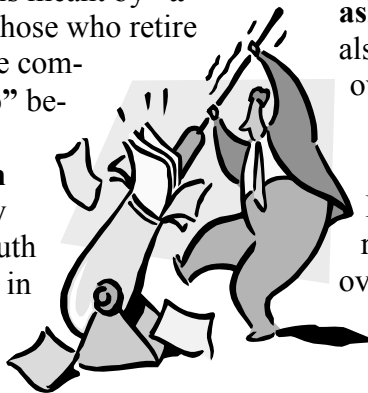
357 Main St.— East Hartford, CT. 06118 — Telephone: 568-3000

November 2007 Volume 10, Issue 11

## Distorting the Facts, Omitting information, Twisting the Truth

I'm sure many of you have seen the company's latest barrage of propaganda just prior to our negotiations opening on November 8, 2007. It always amazes me what the company suggests and what it omits in their newsletters, newspapers, and now in their newest website. The company distorts the facts and omits information so as to misrepresent the truth. For example, the company has their newsletter "**The Runway**" that is geared for front line supervisors and their teams...In their August 2007 (Vol. 4, Issue 7) issue it states, *"the company delivered a very strong economic package, improvements to already industry-leading job security language, and a path to replace half of the employees who choose to retire under an SSP"*.

I take issue with the "industry-leading job security language" statement because since 1983 the P&W bargaining unit went down from 16,986 jobs to 4,156 jobs in 2007. That is a loss of 12,830 jobs. If we have the best language in the industry for job security, then everybody else must have no language at all. Further, can somebody explain to me what is meant by "a path" to replace up to half of those who retire under an SSP? By the way, the company omitted the words "up to" before the word "half" in their "Runway" newsletter. "A path up to half" doesn't necessarily mean anything, does it? The truth is that at the early negotiations in August, there was no definite number of jobs to be re-



placed, nor was there a time table to do so.

**Distorting the facts, omitting information,  
twisting the truth.**

Let's go on to the company's "**Dependable Eagle**" newspaper [Volume 1, Issue 1] printed on October 8, 2007 exactly one month prior to negotiations. The company repeats everything mentioned above in regard to the rejected contract offer and also says they *"hoped to avoid the significant effort and expense associated with strike contingency planning"*. I ask you, if it was so important to P&W to open negotiations early, *why wouldn't they change the contract date to August 19<sup>th</sup>*? Or offer to replace those who retire with new, younger workers? Can't have been that important to them. In reality, they would rather back us and our families up against cold weather and the holidays.

The P&W "**It's Your Business**" web-site has a very biased perspective also. They mention our average CT IAM represented take home pay **but there is no mention whatsoever that many of our members work over hundreds, if not thousands of overtime hours per year**. They take a shot at us by writing that 749 CT IAM represented employees took home over \$100,000 in 2006. **WHO SCHEDULES AND APPROVES ALL THIS OVERTIME??? PRATT SUPERVISION & MANAGEMENT DOES.**

**If they cannot schedule the work properly - keeping in mind they have the flexibility of AWW that the asked for- replace them with people who can.** They also **DON'T** mention that if you refuse to work the overtime they will vend out your work (job).

**Distorting the facts, omitting information,  
twisting the truth.**

Funny thing, at the early negotiations the company repeatedly stated they wanted to drastically reduce overtime and wanted to stop injuries at work. Yet they don't want to hire younger workers or even replace

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those that leave through retirement. Having fewer employees, means we must work more overtime to get the same amount of work out. **That's all they want...more with less.** Fewer employees and higher ages combined with high overtime correlate with escalating injury rates and higher insurance premiums. Not to worry, P&W is self insured. By the way, P&W forgot to mention that health insurance is going up by 112% with far less coverage. Nor did I see any mention of retiree health insurance being in the neighborhood of \$19,000 per year.

**Distorting the facts, omitting information, twisting the truth.**

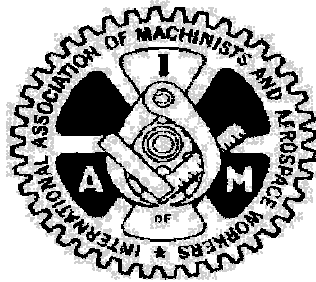
With record numbers of contracts in the pipe line, soaring stock prices and shareholder returns, Pratt and UTC still refuse to guarantee us job security & growth in Connecticut.

We told them loud & clear this was our number one concern on August 19<sup>th</sup> when we rejected their early and inadequate offer.

**We have two more weeks to make sure they really got the message.**

**IT'S TIME TO UNITE. IT'S TIME TO FIGHT.**

**IT'S TIME TO PUMP UP THE VOLUME**



## **Life's Unexpected Events Can Change Lives Suddenly!!**

(Earl Schofield, D-26 Senior Union EAP)

**If you, or someone you know are experiencing difficult times caused by job loss, family illness, substance abuse or other stressful life events.....**

**Help is available through the United Labor Agency--  
Your labor-community service program.**

**If we vote to go out on strike in December, help will be available at the  
following United Labor Agency Offices in Connecticut:**

Mary McNeff, (Certified Employee Assistance Professional)

77 Huyshope Avenue, Hartford 860 727-9301

Lew Slotnick, 100 Riverview Ctr., Middletown 860 347-8060

David Bakewell, 30 West Main St., Waterbury 203-755-8745

Connie Collins, One Grove Place, New Britain 860 225-8864



***The Partnership with your United Labor Agency,  
Connecticut AFL-CIO and your United Way  
brings help to working families in crises.***



# *Local Lodge 1746*

## Holiday Gate Collection

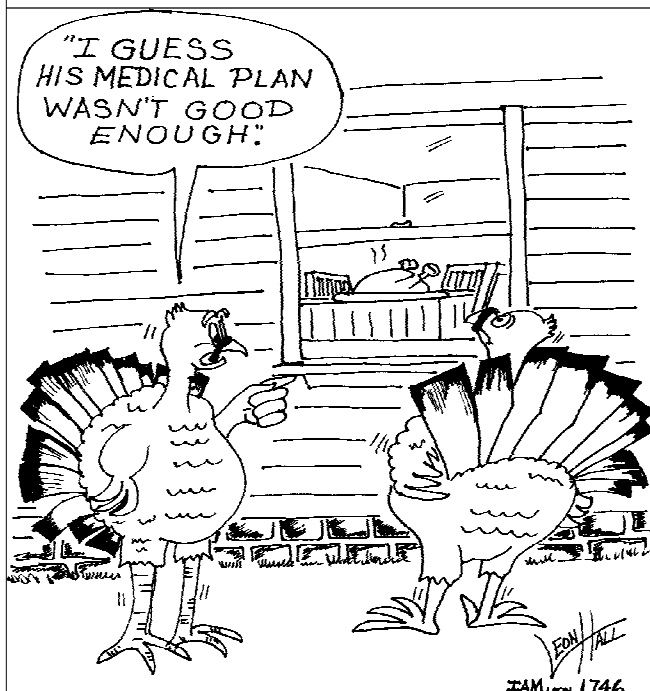
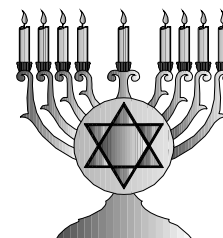
### Friday, November 16, 2007



The holiday season is a time of joy and giving, a time to forget our worries, count our blessings and celebrate. UTC's continued downsizing will make that difficult for some of our brothers and sisters.

This Friday, **November 16**, IAM Local Lodge 1746 will be conducting a gate collection for the **WORKERS AID FUND**. Contributions from hourly and salary sustain this fund at Pratt & Whitney and UTC Fuel Cells and are available on the same basis to all. We created this fund to help past and present workers at both companies who are facing extreme emergencies. Our Community Services Committee coordinates this collection and our Financial Office administers the fund.

In the past, your generosity has helped many of your co-workers. In the last year alone the fund has contributed over \$11,000 to help those with long-term illnesses and short-term financial problems. We ask that you be generous again and help keep the true spirit of the holidays alive.



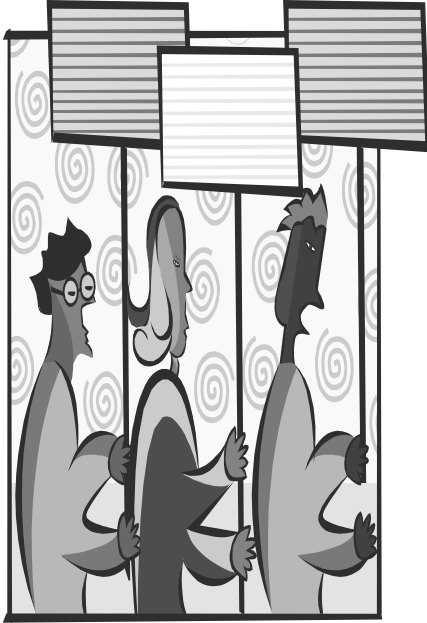
## P & W Now Offers "Trail Mix" as Health Benefit

A key component of the company's health benefit policy is already in place in L Building and other areas. Instead of quality & affordable health insurance, you can now buy a bag of **TRAIL MIX** at the company vending machines. For only \$1.00. What a bargain!!

Here is a huge multi-national company that makes billions of dollars in profits, and that has maimed, crippled and made some of the work-force really sick. And the best the cheap bums can offer us is a bag of **TRAIL MIX??** What are they – **NUTS?**



# **STRIKE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**



*In the event of a Strike December 2<sup>nd</sup>* Local Lodge 1746 Employee Assistance Professionals and members of the Local's Community Services Committee will be ready to help any striking member in need.

**Earl Schofield**, IAM District 26 Senior Union Employee Assistance Professional (EAP)

**Lenny Ward**, IAM Local Lodge 1746 EAP

## **IAM LOCAL 1746 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**Howard Haberern** (Local 1746 Community Services Chairman)

**Brad Chase, Rodney Conologue, Jasper Mills, Ron Ouellette**

The following "Strike Committee Data" form is to help us to help striking members with financial items such as contacting mortgage companies, landlords, oil & utilities and credit card companies to arrange for deferred payments.

**>>>PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN TO YOUR UNION REP.  
OR HALL<<<**

XX

### **STRIKE COMMITTEE DATA**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DEPT. \_\_\_\_\_ SHIFT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MARRIED/SINGLE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPENDENTS \_\_\_\_\_ OWN/RENT \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MORTGAGE/LANDLORD \_\_\_\_\_

GAS/OIL CO. \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER BILLS/ LOANS WITH: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Watch for YOUR CIGNA Dental Check: Refunds to be Mailed to Your House

**On October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007** CIGNA Insurance Company mailed a letter to P & W hourly bargaining unit employees notifying them that payments would be sent out within 45 days, due to a processing error that was made on the CIGNA Dental Schedule.

The letter explained:

*Effective April 1, 2005 a new Dental Schedule was approved for the Pratt & Whitney Hourly Bargaining Unit. It was discovered that the April 1, 2005 Dental Schedule was not loaded into the CIGNA Dental Claim Processing System. As a result, claims processed between April 1, 2005 through September 6, 2007 were all processed using the prior Dental Schedule. All claims processed during the April 1, 2005 through September 6, 2007 time period will be reviewed and adjusted based on the negotiated April 1, 2005 Dental Schedule.*

**What does this mean for you??** If you had any CIGNA dental claims during the time period mentioned, each one will be reviewed by CIGNA to see if the UNION-NEGOTIATED rates CIGNA is supposed to pay for each procedure went up on April 1, 2005. If the CIGNA re-imbursement rate increased (which it did for many, but not all dental procedures) you will get a payment check from CIGNA for the difference.

**Insight** called the UTC Member Services line listed on the October 15 letter, and found out the following information regarding these refunds:

>Each separate claim made by employee or family through CIGNA Dental Plan will be reviewed (April 1, 2005 through September 7, 2007)

>If the negotiated rates for a given procedure increased, a check will be sent to you for that procedure, representing the difference. This could be a small check (\$2, \$5, \$12) depending on the procedure and claim. An EOB (Explanation of Benefits) will be included with the check.

>Each claim will be examined separately, and separate checks will be sent out for each claim, if the CIGNA Dental re-imbursement was raised. You may get more than one check mailed to you.

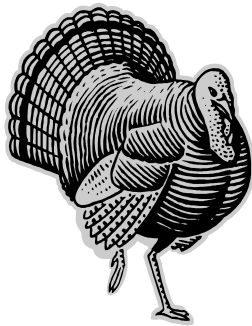
**\*\*\*REMEMBER TO CAREFULLY CHECK ANY MAIL FROM CIGNA!!\*\*\***

If you have any questions, please contact UTC Member Services at 1-800-882-7701.

Have your CIGNA ID ready, and follow the prompts to “Dental Plan”, Claims.

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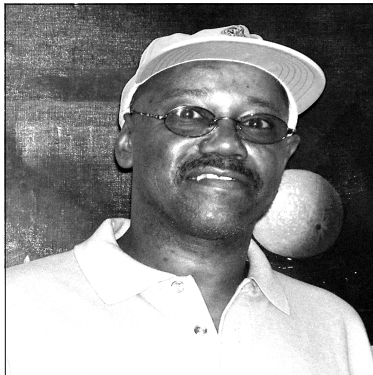
*"Remember the Vet—They Are Not Home Yet"*

**The Next Monthly Meeting is  
November 18th @ 11:00 am**

*Remember you are what you eat so easy on  
the turkey and save room for the meeting!*



### EAP Corner



For East Hartford Local Lodge 1746 and  
UTC Power in South Windsor.

*Please feel free to contact me with  
any of your issues and  
concerns and know that it  
will be in total confidentiality.*

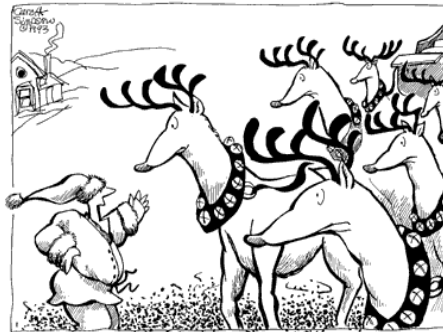
**Cell 203-444-0267  
Pager 860-708-4186  
Lenny Ward**



### **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)**

**Don't forget to buy Union !**



*"It's going to be a light load. He's boycotting all toys made  
by Third World slave labor."*

**Nominations for the  
following positions  
will take place at our  
November Meeting:**

- >CT State Council of Machinists
- >New England Conference of  
Machinists
- >Hartford Labor Council
- >New Haven Labor Council
- >CT AFL-FIO Convention
- >Directors for Building Associa-  
tion (3 Year Term)
- >Directors for Building Associa-  
tion (2 Year Term)



# Don't Forget to Wear RED on Fridays



## **LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:**

**John Taylor, President; James Bullock, Vice-President;  
Bill Coney, Recording Secretary; Nancy Flagg, Secretary Treasurer;  
David Batchelder, Conductor/Sentinel; Howard Huestis, Brad Chase, Ron Ouellette; Trustees**

## **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

**Dave Batchelder-Editor, Linnea Demanche-Co-Editor, layout and design.  
Deb Belancik, Joe Durette, Leon Hall-Cartoonist, John Perretta  
George Rogers, Earl Schofield, John Taylor & Lenny Ward**