



SOUNDINGS

January - April 2016

The results from the February-March survey have been tallied.
The front cover features some of the responses we received. More about this on Page 2 "From the Officers".

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON FLEXIBLE WORK WEEK/4 10's AND HOW IT COULD BE IMPROVED? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF THIS WENT AWAY?

"Flexible work week is fantastic, we should keep it, very useful"

"I think it's a fantastic employee option"

"Currently working 4 10 hour days and it works for me and my family with having doctor appointments, as an example. I truly hope that this option remains"

"4 10's are a great way to ensure I get my billable 40 hours in"

"Flex time and 4 10's schedule is important to me as a single parent. These options being eliminated would have a major impact on my life and my daughters life"

"Don't want to see this go away. Helps alot of folks out with personal appointments and everyday life"

"Fine the way it is. Going away would be horrible"

"It's essential. It would be devastating"

"Flexible work week helps families and prevents lost time"

"I believe th 4 10's is a very important benefit which gives people ample time off in order to stay fresh and focused. It keeps people from getting fatigued and losing their mental sharpness. It also decreases the amount of personal time used"

"Would not want to see this go away. Most personal issues can be taken care of on day off (doctor, dentist, etc) without taking time out of work. With the parking issue in New London, 4 10's are somewhat of a help"

"This is very important to most union members including me. It provides a high quality of work-life balance and allows workers not to miss regular work hours"

"Flex time is one of the best things we have had added since I have been at EB"

"I took the job because of the 4 day week. For me, it was the most important issue"

"I am highly in favor of the 4 10's so it gives the workers flexibility to meet needs of the families or Dr's appointments"

"I think it works fine as is and would be very unhappy if this went away. It is difficult to imagine what the already problematic parking situation would become if everybody reported at the same time and day"

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FROM THE OFFICERS



MDA-UAW Local 571

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Newsletters are published tri-annually. Deadlines for submissions are due the end of the 2nd week of April, August and December.



Left to Right: Treasurer Robert Faraci, 2nd Vice President David M. Reagan, 1st Vice President Kenneth Rowland, President William E. Louis, Financial Secretary Bill May and Recording Secretary Patricia A. Clay

CONTRACT TALKS

We, your Union, have been prepping for negotiations. As most of you know, our contract expires November 4th, 2016. And by the contract, we will begin negotiations with the Company in September. Our team consists of all 6 Union Officers, Ed Nevins and Doug Witt along with Region 9A Servicing Rep, Barry Bayly. We have been meeting regularly once a month for the last few months. Now that the negotiations are fast approaching, we will be meeting at least twice a month until September. We will also be training with Professor Mark Sullivan on the negotiation process.

We have not started *any* negotiations or talks with the Company – nor have we met with anyone from the Company about discussions. So if there's any rumors out there, that's all they are - rumors.

The only Company interactions we have had is when we met with Human Resources and the Federal Mediator to agree to get the teams together to set up the training on the negotiation process, which will happen in August.

THE SURVEY

Earlier this year, the Union sent out a survey to the membership on the upcoming contract negotiations. Data has been collected and broken in different categories and results tallied. As we looked at the survey results, we found many priorities for you that also are priorities for us. All these results and issues that are important to you, our members, are also important to us and will be addressed and pointed out in the negotiation process.

Some of these include wages, benefits,

working 4 10's and a Pension Plan (we lost that in 2010). We see the Pension Plan as a hard item because no one has it as a new employee with the Company. But this doesn't just affect employees. Retirees are affected. Retirees today make whatever they made the date they retired. There is no adjustment for cost-of-living increases for them.

THE QUESTIONS

I would also like to take this opportunity to respond to some of the questions. We have had positive responses and not-so-positive responses. We would like to thank everyone for taking the time to give us your feedback. It was objectively and constructively taken.

Addressing the questions: One of the questions was "Do you think this survey was a good idea?" 95% of those that filled out the survey thought it was a good idea and 5% thought it was a bad idea. We appreciate the 5% for still taking time to answer the questions.

One of the outcomes of this survey said about 1/3 of you would be interested in attending a shareholders meeting. This is something we can certainly discuss in the future after negotiations.

We also had a lot of comments about keeping the 4 10's (as you can read on the front cover) But there were also some comments not necessarily positive through the questionnaire. I would like to address two of those today.

For the category **What are the most important issues you would like to see addressed**, one response was: *"Others as well as myself feel that our Leaders are going into these negotiations expecting to lose benefits instead of gaining them. We should be in a position of strength considering the present circumstances. Expecting to lose more benefits seems preposterous".*

I honestly am not sure where that is coming from. I can tell you as President of the Union, anyone I have spoken to has been told the same thing - which is that we feel we are in the best position to negotiate a contract due to the workload ahead of us.

We also feel that our members have

earned what we have today and deserve a little piece of the pie coming. Furthermore, we don't feel there is any reason what-so-ever we should give up a damn thing. That is how strongly we feel.

The next question I wish to address is more on a personal level. The reply was: *"To keep work at work--NOT to receive union mail at home--you have been repeatedly asked but don't seem to have the integrity to respect my wishes. Why then would I believe you give a damn about my preferences as per this survey?"*

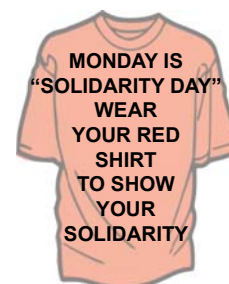
Our intentions are/were not to upset anyone, and I apologize for you getting this (survey) at home. If we were able to do this at work, we would have. If you or anyone would not like to receive mail at home, please send an email or call the Union Hall and we will try our best to address this issue going forward.

Also, If you have a particular question you want answered, please call the Union Hall and we can discuss it with you.

Thank you, everyone for partaking in this survey and we will do our best to bring you the best contract we can.

Lastly, I would like to thank UAW Staff Member, Chuck Anderson from Detroit, MI for offering his services to organize this questionnaire free of charge. This was much appreciated.

In Solidarity,
William E. Louis, President



CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ALL:
NOTICES - UPDATES - PICTURES - ARTICLES
COPY OF NEWSLETTERS
The MDA-UAW Website can be accessed through EB's Home Page. Always use care and responsibility during working hours when on the web.





CONFERENCES YOUR LOCAL ATTENDED

JANUARY	REGION 9A CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS DINNER, HARTFORD HILTON, HARTFORD, CT
FEBRUARY	NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARIES, NASHUA, NH FINANCIAL CONFERENCE, ORLANDO, FL JOBS WITH JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH	YOUNG WORKERS INSTITUTE, BLACK LAKE, MI
APRIL	UAW REGION 9A LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL, (LOBBY DAY) STATE CAPITAL, HARTFORD, CT

2016 UPCOMING EVENTS

JUN 04	MOVIE "THE JUNGLE BOOK" IN 3D. STONINGTON REGAL CINEMAS. TICKETS \$5.00 PER PERSON
JUN 12	UAW REGION 9A ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT TOWER RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB, SIMSBURY, CT
JUN 25	LAKE COMPOUNCE. TICKETS \$25.00 PER PERSON
AUG 06	MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 SOLIDARITY DAY PICNIC ADULTS \$10.00 PER PERSON, KIDS \$5.00 PER PERSON
AUG 12-14	MDA CAMP OUTING, NATURES CAMPSITES VOLUNTOWN, CT
SEP 09	MDA GOLF TOURNAMENT, CEDAR RIDGE EAST LIME, CT

- FOR ANY EVENT -

Please call the Union Office to confirm within the deadlines!

CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS ACCEPTED. NO CASH

We will strive to make sure we can properly accommodate everyone.



Serves: 12

LEMON OLIVE OIL CAKE WITH LEMON CREAM

From Recipe.com

This lemon cake's appearance may be straightforward, but its flavor is provocative. It's both rich and bright, simple and sophisticated. While you can't necessarily taste the olive oil, it bestows a savory undertow that will cause your fellow revelers to wonder, "Hmm...what is that?" Meanwhile, the lemony zing is a delight.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup ice-cold whipping cream
- 2 tbs powdered sugar
- 1 tbs finely shredded lemon peel
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup (189 grams) sugar
- 2 cups (250 grams) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 2/3 cup olive oil
- 4 tsp finely shredded lemon peel
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1 tsp vanilla

1. To make the Lemon Cream, combine cream, sugar, peel, and juice in a large bowl and beat with an electric mixer or large whisk until soft

peaks form. Cover and chill up to 4 hours ahead. Whisk before spreading on cake.

2. Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease three 6 x 2-inch round cake pans. Line bottoms of pans with parchment paper; grease the paper. Set pans aside.

3. In a large mixing bowl, beat the eggs and sugar with an electric mixer about 5 minutes or until pale and thick ribbons form.

4. In another large bowl whisk together the flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. In a medium bowl combine the olive oil, lemon peel, lemon juice, and buttermilk.

MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE			
EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	May 02	3:30PM	Union Office
Executive Council	May 02	4:30PM	Union Office
Executive Board	Jun 06	3:30PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Jun 06	4:30PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Board	Jul 11	3:30PM	Union Office
Executive Council	Jul 11	4:30PM	Suspended
Executive Board	Aug 01	3:30PM	Union Office
Executive Council	Aug 01	4:30PM	Suspended
Executive Board	Sep 12	3:30PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Sep 12	4:30PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Board	Oct 03	3:30PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Council	Oct 03	4:30PM	Groton Inn & Suites
Executive Board	Nov 07	3:30PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Council	Nov 07	4:30PM	Ocean Beach
Executive Board	Dec 05	3:30PM	Ocean Beach
General Membership	Dec 05	4:30PM	Ocean Beach

UAW AND GENERAL DYNAMICS JOINT COUNCIL CONFERENCE AT FOXWOODS

June 5th-10th, the UAW Joint Bus and Engine (BET) and General Dynamics Council will be meeting, along with a first-time ever Shipyard Tour.

UAW Unions get together every 6 months to discuss Locals issues, grievances, negotiations, share concerns or issues that may come up in the workplace and learn from each other.

These are typically held at other locations, but with the help of President William E. Louis and Assistant Director of UAW Heavy Truck General Dynamics Willard Beck - we will finally get to host it in Groton.

5. Beat the vanilla into beaten egg mixture on low speed. With mixer on low speed, add the dry and wet ingredients in three additions, starting with dry and ending with wet. After the last addition, turn mixer off and whisk until combined. Divide batter among prepared pans, filling each half full (1 2/3 cups batter each).

6. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the centers comes out clean and cakes are golden and pull away from sides. Remove and cool in pans on wire

racks for 10 minutes. Remove from pans. Cool completely.

7. To assemble, place one cake layer on a serving plate. Spread top of cake with 3/4 cup of the cream, pushing just past the edges. Place another cake layer on top. Spread with another 3/4 cup cream, pushing just past the edges. Top with remaining cake layer. Spread with the remaining frosting. Use an offset spatula or the flat side of a knife to skim the sides of the cake, pulling off any frosting overhang.





FROM YOUR COMMITTEES



SAFETY COMMITTEE *By Rick Gianfrocco*

NEW LONDON

Recently, a vendor came to the New London facility and quoted repairs for leaking roofs in Towers A, B and C (concentrated in Tower B near cafeteria). The contractor is now waiting for a purchase order from EB. Once received, the repairs will be begin, with estimated completion by mid September. The damaged dry wall repair will begin in mid October if the schedule goes according to plan. There are a few more concerns that will be addressed in the near future.

KINGS HIGHWAY

The parking lot lights that are down near the front entrance have been addressed and are in the process of being fixed.



WOMENS COMMITTEE *By Officer Pat Clay*

SAFE FUTURES



On Monday, March 16, 2016 the Women's Committee Chair Pam Gonski and volunteer Charlotte Cookson toured Safe Futures and dropped off 6 baskets of cleaning supplies. They were grateful for our donation and Pam Gonski read a very appreciative thank you note from them. Lots of thanks to Rosemary Taft, Nicole Reagan, Jen Wessell,

Dana Brew, Shelby Dubois-Jennes, Paula Gilger, Dawn Labreque, Candace Goode, David Reagan, Nicole Wilcox and Pam Gonski in Groton for selling candy bars to raise the money needed. They are continuing candy sales to buy more donations for Safe Futures. Pam has some of their pamphlets and cards with the number of the shelter on it if anyone would like one. Thank you to everyone who helped sell candy and to all those who helped with the donations.

WOMAN ON THE MOVE

On March 23, 2016, we had a Region 9A Regional Women's Committee meeting at our local 571 office. The committee discussed giving out an award to a woman who makes a difference in the community and the union. It would be the 'Region 9A Women On The Move Recognition Award'. Details on what the award would be and when to present it was discussed.

SKYPING WITH PUERTO RICO

Both the Region 9A and MDA Women's Committee got a chance to Skype with our Region 9A fellow women in Puerto Rico for a short time. Region 9A Rep Donna Becotte has been working on getting a link up, and when we did, it went very well even with the language barrier and time delay. We are planning on skyping at all our meetings from now on.

See Womens Committee continued on Page 10



RECREATION COMMITTEE *By Officer David Reagan*

AUTO SHOW

Jim Newman reported that we had a total 39 people (18 members, retirees and their families) attend the New York International Auto Show at the Jacob Javits Convention Center, New York City, New York Saturday, April 8th. On display were 4 floors of cars. Displays from the Big 3 included concept cars, electric cars, specialty vehicles and cut away engines and drive train components. They had a test track for 4WD jeeps and a test track for all electric vehicles. It was a great chance to see what is available with the new technology's and talk to some of the people who know what is being put into these cars.

MOVIE DAY

This year's Movie Matinee is scheduled for June 4, 2016 at the Stonington 10 Cinemas, in Stonington, CT. We will be viewing the movie The Jungle Book in 3D. The movie starts at 2:00 p.m. with admission starting at 1:30 p.m. Please call the Union Office (860-448-0552) to sign up with the number of tickets you will need. Tickets are \$5.00 per seat.



VETERANS COMMITTEE *By Officer Bill May*

VIETNAM VETERANS COMMEMORATION

The Local 571 Veterans Committee will be paying tribute to the Vietnam Veterans as part of the United States 50th Year Commemoration to the Vietnam War.

All honorably discharged Veterans who served our country during the Vietnam War ERA from November 1, 1955 until May 7, 1975 are eligible to receive this award signed by President Barak Obama.

These awards are available whether you served in country or out of country during this time period.

There are over 9800 participating partners across the U.S. that are presenting these awards. We will be presenting ours at the next General Membership meeting at Ocean Beach on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 4:30pm.

If you are interested in receiving this award, please contact Melvin Hicks at mhicks@gdeb.com or Tom Montgomery at tmontgom@gdeb.com to sign up.

Go to <http://www.vietnamwar50th.com> for more on the commemoration.



Secretaries of Defense and Veteran Affairs lay a wreath in honor of Vietnam veterans and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial March 29, 2016





REMEMBERING OUR MEMBERS

*"Perhaps the stars in the sky, are loved ones
letting us know they are near, by guiding us
through the night"*
~Author Unknown

Michael Lynch, Retiree
1933 – 01/06/16

Harry Gilday, Retiree
02/07/30 – 01/09/16

Stephen Boisclair
09/09/89 – 01/21/16

Alvin Colby, Retiree
01/09/30 – 02/03/16

Ronald Raymond, Retiree
06/30/40 - 03/25/16

Brian Sigersmith
07/20/54 - 04/12/16

Frank Bega, Retiree
07/20/54 - 04/13/16

2016 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

MAY 12	Richmond Country Club, Richmond RI
JUN 09	Ocean Beach, New London CT
JUL 14	Tony D's Restaurant, New London CT
AUG 11	Groton Inn & Suites, Groton CT
SEP 08	Venice Restaurant, Westerly RI
OCT 13	Richmond Country Club, Richmond RI
NOV 10	Great Neck Country Club, Waterford CT
DEC 08	Ocean Beach, New London CT

RETIREES

1/16/2016	Botchis, George Edward	2/5/2016	Ledoux Sr, Francis J
1/30/2016	Covino, Ralph Fredrick	1/9/2016	Neilan, John K
12/31/15	Dale, Ely	3/9/2016	Page, Judith E
1/30/2016	Dietz, Christopher J	2/27/2016	Peck, Cynthia L
1/30/2016	Duff, Paul L	1/16/2016	Penny, William E
1/16/2016	Gervais, Richard Norman	1/5/2016	Rounds, Kevin Orey
12/18/2015	Hanley, Michael Timothy	4/29/16	Sheldon, Lucinda
1/30/2016	Holman, Karl S	1/8/2016	Swider, Leo Roger

IN MEMORIAM

*We are deeply saddened by the sudden loss of our Union brothers.
Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.*



STEPHEN R. BOISCLAIR

Stephen accomplished many things in his short but fulfilled life - Including achieving a black belt in Karate, performed in many plays and a movie, was a certified teachers assistant, mentor and counselor to youth groups. He graduated from CCRI with a degree in surveying and technology but especially loved computers and design. His CAD classes qualified him for a job at Electric Boat as a designer in Department 459. He met many new friends there and attended several tailgate parties with his crew. He also belonged to a coffee group who solved crossword puzzles every weekend. Rest in Peace Stephen, you will be missed.

Please contact the Union Hall to have someone you know remembered or pay a special tribute to.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

Our 2016 Recognition Dinner (for volunteering during the 2015 year) was held on March 19, 2016 at Ocean Beach in New London, CT. The evening was enjoyed by the 53 members and 46 guests.

Contact Kim Deschamps (860-433-7552) if yourself or any other members work off the clock this year to further union goals so that everyone can be recognized next year. Thank you for your time and hard work.

COUNCILLOR ELECTIONS

Councilor elections were held in New London and Kings Highway. Congratulations to Amy Stephenson in New London Tower B and Mike Alice, Fred Avery and Mike Cichon at Kings Highway.

GET INVOLVED

If you would like to volunteer or get involved in any of our committees, events or volunteer efforts, contact the Union Hall at 860-448-0552.

SPRING CLEAN UP

On April 26, Members from the MDA-UAW Local 571, MTC Unions and United Way spend the day at Washington Park in Groton for the annual spring cleanup in preparation for Workers Memorial Day Ceremony April 28th at 6:00 am rain or shine.

This cleanup has been going on now for a few years. The crew will spend the day cleaning and raking, power washing, spreading mulch, planting flowers by the Memorial and general cleaning. Also to help support this day of cleaning, the MDA-UAW 571 provides lunch for the 12 men and women who worked.

MUCH gratitude and appreciation goes to Sharon Peccini and her staff at United Way, whose behind the scenes work and the event day celebration is wholly organized by. Fantastic job Sharon!



Pictured above are Members Josh Wessell laying mulch and Nicole Reagan planting flowers. Below is Member Adrienne Willetts cleaning the pavers.





NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARIES

REGION 9A NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY POLITICAL ACTION PROGRAM

By Carol A. Mauro



Some of the 60 2016 Region 9A Political Primary Class

February 4 - February 10, 2016 President William E. Louis, Vice-President Ken Rowland, 2nd Vice-President David Reagan, Joe Husereau, Brad Lamphere and Carol Mauro went to Nashua, New Hampshire to participate in the New Hampshire Primary political process.

Around 60 people attended the MDA-UAW primary process from Region 9A, with approximately half having participated in the NH primary in previous years.

Not only was this an educational process for Union Members, but guest speakers included NH Democratic Representatives spoke about the state of New Hampshire and ensuring workers have the opportunity not only to work, but also have a flexible schedule. (Representatives in NH by the way, only make \$100 a year for their positions and have to have regular jobs to support themselves along with government duties).



First Vice-President Ken Rowland getting ready to attend the Rally at the Verizon Arena

be one of the unfortunate employees who works for GE in Boston and is being laid off because they are moving the Boston facility to the South for cheaper wages. GE in turn are moving their headquarters out of Fairfield Connecticut to Boston.

Gail Kinney from the National Writers Union, Local 1981 out of New York gave an excellent talk on Union History.

Discussions also included Puerto Rico and how they can vote. We talked about their countries economic crisis and how the next president can make or break them as a country.

Region 9A Officers were there to host our morning meetings, including Director Julie Kushner, Assistant Director Ted Feng, Donna Becotte and Beverly Brakeman. Mock exercises were practiced, such as shaking hands with candidates to try to get their attention long enough so you can ask them a question. During one of these break-out sessions, Bill Louis said if he had the chance, he would like to ask this one question for any of the politicians: "You always tell us what you're going to do when you get in,



Joe Husereau, President William E. Louis and Brad Lamphere are getting ready for the Rally at the Verizon Arena.

and then your in there for years and years and it doesn't get done. So my question for you is, What makes it different for you, and what are you going to do to change and have both parties work together and do what's right for everyone?". Julie Kushner responded with "That's a hard question!".

Then we all got to work - and I mean work. Going to various headquarters from Nashua to Manchester helping with phone banking or knocking door to door and attending Town Hall Meetings everyday. Our group was definitely split between Clinton and Sanders, so at the end of the day or the start of the next day, the conversations were certainly lively, passionate and entertaining.

Saturday, February 6th was a very busy day as well. Ken, Joe, Brad and myself ended up going to an impromptu protest for the Fight for 15 for the Manchester restaurant workers. (See "Fight For 15 Rally" on Page 7).

That same evening, we all went to the rally at the Verizon Wireless Arena, also in Manchester, to see Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton speak one last time before the primaries the next day. Thousands filled the arena for the McIntyre-Shaheen 100 Club dinner sponsored by the NH Democratic Party.

This was my first time at an event like this, and I have to say - watching on TV is *nothing* like being there. You can feel the electricity in air, the excitement of the crowd. It was truly a great experience.

Sunday we had a full sit-down breakfast with Governor Maggie Hassan, former Representative Carol Shea Porter and Representative Ann Kuster who talked about issues in their state. I later attended Town Hall meetings for both Jeb Bush and John Kasich that afternoon.

On Monday we started all over again, but this time, first heading to Portsmouth to the New England College off-site campus to listen to Arnie Arneson, host of the "Attitude" radio show in New Hampshire. She focuses on policy, politics and people who make a difference in our lives that rarely get discussed. She is also a WGBH commentator and former Black Lake participant. Guest speaker Rick Newman who worked on the Portsmouth State Council and New Hampshire State Representative and full time lobbyist also added input to topics discussed.



Arnie Arneson and Rick Newman speaking on the New Hampshire Primary at New England College in Portsmouth NH.

See New Hampshire continued on Page 10



FIGHT FOR 15 RALLY

By 1st Vice President Ken Rowland

On Saturday, February 6th, along with LUCA Committee Chairperson Carol Mauro, Grievance Representative Joe Husereau and Councillor Brad Lamphere and I attended a rally in Manchester, NH in support of the "Fight for 15" for fast food workers.

The workers are seeking to be paid a living wage for the work they do and to help advocate for that effort on a national scale. Too many workers in the country feel they are underpaid, and are forced to work multiple jobs, or seek financial assistance from the states and municipalities for necessities such as food, rent, heating and child care. The Fight for 15 movement has grown from a local movement in places like New York City and San Francisco into a larger scale movement. Recently there have been successes in many localities and New York State and California have signed legislation to phase in the 15 dollar an hour wage over the next several years.

The restaurant industry is America's fastest growing economic sector; it's also among it's lowest paying. Tipped workers are paid a separate, lower minimum wage that starts at 2.13 an hour at the federal level — a rate that hasn't changed since 1991.

Putting this in local perspective, Rhode Island held the first public hearing for its 'One Fair Wage' bill (H 5364) in March of this year, which would raise the state's tipped minimum wage of \$2.89 — the lowest rate in all of New England — to 100% of the full minimum wage of \$9.00 an hour by 2020.

We gathered on a frigid day (as one can expect in February in New Hampshire) along with other UAW Region 9A members and fast food workers who are fed up (no pun intended!) with the low wages and lack of benefits they receive. After some speakers from the movement related personal stories and others spoke of victories won in the workplace through the sacrifices brave workers have made, we practiced some chants which intended to fire up the marchers and communicate the cause to the public. One which sticks in the memory is "What do we want?" "Fifteen!" "When do we want it?" "Now!"

The group walked out from the parking lot where we were assembled and took the rally to the streets. By the time the rally was ended, after an hour and a half of demonstrating, we had done a walk through protest of a local Burger King and also a Wendy's restaurant. During that time we got honks



Fast Food workers and supporters walked the street and entered the Burger King parking lot chanting "What Do we want?" "FIFTEEN!" "When do we want it? NOW!"



After Burger King, everyone started heading to the McDonalds down the street from Burger King, but was quickly cut off by Manchester police.

of support from passing motorists, as well as some thumbs-up (and a few thumbs-down).

We also drew the attention of the Manchester Police department, who advised the rally leaders to stick to public property, or risk being "detained". That advice taken under advisement, we continued our peaceful demonstration in the 20 degree weather on the sidewalks of Main Street. I can attest that marching and being vocal in unison with the 200 or so marchers builds solidarity and is a great way to stay warm!

Later as we grabbed some lunch at a local establishment, Carol, Joe, Brad and I discussed the plight of workers who toil daily for a wage which doesn't allow for a decent quality of living. None of those workers we rallied with were unionized, but many were pursuing collective bargaining and forming a union as the only way to have their voices heard. The Fight for 15 is another way to push the issue of fair pay for workers in pursuit of the American Dream. The UAW and Region 9A have long been at the forefront of fighting for worker rights and we are proud to have been a part of that movement.



Buses of workers gather getting ready to rally. The demonstration was very peaceful, even with police sitting in the parking lot watching the crowd.





BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES

NARRAGANSETT COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA DRAFTING MERIT BADGES

By 1st Vice President Ken Rowland

Early on the morning of Saturday, January 9, 2016, MDA Designers Wayne Carbone, Al LaFlamme and Ken Rowland traveled to Rhode Island College for the second year in a row, to teach a group of 12 Boy Scouts from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut about the art of Drafting. The Scouts were participating in a program which was instituted through the Narragansett Council of BSA (Boy Scouts of America), which provides the opportunity for Scouts to obtain training for merit badge courses from experts in their respective fields, not ordinarily available to them.

This year, the trainers modified the class through lessons learned from last year's experience. The course was expanded to a full day (8 hour) duration so that the students would have ample time to fulfill all the course requirements, which were done (albeit more hastily) in last year's half day sessions.

We received approval from the membership and purchased 15 drafting boards and T-squares for the students to augment the drafting kits we had used the previous year. With the additional time and resources the students were able to create the drawings from scratch, while they worked from templates provided to them the prior year.

Orthographic projection was explained to the Scouts during a lecture period, then each student created a title page, complete with format and title block, including the necessary lettering. Under the guidance of the instructors, each student created three views of the widgets or spacer blocks which were provided for their guidance in the task. The views were fully

dimensioned and when complete, went through a checking process to simulate real life conditions. This process was explained step-by-step by the instructors, with Wayne at the lectern leading the class through the program.

Al and Ken helped the Scouts get started and were there to assist them throughout. When each student was done with their drawings to the satisfaction of the instructors, the same work was accomplished on an AutoCAD Program which Wayne provided. The students were able to contrast the efficiency and neatness of CAD versus drafting on the boards. Another requirement the scouts completed in the class was to explain in writing how drafting has changed since CAD programs became available.

Lecture time was devoted to the history of drafting, the tools used for traditional drafting on the boards, and the advent of Computer Aided Design. Special attention was given to the art of submarine design at Electric Boat, and the history of the Marine Draftsmen's Association. The Scouts learned about the interaction between designers, engineers, and tradespeople who build the most complex machines in the world. They also learned about the benefits of union membership such as higher wages, better benefits and more job security which MDA members enjoy.

The scouts were very receptive to the message, and several expressed interest in the opportunity to pursue drafting in the future, possibly at Electric Boat. Others are pursuing college degrees and aspire to be engineers, but through the course were exposed to a positive message of the benefits of being a designer as well as what it means to be a Union member.

The Boy Scouts who attended our class were a great group who impressed us with their attentive and respectful attitudes throughout the



Students designing Widgets and Spacer Blocks on their drafting boards.

day. There were two Eagle Scouts as well as several Life and Star-level Scouts in attendance, many of whom had previous drafting and/or CAD experience. It was a rewarding experience for each of the instructors as we shared our thoughts on the day's activities. Several of the Scouts thanked us and said they would not soon forget what they had learned about drafting and the MDA union.

As we walked to the parking area to return to Connecticut, we overheard some of the Scouts relating

to their parents what an interesting day they had learning Drafting and hearing our tales about submarine design. Our intention is to continue teaching the course in the future, and we look forward to the day when we welcome one or more of the Scouts we have instructed here at Electric Boat as an MDA member.

If anyone is interested in assisting in the class next year, we would like to hear from you. Contact Ken at the union hall 860 448-0552 for more information.

WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

On April 28, at 6:00 am in Washington Park, the Southeastern Connecticut Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO unions, observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew the fight for safe jobs. We will celebrate the victories won by working people and commit to fighting until all workers have safe jobs and the freedom



to form unions without the threat of retaliation.

In their memory, we stand as solid as the rock at the Memorial to continue to fight for every American worker's right to a safe work environment.



Top: The memorial at Washington Park, Groton. Bottom: Treasurer Robert Faraci, 1st Vice President Ken Rowland and President William E. Louis.



AN INTERVIEW WITH NEWLY RETIRED JUDI PAGE

By Carol A. Mauro

On Wednesday April 18th, I had the pleasure to interview a recent retiree and union activist Judi Page. Starting at EB when she was 22 years old, she has certainly seen many things transpire in her 42 years, along with her active involvement in workplace issues. It was nothing short of entertaining as she recalled some of the things that happened to her during her employment.

Judi started in May of 1973 as a clerk, and realized immediately this was not exactly the best fit for her, and put in a transfer after only being there for 6 months (8 years later she finally got her transfer). It's not that she didn't like the job, it wasn't challenging enough and found it slightly boring - she needed to be challenged.

As Judi was telling me about what she did there, she mentioned the bugs, among other things, and I stopped her and yelled "Bugs! What do you mean - BUGS?" "We were eaten alive by fleas!" She laughed. She was laughing so hard I starting laughing too. Judi said they were eaten alive by paper fleas when they were in the limited area.

The limited area was a big vault that held secret documents with CO2 tanks out front in case of fire. "Those documents had sat there undisturbed for years. It just so happened when we were re-doing the filing system with a modernized color-code system and started going through all those old documents when the paper fleas all came out" Judi said. She went on to say "We first had to hand write names on a distribution list, then take out all that old paperwork and set up the files - which weren't disturbed for years - so the bugs came out.....and started chewing away at us."

She went on to say, laughing "We

had people come out and spray the vault, but they kept coming. But no matter what, we got the work done. I didn't know if I would have had enough blood left in me to finish the job!!". And this was just her first year there....

Judi had to stay busy and was always joking around, playing pranks on her boss or co-workers. "We had so many things happen because I was bored. I did stuff I probably would have gotten fired for now". She said "When you have all this imagination - you have to do something with it!" She said laughing again.

It was no wonder when Christmas came around, she realized other departments were having parties, except her department. So she went to a local place that had happy hour and finally got everyone together for their first party.

She was still trying to transfer from clerical to material. Gloria White was her supervisor then, and she asked why she was holding her back. Giving an insufficient answer, she said she would start working her way up the ladder to get an answer - and did.

One of the VP's, Lou Togneri, had shown up to join them and asked some people there who had done all this. Everyone turned around and pointed at Judi.

After a conversation with him, the next thing she knew, she was leaving. Lou had called Gloria White and said "get her paperwork ready, she's leaving". In 1981, eight years later when she finally got transferred to Materials.



Retiree Judi Page, actively involved with the Union, Equality and women's Rights

Before starting, she had to take blue print reading, and learn how to use a computer. They didn't have any in computers in clerical and she had to crash-learn. "I sucked up everything I could learn" Judi remembers.

"I thought this was the big time. Moving up from Clerk to Material was a big deal" Judi said. Even though she was grateful for

moving, when she changed jobs, they were supposed to give her 4¢ more an hour (yes, FOUR CENTS) but took away 25¢ instead. Raises back then were typically anywhere from 5 to 7 cents each.

After a year, she got a \$1.00 raise. During this year, though, she starting talking to Union representatives and found out they neglected to give her the rightful wage she deserved.

Being in Material was certainly a different environment from clerical. "I came over dressed in skirts and heels. I felt I was making more money, so I should look good, professional" Judi recalled. But they're weren't many women there, it was mostly men. Back then, there were some things women had to deal with because they didn't have ethics on sexual harassment in the workplace and it was a much different environment than it is today. "There were so many men on the floor" she said. "I came from all-female clerks to mostly men - such a difference. Back then, there were definitely not alot of women in that area of work".

She also emphasized that although harassment in the workplace isn't like it used to be (for both men and woman), but you still have to speak up. Talk to a Councillor or Union Officer. It won't stop unless it's

addressed.

"That's when I decided to get involved with the Union and became a Councillor" she told me. This was pre-UAW. It was only the MDA back then. When we became the MDA-UAW, Judi and 3 other woman went to a Leadership Conference. They needed a Chair for the newly formed Women's Committee and picked Judi. "I was fired up when I got there!" Judi said "I realized sexual harassment did not have to be tolerated in the workplace". When she got back to work, she got in touch with Dick Days from Region 9A who supported her with all the information she needed.

"The first thing I tackled was sexual harassment in the workplace. We plastered posters everywhere, left it on tables, anywhere we could at work, and even showed movies at the Union Hall" she remembered. "I was shaking the bushes. That was a big deal. And there were these girls....I was horrified at they're stories, I had to do something" she said in a serious tone.

"I have always been fighting for women's rights because of what I saw and the personal hell I lived through with my ex-husband - I knew what it was like". There was even a comment made to her by one of her Supervisors. He told her "If your going to get a man's wage, your going to do a man's job". He was referring at that time to lift very heavy boxes of papers from one floor to another without a dolly or hand cart.

"You don't know what you don't know" Judi said. She went on to say that's why we need to ask questions - and hopefully, get the right answers. Even now, there's only been about 10% female in all of the GD facilities (I checked, and the numbers are pretty close to that). In referring to the ratio of female to male workers, she said "It's a sad state we're not getting

See *Retiree* continued on Page 10



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NEW HIRE CLASS 24



Retiree continued from Page 9

any better-but we have made progress though".

She continued to tell me about the team she got together - the "Subterranean Trolls" Baseball Team (or Beer Ball as she called it). Design and Material didn't really get along back then, so as typical of a Judi Page outlook as there ever was, she thought "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade" and got the two to play together. The shirts that sported a Troll standing in a cave with a club and bats flying out. It was so popular, she had to make over 70 of them. Even Supervisors wore them under their shirts. "Then we all got along. You have to make fun for yourself" she said.

I could go on and on about the other antics she played, like being a professional clown, dropping mystery confetti here and there (for a giggle) and dressing up on Holidays, especially Halloween. Although I have to mention two particular instances she told me about. One where she dressed up as a Nun, but realized it wasn't good enough. So she became a pregnant Nun. The other was a Texas Oil Barron. Complete with a man's wig, mustache, attaché, gloves and men's suit. Her boss didn't talk to her for most of the day.

At one of the Black Lake sessions,

she was asked to make a speech at the end of the conference (Judi told me she **does not** do public speaking). But with the help and guidance from a fellow member, she did. In her closing statement, she said to everyone "If you had to be a candle - Be the candle and light other candles. Be the one to pass on the light". Words not only spoken, but words she certainly lives by.

After our interview, I wished I had worked with her, for at least some of that time. What a positive outlook Judi certainly had (and still does). In wrapping up the interview, I said "All this happened, and now you're retired..." She said "Ohhh, it's so sweet. I've worked so long and had to get up so early - I'm done now." But continued with "....but here's my new schedule...."

We laughed again....hard. But she did give this advice: If you're ready to retire, you really have to have knowledge of the retirement process. It's not as easy as you think and you need to do your research.

During Judi's career, she has been a Councillor, Member-at-Large, delegate to the Constitutional Convention, been to Black Lake three times for the Women's Committee and the Election Committee, Civil Rights Committee, attended the Union Bus

New Hampshire continued from on Page 6

In talking about the Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire Primary, Arnie was well versed in politics and even talked about the voting process. Discussing the difference between the democratic caucus, which is delegate votes, she condoned as "a terrible system" and went on to say, "and the Republican caucus-which is a single vote that counts heads and counts votes and people matter-that's what it should be". Although questioned what really matters in Iowa. She continued "It's undemocratic, it's hard to calculate, it's not about people - bad thing - the party needs to change that".

It was a very well-balanced conversation between liberal-progressive and the more moderate-financially focused (or as Rick calls himself "the wacko-liberal pragmatist")

All in all, they were very busy days and an overall very busy week. Region 9A has great diversity, not only in people, but jobs, with politically motivated and vocal members actively participating in the democratic process.

The biggest take-away I got was to know the legislative process and how all this can impact supporting worker related legislation.

Do your civic duty and vote. Never under estimate the power one individual can have on your legislature. It can really have an impact.

NEW HIRE CLASS 26



Women's Committee continued from Page 4

BRACELETS

Due to the popularity of our Alex and Ani style bracelets and requests not filled yet, it has been approved by Region 9A for our 9A Rep to order 1,000 of them to be made by a union printer.

CONFERENCE

The Women's Conference this year is scheduled for August 7 - 12, 2016 at the Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center, Black Lake, Onaway, MI. If interested, contact Pam Gonsky or Pat Clay.

trips to fight for what we believe in like the MLK marches in Detroit and Washington DC, and to get our Boats, 2 1/2 term President of the EBAC and member of NOW, The National Organization for Women at the Groton Chapter.

"But the key for me is you have to get involved-get involved with the Union, too. Just like voting - you're voice has to have meaning" said Judi. Happy retirement and safe travels Judi. You certainly deserve it!.



EMPLOYEES COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION



Thank you to all the hard working volunteers that made it to the EB Employees' Community Services Association C&S Food Show collection on Wednesday March 16, 4:00 pm at the Foxwood's Fox Tower Premier Ballroom. Over 60 volunteers came out, many of whom were there for the first time. Some of the friends & family that joined us were the Robotics Team from Fitch High School.

Our volunteer team included: Dawn Barrasso, Alex Bertran, Alel Burns, Tom Carson, Tim Carlson, Dan Charron, Jennifer Charron, Andy Checchia, Pat Clay, Martin Cuddy, Kim Deschamps, Ken Fontaine, Joan Gaynor, Gigi Graves, Joanna

Grzymala, April Hannah, Autmn Hannah, Divine Hannah, Jordan Hannah, John Jones, Tim Kesling, Chelsea Ketner, Katie Kietzman, Mike Long, Larry Magee, Anthony Maglio III, Bill Mahn, Cindy Mahn, Steve Missel, Tom Monaghan, Allen Munton, Robert Neill, Carol Nelson, Rich Nelson, Jim Newman, Etay Orlander, Sharron Peccini, Erin Pedone, John Pedone, Mary Pine, Matthew Power, Meagan Power, Robert Power, Dave Reagan, Michael Reed, Robert Rossi, Kerry Saltvick, Jim Sammons, Gena Scognamiglio, Dina Sears-Graves, Lance Shirghio, Avo Siismets, Jim Smith, Liz Strader, Aiden Sullivan, B. Terpe, Alex Waid, Ben Waid, James Warren, Ian Waters, Krys-

tina Waters, Joe Wessell, D. Neil Whittington, Linda Widstrom, Mary White, John Wirth, Katie Wissink, and a few others that didn't make it to the sign in table.

Although we ran out of time before we were able to collect everything, our total collection was...56,979 pounds (almost 1,000 pounds of food per volunteer!)

Donated food was brought to the Gemma E. Moran United Way/ Labor Food Center that will be distributed to the entire New London county.

It was amazing to see the pallets of food unloaded by our volunteers at the food center.

Sincerely, thank you for coming to help. We hope to see everyone again in the future.

Kim Deschamps

Do you want to bring thousands of pounds of food to those that are food insecure in the community?
We invite you to join us!

2015-2016 UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION

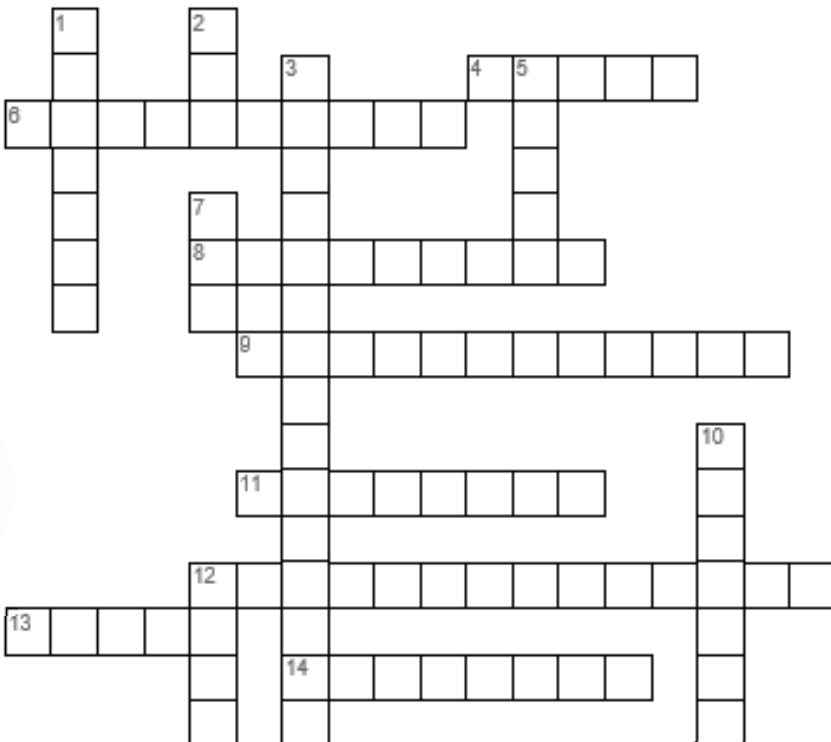
On Thursday, April 14 at the Grand Pequot Ballroom in Foxwoods Resort Casino, President William E. Louis along with Officers Pat Clay, Robert Faraci and Dave Reagan attended the announcement of the Community Services contribution results.

Out of the regional companies, Electric Boat again won the top contributor this year with contributions totaling \$2.175 million out of the campaign total and \$5,924,400.00 for the entire region.

Also in attendance were the United Way Community Members and many volunteers who help the local offices.



HONESTY AND DISHONESTY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

- 4 Not right
- 6 One should treat others as one would like others to treat oneself
- 8 A person has this if they are honest and ethical
- 9 I've misplaced something...where do I look?
- 11 If Ann looks off of Mary's test....this is called _____
- 12 If I find your wallet, now it's mine
- 13 If you do something bad, this will come back to bite you
- 14 Shoplifting is an example of _____

Down

- 1 I make a deal with you to do something
- 2 To tell a deliberate untruth
- 3 How would people measure how reliable and honest you are?
- 5 Something just and correct
- 7 A type of lie
- 10 _____ is always the best policy
- 12 Free from bias, dishonesty or injustice. "life's not _____"

Answers to Word Search in online version only found on Page 13 (last page) in the Soundings Newsletter <http://region9a.uaw.org/local571>



MDA-UAW LOCAL 571

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President	
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Second Vice-President	
David M. Reagan	860-448-0552
Recording Secretary	
Patricia A. Clay	860-448-0552
Financial Secretary	
Bill May	860-448-0552
Treasurer	
Robert J. Faraci	860-448-0552
Trustees	
Paul Smith	860-867-3057
Wayne Burgess	860-501-7736
Eric Straub	860-867-4607
Sergeant At Arms	
Mark Ciliano	860-867-1831
Guide	
Pamela Gonski	860-433-3688
Retiree Chapter Representative	
Dan Hall	860-448-0552
Secretary	
Joanne Basile	860-448-0552

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Mike Garduno	860-867-4564
Mark Sperry	860-867-2431
Beau St. Hilaire.....	860-867-1779

GRIEVANCE REPRESENTATIVES

Jack Bond.....	Second Shift	860-433-3021
David Evans	Bldg 800, Shaws Cove	860-867-1754
Bill Stamp	Bldg 800, Shaws Cove	860-867-1999
Wayne Carbone...	Bldg 801	860-867-2691
Paul Ryan	Bldg 801	860-867-2898
Paul Smith	Bldg 801	860-867-3057
Mike Garduno	Bldg 802	860-867-4564
Joe Husereau	Bldg 1, 1A, 1B, 7,8N	860-433-4098
	8S, 30, 38, 113, 128	
	129, 130, 184, 260	
	Coates, Hospital, Machine	
	Shop, Robinson, Cloud 9	
Martha Fletcher ...	Bldg 221, 793, Blackhole.....	860-433-5086
Rich Gianfrocco...	Bldg 88, 128,129,189	860-433-3951
Joe Wessell	Kings Highway.....	860-433-6274
Dan Ogden	CSC	860-823-2458

FOR ANY ISSUES CONTACT YOUR GRIEVANCE REP OR YOUR NEAREST COUNCILLOR.
FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF COUNCILLORS, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 WEBSITE:
WWW.REGION9A.UAW.ORG/LOCAL571. ALSO "LIKE" US ON FACEBOOK: MDA-UAW LOCAL 571.



HONESTY AND DISHONESTY CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

