

Meet your Shop Committee

During the May elections there were three Shop District Representatives elected. Due to the layoff in May the number of representatives in the plant at Cleveland was dropped to three. The Representatives for Cleveland are:

District 101:

James (Jay) Williams

Married with 2 children and has been with Freightliner Cleveland for over 14 years. Jay's goal for the next three years is to build Solidarity, something that we have not achieved.

District 102:

Jeff Hicks

Married with 3 children and has been with Freightliner Cleveland for 15 ½ years. Jeff's goal for the next three years is to survive as a local.

District 103:

Shane Morris

Married with one child and has been with Freightliner Cleveland for 14 ½ years. Shane's goal for the next three years is to fight to keep our jobs here at the Cleveland Plant. To continue to fight for workers rights and make sure every employee is treated equal.

Cleveland PDI Rep.:

Russell Bennett

Married with one son and has been with Freightliner PDI for five years. Russell's goals for the next three years are to strengthen and build the union, and to ensure fair and equal treatment for all employees.

Freightliner Cleveland Skilled Trades Rep.:

Rick Evans

Has two children and has been at Freightliner Cleveland for 11 years. Ricks goal for the next three years is to maintain employment.

Next month we will introduce you to the appointed positions in our Local Union as appointed by the International Union. These positions are Safety, Benefits, EAP, and UAW TOS. We will also meet the representatives from Metaldyne and Ford.

In Solidarity,
Kevin D Barnett
Vice President/Education LUDL
UAW Local 3520

3520 Unity News

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A message from Sally

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me as trustee. Thank You!! Unfortunately this means I will be stepping down as Chair of the community Service Committee. I take the responsibility of Trustee very serious, as I do the CSC, So to give you, our members 100% of my dedication I feel this will benefit us. This being said, We need more Committee members. Currently we have 4 members 2 active (including myself) and 2 not active . We are currently working on a members helping members drive, and to be honest we just don't have the

volunteers to help or the information needed to insure we will be providing a service that is actually needed. So, what we need from our members is "What kind of hardship are you facing and what would help you recover or at least get a handle on it?" So, please email me with your suggestions or to be more anonymous you can call the local and leave your comment on President Drexel's voice mail "you do not need to leave your name or go in great detail" ex. having problems keeping food on the table, don't have the extra money for gas to look for a job, facing bankruptcy, need financial

classes, need a better understanding of what agencies are available to us. etc. etc. Keep in mind we have a lot of resources, so chances are we can put something together to help or at least put you in touch with agency's that can. We need this info as soon as possible. If we do not get any feedback we will assume all is well and move on to another project. Thank you all for making our Committee a successful one.. Thanks again.

In Solidarity Sally Menius CSC Chair



Community Service Committee

DID YOU KNOW?

1) You can call your utility company's, Phone, cable, Internet, cell phone etc. Let them know of your situation. They don't want to lose your business. They may be able to lower your payment for a period of time to help you adjust to your situation. Or help tailor your plan to better serve your needs. The worse possible thing to do is not talk to them, They are less likely to be able to help if you are behind.

A) If you have a cell phone that is not being used or you can do without, most company's will freeze that line so you don't have to pay a cancellation fee.

B) If you are in good standing with your auto loan most lenders will defer up to 2 payments a year.

2) Call your credit card Company's (even if the card is in your spouse's name) most protection covers household members if you are a user, not just the card holder.

A) If you have credit card protection they may cover your minimum payment in the event of involuntary layoff and even life style change such as going to school, getting good grades, getting married, moving, hospitalization etc.

B) If you don't have credit card protector and you have a life style change as stated above, you can still get coverage **if the event hasn't occurred yet**. So if you plan on attending school it may benefit you to check with your cc company's to see what kind of credit protection they offer.. If the card is in your spouse's name add yourself to the card as a user.

C) Ask your credit card company if they can lower your interest rate. If you have a good payment history with them, they will consider it, They don't want to lose your business.

D) Another option to keep in mind with credit card is to watch for 0% APR. you can transfer balances to avoid the interest and your payment goes directly to paying off your full balance. Be careful when doing this! If you don't get the balance paid by the end of the promotion you will be billed the interest that your account would have accrued.

E) by dialing 211 from your cell phones you can find not profit organizations that may be able to assist in different situations.

Even if you do or do not have credit cards but you are facing a life style change such as hospitalization you can purchase insurance that will pay you directly. Combined Insurance has some really good policy's for accidental, sickness, and 100 % income replacement. Contact Brenda Phelps 704-658-7010 or Bob Allen 704-213-1961.

I'm not advising anyone! I am not a credit advisor, These are things that I have done myself and they worked for me. I am just passing them along. I am not saying that all creditors do the things I stated, but The Company's I deal with where more than glad to help. Please feel free to contact me if you need more information.

Sally Menius

Our Future is with Education

The issues we face today as a Labor Union are difficult, but we have faced them before. Labor Unions have always been the guardians of the middle class and forever will be. The efforts we take today are more important than at any time in recent history of America.

Our futures are not up to some people we don't see, it is up to us. How we act and react now will determine the type of future we as workers have for us and our families. I challenge each and every member of this local union to do two things; one is grasp opportunities to learn more about the union and how it operates. Don't ever assume you know or someone else around you knows, educate yourself by signing up for one of the classes being offered at the local. Second is to communicate what you learn with those around you. Tell them what you were taught in the classes and challenge them to take the class as well. Talk to the non union workers about the importance of standing united as workers for the same cause. By standing together United in Solidarity is the only way we, as workers, can secure our jobs for the long term and make sure our pay and benefits stay competitive and affordable.

We must learn from our past to secure our futures. We must look at what workers did in the 1930's and 1940's when their backs were against the wall, as ours seems to be to some. They did not give up, they did not turn on each other; what they did was to realize that I am my brother's keeper and if I am to do well my brother/sister (co-worker, neighbor, etc.) has to be doing well also. We cannot be like the greedy corporate bosses who have gotten this country in the shape it is in with the mentality of as long as I am doing well, I don't care about anyone else. We must grasp the concept of I am doing well only when my brother/sister is doing well also.

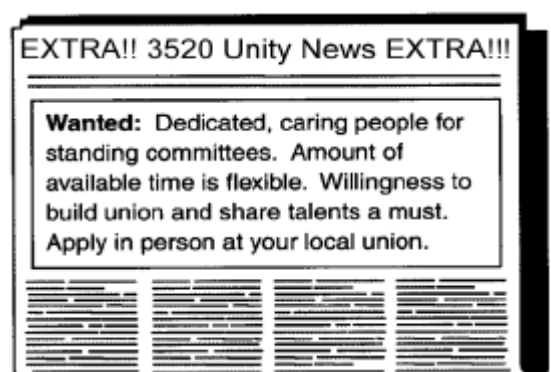
Bottom line is without the workers standing United under the umbrella of a Labor Union, we are at the mercy of the company's we work for and I know everyone remembers what that was like. No choices, no voices and no respect.

Stand United and sign up for one of the Education Classes now being offered.

In Total Solidarity and Unity,

Kevin D Barnett

Vice President/Education LUDL



Veterans Roll Call



Veterans Roll Call
July 2009



The Veterans Committee continues to be active in the community by doing our visitations with the VA Hospital's SIPU (Specialized In Patient Unit) as well as taking on a more ownership role in our local as we take on the task of lawn care for the local union hall. We are in need of items to help out with the SIPU such as coffee, creamers, sugar free condiments such as splenda or nutrisweet and any other items that can be used in the day room area of this floor of the hospital such as teas and cocoa. We will also take used books and movies but please the VA request that there be no military or war movies donated.

At our June meeting of the Veterans Committee we voted to purchase the Veterans Bible to pass out to the Veterans in the SIPU. This bible is a King James version, however the difference is you are not to keep it but pass it along to another Veteran in need. Inside the cover will be contact numbers for the Veterans to get help with such things as alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, etc. It will also have a sticker that it was donated by the members of the Veterans Committee of UAW Local 3520 and contact information with us if they think we can help them out. One of the things these bibles are used for is comfort to those in need. The premise is you read it and when a verse helps you out you mark it, then you pass it along when you come across another Veteran in need. The members of the Veterans Committee will mark the bible with verses that we use in our daily walks that give us inspiration and power to keep going. We hope these bibles will bring a blessing to each person that lays their hands upon it. We want to thank Terry Guffey for bringing this to our attention. If you would like to help purchase these bibles for the Veterans just make a donation to a member of the Veterans Committee and let them know it is for the bibles for the Vets. We hope that if we are able to send representatives to the National Veterans Conference in Black Lake in August that we can show this bible program to other Veterans Committees across the country and they too will want to get on board with it.

In the coming months the Veterans Committee will be looking at ways to raise funds for our committee. We have depleted all our general fund resources and are very low in our Veterans Care Fund which goes directly to programs at the VA Hospital. At the July meeting we will be holding a raffle for two \$20.00 gift cards to K&W Cafeteria. We will also hold another raffle for the same prize at the August meeting.

Once again we would like to thank the members of this great Union for your support of Veterans and our active Military today by supporting our efforts in the community as well as nationwide.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!
IN SOLIDARITY,
Veterans Committee UAW LOCAL 3520

