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August 2009 Edition

Local 1440

“American Made” T – Shirt a Product of Mexico?

Most of us would assume that a tee shirt lettered “AMERICAN MADE” across its chest would be made in America. But that’s not the case with J.C. Penney’s tee shirt so decorated. It’s made in Mexico

When a 78 year – old retired clothing manufacturer discovered this canard he was incensed. It seems that Joe Allen’s company was driven out of business by unfair foreign competition.

Allen brought the matter to the attention of the Alliance for American Manufacturing which contacted J.C. Penney.

Penney’s spokesperson replied to the AAM that “American Made” refers to the wearer of the garment, not the shirt. J.C. Penny told *Business Week* the shirt will remain on store shelves throughout the summer. Penney’s says the tee is “intended to evoke our American lifestyle and pride in being American.” HUH?!

If you want to share your views on this with J.C. Penney, you can email Kelly Sanchez at ksanch18@jcpenny.com.

Article from Aug 2009 Union Label & Service Trades Dept., AFL – CIO

Signed contributions are invited by Members of Local 1440. Other contributions may be accepted. All material is subject to general interest to the membership and space availability, and may not be returned. Articles, opinions expressed, and statements made are not necessarily the opinion or the policy of the Union. The union does not endorse any advertisers

RETIREMENTS

July

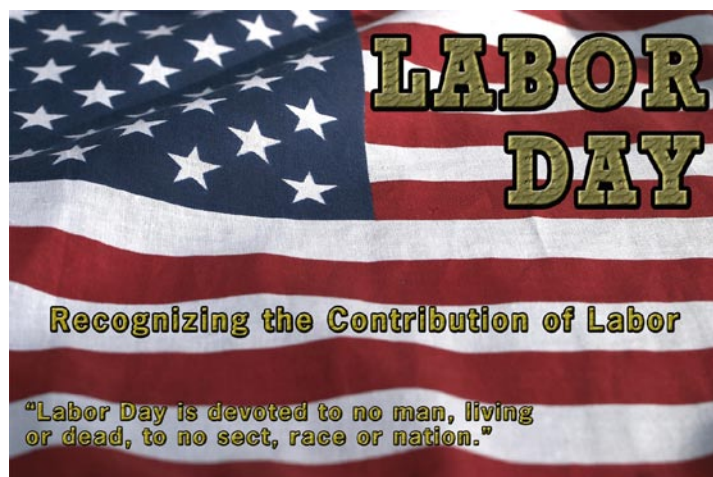
Robert Iniquez – 32 years service, worked as a Floor Operator on the KM-CAL.

Michael Hunt – 33 years service, worked as a Crew Leader in Transportation.

Luis Munoz – 39 years service, worked as an Operator in Utilities.

Mike Harper – 6 years service, worked as a Mechanic in Sheet Maintenance.

Congratulations and good luck to our Brothers on their retirement.



Our Union Meetings are held every
2nd Thursday of the month.

Our Next Meeting will be on
September 10th
7:30 PM at the Union Hall
677 Cumberland St.
Pittsburg

Financial Secretary's Report

LOCAL'S WEBSITE



www.usw1440.com

Grievance Committee


Buzz Enea Jr. -	Chairman -Reliability
Mike Orlando -	Rolling
Joe Perez	Sheet
Steve Berendsen	Tin
Stephanie De La Rosa	M&I

Call Hall at 432-7396 for Grievance Person Phone No.

WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Union representative, officer, or steward be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."

During this Congressional recess we need to let Senator Feinstein know now is the time for healthcare reform.

Simply call the toll-free number (877) 264-4226, you will enter your zip code to connect you to your state representative, urge Senator Feinstein's staff member that you want her to stay strong on healthcare reform and support HR3200. For correct information on healthcare reform you can go to WhiteHouse.gov/RealityCheck website, if you want be involved, but not call the toll free number, please go to this website <http://healthcareforamericanow.org/> for more information about becoming an activist for reform and a link so you can contact your representative.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is a time of crisis. We need to do something to help our retirees and brothers and sisters on lay off who are struggling with the cost of healthcare. All we need to do is to pick up our phone or get on the website and write a short message asking for support of healthcare reform. With solidarity, we can get healthcare reform passed. You may think that it is not a concern of yours because you have healthcare that is provided at no cost to you. But a high healthcare premium does come at a cost because it is taking money away from you that you could have had in wages.

Our Union, the USW is backing healthcare reform because it is good for our membership and our retirees. By doing nothing and trying to not contain the cost of healthcare, we take the chance that Medicare will run out of money in eight years.

USW President Leo Gerard wrote in his blog..."This is philosophical warfare, and for the Republicans, Medicare is an appropriate casualty. The GOP has made it clear they believe the public option being proposed in healthcare reform is socialism- an evil that must be eradicated at all costs. Of course, Medicare, a government - sponsored healthcare program for all people over 65 actually is socialist." On healthcare reform, the Republican plan to do nothing means death. Death for the public option. But also death for Medicare.

President Obama explained: "the status quo is unsustainable. If you like what you have now, unless we make some changes, you are not going to have what you like because healthcare costs are rising three times faster than wages... if you have a private plan, you have something to worry about. If you are on Medicare, you have something to worry about because we are going to run out of money." So let us not do nothing and watch while healthcare reform dies before our eyes. Let's do something and work together to pass healthcare reform.

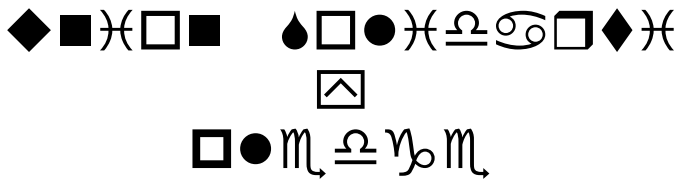
Fraternally yours,

Linda Doppe

FIGHT BACK - against the - RIGHT

**NEW PAY RATES
STARTING 8/2/2009**

LABOR GRADE 1	\$18.250
LABOR GRADE 2	\$19.954
LABOR GRADE 3	\$21.944
LABOR GRADE 4	\$23.077
LABOR GRADE 5	\$24.505



I believe in Union Solidarity,
So while my brothers and sisters
are on lay off, I will not volunteer
for overtime, while management
has departments under manned.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

In our glorious fight for civil rights, we must guard against being fooled by false slogans, as 'right-to-work.' It provides no 'rights' and no 'works.' Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining... We demand this fraud be stopped.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**NOMINATIONS FOR
INTERNATIONAL OFFICES
WILL BE HELD AT THE
REGULAR UNION MEETING
ON SEPT. 10TH.
THE MEETING STARTS AT
7:30 PM**

Jaycee Dugard Trust Fund

I'm sure everyone has heard about Jaycee Dugard and her horrible ordeal. I was sickened and horrified when I saw this story as I'm sure everyone else was too. This is a time to come together and help a fellow human being. My first thought when I heard this story was how can I help? I know times are hard for everyone right now. But if every person that heard this story donated whatever they could it would help this family tremendously.

KRON news has a website, www.kron4.com click on Jaycee Lee Dugard Trust Fund and you will find addresses to donate here is one

**Jaycee Lee Dugard Trust Fund
c/o Viewtech,
P.O. Box 596
Atwood, Ca 92811.**

Remember a little bit from everyone can go along way. By doing this, hopefully we will send a message to Jaycee and her family that people do care and want to help.

Thank you,
Reutilio, Tami & Olivia Quezada

**FINAL DAYS TO APPLY
FOR THE
TINO FULIMENI
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP**

**DON'T LET THIS
OPPORTUNITY PASS FOR
YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER
TO HAVE A CHANCE FOR
A \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP**

The fund is administered by ICD in Merrillville, IN. This year they will be giving out three \$1,000.00 dollar scholarships. They will be

awarded to the children or grandchildren of steelworkers.

The following criteria must be met to be eligible for the scholarship drawing:

Applicant must be a high school graduate enrolled in college and beginning in the fall semester of 2009 or the spring semester of 2010 or a college student returning to in the fall semester of 2009 or spring semester of 2010.

Applicant must have maintained, in the past, at least a cumulative 3.0 grade point average and can demonstrate this with a transcript if selected.

Applicant must be the child or grandchild of a steelworker who is currently eligible to participate in the Career Development Program.

Last year Ben Ostlund's son, Nicholas, received a \$1,000 scholarship.

You can go to our ICD Website at www.icdclasses.com and download the application or call the Union Hall @ 432-7396

Applications are due by September 15, 2009

Cartoon Corner

Sharpen those pencils and bring in your cartoon for the rank & filer .keep it clean and work related. We have some great artist out there, so start drawing your comic strip now for our next paper.

