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RANK & FILER



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Recording Secretary

Linda Doppe
Financial Secretary

Buzz Enea Jr.
Treasurer

August 2008 Edition

Local 1440

Letter from the President

Brothers and Sisters,

By now you should be aware that basic steel tentatively agreed to a new 4 year contract. The members of Basic steel will vote on this contract sometime this week. If ratified, the agreement provides for wage increases each year starting with a dollar the first year then 4% each year following. The agreement also provides a signing bonus of \$6,000 for each employee, maintains the integrity of health and pension benefits for active and retired steelworkers with some improvements in each area. Improved language in Safety, Training and the Grievance Procedure solidifies a fairly livable agreement.

As we wait for the results of the vote, here at local 1440, we will continue to work on our local issues while we study basic steel's agreement. We now have a guide line on benefits and other important language that we'll strive to include and/or improve in our contract. The steel industry is doing well so we will work diligently to attain a viable enhanced labor agreement for all of us. We need to maintain our solidarity as we move toward this accomplishment.

I have been very optimistic this whole year in regards to our opportunities and our future. We have an exciting election coming up and working families, especially union households should be inspired about the potential changes that will occur if we all do our jobs and do the work that's needed to make these changes. We have a candidate in Barack Obama who has brought in a down to earth, labor friendly, tell you like it is person in Senator Joe Biden as his vice presidential candidate. Obama and Biden will put us first before any other special interest and Barack has promised us that he will sign the

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.

Employee Free Choice Act to allow all workers to join a union if they desire to do so. There will be no more pressure or intimidation from employers if this bill is put into law. For us to accomplish this, we need to get out in droves and talk to our members, family and friends and encourage them to not only vote for the Obama/Biden Ticket, but to also vote for all candidates that will support our causes. We have two important races in Contra Costa County that we have to give just as much attention as the presidential race. If you live in Brentwood, Danville, San Ramon or out of the county such as Lodi, Tracy or Stockton, labor is supporting the re-election of Jerry McNerney to Congress District 11 and residents of Oakley and Walnut Creek along with those cities listed above will be looking at Joan Buchanan as the next Assemblyperson for District 15.

It is our time, for a better contract, a better government and a better way of life. But it will be up to us to win all.

In Solidarity

Tony Tiscareno

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

**Our Next Meeting will be on
September 11th .
7:30 PM at the Union Hall**

Financial Secretary's Report

Brothers and Sisters,

AB 2716, Paid Sick Days for all Californians bill died in the Senate Committee. It is very disappointing that our State Senators buckled under pressure because of concerns about the State budget, that it might accrue some cost to the State. I would like to thank those of you who took the time to go to the website and show support for this bill. For those who sat and did nothing, shame on you. We all know how important this bill was to working men and women like us with no sick days, because this company will never give us sick days if it were up to them. This bill will be reintroduced next year and I hope everyone will do whatever is necessary to get it passed. We need sick days for ourselves and every other working person in the State.

Fraternally yours,
Linda Doppe

Grievance Committee

Buzz Enea Jr. -	Chairman -Reliability
Jack Lenhart -	Rolling
Dina Miller	Sheet
Frank Ochoa	Tin
Stephanie De La Rosa	M&I

Call Hall at 432-7396 to get Grievance Person Phone Number.

Opening for Rolling Division Grievance Person

There is an opening for the grievance person in the Rolling Division. If you are interested in this position, please submit your name in writing to the Union Hall; 677 Cumberland St. or fax (432-9736) by 4:00 PM on September 11, 2008.

Be aware of the "Eye in the Sky" in your work areas....

RETIREMENTS

July

Carlos Young – 30 years service, worked as an Entry Operator at the PL-TCM.

Jan Langley-Brown - 18 years service, worked as a Floor Operator on #1 CC Line.

Albert Childress – 6 years service, worked as a Finisher Helper on #2 CC Line.

Congratulations and good luck to our Brothers and Sister on their retirement.

Labor Day

This day will mark the unofficial end of summer. Do any of us look at Labor Day as a day of recognition to working men and women after years of toil during the Industrial revolution?

The average worker used to work 12 hours a day 7 days a week. Now we are down to 12 hours a day and 6 days a week. Back then, there also was child labor, no health care insurance and no pensions. Safety standards were few. It was a time when the wealthy got richer on the backs of the workers.

In 1894 Congress passed a bill making the first Monday in September "Labor Day" an official holiday. But still in the 1900's there was conflict and suffering, even death for activists trying to form unions. Not until after World War II did unions make the greatest improvements for the working class.

So this Labor Day; remember the struggles of the past and the challenges that we face in the future.

ICD website @

www.icdclasses.com



ICD Scholarships

We have applications again this year for the Tino Fulimeni Scholarship Fund. Scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded to various children /grandchildren of ICD eligible Steelworkers.

Please fill out the application on the back page of this newsletter. You can give the application to any ICD Advocate or committee member or mail it by **September 15, 2008** to:

Tino Fulimeni Scholarship Fund
c/o Institute for Career Development
1000 East 80th Place, Ste. 301 South
Merrillville, IN 46410

ICD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sam Navarro
Bill Swenson
Linda Doppe
Bob Witt
Gary Davis

ICD ADVOCATES

Tim Lear
Milt Lea
Corinne Bustos
Andy Angelo
Tim Clements
Whitney Russo
Carolyn Cummins
Pete Mercurio
Hamid Heydari
Ken Knotts
Jeanne Millecam

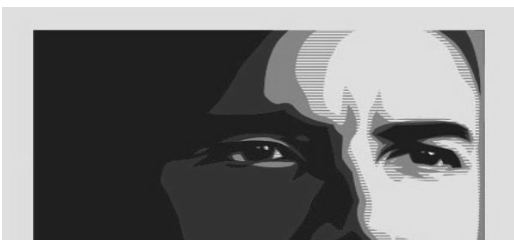
"There is also a sense that this could be a make or break election for Labor, as there has been no letup in the downward slide in Unions' members ranks. It could be the last stand for the American worker," suggested Gerald McEntee, head of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and the AFL-CIO's political committee. "If we can't beat this guy John McCain, we're in big trouble," he said.

From AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka, who has been talking with Unions about the need to face racism within their ranks, and it's a refrain Trumka has repeated since the United Steelworkers' convention in June in Las Vegas, where he said, "there's not a single good reason for any worker—especially any Union worker—to vote against Barack Obama." "There's only a bad reason: because he's not white."

VOTE BARACK OBAMA 2008



www.usw1440.com
LOCAL'S WEBSITE





Tino Fulimeni Memorial Scholarship
2008 Application

To be eligible, an applicant must

- have maintained at least a 3.0 grade point average in the past,
- be starting or returning to college in the fall of 2008 or spring of 2009, and
- be the child/grandchild of a Steelworker who is eligible to participate in the Career Development Program.

Name: _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Home Phone (Include area code): _____

Sponsoring Steelworker's Name and
Local Union Information: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Relationship to Sponsor: _____

Name of College: _____

If chosen, I agree to provide the Institute for Career Development a copy of my past official transcript, along with any other qualifying information requested.

Student's
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Due **Sept. 15, 2008** or at the ICD annual conference in October.
Apply only once per year.

You can give this application to any ICD Committee Member or Advocate

Tino Fulimeni Scholarship Fund

ANNOUNCEMENT from the Institute for Career Development (ICD)

At the 2008 ICD National Conference, five **\$1000** scholarships will be awarded to various children/grandchildren of steelworkers.

The *Tino Fulimeni Scholarship Fund* was established to honor the memory of Brother Fulimeni. Tino was a fanatic about ICD. His commitment and contribution are evident in the success of the Career Development Program.

The *Fund* is administered by ICD in Merrillville, IN.

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 2008 or the spring semester of 2009 or a college student returning to school in the fall semester of 2008 or spring semester of 2009.
- ❖ 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/grandchild of a steelworker who is currently eligible to participate in the Career Development Program.

Until **September 15, 2008**, ICD will accept applications in our office. Please send applications to arrive by that date or bring them to the Twin Towers:

Tino Fulimeni Scholarship Fund
c/o The Institute for Career Development, Inc.
1000 East 80th Place, Suite 301 South
Merrillville, IN 46410

Applications will also be accepted at the ICD conference in October up to the time of the drawing on the conference's last day. Additional applications can be obtained from your local program or by calling ICD at (219) 738-9029.