

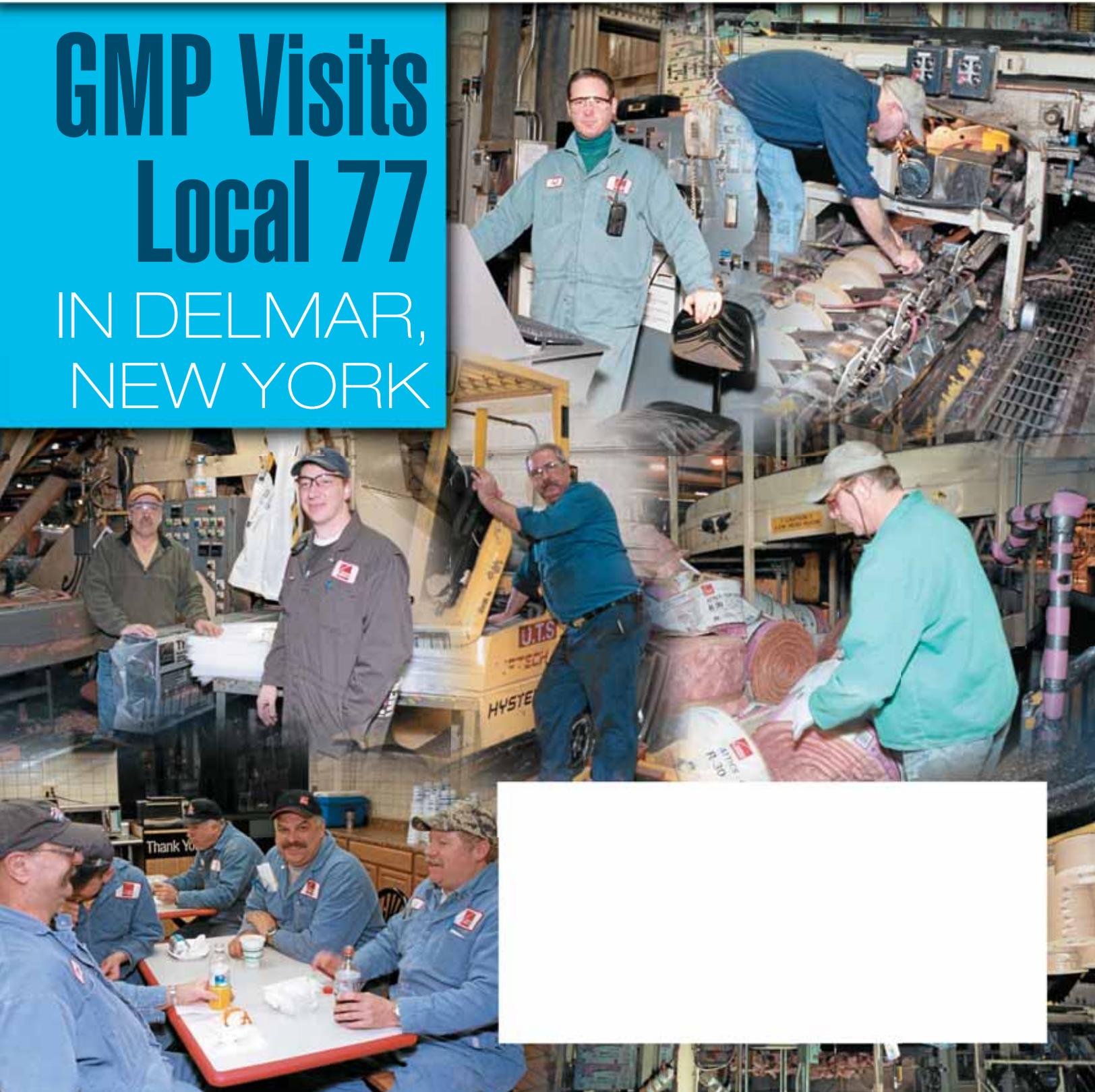
GMP Horizons

February 2008

Serving Workers in the Glass, Metal,

Pottery and Plastics Industries

GMP Visits Local 77 IN DELMAR, NEW YORK





Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics & Allied Workers, AFL-CIO, CLC
608 East Baltimore Pike, P.O. Box 607, Media, Pa. 19063

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In this Issue:

In his Message on page 1, President Ryan notes the increase in union membership this past year and its meaning for organizing.

Local 77 was host to a plant tour at the Owens Corning facility in Delmar, New York. See page 2.

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland spoke with striking members of Local 45B in West Chester Township, Ohio. See page 9.

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See Our Website
www.gmpiu.org



JOHN P. RYAN
International President

“The Employee Free Choice Act would enable workers to gain union status through card check certification.”

Rise in Union Membership Points Up Need for Active Organizing

Union membership increased in 2007 by 311,000. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, an agency within the Department of Labor, computed the figures.

This annual increase is the biggest one since the DOL began collecting data in 1981.

This is a remarkable finding. We have lived through - just about anyway - one of the most virulently anti-union administrations in American history. We have seen manufacturing jobs dispatched to Mexico, China and other low-wage nations.

And despite this, the Labor Movement increased its numbers. There must be something to the polls that show more than 50 million desirous of union membership. If only they could realize their rights minus intimidation and deliberate delays.

The reasons that people want to join a union are the same as ever before: dignity in the workplace, better wages and benefits and a voice in dealing with workplace issues.

On the subject of earnings, the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that in 2007, union members enjoyed median weekly earnings of \$863 versus \$663 weekly for unrepresented workers. The value of a collective bargaining agreement is clear. The appeal of an extra \$200 weekly is strong.

The BLS determined that 15.7 million Americans belong to unions. The figure could be much higher if joining a union were not difficult. A

measure to open the way to union membership more easily is under consideration: the Employee Free Choice Act.

The Employee Free Choice Act would enable workers to gain union status through card check certification. Naturally, the Bush administration and backward employers oppose the legislation. We must work hard to see a new worker-friendly, union-friendly administration take office in 2009.

Senator John Edwards applauded the news from the BLS. Edwards said, “I salute the courage, the tenacity and success of the men and women who have joined the Labor Movement in historic numbers over the past year, and in doing so, have helped strengthen the middle class in America.” He went on to note the substantial benefits of union membership.

All this having been duly noted, we as GMP members at every level have an obligation to help our fellow working people achieve a better life. The International Union recognizes and meets its responsibility through the activities of our Organizing Department.

The GMP Local Unions should actively seek to organize workers in their communities or their plants if they are right-to-work-for-less states. Stronger unions make stronger communities. We all have a role in bringing this about.

GMP Visits Local 77 In Delmar, New York



Seen here at his workstation during the tour of the Owens Corning facility in Delmar, NY, is Mark Prignon (packaging operator assistant).



(L-R): Dave Marble (POA) and Mike Gilday (packaging operator).



Paul Wolf (packaging operator-machine).



Andy Marro (quality control) and Local 77 President Bob Krisanda.



Bill Piternick and Tom Geraldson (maintenance technicians).



(L-R): Krisanda, Sanchez and Local 77 Vice President Steve Rekemeyer.

Director of Communications Richard Kline and International Representative Hector Sanchez recently met with officers and members of Local Union 77 as they toured the Owens Corning Corporation plant in Delmar, New York.

The facility, located on Feura Bush Road in Delmar, opened in 1976, sits on 300 acres and has two production lines that run 365 days per year. GMP Local 77 members have been making fiberglass insulation at the Delmar plant since 1977.

As Kline and Sanchez toured the plant, they spoke with GMP members at their workstations and learned about the members' concerns. Currently, one line is down and over

a hundred GMP members are laid off. These conditions are the result of a housing market decline.

Local 77 builds unity among its members by supporting such events as: the local United Way Campaigns, an annual golf outing that raises funds for the Labor Parade held each year in Albany, New York, and the "Hands on Capital Land" project in which volunteers go out into the community helping with various projects. The local union sends delegates to the Albany County Federation of Labor (ACCFL) and is also active with the Albany Advisory Board to the Occupational and Environmental Health Center (OEHC). Local Union 77 President

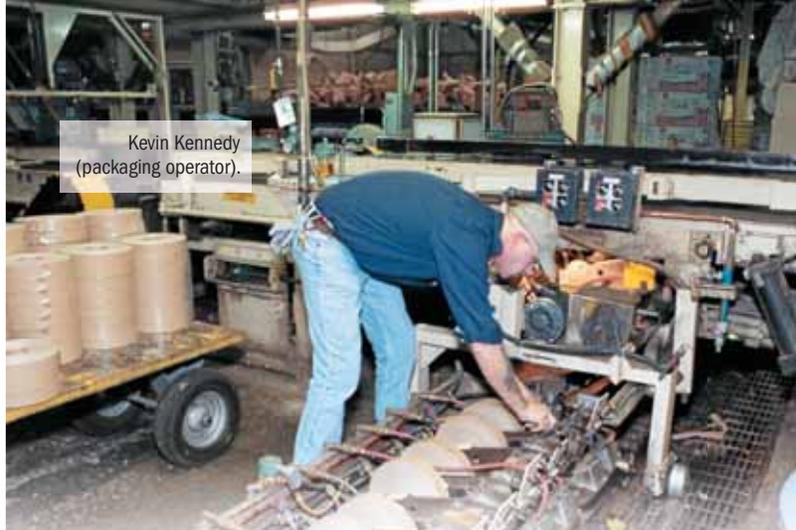
Robert Krisanda sits on the Executive Board of the Capital District Area Labor Federation (CDALF).

This past August 2007, Owens Corning Corporation in Delmar, New York, celebrated 30 years of operation by hosting an open house picnic.

Approximately 320 GMP Local 77 members are employed at the Owens Corning Delmar facility. The officers of Local 77 are - President Robert Krisanda, Vice President Steven Rekemeyer, Recording Secretary Mike McCormick and Financial Secretary-Treasurer Louis Smith. Local 77 was chartered in 1977. The Local 77 Union Hall is located on Third Street in Albany, New York.



(L-R): Krisanda, Mark Fitzgerald (maintenance technician) and International Representative Hector Sanchez.



Kevin Kennedy (packaging operator).



Dick Seebode (warehouse).

(L-R) Sanchez, Local 77 President Krisanda and production operator assistants Mike Johnas, Andy Paloga and Carl Neal.



Jim Martley (auto shop maintenance technician).

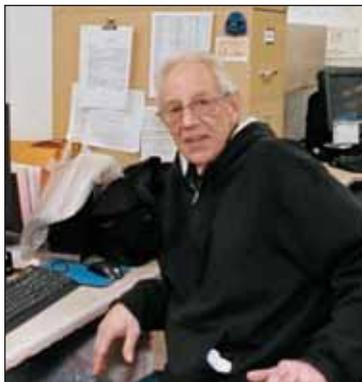
Wes Wellington (maintenance technician) and Krisanda.



Sanchez, Gary Stone (production operator assistant) and Krisanda.



Maintenance Technicians at lunch.



Tim Pasieka (training committee department).



(L-R): Krisanda, Sanchez, Eric Crump (Production Manager) and Tony Williams (HR Leader).



Dave Winans and Gary Auclair, both in the training committee department, and Krisanda.

Federal Workers Unions Vs. Bush:

WE WON.

THEY LOST.

GAME OVER.

Federal worker unions racked up two big wins against anti-worker GOP President George W. Bush when his regime gave up its long-running attempt to impose new anti-worker personnel rules on the 135,000 employees at the Department of Homeland Security—and when Congress dumped his similar scheme for 700,000 Defense Department workers.

The wins end what

AFGE General Counsel Mark Roth called “the Heritage Foundation agenda” to denigrate federal workers and to destroy worker protections. Of Bush’s plan, adopted from the Right Wing think tank’s treatises, Roth said: “We won. They lost. Game over.”

The federal worker union wins are important for all workers because AFGE President John Gage previously said that if Bush won at the two big federal agencies, he would try to extend the anti-worker personnel rules to other federal agencies, then state and local government workers and then to the private sector.

In both DOD and the Homeland Security Department, the Bush rules stripped workers of union rights, whistleblower protections, pay based on objective standards, and appeal rights, among other things. Pay and promotions would have been decided by presidential political

appointees, and appeals of discipline rulings against DOD workers would have gone to a stacked board appointed by the Defense Secretary.

But all that was overturned in the defense bill Bush signed earlier this year, so the unions dropped their Supreme Court appeal against Bush’s DOD plan.

GAME OVER

The Bush surrender on the DHS suit was unexpected, Roth told Press Associates Union News Service. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for D.C., which had ruled against Bush on the DHS rules, had scheduled a “status conference” to see if Bush would take the case one step further, to the High Court.

But in their Feb. 18 letter to the D.C. court, the Bush officials said the conference was unneeded. “We think it (the case) can be closed because we have no intention of going forward on implementing the labor regulations,” Roth read from the letter. He said the unions believe the Bush regime “saw which way the wind was blowing” on Capitol Hill when lawmakers passed the defense bill, halting the personnel scheme in its tracks.

Not only that, but in each of the last three years, Bush asked Congress—under GOP control in the first two—for \$100 million yearly to implement

his personnel plans.

He didn’t get it: The two GOP-run sessions cut the funds to \$50 million, then \$30 million. For this year, the Democratic-run Congress gave Bush \$10 million.

“That led them (the Bush officials) to believe that if they fought this in court, the same thing would happen” to their DHS plans in Congress, Roth added.

There are two vestiges of Bush’s anti-worker personnel schemes, both at DOD. One is that he was able to put it into effect for 11,000 managers and 69,000 other workers not covered by union jurisdiction. The other is a “heavily modified pay-for-performance” scheme, Roth said.

“It’s there, but there are a lot of safeguards and we can bargain a lot of things around the edges,” he added. Pay-for-performance never began at DHS, Roth said.

And Roth said the Bush regime’s anti-union anti-worker personnel schemes also again showed “the law of unintended consequences.” Alarmed federal workers, seeing their jobs threatened, have joined AFGE in droves, increasing its membership in each of Bush’s seven years in office, including 6,000 more last year alone. “That’s probably the opposite effect of what they (Bush officials) intended,” Roth concluded.

Retiree Branch No. 7 Meets For Christmas Luncheon

GMP Retiree Branch No. 7 in Maywood, California, held a Christmas luncheon on December 20, 2007 at Stevens Steak House, located in the Los Angeles area. Guests attending the luncheon included members of Retiree Branch 7, numerous California Local Union officers and Executive Officer David Pope.

Comments on the year 2007 were made by Retiree Branch 7 President Karl Weichinger. He first spoke of the accomplishments of past President of Local 137, Dave Bryson, who died in 2007.

Weichinger noted that Retiree Branch 7, along with Local 137 and more than 45 other unions, once again participated in the Labor Day Parade in Wilmington, California.

Executive Officer David Pope spoke to the guests and made comments on the year 2007. He discussed topics relevant to labor in California.

Financial donations to GMP Branch 7 were presented by: Debra Ligon Smith, on behalf of Local 19 (Gardena), Judith Lee, on behalf of Local 81 (Santa Ana), Lourdes Avendano, on behalf of Local 137 (Los Angeles). Executive Officer Pope made a donation to the Retiree Branch. Jim Curtis, President of Local 137, donated gifts for the party and Don Locke sent a donation on behalf of Local 374 in Los Angeles.

The officers of GMP Retiree Branch 7 are - President Karl Weichinger, Recording Secretary Beverly Trachsel and Financial Secretary L. Ruth Smith. Retiree Branch 7 was chartered in 1975. All GMP retirees in Southern California are eligible to join Retiree Branch 7.



Retiree Branch No. 7, Maywood, California, held their Christmas luncheon on December 20, 2007, at Stevens Steak House. Seen here from Local 81 are (L-R): Juanita Tyson (retired Financial Secretary), Virginia Cortes (retired President), Julie Lee (current Committee Person) and Joan Stiles (retired).



Lunch and a raffle for gifts were part of the festivities at the recent Retiree Branch No. 7 Christmas party.



Retiree Branch No. 7 members and guests enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at Stevens Steak House.

Local Union 3B

Hosts Tour at Crane Canada, Trenton, ONT

Executive Officer Claude Beaudin recently met with officers and members of Local 3B, as he toured the Crane Canada facility in Trenton, Ontario.

A victim of China imports, production of sanitary ware at the Crane plant had dwindled in 2005 and then ceased in early 2006. The distribution center remained open after production stopped.

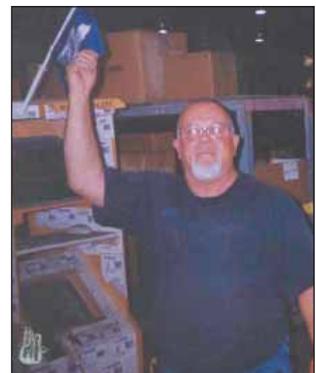
Approximately 12 Local 3B members employed at this distribution center receive sanitary products from the United States, China and Canada. They use computers for inventory control. Products that include toilets, tanks, sinks, tubs and showers are shipped worldwide.

Local 3B and Crane Canada will meet in May 2008 to negotiate a new labor contract.

The officers of Local 3B in Trenton, Ontario are President James Whaley and Financial Secretary-Treasurer Steve Wanamaker. Local 3B was chartered 1969.



Executive Officer Claude Beaudin met with Local 3B members as he toured the Crane Canada distribution center in Trenton, Ontario. Seen here (L-R): Local 3B President Jim Whaley and Local 3B member Randy Hamilton.



Seen here at his workstation is Local 3B member Harry Hood.



Seen here at the Crane Canada distribution center are (L-R): Local 3B members Jamie Hurst, Jerry Sinclair and Dale Malcolm.

American Rights At Work Launches Website On Chao

The anti-worker, pro-business actions of Bush GOP Labor Secretary Elaine Chao are the focus of a new website, www.ShameOnElaine.org, by American Rights At Work. It says the site gives the public “a glimpse of the egregious policies Chao inflicted on workers” and her “hostility toward workers and their unions, and collaboration with corporate interests.”

“Chao’s family connections and corporate ties transformed the Department of Labor into the ‘Department of Business,’” said executive director Mary Beth Maxwell. “Chao has undermined the role of the very agency she’s supposed to manage.”

A screenshot of the website ShameOnElaine.org. The header features the title "Shame on Elaine" and a small image of Elaine Chao. Below the header are several small images and text blocks. The main content area has a heading "Elaine's Combustible Dust Swept Under the Rug" and a paragraph of text. To the right, there is a section titled "Who is Elaine?" with a small image of Elaine Chao. At the bottom, there is a section titled "Bad News Travels Fast" with a small image of a person.

For Hillary Clinton, NAFTA Came Home To Roost

For Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), NAFTA—the controversial jobs-destroying U.S.-Canada-Mexico “free trade” pact—came home to roost, cutting union support for her Oval Office aspirations. The person she has to blame: Her ex-president husband.

That’s because while he was in the White House, and over intense union opposition, Democratic President Bill Clinton pushed the trade pact through a then-Democratic Congress. NAFTA’s passage was one big reason workers stayed home in the 1994 election, and Capitol Hill fell to the GOP for the next 12 years.

And when it came time for Hillary Clinton to campaign for the presidency last year and this year, she found workers have long memories, and so do their leaders.

Both Teamsters President James Hoffa and Change to Win Chair Anna Burger said no personal

animosity was involved when the 1.4-million-member union and the 7-union 6-million-member federation endorsed Clinton’s remaining foe, Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.). SEIU President Andy Stern said the same thing when his 1.9-million-member union, also a Change to Win member, endorsed Obama the week before.

But all said the trade pact was a key and vital issue with their members, coming up again and again in polls of rank-and-file unionists, surveys of local union leaders and on their unions’ boards.

And the contrast between Clinton and Obama on NAFTA is clear.

Obama has been saying, since at least last year, that if elected he would call the President of Mexico and the Prime Minister of Canada and tell them the trade pact must be renegotiated to stop the hemorrhaging of good U.S. jobs—especially industrial jobs—that

occurred since it took effect.

Sen. Clinton calls for a “timeout” on negotiating future trade pacts that, like NAFTA, lack labor rights. But she does not explicitly commit to re-bargaining NAFTA.

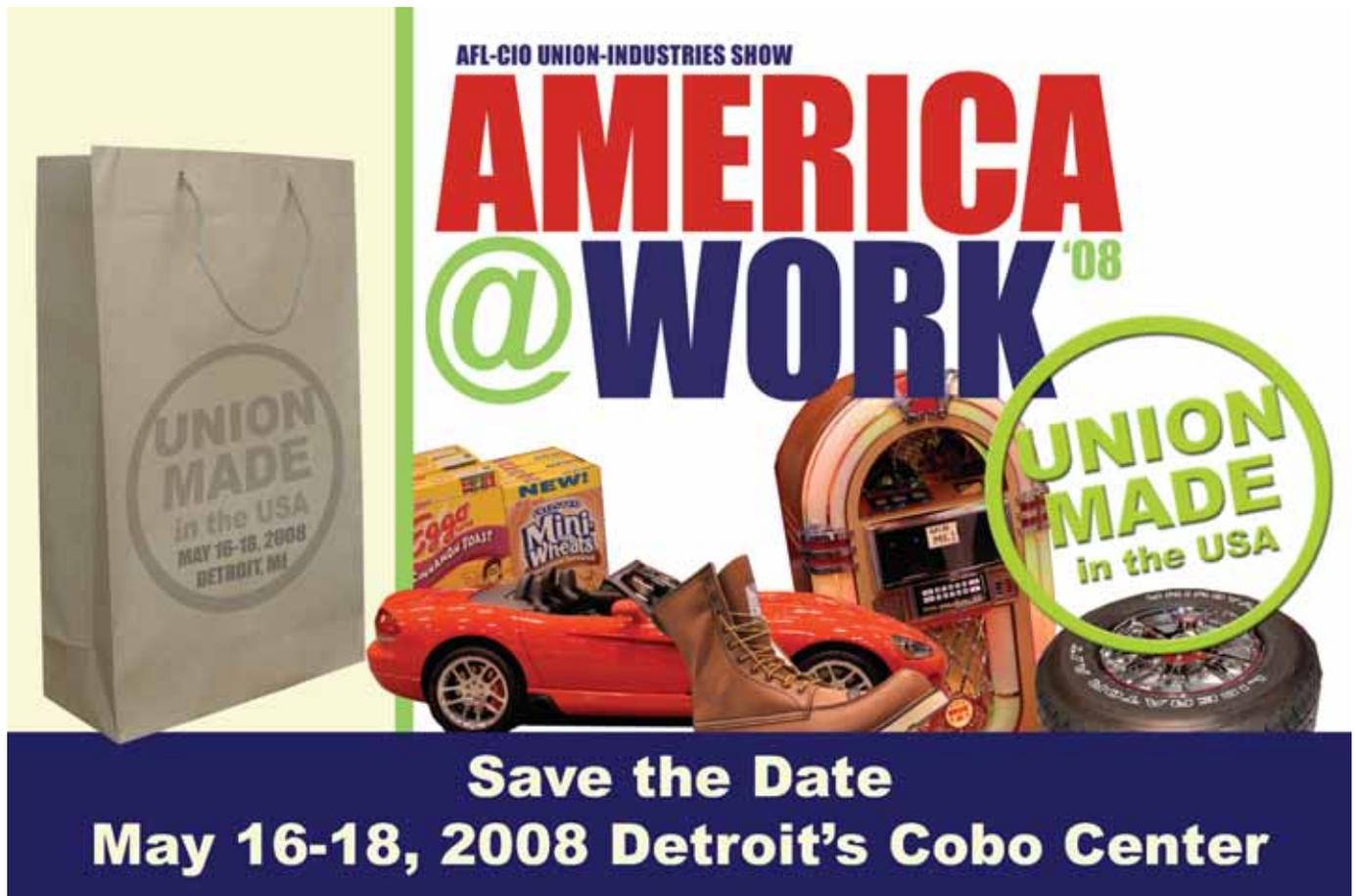
Doing so, of course, means repudiating what her husband considers an achievement.

For workers, NAFTA is a disaster, not an achievement.

Hoffa blames NAFTA for the loss of the 3-million-plus industrial jobs that have disappeared since 1999. Half of them are well-paying union jobs. His estimate is too high—China has a role here, too—but his point is nonetheless on target.

And so now that it’s time to campaign for the White House, Clinton finds herself with a position on NAFTA that does not satisfy workers who lost their jobs, such as the Maytag workers in Galesburg, Ill.,

continued on page 11 ►►



AFL-CIO UNION-INDUSTRIES SHOW

AMERICA @WORK '08

UNION MADE in the USA

Save the Date
May 16-18, 2008 Detroit's Cobo Center

The advertisement features a collage of images: a paper bag with a 'UNION MADE in the USA' stamp, a red convertible car, a jukebox, a box of Mini-Wheats cereal, a pair of brown work boots, and a tire. The text is prominently displayed in red and blue, with a green circular graphic containing the words 'UNION MADE in the USA'.

Local Union 32 Hosts Plant Tour at Knauf Insulation, Shelbyville, IN



GMP Officers toured the Knauf Insulation facility on November 16, 2007. Seen here (L-R) are: Knauf (Plant 3) General Manager Aaron Wine, Local 32 Vice President Louis Posz, Local 32 Financial Secretary Ronald Reneau, Local 32 President Ray Forman, Local 32 Co-Chairman Danny Greene, President Ryan, Vice President Brandao, Executive Officer Gould, Knauf Director of Operations Bob Knecht and Knauf HR Manager Jeff Whitaker.

On November 16, 2007, Local Union 32 was host to International President John Ryan, International Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr., and Executive Officer Randy Gould for a plant tour and a steward recognition dinner.

GMP Officers, the Local 32 Executive Board and Knauf Insulation executives toured the new 225 million dollar Plant 1 facility in Shelbyville, Indiana, which is scheduled to begin production in February 2008.

After the tour, Local 32 hosted the Second Annual Recognition Dinner

to honor chief stewards, stewards and staff. Master of Ceremonies Louis Posz recognized the head table and introduced Local 32 Attorney Barry Macy, Local 32 Labor Studies Instructor Jim Wallihan, Executive Officer Gould, Vice President Brandao and Keynote Speaker President John Ryan.

President Ryan spoke to the group regarding the upcoming Quadrennial Convention, the political climate and a number of other subjects concerning the GMP. The other honored guests also spoke to the group.

The eighty guests at the Recognition Dinner enjoyed a catered meal and a PowerPoint presentation of the recent fire at Knauf Insulation, which fortunately did not damage the new plant.

At the conclusion of the evening, awards of appreciation were presented to the entire staff of Local 32. The officers of Local 32 are - President Ray Forman, Vice President Louis Posz, Recording Secretary Paul Anderson and Financial Secretary Ronald Reneau. Local 32 was chartered in 1952.



(L-R): Ryan, Brandao, Gould and Local 32 President Ray Forman.



Seen here in front of the podium at the 2nd Annual Recognition Dinner are (L-R): Louis Posz, Ryan, Gould, Ray Forman and Brandao.

Ohio Governor Meets Striking Local Union 45B Members At OPW Fueling Components



Local 45B Committeeman Ed Chaney outlined issues behind the OPW strike for Governor Ted Strickland and Lt. Governor Lee Fisher.

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland and Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher were driving through West Chester Township, Ohio, when they saw signs held by Local Union 45B members. The 45B members learned of the Governor's visit and situated themselves to be seen by him.

The signs asked for the governor to stop. He did stop and spoke at length with the GMP members. The strike has affected 160 Local Union 45B members.

The governor met with Executive Officer Don Seal and Shop Chairman Jim Miller in the governor's office in Columbus to further discuss the issues.

The governor heard from the GMP about the company's outrageous demands to freeze wages for three years, to increase employee contributions for health care coverage and to deny overtime until after 40 hours a week, instead of eight hours a day. The company has denied the union's demand for priority recall if a contract is reached.

OPW has hired replacement workers since the strike began on September 17, 2007. OPW, a division of Dover Corporation, has used the replacements to assemble gas pump nozzles and other items.

The officers of Ohio State Local 45B are President Marshall Evans, Vice President Michael Hawthorne, Recording Secretary Ira Bryan and Financial Secretary William Geisler. Local 45B was chartered in 1887.



The media covered the governor's visit to the Local Union 45B picket line.



GMP Officer Visits Local 221

at Alcan Packaging, Des Plaines, IL



Executive Officer Rick Vitaoe recently toured the Alcan Packaging facility in Des Plaines, IL. Seen here (L-R): Local 221 President Hector Rodriguez (service mechanic & team leader/14 years), Esmeralda Lara (shipping & receiving/34 yrs), Vitaoe, Lourdes Carpio (shipping & receiving/2 yrs) and Recording Secretary Paul Dodd (service mechanic/team leader/2 years).

Executive Officer Rick Vitaoe met with officers and members of Local Union 221 on January 31, 2008, as he toured the Alcan Packaging plant in Des Plaines, Illinois.

The Alcan facility in Des Plaines opened in 1965 under Wheaton Industries ownership. For three decades, it was a leading producer of plastic containers. Eventually, in 1999, Alcan Packaging acquired the plant.

The majority of the business at the Des Plaines plant is pharmaceutical. There are a total of 158 Local 221 members, but now, due to a lay-off of 68 members, only 90 members are employed.

The officers of Local 221 in Des Plaines are President Hector Rodriguez and Recording Secretary Paul Dodd. Local 221 was chartered in 1965.



(L-R): Edwin Molina (shipping & receiving/2 years), Dodd, Vitaoe, Irene Anthony (shipping & receiving/most seniority in the plant with 41 years) and Rodriguez.



(L-R): Rodriguez, H.R. Manager Tanya Rodriguez, Vitaoe, Dodd and Plant Manager Eric Hernandez.

Submitting photos to *Horizons*: To achieve the best printed results, the following guidelines should be followed: **Traditional film photography:** 4" x 6" glossy prints on photographic film paper (such as that from your local drug store developer) are preferred. Do not send ink jet, copier, or laser prints. **Digital photography:** A 4.1 megapixel camera or better is recommended. Our printing press requires 300 dpi (dots per inch) for b&w photographs at the final size printed. This means subjects should be photographed using the highest quality JPEG setting on your digital camera (fine). Only JPEG or TIFF formats are acceptable. Images should be unmanipulated; not corrected for size, cropping, color mode, quality of color, or sharpness. Download them from your camera and submit on a CD with a hard-copy print out. Do not e-mail due to large file sizes and the possibility for corruption in transmission.

PHOTO ROUNDUP

Local Union 19 Held a Christmas Party



Hitco Carbon Composites and Local Union 19 held a Christmas party on December 16, 2007. Seen here at the party (L-R): Local 19 Financial Secretary Wanda Marshall, Executive Officer David Pope and Local 19 President Debra Ligon Smith.

HOUSE BILL SEEKS TO CURB POSTAL SERVICE SUBCONTRACTING

Rep. Steven Lynch (D-Mass.) and six other lawmakers introduced a bill to require the U.S. Postal Service to bargain with its unions before “significant subcontracting” of key services such as mail processing, mail handling and surface transportation, the San Fernando Valley Area Local Newscaster reports.

Local Secretary-Treasurer Yoggi Riley said the legislation, HR 4236, also aids national security by ensuring Postal Workers trained in safeguarding the mail, especially against biohazards, handle it. Contract workers lack such training, Riley noted.

For Hillary Clinton, NAFTA Came Home To Roost (cont. from page 7)

whose profitable plant decamped to Mexico, or the cereal workers in out-state Michigan whose jobs disappeared to Canada.

Meanwhile, Obama’s promise to re-bargain NAFTA at least offers the hope that if he winds up in the White House, he’d do all he can to stem the bleeding.

And that hope was one deciding factor for union members and their leaders.

There’s a lesson here, and not just for Hillary Clinton, but for every politician seeking office: When it comes to a basic issue such as jobs, voters have long—very long—

memories. If a politician takes away your job, as Bill Clinton did with NAFTA, you can take away his job—or in Sen. Clinton’s case, her shot at the White House.

NAFTA backer John McCain might want to remember that before November.

2008 VEHICLES BUILT BY UNION MEMBERS IN THE U.S. & CANADA

CARS

Buick Lucerne	Ford Taurus
Cadillac CTS	Lincoln MKS
Cadillac DTS	Mazda 6
Cadillac STS	Mercury Sable
Cadillac XLR	Mitsubishi Eclipse
Chevrolet Cobalt	Mitsubishi Galant
Chevrolet Corvette	Pontiac G5
Chevrolet Malibu/	Pontiac G6
Malibu Hybrid	Pontiac Solstice
Chrysler Sebring	Pontiac Vibe
Dodge Avenger	Saturn Aura/Aura Hybrid
Dodge Caliber	Hybrid
Dodge Viper	Saturn Sky
Ford Focus	Toyota Corolla
Ford Mustang	

PICKUPS

Chevrolet Colorado	Isuzu i-Series
Dodge Dakota	Lincoln Mark LT
Dodge Ram Pickup	Mazda B-series
Ford Explorer Sport Trac	Mitsubishi Raider
Ford F-Series	Toyota Tacoma
Ford Ranger	
GMC Canyon	



BUY UNION

REGISTER TO VOTE!

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The National Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is the basis on which our Cost of Living clauses are calculated. Thus, changes in the CPI-W are the basis for wage increases as required by many GMP contracts.

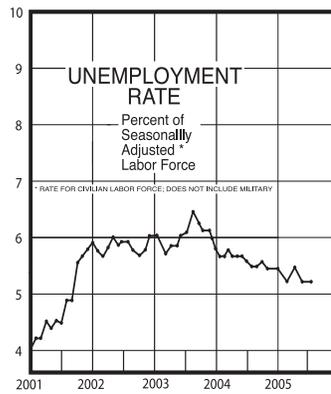
The Bureau of Labor Statistics which publishes the Consumer Price Index has re-formulated the CPI-W, and discontinued the old index in July, 1985 when it published the June, 1985 Index. The new CPI-W reflects a change from home ownership costs to rental equivalent costs.

GMP HORIZONS will continue to publish the CPI-W for the benefit of GMP members.

Although most contracts call for a COL increase based on an increase in points, some have provisions for increases based on percentages. Therefore, both the percentage increase and point increase are shown below.

Effective dates and terms of the contract clauses vary. Consequently, an interested member should consult his current Union Contract for effective dates and provisions. He then can judge from the changes noted in the table if the agreement provisions call for an increase.

For purposes of gauging changes, the base index will remain 1967 = 100.



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.A. for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

	(1967 = 100) Index	Percent Increase	Point Increase
February 2007	591.4	0.5%	3.0
March 2007	597.7	1.1%	6.3
April 2007	602.0	0.7%	4.3
May 2007	606.6	0.8%	4.6
June 2007	607.3	0.1%	0.7
July 2007	606.7	-0.1%	-0.6
August 2007	605.2	-0.2%	-1.5
September 2007	607.3	0.3%	2.1
October 2007	608.6	0.2%	1.3
November 2007	613.2	0.8%	4.6
December 2007	612.9	0.0%	-0.3
January 2008	615.8	0.5%	2.9

12 Month Index Increase = 27.4 • Year-to-Date Inflation Rate Increased by Approximately 0.8%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL CANADA

	(1986=100)		(1992=100)	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	164.7	166.9	128.8	130.3
February	164.7	168.1	128.6	131.2
March	165.6	169.5	129.3	132.2
April	166.7	170.1	130.1	132.8
May	167.3	170.8	130.6	133.4
June	167.0	171.3	130.4	133.8
July	167.2	171.5	130.5	133.9
August	167.4	171.0	130.7	133.5
September	166.5	171.3	130.0	133.7
October	166.1	170.8	129.7	133.4
November	166.5	171.4	130.0	133.8
December	166.8		130.2	
Annual Average	166.4		129.9	
Average Annual Increase				
July 2006 to July 2007		2.5%		2.5%

	(1971=100)		(1981=100)	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	517.3	533.29	218.7	221.2
February	516.5	526.9	218.3	222.8
March	519.3	531.3	219.5	224.6
April	522.5	533.3	220.9	225.5
May	524.5	535.7	221.7	226.5
June	523.7	537.3	221.4	227.2
July	524.1	537.8	221.6	227.3
August	524.9	536.1	221.9	226.7
September	522.1	536.9	220.7	227.1
October	520.9	535.7	220.2	226.5
November	522.1	537.3	220.7	227.2
December	522.9		221.0	

LOOK FOR
THE LABEL
BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN



NOTICE: Any Local Union advertising its nominations and elections in Horizons must submit 120 days prior to the nominations date, an up-to-date corrected mailing list along with other details.

DEATH BENEFIT DUES - In the event you leave employment seeking permanent and total disability, **YOU MUST CONTINUE PAYING YOUR DEATH BENEFIT DUES** until such time as permanent and total disability status is established. As a general rule, disability determination routinely take from 6 to 8 months. Any overpayments will be refunded.

Do not permit your **DEATH BENEFIT DUES** to become delinquent over 90 days. All GMP members are responsible for making payments to maintain death benefit eligibility. Persons wishing to report a death or discuss the death benefit may call the Death Benefit Department at 1-610-565-5051 ext. 221. Remember to check your official beneficiary information. The beneficiary of record is solely entitled to the Death Benefit. Submit beneficiary changes immediately.

All claims must be filed within one (1) year of death.

Early retirees are also responsible for payment up to age 65. If you are self-paying, indicate your local union number and forward your check to:

Bruce Smith
GMP Int'l. Secretary-Treasurer
PO Box 607
608 E. Baltimore Pike
Media, PA 19063

Let's Find a Real Economic Stimulus

American tax filers are waiting to receive their genuine Federal Recession Fighter's Rebate. Individual taxpayers may get up to \$800, married couples \$1600.

One wonders if this program has more to do with an upcoming election than a meaningful economic impetus. It's almost guaranteed that we're going to hear from folks who will claim to have given us the rebate.

But the question is, might there be a better way to get America moving?

John Sweeney, president of the AFL-CIO thinks so. According to Sweeney, the country would be better served by an economic stimulus plan that rebuilds America's infrastructure.

We have all been appalled by bridges that collapse and roadways that become pits. We all know waterways, parks, rail lines, schools, hospitals and public facilities in need of repair. Public transit needs an infusion of cash in many communities. The problem is evident. Its solution is two-fold.

An economic program that pumped money into those kinds of projects would employ Americans. The money would stay in the community as earnings, taxes and privileges.

The rebate will give a lift to be sure. But a lot of that money will be used to pay down old debts and to buy foreign-made goods. The money won't have the long-term benefit of Sweeney's approach.

It's hard to see how the government's plan will create jobs, the cornerstone of any real economic

revitalization. Put people to work and the economy will revive.

The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that every one billion dollars in infrastructure expenditures results in two billion dollars in economic activity. Each billion dollars produces 40,000 to 50,000 jobs.

In a country with over 21 percent of bridges rated structurally deficient, we could use an overhaul. Unfortunately, we are also 17,000 mandated bridge inspections behind schedule. And bridges are only one example of our faulty infrastructure.

The lethal fall of the Minneapolis-St. Paul I-35W bridge graphically pointed up the necessity of fixing our bridges and highways.

The American Society of Civil Engineers believes that 1.6 trillion dollars over five years will be needed to get our transportation infrastructure into "good" condition. That's a lot of money to be sure. It's a lot of stimulus, too.

Most Americans are looking forward to their rebate check. So am I (full disclosure).

But most of us realize, too, that the money to be distributed won't have the desired impact on the economy at large. And many of us are worried because the rebates just get added to the nation's debt.

We're all for getting the U.S. economy on track. Let's keep our nation's leaders working to find an effective stimulus.

"We're all for getting the U.S. economy on track. Let's keep our nation's leaders working to find an effective stimulus."

Save big on dental, vision, prescriptions and more with Union Plus Health Savings

Health Savings



Saving hundreds of dollars on your health care costs just got easier!

Save on out-of-pocket expenses. You want the best care when it comes to your families' health. But quality care at an affordable price can be out of reach for working families. The Union Plus Health Savings program can help.

SAVINGS ON dental needs

- Over 54,000 dentists nationwide.
- Save 20% to 50% on most dental procedures including routine oral exams, unlimited cleanings, and major work such as dentures, root canals, and crowns.
- Orthodontics available for both children and adults at a 20% savings.
- Cosmetic dentistry such as bonding and veneers also available.
- All specialties available—Endodontics, Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, and Prosthodontics – a 20% reduction on normal fees where available.



SAVINGS ON prescription costs

- Save an average of 20% off brand name drugs and 55% off generic drugs* at more than 53,000 pharmacies nationwide including Rite Aid, Safeway and many more. Or get even greater savings when you choose to have convenient, money-saving mail-order prescriptions delivered right to your door. (*Discounts available at participating pharmacies only.)



Just \$69.95 a year includes you and your household family members for dental, vision, prescriptions, hearing care, foot care and a 24-hour nurse helpline. Compare to other similar plans that charge \$150 a year or more. We have more plans available, call to find out more and try a risk free 45-day trial membership.

SAVINGS ON quality vision care

- Over 40,000 locations nationwide, both vision chains and independent optometrists.
- Save 15% to 45% off the retail price of eye-wear. And members are entitled to 15% off the retail price or 5% off the promotional price of LASIK or PRK procedures, whichever is the greater discount!



Call **1-877-570-4845** or visit:
www.UnionPlus.org/HealthSavings



Disclosures:

1. THIS PLAN IS NOT INSURANCE.

2. The plan provides discounts at certain health care providers for medical services.
3. The plan does not make payments directly to the providers of medical services.
4. Plan members are obligated to pay for all health care services but will receive a discount from those health care providers who have contracted with the discount medical plan organization.
5. Discount Medical Plan Organization and administrator: **CAREINGTON International Corporation**, 7400 Gaylord Parkway, Frisco, TX 75034; phone 800-441-0380.

Note to Utah residents: This contract is not protected by the Utah Life and Health Guaranty Association. The program and its administrators have no liability for providing or guaranteeing service by providers or the quality of service rendered by providers. *This program is not available in Vermont and Montana.