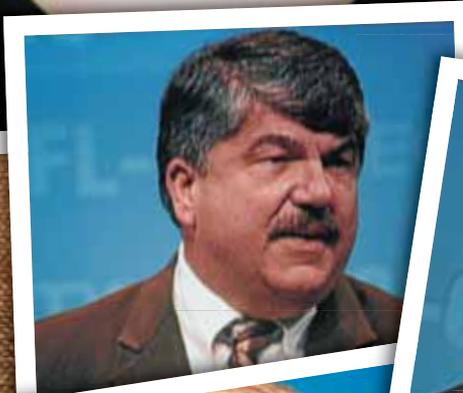
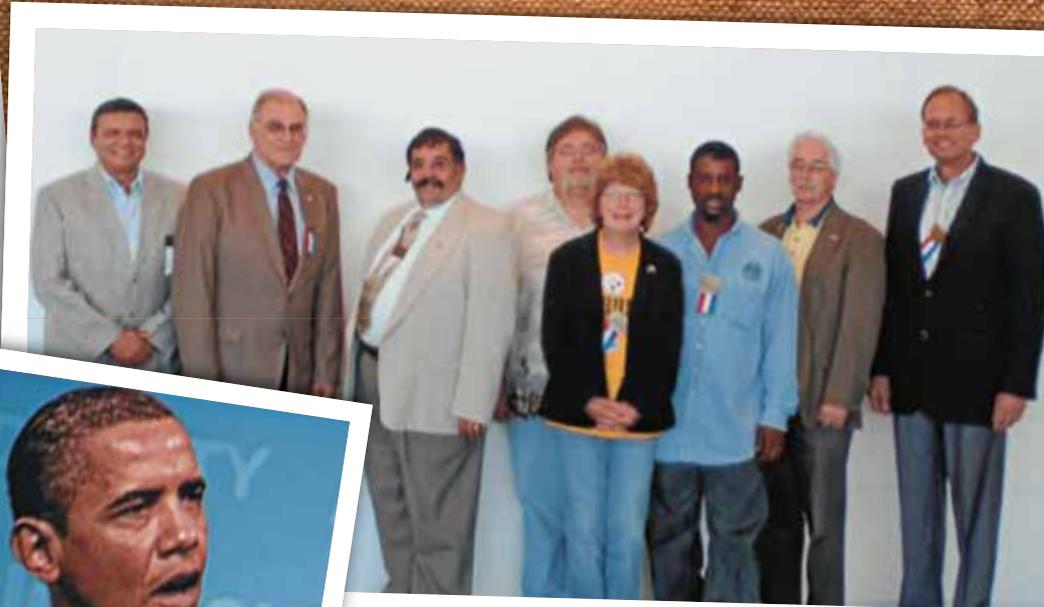


GMP Horizons

September/October 2009

Serving Workers in the Glass, Metal,

Pottery and Plastics Industries



GMP REGAINS SEAT ON AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE BOARD



Notice of Nominations and Elections appear on page 6





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 urges us to remind our elected officials to enact EFCA and reform health care.

GMP Staff members met with Local Unions 28 and 110 during their Brockway and Crenshaw plant tours in Pennsylvania. See page 5.

Delegates from various states attended the 46th Annual Multi-State Protective League meeting held in Clarksville, Indiana. See page 6.

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Your Local Union Number: _____

Are you a Retiree? Yes No

Date your New Address is Effective: ____ / ____ / ____

Signature _____

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JOHN P. RYAN
International President

“Please make contact with your U.S. Senators and Members of Congress and tell them that you expect them to enact the Employee Free Choice Act and reform health care NOW!”

Time to Balance the Scales

Where do we go from here? The Labor Movement expended a lot of time and effort supporting candidates that seemed to be friendly to causes supported by the Labor Movement in the last election. We were instrumental in getting a Labor-friendly President and Congress elected. Here we are almost a year later and it doesn't seem that we are substantially closer to achieving the two major pieces of legislation that we were encouraged to believe would be enacted very soon after the new President and Congress took office. Are we going down that same road that gave us NAFTA under a supposedly Labor-friendly President?

On the campaign trail, we were assured that the Employee Free Choice Act and health care reform were on the short horizon. It now appears that the Democrats are unwilling and/or unable to muster the support necessary to deliver on their campaign promises.

Can this be changed? With an active Labor Movement demanding that action be taken, I believe it can. Senators and Members of Congress pay attention to the folks that elect them. That's us. Without our support, they stand little chance of being elected. They need to be reminded of this from time to time and now is the appropriate time to remind them. Please make contact with your U.S. Senators and Members of Congress and tell them that you expect them to enact the Employee Free Choice Act and reform health care NOW!

The Employee Free Choice Act simply allows the unorganized workers a chance to organize without their employer being able to have a month or more to dissuade those employees from voting for a Union. Currently, the employer, not the employees, has the ability to demand that the employees must have a secret ballot vote to determine whether they want to be represented by a Union irrespective of the fact that a majority of those employees signed cards authorizing a Union to represent them.

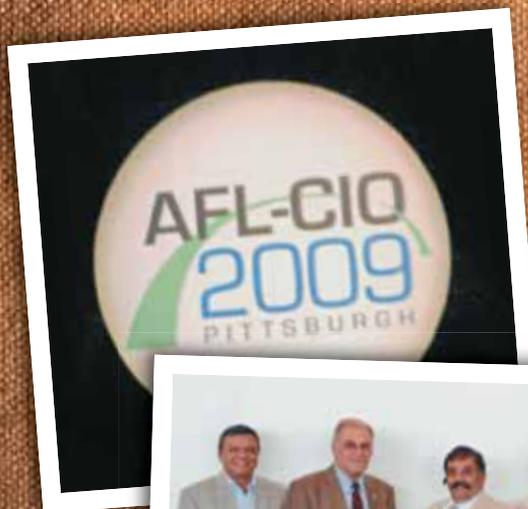
Currently, the National Labor Relations Act allows employers to frustrate the representation process and even delay the bargaining of a first contract by employing specious arguments. The Employee Free Choice Act would balance the scale in organizing campaigns.

How about health care reform? Are we going to sit back and let the scaremongers frustrate this chance to get meaningful reform? Are we afraid of health care reform? The scaremongers would have us believe that health care reform is somehow evil. Could it be that they have a self-interest in perpetuating the stranglehold that the major insurance carriers have on the United States? Some of those same folks would also have us believe that public education is a bad thing. Senators and Members of Congress seem to enjoy their “public health care”.

We have a small window of opportunity to get these important pieces of legislation enacted. You can do your part by making contact with your U.S. Senators and Members of Congress and stating unequivocally that you expect their support for the Employee Free Choice Act and “true” health care reform!

GMP REGAINS SEAT ON AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE BOARD

At AFL-CIO 26th Convention in Pittsburgh



Seen here L-R: Smith, Thorn, Ryan, Canadian Labour Congress President Ken Georgetti and CLC Executive Director Michael Mac Isaac.



Seen here, L-R, at the AFL-CIO 26th Convention held in Pittsburgh, PA. are: Director of Research and Education Frank Grotti, International President John Ryan, International Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr., Fraternal Delegates Rick Wayman (LU 96), Linda Dickey (LU 419) and Derrick Smith (LU 50), International Vice President Walter Thorn and International Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith.



(L-R): Mac Isaac, Executive Director Claude Beaudin and Georgetti.

At the 26th Convention of the AFL-CIO held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the GMP was returned to the Executive Council. President John Ryan was nominated and elected to take the GMP's rightful spot at the table of labor and will resume its role in decision making with other affiliated unions of the AFL-CIO.

It is with great honor that the GMP assumes the responsibility of the position. The GMP has not had a seat on the Executive Council for a decade. Yet, another chapter in the history of the GMP Union begins once again. As the GMP again takes its place at the table, there will be many issues that affect the day-to-day lives of GMP members and all working people across the nation.

So again, the GMP will have a role in the decision making to improve the quality of life for its membership.

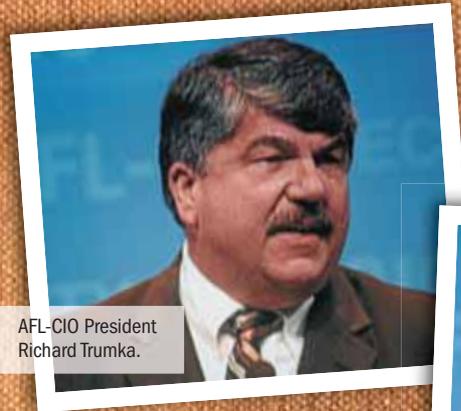
The GMP sent a delegation to the Convention consisting of: Linda Dickey (L.U. 419, Homer Laughlin China, Newell, WV); Derrick Smith (L.U. 50 , Saint-Gobain, Seattle, WA), Rick Wayman (L.U. 96, Saint-Gobain, Dunkirk, IN); International President John Ryan; International Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith; Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr.; International Vice President Walter Thorn; Director of Research and Education Frank Grotti and Executive Officer Claude Beaudin.

Historic resolutions passed by the Convention Delegates included those pertaining to Organizing, the

Employee Free Choice Act (E.F.C.A.) and reforms to Health care in the United States.

United States Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis spoke and assured those attending the Convention that the government will enforce the labor laws of the land to ensure that employers are held accountable for violations of labor laws. Secretary Solis supports the direction of the AFL-CIO's stance on organizing.

The new leadership team elected to lead labor into the future includes President Richard Trumka, Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Shuler and Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker. Fifty-one Vice Presidents of the affiliated unions, including President Ryan, were elected as well.



AFL-CIO President
Richard Trumka.



AFL-CIO Executive Vice
President Arlene Holt Baker.



AFL-CIO Secretary-
Treasurer Liz Shuler.



U.S. President
Barack Obama.

“It is with great honor that the GMP assumes the responsibility of the position”.

The American Labor Movement will be led by these enthusiastic champions to become stronger and be a part of the economic solution for recovery of the American middle class. The new leadership will put a strong emphasis on organizing.

Unite Here was welcomed back into the House of Labor, after a four year absence, by AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. Trumka left the door open for other unaffiliated unions to return to the AFL-CIO.

Ken Georgetti, President of the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) addressed the Convention. Georgetti spoke on new Canadian laws that protect worker rights in bankruptcies (for payment of owed wages and vacation pay) and legal action that can

be taken against CEO's of companies found to have knowledge of safety violations that result in the death of workers. President Georgetti supported and urged the Convention delegates to continue the fight for the Employee Free Choice Act and health care reform in the United States.

The highlight of the Convention came on Tuesday, when attendees were honored with a personal address from the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama. The President gave an inspiring and energizing speech and he touched on such topics as his administration's economic recovery package and the effects it has had on the U.S. economic recovery and the working person's

income improvement due to the stimulus package.

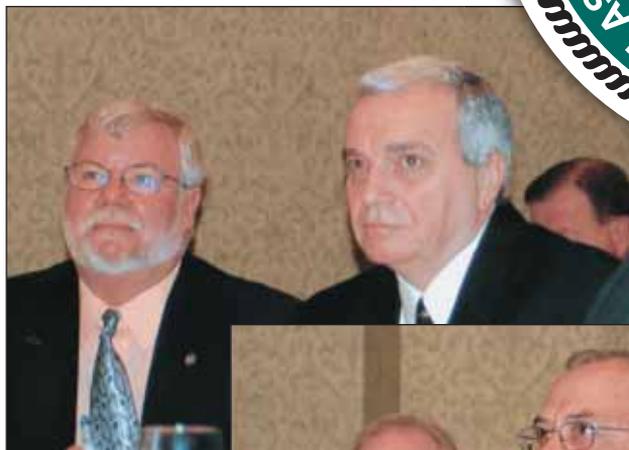
President Obama also discussed moving forward with health care reform, building the economy, changing labor laws to help unions and workers organize through the Employee Free Choice Act. He noted that labor is part of the solution and not part of the problem. He wants to grow the middle class by improving standards of education with better accessibility and affordability to quality health insurance.

President Obama had the entire convention hinging on every word and he was rewarded with applause on numerous occasions. It was truly a great moment in the history of the American Labor Movement.

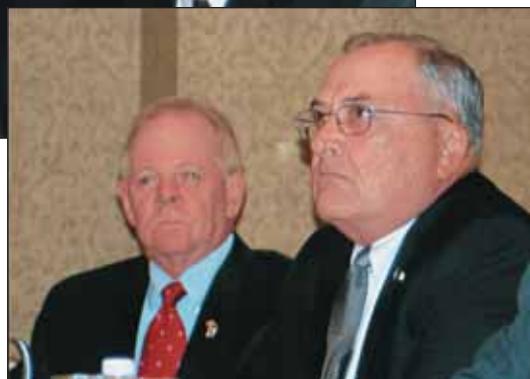
GMP Executive Board Meets in Philadelphia



At the recent Executive Board Meeting held in Philadelphia, International Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith gave the State of the Union report.



(L-R): Executive Officers Dale Jeter and Rickey Hunter.



(L-R): Executive Officers Randy Gould and Russell Babcock.

On September 23 and 24, 2009, the GMP Executive Board met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. International President John Ryan conducted the meeting and the “good and welfare” of the GMP was discussed. Ryan and International Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith gave reports on the State of the Union. The Vice Presidents gave reports of activities in their respective areas. Director of Organizing Brenda Scotland reported on a recent organizing victory that will result in 400 plus new members joining the GMP. Director Scotland and all involved in this organizing effort were congratulated for a job well done.

Director of Research and Education Frank Grotti reported on activities in his department and Organizer Larry Johnson, who is in charge of the GMP website, gave a presentation on the new web page. Executive Officer Claude Beaudin reported on the Horizons magazine.

The GMP Executive Board meets twice a year as per the GMP Constitution.



(L-R): International Vice Presidents Dave Doyle, Walter Thorn and Ignacio De La Fuente.

MEMBERSHIP ALERT

Attention all GMP members! The GMP has revamped its website. The website has a completely new look with links to many other websites of interest to union members.

To view our new website, log on at: www.gmpiu.org.

GMP Visits Local Unions 28 and 110 at Brockway and Crenshaw Plant Tours



Seen here, (L-R): 1st Vice President Local 110 Don Beck, International Vice President Walter Thorn, Local 28 apprentice operator Rob Chiramella, Local 110 President Tony Modaffare and Director of Research and Education Frank Grotti.

International Vice President Walter Thorn, Director of Research and Education Frank Grotti and International Representative Richard “Bummy” Baumcratz recently toured the two Owens-Brockway Packaging plants in Brockway and Crenshaw (Pennsylvania), the Mould Shop and the Plant 76 machine build & rebuild facility in Brockway, PA. There were also meetings with the Joint Apprenticeship Committees in Plants 18/19 and Plant 76.

The officers of Local 28 are: President Ronald Repiscak, Vice President Jon Martini, Recording Secretary David Snyder and Financial Secretary Robert Presto. Local 28 was chartered in 1898.

The officers of Local 110 are: President Anthony Modaffare, Vice President Donald Beck, Recording Secretary Francis Inzana and Financial Secretary Betty Snyder. Local 110 was chartered in 1937.



Seen here (L-R): Walter Thorn, Local 110 1st Vice President Don Beck, Tim Hutchins (Apprenticeship Committee Plant 76), Ed Lindemuth (Apprenticeship Committee Plt 76), Baumcratz, Grotti and Modaffare.



Seated (L-R): Francis (Jake) Rindosh and Mark Pisarcik (Apprenticeship Committee members), Local 110 First Vice President Don Beck and Modaffare. Standing: Local 110 Recording Secretary Francis Inzana, International Representative Richard Baumcratz, Jackie Anderson (Human Relations Plts 18/19), Grotti, Bill Jones (Appr. Committee Plt 19), International Vice President Walter Thorn, Gene Smith (B.F. Supervisor Plt 19), Greg Cole (Plant Engineer Plts 18/19) and Dean Smith (B&F).

Local Union 137, Los Angeles, CA Wins Arbitration Award

In a recent arbitration case concerning Local 137 and Owens-Brockway Glass Containers, Inc., in Vernon, California, the arbitrator ruled in favor of Local 137 in a wrongful termination case.

GMP Executive Officer David Pope presented the case to Arbitrator John Kagel.

Dave Contreras, grievant and shop steward, was terminated last October 13, 2008, for alleged poor work performance. Arbitrator Kagel rendered his decision on July 14, 2009, in favor of the grievant being placed on the job with all lost pay and benefits included in his award. He received a check for lost pay in the amount of \$36,154.17. Dave has returned to work at Owens-Brockway Packaging in Vernon.

The officers of Local 137, Los Angeles, are: President Jim Curtis, Vice Presidents Michael Grosse, Maria Avendano, Gilbert Peacock, and Giovanni Ramos, Recording Secretary Steve Hanson and Financial Secretary-Treasurer Martin Garcia. Local 137 was chartered in 1961.



Dave Contreras, grievant and Local 137 shop steward, was awarded his job back with full benefits and lost pay in the amount of \$36,154.17. Seen here seated (L-R): Local 137 President Jim Curtis, Dave Contreras (grievant) and Local 137 Recording Secretary Steve Hanson. Standing (L-R) are: Executive Officer David Pope and Local 137 Vice President Giovanni Ramos.

Central States Protective League Hosts 46th Annual Multi-State Protective League Meeting In Clarksville, Indiana

Delegates from various states attended the 46th Annual Multi-State Protective League meeting held at the Lakeview Holiday Inn in Clarksville, Indiana.

Representing the GMP Staff at the meeting were: International Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith, International Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr., Director of Organizing Brenda Scotland, Executive Officer Russell Babcock and Executive Officer Rick Vitatoo.

Secretary-Treasurer Smith gave a State of the Union address and a presentation to the delegates concerning the Employee Free Choice Act. Director of Organizing Scotland also addressed the delegates.

Executive Officer Russell Babcock and his wife, Jeanne, graciously opened their home to a cookout to all who attended the meeting. The attendees were treated to a tour of the Louisville Slugger Factory & Museum. Many of the delegates also toured the Louisville Glass Works.

The Multi-State Protective League meets once a year to discuss government bills that affect working families and other labor-related issues, such as the glass container industry.

In attendance at the meeting was the Glass Packaging Institute. The GPI serves as the voice of the glass container industry in Washington, D.C. and across the country. GPI member companies produce glass containers for products such as and including: food, beer, soft drinks, wine, liquor, cosmetics, toiletries and medicine. GPI members include Anchor Glass Container Corporation, Gallo Glass Company, Owen-Illinois, Inc. and Saint-Gobain Containers. The GPI website can be viewed at www.gpi.org.

The Multi-State Protective League offered special thanks to Sandy Newby, Connie Gibson, Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Smith, Vice President Brandao and Officer Babcock.



Seen here at the 46th Annual Multi-State Protective League Meeting are (L-R): Executive Officer Vitatoo, Director of Organizing Scotland, Vice President Brandao and Minnie Delph (LU 207).



Delegates listen to the speakers' presentations.



Director Scotland, Vitatoo and delegates participate in the presentations.

Nominations and Elections

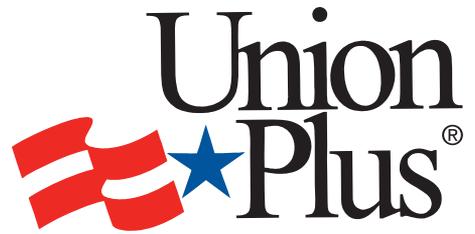
Local 419, Newell, WV

The nomination of officers for Local 419, Newell, West Virginia, will be held at the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. at the GMP Local 419 Union Hall, 226 West 6th Street, East Liverpool, Ohio.

The election of officers for Local 419 will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at the Homer Laughlin China Company plant at 672 Fiesta Drive, Newell, West Virginia, from 5:00 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Results will be announced at the regular meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 6:00 P.M.

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. Email: gmpiu@gmpiu.org. All nominations shall be submitted orally at the nominating meeting. In accordance with Article 20, Section 2, of the GMP Constitution, Local Presidents shall, by virtue of their election to that office, also serve as delegates to the Quadrennial Convention.

Saving Early and \$500 Union Plus Grant Help GMP Retiree Fund His Daughter's Education



Thanks to the years George Kelsay of Union City, IN, spent as a member of GMP International Union Local 14, his daughter Jade grew up in a home with good union wages and health care benefits. Today, Kelsay is retired but the benefits of being union continue: he recently received a \$500 College Savings Grant from Union Plus to help pay for his daughter Jade's education.

"I was a union officer for 35 years," says Kelsay. "I've always been a union person, and I've always appreciated what unions have done for the American worker." With hard work and his union pay, he and his wife Teriana were able to start saving for Jade's education almost from the time she was born.

"We'd put aside a little bit every month," he says, "but like most people we lost a lot of that money when the market went down. That's why when I read about this Union Plus program in *GMP Horizons*. It sounded almost too good to be true."

Union Plus College Savings Grants are available to union members and retirees to help them save for their children or grandchildren's educations. They are just one way Union Plus is supporting union families during

these difficult economic times.

Kelsay learned the college savings grants are even available to union members who have never participated in a Union Plus program before. All he needed to do was open a new tax-free 529 college savings or prepaid tuition plan after January 1, 2009, and contribute \$1,000 to it, and he was eligible to apply for the \$500 grant. "I was shocked that the money arrived so soon," he says. He was also delighted. "Every little bit helps."

For his part, Kelsay was already familiar with the benefits of Union Plus. He had visited UnionPlus.org for information on the legal services program as well as for ways to help his household "go green" (which Jade was encouraging). He also carries a GMP Union Plus Credit Card. "I think Union Plus is a great program," he says.

Kelsay encourages his union brothers and sisters to do what he did—start saving for college early. He's also suggested to his local president that she mention the Union Plus benefits at an upcoming meeting.

"I tell them it takes every bit you'll be able to save. But start when your child is young, and you'll be



Union Plus grant helps GMP Local 14 retiree George Kelsay save for daughter Jade's education.

surprised how much the money can grow," he says. "Especially when you take advantage of programs like these."

For more information on how Union Plus can help your family get an education including college savings grants, scholarships and student discounts, visit UnionPlus.org/Education.

The Union Plus College Grants Program is part of a \$3 million initiative called Union SAFE, which assists union members during these tough economic times. For more information on layoff, disability, and hospital care grants available to Union Plus program participants, visit UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE.

Union Privilege, founded by the AFL-CIO in 1986, develops and manages the Union Plus benefit programs, which use the combined buying power of America's union members to obtain top-quality goods and services at competitive prices. In addition to a money-saving credit card, the Union Plus programs include free and

discounted legal services, education services, discounted health services, a home-buying program, travel and recreation discounts and much more. Union Plus also offers Union SAFE, a program that assists eligible union members and retirees facing hardships. To learn more, visit UnionPlus.org

Reform Health Care Now

Reform health care now! Quit stalling and get it done now. It is time for Americans to receive health care.

Americans are entitled to have the same health care that the politicians on Capitol Hill currently receive. Republicans and the rich insurance companies do not want to give up the cash cow they have. This is about a healthier America. This is about a basic human right and the delivery of health care to Americans without the worry of payment during a period in one's life when they may be the most vulnerable. President Obama campaigned partly on the reform of health care and that was partly why he was elected.

It is understandable that the Republicans and giant insurance companies want to see the reform fail. Both are proponents of free enterprise and want to see the health care industry wide open and continue to see health care for profit. We know that is what they are about.

Opponents of the reform of health care have employed the use of a Canadian named Shona Holmes to help stop the reform. This Canadian says that she is telling her story about an experience with the health care system in Canada. You can find her story at youtube.ca. Insert her name in the search box to hear her story. The other thing you will find at that website are comments about her condition and you can read what a neurosurgeon from Sunnybrook Medical Centre, a very reputable hospital in Toronto, Ontario, has to say about her condition. Also at that website, you can find clarification as to what he would do if he treated a patient with the same condition.

In any health care system, you will find stories of people falling through the cracks or the system failing an individual. As a Canadian, I have experiences and opinions about the health care system in Canada as well. Firstly, maybe the Canadian system is not the model to follow in the U.S.A.. Perhaps England, France or even Cuba should be the model to follow because the

Canadian system has been improperly funded for several years and now lags behind the times. Years of under funding by the Liberal and Conservative governments have decimated our health care system. Currently in Canada, approximately 30% of the system is privatized.

A few years back the government commissioned a report to be done by a Roy Romano, a former politician, and in his findings, among other things, he found that a large cash infusion was needed to restore the Canadian system to proper levels. The point is, if you run anything into the ground (through under-funding) the system can appear too costly and become plagued by shortages and long wait times.

I personally had to have some suspicious masses removed and waited only one week to get to the surgeon. I have gone to my doctor's office without notice and had no problem seeing the doctor. So you can talk to people and get the story you want to suit your needs or uses. I have no doubt that Ms. Holmes had medical issues but to imply that all Canadians experience long wait times is not true. I wonder if Ms. Holmes is being compensated for her part in the campaign against health care reform. If you do check out what other Canadians say about Ms. Holmes on youtube, you may have questions of

“Contact your government representative and tell that person to vote in favor of health care reform, in fact, demand it.”

your own.

What is for sure is that something needs to be done in the United States of America with regards to health care reform and soon. People cannot afford to give up all of the gains they have made in life for health care. The horror stories have to stop. If a country as small as Cuba can provide universal health care for its citizens, including dental care and prescription drugs, there is no reason the United States of America cannot. Contact your government representative and tell that person to vote in favor of health care reform, in fact, demand it. The first time you or a loved one needs medical attention you will be happy you did so.

Another Wasted Opportunity

Another summer has past and yet another summer of the same. With the return of Canadian Politicians to Parliament, we have seen yet another lost opportunity to reform Employment Insurance and reduce unemployment in Canada. July alone saw 45,000 lost jobs, according to Statistics Canada. Again, due to eligibility rules, many did not qualify for E.I. To recap what we already know, there are 58 regional variations and the hours required to qualify range from 420 to 910 hours. These variations persist even though all Canadians and employers pay the same premiums.

Because the Federal and Provincial Politicians failed this past summer to address this atrocity, the Canadian workers paid the price.

Workers continued to pay their statutory deductions and employers have done the same. Yet, when the workers need it the most they get nothing for it.

Back in June 2009, a deal between the Liberals and the Conservatives was struck to avoid toppling the government. A joint task force was set up to look into the reforming of E.I., obviously nothing more than a complete failure, but what it did accomplish was it kept the country out of a federal election during the summer.

So we did not have to endure a summer election, but the workers who lost their jobs received no financial help from the governments of Canada at a time when they needed them the most. The most glaring fact is the problem is still there and continues to grow. We constantly hear about job losses. Even though it was announced that the country is out of recession by the Bank of Canada, we have yet to see any return of jobs. We must remember when governments announce job creation; those jobs are generally part-time, low-paying jobs with no real chance of advancement or future. A vast majority of Canadians now either work two and three part-time jobs or are employed through employment agencies. Again, little chance for advancement or future.

We have seen the Prime Minister in the news attending various political meetings and events around the world, which is part of his job. We know he met the U.S. President and the Mexican President (that was dubbed the meeting of the three amigos) then continued further down the continent to sign yet more trade agreements with Central American countries during a time when we need to be keeping jobs in Canada. There was the meeting with the Premiers of the Provinces of Canada. NDP leader Jack Layton has been featured in the news concerning the NDP convention held in Halifax (Nova Scotia) in August. By the way, you can see the NDP's plan for Canada at

www.ndp.ca, and I encourage you to visit this website.

A recent vote on the Federal Budget means there will not be a fall election. At some point, though, the voters of Canada are going to elect a majority government to run Canada for a full term. Whom or what party will that be? It has been painfully evident that it will not be Stephen Harper, who has not yet won a majority of the voters over to run the government of Canada. The Liberals seem to have no viable leader since Jean Cretien left office. The revolving seat as leader has left them unable to wrest

power and the office of Prime Minister. The Bloc cannot win without the rest, or at least some of the rest, of Canada's support, and that seems unlikely. The Green Party doesn't even have a seat. That leaves the NDP.

Perhaps it's time to allow the NDP an opportunity to run the show; after all, they would not be there forever, due to set dates for elections passed into law now. We have only allowed the Liberals and Conservatives to form the government in Canada since confederation, and we haven't even allowed them to do that for the last few elections. How bad could it be? What do we have to lose? The time for change is now. Remember, if it doesn't work out, there will be other elections.

**“At some point
the voters of
Canada are going
to elect a majority
government to run
Canada.”**

GMP Officers Were Guests at Local 412 Annual Picnic in Vicksburg, Michigan



Seen here (L-R): Local 412 President Tom Kimble, International Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr., Executive Officer Rick Vitatoe, and retired past Local 412 President Henry Hanna.

Local Union 412, Kalamazoo, Michigan, held its annual picnic on July 11, 2009, in Vicksburg. International Vice President Frank J. Brandao, Sr. and Executive Officer Rick Vitatoe took part in the festivities while mingling with officers and members. Local Union President Tom Kimble and his family cooked the meal (hog roast) and everyone had a great time. Local 412 consists of - Metal Technologies, Inc. (located in Three Rivers), Borroughs Corporation (located in Kalamazoo) and Pioneer Foundry (located in Jackson). Local 412 was chartered in 1993.

Director of Research and Education Grotti Conducts Contract Preparation Class At Local Union 244, Newark, Ohio



Seen here (L-R) at the Local 244 Union Hall are: Phyllis Goodin, Local 244 VP Shawn Humphrey, Grotti, Local 244 President Daniel Swonger, Melanie Antle and Dana Dennison.

Local 16, Newell, WV, Resco Products



Seen here at Resco Products, Inc. (formerly New Castle Refractories) in New Castle, PA, are Local Union 16 President Jim Woodrow and machine operator Joe Rice. The charter date for Local 16, Newell, WV, is 1894. The service officer is Sondra Powell.

Dispatchers at Local 333, E. Liverpool, OH



Seen here is Chairperson Debbie Fickes for Local 333, City of East Liverpool, Ohio Police Dispatchers. The charter date for Local 333, East Liverpool, OH is 1963. The service officer is Sondra Powell.

Richard Carr, Local Union 70 Retires with 31 Years of Service



Seen here at the retirement dinner are (L-R): Executive Officer Rick Vitatoe, Local 70 President Richard Carr (retiree) and retired GMP Executive Officer Jack Graham.



(L-R): Vitatoe, Carr, Local 70 (new) President Melvin Powell, Local 70 Vice President and Recording Secretary Mary Ann Williams, Local 70 Financial Secretary Mark Robinson, Chief Steward Andre Brown and Graham.

Richard Carr, long-time GMP member and Local Union leader for 25 years, officially retired on July 30, 2009. Carr, who worked at Gerresheimer Glass (formerly Kimble Glass) since 1978 for a total of 31 years, served as Local 70 President for the past 12 years. Executive Officer Rick Vitatoe and retired Executive Officer Jack Graham were invited guests at Richard's retirement dinner that was held on July 29.

Cut Your Health Care Costs...



Now Union Plus helps working families *enjoy bigger discounts, more services and lower out-of-pocket expenses.*

HEALTH CARE TAKES A GROWING CHUNK out of union family budgets. To help you, Union Plus is offering new programs and expanded services designed to stretch your paycheck and provide the extra health protection your family needs during these tough economic times.

New and Expanded Health Benefits for Union Members

Helpful resources to explore...



HOSPITAL CARE GRANTS

If you're struggling to meet large hospital bills for yourself, spouse or

dependent, you may be eligible for a \$1000 grant to help pay for out-of-pocket expenses.

MEDICAL BILL NEGOTIATIONS

When you have large out-of-pocket bills, health advocates can negotiate with the various providers involved and try to reduce your debt.



ConsumerReportsHealth.org SUBSCRIPTION DISCOUNTS

Get expert, unbiased advice on health care for just \$12 a year—over 30% off the regular rate.



HEALTH CLUB SAVINGS

Shape up at participating gyms and save 15% to 30%.

ELDERCARE SERVICES

Get help in exploring options and initiating appropriate services for an aging parent. Plus find union discounts on eldercare services.



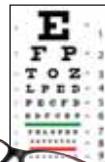
Union Plus Health Savings Discount Programs*

Choose what you need from a wide range of offerings...



PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAVINGS

Get special discounts at participating pharmacies.



VISION and HEARING SAVINGS

Save 20% to 30% off services and equipment.



DENTAL SAVINGS

Get up to 50% off services.



DOCTOR and HOSPITAL SAVINGS

Save 20% to 45% on services.



MEDICAL & DIABETIC SUPPLIES SAVINGS

Take 20% to 40% off disposable supplies and up to 30% of durable supplies.

*These plans are not insurance. This is not a Medicare prescription drug plan.



For specific details about these programs and other benefits available through your union, visit



UnionPlus.org/Health

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.

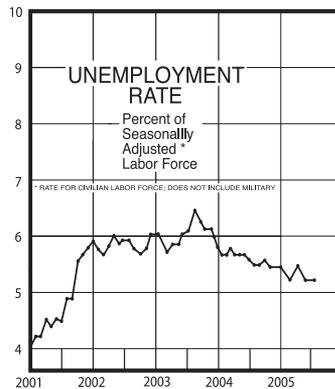
The Bureau of Labor Statistics which publishes the Consumer Price Index has re-formulated the CPI-W, and discontinued the old index in July, 1985 when it published the June, 1985 Index. The new CPI-W reflects a change from home ownership costs to rental equivalent costs.

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
October 2008	632.0	-1.3%	-8.2
November 2008	617.4	-2.3%	-14.6
December 2008	610.1	-1.2%	-7.3
January 2009	612.7	0.4%	2.6
February 2009	615.7	0.5%	3.0
March 2009	617.2	0.9%	1.5
April 2009	619.3	0.3%	2.1
May 2009	621.8	0.4%	2.5
June 2009	628.4	1.1%	6.6
July 2009	627.1	-0.2%	-1.3
August 2009	628.9	0.3%	1.8
September 2009	629.4	0.1%	0.5

12 Month Index Increase = -10.8 • Year-to-Date Inflation Rate Increased by Approximately 0.1%

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL CANADA

	(1986=100)		(1992=100)	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
January	166.9	171.3	130.3	133.7
February	168.1	171.8	131.2	134.1
March	169.5	172.4	132.2	134.6
April	170.1	173.8	132.8	135.7
May	170.8	176.3	133.4	137.6
June	171.3	176.6	133.8	137.9
July	171.5	177.3	133.9	138.4
August	171.0	177.0	133.5	138.2
September	171.3	177.2	133.7	138.3
October	170.8	175.4	133.4	136.9
November	171.4	173.9	133.8	135.8
December	171.7	172.8	134.0	134.9
Annual Average		173.9		135.8
Average Annual Increase		2.3%		2.3%
March 2007 to March 2008	1.2%		1.2%	
	(1971=100)		(1981=100)	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
January	533.29	536.9	221.2	227.0
February	526.9	538.5	222.8	227.7
March	531.3	540.6	224.6	228.5
April	533.3	544.9	225.5	230.4
May	535.7	552.6	226.5	233.6
June	537.3	553.8	227.2	234.1
July	537.8	555.8	227.3	235.0
August	536.1	555.0	226.7	234.6
September	536.9	555.4	227.1	234.8
October	535.7	549.9	226.5	232.4
November	537.3	545.4	227.2	230.5
December	538.1	541.8	227.5	229.0

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THE LABEL
BUY UNION
BUY AMERICAN**



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 takes 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 five (5) years 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



Seasonal Obligations

Well, another summer has come and gone and for most of us in the northeastern part of the continent, summer arrived late. Fall is upon us and I love the fall. Halloween is my favorite evening of the year. I love to have the little ones come to the door for the treats. I don't make them do a trick for me. I just marvel at how cute they are, give them their treat and let them be on their way.

Fall also marks a time of year that doesn't seem to have the same meaning as it has in the past but deserves the same respect as it always did. November 11. When I was a kid, November 11 was known to me as "Poppy Day" and the build-up at school involved doing some sort of craft, usually a colored paper poppy, and we were also given a poppy at school.

Very often, a veteran came to the school and addressed the students about the war or wars in which he had served. November 11 was also a true day of remembrance, with most businesses closing for half the day and school being out for the entire day. There was always the Cenotaph/Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Ceremony and all seemed somber on that day around town. Today, no longer is school out for the day and businesses are open as usual. When I was in the plant, I had an agreement with the Company that, at eleven minutes after 11:00 a.m. on November 11, the entire plant would give a moment of silence to honor the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Today in school, it is my opinion that not nearly enough emphasis is put on November 11. The times we live in have men and women from the United States, Canada and around the globe serving in the Middle East, therefore more emphasis needs to be placed on that day. This is

not a debate about whether or not a war is just; I don't want to get into that hooey. This is about honoring those who served and met their duty when called by their country, those who returned home from the war and those who did not make it home.

"This is about honoring those who served and met their duty when called by their country . . ."

All war is the same; there are those that declare war and those that serve. Usually these are not the same people. I had an uncle who stormed beaches on D-Day and my father-in-law served in Burma during World War II. I am sure you all have relatives that did the same. In the latest conflict, I have friends who have served and are still serving in the Middle East. We all know someone doing the same. These individuals answer the call and society

sets aside one day a year to remember them and give homage for their valiant efforts. I think the least we can do is to put more effort into that one day a year. I believe that day should be a statutory holiday in both countries, and hey, let's expand that to around the world.

The tragedy and sacrifice of war needs to have a bigger place in school curriculums so that, as has been stated many times over, "history does not repeat itself". I wish I had more faith in mankind to believe that, but, if we do not at least try, history will surely repeat itself.

We need to do more for returning veterans as well. These people need to be able to rely on the countries that sent them to serve so that when they return, they have a system that gives them every opportunity and the means to be able to get back to living normal lives. That needs to be done in spite of what's in the budget for them. There seems to always be money in budgets to send them to war, but when they return there seems to be a shortfall for reintegration. Fall represents change, change that includes the turning colors of leaves, the harvesting of crops, celebrating Halloween and enjoying Thanksgiving Dinner with our families, and ultimately remembering. We should always remember those who did what was asked of them for the good of all mankind so that we in the United States and Canada can enjoy the freedoms we have, such as the freedom to form unions and to speak out and demand changes from our respective governments about certain issues.

Let's do that, but first let us always remember on November 11 and attend that Cenotaph/Tomb of the Unknown Soldier ceremony.

Peace friends.

Go Green, Save Green!



Help *save the environment*,
and *stretch your family budget* too!

As we all become more environmentally conscious, Union Plus makes it easier for you to do your part and SAVE MONEY too.

***Our Green Rebate Programs are good for the planet,
good for America and good for union members as well!***

Green Rebate Programs for Union Members



HVAC Maintenance REBATES

Claim a cool **\$50 rebate** when you purchase an annual HVAC maintenance agreement from a union contractor with your Union Plus Credit Card.



Home Energy Audit REBATES

Conduct a professional energy audit of your home and identify easy fixes. Then use your Union Plus Credit Card for qualifying purchases, and claim **rebates up to \$300** for energy-efficient home improvements.



Home Heating Oil REBATES

Get a **\$100 rebate** when you purchase new, energy-efficient equipment like boilers or burner units. You'll help conserve precious oil and **save up to \$300 annually** on your bills.



PLUS learn how Union Plus is working with environmentalists in a Blue Green Alliance to create good union jobs in "green" industries.



For more details about our green rebates, visit



UnionPlus.org/Green