



January 6, 2017  
Volume 18, Issue 1

## In this Issue

**A Few Thoughts from the  
Unit Chairman**

**Things That Make You Go HMMM**

### 5 Ways to Contact your Union

Phone: (815) 235-9713  
Fax: (815) 232-7762  
E-Mail: uswlocal745@comcast.net  
Mail: 2496 E. Maize Rd.  
Freeport, IL 61032  
Website: usw745.org

**United Steelworkers**

**Local Union No. 745  
2496 E. Maize Road  
Freeport, IL 61032**

**815/235-9713**

# The Classifieds

I trust that your time off has been prosperous. I hope that your Christmas was filled with joy and laughter of friends and family. As 2016 departed us, 2017 arose giving us a new beginning of the same journeys. Set yourself free from the past and forgive everyone who participated in it. May you find a new peace in who you are by being the best you, you can be.

Special thanks to all who attended our December Membership Meeting as a kick off for the holiday season. The finger foods and many desserts were delicious. Thank you for all you do for our union and each other.

We are seeking committed members for our decision making team and building communicators. Each building should have a building communicator who tends to our union board keeping it updated with all the latest union information /job postings/ meeting announcements, etc. As information comes to me, I forward it out to you. We currently have committed members at Banks Bergagna (Kim Jones), Lincoln Douglas (Dara Willison), Empire (Lynn Stoehr), Carl Sandburg (Vesta Bush), F.M.S.

(Kathleen Williams & Jana Johnson) and Jones Farrar (Morgan Simmons). Thank you for your service. I currently have appointed members in the other buildings. Taylor Park (Lauri Swalve), Center School (Pat Siemens), Blackhawk (Penny Taggart & Beth Benedetto), FHS (Cashonna Cole & Sheila Fane). Thank you for all your help. If by chance your schedule is not flexible enough to meet the needs of a building communicator and you don't feel that you can handle the responsibility, please let me know. If you could send me a name of a member that may be interested, that would be great.

Our contract of the past four years will be coming to an end June 30, 2017. We, the GNC, will begin going through our contract in preparation for our upcoming Contract Negotiation (held during the summer months). It's important that you send us your concerns and desired changes in writing or e-mail. Our next Membership Meeting will be held January 10, 2017, 4:30 at the Freeport Public Library. There will be time given to discuss this matter. Membership Meetings are for all Classified Staff, not

one certain group. If an individual meeting needs to be held, it will need to be scheduled at a different time. We have an agenda that needs to be followed. Everyone will have an opportunity to voice their concerns at that given time in the agenda. Do not allow yourself to be caught up in spoken lies, what's said and done in our meetings stays in our meetings. No one has the right to question you about our meetings. If it's a co-worker who was unable to attend, direct them to me and I will answer their questions or direct them where to go if I'm unable to give the answer. Our business is our business, it deserves to and will be respected.

We have a website (usw745.org) where our newsletter is posted monthly. Any member interested in going "paperless" or just prefer to read our newsletter on line, please let us know. You can call our Union secretary (Mary) directly at (815) 235-9713.

NOTE: Any member who chose Flex Spending, the \$800.00 should have gone on your Benny Card as of Tuesday, January 3.



*May the dawn of this  
New Year,  
Bring new joys for you. . .  
May your new year be  
blessed with peace,  
prosperity and happiness. . .  
Happy New Year*

### *Inspirational*

*Your job, work, life  
assignment must be  
the spark that fuels your  
fire.*

*It must be a passion  
that you pursue.*

*You must want it  
enough to do it for free.*

*You must be willing to  
stick with it, taking the  
ups and downs, giving it  
all that you are as long as  
you can.*

*You've got to taste it,  
smell it, know it whether  
you are awake or asleep.*

*If you do not have a  
lustful passion for your  
work, you really need to  
find something else to do.*

*Iyanla Vanzant*

## **This Month's Events**

Date: January 10  
Time: 4:30 p.m.  
Location: Freeport Library  
**District 145 Membership Meeting**

Date: January 15  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Location: Union Office  
**Local 745 Membership Meeting**

Date: January 17  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Administrative Building  
**Administrative Board Meeting**

## **Next Month's Events**

Date: February 7  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Administrative Building  
**Administrative Board Meeting**

Date: February 12  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Location: Union Office  
**Local 745 Membership Meeting**

Date: February 14  
Time: 4:30 p.m.  
Location: Empire School  
**District 145 Membership Meeting**

Date: February 21  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: Administrative Building  
**Administrative Board Meeting**

### THINGS THAT MAKE YOU GO HMMM

We have members being put on suspension with pay due to investigations and/or being falsely accused.

We also have seen members given days off with pay due to false allegations. The district is within their rights in doing this so long as you are being paid for your time off.

#### Article XI Discipline

*The Board agrees with the tenets of progressive and corrective discipline, including but not limited to oral reprimand, written warning, written reprimand, suspension with or without pay, and discharge.*

This is not an admission to doing wrong or even being wrong.

When the District decides for whatever reason that they need to do an investigation pertaining to a situation, a member usually is put on paid leave. So long as you are being paid in full for your time off, we go with the flow.

Again, this does not mean that you did something wrong, it does not mean that we agree with what they're doing, so long as you are being paid, we accept it.

However, if you are being falsely accused and were issued discipline as a result of one's opinion of a situation or an assumption of false actions, we will file a grievance, even if you were paid for your time off. You have rights and we support you and your rights. Stacking one's file with bogus discipline actions is a violation. Falsely accused and/or false allegations will need to be proven with proper evidence, not one's opinion.

If you are being falsely accused and receiving discipline as a result of their opinion or an assumption, we will file a grievance and support you and your rights.

#### CORN BREAD

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 c. flour    | 1/2 tsp. salt   |
| 1 c. cornmeal | 1 egg           |
| 1/4 c. sugar  | 1 c. buttermilk |

- 2 t. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda

- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil

In large bowl, combine dry ingredients. In another bowl beat egg, buttermilk and oil. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Pour into a greased 9" X 9" pan. Bake at 425°, 14 – 16 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Serve warm. Yield: 6 servings

### IN MEMORIAM

Adam Ross



Adam was born January 4, 1984 to Lisa (Olson) Ross and Arthur (Bucky) Ross. Adam was the proud brother of 1 sister, Ashley, and 2 brothers, Brandon and Artell.

Adam was hired August 19, 2014 by the Freeport School District. He held two positions: Security Monitor and special para. FHS Students viewed him as being a very funny person. He wanted to help us not hurt us and gave his all in doing so. He was really cool, and felt like one of us and met us at our level with respect and great expectations. He gained our trust and respect.

He was loved by many FHS students and staff, and he will be greatly missed.

*Your life was a Blessing  
Your Memory a Treasure  
You are loved beyond Words  
And missed beyond Measure*

**R.I.P.**

January 4, 1984 – November 24, 2016

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Sheryl Hoff	Banks-Bergagna	8
Darlean Brooks	Senior High	10
Lynette Stoehr	Empire	11
Ruth Cross	Senior High	13
Barbara Marck	Carl Sandburg	15
Dara Willison	Lincoln Douglas	17
Wayne Cauthen	FMS	25
Connie Zettle	Carl Sandburg	27

**Friends and Family Discount Program**  
A Friends and Family Program Discount card can be picked up at the Union office at 2496 E. Maize Road or by contacting a G.N.C. member. Area participating businesses include: Butitta Brothers, CarQuest, Brightflower Nursery, Rock Hollow Conservation Club, Dairy Queen, 4 Seasons Bowling, Loescher Heating, Hampton Inn, Cimino's Little Italy, Art Ross Glass, Amsoil, Carlson Canine Camp, Freeport Quiznos, Auto Logic, and TJ's Truck Accessories.

*Coming together is a beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success.*

