



February 14, 2017
Volume 18, Issue 2

In this Issue

**A Few Thoughts from the
Unit Chairman**

Membership Involvement

Things That Make You Go HMMM

5 Ways to Contact your Union

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United Steelworkers

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The Classifieds

*Take the first step in faith.
You don't have to see the
whole staircase, just take
the first step.*

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE UNIT CHAIRMAN

by Cecelia Stacy

My how time flies, just remember who the navigator is.

February has arrived and there are less than 5 months remaining in this 2016-2017 school year.

We are still seeking Building communicators in a couple of buildings, as well as Stewards. As soon as we complete our list with enough interested members, we will be setting up an all-day Steward training event. As many of you may know, Lori Holden retired her position as Center School's Librarian this December, giving opportunity for the return of Pat Siemens who was once the Librarian at Lincoln Douglas. Lori was an active member of the Health Advisory Committee, who reported updates as well as information on Flex Spending, The Walking Program, YMCA @ Black Hawk etc. We are looking to fill this vacancy on this committee. If interested,

please call Mary Meier at (815) 235-9713. Lori was also a member of the Classified Advisory Council. Your GNC is also looking to fill the open position on this committee. We will be taking all names given into consideration and ask that you make your request known to Union Secretary Mary Meier. The Classified Council is an Administrative-Classified Advisory Council that was formed for the purpose of reviewing and evaluating issues of importance to the Administration and the Classified Staff with the hope of getting all issues discussed by the Council resolved from within the resources available to the Council. This Council is chaired by Superintendent Dr. Mike Schiffman. The member who fills this position will be determined by President Hill and active GNC Members.

Some of you have said that you prefer to read the newsletter on line. If you are one of those people, please let us know. Feel free to contact a GNC member or our Union Secretary Mary Meier at the Union Hall. If we don't hear from you, you will continue to receive the

monthly newsletter in your school mail box.

Our contract of the past four years will be coming to an end June 30, 2017. Your GNC will begin going through the contract in preparation for our upcoming contract negotiations (held during the summer months). It's important that you send us your concerns and desired changes in writing or e-mail as soon as possible. The contact people for your desired changes are as follows:

Local President Don Hill - d_hill@usw745.org

Secretary Mary Meier – m_meier@usw745.org

Unit Chairperson Cecelia Stacy – cecilia.stacy@fsd145.org

Unit Secretary Tamilla Stidman – tamilla.stidman@fsd145.org

Our next Membership Meeting will be held February 14, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at the Freeport Public Library.

Highlights of Membership Meeting

January 10, 2017

We spoke about going paperless with the newsletter. We discussed contract negotiations and having concerns and desired changes acknowledged. The GNC would be starting to go through the contract clearing up any grey areas.

Health Advisory will be meeting on February 15th. Next Advisory meeting would be January 17. We also spoke about the importance of things discussed in our meetings remaining in our meetings.

Our next meeting is February 14 at the Freeport Public Library.

PEANUTBUTTER KISSES

Ruth Cross

- 1/3 c. honey
- 2/3 c. peanut butter
- 1 c. instant dry milk
- 1/2 c. finely crushed cornflakes

Mix all ingredients together, except corn flakes. Shape into balls. Roll in corn flakes. Store in covered container and refrigerate.

Note: Depending on desired consistency, you may increase the honey to 2/3 c. and decrease the peanut butter to 1/3 c.

This 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: Freeport Public Library
District 145 Membership Meeting

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

Next Month's Events

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

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

Date: March 14
Time: 4:30 p.m.
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Location: Administrative Building
Administrative Board Meeting

Membership Involvement

Don Hill

Thanks to the strength and activism of our members across the world, the USW reaches out to lead movements to stop child labor, provide aid to injured workers, fight for retirees, fight for fair work rules and wages, stand up for civil and human rights, and so much more. Today, the USW is a strong union, bold and proud. We continue to believe in better, and together, we are still standing up and fighting back for everyone. The Union, your union, is not just the Grievance and Negotiating Committee or the steward who comes to your defense, but all members looking out for each other. The "Union" is everyone, with each person having a vote on how things are run, membership meetings are one way to express your concerns. When we work together we become a stronger unit!

Your GNC is presently short two members and are looking for individuals to become involved in the Union, to take part in the decision making process. The contract expires at this year's end and you could be an important part of what the next contract looks like. Take charge of your work conditions, wages, and benefits, and become involved.



Happy Valentine's Day

THINGS THAT MAKE YOU GO HMMM

If you are a member and feel that you are being falsely accused causing unjust discipline to your record and personal file, you have rights.

ARTICLE X: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Any claim by the Union or an employee that there has been a violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of the terms of this Agreement shall be a grievance. The parties hereto acknowledge that it is most desirable for an employee and the employee's immediately involved supervisor to resolve problems through free and normal communications. If, however, the informal process fails to satisfy the employee or the Union, a grievance may be processed.

Step One: Mr. Chris Shockey

Step Two: Mr. Patrick McDermott

Step Three: Dr. Michael Schiffman

Step Four: Arbitration

If the Union is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at Step Three, or the time limits expire without the issuance of the Board's written reply, the Union may submit the grievance to binding arbitration. For more information, see pages 28 & 29 in your contract.

Inspirational

Affirmation

- I release any resistance within me
- To accept my good
- I accept abundance, joy, honest and Loving relationship, a healthy body
- And a peaceful mind.
- I accept myself for who I am without Judgement or criticism of myself.
- I accept myself for who I am without Fear or rejection from others.
- I accept myself for who I am without Judgement from others.
- I accept myself for who I am without Fear of criticism from others.

Iyanla Vanzant

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Heather Lassandro	Empire	1
Sheila Fane	Banks-Bergagna	1
Jodi Langill	Center	7
Traci Heitz	Carl Sandburg	7
Diane Pfile	Lincoln Douglas	12
Barbara Monigold	FMS	13
Linda Muller	Blackhawk	23

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.*

