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# United Steelworkers Local 105 Forerunner

Local 105 Forerunner  
 Issue Date: January 12, 2018 Volume #18 Issue #02 Mailed every 3 weeks

<b>Office</b>	<b>Name</b>
President	Brad Greve
Vice. Pres.	Robert Bartholomew ("Bart")
Guide	Roy Hutt
Rec Sec	Pat Stock
Griev Chair	Josh Meyrer
Fin Sec	Mike Nicholas



**Meetings & Events**  
**January 2018**

1/11	3:30 pm	Committeeperson Mtg. E-Board Mtg.
1/15	6 pm	Q-C Fed Delegates Mtg @Local 25
1/16	6:20am	Regular Business Mtg
	7:20am	" " "
	3:20pm	" " "
	6:20pm	" " "
	11:20pm	" " "
1/17	12 noon	Local 105-2 (Sivyer Steel)
	3 pm	Local 105-2 (Sivyer Steel)
1/18	12 noon	Local 105 Retirees Potluck

**All meetings @ USW Local 105 Union Hall**  
**Unless designated otherwise**



**Welcome to this month's New and  
 Returning Members!**

<b>Co./Department</b>	<b>Lname</b>	<b>Fname</b>
Rolling	Hayes	Paul
Ingot Plant	Garrett	Tonya
Plate Mill	Ringstaff	Tammy
Plate Mill	Wilburn	Nicholas

**Are You Thinking About Running for Office  
 in the Union?**

Article IV Officers and Elections Section 5. No member shall be eligible for election as a Local Union Officer or Grievance Committee Member unless:

- (a.) The member shall have been in continuous good standing for a period of 24 months immediately preceding the month in which the election is held, and
- (b.) The member is employed in an enterprise, public or private, or other place within the jurisdiction of the Local Union, and
- (c.) In order to be eligible for election as a Local Union Officer or Grievance Committee Member in any regular election or election to fill a vacancy, a member shall have attended at least one-third (1/3) of the regular meetings held by the member's Local Union during the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the month in which the election is to be held.

**Be sure to pick up a copy of the Local Constitution and Bylaws at the Union Hall for all the requirements. The next election of officers will be in April 2018.**

**Thanks Received:**

"Thank you Local 105 and all the members for representing me for the last 38 years, and also thank you for the retirement gifts." – Duane Campie (Hot Line retiree)

"Thank you for the retirement gifts and over 40 years of representation." – Terry Devine (Rolling Dept Retiree)

"Thank you for the 36 plus years of representation and the fact that the union has never tried to take anything from the employees to make a profit." – Ron Harris (IPS Retiree)

## Free Tax Preparation

Quad Cities residents with a household income of \$57,000 or less are eligible for free tax preparation services offered through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at 14 different sites. IRS-certified trained volunteers will prepare taxes at no cost. Residents can now schedule appointments by dialing 2-1-1 or 563.355.9900. Tax filing season begins February 1. (2-1-1 is United Way's confidential information and referral line.) Tax Preparation Sites are located in Bettendorf, IA, Clinton, IA, Davenport, IA, East Moline, IL, Geneseo, IL, Moline, IL, Rock Island, IL, and Silvis, IL. Please call 563 355-9900 for more information.

### 105 Contest Continues

This week's number for direct deposit users to add to the cents of their deposit amount is 35. If the sum totals 105 you win a free T-shirt.



### Benefit Lunch for General Mechanic: Johnny Cross

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 27  
from 1pm to 5pm

**WHERE:** Len Brown's North Shore Inn & Marina  
700 N Shore Dr, Moline, IL 61265

**WHY:** To help ease the financial burden and support Johnny in his battle with Diffuse Large B cell Lymphoma and other health issues

**Questions:** Contact Elizabeth Cross 309 373-0823

### Walmart quietly lays off thousands of workers after bonus announcement

Workers across the country were not told of the closings and showed up to work to find stores shuttered.

<https://thinkprogress.org/walmart-bonus-layoffs-ed187882b011/>

Thursday morning, Walmart had a flashy announcement: Thanks to corporate tax cuts, it was giving its employees bonuses of up to \$1,000. Walmart and President Trump pointed to the announcement as proof that the corporate tax cuts are really a boon to working-class Americans.

This announcement, as ThinkProgress reported earlier, was much more complicated than it first sounds.

Walmart employees are eligible for the \$1,000 bonus only if they've worked at the company for 20 years. Most Walmart employees, of course, haven't worked there that long. Those employees will receive a smaller bonus based on seniority. Walmart didn't explain exactly how the sliding scale will work, but said the total value of the bonuses will be \$400 million. Walmart has about 2.1 million employees, which works out to be an average bonus of about \$190.

The one-time bonus Walmart announced this morning amounts to just over 2 percent of the total value of the tax cut to the company.

In fiscal year 2017, Walmart had pre-tax profits of about \$20.5 billion and paid an effective federal tax rate of around 30 percent. With a new corporate tax rate of 21 percent, the corporate tax cut is worth at least \$1.85 billion to Walmart every year. Since this cut is permanent, the true benefits to Walmart will grow much larger over time. But it's safe to say that, over 10 years, this corporate tax cut will be worth over \$18 billion to Walmart.

But now it appears the announcement was timed carefully to cover for thousands of unannounced layoffs.

Business Insider reports that today, Walmart is abruptly closing numerous Sam's Clubs stores across the United States. In some cases "employees were not informed of the closures prior to showing up to work on Thursday" and "learned that their store would be closing when they found the store's doors locked and a notice announcing the closure."

Walmart confirmed the abrupt closings and offered an explanation of sorts on Twitter. "Closing clubs is never easy," the company said through its verified corporate account.

Business Insider identified at least 68 stores across the country that closed today. Three of the stores are located in Hurricane ravaged Puerto Rico. More stores are slated to be closed in the coming days.

Walmart's behavior is part of a pattern of corporate misdirection related to the GOP tax cuts. AT&T and Comcast both announced bonuses for their employees while also laying off thousands.

While Trump talks about a "jobs boom," job growth was slower in 2017 than in any year since 2010



*"Our needs are identical with labor's needs — decent wages, fair working conditions, livable housing, old age security, health and welfare measures, conditions in which families can grow, have education for their children and respect in their communities."*

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., speaking to the 1961 AFL-CIO convention.

remember  
his  
**Dream**