

# UNITER



Edition: 1  
April 2015  
Editor: Jack Rowland

## LOCAL 82162

### Local 82162 Membership Meeting May 7, 2015

**LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD...PLAN TO BE THERE**

#### LOCAL 82162 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Jeff Moran, President  
Dwayne Slough, Vice President  
Jake West, Administrative Chief Steward  
Brenda Moran, Recording Secretary  
Steve Young, Financial Secretary  
Morris Miller, Treasurer  
Dennis Morgan, Sergeant at Arms  
Jack Rowland, Chief Steward, Building 1  
Wayne Chittum, Chief Steward, Building 2  
Don Barnett, Trustee  
Kay Ragland, Trustee

#### BUILDING ONE STEWARDS

Gail Bandy: 154, 230, 240, 241, 242  
Lavonia Billingsley: 126  
Sherry Coley: 136  
Cassie Gravelly: 184, 185, 187, 192  
Pam Bonds: 3<sup>rd</sup> shift  
Lee Dillon: C shift  
Mark Ryan: D shift

#### BUILDING TWO STEWARDS

Jay Jackson: 179, 217  
Jeno Jackson: 158, 178  
Greg Davis: 169, 204  
Bryant Ferguson: 168, 222  
James Jackson: 2<sup>nd</sup> shift

### Remember: **RED SHIRT THURSDAY**

#### UNITER

Welcome to the first edition of the Uniter. It is our goal to use this monthly newsletter to communicate information, tidbits and stories that we hope will inform, enlighten and entertain all members of the Local.

The title "Uniter" was chosen because now more than ever (new owner and contract 2016) we the Local must put on a United front, a United effort to show strength and solidarity.

As this is the Local's newsletter, any feedback from the membership will be greatly appreciated. Also, feel free to submit an article that you may feel the membership might find informative or entertaining. These articles can be given to any member of the executive board or shop steward.

Thanks to all who contributed this and remember...

**UNITED WE STAND – DIVIDED WE BEG**

~Jack Rowland

**Union Hall Work Day  
April 25<sup>th</sup>**

To help save money the local will be having a work day to help spruce up the union hall. Start time will be around 7AM. Painting and light repairs will be the agenda for the day. Please come out and support our local as we try to tackle some repairs ourselves to cut cost and save money.

#### *From the desk of the President...*

Dear Union Membership,

I was asked to provide a letter from the president for our first newsletter of 2015 and decided that it would be fitting to share my union story. I was hired in 1975 and shortly after that became a union member at the insistence of my co-workers. Not understanding anything about unions, I joined blindly just as I was asked. Now here we are 39 years later and I am still a PROUD UNION MEMBER.

We often hear our friends and neighbors say that we don't need unions or what good are unions? The answer is easy, even though they sometimes catch us off guard and we have to think about our own union story for a minute or two. No matter why we joined we can always be sure that the results are wages and benefits that are some 25% higher in a union shop than it is in a non-union shop. So it's not that hard to understand why "we are union". Some of us have had family that were union members that allowed us to follow the path of organized labor with some prior union knowledge and some of us were influenced by our co-workers. No matter what led us to become union members, I for one can't imagine working a job for low wages and benefits or not having a voice in the workplace.

I appreciate all of the members here and appreciate the opportunity to represent you. Our union strength will carry us to the next level of success. As we move forward in 2015, let's

continue to grow our union and look for improved wages and benefits in 2016 and beyond.

In Solidarity,  
**Jeff Moran**  
**President**

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Would you like to share your "Union Story"? We would love to hear it. Just jot it down and turn it in to any executive board member or steward or you can even place it in the black union box in the front hall of building 1.

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***Inspirational Moments...***

***Vision Gives Purpose***

"Where there is no vision the people perish"... (Prov. 29:18) After the death of Christ, the disciples are in a locked room, in transition, thinking they have lost their purpose.

Life is a journey, and without purpose there is no vision for the future. What is the purpose of the journey? Predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29). You were not an accident; your life was not unplanned. God is a planner with precision and God thought of you before you thought of him. You were made by God and for God, and until you understand that, life will never make sense. You may reach all your personal goals, become a success by the world's standards and still miss your purpose. Life is about becoming what God created you to be. The purpose of your life is designed for eternity. Neither man nor company can live in the past have a future.

The experience of transition for the disciples was not easy, but beyond the past was a resurrected vision for purpose. Transitions in life do not have to take your purpose; through Christ Jesus you can experience a resurrected vision that gives purpose to life.

~Ray Widener

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***A Few of My Favorite Things***

For the last few months at monthly membership meetings I've been scanning the room and wondering what is a member's favorite aspect of a membership meeting? Is it the info? Is it updates from LMC meetings? Is it just hanging out with other members that maybe we don't get to see as often as we used to? Since it's on my mind now don't be surprised if after a meeting you see me going around asking this very question. What would be even cooler is if you come up to me and say "this is my favorite thing about a membership meeting".

To get the ball rolling on this, I guess I'll share my favorite thing about a membership meeting. It's the start of the first meeting of the month when we all stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Now I realize at first sounds...well a little crazy. But think about it...how often do you get the opportunity to say the pledge? And in the past when I did get the chance I was mostly just going through the motions. But now after 3 plus years of saying the pledge and really listening to the words, it has a whole new meaning to me and a whole new feeling of pride for God and Country. So anyway...just one of my favorite things...can't wait to hear yours.

~Jack Rowland

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***Our Organizing Committee***

Many people might not know that our local has an organizing committee. The purpose of this committee is to help people who are working in adverse conditions and are not aware of their rights under law to organize.

This committee is comprised of Sherry Coley (Bldg 1) and Dennis Morgan (Bldg 2). They have attended classes on organizing by the AFL-CIO in St. Louis, MO and Dayton, OH by IUE International.

Many of their contacts have come from members of our local. If you know of anyone who may be working in unsafe or unhealthy working conditions, please give Sherry or Dennis their contact information and they will contact them to see what we can do to help

~Dennis Morgan

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***TPP Letters***

Last month President Jeff Moran made a major push for all members to get behind a letter writing campaign to our local government representatives to stand up for working American families and vote NO on Fast Track TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership). We collected 190 letters...WOW, great job members! Well, unbeknownst to us the International was having a contest to see which local could collect the most letters. With the size of the local and percentage of those who participated it turns our local "Local 82162" was the overall winner. We were talked about during a speech by International President Jim Clark and were the buzz of the town at international headquarters. Also, due to our win, our local was awarded a man and a woman's IUE-CWA watch. All names of members who participated were put in a drawing. At the April membership meeting the winner of the man's watch was Jay Jackson and the winner of the woman's watch was Linda Lloyd. Congratulations to both and way to go Brothers and Sisters for taking the time to put pin to paper and taking a stand for working class families and for the greater good of America. "The pen is mightier than the sword".