

UNITER



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LOCAL 82162

www.iue-cwa82162.org

Local 82162 Membership Meeting February 4, 2016

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

LOCAL 82162 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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BUILDING ONE STEWARDS

Gail Bandy: 154, 230, 240, 241, 242
Lavonia Billingsley: 126
Sherry Coley: 136
Cassie Gravely: 184, 185, 187, 192
Pam Bonds: 3rd 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: 2nd shift

Remember: RED SHIRT THURSDAY

From the desk of the President...



IUE-CWA LOCAL 82162
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January 2016

Dear Union Membership,

As I relaxed at home celebrating Martin Luther King Day I couldn't help but think about how nice it was to not have to get up and go out to work on that cold January day. In my mind Martin Luther King was one of the greatest leaders of our time. His fight for racial and social injustice changed how we view the world and gave every American the opportunity to join together to stop the hatred of our neighbor because of the color of their skin or their economic status. On August 28, 1963 Martin Luther King gave the "I have a dream speech" this speech is one that I would classify as the greatest speech in our history. I believe that it is so fitting at this time in our working career to remind ourselves that the great "I have a dream speech" was also about economic injustice and how economic injustice keeps working people from enjoying a life

that Martin Luther King envisioned them having. Poor and middle class people have struggled over the years but continue to fight for their place in our society and their piece of the pie.

At the same time that we are celebrating Martin Luther King Day we are also preparing for our upcoming negotiations and while we are not on the bottom end of the economic system, we certainly have needs that include improving our financial, health and our retirement status in this contract. The committee that you selected will do what we need to do to make sure that these improvements are made. We ask for your continued support while this process moves forward.

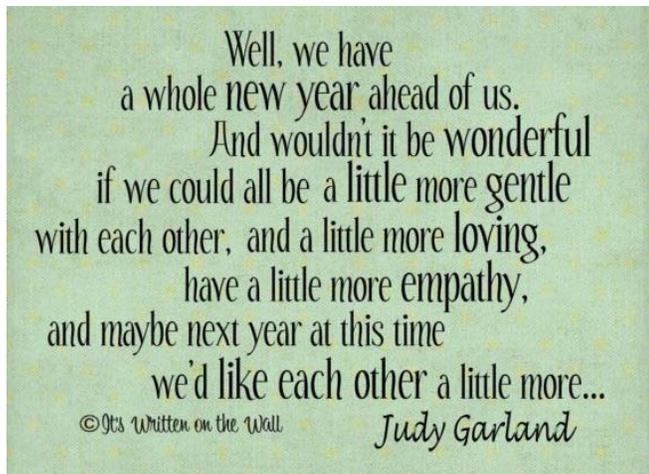
Always Remember "You Are The Union"

In Solidarity,
Jeff Moran
President

**CONTRACT
COUNTDOWN**

Our current contract expires in April 2016

Thought for the month...



denied in the historical treatment of the nation's progress.

*Speech given to the Illinois State AFL-CIO
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, OCT. 7, 1965*

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Article shared from Local 3603...

As we look towards our resolutions for 2016

Let's consider making our union stronger with a New Year's resolution to our local. What would it take? How can we accomplish this? What would the plan look like? These are things that I often think about myself; and we should consider in 2016 as members of 3603.

I have often had members simply ask me 'why isn't the union doing enough'. The truth is...we are the union. The membership makes up the union and we can only be as strong as our membership.

My first resolution would be to get more members involved. As membership is more active and involved, the union becomes more empowered. I will ask everyone to take accountability in reflecting upon themselves as a member of 3603. Have I done enough to empower my local to make a difference? Am I sitting on the sidelines and expecting other to do for me?

Second, I would seek to be more unified. I know that it sounds funny. The union being more unified, but the trust is...we are not. We all need to remember the big picture as to why we do things together. We need to show that we are a force and when you mess with one of us...you mess with all us. We need to start doing more of the little things. I have not seen enough Red shirts on Thursday. This is something that we ask and encourage each and every Thursday. If it is a matter of not remembering when walking out the door in the morning, we can all keep an extra shirt in our personal car or in the call center, leave one at your desk. This would be a great start.

And lastly, challenge yourself as to one extra thing that you can do for your local. Get involved. Go to the monthly membership meetings. Talk to your

Articles of Interest...

As We Remember Martin Luther King, Jr. on his Birthday...Here is his Speech from 1965 on the Value of Unions

THE LABOR MOVEMENT WAS THE PRINCIPAL FORCE that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress. Out of its bold struggles, economic and social reform gave birth to unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, government relief for the destitute, and, above all, new wage levels that meant not mere survival but a tolerable life. The captains of industry did not lead this transformation; they resisted it until they were overcome. When in the thirties the wave of union organization crested over the nation, it carried to secure shores not only itself but the whole society.

Civilization began to grow in the economic life of man and the decent life with a sense of security and dignity became a reality rather than a distant dream.

It is a mark of our intellectual backwardness that these monumental achievements of labor are still only dimly seen, and in all too many circles the term "union" is still synonymous with self-seeking, power hunger, racketeering, and cynical coercion. There have been and still are wrongs in the trade union movement, but its shape of credit for triumphant accomplishments is substantially

other brothers and sisters. Find out where help is needed and jump in. We need membership involvement to be successful. Without the dedication of the people that volunteer and get involved this union would not run. Right now we have very few that do a lot. We can be much more effective with more members willing to get involved.

Let's plant a seed and watch 3603 grow into a towering oak that cannot be moved. I am asking this as we start a new year...a commitment from every member to do a little extra as we look forward to 2016.

In Unity,
~Michael Roberts

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***CWA Statement on the President's
State of the Union Message***

CWA President Chris Shelton issued this statement on President Obama's State of the Union Address:

The Communications Workers of America commends the President for outlining a path to restore an America that works for everyone, not just the wealthy few. It's clear that creating and keeping good jobs and enabling working people to share in the profits they generate are key to getting this done.

As the President said, we need to make sure the system is not rigged in favor of the wealthiest and biggest corporations. That means effective action to shift our economy from one in which Wall Street calls the shots to one that recognizes and rewards the efforts of working people, not just the 1 percent. That means, for working people, the ability to form unions and bargain collectively for good wages and improved conditions. That's how we turn around the extreme income inequality that has kept working people's wages stagnant for four decades and puts a college education out of reach for millions.

We applaud the President's focus on the threat to our democracy that is big money and dark money in our politics, redistricting schemes and campaigns

that make voting harder, not easier. The billions spent by just a handful of donors are poisoning our democracy. Big money is hijacking our political system through mega-contributions and a systematic assault on voting rights. That can only result in, as the President says, a breakdown in democracy, the belief by the average person that her or his vote doesn't matter, and a system rigged in favor of the rich or the powerful or some narrow interest.

We cannot stand with the President, however, when it comes to bad trade deals like the Trans-Pacific Partnership. For more than 20 years, U.S. workers have seen their jobs sent offshore, their earnings cut and their communities devastated. They've seen weak and ineffective labor and environmental standards that force U.S. workers to compete with workers earning next to nothing, whether in Central America or in the case of the TPP, Vietnam.

Changing technology isn't necessarily the villain here, as some administration officials have claimed. Instead, working people know that corporate greed and its embrace of 50-cent-an-hour wages and brutal working conditions in places like Vietnam and others are responsible for the loss of millions of U.S. jobs and thousands of shattered communities.

CWA has been proud to work with President Obama on many issues. We'll continue to do so, and to work with a broad coalition of allies – environmental groups, unions, consumer and good government groups, people of faith, seniors, students and many more – to restore economic and political democracy for working people.

~CWA Newsletter, January 14, 2016



Lost Your Cutting Edge

2 Kings 6:5 “But as one was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, "Alas, master! For it was borrowed."

The dwelling-place of the pupils of the prophet had become too small for them, they decided, with Elisha's consent, to build a new house. Each student was doing his part, and when one of the young students was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head flew off the handle of the axe he had borrowed and fell into the Jordan River.

There is no greater work in the world than building up the kingdom of God; but have you ever lost your cutting edge in serving the Lord? Many are busy doing work for God, swinging the wooden stick, without the iron axe head mounted on the end, just going through the motions of cutting down trees, making a lot of noise, but no longer effective at it.

Have you ever considered the fact that all our abilities, resources and talents are on loan to us from God. We need to determine the exact spot where we lost our cutting edge. Peter said to Jesus, “Though everyone else at times stops serving you Lord, not me, I will never stop.” If you have the courage to take a deep and serious look at your personal spiritual life, you can discover where and why you lost your cutting edge of service to the Lord. Do your part in recovering your cutting edge and God will do His.

Deut. 4:29 “But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

~Ray Widener



President Clark and local members with Toys for Tots bikes.



President Clark presents Steve Young with and IUE/CWA watch for years of dedicated service.

Members: If you would like to submit an article that you think would have interest to our newsletter, please contact our editor, Jack Rowland. Please also feel free to submit fun pictures to our new section "Off The Clock".