



The United Voice

"USW Local 310's Information Resource"

September 2021

Sisters and Brothers,

In this communication I would like to talk with you on a few very important things that we will be concentrating on between now and the first half of next year.

As you are well aware our contract will expire July of 2022, so in preparations for this we will be doing several things that we will be asking you for some help and input on, as well as asking you to contribute to.

- (a) Sometime in November or December the Union Hall will be handing out a Contract Survey that we would ask each and every one of you to take some time to fill out honestly and with real thought as to how you would like our issues and concerns to be prioritized in the upcoming set of negotiations.
- (b) We will be starting a Contract Action Team or Communications Action Team that will help the Bargaining Committee's exchange of information as negotiations are going on, i.e. handbill info, communicate shift days and button days along with solidarity marches in or out of the plant. If you are interested, we would like to have a list of volunteers from all shifts and all departments of the plant.
- (c) We will be holding Steward School training sometime in November that anyone who is off shift can come to and share in the exchange of union history and how we conduct our business, so if you are a new steward or would just like to participate in this event, please stop by or call the Union Hall and sign up so we have a good idea of how many people to expect. Educating and empowering the membership is vital to our way of life.

I would also like to take this time and let you all know some updates we have on several of your committees.

Safety Committee

Two newly-appointed shift safety representatives will be participating in an OSHA 30-hour course. Vincent Moody is our Shift-2 Safety rep from Dept 178, and Michael Moranville Shift-1 Dept 412.

We have recently canceled a safety training event with the National Safety Council due to Covid reasons, mainly travel related.

Dennis Green, Adam Cornish and Michael Moranville continue working with the new hires on forklift safety.

Perform your safety machine checks and report any issues to management. It is the company's responsibility to provide a safe workplace and equipment.

Also, just a reminder to everyone, Lock Out/ Tag Out remains a big issue for all of us across the plant and in all departments. If you have any doubts or concerns, get ahold of your supervisor and shift safety rep so that you are not putting yourself at risk, both from harm or discipline.

Civil Rights Committee

Congratulations and thank you Scott Brannon, shift-3 dept 512. He has agreed to chair our Civil Rights Committee.

We would like to welcome our newest Committee Members.

Bob Gweah shift-3 dept 139

Juan Flores shift-1 dept 123

Jayleen Rodriguez shift-3 dept 401

If you are interested in joining our Civil Rights Committee, especially on shifts-1, 2, or 4 we would like to help build some of our abilities on those shifts. In August, the committee received a three-hour civil rights training from Staff Rep David Rizzuto.

We are quickly becoming a more diverse work place and we need to remember that we are all brothers and sisters and must be each other's keeper. Look out for and help educate each other so that we, as a Union, are strengthened, not divided.

Women of Steel

The Women of Steel Committee is gearing up for our annual fall projects. Look for the Fall Family Gate Collection on September 22nd and 24th. The money raised will be used to provide Thanksgiving meals and Christmas gifts to families in need in our community.

Next Gen

The Next Gen Committee is wrapping up the Solidarity for Soldiers drive. The Homeless Veterans Stand Down takes place September 17-19. Totals are still coming in at this time, but the drive was a huge success, and we were able to collect many items and monetary donations to help this cause.

The committee is also currently organizing a camping trip to take place in October. Be on the lookout for more information on this very soon.

Cope and Rapid Response

Ankeny will be having a special election in House District #37 on Sept 14th. Andrea Phillips is the endorsed candidate by the South-Central Federation of Labor. Also, local elections will be happening this November. Watch for more information on labor-endorsed candidates. Make sure to vote in your local elections!

In Solidarity,

Tim L Linn
President USW Local 310L