

November 2023

Vol 45 No. 11

MTCNLC.ORG

The Metal Trades Council and the affiliated Local Unions did their job.

We negotiated a new contract and brought it back to the membership for them, YOU to decide. And decide you did. With a majority of the membership voting and voting to ACCEPT, we ratified a new 5 year labor agreement.

I know that there are people who don't like the contract or parts of it but a prolonged strike would have failed to improve this historical agreement.

With that all said, it is common to make adjustments to the agreement after the ratification. Some of these things are as simple as changing glad to happy, changing an implementation date or how to implement a process, or make improvements. Many of these things go completely unnoticed and they are completely legal as long as the member is not adversely affected. We are currently going through this adjustment/implementation period.

Now, the most significant change that has been made is to accelerate the payment of retention and sign on bonuses.

These will be paid as follows: (Please See chart on Next Page)

We will continue to update you as the need arises.

I encourage each of you to get more involved with your UNION!

November 11th, another paid Holiday negotiated by the Union. Thank a Veteran!

On a personal note, I appreciate all the encouragement, support, and gratitude shown by the members.

As Always, I Remain Fraternally Yours Peter E. Baker

Phone List

<u>I IIUIIC</u>	<u>LISt</u>
Peter E Baker MTC President	445-6383
John Adamson MTC Vice Presiden	445-6383 t
Richard McCombs MTC Rec. Sec'y	445-6383
Cat Race MTC Sec'y Treasure MTC Safety	445-6383 er
George Nowosielsk Local 777	i 445-8170
Dennis Urquhart Local 1122 40	1-573-6956
Richard (Chick) Mc Local 261	Combs 445-2224
Jim Spencer Local 1871	445-8619
Pat Joyce Local 614	445-4973
Danny Sanchez Local 547	448-2577
Rob Hill Local 493	575-1384
Paul Bruno Local 106	445-1216
Janet Orr	445-6383

MTCNLC.ORG

MTC Benefits Rep

<u>Current Employees</u>- All active MTC bargaining unit employees on payroll as of 10/06/23 will be eligible as set forth below:

Continues to be employed in the bargaining unit through 10/06/24	Will receive a \$1,000 retention bonus
Continues to be employed in the bargaining unit through 10/06/25	Will receive a \$1,500 retention bonus
Continues to be employed in the bargaining unit through 10/06/26	Will receive a \$3,500 retention bonus

Payment of each installment for eligible current employee will be made as soon as administratively possible once eligibility has been determined.

New Employees- All MTC bargaining unit employees who are hired between 10/7/2023 and 12/31/2026 will be eligible as set forth below:

Continues to be employed after their probationary period	Will receive a \$1,000 sign on bonus
Continues to be employed in a bargaining unit position for two years from their hire date	Will receive a \$1,500 retention bonus
Continues to be employed in a bargaining unit position for three years from their hire date	Will receive a \$3,500 retention bonus

Payment of each installment for eligible new employees will be made as soon as administratively possible, but no later than the next calendar quarter following the employee's eligibility date.



FELEXIBLE WORK WEEK for Data Processor Seniors, Administrative and Financial Clerks You may now request to deviate from your schedule in order to accommodate personal needs so long as you work and/or charge remaining entitlement time for a total of forty (40) hours during the week. Requests must be made in advance and may be granted with supervisor's permission unless the requested schedule cannot be accommodated based on business needs (as solely determined by the Management), such permission shall not be unreasonably withheld. Employees working a flexible work week will not be entitled to cycle time nor overtime pay for any hours worked (including Saturday and Sunday) until the total of working hours and charged remaining entitlement time exceed forty (40) hours during the week. Management agrees to work with employees and use flexible work week for occasional unavoidable lateness (not intended to be for chronic lateness).

UNION REMINDERS:

NEW HIRES YOU must stay on top of your insurance coverage. There are many choices for you to review and time limits for you to apply for these benefits. You are now eligible to join the insurance between days 0-30 of your date of hire. This is the only 30 days to execute access to the health plan. If you do nothing you will automatically get

medical but will not receive dental, extra eye care, and additional life insurance. If you are married or married with children, they will not be covered. It is important to enroll as soon as possible. Do not be late.

I suggest that you call to make arrangements for health insurance since all calls are recorded. In the past, there were problems with online enrollments. There are many options to choose or reject. Contact General Dynamics Service Center (1-888 432-3633) Monday – Friday 9am to 9pm. OR www.gdbenefit.com (24hrs/7days).

Any questions call EB Benefits: 860-433-4201 or Janet Orr, Union Insurance Representative: 860-608-8528.

"Weingarten" Rights

If YOU are sent to SECURITY for any reason or are being questioned by MANAGEMENT, YOU should request a STEWARD. YOU do not have to answer any questions until you have UNION REPRESENTATION. Youtube Weingarten Rights: Training for Shop Stewards. View the brief ten minute video from OPEIU Local 8.

www.opeiulocal106.org

Visit this site and search the many links of valuable information. The Media Center is one example that is updated by our International Union with new information on Union Benefits and current issues of interest.

LABOR'S VIEWS ON LINE

LABOR'S VIEWS may be seen on opeiulocal106.org and the Metal Trades Council web site mtcnlc.org. LABOR'S VIEWS is also accessible on EB computers link to the MTC website to Homeport.

If you would like a copy please email our Recording Secretary, Maggie Marley, at prof.emp@snet.net and ask to be added to the email list.

Please state "Subject LV" and use your home email address.

NOTICE

O.P.E.I.U. LOCAL 106 NOMINATION FOR OFFICERS

SPECIAL ORDERS: Nominations for (1) Trustee. Three (3) year

term and BYLAWS Vote

WHEN & WHERE: November 13, 2023, 5:30 P.M., at the

Monthly Meeting. L 106 Union Hall

BY LAWS VOTE: See OPEIU Local 106 Web Site Home Page

DEC. MEETING: December 11, 2023, 5:30 P.M., nomination

for Stewards.

JAN. MEETING: January 8, 2024, 5:30 P.M., nomination and

election O.P.E.I.U., M.T.C.

and S.C.C.L.C. AFL-CIO Delegates.

UNION REMINDER

Dues Increase: Due to per capita tax increases, our Local dues will be increased by

\$1.00 per month effective January 1, 2024.

STEWARDS FOR EB: Nate Newhouse D 438 401-688-6852 1 st Shift

Arlene Allard D 221 X37797 2 nd Shift

Cory Jacobson D 321 X35569 3 rd Shift

UNION COMMUNICATIONS:

Local 106 Web Site opeiulocal106.org

Local 106 Phone 860-445-1216 FAX 860-446-0175 e-mail prof.emp@snet.net Do not send e-mails to any EB addresses. We may not get them. If you have sent an e-mail and did not get a response in a day or two please call the Union Hall.

International Union Web Site opeiu.org

International Magazine White Collar

Union Benefits UnionPlus.org

Metal Trades Council mtcnlc.org

If you change your home address, phone number, or e-mail do not forget to notify the

Union.

PLEASE, TRY TO ATTEND UNION MEETINGS.

Paul A. Bruno Jr.

President/Chief Steward

Open enrollment coming up! November 15th. Please don't forget to go online and choose the enhanced plan again even if you're already enrolled in it, otherwise you will be automatically switched to the standard plan.

The raffle is still on to help the Eastern Territory raise funds for the next Grand Lodge Convention which will be held in our territory. Help us show the nation that we know how to host! Your stewards have the tickets for \$5.

I'd also like to remind people that there is an MTC website that has our labor views on it along with other information. Mtcnlc.org Also join our facebook Local Lodge 1871iam where we can also communicate with each other.

As usual, I would like to ask my more senior members to please help the newer members around the yard. We're all brothers and sisters in this together. Let them know about the monthly meetings and encourage them to attend. Make sure they know who to contact if they need a steward as well.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OF PHONE NUMBER? PLEASE inform a union representative. The company is not allowed to share this kind of information with us, so we only know if you tell us.

In case, there is anyone that does not know where they can check their paystub online, you need to login to your fidelity netbenefits page. On the home page, halfway down, click on the link titled "GD ESS". On the next page click "Go to GD ESS". This will bring you to the Employee Self Service homepage where you can find a link to your paystub.

INSURANCE UPDATE: If you are out for more than 30 days and need to pay insurance, the General Dynamics Service Center will mail you a form and instructions. If you do not receive this letter in a timely manner, please call (888)432-3633.

Before you retire, please contact the union, and let us know. You DO NOT need to submit a withdrawal card. Retirees can receive a union jacket and/or watch. 40 years or more will receive both. 15-40 years will receive a watch. Make sure to inform the union if you will be out of work for an extended amount of time so that we can make sure your dues are adjusted.

If you are a Military Veteran, please see Christopher Wasilewski on first shift for support.

New Members: Between days 0-30 days after your date of hire you must log onto the General Dynamics Service Center website at www.gdbenefits.com to enroll yourself, and your dependents, in the benefits package.

As always, do not forget to use the safety boot and eyeglass program that was negotiated by the MTC. A list of the different shoe manufacturers and times that they will be outside the front gate is available. The eyeglass store is open on both the inside of the main gate and the outside entrance for your convenience, check bulletin boards for the times they are open.

IMPORTANT: If you are put on notice, going to be disciplined, or sent to Security to give a statement of any kind, you have the right to have a steward present. Your first words should be, "I want to talk to a Steward".

First Shift OSM:

Mark Sousa 401-743-3033 Mike Fantacci 860-884-7339 Randy Branche 860-215-5384 Joseph Comforti 401-596-4168

First Shift ISM:

Mike Shell 860-790-9136 Ernie Richard 860-381-9213

First Shift All Other Areas: Janet Orr 860-608-8528 Kevin Mizer 401-580-0400

Ed Mctigue 860-463-7680

Second Shift OSM:

Bill Ericson 860-705-6739 George Blanchette 860-908-4149 Dustin Bennett 860-300-6164

Second Shift ISM:

George Raposa JR 860-908-0002

Second Shift All Other Areas:

James Lawrence 570-579-4210

<u>United Way Contact</u> - Janet Orr 860-608-8528

MTC Benefits Rep - Janet Orr 860-445-6383

MEETING NOTICE:

Meeting dates for the year will be posted on one notice in all areas. Take note of dates that fall on months with floaters. Next regular meetings will be October 12th, and November 16th, at 3:00 p.m. at 18 Pleasant St Groton, CT 06340.



It is with great sadness that I share the news of Celso (Freddy) Fade's passing. Our hearts are heavy as we mourn the loss of one of our longtime member. Though he may no longer be with us, his memory will live on through the impact he made on our department. Freddy will be deeply missed by all who knew him, but his contributions will never be forgotten. Our thoughts and condolences go out to his loved ones during this difficult time.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of those who participated in the recent vote for the new contract. As we move forward with this new agreement, I understand that you may have questions or a concern, that's why I encourage you to reach out to your union steward for any further information or clarification you may need.

There's talk of a road job in January for sand blasting in Kings Bay Georgia. While details are still being finalized as soon as more information becomes available, the stewards will be informed and will be able answer your questions.

I would like to remind everyone that we will have new hires starting soon. Please be on the lookout for them and help them as needed. If you see any new hires struggling, please offer your assistance.

Debit Card Replacement: If you happen to lose your Fidelity Health Savings Account (HSA) Debit Card, log onto FidelityDebitCard.com to request a new one.

Subbase NSSF and ARDM Shippingport request form: The Department will no longer survey, you will have to fill out a form. See your steward for this form.

Stewards: 1st: Allen Claar All Nuclear issues 860-237-1114, Ron Ingves 860-334-8141, Alts - Matthew Fauquet 860-381-9196, Dan Sager 860-941-4236. 2nd: Alts - Elaine Key 860-460-7621, Reggie Setts 401-363-1954, Matthew Cassidy 860-989-9600

SAFETY: Just a reminder that safety is everyone's concern. If you see an unsafe act you should report it to your Union Steward or M.T.C. Safety Steward. They will take the necessary actions to correct the situation. Contact MTC safety at 860-445-6383.

If you are sent to Security for any reason or are being questioned by any Management, YOU SHOULD REQUEST A STEWARD!! REMEMBER, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO UNION REPRESENTATION, AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS WITHOUT THIS REPRESENTATION.

IMPORTANT: Members who are out of work on any leave of absence such as Workers Compensation, Sedgwick short term disability insurance, FMLA, etc. it is your responsibility to pay your portion for medical, dental, and vision. You can be dropped from your benefits if you don't keep up your payments.

Please don't forget to notify the Union Hall (860-442-8281) if you change your address, phone number, or name. We need to have the correct information! When you notify the company of these changes they do not give the Union this new information. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

REMINDER: If you are out of work on compensation or accident & sickness insurance or any unpaid leave it is your responsibility to pay your dues. If your dues fall behind more than three months, your membership could be suspended. If you are out of work and have any questions regarding your dues, please call the Union Hall at 860-442-8281.

IMPORTANT: It is advised that you notify me one week in advance or as soon as you know when you will be returning to work from any Medical, Compensation or unpaid leave. The company doesn't know if you kept your dues paid up while you were out. It is important that I know your return date so I can submit a letter to the company to have your dues zeroed out under non collected. Once the company takes out your dues it will take me at least a month to return your money.

The monthly Union meeting of Painters' Local #1122 will be held every 4th Monday of each month at the Union Hall 597 Broad St., New London, Ct. at 7:00 PM. Second shift employees please give your foreman 24 hours notice if you plan to attend the meeting. If you have any problems/issues to discuss, the union meeting is the place to do this.

If I can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me. My numbers are 401-573-6956 and my email is painters.union@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Fraternally yours, Dennis Urquhart -President/Chief Steward - Painters' Local #1122

Buford's

Family Restaurant



126 Poquonnock Road

Groton, CT 06340

860-446-1765

Mon: Closed, Tues-Fri: 6 to 1, Sat-Sun: 6 to Noon



Vincent Antonelli, D.D.S. Ted Malahias, D.D.S. Sean Kim, D.D.S., FAGD

> 115 Bridge Street Groton, CT 06340

446-8744

CONVENIENT TO E.B.

"We Cater to Cowards"

FAMILY DENTISTRY Bonding - Crown and Bridge

FULL PARTICIPANT IN MTC DENTAL PLAN



Local 493

REQUEST A STEWARD If you are being sent to Security for any reason or are being questioned by management you have the right to have a Steward

present. You do not have to answer any questions until you have union representation.

STEWARDS

1st Shift - Keith Coppin 860-433-4657 Scott Harris 860-574-0208 1st Shift Alt - Scott Partosan 860-433-5816 2nd Shift -John Ogden 860-433-4657

SAFETY: Safety should be everyone's first priority when working in the shipyard. If you see something unsafe or are being asked to do something that you feel is unsafe, please contact a steward for guidance. You can also contact MTC Safety at 860-445-6383

Please continue to work safely. Hope you all had a great Halloween with your families and I hope you all have a great Thanksgiving.

Work safe - Robert Hill / Chief Steward

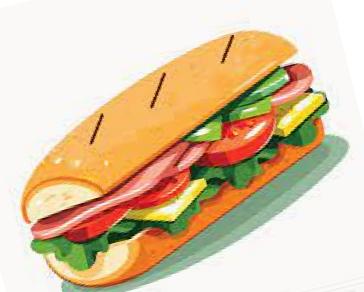
Local 547

Feel the Power

For any reason, if you are being questioned by security or supervision, you have the right to request a steward. You must invoke that right before you answer any questioning.

If you have any changes to your personal information you must inform the union hall of said changes. The company does not share this information with the union, so I ask that you please contact the hall with any address or phone number changes. In order to notify you of any union news or information, your updated info is vital to the timely delivery of these notifications. The union hall's phone number is (860) 448-2577.

Fraternally Yours, Danny Sanchez





Gatehouse Tavern

Don't forget that the Gatehouse makes and offers grinders at lunch time at the main gate.

Call in for Daily specials or any custom orders (860) 445-5393

Make sure to order in advance for lunch time!



The next regularly scheduled meeting of IBEW Local Union 261 will be held Tuesday November 14, 2023, 2:45 P.M. at the IAM Lodge 1871 Union Hall located at 18 Pleasant Street. If necessary, we will notify of any social distancing rules that may be required. Please note: It has been officially agreed that we will continue to observe our floater week by changing our meeting date to the following week. The second week of November is a floating week.

If you cannot attend the meetings any issues should be brought to our attention by contacting your Steward or this office. Please call me if you have any problems at any time. Send me an e-mail and let me know your issues.

The Local's phone numbers are as follows: 860-445-2224 main line, 860-445-8360.

E-mail address: ibew261@frontier.com IBEW International web site: http://ibew.org

This is my first correspondence since the ratification of our new contract. I would like to comment on how well our embers were able to be patient and continue to support our negotiation team. We appreciated that. I know there was a great deal of frustration not receiving any information on our progress. Unfortunately, during the process nothing gets settled until the end and it was difficult to say something that would give unnecessary expectations. I apologize for that inconvenience. I would hope that the next time they will establish better communications.

I know a lot of you expected more in the GWI's, because of what is happening around the Country. Our Internationals have all stated that our increases are equal to or above most of the contracts that have been settled in the last year. They were especially pleased that we basically kept our medical benefits even for the next five years. Other union contracts are experiencing high increases. We tried to spread the money to all and to meet our three priorities that were expressed in your membership survey. This was difficult because we had three different seniority groups of members. You stated that GWI's, time off with pay, and medical benefits were your top three priorities. This is the first contract negotiations that has provided new hires paid time off. This was unprecedented and needed to be done. I know it isn't comparable to other jobs, but it was a foot in the door and hopefully you will improve on it in the future. We have stable medical benefits and wages are comparable to or above other shipyards. We all decided that this contract had enough value to bring it back to you. It would have been wrong to recommend rejecting.

Medical benefits enrollment is this month. In the past the thought process was it was okay not to do anything. I recommend that everyone go online or phone in your selections. There are several options that are available that might be helpful to you and your family; additionally you need to make the right selections for your HSA accounts to ensure you receive the seed money. If you are not sure what to do, please see your Steward and they will provide the right direction.

I would like to remind all of you that to be eligible for the annual incentive bonus you have to meet established work hours. In the past we have had members who had absences during the year that impacted their bonus amount. We have asked HR to provide us with a list of hours worked so that each of you can determine if you have enough hours to qualify for the bonuses. Currently our 6.7 injury rate is meeting the safety goal but there is a concern about "It All Counts" goal which requires everyone to perform or access certain benefits that would qualify you for the award. If you're not sure what they are please see your Steward. See your area Steward who should have a list of members and how much money they have towards work boots purchase. Let me know if that is not available.

This needs to be said again:

Harassment: Priority 1. This is not getting any better! It is in all areas, Salary as well. We need better education to change the culture to respect each other. Acts on sexual harassment, racial bigotry, gender preference, religious beliefs, personal appearance are wrong. How do we get this culture change? Ideas???

Once again, I would like to thank all of you for your patience and support during the negotiations. Please continue to work safely.

Fraternally,

Richard L. McCombs

President / Business Manager

EB Optical Shop - ebopticalshop@gdeb.com 860-433-6934

STREET SIDE DOOR - open to employees, retirees, family members and contractors. Wed & Thurs -8 am.-330 pm. (closed 1-130 pm.) 1st & 3rd Saturday of Each Month - Closed

SHIPYARD SIDE - open to badged employees and contractors. Tuesday - 7 am.-430 pm. (Closed 1-130 pm) Friday - 6 am-130 pm.



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Another Reason... Members Bank Better.

"The one-time \$200 bonus will be awarded after the account has met required conditions for three consecutive months within a six-month period from account opening. This offer applies to new memberships or existing memberships that qualify for the account with a new direct deposit. The \$200 Bonus is considered dividends and will be reported on IRS Form 1099-INT. This offer may be withdrawn at any time.

***(A PY = Annual Percentage Yield) The EB Checking Account is a "Split Rate Tiered" account for General Dynamics Electric Boat employees who qualify for membership. Proof of employment may be required. 3.00% APY is paid on balances up to \$10,000. Balances over \$10,000 earn 0.25% APY. All Charter Oak foreign ATM fees will be rebated. Surcharge fees charged by other financial institutions or networks will be rebated up to \$9.99 each to a maximum of \$20 a month and rebated at the end of the month. The default APY of 0.05% will be applied to all tiered balances if account conditions are not met and ATM fees will not be rebated. Rates are variable and can change at any time. To earn the stated APYs your account must have e-Statement, Online Banking, 10 Debit Card transactions posted per month (excluding ATM transactions) and have a Direct Deposit of \$2,000 or more posted in each calendar month. Existing checking accounts are not transferrable to an EB Checking Account. Existing members may open a new EB Checking Account under their existing account and must meet the account conditions to qualify. Only one EB Checking Account, Sun Checking Account or Go Checking Account per gualified member number. APY effective May 15, 2023. This offer may be withdrawn at any time.



Injured? Let us help you.



- AUTO COLLISIONS
- DANGEROUS PRODUCTS

PERSONAL INJURY WORKERS' COMPENSATION

- BONE & JOINT INJURIES
- CANCER CAUSED CHEMICALS OR ASBESTOS
- HEARING LOSS

WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN THE PEOPLE'S FIRM

Celebrating our 25th year supporting Electric Boat Retirees!!





PROGRAM DETAILS

Drug Plan...

- This special group program is **ONLY** available to **Medicare eligible Electric Boat retirees and spouses**.
- This program was created in 1999 by your friends at the MTC, the MDA, Carpenters Union and the RSEA.
- Over 2,500 retirees & spouses participate!
- All plans, rates & benefits are the same in all 50 states!
- There are no individual plans comparable to these unique group options.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Morning sessions start at 10AM
The Hilton Mystic Hotel, Mystic CT
Wednesday, April 5, 2023
Wednesday, May 3, 2023
Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Late afternoon sessions start at 4PM Great Neck Country Club, Waterford, CT Wednesday, April 19, 2023 Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Refreshments will be served!

To reserve your seat, call us at 1.888.484.0414 or email us at RSVP@beaconmedicare.com



We start off the new month with 3 Union negotiated paid holidays. Don't forget the true meaning of Veterans Day, and also what Thanksgiving means to a lot of people. November is also the time to vote for the candidates of our choice. Don't take it for granted, whomever you are supporting.

I would like to congratulate our latest retiree, Bob Palumbo, who started here back in 1990. Have a long, healthy and happy retirement.

We are only two weeks into this new contract, at the time of this writing, and already we are having issues with the company adhering to the agreed upon contract language concerning overtime. Whether you like the contract or not, voted to accept it or not, thought there should have been more in different areas, it is now what we have to live with for the next 5 years.



Local 614

Hello Brothers and Sisters;

We have ratified a new 5 year contract. It was voted yes by almost a 3 to 1 margin. A lot of members (not all Boilermakers) did not vote. This is concerning because this was an important vote. We all should let our voices be heard. The

contract could have been better, but our negotiating team got the most for the membership that they possibly could get. A lot of people wanted higher GWls but we would have had a very large increase with the Medical part of the plan. It is all give and take. A strike would have not been a good idea. No one wins in a strike. There are some issues with the new agreement that are of concern. For example, the new Working Leader title and the Service Engineer title are pretty good wage increases that I thought went in to effect after the contract ratification, but the company is saying that these increases will happen "as soon as administratively possible" What the hell does that mean? Maybe the next time my boss assigns me a job I will say, "how about when it is administratively possible". (Please don't say this to your supervisor). The MTC leadership is meeting with the company to sort these issues out. The new contract books should be out in a few months.

Our members on 2nd and 3rd shift have an issue with the lack of decent food being available to them . It is especially bad during the floater weeks. There is only 1 food truck that is able to come in the yard and that truck is overwhelmed. More trucks and more choices are needed for our members on 2nd and 3rd shift. Personally I think the food service from Aramark sucks. It is poor quality and overpriced. But our members have limited choices. The company should look into another vendor if Aramark does not provide better service. The Union is well aware of these issues and are working on getting them fixed.

Please come to the next monthly Union meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. See you there.

Sincerely; Patrick Joyce President



Make the most of your benefits

2024 Annual Enrollment

November 15 - December 1, 2023

To enroll, log on to gdbenefits.com or call 888-432-3633. For more information on your EB Benefits visit EBenefits411.com.



Insurance Update

There will be a Open Enrollment informational meeting for MTC Members only held at Boilermakers Hall located at 33 Sacred Heart Dr, Groton Ct 06340 on Nov 9th 2023 at 4pm. Your spouses are welcome to join you.

Make sure you make selections for your HSA and FSA as they will NOT roll over.

Hope you have a great Thanksgiving!

As per usual if you have any questions or concerns I'm available to assist.



MTC Safety Report

Painters - Boilermakers - Electricians - Laborers Machinists - OPEIU - Pipefitters - Teamsters

To and From injuries, Strains and Sprains. Throughout the shipyard the company has supplied us with stretching machines. I use them and they have been very helpful. Give them a shot before going to the boat. Start of the shift, after lunch and the end of the shift, you'll be amazed.

For those of you that do not have access to the computers, you can ask your boss to see any section of the safety manual and they have to produce it for you. I'm told everyone has access so don't guess at safety Procedures, look it up.

Again, injury rates are going up. Our Recordable Injury Rate, (RIR) Is at 6.88. Recordable injuries 191. Owie wowie.

We seem to be having issues with people mis- using barrier tape. The danger, caution, tape mostly. But the biggest issue is not properly discarding when done. We are finding it throughout the shipyard floating around, on the ground hanging where employees will just grab it and yank it. Leaving a portion of it still tied up. This is wrong. You need to remove it all. Leave nothing behind. Then dispose of it in the trash receptacles. No one should be removing danger tape unless you're the one that put it up. MTC Safety

MTC Safety Chairperson Cat Race