



LABOR'S MTC VIEWS

114 Poquonnock Rd, Groton, CT 06340

April 2022

Vol 44 No. 4

MTCNLC.ORG

Phone List

Peter E Baker 445-6383
MTC President

John Adamson 445-1277
MTC Vice President

Richard McCombs 445-1277
MTC Rec. Sec'y

Cat Race 445-1277
MTC Sec'y Treasurer
MTC Safety

George Nowosielski 445-8170
Local 777

Dennis Urquhart
Local 1122 401-573-6956

Richard (Chick) McCombs
Local 261 445-2224

Jim Spencer 445-8619
Local 1871

Pat Joyce 445-4973
Local 614

Danny Sanchez 448-2577
Local 547

Rob Hill 575-1384
Local 493

Paul Bruno 445-1216
Local 106

Frank Ward 501-3263
MTC Benefits Rep

The Metal Trades Council is made up of 8 affiliated Local Unions. The Local Unions are made up of the members. Depending on the hierarchy of the International Unions, representatives from the Local Unions become Delegates to the Metal Trades by virtue of office, Delegate election, or appointment. One of these persons again according to the hierarchy is the representative from the Local Union to the Metal Trades as its negotiator and or Chief Steward.

With all that, the President of the Metal Trades is designated as the Chief Negotiator. If there is an issue within a Local Union, I work with the Local to resolve it. If it is an issue that affects all the Locals, then I work with the Locals toward resolution. At no time (with few exceptions) are any decisions made solely by me. We work by a Democratic process and that is how things are decided. I may run the meetings and have a voice but the only time that I have a vote is when there is a tie vote. Again, there are very few things where I have sole discretion and even then, I seek input from the Locals. I am given to much credit when "the President" of the MTC did this or that. The distinction I get is the first signature on the page.

Now, as for the current overtime debacle, nobody from the MTC or the Local Unions agreed to this. In fact, we made suggestions on how to address the low attendance and lack of support for overtime assignments. These suggestions if considered by the Company were only lightly considered and quickly discarded. The decision to change the hours of work on weekends and Holidays was made solely by the Company.

I appreciate all the good work you do. Please continue to work safely.

I am, Fraternaly Yours
Peter E. Baker
PRESIDENT



LOCAL 106

DIGNITY AND RESPECT

These are the two words and actions you should think about when you are addressing any matters with coworkers or supervision. If there is any issue speak to your Union Steward.

WORKERS' MEMORIAL APRIL 28th

The Workers' Memorial Day Ceremony to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew our efforts for safe workplaces will be on Thursday, April 28th at 6:00 a.m. rain or shine. The ceremony will be at Washington Park, City of Groton.

UNION COMMUNITY ACTIVIST NETWORK (UCAN) TRAINING

UCAN is a four (4) night program (Tuesday & Thursday) from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on May 3rd, 5th, 17th & 19th at the United Way of Southeastern CT - 283 Stoddards Wharf Road, Gales Ferry, CT, and graduation will be held May 24th. Local 106 will reimburse up to 5 members in this program. The training will give you a better understanding of the Union and how community services benefits all of us. Call your Union Hall at (860) 445-1216 or your AFL-CIO Community Services Rep. Maggie Marley at 860-464-3325.

UNION MEETINGS

Union meetings are important, and I encourage you to come and participate in the affairs of our Union. The monthly meetings normally last about 30 minutes and your participation will help to make this Union even stronger.

INCREASE YOUR 401(K)

Regretfully most of you do not have a Pension plan for your future. You will be relying on your 401(K). Therefore, this would be a great time to make a small increase in your 401(K) deduction. Years from now you will be thankful that you did.

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 problems or questions call EB Benefits; 860-433-4201 or MTC Union Insurance Representative Frank Ward: 860-501-3263.

"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.

APRIL UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, April 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut.

MAY UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, May 9, 2022, at 5:30 pm and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, CT.

STEWARDS FOR EB:

Justin Briggs D438 860-460-3197

Arlene Allard D221 X37797 2nd Shift

Mark Cross D321 X35569 3rd 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



Local 1871

Please be on the lookout for vehicles when you are walking around the yard. There seems to be a lot of traffic lately.

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.

At our last meeting, our treasurer was able to printout a breakdown of our dues for everyone. To summarize, \$37.96 for the Grand Lodge. \$15.15 for District 26. \$1.10 for CT State Council of Machinists. \$1.00 for CT AFL-CIO. \$1.75 for the MTC. \$0.62 for the Eastern States Council of Machinists. \$0.25 for the Eastern CT Area Labor Federation. \$0.30 for the NE Council of Machinists. \$0.09 for the MNPL Fund. \$0.25 for the SE CT AFL-CIO. Lastly \$13.53 for our Local for a total of \$72.00 per month.

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".

Union Hall Phone Number: 860-445-8619

Stewards-

Chief Steward: James Spencer 860-705-2266

First Shift OSM: Mark Sousa 401-743-3033 Mike Fantacci 860-884-7339 Jose Lozado 860-857-5757

First Shift Machine Shop: Michael Shell 860-790-9136

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

Second Shift ISM: George Raposa JR 860-908-0002

Second Shift OSM: Nick Banker 860-207-7018 Bill Ericson 860-705-6739

Second Shift All Other Areas: Dave Chirchigno 860-949-5258

United Way Contact: Janet Orr 860-608-8528

MEETING NOTICE:

Meeting dates for the year will be posted on one notice in all areas. Take note of dates the fall on months with floaters. Next regular meetings will be April 21st, and May 12th, at 3:00 p.m. at 18 Pleasant St Groton, CT 06340.



Local 1122

Retirement, a time to relax and enjoy life after years of hard work. For Deborah Hoffman and Diane Barstow, retirement is finally here, Local 1122 would like to take this opportunity to wish them both a retirement that is long and filled with fun and happiness. They have certainly earned it!

Washington Park Groton C.T. will be hosting their annual workers memorial ceremony on April 28th at 6am. The purpose of this ceremony is to remember and honor the coworkers who have suffered and died on the job. This event is open to the public, so please come join us as we pay our respects!

In the wake of so many safety issues in the workplace, it is more important than ever to be aware of your surroundings and take precautions. Many jobs are dangerous, but there are things you can do to stay safe. If you feel like the job is unsafe, don't hesitate to tell your supervisor. Stay safe!

There has been talk lately about a potential shift change in overtime hours. The proposed plan would have 1st shift workers working from 6:00am to 12:00pm, and 2nd shift workers would work from 12:00pm to 6:00pm.

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.

Benefits : Ernest (TJ) Holley is our benefits rep. Any questions concerning benefits he will get the answer for you.

Overtime : Ron Ingves is the overtime coordinator. Any questions concerning overtime he will get the answer for you.

Stewards :

First shift Stewards: Allen Claar All Nuclear issues 813-300-9957 Ernest (TJ) Holley 860-538-1926 Ron Ingves 860-334-8141.

Second shift Stewards: Chris Wilson 860-961-2930

Alts- Elaine Key 860-460-7621 Andrea Rosa 860-680-9154 Ryan Osborne 860-389-6306.

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 860-941-1579 and my email is painters.union@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Fraternally yours,

Dennis Urquhart - Chief Steward - Painters' Local #1122

Buford's

LiUNA! Local 547

Feel the Power

Hello all. I would like to remind all our members that if your contact info. has changed that you will need to call the union hall and inform them of said changes. The company does not share this info. with the union, so I ask everyone to please call the office with all new address & contact phone numbers. In order for the union to provide you with any literature or info. pertaining to any and all union related news in a timely manner, your updated contact info is vital. The union hall's phone number is 860-448-2577.

Fraternally yours,
Danny Sanchez

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 2nd Shift Alt 203-512-5959

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

April showers bring May flowers! Rainy season is upon us, stay dry while out in the yard, wear your rain gear and bring extra clothes (don't forget socks!) It will be warm before you know it!

Work safe & stay dry, Robert Hill /Chief Steward



126 Poquonnock Road

Groton, CT 06340

860-446-1765

~Hours~

Mon: Closed, Tues-Fri: 6 to 1,

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Local 261

Union Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting of IBEW Local Union 261 will be held Tuesday March 12, 2022, 2:45 P.M. at the IAM Lodge 1871 Union Hall located at 18 Pleasant Street. It looks like the social distancing rules are reduced so only masks will be required for any unvaccinated members. 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: Main# -860-445-2224
Fax # - 860-445-8360 E-mail address: ibew261@frontier.com
IBEW International web site: [http:// www.ibew.org/](http://www.ibew.org/)

Please Note: Update any changes to your addresses so we can properly notify you.

Elections of Officers: A notification has been sent out notifying all members that Nominations will be held at our May Membership meeting on May 10th and the Election will be held on June 14, 2022. The voting will take place on the first level of the Parking Garage across from the Main Gate. Information will be mailed to your last known address.

As you know we been having problems with our Short-Term Disability Benefit and CT Paid Leave. The MTC has scheduled an Arbitration for the first week in May hopefully to resolve it. Unfortunately, it could be months before we get a decision that helps us. Until then please follow their application process. If we are successful, we will be looking to recuperate any lost wages from the first of January. Please inform your Steward if you have been affected by this.

I am sure most of you are aware that the Local Union has a Facebook site. I like to thank Mike Hickey, Sean Hawkins and John Heinold (hope I didn't forget someone) for updating and getting active again. The site is designed to provide information, notices of events, a voice for individuals and to promote solidarity with our members. I am in complete agreement with this and sponsored it whole heartily.

Of course, something like this comes with some restrictions and rules. We need to be careful how we put information out and make sure it is accurate. If you don't it will run the risk of losing its credibility and eventually become ineffective. With that there has to be rules. The recent overtime schedule created a lot of conversation which wasn't accurate and some mistruths.

Some of my concerns:

- Please no vulgarity, it is not professional at all
- Please refrain from slander. If you can't prove your statement, you can't say it. Substantiate any hear-say before you use it.
- I do not approve of calling out individuals.
- It is my understanding that we are not to use it for political announcements and reasons.

I am going to ask my administrators to post the do's & Don'ts for the site.

Fraternally,
Richard L. McCombs
President/Business Manager



Local 777

We have quite a few new members that have started and I want to re-emphasize with them, we do have an MTC Safety Committee for any of your concerns, but you also have the right to go to any of the Stewards with any questions that might arise in the course of any jobs or areas you might be assigned to. If you are not comfortable in your job, or sure of something, ask.

Every day we are given jobs, and are expected to perform them correctly, and in a timely matter, which we do. We, in return, expect from the company the same standards. There has been numerous cases lately where contractual progression raises are overdue, and which in turn makes the back pay overdue. There has also been cases of qualification increases, disability payments, also coming long overdue. It is not wrong to expect the same from the company, as is expected from us. In this day and age with the costs of food, fuel, and just about everything else rising, the membership should be able to count on correct and timely negotiated benefits from this company.

Our next Union negotiated paid holiday is Friday, April 15, Good Friday. Also, a good time for some of our newer members to work the floater and pick up some extra entitlement time.



Local 614

Hello Brothers and Sisters;

Spring is in the air, but snow is at my feet. Welcome to New England! Be aware of slick spots walking and driving.

We are in the midst of a large hiring spree. Hopefully we can get some good talent to come here. It is hard to lure and retain good talent when you say you offer a good wage package, but you really don't. While talking to some of the new hires, their #1 concern is when the company will bring back the pension. That is how you attract and retain a talented workforce!

My sincere condolences to the family of Stan Dillon who passed away on March 20th. I worked with Stan off and on for almost 40 years. He was a great guy to work with and he will be missed. RIP Brother!

Please try to attend the next Union meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. We are at 33 Sacred Heart Drive, Groton, and the meeting starts at 2:45 pm. We have had some new faces show up and that is great. This is the place to air your grievances. Also, the parking is only \$20 a month. Free parking for the month of December for those who pay the rest of the year. We give away 1 free parking spot a month at the end of the Union meeting. See you there!

Sincerely;
Patrick Joyce
President

EB Optical Shop
ebopticalshop@gdeb.com 860-433-6934
STREET SIDE DOOR
open to employees, retirees, family members
and contractors.
Wed & Thurs -8 am.-3:30 pm.
(closed 1-1:30 pm.)
1st & 3rd Saturday of Each Month - Closed
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open to badged employees and contractors.
Tuesday - 7 am.-4:30 pm. (Closed 1-1:30 pm)
Friday - 6 am-1:30 pm.

Transfer your prescriptions to the EB Family Pharmacy today for the lowest cost

A new EB employee called and asked if we would be able to fill his medications because he had heard at work that our pharmacy offers great service and great savings. We were able to transfer all seven of his meds over. We also found two coupons, [for his medications]. We applied the coupons and filled the other five prescriptions. We called the patient 40 minutes later to let him know his prescriptions were ready. We gave him the price, which was \$57.80. He was astounded and said he'd been paying over \$500.00 per month for these medications.

Edward Misto, PharmD.
Pharmacy Manager



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ELECTRIC BOAT

Family Wellness Center

Operated by Premise Health

To continue to offer an easy-to-access program, Electric Boat's Employee Assistance Program counseling is now available through the EB Family Wellness Center, operated by Premise Health, in addition to calling OPTUM for assistance. Two licensed counselors have joined the Wellness Center to help employees and their family members, regardless of enrollment in EB's medical plan.

Electric Boat's employee assistance program is available to all employees and their families. This program provides confidential help for life's challenges such as mental health support, legal or financial issues, and more.

Remember, eight free sessions per person, per year, are available to you and your family.

The Solutions counseling center located across the street from the EB Family Wellness Center will no longer be a part of the EAP for employees. They will see current employees and dependents seeking assistance through June 2022.



Kathy Dowling, LMFT

Kathy is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who started at the EB Family Wellness Center in October 2021. She lives in southeastern CT with her husband and enjoys many outdoor activities, including gardening, fishing, kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, yoga, and hiking.

She's worked in both residential treatment and outpatient settings specializing in the treatment of anxiety, depression, and family conflict resolution.



Molly Kunka, LCSW

Molly is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has recently joined the team at Electric Boat Family Wellness Center. She lives in southeastern Connecticut with her husband and four daughters. In her free time, she enjoys spending time on and near the water and hiking.

She has previously worked in private practice and hospital settings, specializing in treating depression, anxiety, and grief and loss.

To sign up for EAP counseling, please call the EB Family Wellness Center at 860-629-8272 or OPTUM at 866-743-6551.



Insurance Update

At the first of the year many of our members switched over to the Enhanced Plan from the Standard Plan. By doing this they will now be able to receive the free seed and matching money. Unfortunately, some of our members never opened up a (HSA) Health Savings Account. By not opening an HSA there is no place to put the free money. You are leaving free money on the table. This free money is there to help you pay for your health needs. So, call the General Dynamics Service Center at (888)-432-3633 which is open 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Monday thru Friday eastern time. You can also use the website at WWW.gdbenefits.com. which is open 24 hours per day seven days a week.

Frank Ward
Union Insurance Representative
Cell - (401)-499-9661 or (860)-501-3263

MTC Safety Report

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

Well we lost another long and faithful union member to retirement. We said our farewells to Gary Fontaine our 1st. shift MTC Safety Rep. He worked 49 years dedicated to both his union IBEW and to the MTC. Thank You Gary. Have a long and fun filled retirement. Once again we will be looking for a replacement for Gary on our MTC Safety committee. We are hoping to get someone that is familiar with not only the boat's electrically but facilities electrically as well. Contact your chief steward if you're interested.

Weather is getting much better now and we're outside cleaning our yards and trimming our bushes and chainsawing our downed tree limbs. Please, remember your PPE. Yes even at home. Your hearing protection. Your eye protection and your gloves. And remember, you're at home. You're allowed to take as many breaks as your better half will let you.

Safety First



Cat Race 1st Shift 860-405-4784	Gary Fontaine 1st Shift 860-326-4832	Mark Nall 1st Shift 860-326-4729	Bill Zaks 2nd Shift 860-326-4353	Jim Palmer 2nd Shift 860-326-4341	Safety Office 860-433-2811	Metal Trades 445-6383/1277
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