



LABOR'S MTC VIEWS

114 Poquonnock Rd, Groton, CT 06340

April 2023

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MTCNLC.ORG

The Metal Trades Council of New London County is going to meet with Electric Boat Company for contract negotiations. The current contract expires on September 29th, 2023 and will be carried in full force until that date.

Nothing has been scheduled as of yet, but we expect meetings to begin within 6 weeks of the current contract end date.

In the near future we will be sending out surveys for you to complete, they are completely anonymous. It is just to get a better understanding of what you as a member are looking for from this new contract. So we can use this information as a guideline for the upcoming negotiations.

Your negotiating committee is unified, exploring every possible issue and is aware of its responsibilities to you.

Equally important, we believe a signed agreement will provide greater job security and stability for our membership while permitting Electric Boat to know its cost in time to successfully bid for new Shipbuilding contracts.

What should you do -

- 1) Support Union Leaders! Stand Strong Together.
- 2) Support our Strike Authorization Vote (Date to Follow).
- 3) Answer and submit your bargaining contract Survey.
- 4) Do not listen to rumors.

We will make every attempt to keep you informed of our progress. We believe in transparency but understand that it is a good strategy to not talk about expectations until they are agreed on. Please be patient. Thank you for Your Support During These Contract Negotiations.

Fraternally Yours,
Peter E Baker

Phone List

Peter E Baker 445-6383
MTC President

John Adamson 445-6383
MTC Vice President

Richard McCombs 445-6383
MTC Rec. Sec'y

Cat Race 445-6383
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 401-499-9661
MTC Benefits Rep



MTC CONTRACT SURVEY

The survey will be out shortly. Contact your Steward for your copy.

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 Friday, April 28th at 6:00 a.m. rain or shine. The ceremony will 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 9th, 11th, 16th & 18th 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.

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) deductions. 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.

APRIL UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, April 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut.

MAY UNION MEMEBRSHIP MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2023, at 5:30 pm and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, CT.

STEWARDS FOR EB:

Nate Newhouse D438 401-688-6852 & Sheryl Atencio D333 X36291/ Arlene Allard D221 X37797 2nd / Cory Jacobson D321 X35569 3rd

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 don't forget about the upcoming Worker's Memorial on April 28th at 6am in Washington Park. It usually lasts about an hour. Please join us in remembering those we have lost in labor and how the fight for safe workplaces is not over. Your time will be excused but not paid. Please ask your steward for the labor start code to give your boss.

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.

Your union negotiating committee has begun discussing the upcoming contract. Once we have created a questionnaire, we will get it out to the members. Please take your time in filling them out and return them as soon as possible.

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".

Union Hall Phone # - 860-445-8619

First Shift OSM:

Mark Sousa 401-743-3033
Mike Fantacci 860-884-7339

First Shift ISM:

Mike Shell 860-790-9136

First Shift All Other Areas:

Janet Orr- 860-608-8528
Kevin Mizer- 401-580-0400

Second Shift OSM:

Bill Ericson- 860-705-6739

Second Shift ISM:

George Raposa JR- 860-908-0002

Second Shift All Other Areas:

David Chirchingo- 860-949-5258

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 April 13th , and May 11th , at 3:00 p.m. at 18 Pleasant St Groton, CT 06340.

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**

SHIPYARD SIDE - open to badged employees and contractors. Tuesday - 7 am.-4:30 pm. (Closed 1-1:30 pm) Friday - 6 am-1:30 pm.



Local 1122

When I became the Chief Steward, I was determined to make an incentive for sand blasters a reality. After years of going without, I am beyond pleased to report that we have achieved success: all C7-certified sand blasters now receive \$3 an hour while sand blasting. This victory should open up more road job opportunities for us, with the C7 qualification. I am deeply grateful to Peter Baker who helped make this happen and without whom none of this would be possible.

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, Alternate Matthew Fauquet 860-381-9196.
2nd-: Alternates Elaine Key 860-460-7621, Reggie Setts 401-363-1954

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
President/Chief Steward
Painters' Local #1122



Buford's



Local 493

Family Restaurant

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.



126 Poquonnock Road
Groton, CT 06340

860-446-1765
~Hours~

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

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

The weather is still cold in the morning, so please prepare and dress accordingly for the weather changes through the day.

Work safe - Robert Hill /Chief Steward

Advertise Your Business Here!!!

If you wish to advertise with us, please contact the Metal Trades Office either by -
Phone: 860-445-6383

Or

Email: metaltradescouncil@gmail.com
Please Put Labor View ad in the subject line.

Thank You and look forward to hearing from you!

FAMILY DENTAL CENTER
Vincent Antonelli, D.D.S.
Ted Malahias, D.D.S.
Sean Kim, D.D.S., FAGD
115 Bridge Street
Groton, CT 06340
446-8744

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Bonding - Crown and Bridge

**FULL PARTICIPANT IN
MTC DENTAL PLAN**



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Trusted for over 84 years, Charter Oak Federal Credit Union has found strength in its ability to put the security of our members first. As technology continues to evolve, the risks that can pose a threat to the security of our members' finances do as well.

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- ✓ **Home Lending**

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or visit [charteroak.org](https://www.charteroak.org)

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860-446-8085



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Celebrating our 25th year
supporting Electric Boat
Retirees!!



Beacon
Retiree Benefits Group LLC
AN ALERA GROUP COMPANY

Call our office today
for more information
at 1.888.484.0414 or
email us at
info@beaconmedicare.com

SPECIAL INVITATION

Beacon Retiree Benefits Group invites
Electric Boat Retirees to participate in a
special Medicare Medical & Prescription
Drug Plan...

PROGRAM DETAILS

- 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**



Local 777

Last month I talked about the amount of newer members in the locals and all the trades. This trend looks like it is going to continue to at least the end of the year, before it starts to slow down. But there is a problem on the other side, that no one is talking about. There is a lot of new people being put directly into leadership roles, supervisory positions, administration areas that directly affect our membership .

For example: assignment of jobs aboard the ships, safety issues, paperwork procedures, staffing and transfers of members within and outside of the Locals , and outside and into the bargaining unit .No one knows everything, and it is ok to have a learning curve where people acquiesce themselves to the job requirements. The problems start where, after awhile you don't start catching on, or, when you are told of issues and don't correct the mistakes and keep on doing the wrong thing. It seems as though our members are held to a higher standard . They receive discipline when, sometimes mistakes are made, and they are required to adhere to the rules. The Company wont tell us if they do discipline supervision or salary. That would be interesting to know.

Having a lot of newer people isn't anything new. The difference between now and in the past ,is there were plenty of older , seasoned members to go around to help train our new hires ,as well as seasoned supervision to go around.

Our next Union negotiated paid holiday is Good Friday, April 7th. It is a good time for someone to bank 8 hours. Never know when you might need a little cushion on time.



Local 614

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

You all should have received a letter from our Union stating that there shall be Nominations for all officers of the Union to be held at the regular monthly meeting held on Tuesday, May 9th 2023 at the Union hall. The regular monthly meeting on June 13th is cancelled due to Elections being held that day. The Election will take place at the parking garage across from the main gate on Tuesday, June 13, from 5:00 AM to 5:00PM. All positions are up for election/ reelection. Per Article 25.4 of the International Boilermakers Constitution;" To be eligible for nomination and election of a Local Lodge, a member shall be: In continuous good standing in the International Brotherhood and Local Lodge of which He/She is a member for a period of at least two (2) years immediately prior to the time of His/Her nomination, excepting at the date of nominations in Lodges chartered less than two (2) years there shall be no length of membership eligibility requirements." Eligibility to vote (Article 25.3, 25.6 and 27.2.1) " A member, to be entitled to vote in any Local Lodge election, must have been in good standing in such Local Lodge for at least two (2) months immediately prior to such date of elections as recorded in the office of the International Secretary-Treasurer." If you have any questions or concerns please come to the Union Hall. I have a copy of the Constitution.

The members surveys should be going out to the membership. This will help your negotiating committee to focus on what the majority of the membership wants in the upcoming contract negotiations. The current contract with the Company expires on September 29th, 2023. We are sitting in a favorable position for negotiations. The Navy needs our product ASAP and we need a GOOD contract ASAP! The Company is sitting on billions of dollars in contracts. It is time to share the wealth!

Article II violations. Non- bargaining unit employees, including supervisory employees, shall not perform work on any hourly rated jobs. This has been going on way to long. Human resources and Operation Directors say they are looking into the Article II violations. The Union is noticing little or no action is being taken. We strongly recommend that if you see a member of management doing our work, tell them to stop, or tell any Union Steward about the incident. The only way to fix this problem is to be a thorn in their side. If we keep bringing supervisors up to HR, they will get tired of seeing us and then maybe the problem will go away.

Please attend the next monthly meeting. The meeting in May should be a good one. Good luck to any and all who want to run for a position!

Sincerely;
Patrick Joyce - President

Insurance Update

During the Annual Enrollment Dependent Audit, which started on January 17, 2023, and ended on March 1, 2023, eight MTC members either did not respond or could not get the necessary document required in time. Therefore, your dependents were taken off our medical plans starting on March 1, 2023.

The only way for you to get them back on the plan is to wait until next year's open enrollment period or have a qualifying event. Examples of that would be a new marriage, divorce having a child or loss of a spouse. This opens up a 30 day window where you can re-enroll them.

As of May 31, 2023, I will be stepping down as the MTC Benefits Representative due to my retirement. It has been a long but rewarding run. Please join me in welcoming Janet Orr as my replacement and wishing her well. I'm sure she will do a great job.

Frank Ward
Union Insurance Representative
401-499-9661

MTC Safety Report

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

It seems my last article did not sit well with some employees. Now that I have your attention, please, all I ask is you follow the rules. Even if you're just passing through the 260 building your PPE is required. When stepping off the elevators onto the mezzanine or traveling the mezzanines, your PPE is required. When stepping past the PPE lines into the 260 building your PPE is required.

What PPE you ask. Hard Hat, Safety Glasses, Hearing Protection and Work Boots. Wouldn't hurt to be wearing your gloves as well. Don't walk around with your hands in your pockets. You might need them quickly to brace a fall or to help with balance or to hold onto a railing.

Also quick reminder, April 28th is our Workers Memorial. We have had this since the early 90's. It's to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew our efforts for safe workplaces. This year it will be.

Friday April, 28, 2023
Washington Park, City of Groton
6:00 a.m. rain or shine

Sponsored by:
Southeastern Ct. AFL-CIO
And
AFL-CIO Community Services



Cat Race 1st Shift 860-405-4784	Sean Banks 1st Shift 860-326-4832	Derek Wilcox 1st Shift 860-326-4729	Jim Palmer 1st Shift 860-326-4341	Bill Zaks 2nd Shift 860-326-4353	Safety Office 860-433-2811	Metal Trades 860-445-6383
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