



# LABOR'S MTC VIEWS

114 Poquonnock Rd, Groton, CT 06340

January 2023

Vol 45 No. 1

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** 401-499-9661  
**MTC Benefits Rep**

2023, this will be a pivotal year for all of us. With the coming end of the current contract and the negotiations that will hopefully lead to a successor agreement, we are standing on a thin line where we will soar into greatness or fall into the abyss.

There are several issues that must be addressed if we are to attract future employees/members, and retain the current employees/members.

When we start preparing for those negotiations we will ask the members for their input through the same survey that we have used in the pass.

We also face a huge challenge communicating effectively with a membership who have largely not been through this before.

The best things you can do is be patient, cooperate, get involved in your Union, and not listen to rumors generated by the uninformed and nay sayers.

The Union Negotiating Committee is made up of representatives of the Metal Trades and each of the affiliated Local Unions.

This is very early and you will receive more information the closer we get to the contract expiration.

Please work safely and watch out for each other.

As Always, I Remain  
Fraternally Yours  
Peter E Baker  
President



#### 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)

We will receive a 3% General Wage Increase (GWI) effective January 22nd. This would be a great time to increase your 401(K) deductions. Years from now you will be thankful that you did this!!!!

#### 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](http://www.gdbenefit.com) (24hrs/7days). If you have any questions call EB Benefits: 860-433-4201 or Frank Ward, Union Insurance Representative: 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](http://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 ONLINE

LABOR'S VIEWS may be seen on [opeiulocal106.org](http://opeiulocal106.org) and the Metal Trades Council web site [mtcnlc.org](http://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](mailto:prof.emp@snet.net) and ask to be added to the email list. Please state "Subject LV" and use your home email address.

#### JANUARY UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, January 9, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut.

Special Orders: Nominations and Elections for MTC and Southeastern Connecticut Central Labor Council Delegates.

#### FEBRUARY UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, February 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at the Union Hall, 171 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut.

#### UNION REMINDER

Dues Increase: Due to per capita tax increases, our Local dues were increased by \$1.00 per month effective January 1, 2023.

#### STEWARDS FOR EB:

Kristofor Ingves D438 860-303-1256 / Sheryl Atencio D333 X36291 1st Shift

Arlene Allard D221 X37797 2nd Shift / Mark Cross D321 X35569 3rd Shift

#### UNION COMMUNICATIONS:

Local 106 Web Site - [opeiulocal106.org](http://opeiulocal106.org)

Local 106 - Phone 860-445-1216 FAX 860-446-0175 e-mail [prof.emp@snet.net](mailto: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](http://opeiu.org)  
Union Benefits - [UnionPlus.org](http://UnionPlus.org)

International Magazine - White Collar  
Metal Trades Council - [mtcnlc.org](http://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

Welcome to the new year! I hope everyone enjoyed the shutdown whether you were making extra money or spending time relaxing. Don't forget that if you have leftover floaters from last year, you have until February 28th to use them or lose them. Also make sure to check the ATA a few days after the first of the year to make sure that your vacation time is there, especially those who have passed employment milestone years.

As you all know, January weather can get dicey so please check the weather and plan ahead for those days when road conditions mean you need to drive a little slower coming into work. You may also use your floaters like sick days in case you run into emergencies, but you have to use a whole floater (8 hours) when you do.

Towards the end of the month start looking for W2s to drop.

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](http://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".

James Spencer Jr.  
President and Chief Steward IAMAW Local Lodge 1871

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

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 January 12th, and February 9th at 3:00 p.m. at 18 Pleasant St Groton, CT 06340.

**EB Optical Shop - [ebopticalshop@gdeb.com](mailto: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

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who supported the Christmas party. It was such a joy seeing Local 1122 Painters come together and celebrate the Happy Holidays in such fantastic fashion! Now that Christmas is near, I hope you all have an amazing time with family and friends, making joyful memories every step of the way. Wishing you all blessings for a Happy New Year full of great health and happiness.

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.

With the weather getting colder, please dress warm and wear the proper PPE. There are hand warmers and insulated gloves in the tool cribs. Please be sure to check the weather forecast before coming to work, so that you can dress appropriately.

As of yet, there is no road work. Once there is road work, your steward will inform you. If you have any questions about road work, please contact your steward.

Debit Card Replacement: If you happen to lose your Fidelity Health Savings Account (HSA) Debit Card, log onto [FidelityDebitCard.com](http://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 Shift Stewards: Allen Claar All Nuclear issues 860-237-1114, Ron Ingves 860-334-8141, Alt- Matthew Fauquet 860-381-9196.  
2nd shift Stewards: Alts- 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](mailto:painters.union@yahoo.com).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Fraternally yours,

Dennis Urquhart

President/Chief Steward - Painters' Local #1122

# Buford's

# LiUNA!

# Local 547

Feel the Power

Attention Members our dues will be increasing 1\$ a month, from 43\$ to 44\$ starting this month. I hope you had a good holiday!

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

## 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

The weather is turning cold so please prepare and dress accordingly. Layers will be your best friend. Snow will be here soon so please be safe while on the road and in the yard.

New Year is here! You guys did great last year, lets do it again this year!

Work safe - Robert Hill /Chief Steward

## Family Restaurant



126 Poquonnock Road

Groton, CT 06340

860-446-1765

~Hours~

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

**Sat-Sun: 6 to Noon**

### 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](mailto:metaltradescouncil@gmail.com)  
Please Put Labor View ad in the subject line.

Thank You and look forward to hearing from you!

**BRIDGEWORKS**  
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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- No ATM Fees
- Special Gold Rates

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For more details, visit [CharterOak.org/content/EB](http://CharterOak.org/content/EB) or  
talk with one of our Member Service Representatives today!

\*Some restrictions may apply. †APY=Annual Percentage Yield.

### **MEMBERS BANK BETTER.**

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# Injured? Let us help you.



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## Local 777

We hope everyone had a safe and happy shutdown . We have a New year, new CONGRESS, pay rates ( January 22nd a 3% GWI comes into effect), new insurance benefits ( January 1st the max weekly accident and sickness benefit increases to \$610 weekly) , And a new contract to be negotiated. Our current contract is set to expire on September 29th.

This means everything ends and is gone until a new contract is negotiated. Its always great to be optimistic, hope for the best, but expect the worst and plan ahead for it. We have plenty of work in the yard and more coming. This should be a very busy year for everyone.

The new south yard assembly building should also start ramping up by summer. Hopefully, inflation, will start leveling out, prices will come back to normal, and the tridemic of the flu, covid, and SRV will finally go away. Our next paid holiday is not until April 7th, Good Friday.

# WELCOME TO A HAPPY New Year



## Local 614

Hello Brothers and Sisters;

We will be receiving a 3% raise on January 22 2023. We did not receive a wage increase in 2022 due to the 13 month pay raise schedule. A 3% raise in this economy is an insult to the workforce. It does not keep up with the rising inflation. The company is doing quite well with the abundance of work for several years. Our current Labor agreement expires on September 29, 2023. If the company wants to attract and retain a quality workforce, drastic changes have to be made in the upcoming negotiations.

The Safety and Incentive bonus will be sent out in mid-January. As of this writing, they are still crunching the numbers.

The NSSF rotation issue is still on hold for now. We will keep you informed on how this works out.

The Calendar books, Boilermakers Tee shirts and Lanyards are in. If you want any of these, see your steward or stop at the Union Hall and pick them up.

Floating Holidays. (Floaters) You have up until February 28th to use them or you will lose them.

Developmental welder. This is a premium posting for a welder. This is a pretty good job to have . Apply now.

The company is going on a hiring frenzy. By the end of the year we should have nearly 1000 Boilermakers employed. We haven't seen those numbers since the 90s.

Please attend your monthly Union Meetings on the Second Tuesday of the month. The next Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 10th at 2:45 pm at the Union Hall located at 33 Sacred Heart Drive, Groton, Ct. See you there!

Sincerely;  
Patrick Joyce  
President



# Insurance Update

Some of our members have not let the General Dynamics Service Center know the amount of money they would like deposited into their Health Savings Account (HSA). The amount you allocated last year does not roll-over into the new year. You need to pledge the new amount of money you would like deposited into your HSA account. This does not need to be done during open enrollment. It can be done throughout the year and the amount you allocate can also be changed multiple times to suit your needs throughout the year.

The EB Fitness Center is starting a new program called Recommit Don't Quit Partner Challenge on January 16, 2023. This program is designed to get you into better shape than you may be in right now. Especially since we tend to be less active in the winter months. It is a partner driven work out, where you and a buddy encourage each other to get into better shape. They will give you a free tee shirt and you will get gift cards for coming in 1st 2nd and 3rd place. If you are interested, call the Fitness Center at 860-433-1515.

Frank Ward  
Union Insurance Representative  
401-499-9661

## MTC Safety Report

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

Happy New Year

That's right, it's a New Year and I hope everyone had a great holiday off. I know I did. I hope everyone is ready to start this year on the right foot.

Let's keep in mind cold weather is coming. The cold peeked its nose in for a very short time but prepare, it will get painfully cold down in the shipyard. So we want to dress in layers. You never know when you're going to work outside. If you are, you'll be dressed for it. If not you can just thin out some of those layers.

Also remember to stretch. Very important in the cold. Your muscles tend to tense up in the cold. There are plenty of stretch machines throughout the shipyard. If you can't find one just stretch like you would if you were getting ready to go jogging. Don't forget to put your PPE on as well. Also don't forget to use the right tool for the job. This will avoid injuries. And if you don't know what you're doing don't do it. Talk with your boss or your working leader. That's what they're there for. Utilize them.

We want you to go home the same way you came to work.

Be Safe  
MTC Safety Chairperson  
Cat Race



Cat Race 1st Shift 860-405-4784	Sean Banks 1st Shift 860-326-4832	Derek Wilcox 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 860-445-6383
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