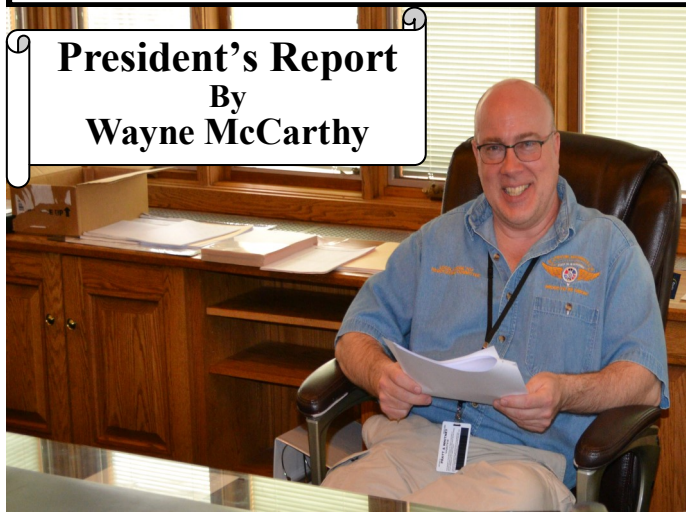


February 2020

Volume MMXX No.1

President's Report By Wayne McCarthy



As 2020 has arrived, it is time to reflect on the past year. **In Middletown, we ended 2019 with 1,450 dues paying members of Local Lodge 700. That is below our yearly high point of 1474 members that was reached in February.** These numbers alone don't tell the whole story.

Last year, CSMC (Compression Systems Module Center) continued its hiring trend. **For the year, CSMC hired over 100 new employees in Middletown.** Most of the new jobs were in the Occ. 176 machining code and in Quality (Occ. 460 and Occ. 464). In 2020, all indications are that CSMC will continue hiring. The expectation is that 40 to 74 more hourly employees will be hired. This number doesn't include the need to replace any of our members who decide to retire.

With the new machines being installed in Buildings 150 and 220, the company has also recognized the need to hire additional skilled trades to maintain the new equipment along with our legacy machines. Last year, 13 skilled trade employees were hired. This year, the company announced that they will be starting an apprenticeship program for Occ. 585 Electronic System Servicers.

This is all positive, but the Union feels strongly that the company needs to be more aggressive in recruiting and hiring additional skilled trades employees. Not only are the newer machines more complex when it comes to maintenance needs, but we are also anticipating that some of our most senior members in the trades will be retiring soon. That is a lot of knowledge that will be leaving. Hopefully, the company will be proactive in its hiring decisions so that this knowledge will be passed on to the next generation of workers.

On the Engine Center side of the house, the company spent 2019 trying to figure out how many Occ. 400 Engine Technicians were needed to meet our delivery numbers. **In prior years, the company hired a lot of Mechanics and Inspectors in order to successfully launch the GTF/NEO program and to ensure that we delivered on our F135 commitments to the military.** With every new program, productivity improvements are achieved, and we can build the new generation of Engines faster today than when they first entered production. At the same time, as the NEO engine schedule increases, the V2500 schedule has all but disappeared. The result was that many Occ 400's accepted the VSO package (Voluntary Separation Option) and retired from Pratt and Whitney. For the year, the number of Occ. 400's decreased from 597 to 496 as of December 2019.

2020 is going to see higher engine volume in the Engine Center driven mostly by the NEO program. The Block D engineering improvements have been incorporated and the customers are looking to add the latest and greatest GTF version to their NEO fleet. **As the NEO volume increases year over year, the F135 volume stays consistent.** All in all, we are in good shape and by the time our current CBA expires on May 1st, 2022; the Engine Center will likely be back in a hiring mode.

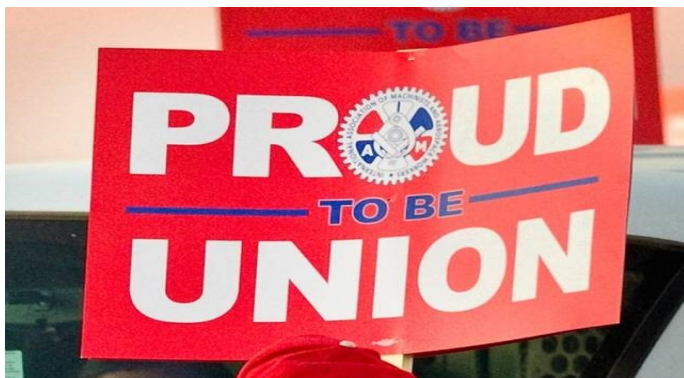
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In Memory Of Our Departed Members & Retirees

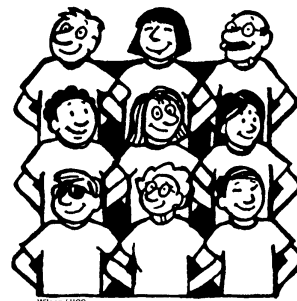
*David Coleman,
Ricky Burrill, Eric
Mellema &
Steve Bennett*

Continued from page 1 President's Report

With all of that said, 2022 will come very quickly. We must all prepare now so that we are in a strong position to bargain for well deserved improvements to our contract. We need to address the never-ending shifting of higher Health Care costs that are being passed on to us. **We also need to be unified in our goal of restoring defined Pensions for all our members. No one should have to live under a cloud of uncertainty when it comes to retirement security.** Cash balance plans, which are modeled after 401k's are risky. A few bad investment years can wipe out a good chunk of a person's retirement funds. This is not the case under a defined pension. The value is known, and it does not fluctuate on the whims of the stock market. If we are serious, then we need to be prepared! Restoring defined pensions for every member must be our top priority!



Join US For The Monthly Meeting



At The Union Hall

**Next Meeting
March 8, 2019
At 10:00 A.M.**

C.A.N.E.L. Lodge 700
Website www.iam700.org

Officers

President.....Wayne McCarthy
Vice President..... Ron Frost
Recording Secretary.....Chris Goodale
Secretary Treasurer.....Doug Campbell
Conductor/Sentinel.....Frank Checko
Trustee.....Paul Dicks
Trustee.....Mark Harrison
Trustee.....Mark Nati

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Heather Merrick
Carl Peterson
Mike Shermer

Shop Committee

Chairman Wayne McCarthy
1st Shift Frank Checko, Mark Harrison
2nd Shift Ron Frost, Mike Frei
3rd Shift Robert Deegan

OUR VOICE OUR CHOICE

By Mark Nati - Political and Legislative Committee

We are just 8 months away from our next Presidential Election. There are still a lot of Democratic candidates that want to take on Mr. Trump November 3rd. This year who the IAM endorses will be up to the members. After what happened in 2016 the International does not want to take the heat for endorsing a not very likable candidate (Hillary). So, they have set up a website and it looks like this:



The one piece of information you will need that you may not have is your IAM Book number. If you don't know your IAM book/card number, You can get this by calling our secretary Karenne at the Union Hall. The phone # is 860-345-2098 or the IAM Membership Services Department at 301-967-4525. The rest is easy. So make sure your voice is heard on who the Machinist union will endorse to take on President Trump November 3rd.

In all 29 candidates have decided to run for the Democratic nomination for President. We are down to 11. Four of them are in their 70's and they hold the top 4 spots in the polls: Biden, Bernie, Warren and Bloomberg. Rounding out the top 5 is 38 year old Pete Buttigieg.

So when making this decision a few things come into play. #1 What policies does each candidate have and are they mainstream, center-left or far left? #2 Can they beat President Trump?

And #3, which may be a non-issue for many is age. There are 4 candidates in their 70's and 2 are 38 years old, and 1 in their 40's and 2 each in their 50's and 60's.

At this point nobody really knows who is going to win. In 2008, Obama was nowhere near the lead and look what happened then. Make your voice heard. Participate in the process. It sure beats just complaining that we have no say.

Thanks

By Heather Merrick, Community Services Committee

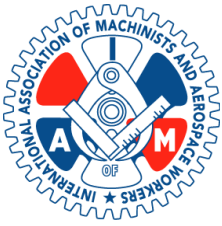
On behalf of local lodge 700 community services committee I'd like to thank every single member for doing their part to help in any manner this past year. In particular; the gate collection despite some small changes, was a huge success. In addition to being able to help out our own members who had been out long term, we helped out three other charities with a donation of \$600 each. We are looking forward to another year of doing good deeds and helping our community. Thank you again and in advance for your continued support. Let us know if you have thoughts on events or charities you work with or would like to see us get more involved with. Together we can all make a difference.

New Compass Header

As you can see the Compass has a new Logo Header with a QR Code included which is a link to the online version of the Compass on the Locals Website. Most smartphones camera app will read the QR code and bring you right to the Compass online. This way any stories with links will be clickable right from your phone or tablet. For instance, The Our Voice Our Choice picture to the left can be clicked on and it will bring you right to iam2020.org.

Also, while on the Compass webpage, click on the Lodge 700 Logo up top which will bring you to the [Local 700 Home page](#). Also be sure to follow the locals [Facebook page](#) for info on meetings, elections and other current events.

The website has been a work in progress for some time now due to conflicts with our old site format and the web hosting service. Long story short, we are currently looking into new web hosting services and expect a new website to start forming over the coming months.



C.A.N.E.L. LODGE 700

MONTHLY EH&S REPORT

**You can
make the
difference**

**Mourn for the
Dead
Fight For
the Living**

February Report Submitted by Chief Union Safety Representative Rob Badin

Below is Part 3 of “About Workers Comp. I hope that you are finding these hints for the CT Workers Comp. system helpful. Please keep them for future reference.

About Workers Comp. Part 3

How do I claim my workers' compensation benefits? 30C form

If you are injured on the job or are diagnosed as having a work-related disease, you should file a written notice of claim for workers' compensation as soon as possible. The Workers' Compensation Commission provides an official form for workers' compensation claims, a 30C Form. This form is also available from any Workers' Compensation Commission District Office or from the Commission's Education Services.

A 30C Claim Form should be filed promptly after a work-related injury takes place. There is a statute of limitation for filing workers' compensation claims:

- within ONE YEAR of the date of an injury
- OR
- within THREE YEARS of the first manifestation of a symptom of an occupational disease.

All written notices of claim (30C Forms) for workers' compensation benefits must be filed with both your employer and with the Workers' Compensation Commission District Office which has jurisdiction over the city or town *in which you were injured or became ill*, NOT where you live.

[NOTE: If, within the applicable time period described above, (1) there has been a hearing or a written request for a hearing or an assignment for a hearing or (2) your employer's insurance carrier has already signed a Voluntary Agreement, you do NOT need to file a 30C Form for the injury or illness it covers.]

You should file a 30C Claim Form because:

- There will be no doubt that you are claiming that you have a work-related injury or occupational disease.
- It is the best way to insure that you have met the statute of limitations for filing a workers' compensation claim.
- A simple “accident report” filed with your employer is NOT an official claim for workers' compensation benefits.
- Your claim will be more likely to receive prompt attention from your employer or insurance carrier.
- Once your employer receives an official claim, it has only 28 calendar days in which to either deny your claim or to begin making workers' compensation benefit payments “without prejudice.” If an official denial is not issued within 28 calendar days or if benefit payments are not initiated within 28 calendar days, your employer MUST accept the compensability of your claim.

If you are injured on the job, follow the proper procedures to protect your rights!

First: Report your injury immediately to your employer and get proper medical attention.

Do not delay in reporting workplace injuries, since this can endanger your claim. Many injured workers are initially denied benefits because they did not report their injuries immediately.

Second: File a proper written notice of claim — a 30C Form — as soon as possible! Send the form by Certified or Registered Mail (*return receipt requested*) or deliver it by personal presentation (*obtaining a written receipt as proof of such personal delivery*).

If you need assistance with filing a claim, please call your local Workers' Compensation Commission District Office or Education Services at 1-800-223-WORK (*toll-free in Connecticut*).