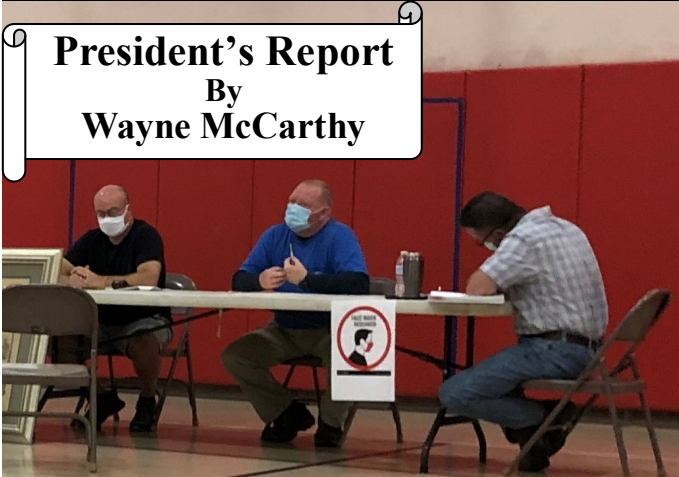




## President's Report By Wayne McCarthy



What a crazy year we had in 2020! First and foremost, **our Country and our industry have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.** Every single one of us has been affected by this outbreak in one way or another. We have had many members who were placed in quarantine due to contracting the virus or because they were in close contact with someone who was COVID-19 positive. Sadly, we also mourned the passing of Union sister Aimee Kheuanesombath and Union Brother Victor Thomas. **Aimee and Vic were taken from us by this virus and our continued thoughts and prayers go out to their families.**

There are still a lot of questions that I receive from people concerning COVID-19. **First, the company is providing our members with a new allotment of 80 hours of paid COVID-19 time for 2021.** The difference this year is that the 80 hours will not be automatically loaded into your sick/personal time bucket. However, HR has communicated to supervision that this paid benefit is available for those who qualify for it as a result of a COVID event. Next, as "Essential" employees; we are currently listed by the state as group 1B for receiving a vaccine to protect us against the virus. With that said, there's no guarantee that we won't be reclassified if the State or Federal Government have a change in plans. Also, the timing of when we can receive the vaccine is difficult to determine due to the slow rollout for those who are in the 1A category.

Some of you have asked if we will be "required" to take the vaccine? As I write this article, I have not received any word from RTX that being vaccinated is going to be required in order to come to work. I am not aware if they will or can mandate vaccines in the future, but I am sure that RTX will keep us informed if there are any changes to their current protocol.

Taking a vaccine is of course a very personal decision. I am in no position to tell anyone what they should or shouldn't do in relation to their own health. My hope is that the vaccine proves to be effective and safe. **Even as many of us opt to become vaccinated, it doesn't mean that things will quickly return to normal in the shop.** We will still be required to wear face coverings and to practice social distancing for the foreseeable future. My guess is that these policies will not be relaxed until our country has reached the point of "herd immunity".

In normal years my January article is focused on the current state of the business and on how we are positioned for the future as a Union. Unfortunately, these are not normal times. But I will be talking about these issues in the next edition of the Compass. **One thing I do want to leave you with is for everyone to remember that our Collective Bargaining Agreement expires on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.** We will be electing our negotiating committee in the Summer and we will begin the process of preparing for negotiations. Now is the time for all of us to be financially prepared in case the company does not bargain with us fairly. **The best way to avoid a job action is to be prepared for one!**

**Happy New Year! Stay safe and be well.**



# In Memory Of

Our Departed Members & Retirees

*Dave Lewis, Bill Greer, Rowan Monington, Steve Welch, Victor Thomas, Eugene Holuba & Estelle Jackson*

## Apply Now for the 2021 IAM Scholarship

The 2021 IAM Scholarship Competition is accepting applications. The competition is open to members of the IAM and their children. The deadline for applications is February 12, 2021.

[Apply for a 2021 IAM Scholarship.](#)

The IAM also has a vocational-technical two-year scholarship available to both members and their children.

More info can be found at [www.goiam.org/news/apply-now-for-the-2021-iam-scholarship-competition](http://www.goiam.org/news/apply-now-for-the-2021-iam-scholarship-competition)

## Thanks

By Heather J. Merrick - Community Services

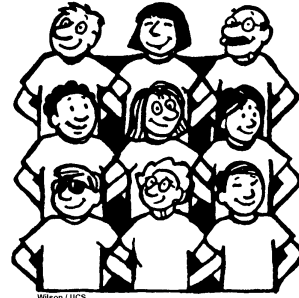
Just wanted to give a big shout out to the community service committee, officers, stewards, safety reps, and most of all our members for once again coming through for the community as we deliver lots of food to both Thanksgiving project, and Amazing Grace.

Thanks to your generous donations 975 families in need in the Middletown community had Thanksgiving dinner, as well as 260 lbs of food delivered to Amazing Grace food pantry. Fantastic job! Thank you for all you do!



# Join US

## For The Monthly Meeting



## At The Union Hall

Next Meeting  
Feb 14, 2021 At  
10:00 A.M.

C.A.N.E.L. Lodge 700  
Website [www.iam700.org](http://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 Dickes  
Trustee.....Mark Harrison  
Trustee.....Mark Nati

### Contributing Editors of COMPASS

Paul Dickes  
Mark Harrison  
Heather Merrick  
Mike Shermer

### Shop Committee

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

# Contract Preparations for 2022

by Paul Dickes

Does the Union want to strike or have a job action against Pratt & Whitney? **No.**

All we want is a fair and equitable contract that addresses our needs and goals to better the membership. The Machinists Union Local Lodges 700 and 1746 fight for the membership of both local lodges through Chief Negotiator Mike Stone. Between now and the contract vote that's scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, you will start seeing preparations done by the Local Lodges and District 26 over the next 16-18 months. The process is long but it has a purpose to include and inform the membership.

So what do **YOU** need to do as a Union member between now and the contract vote? First, **SOLIDARITY** is the most important goal and is key. Secondly, you need to start a special savings account. **Why?** To prepare for a strike or a job action if the company and the Union cannot agree. As stated above we do not want to strike but we do want a fair and equitable contract.

So, start saving your money now so if we have a strike, you will have some money to pay the mortgage or your rent and buy food while we are out.

Weekly money Saved Starting In February 2021	6 months Approx. 26 weeks	12 months Approx. 52 weeks	18 months Approx. 74 weeks
\$10	\$260	\$520	\$740
\$25	\$650	\$1,300	\$1,850
\$50	\$1,300	\$2,600	\$3,700
\$100	\$2,600	\$5,200	\$7,400
\$150	\$3,900	\$7,800	\$11,000

I know a lot of us cannot afford \$150-\$200 a week to save, but every little bit helps to prepare. The good thing, if we do not go on strike you will have saved up a nice amount of money to buy something you want or need, or a great vacation.

Over my past 35 years, I have seen many members save for a potential strike and we have not gone out. So they had all this money saved and they bought a new toy or they purchased something nice for the house or loved one.

As the strike committee chair and co-chairs since 2000, we have only gone on strike once and we were well prepared as a membership to take on the company because of our knowledge of what we wanted in our contract and what was communicated to the company and the media. A well prepared and knowledgeable membership is key in obtaining a fair and equitable contract.

**So Save, Save, Save, and Prepare, Prepare, Prepare.** Solidarity is the key between now and May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Stay Strong Sisters and Brothers, Stay Strong. We will always fight one day longer than the company.

## Introducing the New IAM Group Medicare Plan

The IAM has worked for months to negotiate a **new Group Medicare plan** for Medicare-eligible retirees, spouses, surviving spouses and Medicare-eligible dependents.

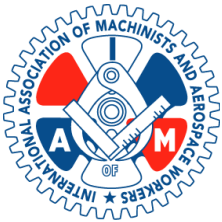
We are excited to announce a new partnership with **Employee Benefit Systems** and **TLC Insurance Group**. This plan can help serve the Medicare needs for our Medicare-eligible retirees, their spouses, and surviving spouses. This *new* best-in-class IAM Group Medicare Advantage plan, offered through Humana, is rich in benefits.

Visit [iam4.me/iamhumana](http://iam4.me/iamhumana) for more information. Here are some of the benefits that IAM retirees are so excited about:

1. Available in all 50 states, plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia
2. National Passive Group Medicare PPO Plan that allows members to use the doctor and hospital of their choice nationally
3. In network and out of network benefits are identical
4. Robust Prescription Group Plan included
5. Low out of pocket maximum
6. No deductibles on the IAMAW Group plan
7. Low copays! *Primary Care Physician – \$0 copay Specialist – \$30 copay*

For current IAMAW Medicare-eligible retirees/spouses/surviving spouses, look for marketing and communications from the IAM this week. The IAM announcement letter will be followed by a group enrollment packet with details on the new group plan. Inside, there will be an exclusive toll free phone number (**1-800-833-2411 – Humana Enrollment Department**) to call in for questions and enrollment assistance.

Retiree participation is not mandatory. Enrollment into the plan is by self-choice. However, we highly suggest that all retirees compare the benefits of this new IAM Group Medicare plan, with their current coverage, prior to making any decision on their 2021 Medicare healthcare options. Visit [iam4.me/iamhumana](http://iam4.me/iamhumana) for more information.



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

**MONTHLY EH&S REPORT**

**You can  
make the  
difference**

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

## **January Report**

Happy New Year's Sisters and Brothers,

I would like to start by saying thank you to all the Union Safety Reps for a job well done in 2020. At the beginning of the COVID 19 Pandemic the Safety reps. were involved in coordination and distribution of hand sanitizer, disinfectant and wipes to clean and disinfect our work areas while at the same time administrating the RIDII system, hearing safety concerns and performing their job tasks.....machining, assembly, inspection or moving part kits. I'd also like to thank Nick Romano for his service as a Safety Rep. I would also like to welcome the new Safety reps. Erin Innis..1<sup>st</sup>, Darwin Madrid..2<sup>nd</sup>, and Chris Jackson..AWW. I'm looking forward to getting to know you and bringing you up to speed on Safety and Health here at Pratt and Whitney in 2021.

### **What is a VEH&S sub Committee?**

**V**oluntary **E**nvironmental **H**ealth and **S**afety sub committees, also known as Joint Labor/Management committee is a formal committee which has been organized to address specific issues such as Ergonomics. It is a committee with equal representation from hourly and salary employees which gives both parties an opportunity to talk directly to each other and educate each other related to the problems faced by each group. Bottom line is us hourly folks have all the knowledge about our processes but no money or ability to change things and Salary has little to no knowledge of our processes but has the money and ability to make changes, so working together we can make good changes. This helps the Safety and Health of our workers and makes a more efficient process for the company. So if you are at all interested in making your jobs ...easier, safer and more fun to do. See me or a Safety rep. to get started on a committee. The standing committees are Ergonomics, Audits and Communications. As needed committees are Slip, Trips and falls, also Cut and Punctures.

### **On site Thermal Scanning buildings.**

If you haven't seen the little gray buildings by B220 post 8 and B410 post 9A drive by and take a look. These will be the self-scanning points. They are not up and running yet, but so close. When folks ask me when they will be operational all I can say is ASAP. F&S are hard at work building and outfitting them with the necessary climate controls needed to make thermal scanning accurate. So look for F&S updates.

### **Masks**

As we all know the CDC states that properly worn face covering, social distancing and frequent hand washing reduces the spread of COVID 19 virus. So here at PW it is mandatory that we properly wear our masks at all times unless you are outside and not within the 6ft of someone else. Pay attention to this rule because management has stated progressive discipline will happen. And in my opinion it is a silly reason to get discipline. If you have medical issues you need to see your Doctor for clarification of those issues so medical and Human Resources can make accommodations, if possible. Finally please discard the used mask in a trash pail. These blue masks on the side of Aircraft Rd are very noticeable.

### **Report It Don't Ignore It..... RIDII.**

The RIDII system is used for reporting safety risks. The wheels of progress work very slow here at PW so if you have put in a RIDII and it seems as if nothing is happening, please be patient we are working on them all.

Stay Alert!!

In Solidarity

Chief Union Health and Safety Rep.

Rob Badin