



July 2020

Volume MMXX No.2

## President's Report By Wayne McCarthy



Many of us have been at Pratt and Whitney long enough to think, “**Now, I’ve seen just about everything**”. We have seen multiple rounds of layoffs, plant closings, entire Business units moving from one Connecticut plant to another Connecticut plant. In 2001, following the terrorist’s attacks of 9/11, we witnessed the entire airline industry come to a standstill. We’ve seen a lot and we’ve persevered.

Recently, we were experiencing a resurgence of Pratt and Whitney’s commitment to Connecticut. **The company has hired 625 hourly employees in Middletown since 2015.** Pratt and Whitney/RTC has invested billions of dollars in Connecticut as part of the \$400 million tax credit that the state of Connecticut provided to the corporation in 2014. **These investments have led to the transformation of the assembly floor to build the NEO and F-135 engines as efficiently as possible.** Similarly, the company has invested tens of millions of dollars in CSMC on the newest equipment needed to produce the critical parts for these engine programs and to continue to produce the spare parts needed for our legacy engines.

Now, 2020 has brought us a new challenge: COVID-19. This virus has not only threatened our members health and safety, it has also threatened our economic livelihoods. Our airline customers

are seeing a prolonged reduction in demand for flights. **For perspective: On July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 the TSA processed 2,500,000 passengers. On July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 that number was down to 530,000 passengers.** These numbers do not include the reduction for International demand, it’s just customers coming through TSA checkpoints in the US.

So, we are maneuvering within an industry that has seen an 80% decline in demand. That’s not a good spot to be in. The Engine Center is very sensitive to abrupt downturns in our industry. **Airlines are trying to save cash so the first thing that they do is to defer taking delivery on new Jets and Engines.** This is why we had a surplus of occ. 400’s (Jet Engine Technicians) in the Engine Center. Approximately 94 of our least senior occ. 400’s transferred into new positions. 39 of those positions are in CSMC as machinists, inspectors, facilities mechanics or material handlers. Remaining positions in East Hartford and in Middletown were also filled by surplus to need under Letter 17 of our contract. **As a result, we can report that through the VSO and surplus to need opportunities, all our bargaining unit members still have a job.**

A common question people have is, “How were there jobs available if the industry is in such bad shape?” The answer is that the US military is still buying new F135 engines and spare parts for its entire military fleet. This sector of our business has not slowed down. At the same time, CSMC has work it needs to bring in from Turkey. **This is resulting in \$25 million of new machines being installed in building 220 to do the Turkey IBR work.** We also have a key supplier that was purchased by a foreign corporation. **Because of this, Pratt is taking some work currently done by its supplier and bringing that work into Middletown.** The last piece to the puzzle is called sold overdue. Sold overdue consists of spare parts that our customers want to buy but we haven’t been able to deliver for various reasons. CSMC management is taking this opportunity to eliminate as much of this overdue work as possible by adding machinists and inspectors to increase production.

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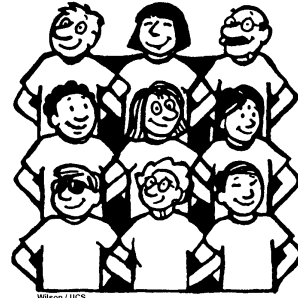
**In Memory Of  
Our Departed Members  
& Retirees**

*Elsie Harris, James  
Marchand, Dean De-  
barge, Aimee  
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Dennis Koswig, Rich-  
ard Nowak, & Judith  
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*Continued from page 1 President's Report*

Here's one thing that we can't predict, how long will it take for the airline industry to get back to normal? **When they do recover, we need Pratt and Whitney to be the company that they choose to buy their Jet Engines from. That is how we can best secure our long-term futures in Connecticut.** We need to be smart and we need to be productive. If we can't deliver on-time to our customers during a downturn; then will they want to purchase new engines from us in the future? I know this isn't easy to hear when people are being moved to new jobs, new departments and new shifts, but we must hold up our end of the bargain. **It's our job to manufacture and inspect the parts, maintain the facilities and equipment, move the material and ultimately assemble and test the best Jet Engines in the world.** If we continue to do the right thing, then we will be in a better position to make sure that we all remain employed today and well into the future.

**Join US  
For The Monthly Meeting**



**At The Union Hall**

**Next Meeting  
August 9, 2019  
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 Robert Deegan**

# UTC- 4- Vets Middletown

By Jessica Reynolds - UTC- 4- Vets Honor & Recognition Chair

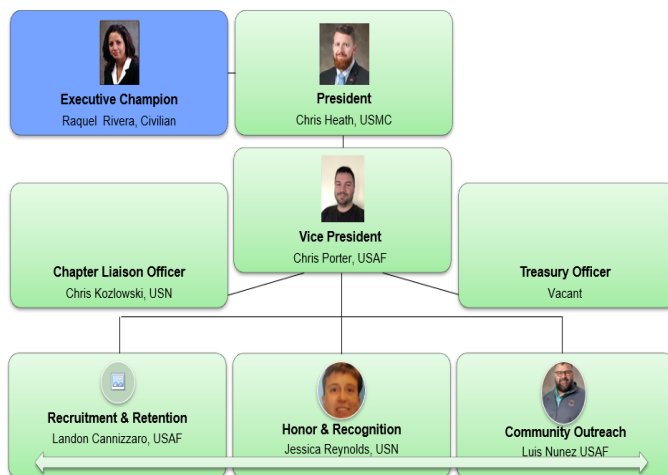
I would like to introduce one of the ERG groups that Pratt and Whitney has available for you to participate in. UTC 4 Vets is a group of hourly and salary employees who advocate for active and former service members and their families. We hold events throughout the year to raise awareness and collect donations for those deployed overseas as well as Toys-4-Tots. As an example, last November we held a food drive. We collected over \$200 and many boxes of food and non-food items were sent overseas to give the military some love from home. Those who helped with this drive were Steve Smith, Chris Porter, Carmelo Flores, Charles Hermann, Joe Jennings, Cody Schimetschek, and myself. We will also be hosting a number of off-site socials throughout the year for veterans around the site to get to know one another once we are able to have gatherings again. Sometime soon when we can start having events again, we are planning to have a lunch and learn as well to introduce ourselves and see if anyone would like to be part of our growing group. Be on the lookout for all hands emails from us. You do NOT have to have a military background to be part of this group. You just want to have an interest in supporting veterans' affairs or each other here in Middletown.

# Senator Murphy Meets With Labor

By Mark Nati - Political and Legislative Committee

Senator Murphy met with labor leaders from across the state to get input from the different unions on what he could do to help us through this COVID-19 Pandemic. We used Zoom to hold the meeting. I was asked to attend being a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Board. With Chris being a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, it puts Chris in the position to help us out. Over the past 10 plus years, the Commercial side of the business has kept the work force solid between the SEV work and the GTF work. The military work was like a cherry on top of a nice sundae. That is no longer the case and Senator Murphy knows it. He wants to make certain we are able to keep our work force intact and sees it as a national security issue. He believes it is the Governments turn to step up with the engine orders. Chris will also try to put a group from both sides of the aisle together to try to pull some engines from next year's schedule into this year even if it is in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. Then he hopes the group can get the Pentagon to increase next year's schedule. Again, Senator Murphy shows how important it is to have the right people in elected office that reach out to labor to get our needs met. The other Unions have many different issues than ours, however all of our Brothers and Sisters concerns were heard.

## OUR 2020 TEAM

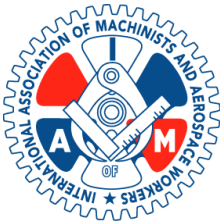


## New Compass Header

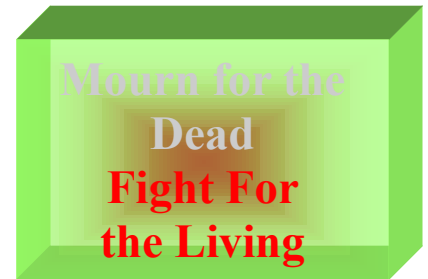
As you can see the Compass has a new Logo Header with a QR Code included which is a link to the online version of the Compass on the Locals Website. Most smartphones camera app will read the QR code and bring you right to the Compass online.

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.

As for the updated website, Covid-19 put that on hold for now.



## C.A.N.E.L. LODGE 700 MONTHLY EH&S REPORT



### July Report

*Submitted by Chief Union Safety Representative Rob Badin*

### **Don't like wearing face covering? Well neither do I. But this is why I do. The Evidence on Face Masks**

Since the U.S. Centers for Disease Control recommended that Americans wear face masks when they go out in public, it's likely that you are noticing a variety of face coverings – bandanas, homemade fabric masks, medical-grade masks and more – when you venture out.

The recommendations came after researchers learned the coronavirus, which has led to more than 100,000 deaths worldwide, spreads via droplets produced when someone coughs, sneezes or even simply speaks, and that people can spread the virus without having any symptoms. A systematic review published in 2009 combined the data from 59 studies to assess physical interventions that prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. The review found that frequent hand washing, disinfecting surfaces and wearing a mask were among the most effective ways to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses.

A second systematic review was published earlier this year looking at how well masks protect against respiratory viruses. Because this study is newer, it has not yet undergone the peer review process. This review combined the data from 21 studies examining whether the use of masks reduces the risk of contracting a respiratory virus. This review found that the use of masks can reduce the risk of a respiratory infection by up to 80 percent. Masks had a protective effect against the coronavirus and the previous SARS virus that led to a global pandemic in 2003.

The CDC recommends the general public use cloth face coverings made from household items or from common materials found at home and save the medical-grade face masks for health care workers. They recommend that cloth face coverings fit snugly against the side of the face, be secured with ties or ear loops, include multiple layers of fabric, allow for breathing without restriction and be washable.

The take-home message: Wearing some type of cloth mask over your face when you are out in public can protect you and help reduce the spread of the virus. And the CDC warns that wearing a mask does not replace social distancing, such as avoiding unnecessary outings and staying at least six feet away from people in public places.

### **Thermal Imaging at Turnstiles**

The company is currently looking into thermal imaging being done at all turnstiles. So you will be scanned and the turnstile will unlock and allow access to the plant. The technology is currently in house and being piloted by F&S. From my understanding at this time is the inside turnstiles will not be an issue it will be the outside turnstiles that will have to have a way of letting the body get back to body temp before scanning can happen. As we know if that doesn't happen we get a false reading. This is why our Thermal imaging is only done inside. More to come on this.

### **RIDII Submittals**

RIDII submittals have been at a decline in the last two months. I can only guess as to why, but I do know it is not because there are no safety concerns. So please if you know of a safety issue, broken tool or poor work instructions that may cause an injury submit a RIDII