



LOCAL 175 DAYTON, OHIO

NEWS-REPORT

February 2008

LOCAL 175 EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTS DP&L NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

In accordance with the Local 175 By-Laws, the Executive Board elected the Negotiations Committee for the upcoming labor agreement negotiations with DP&L. The members of the committee are Kelly Cooper, Greg Adams, Becki Mount, Danny Pertuset and Kenny Ruckel. While a date to begin negotiations has not been established with DP&L, your committee has been meeting on a regular basis to begin development of topics to be discussed with the company.

DP&L NEGOTIATIONS SURVEY

The Executive Board has approved a survey to be completed by members who work at DP&L for the upcoming negotiations.

Please take time to complete the survey on the Local 175 web page and forward it to the Local 175 office. You may give your survey to your Area Representative, e-mail to local175@swohio.twcbc.com, mail it to the union office. Surveys will also be available at each monthly membership meeting.

VECTREN MEMBERS TO VOTE ON CONTRACT LANGUAGE CHANGE

On Thursday, March 13, Local 175 members who work for Vectren will have the opportunity to vote on a change to their contract language. The current contract language defines the amount of the initiation fees for new members. The proposed language requires the payment of initiation fees and union dues but does not define the amount.

Voting will take place on March 13 between 3:30-6:30 pm. Absentee ballots are available.

UPCOMING PRIMARY ELECTION IN OHIO

March 4 is the date in Ohio for the primary election. Remember to vote for those who support the working men and women!

WORKERS COMPENSATION COMMITTEE ATTENDS TRAINING

The members of the Local 175 Workers' Compensation Committee recently attended training in Columbus. This annual training is offered by the Ohio AFL-CIO and has always proven to be exceptional in preparing our committee members to represent the Local 175 membership in matters dealing with work-related injuries. Your committee members are:

DP&L – Adrian Alridge, Pam Brown, Aaron Cozatt, Kenny Ruckel & Bob Ratliff.

Vectren – Chris Tebbe & Linda Williams

Contact your committee members if you have a work-related injury or have questions relating to Workers' Compensation.

LOCAL 175 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER RETIRES

Donnie Christman, long time Executive Board member and employee at JMSS Storeroom retired from DP&L effective February 1, 2008. Those who know Donnie know that he lives the union philosophy on a daily basis. It's in his blood. Donnie's fairness and belief in unions has made him an invaluable member of Local 175 for many years. Donnie will be deeply missed by the Local 175 Executive Board members as well as all members of Local 175. We wish him good luck and enjoyment in his retirement years.

VACANT EXECUTIVE BOARD POSITION OF TRUSTEE POSITION TO BE FILLED

Due to Donnie Christman's retirement, the position of Trustee is vacant. Any Local 175 member in good standing is eligible to run for the position. The Executive Board is currently accepting names of interested members. The Executive Board will interview anyone who submits their name for consideration at the March 14 Executive Board Meeting. The Board will then recommend to the membership

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Local 175 has trained representatives available to assist members when they are injured on the job. Those representatives are:

DP&L – Adrian Alridge, Pam Brown, Aaron Cozatt, Kenny Ruckel & Bob Ratliff
Vectren – Chris Tebbe & Linda Williams

You can accomplish a lot if you aren't worried about who gets the credit!

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Membership meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. They begin at 7 PM. The meetings normally last between 1-2 hours. The next meeting will be held November 8 at the Local 175 Union Hall at 2307 Embury Park Road, Dayton. **Come to the meeting and bring a Union brother or sister with you.**

LOCAL 175 CONTINUES TO HAVE INPUT IN THE RE-REGULATION BILL

It was previously reported that an important bill is being discussed in the State of Ohio relating to re-regulation of the electric utility industry. Based on history in other parts of the country, it is anticipated that the cost of electric due to de-regulation could go up in Ohio 20-60% unless the re-regulation bill becomes law. The bill, introduced in the House, was passed by the legislature. Now the bill (Senate Bill 221) is currently in committee. Representing Local 175, George Whalen, a retired Local 175 member, testified in front of the Senate committee working on this bill. The Local 175 web page has George's testimony for your review.

LOCAL 175 INDUCTS THREE MEMBERS TO THE HALL OF FAME

In the 1980s, former president of Local 175 Oscar Salyer established a recognition program called the Local 175 Hall of Fame. The purpose of the program is to recognize people whose actions and philosophy are supportive of unionism. There were four members inducted to the Hall of Fame (Jim Work, Ivan Zawatsky, G. L. Scandrick and Donnie Christman). The Local 175 Executive Board made the decision to reactivate the Hall of Fame award. Three people were selected by the Local 175 Executive Board. At the January Membership Meeting, three new people were added to the Hall of Fame:

Oscar Salyer, JMSS & former Local 175 President
George Whalen, 24x7 (Line Department)
Kelly Gillis, Gas Construction

We are proud of all members of the Hall of Fame. The Executive Board will review any future nominees on a quarterly basis. Any member can nominate a potential Hall of Fame inductee. To nominate someone to the Hall of Fame, complete the Hall of Fame nomination form available on the web page and submit it to your Local 175 Area Representative.

LOCAL 175 DELEGATES ATTEND LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The National UWUA sponsored a legislative conference in January. Local 175 sent delegates to this conference. Attendees had the opportunity to lobby members of Congress. The conference delegates were trained on current topics before the House of Representative and the Senate that are of particular interest to working men and women. The conference sessions were not about Democrats or Republicans but about fair representation for the workers of America.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Jim Peoples – Service Operations Representative Division I – reported in MDC there were two positions recently filled and two more posted. He also reported new security measures have been implemented in MDC to reduce loss. Jim also reported problems discussed in Electric Meter regarding refueling vehicles. Jim also reported there are two new positions recently filled in Electric Meter. In the Test Department, discussion at the 30 day meeting was about repair relay classes.

Kenny Ruckel – JMSS Area Representative – reports on numerous problems at JMSS. Problems have escalated to the point that a meeting was held on February 14 with Gary Stephenson to discuss the concerns at Stuart Station. In attendance at the meeting were Kelly Cooper, Greg Adams, Kenny Ruckel, Dean Toller, Butch Swearingen and Harvey Weddington from Local 175 and Gary Stephenson, Dave Orme, Pat Fahey and Teri Compton from DP&L. Topics of concern were safety, lack of consultation, retaliating against Local 175 members who raise concerns and failure to abide by agreements made.

Florris Fortune – Vectren Southern Area Representative – reported that a Service Technician was attacked by a customer's teenage son. Florris further reported she has requested Vectren report this as a near miss in the safety report and to record the potential hazard to employees on the customer's account. Florris also reported that representatives from the Executive Board are currently reviewing the pending rate cast that Vectren is filing with the PUCO. A decision will be made in the near future whether Local 175 should intervene in the rate case.

Becki Mount – Service Operations Representative Division II – reports that a meeting was held to discuss the CSC. Judi Blair, previously the manager of the Call Center, was recently promoted to Director. Jerry Mashburn has been named interim manager of the CSC and Andy Ruetschle has been named interim manager of Collections and Service.

Integrity is what you do when no one is watching.