

April, 2009



USW LOCAL 1137

*Representing the Maintenance, Storeroom,
Transportation and Fire Control employees of
International Paper's Courtland, AL mill*

OFFICERS:

*Johnny Phillips, President
James Messer, Vice President
Edwin Smith, Recording Sec.
Ray Boston, Financial Sec./Treas.
Keith Hensley, Junior Holden, Kevin
Messer, Trustees
Billy Leone, Guard*

Steward Training Report

We held training sessions for our Stewards on Monday and Tuesday March 16 and 17. We had great participation and I think the training was well received and will be of great use to our Stewards and, through them, to our members. Our International Staff Rep, Kevin Johnsen, led the training and we also had Greg England, the Rapid Response Coordinator for USW District 9. Hopefully, you have heard from your Steward about the training and, hopefully, your Steward will help inform you about the Rapid Response program and get more of you involved in it. In this day and time, it is imperative that we take a more active role in the political and legislative processes on issues that are important to working people.

HELP NEEDED, GET INVOLVED!

We will be accepting nominations for officers at our regular business meeting on Monday April 13, 2009. We need members to get involved in this process. Besides electing ALL of our officers this year, we also have to elect a Grievance Committee. At this same meeting, we also have to elect an Election Committee to handle the election. Please attend this important meeting.

We are still trying to get some training scheduled for our Safety Reps. Kevin Johnsen is coordinating with the Health and Safety Department in Pittsburgh to get Hazard Recognition and Incident Investigation training lined up for us.



Upcoming Meetings:

**Monday April 13
NOMINATIONS!**

**Monday May 11
3:45 PM**

ELECTION DATES:

April 29, 2009
6:00am—8:00am
and
2:00pm—4:30pm

April 30, 2009
6:00am—8:00am

*Mike Turrentine was the
winner of the USW jacket
at our March meeting.*



Pension Enhancement

We were to get three of the \$100 per month pension supplements and we had four folks ask for it. Since Local 193 did not use all of theirs, we were able to pick one up from them and all four of our people will be able to get one. Those people can retire anytime between now and October 1 of this year.

Have a Safe and Happy Easter!

www.usw1137.org



“It is one of the characteristics of a free and democratic nation to have free and independent labor unions.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Say something GOOD about your Union today



On Thursday March 12, I traveled to Nashville for a USW President's meeting. At this meeting we were given details of the USW's "MAKE OUR FUTURE WORK" program. This program consists of a number of initiatives set forth by the International to help secure the Middle Class in this country. Among the things we must push for and lobby our representatives for are Health Care Reform and passage of the Employee Free Choice Act. Another important item is a 'Buy American' Resolution the USW is trying to get adopted by as many city, county and state governments as possible. This resolution urges the respective governments to buy American made products and American services with any monies they receive as part of the economic stimulus package. The Nashville meeting ended with a press conference, attended by some 200 USW members, at which two Nashville city council members vowed to support the resolution when it comes before them, probably at the April 7 meeting. As of March

18, 30 of the 40 councilpersons had voiced support of the resolution. This resolution has been passed by more than 100 state and local governments including the Alabama State House and the cities of Birmingham, Huntsville, Gadsden and Florence, among others. It is being presented to the County Commissions in Lauderdale and Lawrence Counties. We need to have this resolution passed in every municipality in our area. A copy of it can be found on our website. If you are a registered voter in Rogersville, Lexington, Killen, Anderson, Moulton, Leighton, Trinity, Hillsboro, Courtland, North Courtland or any other town or city, and are willing to take this resolution to one or more of your elected officials, please let me know and I will print you some copies. I don't know of any place it has been voted down, just places it has passed and places it hasn't been presented. If we are mortgaging our grandchildren's futures to finance this stimulus package, it behooves us to Buy American with the money!
~Johnny



In 2007, the latest figures available, 5,488 American workers were killed on the job, an average of 15 every day. On April 28, to honor those killed and injured on the job and to call for improved workplace safety, workers in the United States and around the world will mark Workers Memorial Day.

The first U. S. Workers Memorial Day was observed in 1989. April 28 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the creation of OSHA in 1971 and the day of a similar remembrance in Canada.

Everyone, especially our stewards, should check out our website at www.usw1137.org fairly often. We try to keep it updated with the latest information for our members. If you have anything you would like to see posted there, let us know and we will try to do it. We have links there to several interesting websites for union members.

**Important Business
At Our
April 13
Meeting.
Plan To Be There**

Suggestions and ideas for the newsletter can be turned in to any of the officers. We want this to be interesting and useful for the members of Local 1137 so let us know what you want and need to see in the newsletter and on the website!



**Stewards Meeting
Friday April 10
7:30 am
Training Center
Room 108**

Say something GOOD about your Union today