



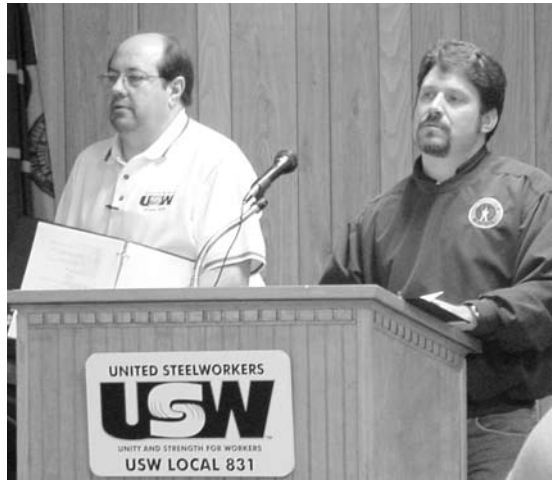
The Informer

Representing Workers of Goodyear Tire and Rubber/Goodyear Service Store/URW Credit Union

Shop Steward School Held At Hall

Shop Steward School was held on February 27, 2008 at Local 831's union hall. Shop Steward School is conducted after the plant wide elections for department stewards. The school is primarily set up to train new stewards and to inform both experienced and inexperienced stewards on the current contract and any recent changes.

The Grievance and Negotiating Committee put together the agenda for the participants. Vice President Terry Trull presented ethics of a shop steward to the group to start the day.



Vice President Terry Trull and Division IV Chairman Butch Robinson field questions.

Later a contract test was given to the stewards to see how knowledgeable each steward was with the contract. After the test, a complete review of the test was given and the correct answers were discussed.

Continued on page 6

Open House

USW Local 831 Career Development Center (ICD), 110 Exchange Street, Suite A, Danville held its official open house on March 18th & 19th, 2008 from 8-5. Information on tuition assistance was available (will go back until January 1, 2008), there was a survey on classes offered, set up classes, registration forms and a tour of the computer lab were available and refreshments were served.

David Austin will be glad to discuss educational goals with any employee. You can reach him at (434) 792-1670 or e-mail-daustin@cdcdanville.com.



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States Have New Laws

New laws for 2008, inspired by some hot issues of 2007, have taken effect, including an airline passenger bill of rights, mortgage restrictions, environmental safeguards, illegal-immigration, and constraints on risky uses of technology while driving.

The National Conference of State Legislators says 31 states have new laws. Among the most common decrees are hikes in the minimum wage in 14 states. Among the more unusual changes are American flags that are sold in Minnesota must be made in the USA.

The nightmare of being trapped in an aircraft for up to 10 hours spawned New York's passenger bill of rights, which passed unanimously. Under the new law, airlines must provide fresh food, water, air and clean restrooms for passengers on any aircraft stuck on a tarmac for more than three hours.

The nation's mortgage crisis means lenders in California and Colorado must now do a better job of evaluating a borrower's ability to repay the loan. Colorado is also giving delinquent borrowers several more months to get caught up. New York is requiring a criminal background check for loan officers.

Worries about immigration spawned a tough Arizona law that strips a business of its license for knowingly hiring undocumented workers. Connecticut is expanding a tax break for fuel-efficient cars.

Illinois is banning smoking in public places and California is making it illegal to smoke in a car if a minor is inside. Drivers younger than 18 cannot use a cell phone in Oregon. And in Washington, text messaging behind the wheel is now illegal.

PENSION & INSURANCE

By Gloria Gravely

WORKERS COMPENSATION

If you are injured in the plant and Liberty Mutual denies your claim for benefits, please remember that you have the right to file for an Industrial Hearing with the Virginia Workers Compensation Commission in Richmond. You have (2) years to file a claim for benefits. Come by the Union Hall to fill out the necessary paperwork to get your claim started. The Commission will send you a letter with the actual date that your hearing will be heard. If your treating Physician releases you back to work on light duty and Liberty Mutual denies your claim and you are sent out of work, please make sure that if you are planning on filing for a hearing, you are required to market your remaining abilities. This means that you must look for work (3) times a week while you are out of work and keep a record of all job contacts made. The Commissioner will ask you at the hearing if you did your job searches while out of work. If you DID NOT JOB SEARCH and you win your Workers Compensation case, you will NOT be compensated the difference in monies lost during that time period. It is very important that you follow all of the steps when your claim has been denied. Please see the Benefits Representative if you have any questions or concerns.

FULL-TIME STUDENT

The deadline is near for all updates on full-time students. Please make sure that you send in the Spring 2008 Schedule to ensure the continuation of benefits on dependents 19 years of age and older by March 31, 2008. Benefits will terminate after that date if the Benefits Solution Center does not receive the information.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS FOR 2007

Reminder: Claims for the 2007 plan year has to be claimed by March 31, 2008 in order to be reimbursed for the expenses incurred. Please remember to get your receipts to The Benefits Solution Center before the deadline.

USW Constitutional Convention To Be Held

The 33rd USW Constitutional Convention will be held June 29 through July 4 in Las Vegas Nevada. At the local March union meeting, members nominated possible delegates. All those nominated must have attended at least one-third of their regular union meetings in order to be eligible. Those nominated at the March meeting are; Becky Inman, Terry Trull, Tony R. White, Delta Williams, Gloria Gravely, Bennett Gobble, Antonio Harris, Scott Wallace, Teresa Long, Henry Stowe, Carolyn Coles, Sylvester Mayo, Shirley Hairston Davis, Monica Gray, Brenda Miles, Wayne Dickerson, Sandra Hairston, Brian Shore. Five of these potential members will be allowed to attend the convention as a delegate to represent Local 831. There will be an election held at the USW Local 831 Union Hall at 285 Shady Grove Road on April 3 and 4, 2008. Polls will open at 5:30 am and will close 8:00 pm on both days.



DC Directory

Senator John Warner (R)

225 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph. (202) 224-2023
<http://warner.senate.gov/public/>

Representative Virgil Goode (R)

1520 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515
Ph. (202) 225-4711
<http://www.house.gov/goode>

Senator Jim Webb (D)

144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph. (202) 224-4024
<http://webb.senate.gov>

437 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541
(434) 792-1280
(800) 535-4008

March Membership Meeting Minutes

USW Local 831 held its regular membership meeting on March 13, 2008 with President Danny Barber presiding. These are the highlights of the meeting:

- Prayer led by Ronald Williams followed by the pledge of allegiance.
- Roll Call of Officers.
- Recording Secretary Brenda Miles presented the minutes from the February regular membership meeting. They were approved as read.
- Executive Board report for March was approved as read and it contained the following:
 - Motion to allow Trustee Greg Gammon to assist Financial Secretary Dana Dixon.
 - Motion to allow the Boy Scouts to use the grounds at the union hall June 23-28, 2008.
 - Motion to donate \$1,000 to UAW Local 2069 strike fund.
 - Motion to provide transportation only to Dublin, VA to support UAW Local 2069 on March 22 and March 29, 2008. Cancelled.
 - Motion to send Communication

Coordinator and the Education Committee to the USPA Biennial Convention to be held June 25-29, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

- Motion to allot \$200 for lunch and refreshments for the Organizing Committee training on March 19, 2008.
- Motion to be a gold sponsor for \$500 for the Providence Spring Fling.
- Motion to be a \$200 sponsor only for the Education 5K to be held April 19, 2008.
- Executive Board Action - to purchase the Danville Braves package for \$3,000 to include the wall sign, full-page program ad, six season tickets and ticket vouchers for Local 831. (You must pick up tickets at ball field for \$1.75 each).
- Executive Board Action - to send President and Policy Member to Spring Interim meeting to be held April 12-18, 2008 in Denver, Colorado.
- Executive Board Action - to allow Custom Cuts Outdoor Maintenance to mulch and trim the shrub-

bery as needed, spray for weeds and edge out all bedding areas for a total of \$1,100.

- Open House for Career Development Center (ICD) to be held Tuesday, March 18th and Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 110 Exchange St, Suite A, Danville.
- One rejoining member, no motion, no action.
- Point of information from President Danny Barber, get ready for 2009.
- Michael Brown and Linwood Saunders won the 50/50 raffle.
- Special meeting to nominate representatives for 33rd Constitutional Convention to be held June 29, 2008 – July 4, 2008.
- The name of Vince Gourley dept.# 1110, cc# 2088 was drawn for the attendance drawing. He was not present. The April door prize will be \$500.
- Motion to adjourn. The next union meeting will be held April 10, 2008.

Annual Picnic Raffle And The Winner Is ...

The second drawing for the annual picnic raffle for a \$250 VISA or Gas Card was held at the March Membership meeting. And the winner is John Jones Dept. 2541 cc# 5990. At the picnic, prizes of \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500 will be drawn. Each will be in the form of a VISA card. After each monthly drawing all winning tickets will be put back in for chances at future drawings. Tickets are still available, but selling fast.



Tentative Agreement Reached With Volvo

DUBLIN, Va. (AP) - Union workers have reached a tentative agreement with Volvo Trucks North America in a strike that has halted production at the company's Dublin, Virginia factory.

If ratified, the agreement would end the strike of 2,600 United Steel Workers members who began a February walkout to gain a contract that will include a contract agreement with Volvo.

UAW President General Holiefield announced the tentative agreement in a news release on March 11. No details of the agreement are being released. The plant produces all Volvo trucks sold in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Volvo announced in December that it would lay off up to 650 workers early this year.



Relay For Life

Relay for Life will be held May 30-2008 at the Carrington Pavillon. Members of the Women of Steel have begun registration for this worthwhile event. For a \$10 donation you will receive a T-shirt and the pride of knowing that you are helping to fight the fight. If you would like to purchase a luminary in honor or memory of a loved one, the donation for that is \$10 also. If you would like to submit a picture for that person include a self-addressed stamped envelope to ensure the return of your picture. Please include your information on the back of the picture. Contact any Women of Steel member.

Brenda Miles @ 388-5537

Cathy Barker – “D” 7 Tuber

April Blackwell – “C” Shears

Monica Gray – “C” Shipping

Lisa Spicer – “B” Apexers

Charlotte Wright – “A” Banbury

USW Local 831 CREDENTIALS

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Editors

Mike Fox Danny Travis Sandra Hairston
Managing Editor Senior Writer Assoc. Editor

Dana Dixon
Communications Coordinator



EDITOR'S COLUMN...

If You Haven't Noticed!

In case you haven't noticed yet, things don't look so good in our great America, and large corporations are partly to blame. They have made excessive profits on the backs of their workers and have given nothing back to America. Wasn't it JFK that said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country?" Large corporations are out for two things, one being how much money they can make and the other is how much they can take away from you and me. They are playing dirty because they can. They will not stop until free trade laws are changed. They no longer care about their greatest resource, which are their employees.



First, they sent as many of our jobs as they could overseas so they could have the cheapest labor possible. Then they cut and gutted their remaining U.S. work force, all so they can make even more money. And people want to know what's wrong with the economy! While the CEOs may be doing well with this program, our country is not.

The U.S. reported a loss of 63,000 jobs in February, the largest increase in five years. These are mostly manufacturing jobs. Our manufacturing jobs are being lost due to the corporation's greed. Most of these good paying jobs will never return. New jobs entering the country usually pay much less and have either modest benefits or none at all. Where manufacturing companies once helped build America, they are now helping to tear her down.

So now, here we are many years after the first free trade agreement and it ain't pretty. Since the implementation of NAFTA, over three million jobs have left the United States, most of which paid higher wages with good benefits. NAFTA has hurt every working American in one way or another, simply because of blood sucking corporations.

While we are losing our jobs, the housing market is on the verge of collapsing, due to people facing foreclosing on their homes that they can no longer afford. Healthcare insurance costs continue to rise with less coverage. More and more families are opting to drop their coverage because they can no longer afford the premiums. Gasoline is expected to reach \$4.00 per gallon by the end of summer. If you think gas is high, what does a person making \$7.00 an hour think?

If something is not done to reverse the course of all of these things, the worker will not be the only one that suffers. America herself will suffer. I promise you one thing, our leader, Goodyear CEO Robert Keegan, will not suffer, nor will he worry about healthcare or the price of gas. Why should he? He only made \$21.2 million dollars for 2007. God Bless America!!

Danny (Tree) Travis, Senior Writer

Questions & Answers

If anyone has a question for The Informer, please submit it to Danny Travis, Sandra Hairston, Mike Fox or your Division Chairman.

Who is Eligible for SUB?

Employees that have two or more years of service are eligible for SUB benefits. Employees that are not scheduled the full week and are not entitled to SUB (less than 2 years of service) and will earn less than \$363 (Holiday Pay counts as earnings) for the week should register with the Virginia Employment Commission during the week to claim any state benefits they may be entitled to. Please make sure that your current mailing address is on file to receive your SUB pay.

Member Businesses of the Month

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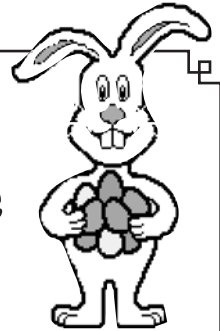
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Life In Focus Education

Life in Focus Education offers faith-based community services to people in need; regardless of language, status, or culture. Through the efforts of a host of dedicated, trained men and women, an effective program of seminars, one-on-one teaching, and support groups are helping rebuild our communities, one life at a time. There will be eleven, one-hour courses available. Life is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to enable individuals and organizations to establish trusting relationships based on respect for personal identity and information. If you are interested in this anger management class please contact Byron Taylor, EAP Coordinator.

Hippity Hop Here Comes the Easter Bunny



Here comes Peter Cotton Tail hopping down the bunny trail! As kids of all sizes came out in numbers to attend the second Easter Eggtravaganza at the Goodyear Ball Field for an Easter egg hunt, games, fun and food. On March 13th at 5 pm and March 15th at 11 am the Easter Bunny in full bloom was available to greet everyone. Children of all ages rushed out to find eggs and win prizes. The event sponsored by USW Local 831 and Goodyear Danville was filled with each and every child having a great time and good fellowship with their parents. There were two Easter baskets given away for each age group, one for the boys and one for the girls.

What Are You Worth?

Everyone who works has a good idea of whether or not they are getting paid appropriately. Workers at all locations represented by USW Local 831 have their jobs evaluated and their wages are negotiated, many others do not have that option—then there are those who are paid well above their worth. One example of that would be Goodyear Chairman and CEO Robert J. Keegan.

Keegan's base salary for 2007 was \$1,176,667. He was paid a bonus of

\$3.5 million, non-equity compensation of \$8.8 million and other compensation of \$82,323 plus stock options and option awards. Once everything he received compensation for is calculated, he received \$21,162,151.00. Now most people can not comprehend how that compares to working people. Working people judge their wages by what they make per hour; forget about bonuses, etc., so how does old Keegan stack up against the workers? At \$21,162,151.00 per year, based

upon 42 hours per week, he makes \$406,964.44 per week and \$9,689.63 per hour compared to Goodyear wages of \$13.00-\$23.00.

The President of the United States makes less in a year than Keegan makes in a week. Something is morally wrong in this country that CEO's are so highly compensated while workers continually have to deal with wage cuts, benefit cuts while the work load continues to mount.

Source: Ohio.com & WTOI 11.

Continued from page 1

Shop Steward School Held At Hall

Later in the day, the students were educated on guidelines and new changes to the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), Employee Assistance Program (EAP), Pension and Insurance/Workers Compensation and HIPPA laws. To end the day each steward met with their respective Division Chairman to discuss any questions they might have.

"I really believe that these shop steward school's we have, help our stewards to be more informed and to ultimately become better representatives for our members," stated Division Chairman Jeff Dixon.



Courtney Dixon, Bobby Bryant, Frank Tillman, Cathy Barker, Division I Chairman Jimmy Newcomb, Lance Elliott, Ted Fitz, Bryan Gee, Darryl Logan, Vonda Mayo, Hampton Martin, Donald Loftis, Bobby McCain, and Richard Barksdale



Kevin Francis, Mark Powers, Division IV Charman Butch Robinson, Bryan Burns and Brian Shore



Donald Jackson, Tim Patterson, Marvin Moore, Mark Long, Irvin Edmunds, Sam Pruitt, Travis Anderson and Division III Chairman Jeff Dixon.



James Simpson, Tony Powell, Rick Austin, Division II Chairman Irving Lawson, April Blackwell, J.J. Burks, Henry West, Ricky Taylor and Mike Fox.

Civil Rights

A Civil Rights meeting was held February 27-28, 2008 in Hampton, Virginia. Several local unions from Southside Virginia (District 8) attended this event. Some of the speakers were Herbert Brown, EEOC Norfolk, Naomi Churchill Earp, Chair US EEOC, Maxine Carter, USW International Director of Civil Rights, William (Bill) Harriday, USW District Staff Rep. The workshop covered "What Constitutes Illegal Discrimination under EEOC Laws?" Having the necessary material tyo reflect on is vital in maintaining an active organization.



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RETIREES

Congratulations to the following retirees. We wish them much success in their future endeavors and hope they can fully enjoy their union negotiated retirement benefits.

John Hall

dept.# 1110 cc# 2101

Bobby L. James

dept.# 2420 cc# 4305

Frank "Pete" Setliff, Jr.

dept.# 1110 cc# 3652

We Send Our Sincere Condolences To

Ronald Archer, Clifton Barber, Stacy Brooks, Ricky Buck, Joseph Bushnell, Jerry Call, Marty Craig, Ed Daniel, Jr., Damon Guthrie, John Hazelwood, Sherry Hazelwood, Barry Hudgins, II, David Lewis, Mario Lipscomb, John Logan, Gregory Melton, Thomas Mimms, Tony Neal, Jr., Ronald Niday, James Robertson II, Brenzie Stephens, Stacy Tyree, Sarah Walker, Dale Williams, Shannon Zaher

To the families of retirees; Maria Bushnell, Larry Oliver, Gerald Stevens and Oprea Tanner

U.S.W. Local 831

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APRIL 2008 CALENDAR						
AC 30	BD 31	BD 1	AC 2 SOAR Exec. Board Mtg 1:00 PM	AC 3	BD 4	BD 5
Arbitration - Arbitrator Kossoff			Convention Elections			
BD 6	AC 7 Executive Board Meeting 7:30 AM	AC 8	BD 9 SOAR Meeting 11:00 AM	BD 10 Union Meeting 7:30 AM 7:30 PM	AC 11	AC 12
AC 13	BD 14	BD 15 Taxes Due	AC 16	AC 17	BD 18	BD 19
Interim Meeting						
BD 20	AC 21	AC 22	BD 23	BD 24	AC 25	AC 26
AC 27	BD 28	BD 29	AC 30	AC	BD	BD