

UNION MEETING

HAPPENINGS

April 2024

210 CLUB RAFFLE \$500 WAS WON BY

Barb Kerber

Barb is a letter carrier in Webster, NY

Congrats Barb!

This month's meeting was held in person on April 3, 2024, at 7:00pm at the IBEW union hall on East River Road in Rochester.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the previous meetings minutes was made and passed without dissent.

The bills were read and shared with the membership, a motion to pay all the bills was made and passed without dissent.

Health Benefit Report:

HEALTH BENEFITS:

The Postal Service recently sent retirees who are at least 65 and eligible for Medicare Part B that didn't choose Part B when they turned 65 a form to opt in without having to pay the penalty. This is a one time only opportunity to get Part B and the Postal Service will pay the penalty for you and your spouse. If you believe you qualify and have not yet received your paperwork we ask you to call 1-833-712-7742.

The Office of Personnel Management recently released a list of insurance COMPANIES that will be providing health insurance plans this fall in the new Postal Service Health Benefit program. All current and retired Postal workers will have to pick a plan in the new PSHB program this year. [Click Here](#) for the list of companies that will offer plans this fall. The actual plans will not be revealed until October 2024. Again these are ONLY the companies and not all will be available in our area as some are localized.

Benefit Trust Report; Sam Hogan

The benefit trust financial report was shared with the members with no questions.

AFL-CIO Report:

The labor council reported April 28 is workers Memorial Day

Labor Dayn Parade will be held on Labor Day this year (September 2, 2024)

The Area Labor Federation annual meeting is Saturday May 18th.

Building report:

No report

Political Education:

HR 82 the WEP/GPO repeal still has the need for everyone to contact our congressional reps to get this bill to the floor for a vote.

HR 5995 (non-career buyback) has all of our local congressional reps co-sponsoring. We need this bill to be brought forward for a vote.

A new bill is expected out of Congressman Fitzpatrick office in Pennsylvania. The bill is the Carrier Protection Act and allocates funds to replace all of our arrow locks with electronic versions as well as create stiffer penalties for those that attack our carriers and puts new prosecutors in all of the Postal regions. Last year there were over 2000 attacks on letter carriers.

Vehicle & Safety:

There will be an eclipse in Rochester on April 8. The Postal Service is NOT providing eyewear PPE as the only hazard is if you stare directly at the sun. Staring at the sun is not part of the job description and therefore the service will not be providing protection. If you want to look at the eclipse which will take place at 3:20pm on April 8th, then we suggest buying a pair of special sun protection glasses.

Unfinished Business: President Kenny Montgomery:

Steward Elections.

Irondequoit station had a rerun of the steward election, the results are as follows.

Ann Pacher 28 elected

Jose (Chris) Velez 29 elected.

Todd Larnder 7

Congratulations to those elected and we wish the members in Irondequoit all the best and thank them for participating in the election process.

Contract, Arbitrator Nolan has been selected as the Neutral arbitrator. He is currently out of the country on vacation until later this month. When he returns hearings will be scheduled

Region 11 Rap Session report. Training held including OWCP, Retirement, Basic Steward classes, LCPF, JSOV, Reading Clock Rings, TIAREAP to name a few. The members who attended reported on the classes they attended, and all enjoyed the training. Thanks to Cassandra Kruger (Downtown station), Ann Pacher (Irondequoit Station), Ryan Boehmer (Lexington), Mark Edell (Geneva), Derek Lynch (Westgate station), Mike Masters (health Benefits Director), Monique Mate (Vice President) for attending the training and learning how to better represent our members.

Update to the article 10 charges against the National President Renfroe. Recently the Weir report was leaked out prematurely. The Article 10 process is set as follows, once the charges have been levied then a disinterested party gathers evidence and puts together an initial report of his findings, (Mike Weir Report). That report is sent to the official in charge with his recommendations in this case the Executive VP, Paulk Barner. The Exec. VP then assigns a 3-member panel to further investigate, hold hearings and give the charged member the ability to defend him or herself from those charges. Once that team releases their findings the executive board then decides guilt or innocence and any potential penalty. The charging party or the accused then has the right to appeal to the membership at the National Convention for outcome. Releasing only the Wier report before a defense is allowed to be put out is a one-sided opinion and is not an indication of guilt or innocence. We must wait until the full 3-member report comes out and is taken on the recommendation of the council before making any judgments.

The following is shared at every union meeting..... If you're hurt on duty and have an accident, Branch 210 recommends filing your claim online.

ECOMP ONLINE submission.... Please do it online with less problems. [Click Here](#) to register and file your claim.

New Business: President Montgomery

Food Drive is May 11. Due to costs our cards have been cut this year but they have arrived and will be distributed the week of May 6th. The membership approved the branch purchase and have thank you cards printed for our customers that donate food.

The Postal Service has decided to stop the consolidation of the Buffalo plant to Rochester. This is good news for Buffalo and Rochester both.

Branch 210 will be hosting a retirement seminar on Sunday April 28th at 10am. Call the office for reservations. We are limited to 120 people. The membership approved coffee and doughnuts for the training. We still have room for the seminar, and it is not just for those getting ready to retire, it is also for those planning retirement in 10-20 years to make sure you're making the right decisions now for the future.

Death of Members

Branch 210 lost the following members this month.

Brian Starkman

Cathryn Andersen

Gary Clausen

Our thoughts are with the families of our missed sister and brothers.

Good of the Association

We are beginning planning our MDA golf tournament and will hold the scramble at Victor Hills on Sunday June 2, 2024. 4-person scramble format. \$100 per person (plus \$5 for skins). Includes golf cart and food all day. Beverages will be provided by Branch 210.

The next union meeting is open to all members and is Wednesday May 1, 2024 at 7:00pm in person at the IBEW union hall at 2300 East River Road 14623