



THE STRETCH



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TYLER, TEXAS

September, 2005

From The President's Desk

I just returned from traveling to four separate events in two weeks. First, Sherrell Brown and I went to Pittsburgh to meet with USWA International and Goodyear Corporate people on the Tyler Break Even plan. That meeting was followed by a meeting a week later in Tyler, with local management and one of those Goodyear Corporate people to again try and resolve some of the issues surrounding the grievance filed by our local union late last year. We set a drop dead date of September 9 to resolve the issues and move Tyler to Letter 53 fully-protected status, with the ticket level, manning and capital investment commitment we believe Letter 36 entitled Tyler to, or arbitrate the case.

I left Pittsburgh to attend the Texas AFL-CIO Convention, along with four other delegates from our local union. They included Joe Wyatt, Tim Dews, Charles Anderson and Nikki Killingsworth. Our local was honored several times during that convention, including receiving an award for having the best local union newspaper. Joe Wyatt deserves a lot of credit for making The Stretch the best local union newspaper in the state, as does everyone who contributes articles and ideas for Joe to draw from. Local 746L was also singled out by our Sub-District Director, John Patrick, as the best of the Steelworker locals in his sub-district. That means a lot, coming from Patrick, who will be moving to a higher level than sub-director as a result of the PACE/USWA merger.

I then attended a sub-district safety training session the next week, along with Bud Allred and Freddie Edwards. Again, our local was honored for the Political Action Fund (or Committee On Political Education [COPE] or Political Action Committee [PAC]) drive and for our leadership in the area of safety. Bud was asked to address the joint PACE/USWA group on Rapid Response and I went over the PAF drive. Our local was already the leader in PAC in USWA District 12. With the success we've already recorded in this drive we have the potential to be the most politically influential local union in the new USW District 13, which will include Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. We need that ability to work on our national and state legislators concerning the issues that threaten our plant, our pensions, our health care coverage and Social Security.

Later that same week I attended a week-long Rubber and Plastics Industry Conference (R/PIC) Safety Symposium, where our local union was yet again singled out for its leadership in addressing safety issues and for the activism of our safety committee. Red Blake, Gary Reedy, Bobby Gilbert, Philip Gordon and Tyler Safety Manager Carl Walden were all on hand at the symposium and played an active part by making several presentations. It was the first time many of the local union presidents attended, including myself. It will be expanded next year to include the plant managers from the Goodyear plants and that will only make it more effective and better. There is another article in The Stretch on the R/PIC symposium.

Its great to hear that many good things said about our local union. Its even better knowing that so many of our officers and representatives are being recognized for their good work and efforts on behalf of our membership.

The rest of 2005 will be eventful. We will be sending people to an Institute for Career Development (ICD) conference, to a fall Goodyear Policy Committee interim meeting, to a R/PIC convention to elect a new USW vice-president to replace John Sellers and to a number of training sessions.

We will continue to involve people. We will continue to train and develop people. And, because we will, our local will continue to be recognized. I want to thank every one who has stepped up and been willing to be involved.

Local 746 Leadership, Accomplishments Recognized At 2005 R/PIC Safety Conference

A number of Kelly Tyler safety representatives attended the 2005 Rubber and Plastics Industry Conference (R/PIC) Safety Symposium during the last part of August. They included Tyler Safety Manager Carl Walden, USW Local Union President Jim Wansley and Tyler Safety Committee members Red Blake, Gary Reedy, Bobby Gilbert and Philip Gordon.

The four-day symposium brought together company and union safety representatives from the former United Rubber Workers (URW) local unions to discuss and address safety issues. The USWA's Rubber and Plastics Industry Conference was formed from these local unions when the merger between the URW and the United Steelworkers took place in 1995.

For the first time, some members of the Petroleum, Allied, Chemical and Energy (PACE) Union took part in the symposium, following the merger between PAC and the USWA earlier this year, which created the USW International Union.

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Seated left to right: Bobby Gilbert, Philip Gordon, Training Manager Carl Walden and Red Blake. Standing: Gary Reedy, Former R/PIC Vice President John Sellers, R/PIC Vice President Ron Hoover and USW Local 746L President Jim Wansley.

Local 746 Leadership, Accomplishments Recognized At 2005 R/PIC Safety Conference

continued from front page

It was a busy four days and saw Tyler recognized a number of times for its improved safety performance and for the leadership shown by the Tyler safety committee, both at home and in the R/PIC Safety Conference.

"This was the first R/PIC Safety Conference for many of the Goodyear local union presidents, myself included. The annual safety symposium began thirty years ago as a union-only gathering of a few Rubber Worker locals. It has grown to include every R/PIC local union safety committee, including the management people responsible for safety at each plant. Our local union, and our safety representatives, have played a big role in the development of the symposium over the years," said USW 746L President Jim Wansley.

"Very few of us are still here of those who began this symposium over thirty years ago. But the work begun by them has continued

with each new generation of safety activists and has been expanded to become a gathering of over three hundred safety representatives, including company and union. It has grown with the merger between the URW and the USWA, and it will grow yet again as a result of the merger between the USWA and PACE. Its sole purpose has been and will continue to be to make the workplace a safer place. And that, at the risk of sounding corny, is doing God's work," said Ron Hoover in his address to the symposium. Hoover has served as assistant to R/PIC Vice President John Sellers for nearly a decade. He was recently appointed by the USW Executive Board to fill that vice president position upon the retirement of Sellers, effective September first. Hoover will run for election to the position at the upcoming R/PIC Conference in October.

"This will be my last official function as R/PIC Vice President. It has been my honor to serve in that position for a decade. During that time the growth of this annual safety symposium has been one of the accomplishments of which I'm extremely proud. But it's not my accomplishment. It's yours. There is no finer gathering of safety activists anywhere than those gathered here today and those who have come before you. I want to thank all of you for your dedication and hard work on behalf of the men and women working in the Rubber and Plastics Industry," said Sellers.

The last day of the symposium was devoted to an eight hour meeting of the Goodyear local union representatives and corporate executives, including those heading up the engineered products and consumer tire divisions of Goodyear North American Tire. At that meeting safety issues at Goodyear and plans for the coming year to address them were discussed.

"The open and frank dialogue at this Goodyear-only session gets better every year. Last year we spent two hours on it. This year we spent eight hours and involved more of the union leadership and more of the Goodyear plant and corporate leadership. I'm very grateful for every one who helped put the symposium together and who took part. Goodyear is a leader in safety in the rubber industry and, by working together, the union and company will insure it becomes the leader. That means fewer worker hurt or sick and that's what its really all about for safety activists," stated Jim Frederickson, who heads up the Steelworker International Union safety department.



Top Photo: USW Local 746L Safety Representative Red Blake. Bottom Photo: (center) W.T. Davenport, Goodyear Assistant Coordinator.



Local 746L's Editor Wins Top Award

By Jim Clark

With the many changes made to our local union's newsletter in the past few months, we could all see progress in the making. However at the Texas AFL-CIO 2005 Constitutional Convention held in Houston on August 11th through 13th, we received confirmation that we have an award winning paper. Joe Wyatt, our award-winning editor, decided to enter The Stretch in a statewide contest. The Texas AFL-CIO conducts the "Newspaper Award" annually to recognize local unions for their ability to communicate to the rank and file members. We entered in the category of local unions with 1,000 plus membership. Yes that's right, you guessed it, we won the number one (#1) union newspaper in the State of Texas! Joe's commitment, dedication and hard work have truly paid off. All of us should be really proud of him, as well he should be proud of himself. Not only can USW Local 746L boast of having the best union newspaper in the State of Texas, we can be proud of having the best editor in the state!! "Keep'em rolling, Joe"



Photo by Alan Pogue

Texas Center for Documentary Photography
Denise Donnelly (OPEIU) emceed presentation of Community Service and Publications awards and presented the award to Local 746L Editor Joe Wyatt.



These pictures show what many of us feel. It may say Goodyear on the outside, but underneath we're still Kelly Springfield.

Kelly Springfield Tire Company — Signs Change to Goodyear

On Monday, August 8, 2005 the signs at Kelly Springfield Tire Plant, Tyler were changed to Goodyear.

Kelly Springfield was purchased by Goodyear in the mid-30's and operated as a wholly owned subsidiary until the late 90's. At that time, all the separate business units of Kelly were merged into Goodyear and it has since operated as a division of the corporation. In recent years, Goodyear brand has gained strength in the market, so the timing is right to make the change to take advantage of stronger brand identification.

Aside from the signs, nothing is changing at all as to the brands of tires that the plant will be producing. The plant's daily production requirements are no different. Plant production is based on what our customers want, and that is based on what is selling in the marketplace. That has always been the case.

In the month of June, we produced more Goodyear tires than we ever have but the Kelly-brand line and other custom brands in the replacement market continue to be popular choices in the market.

Retirees' Corner

Written by: Tennie Hulsey and Carol Swanson

September 5th: Labor Day Picnic

September 12 at 6:00 PM will be the regular monthly meeting for the retirees at the John Nash Activity Center. Bring a covered dish for a "pot luck" supper. The 42 Tournament will begin at noon the day of September meeting. For additional information on the 42 Tournament contact Roy Stanley at 903-592-3260 or Dino Robertson 903-561-1467.

Sumner Leach will have sign up sheets for various trips he is working on for the S.O.A.R members for this fall. Sumner will post specific information about each trip at the September 12 meeting.

Trips:

Louisiana Downs, Tour Caddo Lake, Tour Oil and Rangerette Museum in Kilgore, Mesquite Rodeo. Christmas Shows in Branson. Special trip planned with Dorothy Kelly to tour Christmas Lights in Natchitaches, Louisiana, December 10th and 11th. The "step on guide" is Lori Tate, Mother of the Bridegroom in the movie Steel Magnolias.

Plans are being made for the November Thanksgiving Dinner for the S.O.A.R members. Details will be in the October Stretch Newsletter.

The retirees will be having a yard sale the day of the Annual Turkey Shoot. Read in the Stretch Newsletter for more information or contact Tommie Francis at 903-593-4982.

Ladies Auxiliary

Ladies auxiliary meeting will be held September 6th, 10:30 AM at the John Nash Activity Center. Each lady attending is encouraged to bring a covered dish for "pot luck" according to President, Tommie Francis.



"You all better slow down eatin' your watermelon cause you ain't gonna get any of my melon", said Jack. Left to Right: Doris Manoy, Virginia Pike, Lola Humphrey, Jack Swanson, and Gary Humphrey.

SPECIAL PRAYERS:

JUDY SUBLETTE, EUGENE AND TENNIE HULSEY'S DAUGHTER IS HOME RECUPERATING FROM SURGERY. SHE WILL BEGIN CHEMO AND RADIATION SOON. CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR LAJOY BAILEY AS SHE IS ALSO RECUPERATING FROM ANOTHER SURGERY. CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR TROOPS.

If you or some one in your immediate family needs our prayers please contact President Eugene Hulsey at 903-566-2383. Eugene encourages all new retirees to join the S.O.A.R Club.

What Faith Groups Say About the Right to Organize

Roman Catholic

“All people have the right to economic initiative, to productive work, to just wages and benefits to decent working conditions, as well as to organize and join unions or other associations.”

(A Catholic Framework for Economic Life, A Statement of the U.S. Bishops, 1996)

“... The Church fully supports the right of workers to form unions or other associations to secure their rights to fair wages and working conditions. This is a specific application of the more general right to associate . . . No one may deny the right to organize without attacking human dignity itself. Therefore we firmly oppose organized efforts, such as those regrettably seen in this country, to break existing unions or prevent workers from organizing.”

(Economic Justice for All, a pastoral letter of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1986)

“Their [unions] task is to defend the existential interests of workers in all sectors where their rights are concerned. The experience of history teaches that organizations of this type are an indispensable element of social life, especially in modern industrialized societies. [Unions] are indeed a mouthpiece for the struggle for social justice, for the just rights of working people in accordance with their individual professions.”

(On Human Work, encyclical of Pope John Paul II, 1981)

“The important role of union organizations must be admitted: their object is the representation of the various categories of workers, their lawful collaboration in the economic advance of society, and the development of the sense of their responsibility for the realization of the common good.”

(A Call to Action, encyclical of Pope Paul VI, 1971)

“Among the basic rights of the human person must be counted the right of freely founding labor unions. These unions should be truly able to represent the workers and to contribute to the proper arrangement of economic life. Another such right is that of taking part freely in the activity of these unions without risk of reprisal.”

(Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, Second Vatican Council, 1965)

Protestant

American Baptist

“We reaffirm our position that workers have the right to organize by a free and democratic vote of the workers involved. This right of organization carries the responsibility of union leadership to protect the rights of workers, to guarantee each member an equal voice in the operation of its organization, and to produce just output labors for income received.”

(American Baptist Churches Resolution, 1981)

The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church (CME)

“Free collective bargaining has proved its values in our free society whenever the

parties engaged in collective bargaining have acted in good faith to reach equitable and moral solutions of problems dealing with wages and working conditions. We do not support the opinion voiced in some quarrels that strikes should be made illegal. To declare strikes illegal would be to deprive workers of their right to collective action and, even more seriously, would place in the hands of government the power to force workers to remain on the job.”

(Discipline of the CME Church, 1982)

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

“We believe in the right of laboring men to organize for protection against unjust conditions and to secure a more adequate share of the fruits of their toil. The right to organize implies the right to hold and wield power, which in turn implies responsibility for the manner in which this power is exercised.”

(Resolution on the Church and Labor, Disciples of Christ, 1938)

The Episcopal Church

“We reaffirm the right and desirability of workers in the United States to organize and form unions . . . we decry the growing wage of anti-unionism mounting in the nation today which asks people to forget the struggles that led to this form of negotiation as a just way to settle differences. We urge church people and others not to judge this issue on the basis of a particular case but rather on the basis of the fundamental principles involved.”

(A pastoral message from the Urban Bishops Coalition of the Episcopal Church, Labor Day 1982)

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)

“[The ELCA] commits itself to advocacy with corporations, businesses, congregations, and church-related institutions to protect the rights of workers, support the collective bargaining process, and protect the right to strike.”

(Resolution of the ELCA Church-wide Assembly, 1991)

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

“Justice demands that social institutions guarantee all persons the opportunity to participate actively in economic decision-making that affects them. All workers including undocumented, migrant, and farm workers have the right to choose to organize for the purposes of collective bargaining.”

(Principles of Vocation and Work, General Assembly Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1995)

Unitarian Universalist

“The Unitarian Universalists Association urges its member congregations and individual Unitarian Universalists in the United States . . . to work specifically in favor of mechanisms such as: . . . reform of labor legislation and employment standards to provide greater protection for workers, including the right to organize and bargain collectively, protection from unsafe working

conditions, and protection from unjust dismissal.”

(Working for a Just Economic Community, 1997)

United Church of Christ

“The 21st General Synod reaffirms the heritage of the United Church of Christ as an advocate for democratic, participatory, and inclusive economic policies in both public and private sectors . . . the responsibility of workers to organize unions for collective bargaining with employers regarding wages, benefits, and working conditions; and to participate in efforts further to democratize, reform, and expand the labor movement domestically and abroad.”

(Resolution Affirming Democratic Principles in an Emerging Global Economy, 1997)

United Methodist Church

“We support the right of public and private employees and employers to organize for collective bargaining into unions and the groups of their own choosing. Further, we support the right of both parties to protection in so doing, and their responsibility to bargain in good faith within the framework of the public interest.”

(Paragraph 73B Collective Bargaining, Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.)

Jewish

Central Conference of American Rabbis

“Jewish leaders, along with our Catholic and Protestant counterparts have always supported the labor movement and the rights of employees to form unions for the purpose of engaging in collective bargaining and attaining fairness in the workplace. We believe that permanent replacement of striking workers upsets the balance of power needed for collective bargaining, destroys the dignity of working people, and undermines the democratic values of this nation.”

(Preamble to the Workplace Fairness Resolution adopted at the 104th Annual Convention, 1993)

The National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice believes that as God worked to create the world, our religious traditions value those who do the world’s work. We honor our Creator by seeking to assure that laborers, particularly low-wage workers, are able to live decent lives as a product of their labor. The National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice calls upon our religious values in order to educate, organize, and mobilize the religious community in the U.S. on issues and campaigns that will improve wages, benefits, and working conditions for workers, especially low-wage workers.

For More Information, please contact:
National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice

**1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., 4th floor
Chicago, IL 60660**

Phone: (773) 728-8400 Fax: (773) 728-8409

**E-mail: info@nicwj.org
www.nationalinterfaith.org**

Pension and Insurance Notes

by
Sherrell Brown.

STOCK OPTION INFORMATION

Goodyear is slowly turning the big ship around and is being rewarded by a higher stock price. This now brings our stock options back to light. The options were granted for a 10 year period which means we have until 2010 to exercise our options. All eligible members who were employed by Goodyear on December 4, 2000 were granted either 200 stock options or 160 stock options. If your average annual hours worked in a three year period ending October 31, 2000 was 2500 hours you were granted 200 stock options. If your average annual hours was less than 2500 but greater than 1500 you were granted 160 stock options.

The strike price was \$17.68. for grant 1 this was for all members who were actively working on December 4, 2000. Members who were on sick leave or some other kind of leave may have been in grant 2 which has a strike price of \$25.03.

Now everyone is wondering how do I make money from this. The strike price does not mean you get \$17.68 for one of your stock options it means this is what you pay for the stock. If you are in grant 1 the stock has to be worth more than \$17.68 per share for you to make money. An example of the way this would work is. Let's say the stock is now at \$20.00 per share and you decide to exercise your right to sell 100 stock options. You would call Smith Barney (see below) and tell them what you wanted to do. The profit you would make would be the difference between \$17.68 and \$20.00 times 100 less commissions in this case \$232.00 minus the commission. The example would be \$20.00 minus \$17.68 equals \$2.32 times 100 equals \$232.00 minus the commission.

What if I retired can I still exercise my stock options? Yes as long as you were eligible for grant 1 or 2 you can exercise just as though you were active. What if I am a surviving spouse of an eligible member or retiree? Yes but you will only have three after the Grantee's death, but in no event more than ten years after the date the stock option was granted.

I am ready to exercise my options what do I do, how many options do I have, do I have to pay any money out of my pocket? All of these questions can be answered by calling

1-888-772-1749 this will get you in touch with Smith Barney who has all of your option information. Use the following instructions to simplify the process.

YOU CAN USE ONE OF THREE DIFFERENT WAYS TO EXERCISE YOUR STOCK OPTION.

1. CALL 1-888-772-1749 AND TALK TO A SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE TO HANDLE YOUR STOCK OPTION.

a. TO GET TO THE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE YOU FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

i. YOU WILL RECEIVE THE GREETING AND YOU PRESS #1

ii. YOU WILL ENTER YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.

iii. YOU WILL EITHER ENTER YOUR PERSON IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN #) OR YOU PRESS STAR (*) KEY TO GET THE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE.

iv. YOU WILL THEN PRESS (0) AFTER THE NEXT INSTRUCTIONS.

b. YOU CAN ALSO CALL THIS NUMBER TO HAVE YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN #), USER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND PASSWORD MAILED TO YOU. YOU MUST HAVE YOUR PIN # TO ACCESS THE ACCOUNT BY TELEPHONE. YOU MUST HAVE YOUR PIN #, USER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND PASSWORD TO REACH YOUR ACCOUNT BY INTERNET.

2. CALL 1-888-772-1749 AND ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT BY USING YOUR PIN # TO CHANGE YOUR ACCOUNT.

3. ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT BY GOING TO www.benefitaccess.com YOU WILL NEED YOUR PIN #, USER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, AND PASSWORD TO ACCESS YOUR ACCOUNT.

NOTE: THERE IS A MINIMUM CHARGE TO CONDUCT THE TRANSACTION FOR YOU. THE MINIMUM CHARGE IS \$20.00 PLUS \$5.00 HANDLING AND POSTAGE.

PHASE II TO START IN SEPTEMBER

By now everyone has received their amnesty letter under phase I. This letter was to determine if you had ineligible dependents still on your benefits. If everything was correct you did not have to respond to Budco, the company Goodyear hired to do the audit. It is now time for phase II. You will be receiving a verification letter sometime in September; you will have to respond to this letter so read it carefully. There will be several options to prove your dependents are eligible. If you are not sure which option to use or have any questions you may call Budco their number will be listed in the letter. Make sure you only send copies of your documents as they will not be returned.

Regarding the JPMorgan Website

If you have gone on-line to visit the new JPMorgan website for our 401K plan, you might have noticed that Kelly or the Kelly Logo were not on the web page. With the new signs at the Kelly Tyler/Goodyear Tyler Plant fresh in everyone's mind, we wanted to find out what was going on about why Kelly wasn't listed on the web page.

We were told that Goodyear and Dunlop refer to the plan names, not the tire brands. There are Goodyear 401k plans for hourly and salaried associates, and Dunlop 401k plans for hourly and salaried. There was never a separate plan for Kelly-Springfield...it was always part of the Goodyear plan. The Dunlop plans are separate because the employees are part of a joint venture Goodyear Dunlop Tires North America.

Texas AFL-CIO 2005 Constitutional Convention

On August 11th through August 13th, the Texas AFL-CIO Convention was held in Houston, Texas. President Jim Wansley and 4 delegates attended the convention. The 3 delegates elected to attend from Local 746L were Charles Anderson, Tim Dews and Joe Wyatt, also attending was Niki Killingsworth from Malakoff.

Texas AFL-CIO President Emmett Sheppard called the 45th Texas AFL-CIO Convention to order at 10 am. Houston Mayor Bill White helped welcome more than 350 delegates and 85 guests to the Hilton Americas, a unionized hotel in which the city is a partner.

Sheppard reported to delegates on problems brought on by the disaffiliation of three international unions from the AFL-CIO and the need for a new commitment to organizing. He discussed the political and legislative landscapes, noting that Democrats in the Texas House have united in support of many labor issues and moderate Republicans more and more are joining them. Texas AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Becky Moeller discussed anti-worker policies at the White House and how settled labor achievements like the ban on child labor and overtime pay are under attack. "I feel like we're going to be organizers again," Moeller said. "That's the best job I ever had in the labor movement anyway."

USW President Leo Gerard surveyed the national landscape of labor issues for appreciative delegates. "This is a pivotal moment and a pivotal period for our labor movement," Gerard said. "This is a pivotal moment and a pivotal period for working people in America." Gerard, who said he's proud to be labeled a "protectionist" if it means protecting good jobs, said of George W. Bush's concept of an "ownership society," "You own the risk. They own the capital."

Arkansas AFL-CIO President Alan Hughes discussed parallel issues and problems labor faces in the Razorback State, whose loss of manufacturing jobs has nearly cut union membership in half. Brother Ronald Congleton of the Texas Workforce Commission said his office and the state federation have worked closely to kill some bad legislation on unemployment benefits and other workforce issues while promoting apprenticeship programs. Bobby Hollis informed delegates of educational opportunities at the National Labor College.

An afternoon panel on community-union partnerships focused on ongoing work with immigrant workers. From different perspectives, speakers pointed up the potential of building the labor movement by protecting the rights of immigrant workers and showing them the value of unions in giving them a voice in the workplace. "Immigration status has become the anti-union weapon of choice," declared Ana Avendaño of the AFL-CIO.

The various state federation committees met and made recommendations to complete formal business on Day 1.

President Emmett Sheppard called the convention to order at 9 a.m. A special recognition of the union status of the Hilton Americas featured Brothers Dale Wortham, Richard Shaw and Charlie Singletary, along with Houston City Council member Gordon Quan, Carol Alvarado, Carol Galloway and Ada Edwards. The speakers discussed what the unionization breakthrough means for the future.

Terry Stapleton, secretary-treasurer of the American Postal Workers Union, returned to Texas to promote strong political programs. Stapleton declared, "Labor is not on its death bed. Labor is not sick. Labor is strong and well and once again will be fighting like hell in 2006 and 2008 and 2010 and 2012."

Richard Womack, assistant to AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, said "there is no luxury of standing on the sidelines" in the fight against anti-worker Bush White House policies. Juliet Huang, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, discussed the significant history of Asian-American workers' participation in the labor movement, urging Texans to identify potential APALA activists. Tony Padilla of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, ranged over issues and said the pro-CAFTA votes of three Democratic Texas congressmen "will not be forgotten." Tawn McDonald of the Coalition of Labor Union Women described CLUW's issues, including job security, health care, contraceptive equality, and protection from harassment and violence.

Denise Donnelly (OPEIU) emceed presentation of Community Service and Publications awards.

Publication winners were:

Local Union with more than 1,000 members

First Place

The Stretch, USW Local 746L, editor Joe Wyatt

Awards of Merit

Unity and Unity Update, TWU #556, editor Allyson Parker-Lauck

Federation News and Federation calendar HFL editor Gayle Fallon

Plumbers Union Local #68, UAPP #68, editor Michael E. Cramer

Local Union with 251 — 1,000 members

First Place

Capital City Carrier, NALC #181, editor Bill Benardi

Honorable Mention

The People's Voice, AFGE #3377, editors Barbara Christopher, Bob Clark, Kevin Tinker

Local Unions with up to 250 members

First Place

The Union Carrier, NALC #3 867, editor Kimberly Arnhold

Donnelly moved successfully for approval of four new members of the Texas Labor Hall of Fame who will be inducted at the COPE Convention next May: Brothers John Nash, Mike Zepeda, T.D. Steinke and Jimmy Middleton.

U.S. Rep. Gene Green, D-Houston, was warmly greeted by delegates and introduced U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Waco, who drew an ovation after thanking delegates for helping him win reelection in one of the most Republican congressional districts in the nation. Edwards discussed three essential ingredients to winning a campaign: define ourselves; define our opponents; and counterpunch immediately when the opponent tells lies about us.

Lesley Ramsey, executive director of the Texas Fair Trade Coalition, said the anti-CAFTA side won on the merits, but lost when the House leadership and White House offered unrelated legislative goodies to wavering Republicans. A Faith and Labor panel captivated delegates with discussion of the interface between union members and religious leaders. Michael Murphy, an IBEW leader who co-chairs the Religion and Labor Network of Austin, pointed up that faith community leaders have additional credibility in advancing pro-labor arguments.

Delegates attended workshops in the afternoon and in the evening were treated to a reception in the hotel ballroom..



Pictured left to right: Joe Wyatt, Amalgamated Unit Chairman Niki Killingsworth, USW Local 746L President Jim Wansley, Charles Anderson, AFL-CIO Attorney Rick Levy, District Director John Patrick and Tim Dews.

Local 746 Participates In Sub-District Safety Training



Photo on left: USW Local 746L President Jim Wansley goes over the PAF drive. Center photo: Staff representative H.L. Thompson, District 13 Sub-District Director Mickey Breaux, Freddie Edwards, District 12 Sub-District Director Dave Kins, USW Local 746 President Jim Wansley and Bud Allred. Photo on right: Bud Allred addresses the joint PACE/USWA group on Rapid Response.

Several Local 746L union officers took part in a District 12 safety training session held in Dallas during August. They included local president Jim Wansley, division chairman Bud Allred and Freddie Edwards, who was covering for division chairman Marcus Howard at the time the training session was scheduled.

The two-day training session was taught jointly by a USWA and PACE instructor, in one of the first such joint sessions put on since the merger between the two unions that created the new USW International Union. It was held at the DFW Airport Sheraton Hotel, which is one of the union hotels in Texas. It was attended by about forty union members from the former USWA and PACE unions that are in the same sub-district as Local 746L. On hand for the session were USWA Sub-District Director John Patrick, who will be moving up to a new position in the newly created USW District 13 as a result of the merger; Mickey Breaux, who will be a USW Sub-District Director for all or part of Texas; and H.L. Thompson, who is currently the staff representative servicing Local 746L.

“Our local union received a lot of praise at this session from John Patrick and others, who asked Bud and I to talk about the Political Action Fund drive we’re undertaking at Tyler. This session allowed the PACE and USWA people in our area to come together in the same room for the first time and discuss safety issues and other common interests or problems. PACE is different in some ways, as the people represented by PACE tend to come from industries we aren’t familiar with, but our issues are the same. Job security and workplace safety are just two issues we all face. Bud and Freddie represented us well. I want to thank them for the impression created on the USW leadership and the other members of the newly created USW union that were there,” said Jim Wansley.

Obituary



Richard Colley passed away on August 4th. He was 63. At the time of his retirement, Richard was a trucker in Dept. 431.

Tyler Plant OSHA Accident-Free in July

July was a very safe month at North American Tire’s plant in Tyler, Texas. The plant finished July with zero OSHA accidents, the first time in the plant’s 43-year history that it has achieved such a milestone.

“The most important thing is not the number “zero” on the OSHA log, it’s the fact that all of our associates went home in the same condition as when they arrived at work,” said Billy Taylor, Tyler’s acting plant manager.

The Tyler plant had every reason to celebrate the successes in July and did so in a big way. Ribeye steaks and all the trimmings were served to all Tyler associates on August 24th & 25th. It’s hard to find much fault with a steak dinner and employees responded with enthusiasm with the meal being enjoyed by all. Accommodations were made for employees that do not eat red meat with chicken as well as smoked turkey being provided as an alternative. Having meals such as this, as well as lighter fare such as pizza being served are continuing to be a part of the plants way of saying thanks and bring recognition to associates for continuing to meet and exceed many goals and objectives.

The process of getting the meal served was a bit different this time around. “We wanted to make sure that we handled the serving of the meal in the most efficient way possible,” stated Training & Communications Manager Marsha Raska. “The plain, generic tickets that we had used in the past were not easy to keep track of. I decided this time to use the ticket that have the associates name on them. That was to help us plan better and make sure that we had enough food on hand at all of the serving times,” said Raska.

A factory favorite, Hickory Fare Barbeque in Tyler served up the steaks and trimmings. When inquiring who would be catering the meal, many associates were surprised to hear that Hickory Fare was providing the meal and is equipped to handle extremely large catering jobs and offers much more than just barbecue.

HEALTH FAIR FORTHCOMING

The Goodyear Family Medical Center (formerly known as Kelly Family Medical Center) will be celebrating its 15th birthday this November. Therefore, in honor of the Medical Center's birthday, a Health Fair is currently being organized by representatives from Mother Frances, Heritage Health Plan, Goodyear Plant, Local Union, and Family Medical Center personnel. The Health Fair will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd, and Thursday, November 3rd from 7AM until 5PM each day. These two days will cover all shifts, therefore we encourage employees to participate in this event when their shift is over, or to allow plenty of time to participate in this event before their shift begins.

The Health Fair will be open to all employees, retirees and dependents. A variety of vendors will be participating in this event and will be offering a vast range of services including but not limited to blood pressure checks, cholesterol screening, skin cancer testing, bone density, BMI (body mass index), glaucoma screening, and drug interaction reviews. A mobile mammography unit will be on-site at the Medical Center and will be utilized on a pre-appointment basis by calling in the number made available to you at a later date.

Medical insurance open enrollment will be going on at the same time as the Health Fair, therefore representatives from Heritage Health Plan HMO/EPO will be participating in the event and will be available to answer your questions.

This is the first of many communications that will be coming your way. Therefore, mark on your calendar as this is an event you and your family will not want to miss!

Combat rising gas prices with smarter tire care

You can complain loudly about increased pain at the gas pump. You can just keep on driving. But you could begin some easy vehicle maintenance activities to help offset those soaring prices.

"Each time drivers stop to fill up their gas tanks, they may be grumbling as they notices the per-gallon charges, now averaging almost \$2.40 across the country," said Bob Toth, North American Tire's marketing manager for auto tires. "However, as they walk to the pump, they ought to be reminded of the car's four tires and the part they play in smart fuel usage."

Motorists can improve gas mileage by around 3 percent simply by keeping tires inflated to the proper pressure, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, which says underinflated tires can lower gas mileage by 0.4 percent for every 1 PSI (pound per square inch) drop in the pressure of all four tires. Plus, properly inflated tires are safer and last longer, according to the Department of Energy's www.fueleconomy.gov Web site.

"When gas prices are this high, it's easy to see why tire maintenance is so important. A tire that is substantially underinflated doesn't roll as smoothly or as easily as it was intended, and the increased rolling resistance requires more energy, which robs the vehicle of fuel efficiency."

Goodyear says running a tire 20 percent underinflated - only 5 to 7 PSI - can increase fuel consumption by 10 percent. That easily could cost motorists two or three miles per gallon.

According to February 2005 research by the Rubber Manufacturers Association, 85 percent of drivers surveyed do not check their tire pressure properly, and many simply do not know enough about how to care for their tires correctly. Most drivers don't even know where to find the recommended proper tire inflation pressure for their vehicles' tires.

Goodyear recommends that motorists should check tire inflation at least monthly or before a long trip. Tires should be inflated to the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations printed on the vehicle door jamb, in the glove box or in the owner's manual, not the maximum limit stamped on a tire sidewall.

Toth noted that at Goodyear-owned tire and service outlets, consumers can have their tires checked for free, including an inspection of tread condition and tire inflation.

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