
1069 **CHOPPER**

Fall 2011

President's Report

By Chris Owens, President



It's 1993 Again; V-22 Osprey Under Attack By Congress Again

Once again the V-22 is on the list for possible defense cuts. Be assured that we have been in touch with all of our representatives to help us with this on going battle. I have received phone calls from Congressman Pat Meehan and recently sat down with Congressman Bob Brady. Together, they have pledged to lead the fight for the V-22. As all of you know the V-22 has performed exceptionally well over in Iraq and is receiving rave reviews. We will be going down to Washington in the near future to garner support and continue to battle for this great aircraft. I will keep you abreast of all future developments.

Our Local 1069 Community Services Committee is at it again. On Family Day, October 15th from 10AM until 2PM, our members will be holding a canned food drive to support our local food banks. All three main gates will be manned with 1069 members and their family members for this charitable event. As all of you are well aware many in our community are going through tough times. Please help out and support our Local 1069 Community Services Committee and your community. I hope everyone had a great summer and look forward . As always, thanks for your continued support.

UAW Local 1069 Family Day Food Drive

Saturday, October 15, 2011 Bring your family and canned food for the Homeless!

Chopperman

Educating

Safety Now; Unless It's More Expensive

Inside this issue:

Shop Chair Report	2
Benefits Report	2
Straight Talk	3
Safety & Health	5
Vet's Comm Report	6
Woman's Comm	6
Chopperman	1, 7

The following two stories are demonstrations of how Boeing Philadelphia really feels about their most precious resource, you, the represented employees of UAW Local 1069. Without your expertise and hard work, the Philadelphia site would not be the success that we are today.

First, here is the story of the senior Stupidvisor from 3-61building. On the hottest and most humid day of the year, this bird had the most ingenious brain storm. He said that that the new air conditioning in the building was not working properly, so in his infinite wisdom, he ordered that none of the big doors were to be opened in 3-60 and 3-57 buildings. The heat and humidity rose to rival the Amazon jungle. Production dropped to almost nothing as no one had any energy left to do anything. (cont. on Page 7)

Shop Chairman's Report

By Howard Bishop, Shop Chair



During the past summer months, Local 1069 members and their families have enjoyed warm, sunny weather and family vacations in many different locations. However, here at the plant, the Boeing Company did not take a vacation on their practice of ignoring our contract with them.

As a result, the Shop Committee and I are proud to announce that we have been able to settle 94 grievances to date.

In addition, all 4th Step grievances have been sat and we are waiting on answers from the Company.

Also, I have submitted 3rd Step grievances to Employee Relations, and we are in the process of scheduling those grievances to address our member's difficulties with the Company and its management.

For our newer members, remember that you have recourse if you feel that you are being treated inequitably by the Company. The Grievance process is set up to address and resolve your issues between you and the Boeing Company. If a situation arises, your first act should be to ask for your Shop Steward. Don't speak or give a statement without speaking to your Union representation first. The Company personnel are great at taking your statements and turning them around to use against you. Your Weingarten rights guarantees you representation when you ask for it. Use your Steward and Committeeman. They're in our plant for your benefit.

General Membership Meetings

4th Sunday of Each Month, 10 AM

UAW Local 1069 Hall

Fall meeting: Oct. 23

Benefits Report

By Mike Barbacano, Fin Sect, Treas, & Benefits Rep



Since taking the office of Financial Secretary/Treasurer & Benefits Rep of Local 1069, I've been spending much time becoming well-versed in all aspects of this position. The most important part of my job is ensuring that all members and their families know about their benefits, the extent of what is available to them, and how to access those benefits when needed. If you have questions on your family's circumstances, please call me at the hall, 610-876-6217, to set up an appointment.

Open enrollment for medical benefits is coming up, November 9 through December 2, 2011. This is the time to review your family's current health care needs and the ability of your insurance to meet their needs. If you're not happy with how you are being treated by your insurance server, use this time to make a change in coverage. Any changes made will take effect January 1, 2012.

We're fortunate to be able to maintain of level of benefits and coverage for our families. Every day, there is a news story in the paper or on TV talking about companies cutting benefits, increasing co-pays and "cost sharing", or being laid off from a job, only to be hired back as a contractor with no benefits. Our union contract ensures that our status will remain unchanged until in ends in October 2014.



*Educating the Brothers and Sisters of UAW
Local 1069 and their families over 30 years*

Chris Owens, President

Doug Williamson, Editor

by Mike Tolassi, Vice President



Once again I thank all our brothers and sisters who have supported “The Owens Team” to enable us to serve you over the next 3 years. I hope we are performing up to your expectations which I feel we are doing. There will be another election for all union officials before our next set of negotiations and we are presently preparing for that time and also continuing working hard to address all present issues that arise. We will not sit back and wait for that time. We’re constantly looking to make improvements for our workforce and policing our collective bargaining agreement daily.

I have noticed lately that our Human Resource (HR) Department has been busier than ever. Our HR personnel have been in our shops frequently and have “revolving doors” on their offices to accommodate the many complaints lodged against our brothers and sisters by our own people and by our managers. I am asking all union members to please see their union representative if any problem should arise with another union member or any other employee in this facility. We would like an opportunity to work out these problems before it becomes an HR issue, because they have been eager to dispense or suggest disciplinary action. I am also strongly urging you to demand union representation when asked to attend any meeting with HR or any member of management. The company has implemented that HR employees attend any and all meetings with our folks so we should definitely do the same.

One last note: Please buy American made products and especially buy American made cars and trucks!

Editorial

By Doug Williamson, Editor

The Future Belongs to You! Make It Work for You!

Brothers and Sisters,

It’s my pleasure to be back as editor of The 1069 Chopper! Brother Owens has asked me to take on this task, and I’m glad to jump back in.

Our subject today; The Future of UAW Local 1069. During my 26+ years here, I have seen many of my friends and co-workers get involved with the Union on many levels. Their commitment has been of paramount importance to overcoming the rough times in the past and growing into the strong, dedicated, and unified membership that we see today.

However, with that history comes a warning; where will our Local be 10 years from now?

We have seen an influx of new members in our local over the last several years. Hundreds of new brothers and sisters have joined our ranks as new employees of Boeing in Ridley Park. Their numbers will continue to grow as my group of co-workers begins to retire over the next number of years. Who will step into that breach to pick up the reigns of leadership?

Each generation has a core of leaders that move into those positions mentioned above to continue to provide a living wage and benefits to the members and their families of our local. Our next generation of leaders will come from the group of employees noted above, those who have come in since the 2005 time frame, and even earlier.

For the members of my generations, opportunities arose that enabled us to look beyond our own personal situations. We were able to become engaged in efforts that reached beyond one person and had a positive impact on others and, finally, the entire membership of our local and their families. For this generation of new workers, opportunities will arise for you to step up and follow the pattern previously established by the generations of Local 1069 members who came before you, working for all of us. Your energy, talents, and abilities will benefit our members and retirees for many years to come.

Percocet Abuse – “The Cons”

It's common knowledge, that the most widely abused drugs are prescription drugs. In the workplace, prescription drug abuse has been identified as a growing problem. The escalation of abuse rates are being driven by narcotic painkillers.

Opioids, more commonly known as painkillers or prescription narcotics, include morphine, codeine, and oxycodone. Some users of these drugs try to intensify their effect by snorting or injecting them, as opposed to swallowing the pill. When snorting or injecting, these drugs can depress respiration and a single large dose can be very dangerous. Other users like to mix opioids with other substances for a better high which increases respiratory depression greatly. To increase their opioid high, users are known to mix other substances such as: alcohol, antihistamines and benzodiazepines.

When workers abuse prescription drugs in combination with other drugs or alcohol, they can suffer dangerous health consequences and possible death. Based on my experience in working with drug abusers, Percocet (a strong prescription opioid) is one of the most commonly abused drugs in the workplace today.

Percocet alters functioning of the brain. Since this drug activates the “**reward system**” in the brain – abusers will go to any length to get what they need! Daily use of this drug demands higher doses. As in other some other prescription drugs, Percocet addiction has both a physical and mental demand.

Some side effects of Percocet use:

- Respiratory depression
- Liver or Renal damage
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Drowsiness
- Dizziness
- Rash or itching
- Emotional mood disorders
- Light-headedness
- Sedation
- Vomiting
- Seizure
- Confusion
- Dry mouth

Percocet overdose side effects:

- Death
- Heart attack
- Coma
- Muscle weakness
- Vomiting
- Extreme drowsiness
- Low blood pressure
- Sweating
- Slow heartbeat

Long term abusers of this drug find themselves chasing the euphoria of their first high. In turn, they slowly increase their dosage and require more and more pills. Not only does the abuser spiral down, relationships with spouses, family and friends deteriorate rapidly. Percocet abusers will go to any length to get their drug. As their use increases, they struggle to function on their jobs, sometimes ending up being discharged because of lateness and absenteeism. While working, the abuser also puts their co-workers at risk for accidents.

If you have a problem with drug abuse and would like to get off of the hamster wheel, there is help available. Anything that you share with me is held in strict confidence. Isn't it time to get honest with yourself before you lose everything?

Pat Hoffmann, CEAP Substance Abuse Committee – Chairman, Ext. 1-3471

Safety & Health Committee Report

By John Ellmore, Chair

Brothers and Sisters, the purpose of your Safety Committee is to ensure that the Boeing Company provides our members with the safest and up-to-date equipment that is available for us to build the most powerful and unique aircraft the world has ever seen. It is the duty of the committee, comprised of members spread throughout the site in multiple buildings, to identify safety hazards and advise the company to fix them as soon as possible as well as investigate claims and reports of unsafe working conditions or areas at both the Ridley and Wilmington sites.

Since the beginning of 2011, we have found over 200 legitimate safety concerns and 176 items have closed. Last year the committee found and had corrected almost 400 safety issues. Our process is simple. Every month, a different section/building on the site is chosen by the committee who meets and discusses issues going on in those areas that they cover. If someone has an area that has multiple safety and/or health items, the committee will investigate that area.

The committee, with the assistance of our brothers and sisters, have identified a large amount of findings and presented requests to the company for repair. There are several instances that require a large amount of work and will take time to repair but rest assured, once they are identified, your safety committee will not close the item until it is completed.

Some of the items your Safety Committee is working on are...

- Complete upgrade of all of the test cells in 3-12
- Improvements and addition of a move cart for the autoclaves
- Upgrades to the autoclaves
- Safer and specially designed work stands for numerous buildings
- Acquiring a downdraft booth/table for 3-60/3-61
- Evacuation procedures
- Upgrades to the paint bays and more...

Should you be working in an area without proper protection and a Safety Committee member asks you to find the appropriate Safety equipment, please do not become agitated or verbally offensive. They are looking out for you and your family's best interest. Many families have suffered a tragedy from a loved one dying at work from doing something unsafe at their worksite. Those families would agree that your Safety Committee is looking out for your best interest.

In closing, if there are any safety concerns that you have, please feel free to e-mail or talk to your UAW Safety Committee member with your concerns and they will be investigated. Contact can be made through the 1069 Hall at 610-876-6217. No problem is too small and in some instances there may already be a repair in work. If there is an immediate concern notify your shop steward and have them request a safety rep or in an emergency. dial 1-2222.



Support the Good Works of the Vet's Committee at Family Day!

The Local 1069 Vet's Committee members will be manning a table at the Boeing Family Day event on Saturday, October 15, 2011. The Vet's Committee will be selling custom-made T-shirts. The price; only \$15! Have your family and friends support the good work being done by our committee in helping vets in the community. See you there!

UAW Local 1069 Veterans Committee Report

By Kieran P. Kelly, Co-Chairman Veterans Committee

Local 1069 Vets Supporting Our Armed Forces

The Veterans Committee has been very busy over the past few months with several different projects. Most recently was our involvement for Petty Officer Michael Strange, the Philadelphia area Navy SEAL that was among the casualties of the event in Afghanistan involving a Chinook being shot down. We asked the membership to show their support of this fine young man by signing a card for the family and making a donation. We are proud to report that this membership once again stepped up to the plate and overwhelmed us with their generosity and support. With your help, we were able to raise approximately \$1000 to donate to the father of this fallen hero to contribute to the charity that he sees fit. We were also able to assemble a gift basket for the raffle at the benefit held in Petty Officer Strange's honor that was full of UAW Local 1069 apparel and various other items. The proceeds went to the Michael Strange Foundation and the Fraternal Order of Police.

As you all may know, we have also just wrapped up our third t-shirt sale and I am happy to report that this membership purchased nearly 300 shirts. This is by far the best sale that we have had and we are currently pursuing several worthy charities in which we can donate the money.

The UAW Veterans Committee also took part in the Boeing Diversity Fair during the closing days of August outside of the 3 cafeterias. We were very impressed by the amount of support and inquiries into how people can get involved. Remember you DO NOT have to be a Veteran to be a member of this Committee. We are always on the look for hard working dedicated men and women to help us show our support for those that have fought, and are currently fighting for the freedoms we enjoy everyday. Thank you from everyone on the Veterans Committee for your continued support and dedication to the Greatest Fighting Force in the World!

UAW Local 1069 Woman's Committee Report

By Dana Bechta and Meta Parker, Co-Chairwomen

Women's Committee Taking On New Challenges

We are honored to have the opportunity to be the new Chairwomen of the Woman's Committee. We have many new ideas to bring to the committee to make it stronger. Our goal is to increase the number of active members. We need new members from all parts of our campus.

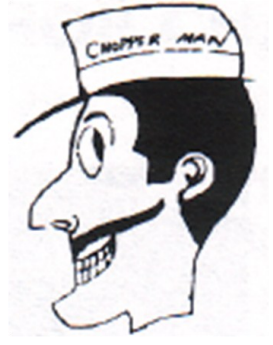
Over the last few years, the percentage of women, our Sisters, working here has greatly increased. As a member of the Woman's Committee, you will have the chance to make a positive difference for all woman that work here. The Committee held a meeting at the Union Hall September 27, 2011. This informal get together was held to increase the membership in order to enlist women to represent the recently hired employees. It does not matter if you have worked here for one year or twenty years, we need your input and support to make us stronger!

Thank you,
Dana Bechta and Meta Parker

Chopperman

Safety Now; Unless it's More Expensive (cont. from Page 1).

Oh yeah, the Stupidvisor ordered water ice for everyone, but no one was allowed to have one, except at break. Everyone's tongue was dragging on the floor by break time. The doors were opened the next day when someone woke up and allowed it.



The next story was when Chopperman was sitting in the crane in 3-57 building because I love the heat. All of a sudden I see bodies flying out of the new jig in the Pylon shop as the jig collapsed with a thunderous crash. The floor shook like an earthquake (a premonition?) and I was almost knocked off the crane. I saw union reps, including our President, coming from everywhere to check out the condition of our members. 4 of our members were visibly shaken and upset from almost being severely injured, or even worse, dead.

The Company brought in our Tooling people to secure the jig and keep everyone else safe from a total collapse. The 1st level Stupidvisor told the Committeeman that he was sending the 4 guys home. When he was questioned about if they were going to be paid for the time, he said, "No, I'm giving them an infraction-free day." The Committeeman asked if he was trying to rewrite the contract. He noted that the affected members should be paid for the remainder of the shift. He said, "No way" and the name game started. He blamed everyone above him in management. The 4 guys who experienced the crash were so shaken and upset that they should have been looked at by our health professionals. Thank God that they weren't injured or worse.

One thing to remember is that Boeing had not done anything to prevent the incident from happening. They had outsourced the jig fabrication to St. Louis and you know what they say in St. Louis; "Cheaper is Better". Forget the fact that our Tooling people never had a major tool like this one collapse during all of our years here, as told by a long-time manager from Tooling. With the intervention from our south side Committeemen, the union was able to reach an agreement with management to pay the 4 members who were sent home for the whole day. Please keep safe and by the way, Boeing, stop offloading our work!

Here's more Pylon Jig news. At that time, I overheard management saying it was not a vendor problem. The other day, I saw our UAW Committeeman talking to the employees, explaining Article 20, Safety and Health to them. The senior Stupidvisor for Tooling came over and interrupted him. He said they needed to get started and had donuts and cookies for them. The Company believed that donuts and cookies would smooth everything over; that was the answer! Hmmm! I heard this message before. Lo and behold, the Tooling engineer spoke and said the structure was fixed and safe. He said that the problem was the vendor didn't follow the process of heat treating. I remember the Committeeman replying, "If you buy cheap, you get cheap." The guys in the shop asked him if they could move the tool with the hand crank. They hesitated, then the Shop Steward cranked the tool. The tool swayed back and forth about a foot each way. The mechanics were concerned about the tool not being safe and asked the senior Stupidvisor if he would put the jack stands back in place to keep the tool from moving, and to use straps on the crane for extra stability. He stated steadfastly that he would not do that as the tool was "bulletproof". This is the same guy who said that the tool was safe when it first came in new. Luckily, the Committeeman went to the senior Manager of the area and the request was fulfilled. Donuts and cookies are a nice gesture, but don't use them to try and sway our members' minds when it comes to safety. Chopperman tips his hat to the crew of the Pylon department for standing up for their right to a safe workplace.



Did you know membership to Boeing Helicopters Credit Union is open to all current employees of the Boeing Company, as well as immediate family members? The same holds true for anyone contracted to do business with the Boeing Company for a period in excess of 120 days. Boeing employees and Boeing Contractors must present a Boeing Badge to join. Membership is available regardless of employee status.

The Credit Union is proud to announce the installation of 3 ATM's in cafeterias 3-02, 3-25 and 3-60. The ATM's are surcharge free. If you do not have a checking account with BHC U, now is the time to open one. Your first box of checks is free and you can enjoy these great benefits:

- No per share draft fee or ATM fees
- ATM Visa Check Card
- Direct deposit available
- Carbonless duplicate share drafts make storage and record keeping simple
- On-Line Banking and Bill Pay
- Overdraft Privilege

The Credit Union is opened:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00am to 5:15pm

Fridays, 7:30am to 5:15pm

Saturdays, 9:00AM to 12:00 NOON

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cheryl Altieri, Ex. VP 610-595-2929 ext. 320.



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Remember, Stand United! Our Unity is Our Strength!