

The Brew Review



Local Lodge 2699 Newsletter

December 2011

Editor: Marcus Kilgo
Co-Editor: Misty King

From the President's Desk

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Another year is coming to an end and it doesn't seem like I have spent 32 years in the same place working at the same facility. The only time it really registers is when some of my co-workers come to me to tell me they are going to retire and ask me how much longer I am going to stay. I honestly don't know how

much longer I will stay but I have to admit I do enjoy being able to represent this membership of Union employees. I like helping people and this job gives me plenty of opportunity to do this on a constant basis. This membership has a lot of good employees that I feel confident will keep this Union strong for years to come. Without Union representation we would all be at the mercy of some of the most arrogant supervisors and managers. This Local Lodge has had plenty of leaders in the past and it won't be long before the old guard is gone and some of our newer employees will step up to the plate. I encourage all of our newer employees to get involved with our Union. Attend Union meetings, steward classes and solidarity meetings. Think about running for a steward's position, contract negotiator or even an officer's position. This is your Union and you need to be involved.

Without the solidarity of the membership the company could do pretty much as they please with any of us. Solidarity from us means to work together to help each other on a daily basis. Looking out for each other's safety is another way we show solidarity. Talking to each other about problems we might have with one another and treating our co-workers with respect is another way to show solidarity. Involving the Union stewards, or officers of the Union in workplace issues instead of going to supervisors or H.R. Reps. with every little problem is another way to show solidarity. Anytime we don't try to take care of problems on the

floor among ourselves it usually ends up with someone receiving disciplinary action. I can't stress enough that is what Unionism is all about. We spend too much time with one another to let petty issues divide us. Remember **UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE BEG.**

As I look forward to the next few years I see the need to become more united on the shop floor. The company has shared their 3 year footprint with us and our next contract will take all of us working together as one to keep what language we now have and to hold firm on any demands to make us weaker. We all need to preserve the jobs we have now and stop any attempt to eliminate or combine any more of the jobs we have left. We will elect our negotiating committee later on this year and I recommend to each of you to elect someone from your department that will stand up and do their best to represent you.

In closing I want to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I do hope that during this season that we all remember to give to those less fortunate than ourselves and when purchasing our Christmas gifts that we look for the **Made In America and Union Label** in all we buy. **Merry Christmas and God** bless each of you and your families.

Tom Peters

THE EDITORS VIEWPOINT

As members of Local Lodge 2699 we have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. With all of the layoffs, plant closings, and jobs leaving our country, our Union has helped make sure that we have taken the right steps to prolong and maintain our job security. Our employer not only has been able to maintain our jobs, but they have been able to create new jobs.

Let's all keep up the good work.

I would like to take this time to wish everyone and their families a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Remember Buy Union made whenever you can.

Who says that?
I do
Marcus A Kilgo



Tell the House to Support a Stronger Buy American Act

U.S. Representative Nick J. Rahall (D-WV), top Democrat of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, has introduced legislation to create American jobs and revitalize American manufacturing.

The Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011 (H.R. 3533) strengthens Buy American requirements for investments in U.S. transportation and infrastructure projects. The bill ensures that the steel, iron, and manufactured goods used to construct projects financed by U.S. taxpayers are produced in the United States.

“Many Americans, still recovering from the worst economic recession since the Great Depression, are desperately seeking work,” said Rep. Rahall. “The legislation we are introducing will ensure that all future bridges and similar transportation and infrastructure projects financed by U.S. taxpayers will be stamped ‘Made in America,’ crafted with American workmanship, and will create and sustain good-paying jobs in our local communities – not overseas.”

Rep. Rahall explained how this past summer, workers for a Chinese state-owned company loaded four steel modules, weighing a combined 5,300 tons, onto a ship for a 22-day journey across the Pacific. The steel was to be used as the final component of the State of California’s largest public works project in its history – replacing the 2.2-mile East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Rahall says a total of 43,000 tons of steel for the \$6.3 billion project will soon be stamped “Made in China,” but paid for by U.S. taxpayers. This project employed 3,000 workers in China – jobs that should have gone to American workers.

“We are no longer buying just cheap trinkets from China – we are literally buying bridges and major transportation infrastructure, while outsourcing innovation and capabilities that could be fostered and

strengthened in the U.S.,” said Rep. Rahall. “At a time when more than 25 million Americans are unable to find jobs, are only working part-time, or have altogether given up hope of finding a job, it is appalling, offensive, and downright wrong to send our taxpayer dollars to China when they should be invested in U.S. companies here at home rebuilding America.”

Democrats are calling on Republicans to include the stronger Buy American requirements in a long-term surface transportation reauthorization currently being crafted. Click [here](#) to tell your House member to support the Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011 as part of the surface reauthorization bill today.

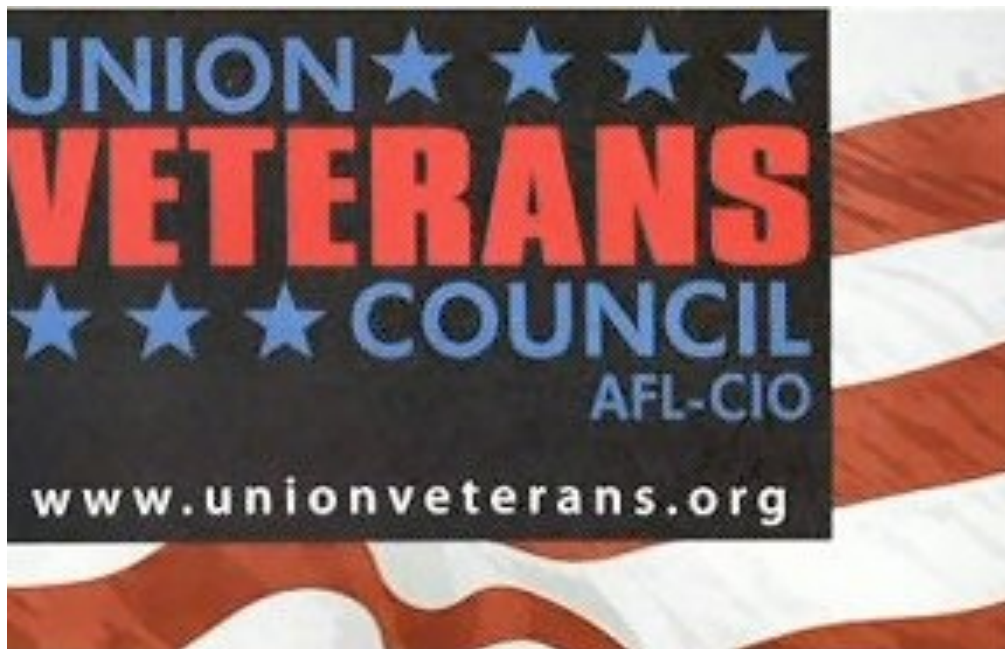


Veterans Council Serves Those Who Served

Tue. March 08, 2011

The IAM is urging all union members who are military veterans to take advantage of the resources provided by the AFL-CIO [Union Veterans Council](http://www.unionveterans.org) (UVC), an organization founded in 2008 and dedicated to providing information about legislation, programs and benefits of value and interest to veterans and their families. Among the issues that are part of the 2011 UVC Legislative Agenda are health care for veterans and the high unemployment rate for Afghanistan and Iraq veterans, which includes National Guard and Reserve troops who found their jobs gone when they returned from active duty.

“There are approximately 185,000 veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who are currently unemployed and thousands more who are unemployed due to the ongoing recession and the loss of valuable manufacturing jobs,” said IAM General Secretary-Treasurer Warren Mart, who serves on the UVC Executive Council. “We owe them our best efforts and the Union Veterans Council is one way to make sure their concerns get the attention they need and deserve.”





Born Jan. 15, 1929, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.—died April 4, 1968, Memphis, Tenn.) Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his death by assassination in 1968. His leadership was fundamental to that movement's success in ending the legal segregation of African Americans in the South and other parts of the United States.



CREST Training

IAM CREST returns to Albany for joint training. The IAM Safety And Health Departments CREST Team held a 40 hour class for Local 2699 members and a MillerCoors management group the week of December 16. We were glad to see them back and will welcome them again in the new year.

Here is their Mission goals:

A Mission to Serve

CREST (Corporation for Re-Employment and Safety Training) is a 501(C)(5) non-profit organization sponsored by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) designed to provide job re-entry and safety training services.

Every year employers and workers suffer great losses in time, money, and production due to job-related injuries, illnesses, and disabilities.

CREST has a mission to return injured workers to productive employment safely and promptly. C.R.E.S.T. also provides training in Safety Awareness, Accident/Injury Investigation, Ergonomics and Hazardous Materials Training. CREST offers a partnership in the workplace so that workers and employers can work together for safety, efficiency, and productivity.



From Your
Executive Board



IAM Journal Goes App

Brothers and Sisters:

Recently, the IAM Journal took a large leap into its digital future. The IAM App is now available for Apple ipads and Android tablets, soon you will be able to download the IAM App to your Android Telephones. Early next year, the IAM App will work with iphones too. The new IAM Journal is also available @ www.goiam.org in a PDF version that can be printed off by District and Local Lodges for distribution to their members.

Check it out. The new IAM Journal is a quick read. It's on the cutting edge of digital publishing offering spectacular photos, videos and a slide show. And it lets you take action on issues affecting the Fighting Machinists.

The App is available through the Apple Store and Android Market.



R. Thomas Buffenbarger
International President
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

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The Fighting Machinists

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IAM & AW BREW REVIEW

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**LOCAL LODGE
MEETING**

**Saturday
January 7th
8:00 a.m.**

**LOCAL LODGE
MEETING**

**Saturday
February 11th
8:00 a.m.**