

UAW Local 1977
170 Meadowlark Drive
Monroe, Louisiana 71202

Nonprofit
Organization
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SOUTHERN "Keeping Our Membership Informed" ORGANIZER



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FEBRUARY 17, 2007

President's Report

By: Larry Jackson

1st UAW LOCAL 1977 PRES. JIM ANTLEY- DECEASED

In 1976, I was hired at Guide Lamp Monroe when organizing activities to get the Union (UAW) voted in the plant was going strong. Among those participating in Organizing efforts was a high spirited man who always wore red suspenders, his name was Jim Antley, better known as "Big Jim". The Union was voted in and "Big Jim" became our first Local Union President. On Tuesday, February 13, 2007, about 7:00 a.m., "Big Jim" departed from his "Red Suspenders forever. He will be missed. Visitation for Jim will be Wednesday, February 14, 2007, 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., and funeral services will be Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at Kilpatrick Funeral Home in Farmerville, Louisiana and burial at Hasley Cemetary in West Monroe, La.

UAW MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, February 17, 2007, beginning at 3:30 p.m., UAW Local 1977 will hold the regular scheduled Membership meeting at the Union Hall, 170 Meadowlark Drive, Monroe, Louisiana. The agenda will included the following, along with any other business that properly come before membership.

- **NORMAL UNION BUSINESS** (minutes, Financial Report, Committee/s Report) etc.
- **COMMUNICATIONS**
- **EASTER EGG HUNT & FAMILY DAY**
- **UPCOMING ELECTION** (Date, Time for polls open) 2007 General Election and Retirees Election
- **SHOP CHAIR REPORT**

The Local Union By-laws require all elected and appointed Representatives of UAW Local 1977 to attend 2 of 3 consecutive Union Meetings. Failure to do so may result in the removal from office or position held.

UAW RETIRED WORKERS MEET

Wednesday, February 21, 2007, beginning at 1:30 p.m., the Retired Workers of UAW Local 1977 will hold their regular schedule monthly meeting at the Union Hall, 170 Meadowlark Drive, Monroe, Louisiana.

Shop Chairman Report

By: Henry Davison

REPRESENTATION ~-(Correction)

As of March 31, 2007, Union Officials will be reduced to three (3) and May 31, 2007, reduced to two (2). The two (2) remaining Officials will be functioning from the Union Hall until the end of the contract (March 2009).

PLANT STATUS

Currently, there are 40 hourly employees left in the plant, plus Union Representatives. It is projected that most hourly workers will be gone by April 1, 2007.

TAA and TRA

Employees who wish to receive training must stay in contact with the Unemployment Agency to make sure you sign your waiver. TAA and TRA offer many benefits to our members under these programs.

PACKAGE DEADLINE

March 22, 2007 is the deadline for making your decision on the seven (7) options available in the Attrition Packages. If you have any questions

concerning a particular option, you may call your Union Benefit Representatives at 313-345-3265, Shop Chairman at 318-791-8934, or President at 318-791-2815. We will be glad to talk to you over the phone or set up a meeting with you.



The Southern Organizer may be picked up weekly at the Union Hall.



T. A. Murphy, Retiree Editor

\$1,000 BONUS PAYMENT

We were told by Accounting that Bonus Payments would be on this week's paycheck.

BENEFITS REPORT

By: Barbara Johnson and Gwen Grace

LUMP SUM PAYMENT

We have been informed by the La. Dept. of Labor that the lump sum payment will not effect Unemployment Benefits. That payment does not fall into the reportable category for UI. If you choose the lump sum payment do not report that when you file you weekly claim. Do report any other monies you receive such as New Years Bonus and Performance Bonus.

FYI: If you choose option 7(Sub) and at some time later decide to take the lump sum payment, be aware that any sub pay you received and the value of insurance benefits will be deducted from that payment. Below are the rates that will be used to calculate the deductions for the medical part. The deductions will be based on monies received from February 1, 2007 until the date you change your option. If you elect the lump sum payment initially there will be no deductions from that payment. If you choose the lump sum payment you will also be eligible for Cobra (self -pay continuation of coverage) for 18 months. Those rates are also listed here.

TAA/TRA REGISTRATION

We urge everyone to sign up for TAA/TRA benefits even if you are not planning to attend school right now. If you fail to register and later decide to attend school you will not be able to under this program. You need to go by La. One Stop located in the Eastgate Shopping Center on Louisville in Monroe. You need to register and if you are not planning to start school right now, you need to also sign a waiver to attend or start school at a later date. You also have to renew your waiver every 28 days. Be sure to tell them that you are a displaced worker.

**Guide Corporation
2007 Funding & COBRA Rates**

COBRA RATES

Active COBRA Rates (@102%)			
Medical	EE	EE+1	EE+Family
Tier I PPO	\$640.56	\$1,281.12	\$1,922.70
Tier I Traditional	\$629.34	\$1,258.68	\$1,889.04
Tier II PPO	\$591.60	\$1,182.16	\$1,774.80
Dental	\$38.28	\$76.55	\$114.85
Vision	\$3.14	\$6.29	\$11.67

**Guide Corporation
2007 Funding & COBRA Rates**

RATES FOR LUMP SUM REDUCTION

Active Funding Rates (@100%)			
Medical	EE	EE+1	EE+Family
Tier I PPO	\$628.00	\$1,256.00	\$1,885.00
Tier I Traditional	\$617.00	\$1,234.00	\$1,852.00
Tier II PPO	\$580.00	\$1,159.00	\$1,740.00
Dental	\$37.53	\$75.05	\$112.60
Vision	\$3.08	\$6.17	\$11.44