



# LABOR'S MTC VIEWS

114 Poquonnock Rd, Groton, CT 06340

January 2021

Vol 43 No. 1

MTCNLC.ORG



2020 faced with a global pandemic was a completely miserable, unpredictable, and unprecedented year. Every facet of our lives changed from social gatherings, school closings, family outings, supply change shortages, to illnesses and in too many cases death. In this area we have been largely isolated from the effects such as huge job losses, long food lines, and homelessness. However, many people have suffered in many ways most of which we will never know. With the promise of mass vaccinations we will begin the recovery. It will be slow and this will not be completely eradicate the virus. We will still need to take precautions. If you have been ill, I wish you healing and good health. If you suffered the loss of a loved one, I offer you comfort. If you have been inconvenienced, suck it up, this will soon be over. Please continue to wear a mask, cover your cough, socially distance, and wash your hands.

Recently during open enrollment with 4 days left of the enrollment period, many members had done nothing. Working with the EB Benefits crew, the Metal Trades and the Local Unions made 1400 phone calls to get members signed up. This was a huge undertaking and I appreciate all the work that went into this and the people who helped.

However, it was discovered that many people do not update their contact information. If you have changed your address, phone number or email, please update your information with Personnel Services.

I Wish You All A Healthy, Prosperous 2021.

Fraternal,  
Peter E. Baker



*Bonus Checks  
will be paid to  
eligible members  
by the end of  
January.  
We are proud of  
our member's  
accomplishments  
under the worst  
of conditions  
during the worst  
of times!!!*



Office & Professional Employees International Union

**LOCAL 106**

**A.F.L.-C.I.O. & CLC**



**OPEIU IDENTITY PROTECTION BENEFIT**

The OPEIU Identify Protection Benefit has been enhanced with new services and stronger protections, including expanded coverage for your family.

OPEIU members and their families have access to a more comprehensive defense against identity theft through a new identity protection provider, Identity IQ (IDIQ), still at no cost to you.

The benefit features state-of-the-art identity and credit monitoring, checking account reporting, and full-service identity restoration that includes insurance and lost wallet assistance in cancelling and replacing credit cards. If you become a victim of identity theft, IDIQ's trained experts will help you restore your identity as close as possible to the level it was before the incident. This can save you hundreds of hours of your own time and productivity. It can also save you money.

Visit: [OpeiuIDProtect.com](http://OpeiuIDProtect.com) to enroll yourself and your family.

**FREE COLLEGE UPCOMING ENROLLMENT DEADLINES**

You and your family members may complete an associate or bachelor's degree through the OPEIU Free College and Bachelor's Completion Benefits. Online learning is safe and can fit into a busy schedule. As always, the associate degree or certificates are Free. Now, students enrolled by the January deadline can also can complete a bachelor's degree for Free! For more information, visit [freecollege.opeiu.org](http://freecollege.opeiu.org)

**UPCOMING ENROLLMENT DATES**

**FREE COLLEGE** – Earn or complete an associate degree or certificate. Jan. 11, 2021

**BACHELOR'S COMPLETION** – To complete a bachelor's degree for free enroll this academic year. Jan. 19, 2021

To date nearly 1,600 OPEIU members and their families have saved more than \$4.7 million in tuition, e-books and other fees through the OPEIU Free College Benefit.

**INCREASE YOUR 401(K)**

We recently received a General Wage Increase. This would be a great time to increase your 401(K) deduction. Years from now you will be thankful that you did this!!!!

**UNION MEETINGS**

Union meetings are important and I encourage you to come and participate in the affairs of our Union. The monthly meetings normally lasts about 30 minutes and your participation will help to make this Union even stronger.

**NEW HIRES** YOU must stay on top of your insurance coverage. There are many choices for you to review and time limits for you to apply for these benefits. You are now eligible to join the insurance between days 0-30 of your date of hire. This is the only 30 days to execute access to the health plan. If you do nothing you will automatically get medical but will not receive dental, extra eye care, and additional life insurance. If you are married or married with children, they will not be covered. It is important to enroll as soon as possible. Do not be late.

I suggest that you call to make arrangements for health insurance since all calls are recorded. In the past, there were problems with online enrollments. There are many options to choose or reject. Contact General Dynamics Service Center (1-888 432-3633) Monday – Friday 9am to 9pm. OR [www.gdbenefit.com](http://www.gdbenefit.com) (24hrs/7days).

Any questions call EB Benefits: 860-433-4201 or Frank Ward, Union Insurance Representative: 860-501-3263.

[www.opeiuocal106.org](http://www.opeiuocal106.org)

Visit this site and search the many links of valuable information. The Media Center is one example that is updated by our International Union with new information on Union Benefits and current issues of interest.

## LABOR'S VIEWS ON LINE

LABOR'S VIEWS may be seen on [opeiulocal106.org](http://opeiulocal106.org) or the new Metal Trades Council web site [mtcnlc.org](http://mtcnlc.org).

LABOR'S VIEWS is also accessible on EB computers link to the MTC website to Homeport.

## "Weingarten" Rights

If YOU are sent to SECURITY for any reason or are being questioned by MANAGEMENT, YOU should request a STEWARD. YOU do not have to answer any questions until you have UNION REPRESENTATION.

THIS INCLUDES CRITIQUES OR ANY OTHER INVESTIGATION.

## SAFETY SHOES

If you did not pick up your safety shoes last year you can get a more expensive pair this year with the money you did not use. Please do not forget. This is a benefit that has been negotiated for you and we want it to continue. You may now carry money over for one year only in order to get a more expensive pair.

Red Wing Shoes has a store in Groton and if you get your shoes there you will have to pay and bring them in to the Safety Dept. with a receipt in order to get your refund.

## UNION COMMUNICATIONS

UNION STEWARDS: Howie Manuel 860-303-5982

Jeffery Jordan 860-574-5563

Arlene Allard x37797 2nd Shift

Mark Cross x35569 3rd Shift

Phone # 860-445-1216, FAX # 860-446-0175, E-mail [prof.emp@snet.net](mailto:prof.emp@snet.net).

(I do not get e-mails in the shipyard.)

[opeiulocal106.org](http://opeiulocal106.org) [opeiu.org](http://opeiu.org) [UnionPlus.org](http://UnionPlus.org) [mtcnlc.org](http://mtcnlc.org)

If you change your home address, phone number, or e-mail do not forget to notify the Union.

Paul A. Bruno Jr.

President/Chief Steward



**OPEIU**

*Office & Professional Employees International Union*

**GIVE THE GIFT OF FREE COLLEGE!**

Available to dues-paying members and their family

Visit: [FreeCollege.OPEIU.org](http://FreeCollege.OPEIU.org)

Call: 888-590-9009

Register now for classes starting January 11, 2021



## LOCAL 614

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone's Holiday season was enjoyable. I am starting out the new year in Covid tracing quarantine. I have no symptoms, but also no pay coming in yet. The yard hospital says I can not return to work until I get my test result. My testing facility says they do not call you if you are not positive. I went to their website and they said they are so busy that test results may take up to a week. So here I wait. I am not alone. This is very frustrating. But I am healthy and that is the main thing. So many people get really sick and some die due to this disease. So please abide by the CDC rules, stay safe. We will get through this.

Our new High Deductible insurance started. I checked my Health Savings Account on January 4th and it showed that there was nothing in there. I was shocked. I was reassured that it should be funded by the end of the 1st week of January. If this happened to you I am told you need not to worry.

Due to the continuing rising of Covid cases and the expected (holiday surge) The Executive Board and members at our December meeting have cancelled the regularly scheduled meeting for January. I will schedule a meeting with our Executive Board to see where we are at in regards to having a meeting in February. The last thing we want to do it spread this disease any further. I will keep you posted on when we can meet again.

The winter season is upon us. That means unpredictable driving conditions. The roads may look ok but the black ice can be dangerous, but not as dangerous as some idiot driving like a moron. So please beware. An old saying I try to repeat every year is; Do you make more \$\$ in 1 day than what your car insurance deductible is? I don't know any one who makes more than what their deductible is. If you must drive in bad weather please be careful.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Joyce  
President





## **LOCAL 777**

We hope everyone had a safe and happy shutdown. Last year was definitely a lot different than previous years, but hopefully everything is behind us and we are moving forward positively. Couple of things to mention, if any member is being re-activated for military service, please remember to give the Local a copy of your orders before leaving, so we can get you into the right absence code regarding dues and time of service. It's a lot easier to do it before you leave. Remember to poll if you are interested in working overtime or off shift. Polling got a little slack towards the end of last year, it has to be fair for all involved. Department 243 is currently looking for more ALC (active learning center) instructors. Anyone interested, give your name to one of the stewards and we will work with the department on it. Last year we ran into some problems trying to contact some of the members to remind them on the enrollment deadline for our insurance. If you have any change to your current address or phone number, please give the correction to the Union as well as the company. Recently, one of our members in the building

trades, was accidentally killed in a steam explosion, while working at the VA Hospital in West Haven, Ct. Here in the shipyard, Sub-base, and on the road, we work on pressurized and energized systems constantly. Remember, check your paperwork and do not start a job if you have any questions or doubts in your mind without clarifying any issue. Follow all the procedures. We put our trust in the people that are responsible to check all facets of our paperwork. If it takes a little longer to do the job, that's ok. Work smart, work safe, and do it right the first time.



# SPECIAL OFFERS FOR GENERAL DYNAMICS ELECTRIC BOAT EMPLOYEES!

## \$475

**MORTGAGE APPLICATION  
FEE REBATE\***

## \$50

**GAS CARD FOR A NEW  
CHARTER OAK AUTO LOAN\***

### GO CHECKING

- 3.00% APY<sup>†</sup> on Balances up to \$10,000
- ATM Rebates
- No Monthly Maintenance Fee

### GOLD REWARDS: OUR UNIQUE MEMBER REWARDS PROGRAM\*

- Annual Cash Bonus for Qualified Members
- No ATM Fees
- Special Gold Rates

FREE CONSULTATION with CHARTER OAK RETIREMENT and INVESTMENT SERVICES

For more details, visit [CharterOak.org/content/EB](http://CharterOak.org/content/EB) or  
see one of our Member Service Representatives today!

**MEMBERS BANK BETTER.**

Live, work or worship in New London  
or Windham Counties? Join us.



**CHARTER OAK**  
CREDIT UNION

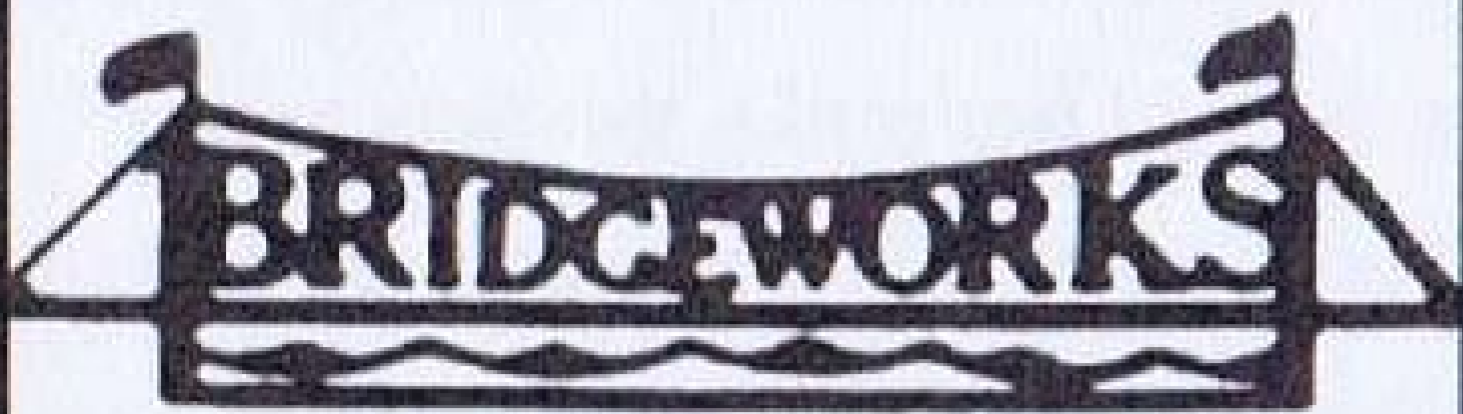
CharterOak.org | 860.446.8085 | 800.962.3237

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA



EQUAL HOUSING  
LENDER

\*Some restrictions may apply. <sup>†</sup>APY=Annual Percentage Yield.



FAMILY DENTAL CENTER

**Vincent Antonelli, D.D.S.**

**Ted Malahias, D.D.S.**

**Sean Kim, D.D.S., FAGD**

115 Bridge Street  
Groton, CT 06340

**446-8744**

CONVENIENT TO E.B.

“We Cater to Cowards”

FAMILY DENTISTRY

Bonding - Crown and Bridge

**FULL PARTICIPANT IN  
MTC DENTAL PLAN**

## Groton Dental Group

Dennis Flanagan, DDS MSc

American Board of Oral

Implantology/Implant Dentistry

American Board of General Dentistry

Bruce Dougherty, D.D.S.

Danielle Green, D.M.D.

- General Dentistry
- Implants Placed and Restored
- Dentures - Same Day Service  
Relines and Repairs

1100 Poquonnock Rd., Groton

**445-9765**

## Windham Dental Group

1671 West Main St., Willimantic

**456-3153**

WE PARTICIPATE IN  
MTC DENTAL PLAN  
Retiree's Are Accepted





# EMBRY NEUSNER ARSCOTT & SHAFNER<sup>LLC</sup>

## PERSONAL INJURY

- ASBESTOS
- AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS
- PRODUCT INJURY
- MALPRACTICE
- ADMIRALTY AND  
MARITIME INJURIES

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION

- LUNG DISEASES
- WORK RELATED CANCERS
- HEART ATTACKS
- VIBRATION DISEASES
- HEARING LOSS
- BACK INJURIES

SECURITY CLEARANCE ■ GENERAL LITIGATION

**EMBRYNEUSNER.COM**   

860.449.0341 ■ [info@embryneusner.com](mailto:info@embryneusner.com) ■ 118 Poquonnock Road ■ Groton, CT 06340





## **Local 1871**

Hope everyone had a good holiday and took some time to relax and simply enjoy being alive.

PLEASE... if you have a change of address or phone number, please let someone in the union know. The company does not share your personal information with us.

TAKE CARE! Management is coming down on people for breaking taps. Just know that if you break a tap, you will be disciplined. Make sure you're a perfect human being and never break a tap again. Management is also coming down on people being outside of their work areas and being on their cell phones. Just make sure your boss knows where you are and that you are doing what you're supposed to be doing.

If you did not sign up for the enhanced health insurance, you will be on the standard plan until next enrollment period at the end of this year.

Well wishes to foreman Scott Wright. He was one of a kind and will be missed by all.

Make sure to inform the union if you will be out of work for an extended amount of time so that we can make sure your dues do not come out.

Please take some time to check out the new MTC website and if there is anything you would like to see added on there,

please let them know.

If you are a Military Veteran, please see Christopher Wasilewski on first shift for any support.

New Members: Between days 0-30 days after your date of hire you must log onto the General Dynamics Service Center website at [www.gdbenefits.com](http://www.gdbenefits.com) to enroll yourself, and your dependents, in the benefits package.

As always, do not forget to use the safety boot and eyeglass program that was negotiated by the MTC. A list of the different shoe manufacturers and times that they will be outside the front gate is available. The eyeglass store is open on both the inside of the main gate and the outside entrance for your convenience, check bulletin boards for the times they are open.

IMPORTANT: If you are put on notice, going to be disciplined, or sent to Security to give a statement of any kind, you have the right to have a steward present. Your first words should be, "I want to talk to a Steward".

Union Hall Phone Number: 860-445-8619  
Stewards

Chief Steward: James Spencer 860-705-2266  
First Shift OSM: Bill Harris 860-510-8315  
Mark Sousa 401-743-3033  
Mike Fantacci 860-884-7339

First Shift Machine Shop: Michael Shell  
Bill Dall

860-790-9136

860-303-0257

First Shift All Other Areas: Janet Orr 860-608-8528

Second Shift ISM: George Raposa JR 860-908-0002

Second Shift OSM: George Blanchette 860-908-4149

Bill Ericson 860-705-6739

Second Shift All Other Areas: James Marcy 860-617-8035

Third Shift All Areas: Josh Machamer 860-908-5052

**MEETING NOTICE:**

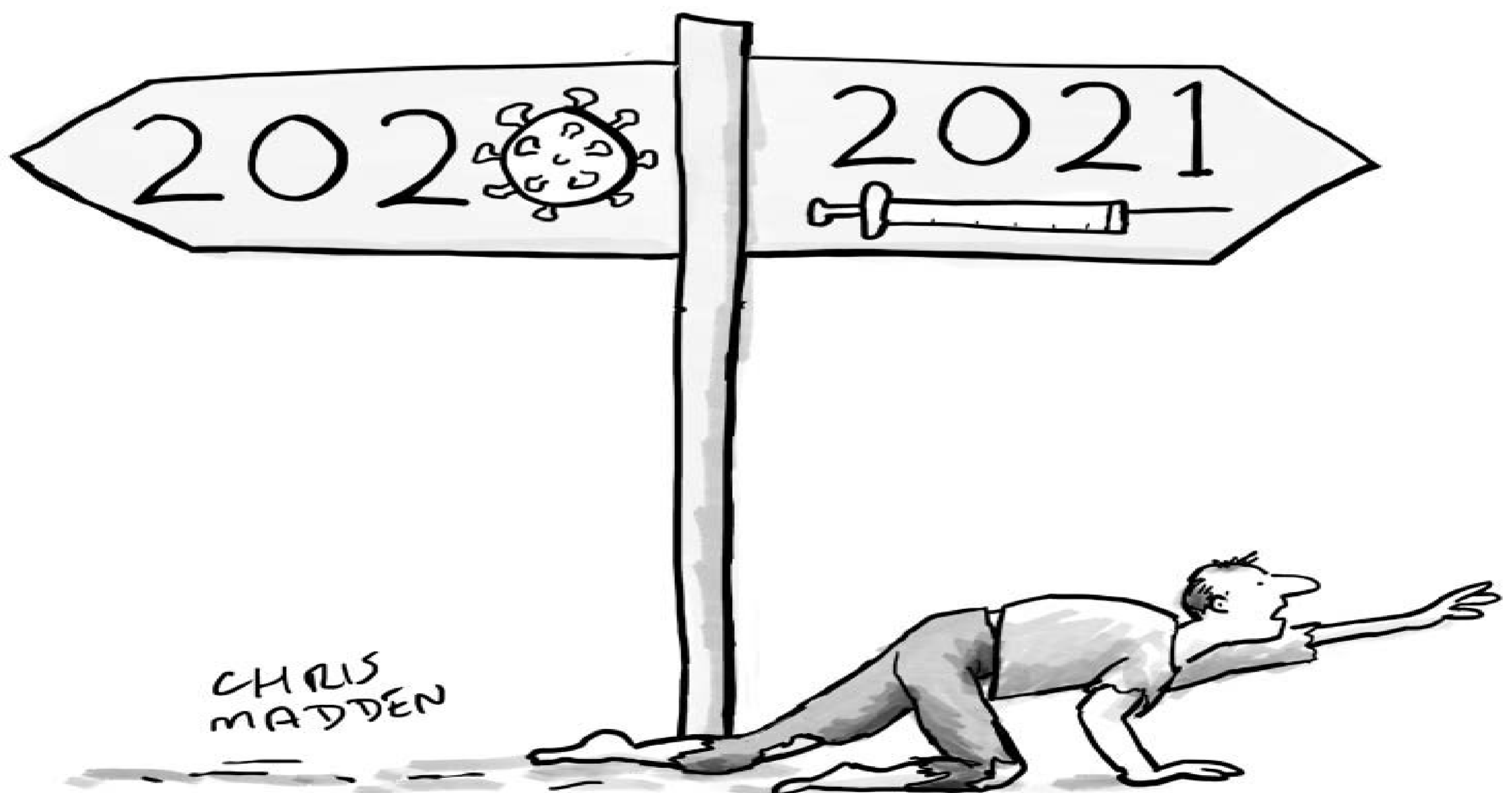
Upcoming meeting will be January 14 th at 3:00 p.m. at 18 Pleasant St Groton, CT 06340.

Fraternally,  
Jim Spencer  
President/Chief Steward

# Insurance Update

With the start of the new year the MTC has successfully migrated over to the high deductible plan. With this plan there are many generic drugs that are free. Hopefully every one has created a (HSA) Health Savings Account where the company will deposit free seed money in to it. Single people will get \$500 and families will get \$1000 deposited in the first week of January. There is also a matching element of \$300 for single and \$600 for families. Since your weekly premiums will be cut in half I suggest that you fund your HSA account with at least the difference of your weekly savings. Hopefully you could add more money to it to get you through the high deductible part of the plan. After the deductible is met we go back to 85%-15% payment the same way the old plan was structured at 85% paid by the company and 15% paid by the employee. One big difference is the drugs are also paid at the 85%-15% level. These drugs can be expensive since you are paying for them at the negotiated rate. You might want to look at switching to a generic to save some money or see if some of the free drugs can be used.

Frank Ward  
Union Insurance Representative  
Cell (401)-499-9661 or (860)-510-3263



*Season's  
Greetings*

**LIUNA!**

**Local 547**

*Feel the Power*

I'd like to take the time to introduce myself, My name is Danny Sanchez. I've been here at Electric Boat for close to 21 years. I started my career as a janitor and worked my way to construction mechanic for the last 16 years. In that time I've met many fantastic people from all walks of life, that all have left a positive impact on me professionally and personally. So when this opportunity to become your chief steward presented itself, I felt the need to step forward and provide the same help and guidance to our members that was afforded to me from all my peers throughout my time here. I'm still in the process of learning as I go but I'm determined to serve our members to the best of my ability and have an excellent support system to provide support whenever needed. I look forward to talking to all of you and please feel free to contact me at anytime. I'd also like to take this time to acknowledge all the hard work and effort made by the members during the snow event recently. Making the shipyard safe for everyone to return to work is no small feat but is vital to the common goal of every Electric Boat employee, which is providing the best product for our US Navy. Thank you for your time.

Fraternally yours,  
Danny Sanchez

**LIUNA!**  
Eastern Region

WISHES YOU A

*Happy*

and

*Prosperous*

NEW YEAR



## **Local 1122**

I hope everyone had a safe and healthy Christmas and New Years. I would like to congratulate Ruth Arder, Bruce Miner, Robert Lakowsky, and John Gogel on their 40 years of service with the painters. I would also like to wish a long and healthy retirement to Robert Delaporta after 39 years with EB.

Allen Claar is taking over as our nuclear steward. Allen brings 18 years of radiological painting experience and is 251's Nuclear Trade Instructor. Any radiological questions or issues should be brought to him.

Our road job to Newport News, Virginia is still on as of this time. Thank you to all the members who volunteered.

Lastly, I want to wish all the members a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season and a happy New Year.

Subbase NSSF and Shippingport request form : The Department will no longer survey, you will have to fill out a form. See your steward for this form.

Shift change request form: Once you have been offered to transfer and you refuse, you will be responsible to fill out new shift change request form.

**BENEFITS** : Ernest (TJ) Holley is our benefits rep. Any questions concerning benefits he will get the answer for you.

**OVERTIME** : Dennis Urquhart and Ron Ingves are the overtime coordinators. Any questions concerning overtime you can question Ron. If he doesn't know the answer he will get it for you from me.

**ROAD JOB LIST** : Will be updated by myself, information will be sent to me as to who is going, who said no and who said yes, what job and place, start dates and end dates. All stewards will have a copy of the road job list.

**STEWARDS** : First shift Stewards: Allen Claar All Nuclear issues 813-300-9957, Ernest (TJ) Holly 860-538-1926, Ron Ingves 860-334-8141, Alternate Victor Delima 401-481-3947

Second shift Stewards: Chris Wilson 860-501-2304/860-961-2930, Alternate Elaine Key 860-460-7621

**IMPORTANT**: Members who are out of work on any leave of absence such as Workers Compensation, Sedgwick short term disability insurance, FMLA, etc., it is your responsibility to pay your portion for medical, dental, and vision you can be dropped from your benefits if you don't keep up your payments.

**SAFETY** : Just a reminder that safety is everyone's concern. If you see an unsafe act you should report it to your Union Steward or M.T.C. Safety Steward. They will take the necessary actions to correct the situation. Phone # is 32811. Or the MTC 860-445-6383

If you are sent to Security for any reason or are being questioned by any Management,

**YOU SHOULD REQUEST A STEWARD !!!**

**REMEMBER, YOU HAVE THE**

**RIGHT TO UNION REPRESENTATION, AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER**

**ANY QUESTIONS WITHOUT THIS REPRESENTATION.**

Please don't forget to notify the Union Hall (860-442-8281) if you change your address, phone number, or name. We need to have the correct information!

When you notify the company of these changes they do not give the Union this new information. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

When you notify the company of these changes they do not give the Union this new information. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

**REMINDER:** If you are out of work on compensation or accident & sickness insurance or any unpaid leave it is your responsibility to pay your dues. If your dues fall behind more than three months, your membership could be suspended. If you are out of work and have any questions regarding your dues, please call the Union Hall at 860-442-8281.

**IMPORTANT:** It is advised that you notify me one week in advance or as soon as you know when you will be returning to work from any Medical, Compensation or unpaid leave. The company doesn't know if you kept your dues paid up while you were out. It is important that I know your return date so I can submit a letter to the company to have your dues zeroed out under non collected. Once the company takes out your dues it will take me at least a month to return your money. The monthly Union meeting of Painters' Local #1122 will be held every 4th Monday of each month at the Union Hall 597 Broad St., New London, Ct. at 7:00 PM. Second shift employees please give your foreman 24 hrs notice if you plan to attend the meeting. If you have any problems/issues to discuss, the union meeting is the place to do this.

If I can be of any assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me. My numbers are as follows: 401-573-6956 and 860-941-1579 Email address: [painters.union@snet.net](mailto:painters.union@snet.net)

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Fraternally yours,  
Dennis Urquhart  
Chief Steward  
Painters' Local #1122

# Buford's

# Family Restaurant



126 Poquonnock Road

Groton, CT 06340

860-446-1765

~Hours~

**Mon: Closed, Tues-Fri: 6 to 1,**

**Sat-Sun: 6 to Noon**





# Local 493

## REQUEST A STEWARD

If you are being sent to Security for any reason or are being questioned by management you have the right to have a Steward present. You do not have to answer any questions until you have union representation.

## STEWARDS

### 1st Shift Steward

Keith Coppin 860-433-4657

Scott Harris 860-574-0208

### 1st Shift Alt

Scott Partosan 860-433-5816

### 2nd Shift Steward

John Ogden 860-433-4657

### 2nd Shift Alt

203-512-5959

## SAFETY

Safety should be everyone's first priority when working in the shipyard. If you see something unsafe or are being asked to do something that you feel is unsafe please contact a steward for guidance.

You can also contact MTC Safety at 860-445-6383

Stay safe and keep up the good work!

May your New Year be filled with joy and success. I look forward to working together with

you guys in the upcoming year. Please stay safe and enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones and friends.

Best Wishes,

Robert Hill

Chief Steward

Teamsters Local 493

PETER E. BAKER,

MTC President..... 445-6383

JOHN ADAMSON

MTC Vice President ..... 445-1277

RICHARD McCOMBS,

Rec. Sec'y. MTC ..... 445-1277

CAT RACE,

Sec'y Treasurer ..... 445-1277

GEORGE NOWOSIELSKI,

Local 777 ..... 445-8170

DENNIS URQUHART.,

Local 1122 ..... 446-1927

RICHARD (CHICK) McCOMBS,

Local 261 ..... 445-2224

JIM SPENCER

Local 1871 ..... 445-8619

PATRICK JOYCE, Local 614..... 445-4973

PETER BAKER, Local 547..... 448-2577

ROBERT HILL, Local 493 ..... 575-1384

PAUL BRUNO, Local 106..... 445-1216

CAT RACE,

Occup. Health & Safety Comm.... 445-1277

FRANK WARD,

MTC Benefits ..... 501-3263



## Electric Boat Family Wellness Center

The EB Family Wellness Center provides a wide range of services including primary care, same day sick visits, and physical therapy with many services available at no cost.

- **Who is eligible to use the EB Family Wellness Center?**

All eligible employees and dependents age 2+ enrolled in an EB medical plan

- **What will it cost?**

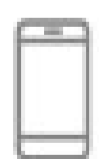
All preventive services, including vaccines and your annual physical, are provided at no cost. Free blood pressure checks and visits with a condition management nurse are also available. Office visits with a medical provider are \$45 a visit and physical therapy services are \$25 a visit. Services will be billed to insurance and applied to your deductible.

- **Where is it located?**

The EB Family Wellness Center is located on the second floor of 32 Chicago Ave, Groton, CT. The same building as the EB Family Pharmacy.



Monday – Thursday, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Friday, 6 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.



860-629-8272  
[www.ebfamilywellnesscenter.com](http://www.ebfamilywellnesscenter.com)

Your privacy is our priority.

Premise Health operates the EB Family Wellness Center and maintains all confidential medical information in accordance with federal requirements for medical privacy. No one at EB will have access to this information.

ELECTRIC BOAT

**Family Wellness Center**

Operated by Premise Health

# EB FAMILY PHARMACY DIMENSIONS PROGRAM

FREE diabetic prescription medications  
and testing supplies

If you or anyone covered by your EB medical plan is diabetic, sign up with the EB Family Pharmacy's Dimensions program and receive free medications and testing supplies to manage your diabetes.

Registration events are listed below, or sign up anytime at the EB Family Pharmacy, 32 Chicago Avenue, Groton, CT.

## Groton Shipyard- Wet Dock Tent

1/21/2021

1PM to 4 PM

EB Employees only

## Boilermakers Hall

33 Sacred Heart Dr, Groton, CT

1/28/2021

1 PM to 4 PM

EB Employees & dependents

Questions about the program?

Contact the EB Family Pharmacy at 888-578-3457



GENERAL DYNAMICS  
Electric Boat







## Local 261

**Union Meeting:** The next regularly scheduled meeting of IBEW Local Union 261 will be held Tuesday January 12, 2020 2:45 P.M. at the IAM Lodge 1871 Union Hall located at 18 Pleasant Street. Because of the recent increase of COVID-19 cases throughout the Shipyard and the social distancing guidelines proposed by the CDC I am requesting that we follow these simple rules at the meeting: The State of CT is in Phase 2.1

1. No more than 10 members inside the hall. (no more than 25 if the meeting will be outside)
2. Temperature Checks
3. All will wear face masks

We will notify you if we have to cancel or reschedule the meeting. This first meeting of the year is essential due to some important policies from our International that needs to be approved by the membership.

I hope all enjoyed their Holidays and time off. It was a much needed rest for everyone. Welcome to 2021!

This has been a very difficult year for all of us. The stress caused by this pandemic and a Company that has a lack of empathy with their employees and only cares about their schedules has been overwhelming. At the time of this writing the Company's position is they are no longer accepting our short term disability benefit unless you have tested positive but at the same time forcing you out of work if you have any one of the symptoms that are connected to COVID. Without approval

from Sedgwick an employee is forced to use his entitlement time and lose income as much as ten days. Their protocols change on a daily basis and Sedgwick denies claims on policies that our members are not informed about. Our COVID infection rates continue to increase. Is it possible that employees, salary and hourly alike are coming to work sick and infecting each other? This is creating an unhealthy work place. Management is pointing the finger at us for "abusing" the rules and not following PPE and social distancing guidelines. The Occupational Health Clinic is blaming CDC for changing the rules, HR points to the policies of Sedgwick while Sedgwick claims they are taking orders from our Corporate Office. Meanwhile our members are being impacted by regulations and a virus that they have no control of.

The hipocrisy about safety being a number one priority in the shipyard but at the same time accusing their employees as scammers and abusers for following their guidelines not to mention refusing to accept their claims should be considered criminal. This Company is getting a "black eye" for their actions and it could impact their opportunities for recruitment and retention in their future.

It should be noted that we have Politicians in Congress that are holding up the second "Stimulus" package because they want employers not to be held responsible for their employees who get sick. WHO ARE THEY WORKING FOR???!?

Unfortunately the OSE road job opportunity in Newport News was reduced from twelve to three people. This is significant because after March the work load drops considerably. I have been assured by top management that they are going to do everything they can to prevent any reduction in the workforce. We have had this issue several times before and it usually works out. Please be patience.

In an effort to be more efficient the Local is going to restructure their committees and staff to get them active and involved in our daily operations. We are looking for some younger and energetic members who want to get involved in

Committees such as Grievances, Political Action, updating the by-laws, budget & finances, etc. Anyone interested please contact your steward or me.

I am looking for 2021 to be a happy and prosperous new year for our members and their families. Hopefully the vaccinations will get us through this pandemic and we can concentrate on our normal routines. It is important that we work together and we work safe!  
If we do, we can get through this.

Fraternally,  
Richard McCombs  
President / Business Manager

# MTC Safety Report

Painters - Boilermakers - Electricians - Laborers  
Machinists - Opeiu - Pipefitters - Teamsters

Safety Report  
2021  
Happy New Year

Well it's a New Year, a new start. I'd like to start the New Year with a mention of good will to your fellow worker. Can we start out with the idea of Co-worker Courtesy? I'm just asking if we can look out for our Union brothers and sisters? If you happen to see someone without their PPE then can we remind them. They probably just forgot them. Perhaps they have a lot on their mind. I'm not asking you to have any confrontation or tackle them by the ankles. Sometime if you just point to your eyes or head or ears they then realize they've forgotten something.

This March I'll be here 40 years and I'm sure there are a few co workers that know what I mean. I have my family at home but I also have my EB family. I started at 21 and am 61. We grew together. Good times and bad. Just like my family at home we take care of our own family at EB. What do you say? Co-Worker Courtesy. All families are number one.

Cat Race  
1st Shift  
860-405-4784

Gary Fontaine  
1st Shift  
860-326-4832

Dave Crowley  
1st Shift  
860-326-4729

Bill Zaks  
2nd Shift  
860-326-4353

Harry Weyant  
2nd Shift  
860-326-4341

Safety Office  
860-433-2811  
Metal Trades  
445-6383/1277