

Local 551 Members, Leading the Charge!

Again I would like to welcome all our new Brothers and Sisters from around the country that have transferred into Chicago Assembly. My first month in office has been nothing short of amazing. The progress your Union Representatives has achieved, has led to many positives for the rank and file members of Local 551. The gains and successes that have occurred in the last month by your Union can be summed up in a simple phrase, **Team Work**.

The past divisions which held back progress has been replaced with a goal of helping the membership.

UAW Members Hard Work Pays Off

First off, I would like to say congratulations to all UAW members and their hard work which has led to a second quarter profit of 2.6 billion dollars. This added to the first quarter profit of 2.1 billion, means that through our hard work and much sacrifice the company has made **4.7 billion in profit in the first 6 months of the year**. At the end of the day the most effective tool in securing our jobs and futures is a vibrant company.

Skilled Trades Update

One of the most significant gains that has taken place was recently finalized. Crystal Cooper has been laid off for over a year. Crystal is classified Waste Water Treatment in Skilled Trades. Hard work and cooperation between the Union and Company has led to Crystal's return to work the second week of September. From the 1st day of my swearing in, Mike Marzillo the Skilled Trades Committeeman, has focused in on Crystal's return like a laser beam. This local should be proud of this type of tenacity and dedication that does not leave any Brother or Sister behind.

Facilities News

The plant cafeteria will reopen the second week of August with Chicago Pita providing the food service. The cafeteria is currently being cleaned up and the final touches being applied. With all this food being served the next announcement is fitting and that is the arrival in the next couple of weeks of new equipment at the fitness center. Many members would use the facility but desire more selection. Now members will be able to enjoy a wide range of work-out options. Please stop in the center and talk to the staff which does a tremendous job of helping the membership with any questions about how to get started.

Explorer Coming out Party

Today around the country a giant unveiling of the 2011 Ford Explorer will take place, with the main ceremony occurring in Millennium Park in the greatest city Chicago. This is another step in the progression of Chicago Ford Assembly Plant as the leader in production of world class products. For most of us, the last few years have been filled with tough decisions and difficult times. It is important for us to never get comfortable about our progress, but it is also critical to reflect on how far we have come in a short time. In the next couple of months hundreds more Brothers and Sisters will join us in this journey, and as always lets help make their transition as smooth as possible. Again I would like to thank the membership for their support and help and always feel free to ask any questions. For all our Brothers and Sisters that can take part in the elections today and tomorrow please make it out to the polls.

In Solidarity,

Grant Morton, Plant Chairman