

Discover 2007

United Steelworkers

Jan/Feb 2008

<http://www.uswlocal207l.org>

Local 207L

Issue 1, Volume 12



**An Action that
Needs to be Done**

Volume 12, Issue 1
 Local Union No. 207L
 1130 Summit Street
 Findlay, Ohio 45840
 Phone: 419-422-4224
 Fax: 419-423-4442
<http://www.uswlocal207l.org>

Officers

President Vice President
 Rodney Nelson Ron Rettig

Secretary Treasurer
 Kevin Welch Billy Nelson, Jr.

Financial Secretary
 Ron Coldren

Executive Board Members
 Bob Brumbaugh
 Clifton Baxter
 Tim Smith

Trustees

Jim Desgranges
 Bob Brubaker
 Terri Thompson

Guide Rob Greer
 Guard James Gutierrez
 Guard Tim Thompson

Editor Jeffrey A. Fuhrer



International Officers

President
Leo W. Gerard

Vice President
 (Administration)
Thomas M. Conway

Secretary—Treasurer
James D. English

Vice President
 (Human Affairs)
Fred Redmond



FEBRUARY

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | | | 1 A/C | 2 A/C |
| 3 A/C | 4 B/D | 5 B/D | 6 A/C | 7 A/C | 8 B/D | 9 B/D |
| 10 B/D | 11 A/C | 12 A/C | 13 B/D | 14 B/D | 15 A/C | 16 A/C |
| 17 A/C | 18 B/D | 19 B/D | 20 A/C | 21 A/C | 22 B/D | 23 B/D |
| 24 B/D | 25 A/C | 26 A/C | 27 B/D | 28 B/D | 29 A/C | |
| | | | | | | |

Cover Photo: Rob Greer during the Lima rally, taken by JAF

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Rodney | 3 |
| Gambling | 3 |
| Economy | 4 |
| Cover Story | 5 |
| Union Meeting | 6 |
| Blue Lined Cards | 6 |
| Computer Sense | 6 |
| Our Web Page | 7 |
| Health Care | 8 |



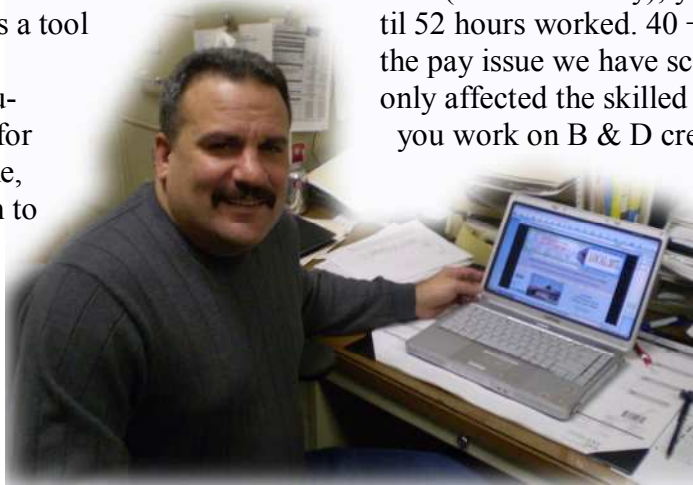
Front left to right: Ron Coldren, financial secretary, Ron Rettig, vice president Rodney Nelson, president, Kevin Welch, recording secretary, Billy Nelson, treasurer, James Gutierrez, guard, Tim Thompson, guard. Back row, left to right: Jim Desgranges, trustee, Bob Brubaker, trustee, Tim Smith, executive board member, Clifton Baxter, executive board member, Rob Greer, guide, Bob Brumbaugh, executive board member and Terri Thompson, trustee.

Dear Friends,

We are faced with some major issues in the plant and I want you to know these issues are being addressed and your union will respond on what are contractually correct and just as important what is responsibly right.

Base rate is something that has been exercised here in our plant from time to time. It has never been used as a way to manage our work force as it appears to be happening now. We officers and stewards understand the feelings that are out there on the floor. We officers and stewards must keep management informed on unjust circumstances and make sure base rate is applied for the intended situations and not as a tool to lower costs.

You must notify your supervisor when you go down for what ever reason. At that time, ask your supervisor you wish to have alternate work assigned. If you are refused, get it documented on your card, (be very descriptive), notify your steward, call the union hall (3207), and call the Base Rate Hotline (4126), ask for Russ and tell him you need some work.



Your cooperation is needed here to limit the use of base rate. My cell number is 419-721-3416. I want to know your situation so I can help out, please.

The smoking and a pay issue will be arbitrated in April. Texarkana's smoking arbitration has not been answered yet. It has been almost 2 years since their law went into effect.

We are scheduled to work Presidents Day. The Company needs tires. If this is not your regular scheduled day and you volunteer (A & C crews), you will not be paid time and a half until you go beyond the (40) plus the number hours you worked on 2/24/08. Example: you work 12 hours on the 24th of Feb. (Presidents Day), you will not get half time until 52 hours worked. 40 + 12 at double time. This is the pay issue we have scheduled to arbitrate. It has only affected the skilled trade's workers so far. If you work on B & D crews don't worry about it.

Be responsible employees and do what's right on your jobs. That will make our position that much stronger now and at contract time.

Rodney

Gambling

Brothers and Sisters

The Northwest Ohio Area Council is putting a gambling excursion together. The cost will be \$230.00 for single occupancy and \$280.00 for double occupancy. Payment must be made by March 7. The bus will board April 12, 2008, at Local 207L 8:30a.m. and leave the hall at 8:45 a.m. We will then head to Van Wert Wal Mart parking lot and pick up at 9:45 a.m. and leave there at 10:00a.m. From there we will have our final pick up at St. Mary's Kroner parking lot arriving at 10:45a.m. and leave at 11:00a.m. to head to Belterra Casino Resort and Spa. The bus will leave to come home April 13th. The cost includes bus trip, room and \$10.00 free play at the Casino. We are also planning games, raffles and lots of fun on the trip down. Everyone is welcome to go. Contact Teresa Brown or Diana Boes if interested in going.

The council is also selling cookbooks for \$10.00 if you are interested contact Teresa, Diana or Christina DeLaRosa.

In Solidarity
Teresa Brown
Diana Boes



ECONOMY

All the experts are talking about how bad the economy is because of the housing foreclosures and bad credit or loans. They tell us that two thirds of the economy is based on consumer spending. We are told consumers bought homes they could not afford. I guess I just don't see things the way all these experts do. If a bank loans money out they check a person's credit history to see if it is feasible to loan the money. In most cases it was okay. How can a bank determine when a person is going to lose their job? People with anywhere from one to twenty-five year or more service are losing their jobs. When a bank loans money to someone with twenty year or more service, you would think the loan is safe. Not in today's market.

What's really happening is a loss of good paying jobs. People apply and received loans when they had a good paying job. Now as these good paying jobs are being shipped out of United States, people are losing their income. It makes it harder for them to keep their homes and pay their bills. This makes it look as if they had bad loans or they had over extended their income, when in reality they went backwards with their finances.

What we see here, is a chain reaction of jobs being sent over seas. When jobs go so does the money. The only way to fix this problem is to protect jobs here in United States.

Consumers cannot spend money they do not have. Our Government keeps giving businesses tax breaks and incentives, while the businesses keep cutting jobs and wages. The purpose of these tax breaks and incentives is to increase jobs and wages. Instead these businesses are spending more money outside of the United States by hiring cheap labor to cut down their expenses. This may be good for a business, on a short term fix it problem, but it will cause a break down in the market. With less money to spend in the economy means fewer products sold.

The only way to get money back into the economy is to produce good paying jobs. I like the idea that the Government wants to send rebates to

consumers. This however is only a sort term fix. It will not produce good paying jobs as long as companies continue to send their jobs overseas. Once the money is spent we will fall back into the same trap we are in now.

One good way to help the economy would be to freeze gas prices at \$2.00 a gal. Exxon Mobil, the world's largest oil company, is expected to rack in over \$39 billion in 2007 profits. This means if you freeze gas at \$2.00 a gal. Exxon Mobil would only profit about \$26 billion. I know we all would feel sorry for Exxon Mobil, but they will have to just tighten their belts like the rest of us. A profit of \$39 billion in 2007 breaks down to the company earning about \$75,000 a minute.

So this is where we are, we are loosing good paying jobs and we are also experiencing an increase in the cost of living.

This is why it is important to choose a good political candidate for President. This is the year we can make a difference. We have to find someone who is going to help support working class Americans.

Editor Jeffrey A. Fuhrer



Mike Carroll from Local 169 AK Steel, Mansfield, is running for US 4th Congressional District Congressman. He will be running against Congressman Jordan. Here is a link to his web site www.mikeforohio.com. This link will also be posted on our web site.



Here is Congressman Jim Jordan's web site <http://jordan.house.gov/> It is posted on our web site under Politics/U.S. House.

Stop Toxic Imports Rally

Cover Story

Protect Our Kids-Stop Toxic Imports was a success in the 4th Congressional District of Ohio. We had 46 brothers and sisters from 8 International Unions plus Working America folks. We had two TV stations and one newspaper cover this event. We have already received one letter thanking us for holding this event in Lima, Ohio. George Shafer was interviewed by Lima TV and Newspaper during this rally. You can see the interview on our web site.

This rally was to inform Rep. Jordan the voters in the 4th District would like for him to do that which is right for the working men and women of his district and support the [Food and Product Responsibility Act](#) (S.2081).

We are requesting our elected officials to co-sponsor this important health and safety bill to protect the American public from toxic imports. The [Food and Product Responsibility Act](#)

[ity Act](#) (S.2081) has been introduced by Senator Brown (D-OH) in the Senate and by Representative Visclosky (D-IN) in the House.

The bill shifts the risk of harm to the public from toxic imports where it belongs – on the backs of the companies producing the goods and the importers bringing them here.

It requires that importers get insurance to cover the full cost of any potential recall of the goods they import that would cause serious harm to the American public.

The bill also requires that insurance be sufficient to cover claims for damages when individuals are harmed, maimed or killed by a toxic import.

The bill covers a wide array of products, including consumer goods, drugs and medical devices, tire and replacement motor vehicle equipment, and poultry, meat and egg products.



Notice of regular monthly Union Meeting For USW Local 207L

Tuesday, February 12th, 2008 at 6:45 PM

Wednesday, February 13th, 2008 at 6:45 AM

Wednesday, February 13th, 2008 at 6:45 PM

Thursday, February 14th, 2008 at 6:45 AM

Blue Line Time Cards

By Ron Coldren

If a disagreement arises in regard to a claim made by an employee on his or her time card, the following procedures shall apply.

1. The item or items in dispute shall be Blue Lined by supervision with a blue pencil.
2. The time card Blue Lined by supervision shall be returned to the employee.
3. If employee agrees, with the change he or she shall place his or her signature upon the front of time card.
4. If employee disagrees, he or she shall place his or her signature upon the back of the time card and return it to his or her supervisor.
5. The supervisor shall then recompute the Blue Lined portion of the time card to the amount he feels to be correct and he shall immediately process the card to the payroll department.

The disputed matter may then be processed through the grievance procedure. Copies of all Blue Lined time cards are to be sent to the union hall.

NO EMPLOYEE SHOULD PRE-SIGN THE BACK OF TIME CARDS BEFORE THEY ARE BLUE LINED.

COMPUTER SENSE

Here is how to turn off that nasty Microsoft Error Reporting feature.



Microsoft Error Reporting feature happens every time you or your computer shuts down an application because of errors. You may experience this when you use the Alt, Ctrl and Delete method to shut down a none responsive program.

1. Go to the Start menu
2. Click on the Control Panel
3. Switch to the Classic View
4. Click on the System Icon
5. Select the Advance Tab
6. Click Error Reporting
7. Check Disable Error
8. Click OK

Remember if you want you can always turn this feature back on.


 Thu, Jan 31, 2008
HealthCare
 Medco
 MyHDP Login
 MyHDP Guide
Articles
 Finances
 401K
 Cooper Stock
 Banking
USWLocal207L
 Member's Sites
 2008 Work Calendar
 Discover Newsletters



Remember every month I will be placing a new article on our web site. This month the article is about tips for **Windows XP**. These are simple things you can do with your computer. I show you how to set up a system restore checkpoint and how to check your hard drive to see how much free disk space you have.

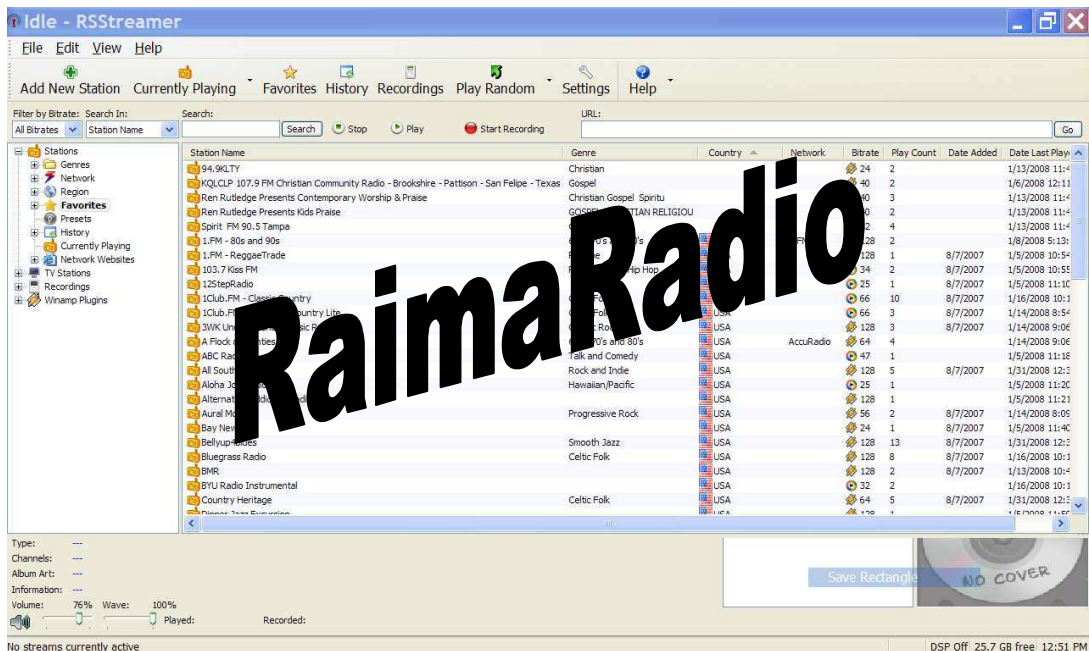
I am constantly searching for usable freeware.

As you may or may not know, there are thousands of internet radio stations. I have found an application called RaimaRadio. With this program you can listen and record radio stations from all around the world. You can even record multiple stations simultaneously.

You can download this and other applications from our web site. There are two more programs I placed on our web site. One is a OCR program and the other is a PDF Converter. OCR means Optical Character Recognition and is used for obtaining text from a scanned document or image. PDF Converter or Portable Document Format Converter is a program to change all kinds of files such as Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher and many others into a PDF file. I explained more about these programs in articles on our web page.

E-Mail me with your comments and suggestions of the type of programs you are looking for.

jefffuhrer@uswlocal207l.org



Cheney Treated in Hospital For an Irregular Heartbeat

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (AP) — Doctors at a Washington hospital administered an electrical shock Monday to Vice President Dick Cheney's heart and treated

a life-threatening complication, the formation of blood clots that can move to the brain and cause a stroke.

The main treatment is to

If he were anyone else, he'd probably be dead by now.

The patient's history and prognosis were grim: four heart attacks, quadruple bypass surgery, angioplasty, an implanted defibrillator and now an emergency procedure to treat an irregular heartbeat.

For millions of Americans, this might be a death sentence. For the vice president, it was just another medical treatment. And it cost him very little.

Unlike the average American, the president, vice president and members of Congress all enjoy government-financed healthcare with few restrictions or prohibitive fees. They are never turned away for pre-existing conditions or denied care for what an insurance company labels "experimental treatments."

Such are the benefits of what we call "CheneyCare." The rest of us deserve no less.

Registered nurses call on the presidential and congressional candidates and Congress to support



HR 676—an expanded and improved Medicare-for-All that:

- provides complete medical, dental, vision and long-term care
- eliminates deductibles, co-pays, hidden fees
- allows you to choose your doctor, lab, hospital, healthcare facility
- is completely portable and not tied to employment
- is free from interference or second-guessing by insurance companies.

Let's talk about real solutions. Forcing people to buy insurance doesn't provide better or more universal care. It just pads the pockets of the insurance companies.

Medicare-for-All—HR 676—puts healthcare decision-making power back where it belongs: in your hands.



"Every American deserves CheneyCare."

Sign our petition to tell the candidates we all need HR 676. Send us your insurance horror story at www.cheneycare.org or call 1-800-440-6877



2000 Franklin Street, Oakland, CA 94612



888 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006