

# The New Union Voice

A monthly publication by  
The International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers  
Local Lodge 774, District Lodge 70, ICT



## Organizing: The Big Picture

As fast as it got here summer will be coming to a close. I hope each of you had a safe and enjoyable summer. We have had lots of activities for our members to be involved in from bowling tournament, golf tournaments, Neighborhood Night Out and there's more to come. Textron has hired a lot of people and our new hire orientation has been very successful, with a high percentages of new employee choosing to become Union brothers and sisters right up front. Our monthly organizing meetings are bringing new, and educational speakers in each month. I hope to see you there. Invite a friend to come with you. We've had conversations dealing with everything from; the Stewards Toolbox, where your union dues go, labor history and the upcoming contract.

The more involved we are, the more we understand how things work, making it easier to see the big picture. Come add your talent to our canvas.

*In Solidarity, Jacqueline Sazama*

## UNION APATHY

Apathy: the lack of feeling, emotion, interest and concern. A state of indifference. Apathy is one of the worst things to have in a union, yet it runs rampant in unions today. Some have forgot what it means to be in a union. Union density is 6.7% in the private sector in America, and 11% over all. Union density at its peak was 34.8%. As a union member for 18 years in a right to work state, I have heard many excuses why someone chooses to not be a part of the union; everything from religion, politics, or the law. Some may say, "Why join, by law, the union must represent me anyway." One of the first things the union can do is focus on our organizing efforts if we want to survive and become stronger. Increasing our internal organizing (the non-dues paying people in our union shops) to strengthen our fighting power in-order-to win viable contracts. Additionally, unions must also target new companies to organize.

As union members, it's vital to be active in your union. One way of doing that is to join a committee and actively work it. There are many committees; organizing, education, women's, bylaws and others, both at the district and local level. I would also encourage people to attend their monthly meeting. ***You can't effect change from the sideline.*** Now is the time to get involved and change the trend of losing union density and together we can grow this union.

Lastly, 2020 is just around the corner and Textron won't be giving us anything out of the kindness of their heart. The fight starts today!

*Joseph Harris*  
*Union Educator/Trustee*

## In Our Community

Our local is actively presenting a friendly face to the community in many ways. We conduct a Chili Feed fundraiser, Angel Tree Drive , floats in the Veterans Day and Mulvane Old Settlers Day Parade, volunteering in the Habitat for Humanity, giving and volunteering to the United Way of the Plains, participating and volunteering in the postal workers food drive, attending a public relations and give-away booth at the State Fair each year, Worker Safety dinner, Neighborhood Night Out, a Labor Day Celebration and more. Being involved in our community in a positive way is an important part of unionism. Help us offer a caring hand to our community.

*In Solidarity, Stephanie Ham*

**We are on the web**  
**[www.LL774.org](http://www.LL774.org)**

Contract Expires **25 Months** September 20, 2020

**With classes beginning in the Wichita area schools,**

Be aware of school zones, children crossing the road, and school buses unloading their precious cargo.

When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking or bicycling to school.

When driving in neighborhoods with school zones, watch out for young people who may be thinking about getting to school, but may not be thinking of getting there safely.

Slow down. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.

Watch for children playing and congregating near bus stops.

**Be alert.** Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.

Learn and obey the school bus laws in your State, as well as the "flashing signal light system" that school bus drivers use to alert motorists of pending actions:

- Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
- Red flashing lights and extended stop arms indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop-arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.

**Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)**



*Jan Marple, Union Safety Co-Chair*

**KANSAS STATE COUNCIL**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

In July our Kansas State Council delegates attended the State Council and the ALF-CIO COPE meetings in Topeka. Each candidate running in the Kansas Primary Elections for August were mailed a compiled questionnaire and asked to attend an interview to receive an endorsement. There are three central labor councils that did the interviews and endorsements for candidates in their areas. For candidates that had no central labor council in their area, the Kansas AFL-CIO made the decision on their endorsements for candidates who did not reply to the questionnaire or did not attend an interview, no endorsement was given. The councils had endorsements for candidates from both parties. In races with no clear winner or races too close, the councils decided to have no endorsement. Some of the candidates endorsed in the Primary Election will also be endorsed for the General Election in November as well.

Brothers and Sisters, we always do our best to be responsible and are dedicated to representing you and your interests. As delegates, we do not take this responsibility lightly. We hope everyone got out and voted and we also hope you will get out and vote along with your families and friends in the General Election in November. Please go to the ALF-CIO or The Wichita/Hutchinson Labor Federation websites to look at candidates voting records. Vote and make your voice heard! As always, thank you for the privilege of representing you.

*In Solidarity, Gary Hall*

**COMING EVENTS:**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2018** - WHLF LABOR DAY CELEBRATION @ MACHINISTS HALL

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2018** - LABOR DAY OBSERVANCE - **DAY OFF WITH PAY**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2018** - LOCAL LODGE ORGANIZING MEETING @ MACHINISTS HALL

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2018** - ROBERT MARTINEZ JR. GOLF (GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA) FUNDRAISER

## IAM urges ratification of Child Labor Amendments to U.S. Constitution

This was the headline in 1927 when the Machinists across the country were pushing Congress and the State Governments to enact laws to protect children who were working for very little money, and in some cases, in very adverse conditions. At the time 2,500,000 children under 16 were working at sub-standard wages. The proposed amendment was the Child Labor Amendment of 1924, which was approved by 28 states by 1937. An additional 8 states were needed at the time to ratify the proposed amendment. It also takes a two-thirds majority of Congress to pass a bill that will later be ratified by the states.

The Child Labor Amendment was approved by Congress after lawmakers objected to Supreme Court rulings that appeared to support child-labor laws. It sought to give Congress power over labor laws for workers younger than the age of 18.

The Child Labor Amendment did get off to a slow start, with only six states approving the amendment by 1932. However, President Franklin Roosevelt's administration supported the Child Labor Amendment, and another 14 states signed on in 1933. President Roosevelt campaigned steadily for the Child Labor Amendment but was unsuccessful in getting it ratified. He advocated the keeping of children out of industry and in school until they reached the age of 16. Organized labor, with the IAM as one of the leaders, pushed hard at State and Federal Representatives, but were unsuccessful as well.

There was no time limit set on the Child Labor Amendment, so technically it can still be voted on by the states, if needed. Opponents to the Child Labor Amendment, which included the American Bar Association, rallied against it by saying the child labor laws and the regulation of child labor should be left to the States to decide. Some of the opponents were Professors, Clergy, and Lawmakers who felt that the Federal Government didn't have the right to dictate to families who would work or not.

The passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 accomplished many of the reforms Congress sought, and the Supreme Court upheld the law. While organized labor was unable to get a Constitutional Amendment protecting our children, they were able to muster enough support from families, businesses, Congress and President Roosevelt to get other laws enacted. Some of the laws were statutes that were voluntarily entered into by some of the bigger industrial corporations, with pressure from organized labor. One law that was helpful was the National Industrial Recovery Act that was passed to help the Country recover from the depression. *"The codes that have been adopted under the National Industrial Recovery Act, with few exceptions, prohibit the employment of children under 16, and forbid the employment of persons under 18 in dangerous occupations. In certain fields, such as retail trade and newspaper distribution, persons between 14 and 16 may be employed not to exceed three hours a day at such work as will not interfere with hours of day school."*

Organized labor was responsible for the passing of many laws since then, and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers is one of the leaders of organized labor. The AFL-CIO and the IAMAW have come to symbolize what families and working should be about. The lobbying efforts of the IAMAW are a continuous ongoing process and should have the support of every member and their families because that is who we are. We can help in these efforts in many ways, and one is to put the phone numbers of your elected representatives on speed dial and don't hesitate to write them about your demand for support of working families. Remember, **WE HAVE THE POWER!**

*In Solidarity, Marcus German*

### OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- LL774 SHOTGUN RAFFLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE - TO BENEFIT GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA
- GRAND LODGE 2020 CONVENTION RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN A 2018 HARLEY DAVIDSON ARE AVAILABLE
- CONSIDER BRINGING NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO MACHINISTS HALL FOR MARIO'S FOOD PANTRY.

Local Lodge 774 July 2018  
Monthly Meeting

- **45 New Members.**
- Donation made to IAMAW District 70 Neighborhood Night Out.
- Donation made to K-9 Rescue, local rescue center.
- Action taken to send Joe Harris to Organizing Training at W3 in August.
- Action taken to send Wendy Brooks and Kim Fedd to Women’s Basic Training at W3 in October.
- Action taken to send Bob Gainer and Rick Greene to Aerospace Conference in Texas in September.
- Support our fellow Union Brothers and Sisters at Jobbers/Garnett Automotive, Local Lodge 708. Negotiations are underway. Company proposals include a 15% wage reduction, elimination of seniority rights, and no caps on insurance, to name a few. Their membership has grown from 28% to 60% in two months!
- Education on pre-strike sanction votes. ***The pre-strike sanction vote is required by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW Constitution, Article XVI, Section 1, Lines 1-12, page 63).*** A pre-strike vote is held before negotiations begin, and a yes vote does not mean you are going on strike. It simply means the local lodge has requested the right to legally strike, and for strikers to receive benefits from the IAMAW Strike Fund. Once the IAM negotiating team receive the company’s “Last, Best, and Final offer,” a ratification vote will be held. If the ratification vote to accept fails to carry 50% + 1, where at least 30% of the membership is in attendance, then a strike vote is taken. The strike vote must pass by 2/3 of the voting members in attendance. By voting NO to strike or should less than 2/3 of the members vote to authorize a strike, members ratify the contract by default. Simply meaning, if members do not like the company’s last offer, it is imperative to vote to strike or you get the contract anyway.

*In Solidarity, Jan Marple*

**IAMAW LOCAL LODGE 774 OFFICERS**

<b>Brian Alexander</b> - President	<b>Eric Rourk</b> - Trustee
<b>Kurt Holtz</b> - Vice President	<b>Teresa Peart</b> - Trustee
<b>Sharon Jones</b> - Recording Secretary	<b>Joe Harris</b> - Trustee/Educator
<b>Judy Pierce</b> - Secretary/Treasurer	<b>Scott Gardner</b> - Conductor/Communicator

**CONTACTS**

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We are the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
Local Lodge 774 of District Lodge 70  
Home of the **“Fighting Machinists”** in the Air Capitol of the world.  
We represent the collective bargaining unit of Textron Aviation, Wichita Kansas.  
Please visit our website @ [WWW.LL774.ORG](http://WWW.LL774.ORG) or on Facebook @ [www.facebook.com/ICT774](http://www.facebook.com/ICT774).

**IT’S ABOUT OUR FUTURE!**

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**Help us  
Support Mario’s  
Food Pantry**

Bring non-perishable food items  
to Machinists Hall