

Fellow Members-

Well, the big poop that hit the fan since my last posting is the new bag policy. For most of my career here, the bag policy has been the same, but then in an instant all of that changed. Management told us of the new bag policy the day that they instituted it; there were no negotiations and not even any discussions. The Union has filed a class grievance on behalf of the entire craft for the unilateral change in policy. For the time being, just follow the new policy and stay out of the control room. If you have a medical condition that requires you to have medication close at hand, please bring it to a shop steward's or my attention so that it can be addressed. The PO does issue lockers to employees; if you do not have a locker to store your belongings in, then please see a steward and they will put you in touch with someone who can assign you one. As usual with everything, don't listen to all of the nonsense on the floor about why this may have happened; we have some very creative imaginations on the floor and some people who just like to start stories and drama.

I can't preach swiping to correct operation numbers enough. If you are not on the correct operation number then your area is not getting the credit for the manpower and hours associated with performing that function. Do NOT entrust management with saving your jobs; most of them can't even perform their own responsibilities. Every time that you switch to a different work area, you should be swiping to the operation number that is associated with that area. This all also ties in with not performing the work of other bid holders. You are helping to do away with jobs and when the axman comes it may be your position that leaves the building. Stop doing other people's bids! Stop getting on powered equipment when you are not an assigned level 5! Stop allowing seniority to be bypassed, it's one of our few rights! You are helping higher management relook at jobs, you are not helping your own cause.

There is still no news as a result of the review that our Plant is under. When we hear something, you will see something.

Manual bids for the current round of job bids closes at 9am on 2/16. Online and phone bidding will be available until 2/18/24. As we progress in the year, management is phasing out manual bids with the exception of emergency issues.

Ballots for the NPMHU National Convention will be sent out this week. Please remember to vote. If you have questions about the process or voting, see a steward or me.

Finally, custodian Joe Marvelli passed away this week. Although he wasn't a NPMHU member, he was a coworker and friend. Joe was an outgoing guy with a big heart and he will be missed here. Please remember Joe and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Rest in Peace, Joe.

Stay United, Stay Strong-

*Sean*