

# IUE-CWA Local 201 News

Celebrating 88 Years  
as a Chartered Local  
1933 - 2021

Local 201 is an amalgamated local representing approximately 1,600 members employed by GE River Works (Lynn), Ametek Aerospace (Wilmington), Veolia Water (Lynn), Avis-Budget Group (East Boston), Avis (Boston/Cambridge), and the Saugus Public Library (Saugus) and thousands of lifetime Retiree members across the country. [www.local201iuecwa.org](http://www.local201iuecwa.org)

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## Core or Non-Core Competency, They Can't Figure it Out

By Justin Richards

On Friday April 2, 2021, the Company served the Union with a senseless Transfer of Work out of TEPM and Small engine. Per article 22 (5)(B)(2) we have a bargaining period of 60 days. The TOW out of Small Engine makes absolutely no sense! Small Engine has been a productive business for Lynn, rather than taking work out of Small the Company needs to better staff and manage the area. The impression is some of this work is going to Romania. Upon serving the notice the union put in an info re-

quest to the Company for cost comparisons and a laundry list of items that the union knows gives us the best opportunity to make a case to fight to keep OUR, YOUR work! Well, it is April 8th and we have yet to receive any correspondence. This is stalling and handicapping the unions' ability to provide you all with the representation we see fit! To top it all off, the Company's notification only listed the expected affected head count, which is 9, and part numbers. Why is the Company stalling on giving us

proper and detailed information? GE do you have something to hide? Wait, GE has a perfectly reasonable explanation, they are ridding Lynn of its non-core manufacturing work. GE is stating that small engine, one of the most productive areas in the plant is not one of its core competencies.... Are you really attempting to stand behind that statement even though it is the furthest thing from the truth? This is unsettling and we all need to take notice.

Recently a correspondence hit the floor from a senior leader. It started

with "Hoping us and our families our doing well"? Spare me the sympathies, our futures are being destroyed with one relentless transfer or work after another! Layers of protocols, let's not forget in the beginning of Covid one of the first scares in 74, it was the Union who emptied out the building and fought with the Company to disinfect and fog the area, the Company wanted everybody to stay put and use spray bottles in a hopeless attempt to keep us safe!

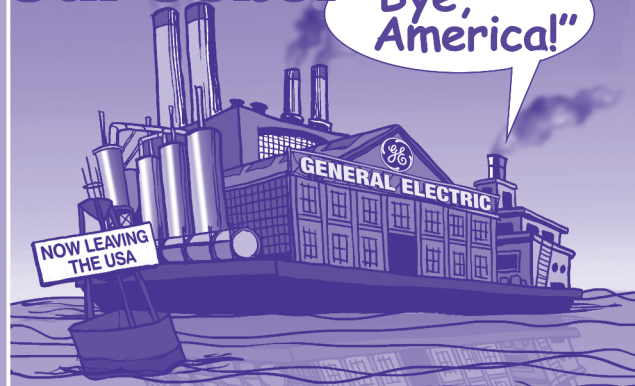
The Company claims there is not one root cause or easy fix to our performance and delivery, yes there is! This plant has been neglected and miss managed for decades, that is the root cause! Lynn's delinquency is currently 15 weeks, ask yourselves, how are we so delinquent when the material needed is not even on the floor, and IME is through the roof because the very people managing the delivery schedule fail on every single step to provide the workforce with material to produce? The Company has created a business dependent on vendors who also fail to meet scheduling needs of the business and the Company has yet to satisfy the Unions request to identify the vendor delinquency rate and

quality/scrap rate of the vendors. We all know the work comes in and we pump it out! WHERE IS THE WORK? Propaganda States, "The Lynn plant has not been able to handle the volume nor sufficiently meet scheduling," the very people managing the scheduling have failed to adequately do so. As far as focusing on Lynn's Core Competencies, the union has been requesting what the Company identifies as Lynn's Core Competencies, we have yet to get a response from them. I am honestly believing they do not know what Lynn is good at, but we do! Broad manufacturing scope could not be further from the truth. Weld, Bench, Machine, Inspect, Assemble, and ship! That is too broad for you? Those are the core aspects of manufacturing that are needed to perform the type of work we produce. P2P strategy, quality initiative? Ask yourselves how many times has the union yelled and screamed to the company about quality? How many times have we seen dispositions CTP to final? The Company has had a practice of correcting quality issues by getting parts bought off never putting any type of real effort to address the ROOT cause of some of the quality is-

*continued on page 12*

**Yard Signs Available at Union Hall**  
Come to the Hall or talk to your E-Board Member  
or Steward for a sign. We deliver!!!

**GE: Stop Shipping Out  
Our Jobs!**



**Invest  
in  
Lynn!**

GE JOBS IN LYNN  
1951: 24,000  
2021: 2,500

GE Build Better In Lynn Coalition [www.GEstopoutsourcing.com](http://www.GEstopoutsourcing.com)

IUE-CWA  
LOCAL 201

**Next Local 201 Membership Meeting April 27, 2021 - See page 4**

- \* Workers' Compensation
- \* Social Security Disability
- \* Accidents

## Law Offices of James J. Carrigan



**Lisa A. Carrigan**  
has joined the firm  
as Of Counsel.

**James J. Carrigan**  
(Former member Local 201  
and Lynn Teachers Union)

**Anne Gugino Carrigan**  
(Former member AFSCME)

15 Johnson St., Lynn, MA 01902  
(across from Lynn District Court)

Tel. (781) 596-0100  
Fax (781) 592-7555



Free consultation.  
\*No fee unless successful.  
jimmarrigan@jamescarriganlaw.com

# Service Directory

As a service to our members and retirees, Local 201 offers classified ads at minimal rates. We encourage members to consider their brothers and sisters when hiring for odd jobs. These ads do not imply any endorsement or guarantee of workmanship by Local 201.

<p><b>Real Estate Needs.</b> Paul Kotkowski Century 21 North East. 36 years experience. Full time Realtor. Listing and Selling. GE Retiree. Call 978-828-1604</p>	<p><b>Looking to Buy or Sell your N.H. Vacation Home?</b> Don Cormier - Realtor (GE Retiree) Assets Realty Group, Wakefield N.H. Please call. Phone Office 603-522-9000 Cell 603-781-4952</p>	<p><b>Small Engine Service</b> 35 plus yrs experience repair- ing small engines, Lawn Mowers, Snow Blowers, Chain Saws, etc. Reasonable prices. (10% Discount on Parts for GE employees) Call 978-758-9527</p>
<p><b>GJM - Removals, Cleanouts,</b> Residential and Commercial Trash Collection, Recycling gmamos@comcast.net Call George 781-910-0853</p>	<p><b>New Commercial Generator</b> 8,750 Watts \$795.00 or B.O. <b>Firewood</b> All Hardwood. \$100.00 per cord. <b>Trailer:</b> 5'X9'. HD. All Steel \$100.00 Call Dale 978-462-7877</p>	<p><b>Linda Laughlin Certified MA Real Estate Agent</b> Thinking of buying, selling or investing in real estate? Please give me a call. Linda Laughlin, Atlantic Coast Homes, Salem, MA 978 828 4193 linda@atlanticcoasthome.com</p>
<p><b>Maine Real Estate</b> Ellsworth, Maine 45 acres, 15-year new Gambrel, 3 bdrm, 2.5 baths, 2 story. Clean barn. 10 minutes to town. Near Aca- dia/Bar Harbor. Only \$375,000. Call 978-491-9809</p>	<p><b>Handyman Wanted</b> Call Tina for Details 617-293-3032</p>	<p><b>NEED PART TIME HELP?</b> I am looking to do light housekeeping, errands, shop- ping, laundry, shopping, companion will help with the elderly and or children. Call Trish 617-791-9057</p>
<p><b>For Sale Deer Head</b> 8 Point Buck Mounted - perfect condition. Great gift, only \$175. See in Ellsworth Maine. 978-491-9809</p>	<p><b>Fix A Brick - No job too small,</b> really! Stairs, Foundations, Walkways, Chimneys, etc., etc. Call 978-239-9801</p>	

## Onsite Substance Abuse Support

For more information please call the  
Employee Assistance Team Local 201/GE Working  
Together. Located at the Medical Center  
and IUE CWA Local 201 Union Hall.

Bob Cummings 617-275-1527  
Jeff Zeisel 617-733-2842

In coordination with the  
Employee Assistance Program.  
**All calls are strictly confidential.**



### Print your ad on this form.

Mail to: Service Directory, IUE-CWA Local 201,  
112 Exchange St., Lynn, MA 01901.

Enclose Payment:

**For laid off members & retirees: \$1 per issue / \$12 per year**  
**For active members: \$2 per issue / \$24 per year**

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WORD \_\_\_\_\_

LIMIT \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name ..... Amt. Enclosed .....

Your phone # ..... Circle: active or retired Date mailed .....

### "IUE-CWA Local 201 News" (USPS 171720)

"Published monthly." \$1.00 a Year



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Golden Manet Press  
Quincy



Published By  
Camera Graphics



Publication of an advertisement does not constitute endorsement or approval of any product or service advertised, or any point of view, standard, or opinion presented therein. IUE-CWA Local 201 is not responsible for any claims made in an advertisement appearing in its publications.



## Letter to the Editor

Dear State, Local and Area Federation Leaders,

Millions of union members, staff and their families are eligible for the Union Plus Wireless Discount program with AT&T, but many are still not taking advantage of these wireless discounts and other benefits. Plus, that means millions of union members are using non-union carriers.

AT&T is the only unionized wireless carrier with negotiated wireless discounts that deliver even more value and savings for union members including:

- **Union members now save \$10 per line per month on the AT&T Unlimited EliteSM plan**
- **Up to \$45 savings on activation and upgrade fees**
- **15% off qualified wireless plans**
- **20% discount on eligible accessories**
- **Exclusive limited-time offers**

I'm asking you to stand in solidarity with the Communications Workers of America (CWA) by encouraging your members to take advantage of the Union Plus AT&T discount. Coupons and digital promotion materials are available to order at [unionplus.org/LeaderLetter2021](http://unionplus.org/LeaderLetter2021).

You may receive a call from a CWA member who works at your local AT&T retail store. Please accept the call or encourage your members to visit your local AT&T retail store to take full advantage of the benefits available to you and your members. AT&T stores across the country have implemented safety measures for in-person shopping as recommended by the CDC.

**To find your nearest store and learn more about the offer details, visit [unionplus.org/att](http://unionplus.org/att).**

Questions? Contact Union Plus at [att@unionplus.org](mailto:att@unionplus.org) or 800-472-2005, ext 888.

Thank you for your support.

In solidarity,  
Richard L. Trumka

## Congratulations on your retirement:

Mike McGovern, Jered Ayer,  
Fred Russell and John Therrien



### Alcohol & Drug Abuse Affects Everyone – Recovery Does Too.

Alcoholism, drug abuse and compulsive gambling can affect everyone it touches...at home, in the workplace, and in the community, if someone in your family or yourself needs help, please contact the Employees Assistance Program.

**All calls are strictly confidential**  
**Bob Cummings LADC1,MA-PGS**  
**781-584-7641**

### SYMPATHY

The sympathy of IUE-CWA Local 201 Officers, Executive Board, Members, Retirees and Staff is extended to the family and friends of retiree Andrew Williamson on his recent death. Andrew retired in 2017.

### SYMPATHY

The sympathy of IUE-CWA Local 201 Officers, Executive Board, Members, Retirees and Staff is extended to the family and friends of retiree Ed Mooney on his recent death. Ed was a GE Machinist who retired in 2017.

TEXT

**“Local201” to (833) 436-1355 to receive text message updates.**

**TXT**

## CHIROPRACTOR

**Dr. Joseph J. Dowling**

341 Western Ave., Lynn, MA 01904

(781) 596-0700

[www.drddowling.com](http://www.drddowling.com)

- Neck & Back Pain • Sports Injuries
- Sciatica • Auto Accidents
- Muscle Strains • Work Accidents
- Leg/Arm Numbness
- Repetitive Stress Injuries • Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

**Complimentary Exam and Evaluation for GE, AMETEK, U.S. FILTER/EOS, and/or Local 201 IUE Members**



**Meet at 3pm  
at the Lynn Market Basket**

**May 1st Car Caravan and Rally**

**More Affordable Housing,  
More GE Jobs!**

**Saturday May 1st.**



**Vote**  
for GE Campaign T-shirts  
at April 27th Union Meeting



Dale Beaver, Norm Blanchard, and Frank Raimo receive their 30 year pin

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**  
LOCAL 201 IUE-CWA (AFL-CIO)  
**COMBINED SHOP STEWARDS  
& MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021  
VIA ZOOM APP (BEST OPTION)  
[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/85705825704](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85705825704)

CALL IN: 1 929 205 6099  
MEETING ID: 857 0582 5704  
DIAL \*6 TO MUTE AND UNMUTE  
DIAL \*9 TO RAISE HAND

FIRST SHIFT ..... 3:30 P.M.  
SECOND SHIFT ..... 12:30 P.M.  
THIRD SHIFT MAY ATTEND EITHER MEETING.

**AGENDA:**

- I. **FEATURED PRESENTATIONS:**
  - 1. 30+ YEAR PIN AWARDS
  - 2. SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS
- II. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**
  - 1. POLICY BOARD
  - 2. TREASURER'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT
  - 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- III. **GE REPORT**
- IV. **AVIS/BUDGET GROUP REPORT**
- V. **AMETEK REPORT**
- VI. **VEOLIA WATER REPORT**
- VII. **SAUGUS LIBRARIANS REPORT**
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - 1. GOOD AND WELFARE
  - 2. VOTE ON LASER CUTTER AGREEMENT
  - 3. VOTE ON CAMPAIGN T-SHIRT
  - 4. VOTE ON MM GUIDELINES

**Signed,**  
ADAM KASZYNSKI, President  
JUSTIN RICHARDS, Business Agent

**A Truly Terrible Year.**

Covid deaths. Small businesses closing. Friends and family out of work. Isolation.

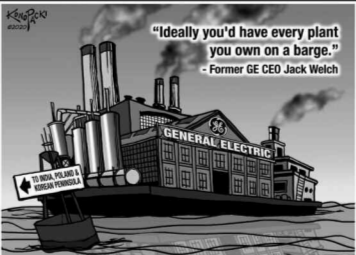
And GE's announcement of yet more jobs to be shipped overseas. This time to the unstable Korean Peninsula.

It is bad: For the workers directly involved and their families. For our communities. For neighbors and friends hoping for MORE good jobs, not fewer.

It's bad for the environment, as moving jobs 10,000 miles away increases the carbon footprint of our products. And it's bad for America's national security. No rational corporation moves jet engine components so close to a warmongering dictatorship famous for lobbing missiles at our allies!

**Let's Demand Better!**

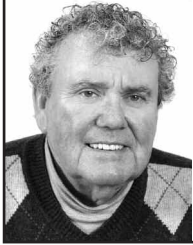
**IUE-CWA LOCAL 201** It's time to blow the whistle.  
In 2021 we will campaign for a better GE.  
*Stay alert. Stay united.*



**Zoom meeting on your cell phone remember:**

Dial \*6 to mute and unmute  

Dial \*9 to raise your hand and you will be called on. 



# 201 Retiree's Column

By KEVIN D. MAHAR  
President Local 201 Retirees Council

OUR MARCH MEETING WAS ON ZOOM THANKS TO ALEX BROWN

As usual we have lots to report. GE announced that they took over 70,000 pensions of less than \$360. a month and hired a company Athene to take over those obligations. What this does is transfers the liability of those obligations away from the PBGC A FEDERAL AGENCY AND TRANSFERS THAT TO EACH STATE AGENCY. SO IT DEPENDS ON WHICH STATE YOU LIVE IN HOW MUCH IS INSURED. In Massachusetts that amount insured is \$250,000. The reason this is important is because this transfer of liability in most cases can lessen the amount insured. Alex Brown and I each attended a zoom meeting on this process led by an attorney by the name of Ed Stone who has much experience on these

kinds of issues. In fact Attorney Ed Stone has done much work with THE BELL TELEPHONE RETIREES AN INCREDIBLE GREAT GROUP WHO HAD THEIR FIRST CONVENTION IN BOSTON, I SPOKE TO THAT GROUP AND AM FRIENDS WITH THEIR 1ST PRESIDENT BILL JONES, AND WE JOINED TOGETHER TO WORK ON PROBLEMS FOR RETIREES AT GE AND BELL TELEPHONE. AS WE EXPLORED THIS PROBLEM WHICH IS CALLED DE-RISKING, MANY COMPANIES ARE USING THIS DE-RISKING TO TAKE AWAY THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO RETIREES. IN GE'S CASE THESE 70,000 PENSIONS MEAN MONEY, A CHANGE OF OBLIGATION OF \$1.7 BILLION DOLLARS. HERE IN LIES GE'S reason for the change.

ANOTHER MAJOR

CHANGE TO INSURANCE PLANS AT GE. Recently Aight mailed out a letter which outlined the information that GE was seeking from both employees and retirees on dependents on the insurance policies. When we asked if this was communicated to the Conference Board the answer we got back was this was not communicated to Conference Board Chairman Jerry Carney. As a result of that we are told a grievance to that effect has been filed.

ST. MICHAELS HALL HAS BEEN SOLD. WE NEED A PLACE TO MEET. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS LET US KNOW 781-367-7822 ONE PLACE WE ARE LOOKING AT IS THE NEW LYNN YMCA WHAT DO YOU THINK ???

## IUE-CWA Local 201 RETIREES COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

April 27, 2021 2:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81408809139>

Meeting ID: 814 0880 9139

Passcode: 505386

Call In: 1 646 558 8656

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdACwMFPvC>

For Meeting Information  
Call Kevin 781-367-7822

Kevin D. Mahar, President  
Edward Walczak, Financial Secretary

## Congratulations

John Pietraszek and Bob Waldron on your retirement



## Retirees Are you Moving???

Do you still want to get the IUE CWA Local 201 Newspaper mailed to you?

Please contact us if you are moving or have a change of address that you would like the newspaper sent to.

Call 781-598-2760.  
Thank you.



Attention CWA Members:

## APPLY NOW FOR JOE BEIRNE SCHOLARSHIPS

Apply now for college scholarships of \$4,000 each for the 2021-2022 school year, and another \$4,000 for 2022-2023. (2nd year award based on satisfactory academic record.)

Sixteen new scholarships will be awarded by CWA's Joe Beirne Scholarship Program.

Eligible are CWA members, their spouses, children and grandchildren (including those of laid-off, retired or deceased members) planning for college studies.

Final deadline for applications is 11:59 p.m., EST, April 30, 2021.

Applications are easy to complete online at the Foundation's website (including submission of a short original essay).

Winners will be chosen in a lottery drawing.

The program honors CWA's founding president, who served for more than 30 years. Joe Beirne took great pride in the roles he played in furthering educational opportunity and working for social justice.

For more information, and to fill out and submit the application form, visit:

<http://cwa-union.org/pages/beirne/>

# Ametek Ratifies New Contract

The Ametek NMMA Contract has been officially ratified per membership vote.

**Voting took place Tuesday, March 30th from 9:30am - 10:30am at Ametek.**

And yes. We dumped the Lump Sum Bonus.

## IUE/CWA Local 201 & Ametek Ratified NMM Agreement

March 30th, 2021

Local 201 Ametek members ratified a new contract with Ametek Aerospace on March 30, 2021.

The initial proposals from the Union were 18 pages. The Company's proposal was a single half page of concessions and a \$250 bonus. The Company proposed elimination of Article 20, Reduction in Force D. which gives recall rights to laid off members before the Company can hire off the street. The Company proposed elimination of Article 23(C) the .25% Service Wage Increase, and one year of Lump Sum Bonuses instead of wage increases and no improvements. Through tough negotiations we were able to take those concessions off the table and win significant improvements.

Below is the Bargaining Committee summary of the new ratified agreement. We agreed to no concessions, cuts, or givebacks. Wages, vacation, recall rights, and other items were improved.

### Summary

#### **Article 1: New Hire Orientation**

Your Bargaining committee secured a one-hour new hire orientation session to welcome new hires into the Union, answer questions, and introduce people to a Union shop environment.

#### **Article 6 Health and Safety Committee**

Union positions on the safety committee are no longer limited to 2. If more members want to get involved they have more ability to do so. The Safety Committee should be equal parts management and Union.

#### **Article 7 Leave of Absence Rules A. Return to Work from Illness or Injury**

It was unreasonable to the Bargaining Committee that members returning from a Leave of Absence related to an illness or injury had no access to their sick and personal time for 60 days. The new ratified agreement straightens that out. If you are coming back from an illness or injury related leave you will have access to your sick and personal time immediately upon return.

In the previous contract, if you returned to work in the last quarter of the year and were denied vacation requests the Company could CHOOSE whether to pay you out or not for unused vacation. This new ratified agreement ensures those returning to work from illness or injury in the last quarter of the year, will be paid out if they are not approved to use their vacation time. If your vacation is denied within 60 days in the last calendar quarter, it will be paid out.

Under the old contract language if those returning from illness and injury leave and were unable to perform their job "satisfactorily despite medical clearance" the next step could have been hitting the street. The new ratified agreement now spells out the Company must attempt to provide reasonable accommodations to keep that person working safely in the shop.

#### **Article 8 Seniority E.**

Your Bargaining Committee fought to increase the amount of time a member can be out on Worker's Compensation before breaking service. Worker's Compensation injuries happen at work. If a member needs more than a year to heal from a work injury, they should not break service. In the old contract a member out on a Workers Compensation claim had a year to return before breaking service. In the new ratified agreement, a member has 18 months to return before they break service.

#### **Article 11 Vacation A.**

In the old language, members with 0-5 years of service received 2 weeks vacation. The Bargaining Committee argued that the flexibility that the New Manufacturing Model Agreement offers the Company needs to go both ways. Our members deserve more work/life balance. The Bargaining Committee had to make compromises in several areas to achieve what we consider a major improvement in vacation time.

The new ratified agreement still offers 2 weeks' vacation to new employees. Those with 2 years of service will now get another week of vacation, 3 weeks. At 10 years members will now have 3.5 weeks of vacation. The higher service brackets remain unchanged after 15 years (4weeks) 25 years (5weeks). Everyone covered in this new ratified agreement is under 5 years of service, making this a very significant improvement.

#### **Article 18 Strikes and Lockouts**

While we are under contract there shall still be no strikes or lockouts per Article 18. However, should the Company fail to comply with the grievance procedure or an Arbitration Award, members will have the right to vote to strike. This new strong language will help ensure the Company follows the terms of our contract.

#### **Article 20 Reduction in Force**

The Company wanted to eliminate your right back to your job following a layoff. Based on Ametek's history of outsourcing and layoffs, the Bargaining Committee refused to accept the Company's proposal. Instead, we retained our 12 month recall rights, and made a minor improvement to the recall language: extending 18 month recall rights to those without 2 written warnings in the 2 years preceding a lay off.

#### **Article 23A Minimum Wage Rates**

Everybody hired under the NMMA were hired for wages higher than those laid out in the Contracts minimum rate. Still, we fought for improvements to the minimum starting rates to raise the floor. The new NMMA classification of Materials Control Coordinator was added at a \$21.50 minimum rate.

#### **Article 23- Annual Performance Review and Service Wage Increase**

It was clear that members number one priority was a better wage package. The Company was clear they were not interested in any improvements to wages, only cuts. While the Union pointed out many flaws with the current merit-based incentive system, the Company refused to budge without replacing General Wage Increases with Lump Sums. The Bargaining Committee shifted focus to improving the merit-based system. The average score of the Group was 3.3, so getting improvements directly around that number was our number one priority. It was not until late in the final session, that we received the improvement in the 2.6-3.0 merit score range we felt we needed to reach agreement. In the old system if you scored between 1.1-3.0, the company had full discretion to give you anywhere between a .5% to 2.5% wage increase. We were determined to narrow this gap and get a more definitive percentage window. This new ratified agreement contains clearly defined brackets that tie scores to percentage wage increases to remove the uncertainty and discretion that the old system allowed. Your Bargaining Committee believes the new ratified agreement contains a fairer system. It contains improvements in the score ranges that the vast majority of members have received the past 2 years. And it removes the ability for the company to give .5% to the lowest score a member has actually received.

In the new language if you score from a 2.6-3.0 you will receive 2.75% plus the .25% yearly Service Wage Increase (SWI) to amount to 3%. If you score between 3.1 and 3.5 you will get a 3% (3.25% w/ SWI). If your review result is a 3.6-4 you will see a 3.5% (3.75% w/ SWI), a 4.1-4.5 score will receive a 4% (4.25% w/ SWI) and a 4.6 - 5 score will receive a 5% increase (5.25% w/ SWI).

Though the Company came into negotiations trying to eliminate the yearly .25% Service Wage Increase, it remains in the new ratified agreement.

The old contract called for a Lump Sum Bonus one year instead of a General Wage Increase. This language was removed, and members will receive a wage increase every year in this new ratified agreement.

#### **Article 23D Skilled Training Incentives**

All the Skilled Training Incentives were increased by \$125 and J-STD Certified Trainer and Space Certified Trainer were added to the incentive structure.

#### **Article 24 Benefits**

No changes.

-IUE-CWA Local 201 Ametek Contract Bargaining Committee-

# 4 Stories of Why Unions are Important

*Excerpted from Portside Labor by Reina Sultan*

As companies like Amazon, Facebook, and Google fight aggressively (and insidiously) against workers' attempts to unionize, it's a good time to get familiar with what unions can actually do for people.

Through unions, workers are able to fight for protections and benefits they might not otherwise have because of collective bargaining power. There are very many reasons people might want to unionize, like watching colleagues get laid off without severance, paying high premiums for health insurance, and working in unsafe conditions. Union employees negotiate contracts with their employers that can guarantee them more money, better benefits, and fairer workplaces overall.

Union contracts have become even more important during the pandemic, when hundreds of thousands of workers have been laid off or furloughed, with many left without medical insurance. People in unions have been able to negotiate for protections like back pay, health care, and sanitary guidelines that remain in place even if they are waiting for their industries to open back up, granting them security and safety during the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here are four stories of how Unions have helped workers.

**Maria de Jesus Valdez, housekeeper, 49, San Antonio, TX**

I've been working in a hotel for five years. When I started, it was al-

ready a union hotel. At first, I didn't know what that meant because I had never had a union job, but my colleagues explained to me that they had organized the union with UNITE HERE Local 23 because of the injustices they faced, and that the union was about workers' rights. I decided to get involved.

During my first contract negotiation, we won a salary increase divided into three or four installments. We also won a bonus. Especially important to me is that we fought for affordable health insurance. I'm a breast cancer survivor, and the plan we won is more accessible to us. Health insurance is often very expensive, but with the plan we won I could also cover all my kids—and with dental and vision, too. The copays were affordable, like \$25 or \$40, so I was easily able to pay for all my prescriptions and visits with specialists.

Recently, we've been focused on protecting our jobs during the pandemic. In other hotels, they terminated all the workers with nothing—without retirement, without the right to return. Furloughed or laid off workers who don't have those rehiring rights have to start over from nothing because companies may decide to hire new employees who they can pay less. With the union, we reached an agreement that we will give us the right to return to work with our seniority for 24 months. They have to call us furloughed workers back when business

returns, not replace us.

Because of the union, I can look forward to going back to a good job instead of having to start over from zero.

**Priscilla Paras-Huerta, cook, 46, San Francisco, CA**

I became a stay-at-home mom when my daughter was born, and when I went back to work, I knew I needed a job with health care that would really let me take care of my family. I did my research and learned that the food service jobs at San Francisco International Airport were union with UNITE HERE Local 2, so I decided to apply for a job as a cook because I wanted that protection.

I was pretty new to the union when our contract expired and was up for re-negotiation in 2016, and we went out on a two-day strike. It was my first time on a picket line—I had never even chanted before. But we were fighting for free family health care and job security, and that was really important to me. I realized that our bosses were in the restaurant and couldn't see us protesting outside the terminal, so I called out to one of my coworkers and told her we should go leaflet in front of our restaurant. I wanted my bosses to know that we as the workers were strong, supported the strike, and were fighting for what we needed. We stood there for hours, right in front of my bosses, handing leaflets to customers and asking them not to visit the establishment. The strike

gave me a voice that I didn't know I had.

That strike helped us win free family health care. We don't have to pay anything to cover our spouse or kids, and the copays are so low that I never need to worry about money when I go to the doctor. We also won retention rights, which protect us when our restaurants shut down or close temporarily for renovations—which happens all the time at SFO! With these retention rights, we get put on a priority list to be rehired at one of the other restaurants in the airport. My union contract gives me a sense of security that I'm always going to be able to provide for my family. Before I started as a union cook at SFO, my husband was working a job where he had to pay a big premium for health insurance, and it didn't even cover the whole family. Nothing beats having a good job that feels really secure.

**Amanda Harris, field organizer, 28, Mesquite, TX**

I worked for the Texas Democratic Party when we unionized in 2020. I was elected as our union representative to speak on behalf of employees during the negotiations. Our concerns over working conditions during COVID, as well as hours and wages, were the main reasons we decided to form a union. In campaign positions, it is common to relocate for the election cycle and stay in supporter housing, which is spare space provided in the private

homes of campaign supporters. Our staff was rightfully concerned about the ability to safely relocate, ensure COVID protocols in supporter housing, and develop safe methods of traditionally face-to-face campaigning. Achieving protections against relocation was a major win for our union. Ensuring our staff would remain remote and not be asked to relocate for the campaign not only protected us during the onset of the pandemic, but also provided virtual working accommodations for our staff with disabilities and revolutionized the future of staffing for Democratic campaigns in Texas.

Our union contract won us an increased hourly wage and overtime pay, as well as scheduling protections for religious holidays, paid time off, and hour caps. By making a living wage after getting a 20 percent pay increase, I was able to afford repairs to the exterior of my house, an expense I did not realize would be lifesaving during Winter Storm Uri just a few months later.

Our contract includes specific guarantees for gender neutrality in the workplace. Sadly, gender neutrality protections, like honoring people's pronouns and allowing employees to use the restrooms in which they are most comfortable, are not yet commonplace in labor agreements or employee handbooks. Our staff should be proud of the contract they drafted

*continued on page 10*



# Health & Safety Notes

By CARMEN DeANGELIS  
Local 201 Health & Safety Director

President's article continued from page 12

IUE-CWA Local 201 leaders and Congressman Moulton's office will be meeting again on Monday April 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Future of Defense Taskforce recommendations regarding sourcing and manufacturing critical parts and components in the U.S. We will report back on that discussion at the April 27<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting on Zoom.

## Vaccinations

With a combined effort from Local 201 and Management, around six hundred vaccinations were administered at GE Lynn in a very smooth and organized way. The early voice of membership helped greatly driving this effort as with all successful campaigns for our members. Vaccinations will also play a big part in reducing COVID-19 numbers in the Lynn community as many of us live in and around the city. I'm hopeful we can continue with further vaccinations in the future likely after April 19th and will help members needing assistance signing up.

data tracking, hazard identification, and much more. The ability to maintain long-term effort to resolve difficult safety concerns without giving up is a trait our successful reps develop. Constant communication with our Local 201 Policy Board assures added guidance and support. With new members and upgrades to different departments this list of current Union Elected Safety Representatives will help increase member involvement with identifying concerns and assisting as Safety Committee Members.

## Elected Safety Representatives

The Union Elected Safety Representative in your area starts each day with the understanding that the company has employee's and we have members... Your area Union Elected Safety Representative works with area EHS leads as part of a joint H&S program to approach each job as if they must do it themselves, with every member concern having merit. We are constantly improving our skills related to technology,

- Donald Doucette - Plant 1 Bldg. 74 – 32 Paint Shop
- Michael J Reidy - Plant 1 Bld. 64
- Jonathan Krafton - Machine Services Maintenance
- Glen Lunt – Bldg. 42 LATO – Test
- John "Rudy" Valentino – Bldg. 29 LATO
- Jason Daley – LPS – Utilities & Landlord
- Susan Maher – Bldg. 63 – Logistics
- Stephanie Murray – Plant 2 Bldg. 40
- Derek White – Plant 4 Bldg. 66- 32 Toll & Die

## Do Your Part on the GE: Build Back Better in America Campaign

Yard signs demanding that "GE Stop Shipping Out Our Jobs" are available at the Union Hall, for every member to put in front of their house or building. The Union Hall is open every weekday from 8am-5pm. The Yard Signs come with metal stakes to put in the ground, or you can face them out of a window. Take pictures and send to [info@local201iuecwa.org](mailto:info@local201iuecwa.org). These signs will continue to build the support for the campaign that was recently reported on in the Lynn Daily Item (COALITION LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO CONVINC GE TO REINVEST IN LYNN 4/5/2021). Our coalition is growing - we are not fighting these transfers of work and disinvestments alone. The future of the Riverworks plant is about the future of America, and our community understands that.

Additionally, Local 201 and our community partners and allies are joining with the New Lynn Coalition on Saturday May 1st, to mark International Workers Day, or "May Day". This year a central demand of the annual action is for GE to "Bring Jobs to Lynn." There will be a car caravan around the city starting at 3:00pm at the Lynn Market Basket Store, the former site of GE's "Factory of the Future". We will not sit by as GE paves over our future. See you there.

## The Lynn Community Health Center Now Has the Covid 19 Vaccine

Read below for Availability

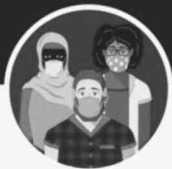
### When can I get a COVID-19 vaccine in MA?



#### PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facility residents
- First responders (EMT, Fire, Police)
- Community corrections (including prisons and shelters)
- Home care healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



#### PHASE TWO

In order of priority

- Individuals 75+
- Individuals 65+, Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (those that are at increased risk for severe illness)
- Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Individuals with one comorbidity



#### PHASE THREE

Vaccine available to general public

December - February

Estimated timeframes

February - April

April - June

Updated 1/25/2021



It Starts With Me  
SAFETY



### GE Aviation Lynn 2021 Shoemobile Schedule

April 15th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
April 22nd	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	North of 42
May 13th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
May 20th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
June 3rd	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
June 17th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
July 29th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
August 26th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
September 15th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
October 14th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40
November 17th	6:00 AM - 4:00 PM	South of 40

Please notify your EHS Leader to get approval to purchase at one of the participating offsite vendor stores. You can also purchase shoes online at Lehigh safety shoes.

Please inquire with your area EHS Leader or Suzie Dozier at extension x7705





## LAT&O/Logistics Executive Board

By **BOBBY ELDRIDGE**  
LAT&O/Logistics Executive Board



## LPS/M&E Report

By **ARTIE AMIRAULT**  
Executive Board Member

### As the Rotor turns

Update on the Aflight letter. After arguing for weeks with the company at Step 2 the union asked for final position on the grievance and we are taking it to Step 3. My advice is to get that paper work in as fast as you can because we don't know if the next Step 3 is going to be scheduled in time before the cut off date of May 10th. You should call Aflight direct at 1 800 725 5810 between the hours of 8 am to 10pm the fax number is 866 961 6881. Members have been having success when calling direct.

### LATO

I was just issued a farmout notice for T-700 work. Here's the breakdown 32 701D engines all operations, 90 Cold section modules all operations, 13 PT modules all operations and 16 PT modules just Test all going to Strother. The company claims that it is only going to be 6 months. That's a believable story. Yeah Right!! They send our work out and they still want to complain about I.M.E being too high. They can't have it both ways. You want everyone working? Don't ship out the work.

### Logistics

The stewards and I have established a bi weekly meeting with the business so the flow of information should be a lot better. With payroll being a mess all over the plant right now, you should be checking your paycheck to see if you are being paid right. Market base wage members check to see if your yearly progression raise is being added to your pay. We have been getting a lot of calls from members saying it isn't there. So, check and if it isn't in there call the Union hall and let us know so we can fix it.


Hope to see you around the shop.  
Bobby

### SYMPATHY

The sympathy of IUE-CWA Local 201 Officers, Executive Board, Members, Retirees and Staff is extended to the family and friends of retiree Edward Page on his recent death. Ed retired in 2007.

### SYMPATHY

The sympathy of IUE-CWA Local 201 Officers, Executive Board, Members, Retirees and Staff is extended to the family and friends of retiree Nicholas Rexinis on the recent death of his mother Harriet. Harriet was also the grandmother of Peter Rexinis who currently works in bldg. 66 X Ray.


Cetera

ADVISORS

**Brian Thomas**  
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### !COMMUNICATION!

Communication! It goes a long way. I'm not sure what Cell Leaders, Business Leaders, Project Managers, or any other members of Management go through for training before being given the positions they hold but I'll tell you what training they clearly do not go through and that's Communication skills. That is what is severely lacking here in this plant. Believe me we understand it's your business and you will choose how to manage or mismanage it anyway you see fit and you do a good job at it. That said Lynn is a plant that is going through some big changes like 5S, LEAN, and INVESTMENT amongst other things. Some of which have been long overdue and needed for a long time and some not so much.

When you have a plant this old and a large portion of the plant's members are old enough to be management's parents or have more than 2 years service in the plant (unlike management's revolving door) communication is key. Things have been the way they are in this plant for a long time, there are very few new ideas that haven't been tried in this old plant at some point along the way. Change can be difficult as people can be very set in their ways and don't really do well with change. The best thing that the business can do is have a conversation before you just barge into an area and tell these people that have been here for years that you are changing their area and taking things away from them. That's never going to go over well and work very well for the business. By having a conversation beforehand and getting the members of the area involved the transition will go a lot smoother and less people will get pissed off and there will be less push back when it comes to change.

Figure it out together, have a PLAN (there's an idea), don't remove things without having a suitable replacement first, and get

the areas input and work to come to an amicable outcome before any changes are made. This will go a long way and the company will most likely end up with a better finished product in the end than they would have if they didn't involve the members in the first place. Finally DON'T DO BARGAINING UNIT WORK! I can't believe this still has to be said to certain managers in this place. After numerous LEAN events now and the company seeing how well it works out for them to get the input and engagement of the membership you would think they would have figured it out by now. Clearly not. There are still management people here who can't play well with others (including other management), enjoy trying to impose their positions of power on people and would rather play dictator rather than do what is best for the business. Again, it doesn't always seem to be what's best for the business here in Lynn that matters. It's often more about personal advancement and how can I make a name for myself, be a shining star (HAHA!), and put my stamp on the Lynn site.

Too many times in many areas and aspects of the plant the company wants the cake and to eat it too. CHANGE needs to come from BOTH sides and the sooner management realizes this the better off the business will be. Communication.... It's not Hard.

Finally I once again would like to give recognition to another one gone too soon.

**Keith Smith** Building 40 Maintenance EB Weld Analyst

Keith passed unexpectedly on the 20th. He was an asset to the group in building 40 and could always make you laugh and always joked with the guys. You will be missed Keith. Our condolences to your friends and family and may you rest easy.

See you around the plant.



## VP's Column

By TOM O'SHEA  
Vice-President/  
Recording Secretary

### State of the Union

Breaking news. "Unions credited with creating the middle class!!!" I recently read an article that stated the greatest economic expansion in our country occurred when union density was at its highest. Meaning when a solid minority of all workers belonged to a union (30+%). Duh!!! This has been basic knowledge amongst active union members for decades. But apparently it still has not permeated the general public. The greatest economic period of expansion in the U.S. were the years following WW II. This is when the middle class was "created" in America. And also, when we had more than 30+% of the private sector as well as the public sector unionized. President Biden made this fact clear in his February 28th pro union speech.

### CEO Pay

What is wrong with one person making \$21.3 Million dollars per year? That was the average pay for a CEO in the top 350 companies in the U.S. for 2020! It would take a minimum wage worker in the U.S. working 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year and a work life of 50 years, 13 lifetimes to make that much money. The catch is they would also have to be making a minimum wage of \$15/hour to accomplish that. (Thank you to Dan Wasserman, Boston Globe for those facts).

One of the things that is wrong with one person making that much money in one year is that most of the money does not get spent. The money sits around in banks or off shored in some foreign land somewhere. It barely gets taxed while our roads and bridges are falling apart. The most recent

stimulus plan passed by the House, Senate and signed by the President will put money into the hands of people who need it and will then spend some if not all of it to pay rent, buy groceries and other necessities to survive in our current economic state. It will not sit around in foreign banks.

### Voting Rights

The newly passed voting laws in Georgia are troubling. These laws give the state election board new power to intervene in the county voting system by allowing them to remove local election officers as they see fit. Also created is a law that bans anyone from giving "gifts" to people waiting in line to vote. These "gifts" include but are not limited to food and water. "We wouldn't want to influence anyone waiting in line to vote by giving them some water, would we?"

These laws aim to make it more difficult for people to vote. Especially poor people and people of color. Some corporations are showing their displeasure at the passing of these new laws. Major League Baseball has decided to move its 2021 All-Star game to another state. Coca Cola and Delta Airlines both headquartered in Georgia, have made it clear they consider this a step backwards in voting rights legislation. Not all corporations feel the same way. AT+T donated large sums of money to the authors of the "anti" voting legislation. Other donors include Comcast, Philip Morris, Walmart and others. While these corporations may not have donated money for this specific legislation their donations have ensured a republican majority in the Georgia legislature.

### Union Stories continued from page 7

and that gender neutrality will be a part of our legacy in future labor agreements with the Texas Democratic Party. Members of our union said they felt seen at work for the first time in their careers after our staff signed a contract with gender neutrality protections. Many said they had fear at previous jobs because they wouldn't be accepted if their coworkers knew their whole identity. Our staff knew that they could be their full selves in their roles because they had a union.

By unionizing, our staff has revolutionized the future of Democratic

campaigns in Texas. Traditionally, it's common for campaign staff to move around the country for work, a trend that leaves local communities neglected in electoral organizing, meaning the campaign staff may not know the specific needs of a community they were working in. Our contract requires that our staff live within 50 miles of their work and not be relocated. Our staff was able to ensure that future campaign staff in Texas will be from Texas and working to organize their own communities!

**Felix Wale\***, sales associate, 31, Brooklyn, NY

In 2016, I was working at Babeland, a toy store with three locations in NYC. I had been there for about a year and a half when we began organizing, and our campaign lasted nine months before another nine months of contract negotiations.

Contract negotiations dragged on for about nine months. It was almost hard to believe that we could sit across the table from the people who owned our time and were able to assertively articulate grievances that we and our fellow workers faced without fear of retaliation. Totally unreal. You can't put that feeling back in a bottle once

you release it. Contract negotiations finally ended in February 2016, shortly after we announced to ownership that workers had voted to strike.

Even before the end of contract negotiations, workers had much more power than we had before. Two workers were fired, and many of the rest of us made a coordinated effort to earn them severance. We knew that we were all living paycheck to paycheck and that being jobless would have immediate consequences on things like housing and being able to eat. We were successful! One of them was even offered their job back. That was the mo-

ment I internalized that the union is, of course, an institution, but the union is as powerful as its members. We were able to look out for each other. Other wins were a \$14 starting wage (up from \$12), safety trainings, a requirement that no worker would go into a disciplinary hearing alone (usually the shop steward was present and taking notes), and financially accessible health care.

Sometimes people ask if they should stop shopping at Babeland, and I always tell them no! Definitely keep shopping there—you're supporting a union business.



# LCM Executive Board

By JOSEPH TIRONE  
*LCM Executive Board*

## Look in the Mirror

Sometimes you need to take a hard look at yourself in the mirror to realize what is going on. That is something GE needs to do and do it now. The problem here in Lynn is definitely not Local 201 members, we have tried to work with the company over the years: MBW, Lean etc. The problem is you – “General Electric” and the way your run your business.

If the New England Patriots changed their coaches every game, do you think that would be a good strategy? If they sent their uniforms to Romania after every game to washed would that be Lean? My fifteen-year-old son could tell you that is wrong and bad business.

You rotate cell leaders

like this is a relay race, I am telling you it is not. Just when you get a cell running efficiently you take that cell leader and move them to another plant and bring the next guy in, which local 201 members will have to train, its like taking 10 steps backwards. Now GE attacks one of our best areas in Lynn “Small Engines” telling us a large amount of their work is going to Romania, “Seriously?” Romania? What a way to lift moral around the plant. Is that what we get for helping with Lean?

American jobs being outsourced to other countries, how is that legal? It is anti-American if you ask me. I promise you GE there is no way these other countries could build an engine as good as local 201 mem-

bers in Lynn. We are the best at building these engines and always will be. Do you want a good strategy to bring this company back to what it once was? Stop giving these large bonuses to people at the top of the company and start realizing what built this company – the blue-collar workers are what built this company. It is so very simple it drives me crazy. Invest in us the American worker, not some other countries worker. The union workers of local 201 Lynn MA are ready and want to work hard, building these great engines. I believe it is your duty as a company that started here in America, to invest in American families instead of investing overseas. So, I ask you General Electric, CEO Larry Culp and



Senior Management to take a long look in the mirror and ask yourself are you “American” before anything else? Would you rather help American families instead of shipping their jobs out of this country? The union has started a campaign “GE Stop Shipping Out Our Jobs” I urge all 201 brothers and sisters to ask your steward for a sign to put in your front yard and take a picture with your fam-

ily to show GE how important these jobs are and to invest in us and let us do our jobs. We have only been doing this in Lynn for 118 years, I’m pretty sure that is a good track record.

So, let’s get started investing in American families and let us get to work building quality engines here in Lynn.

Sincerely  
Joseph Tirone

## Plant Protection Badging Office Hours

Monday:  
6:30am – 2pm  
Wednesday:  
6:30am – 2pm  
Friday:  
10am – 2pm

Located in the Corinne Johnson Visitors Center Fairchild Gate.

Get your parking stickers and badges.

## Ametek

by Ametek Cheif Steward Randy Wood

At the beginning of this contract negotiation, Kaz held a meeting to explain the whole process, what to expect, and not worry. After telling us everything the union was willing to do, we felt encouraged and hopeful that a new contract would be better than the one drafted that had no members involved. It was a great time, but everything quickly changed. Right after we filled out our surveys and started believing in a new beginning, everything was crushed, and we began to worry. Our contract was about to expire, and a new virus was shutting the world down.

First, we watched in fear as many were laid off and couldn’t help but wonder, are we next? This was followed by most people in the office

working from home, which made the facility feel like a ghost town. While we did have the contract extended, it didn’t address our concerns about issues we had with the contract signed in 2016. While we expected 2020 to be a year of gains for everyone working under the old agreement, it turned out to be one we will remember for all the wrong reasons. After nearly a year of working under a contract extension, we were ready to start working towards a better agreement.

Management was happy with the old contract and only wanted to make a single change while the bargaining unit sent over many pages of what needed altering. There were bound to be many disagreements with such a vast difference, and the

next few weeks played out a fierce debate. I thought everything would break down more than once, but Kendall, Justin, and Kaz performed miracles, and slow progress was made. While the first few weeks were sluggish, the last couple of days were the exact opposite and became hard to follow with new proposals being presented, considered, and rejected in quick succession. Julia and I still can’t fathom how everyone kept the articles straight because we were having a hard time.

We finally reached an agreement around 11 pm on March 24th, over a year after everything started. Thanks to Kendall, Justin, and Kaz, we achieved much of what we were looking for and were not disappointed with the outcome.



## Business Agent's Column

By JUSTIN RICHARDS  
*Business Agent*

*continued from page 1*

sues. I am glad to see they are at least taking an initiative in P2P. Cutting corners, not addressing concerns raised by operators, not fixing planning through the years, the Company creating a conflicting environment having cell leaders with minimal manufacturing experience qualified to PR, is cutting corners! No way shape or form do you give a manager the power to buy off non-conformances when their main goal is to ship hardware! Speak up??? We have been speaking up and our concerns have continuously fell on deaf ears! Let's not forget when the Company wants to point the finger and bring up cutting corners, we were all here 6 years ago when the man at the helm was walked out of the plant. Cannot cut anymore corners than the Company has been cutting for decades! "GE" start taking some ownership of the failures in our business you have created! One of the statements the Company has made repeatedly when we push them on their miss management of the business, "we reserve the right to run the business as we see fit even if its into the ground." Well, you held true to your word on that one.

Lean must be how we work? Lean is all about cutting out waste and increasing efficiency and delivery! Yet GE creates a supply chain filled with waste and a business model through the years. Overextending the company financially, extending the supply chain beyond an imaginable reach. Parts travel all around the world and country then come back to Lynn for assembly, test, or further manufacturing. That's pretty lean. One of the founding principles of lean is operator engagement. The Sensei could not stop correcting managers during the very first shingi, "listen to your operators, they know more than you, and with out them lean does not work!" What happened during the last event, green cell, large engine, and other areas, the company behind the backs of the union started putting higher rated work on lower rated classifications with out negotiating with the union. Rightttttt..... This is one of the very reasons why every single event will be negotiated, there's no trust!

36 million dollars this year, the biggest investment Lynn has seen in 15 years. Would you like a pat on the back? GE has strategically de-invested in Lynn for decades, 36 million is great and I am more than grateful this plant is finally getting some investment but 36 million isn't going to offset the damage the company has done to this plant. Show us your committed, its not only investment, where is the NPI, stop sending our jobs overseas! Keep our work here!

The spirit behind the MBW agreement was to grow Lynn, increase headcount. During MBW negotiations we were around 1260 members and the Company claimed they were going to hire 400 more people within the next few years after the agreement. We are right around 1214 currently, so that was a lie! So how did you hire 500 new employees? GE didn't they replaced 500 heads and tried to keep the headcount stable yet let it decline. Develop and promote manufacturing talent? I can't tell you how many times the union has harped down on the Company to get bodies in the right area for training before others retire and their years of experience and knowledge are gone with them! GE has failed to develop the talent that pays the bills and turns profit! GE is more interested in attempting to develop a cell leader who has never stepped foot on a manufacturing floor!

Make sure everybody shows up to the membership meeting on April 27, we will be voting on the negotiated laser cutter agreement in Punch Press. Details will be given at the membership meeting.



## President's Column

By ADAM KASZYNSKI  
*President*

### 201 Demands Elected Leaders Take Action to Stop GE Outsourcing

*The following was adapted from Local 201's remarks at an event with Congressman Seth Moulton on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.*

Congressman Moulton, you are well aware that GE has been cutting employment here in Lynn for decades, down from 30K during WWII to 24K in the 1950's to just 2500 today with about 1205 in our current production and maintenance unit.

This is a direct result of GE outsourcing and offshoring our work to facilities in the South and overseas. Just last week management told us of dozens more jobs worth of work are going to their factory in Romania.

We tell management; these are not GE's parts. These are OUR parts, the Union's parts. The Union and our Congressional Representatives and Senators fought to get this work to Lynn. Despite your office helping to secure funding for the ITEP program, GE still will not commit to manufacturing the ITEP T-901 in Lynn. Nor have we seen legislation that effectively keeps work in America and in the Lynn Plant.

We understand your office has asked GE to define the core competencies of GE Lynn. So have we. They cannot or will not. The Company argued in the Lynn Daily Item that the transfer of work announced last week out of Small Engines was non-core competency work. If that work, that we have successfully done for years is not core competency, then what is? "Core-competency" is being used as a smoke screen. A distraction to rationalize the destruction of our plant. Waiting to act until GE defines "core competency" is like asking to assist the captain of a ship who has just purposely run into an iceberg if you can help rearrange the deckchairs while the ship goes down. We cannot wait.

Even when the work being sent to Romania or Korea or China is for civilian aircraft engines, we must remember that it is the US Government, the US Defense Department that has been enriching GE and giving them the capital that GE uses to invest overseas. The government funded the development of the military technology and then GE developed commercial applications. Essentially same engines. We appreciate the Future of Defense Taskforce Report that highlighted the need to keep these supply chains in the U.S. Now we need our Government to act.

GE is boasting that they are about to spend \$36 million on some long overdue projects in Lynn. However, decades of neglect have left us with a factory full of out-of-date machines, ill equipped to meet deadlines and produce the engines we are otherwise able to produce. \$36 M won't do it.

GE knows how to build and maintain state of the art factories. They are doing so in India and Vietnam, in China and Korea. And Romania. Why not in Lynn?

We need to see real leadership. We need to see you introduce and rally support for laws with teeth that require major defense contractors to re-invest in their US factories, specifically in Lynn.

This is a matter of national security. The US invested years ago in factories to be able to manufacture pandemic virus vaccines in times of emergency. Yet we have no requirement that defense contractors maintain up to date factories here in the USA, which is a threat to national security and the economy.

This must change. We want you to help to change it. We must get new work to Lynn, and you must push for legislation that makes GE Build Back Better in Lynn.

*continued on page 8*