



NEWS from the Secretary-Treasurer's Desk!

Offered by: Jane Crompton

The Officers of CWA Local 1171, President John Hanson, Executive Vice-President Roger Betz, and Secretary-Treasurer, Jane Crompton, held a membership meeting in the LGA station recently. Sixty two (62) members attended. The meeting was lively and much discussion brought out many issues on the minds of those in attendance.

The most common theme throughout the day was centered on **COMMUNICATION** (or actually, lack of). The Officers of the Local were listening and one of the solutions is this column which will now appear monthly on our CWA Local 1171 website. Members at the meeting brought out many valid concerns about a variety of issues.

People were coming and going throughout the day so the list is a summary of concerns brought up, not necessarily in any specific order. Below are some of the issues which I know are on the minds of most everyone within the Local that were brought to our attention during the membership meeting.

- The new ACP, better known as the Attendance Control Program.
- Time clocks.
- Panel Interview - process and fairness.
- Lack of Collective Bargaining Agreements (Contracts) available.
- COMMUNICATION – not enough both within the LGA Station specifically, and the Local, in general.
- Stewards – lack of - most are new and not knowledgeable enough about the Contract. No Chief Steward.
- FMLA problems.
- Membership cards for members.
- Not enough “push backs” to Company with the grievance process which seems to be ignored.
- Arbitrations – recent losses – “Why?”
- Dues.
- Overtime and VTO issues.

Here are some of the solutions to the above issues:

The issue about lack of Contracts has already been addressed via email to Corporate to get copies sent ASAP. Management in each city is responsible for the distribution.

A Staff grievance has already been initiated regarding the ACP program.

All of the Stations within our Local have time clocks now and we should all be holding local Management accountable to ensure the clocks are all calibrated and in sync with one another. A suggestion was made to open your ‘ACO’ immediately for further proof in case the clock did not record your punch.

Stewards are needed in every station – paperwork was given out to several attendees. There will be Steward training in late July or early August in a location to be determined.

Bulletin Boards within stations need to be updated and volunteers are needed in every city. LGA did have a volunteer step forward to help. If you need bulletin boards or colored paper, etc. please contact any one of us for assistance.

There was a printing problem at the National CWA level which delayed the shipment of membership cards. The cards have arrived and are being verified and will be distributed as quickly as possible.

All in all, the meeting in LGA was a good one. It was amazing to see the number of attendees. It was also eye-opening to hear the frustrations and sincere unhappiness within the membership (specifically at LGA). It has not fallen on deaf ears. As I mentioned earlier, this column will be appearing once a month and there will be updates published as necessary. I can speak for both John and Roger and tell you all we recognize the work we have to do. We will step up to the plate.

This to be sure is precarious time for all of us. The economy is bad, morale is bad, the airline industry in general is teetering on all sides trying to stay afloat. There are new rumors everyday about a merger. COMMUNICATION is the key and the bond which will keep us together. We, the Officers of Local 1171 recognize this and will continue to improve that communication. This opening column is just the beginning!

Thank you for your time and effort to read this article. Please feel free to submit articles, suggestions or subjects you would like to see in the future to our website. Our Local has grown and it would be a great idea to have a 'Spotlight City' each month. We all need to stay in touch and informed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Crompton

Secretary/Treasurer

CWA Local 1171