

NEWSLETTER

Communication Workers of America

108 West Main St.

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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September / October 2011



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Congratulations

WE RECEIVED 22 SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING FORMS.
LISTED BELOW ARE THE FIRST 8 DRAWN.....

| <u>STUDENT</u> | <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>COMPANY</u> |
|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| Taylor Ludy | Brian Ludy, CO Tech, Lake Mills | Frontier 13 |
| Carissa Kemp | Bob Kemp, CE, Wausau | Frontier 13 |
| Amanda Pratt | Jon Pratt, CO Tech, Sun Prairie | Frontier 13 |
| Mariah Smitala | Ken Smitala, CZT II, Wausau | Frontier 13 |
| Jordana Stuntebeck | Kevin Stuntebeck, CZT II, Dodgeville | Frontier 13 |
| Brian Folta | Bill Folta, COEI, Wausau | Frontier 13 |
| Courtney Borkenhagen | Jeff & Connie Borkenhagen, Reedsburg | City of Reedsburg |
| Chase Studinski | Chris Studinski, Cable Splicer, Montello | Frontier 13 |

Showing Verizon and downtown Washington, D.C., what solidarity looks like, 500 CWA, AFSCME and UNI Global Union members marched and rallied Wednesday in support of Verizon workers fighting for a fair contract.

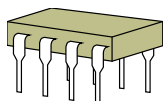
"All of us are proud to stand with CWA," AFSCME President Gerald McEntee told the cheering, chanting crowd on a day of torrential rains. "Are we going to help them win this fight? You bet we are."

The courageous two-week strike by 35,000 CWA and 10,000 IBEW members on the East Coast in August forced Verizon and Verizon Wireless to extend the workers' current contracts and resume bargaining. Despite billions in profit, the company is demanding draconian benefit cuts, wage freezes and language changes that would roll back a half-century of negotiations that created good, middle-class jobs at Verizon.

Thanking local and global allies for standing with CWA, President Larry Cohen introduced McEntee and AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka, then led the crowd in chanting, "Workers, united, will never be defeated!"

The march began at 5 p.m. a few blocks from the White House and headed to a Verizon Wireless store. Scores of green-shirted AFSCME members joined the parade as marchers passed the union's headquarters.

Passersby honked in support as the crowd stretched over a block, chanting for a fair contract and demanding an end to Verizon's union-busting. Later, the march continued, passing the White House and ending at the AFL-CIO.



UNI President Philip Jennings told the crowd that his members were eager to join with CWA for the march and rally, and that fighting for workers' rights around the world, "is what we do at UNI," and that ultimately workers will prevail against corporate greed and political attacks.

"What we're seeing is not sustainable. It is not fair. But this is a struggle that we can win. If anyone can change the world, it's the trade union movement," Jennings said.

Speakers made it clear that attacks on one group of workers is an attack on all, be they public and private sector. "AFSCME members work hard, and we want Verizon's management to know what we do," McEntee said. "We pick up their trash. We repair their roads. We drive their kids' schools buses and we answer their 911 emergency calls. And we stand with the hardworking members of CWA, who are calling for honest negotiations and fair treatment."

View more photos from Wednesday's march and keep up to date on Verizon mobilization and negotiations at CWA's [Unity@Verizon website](#).

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF LOCAL OFFICERS FOR CWA LOCAL 4671

The nominations for Local officers will take place per the following:

DATE: 10 / 20 / 2011

LOCATION: Holiday Inn

1000 Imperial Avenue

Rothschild WI. 54474

Phone 715-355-1111

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

There will be no other items on the meeting agenda for this meeting. The term of Office for all Local Officer positions is 3 years. The (4) Officer positions are: Local President, Vice President, Treasurer and Local Secretary. If you wish to be nominated you must either be present or have a written, dated and signed statement submitted indicating your willingness to accept nomination for the position and commitment to serve if elected. There must be one Local member at the meeting to place your name into nomination and one Local member to second the nomination. Any and all questions concerning the meeting or the process should be directed to an Executive Board member for proper handling.

Membership Meeting Minutes

CWA Local 4671

September 22, 2011

Call To Order: President Mike Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI.

Minutes:

- Secretary Tim Gile gave the financial report. President Oliver stated that he would look for a motion to accept this report later during the meeting after members were allowed to review the report.
- Secretary Tim Gile gave the grievance report. There was discussion on some of the grievances. And Dusty Makousky spoke about how Century Link handled their tie breakers pertaining to seniority with new hires. Jay Graf asked about non-union detailers doing union work and that this issue is becoming more and more. There was a lot of discussion on this issue. Also talked about members taking in/charge and how this could cause animosity among the ranks. Also discussed were members trading time instead of taking premium time. President Oliver talked about the arbitration case coming up pertaining to the Rhinelander members. And that he has a date for the arbitration case. Dusty Makousky asked how the seniority would work between Legacy Frontier and Frontier 13. President Mike Oliver said that he has discussed this with the company but that this issue would be difficult due to being under 2 separate contracts.
- Steve Kotel talked about the HR website. This is a new site and members should check it out. He added that at this time, he didn't think that it was very informative.
- Jay Graf discussed unions and that many aren't passing the certification voting. President Oliver mentioned that the Local has been meeting with the Edgerton and Reedsburg city workers on what their next step is as far as what can be negotiated in their contracts. Ann McNeary asked if there has been any discussion with the municipalities to work with the members on making an ordinance to protect some of their benefits. President Oliver answered that he didn't think anything like that had been brought up.
- Brian Keller stated that the Care Center is supposedly hiring 64 new employees with a start date of October 3rd. Brian also mentioned that Century Link has a Cell phone program. That a member can get a discount with other carries.
- At this time, President Mike Oliver asked if everyone had the chance to review the treasurer's report and asked for a motion to accept said report. Bob Lane made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read. This was seconded by Tom Bruckschen. The motion passed.

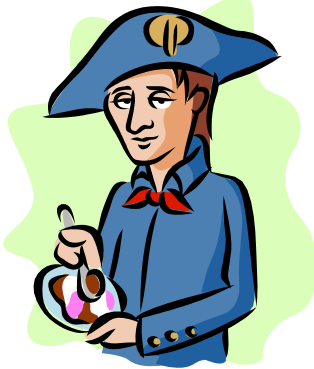
Adjournment: Jay Graf made a motion for adjournment at 8:45 p.m. This was seconded by Dusty Makousky. This meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Timothy Gile, Secretary

[Grievance Report – CWA Local 4671](#)

NEW FRONTIER

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the Sun Prairie Call Center.



The Union is requesting that the documentation be removed from the employees record after a certain date. Appealed to top step.

Frontier Communications, Rhinelander

CWA. Security Clause Requires all Bargaining unit members must apply for member ship as a condition of employment. Appealed to arbitration.

Management employee transferring to craft wanting time bridged for seniority recognition. Arbitration approved.

CENTURY LINK

The company is using none union engineering employee to Continually and consistently perform bargaining unit work for the Rice Lake exchanges. Top step meeting was held. Arbitration was denied. Appealed to District level.

Employee being harassed by Supervisor. Second step meeting held, awaiting answer.

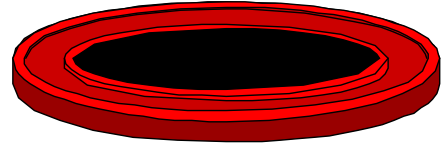
[Unions' Intense Lobbying Stops Republicans from Crippling NLRB](#)

Sep 22, 2011

CWA and other unions Wednesday defeated an effort by Republicans on the Senate Appropriations Committee to prevent the National Labor Relations Board from carrying out its mission to protect workers against employers' unfair labor practices.

The fight will continue on the Senate floor where Republicans want to strip the agency of its legal power and responsibilities to protect union workers from employers' retaliation.

The fight stems from an amendment introduced by Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.) to bar the NLRB from pursuing a case against Boeing, which is charged with retaliating against union employees by moving work from Washington state to a new, non-union production line in South Carolina.



The amendment was defeated in a 14-14 tie. While it focused on Boeing, it would have prevented the NLRB from pursuing any cases involving companies that move work from a union to a non-union plant to retaliate for lawful union activity.

Hundreds of union members' calls to the offices of two wavering Democrats persuaded Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska to join with 13 other Democrats in voting against the measure. Sen. Mark Pryor of Arkansas voted with Republicans.

"The actions the NLRB has taken under both Republican and Democratic majorities against employers that have engaged in blatant violation of human rights protected in law would no longer be possible if this amendment were to pass," CWA Legislative Director Shane Larson said in a letter to Nelson and other members of Congress.

He warned that the amendment "would set back decades of labor law and was an attack on all working people, their rights and their jobs."

The campaign to stop the Senate from weakening the NLRB is essential because the House already has passed legislation to prevent the agency from acting to defend workers in cases such as Boeing's.

But efforts by CWA and other unions did make a difference. Despite the fact that House Republican leaders have effectively declared war on the NLRB, the lobbying campaign persuaded seven GOP representatives to join House Democrats in voting against the bill.



45,000 Verizon workers are back to work and unified as one with their brothers and sisters and community supporters. Our collective fight for the American Dream continues.

Our work is far from complete. Our strike objective from the beginning was a real collective bargaining process. Your support was essential to creating that opportunity. Now begins the hard work of negotiating a fair contract.

If wealthy corporations like Verizon continue to outsource jobs and hold down worker wages, there is no hope for an economic recovery. This is why our fight is your fight and why your support is so important.

