

# ***NEWSLETTER CAW LOCAL 127***

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*August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 - Newsletter*

## **WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR LOCAL.**

Thank you to everyone who attended the corn roast on Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was a huge success and again a big thank you to all of the volunteers and to Cheryl Haddock for supplying all of the food.

**Labour Day:** Once again we are hosting our Labour Day festivities at our hall. Please bring you family out to enjoy this day of celebration, barbeque, games and activities for the kids

### **Open House:**

Due to the number of activities in the month of September, we have decided to postpone the Open House until a date in October.

I will let everyone know when a new date has been secured

### **Manufacturing Matters**

We are asking all members (both active and retired) to donate any used work boots, running shoes at their respective union offices or at our hall. This signifies the loss of manufacturing jobs in Chatham-Kent. A thank you to Bro. Aaron Demeester who has helped at several unit gates distributing letters. We will be dropping the boots, shoes off at MP Dave VanKesteren's office on Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> and then we will cavalcade to Oshawa to go to MP Jim Flaherty (Finance Minister) along with the Windsor Labour Council to present them to him on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. So please if you have any old, worn out boots, or shoes PLEASE BRING THEM FORWARD.

### **Meeting with MP Dave VanKesteren**

After many weeks of phone calls to his office to discuss the crisis of manufacturing in Chatham Kent and to discuss the importance of EI reform, Brothers Johnston, Kerrigan and myself met with MP VanKesteren on Tuesday Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>. We expressed our anger and dissent towards his government's lack of action on both of these issues. We also assured him that if a federal election is called in the fall, we will make sure our voices are heard loud and clear, when it comes to the issues that concern our members, families and our communities. At the end of the meeting, MP VanKesteren expressed his desire to meet monthly. If he is true to his word as we are to ours, then this will be a regular piece in these reports.

### **Ontario Health Care Council**

#### **DIGNITY "A MINIMUM STANDARD" CAMPAIGN**

As we enter into our initial stages of this campaign I will highlight the issues of importance to our members in the health care sector.

- Stop the cuts to hospital services
- Stop p3s
- Stop homecare competitive bidding for good
- Regulate a minimal care standard in long term care
- Stop privatization and two tier billing

We have been working with the leadership of Riverview Gardens and we will be contacting MPP Pat Hoy's office with our concerns. Please be ready to support our Sisters and Brothers in this struggle should you be called upon.

Nominations for the Ontario Health Coalition are now ready and can be picked up at the hall or the Union office.

### **Special Meeting**

I have called a special meeting for Thursday Aug 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to re-assemble our Flying Squad/ strike solidarity committee. I would like to stress the importance of this committee. If you can not attend this meeting and would like to be part of it, please contact your chair person or myself and we will see that you get signed up.

### **Standing Committees**

Please watch you union boards in your respective workplaces as we will be holding elections for our standing committees (recreation, environmental etc.) I can not express how important these committees are to helping all of the rank and file members.

### **Organizing**

We still have the following drives active

1. Dana
2. Fabtech
3. Sobeys

Please remember, if you know anyone in these workplaces or any other non-union workplaces please call the hall @ 519-354-3450. It is so important that we try to organize the unorganized.

### **Closing Thoughts**

On a personal note, my wife Sandra and I would like to thank all of those who sponsored us in the United Way "Amazing Race". We raised over \$1000.00 and ended up 13<sup>th</sup> out of 36 teams. Again to all, Thank You.

I look forward to seeing all of our members in the next few weeks, as I will be visiting every workplace with your leadership. Please feel free to forward any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions to myself or your chair as we continue our quest to build solidarity amongst all of our units.

I would also like to wish Sister Donna DeWitte (Chair Comfort Inn) and all the leadership and members all the best as we continue bargaining with that unit. Local 127 would also like to welcome Brother Richard Laverty (replacing Bro. Bob Jenner) all the best as he makes this transition to our area. Brother Laverty was the chair person of Sterling Truck in St. Thomas. He brings to us a strong voice and clear leadership as we move ahead. And finally I would also like to remind everyone of the general membership meeting schedules for:

1. Thursday Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 7:30 pm.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shift members Friday Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 9:30 am.

**PLEASE ATTEND TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD**

Please visit our website @ [www.cawlocal127.ca](http://www.cawlocal127.ca)

**Until next time  
I remain  
In Solidarity**

**AN:dc08/19/08**

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