

President's Report by Greg Golembiewski

January 2009

Dear Members of Local 730,

I hope that all of you were able to spend time with family and friends during the holiday season. However, if you are anything like me, it was hard not to think about our situation here with the plant closing and all the decisions that we will face this year.

A lot of information will be coming at us, especially in the first quarter of this year. As the factual info becomes available to Steve and I, we will communicate that with you thru Target Vision, the UAW Local 730 website, Focus on Labor, union meetings, and at the Self Help Center located next to the plant manager's conference room.

Communication is going to be vital going forward. We need everyone on the same page. The leadership does not have time to keep chasing down rumors. So please, if you want credible info, go to one of the sources that I had just mentioned.

January is going to continue to be very busy for our leadership. We have several members in various positions working very hard behind the scenes to help ensure that this wind down and transition will be handled with care.

I would like to commend all those in leadership positions; whether you are on a committee, doc 46, local appointed, serve on the executive board, or represent our members on the bargaining side – thank you for your loyalty and dedication to serving our members' needs. Please remember to work safe and watch out for your coworker.

Congratulations!

We have received official notification that Denise DeBoer will now function as 2nd shift Benefit Rep. Congratulations Denise

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 1 Deadline for GVSU Scholarship

There are two scholarships available for Grand Valley State University for Local 730 members and their families – a UAW Scholarship and an Owen Bieber Scholarship. Applications are available at the Union Hall and outside the Benefit Office in the plant.

Wednesday, February 11 – White Shirt Day

White Shirt Day honors the men and women who participated in a sit down strike at General Motors in 1937 and won UAW recognition from GM. We are asking our members to wear a white shirt this day to show our solidarity and to say thank you to our brothers and sisters who sacrificed to help us gain the benefits we have today. Owen Bieber once said on this day, “This fight isn’t simply over the size of a monthly check. It’s a fight over what kind of people we are. What kind of America we want.”

Saturday, February 14 – Credit Union Mtg

The annual Rivertown FCU meeting will be held at Godwin Heights auditorium at 6:30 p.m.

April 9 Deadline for Local 730 Scholarships

Also, applications are now available for the Local 730 Active and Retired Members Scholarship. The deadline for applications to be turned into the union hall is 4 p.m. Thursday, April 9, 2009. There will be six \$2000 scholarships awarded this year and are good for any college in the U.S. or trade school that is approved by our Executive Board. Recipients will be announced at the April 21 membership meeting.

In solidarity,

Greg Golembiewski
President
Local 730, UAW