

LOCAL 381 NEWS



Fall/Winter 2006



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Thanks goes to
El Dorado Printing for
printing and folding these
newsletters for all local
381 members. El Dorado
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A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Any business school graduate or Wall Street investor can tell you that the main responsibility of any company's management is to increase its shareholders' wealth. In business, labor is an expense to be minimized.

But there is another way if thinking which has been expressed by the likes of Abraham Lincoln, as in his State of the Union message of 1861:

"Labor is prior to, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves the much higher compensation."

It is likely that Lincoln's philosophy was influenced by the Bible. The same idea is espoused by the Apostle Paul:

"It is right for the laboring farmer to partake first of the fruits."
-- 2 Timothy 2:6 (LITV)

And the laboring farmer whom Paul goes on to describe is none other than Jesus, the Christ.

Jesus labored...

In taking on the role of a poor child born in a manger (literally, a feed trough);
In learning and working as a carpenter;
In fasting and prayer;
In preaching;
In healing;
In suffering the cross;
In dying for the sins of mankind;

And Jesus partook first of the fruit of resurrection.

This Christmas, behold in your heart the birth of the Christ Child,
Who was and is a laborer for all of us. Make Him King of your heart.

—David W. Smith

HELP NEEDED

Anyone interested in contributing information, articles or personal stories for the newsletter please send an e-mail to iuoe381@gmail.com



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IUOE 381 Welcomes Our New Members In 2006

Winston Alderson	Michael W. Owens
Paul J Bennett	Paul M. Owens
Andy Brown	Bradley S Risinger
David Caldwell	Toby Roshto
James L Cates	Jeff F Savage III
Kenneth V. Clemons	Willis Stevens III
Aaron M Fogle	Kyle R Welch
Carroll E Gadberry III	Billy R Woolsey
Mark Lunsford	

Workmen's committee

Robert Warbington
Woodie Walthall
Tony Hooks
Trey Brown
Tracy Smith

Officers

President	-Robert Warbington
Vice President	-Tracy Smith
Recording Secretary	-Woodie Walthall
Financial Secretary	-David Smith
Treasurer	-Trey Brown

EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED WAY EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS

Total contributions from employees = \$55,649.36
Corporate contributions = \$46,624.00
Total contributions = \$102,273.31

It was quoted from a reliable source that this year’s giving was “OUTSTANDING . . .BEST EVER. . . “

Whether it was the 4-wheeler or soft hearts that made it happen, it really doesn't matter. More people in Union County will get help because you gave.

Thank You.

NEW 12 HOUR SHIFT FOR OPERATIONS?

A few union members have shown interest in the possibility of pursuing a different 12-hour shift than the current one. As one of the representatives in the union I felt it necessary to put some feelers out there to see where the rest of the union body stood on this matter. I asked the pumphouse steward/financial secretary to put a letter out to that effect.

After stirring it up for a little while, one thing is clear...a new 12-hour shift for operations isn't in the immediate future. After tossing the idea around it seems that although there is some interest in pursuing it, there is not enough support at this point. The union leadership doesn't feel that it is beneficial at this point to spend our time and your resources on an issue that seems weakly supported.

In order for the union to pursue this there would need to be proof of why this would be considerably better for the entire union body (or at least the majority) as well as meet Ken Rudder's criteria outlined in the earlier letter. If someone can make available sufficient reason how this would benefit the union body as a whole the committee would be willing to listen. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

—Robert Warbington

LAMPTON SPREADS CHRISTMAS CHEER



By now most of you should have received “a little something extra” in the mail.

And, as with every gift I am thankful.

Surely this is a dividend of a kind heart, good business and a successful contract partnership.

Christian Corner

If Your Plastic Causes You to Spend...

Key Bible Verse: "Beware! Don't be greedy for what you don't have. Real life is not measured by how much we own". (Luke 12:15). Bonus Reading: Luke 12:13-21

Cut it off! The credit card was first invented by Jacob back in Genesis 25 when he allowed his brother, Esau, to order a meal using MasterCard. Esau, who was deadly with a bow and arrow, but not very good with a calculator, traded in all his rights as the firstborn son on some bread and lentil stew. It was an impulse purchase he and his descendants would regret for years.

Of course, it's possible to use the plastic in your wallet correctly. Here's how: Never buy with credit what you wouldn't buy with cash. If you haven't budgeted for it, don't buy it. The Consumer Federation of America tells us that 70 percent of credit card holders carry more than \$6,000 in unpaid balances. The average credit card company allows us to borrow 250 percent more than we can afford to pay—at interest rates often more than 20 percent. So pay your credit card off each month. If you can't, then gather some friends together and have a Plastic Party. See how long a strip you can cut your cards into. Then dip them in candle wax and see how long they'll burn. The loser makes the others lentil stew. How about this for a party theme: "You can leave home without it."

—Phil Callaway in Who Put My Life on Fast-Forward?

My Response: How correctly am I using my credit card(s)?

Prayer for the week:
Help me, Lord, to keep things off the throne of my life because Your place there is secure.

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Local 381**

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Local

381

Newsletter

If capitalism is fair then unionism must be. If men have a right to capitalize their ideas and the resources of their country, then that implies the right of men to capitalize their labor.

-- Frank Lloyd Wright

This is a quarterly newsletter brought to you by International Union Of Operating Engineers (AFL-CIO) local 381 and El Dorado Printing.