NEWSLETTER

Edition

May 6, 2011



200

Contract Negotiations / Pay

AFGE is in negotiations with the FAA. We have completed about 2/3 of the articles but the last 1/3 will involve deep discussion. We hope to have a contract that meets our requirements within 2 months. Stay Tuned...

Labor Management Forums

AFGE Line of Business (LOB) Forum -Rick Ducharme (SVP ATO Operations) endorsed an effort for dialogue between AFGE 200 and the 2nd Level Managers in our common chain of command. We have now had 2 monthly meetings with AJE, AJT, AJW14 and AJW17 Managers. We established goals and ground rules for discussions and agree that together, we can jointly address issues proactively which may avoid the need for formal, contentious processes. The LOB forum discussions will likely expand, especially when a new Union contract is signed.

National Forum - AFGE 200 has participated with the top 15 FAA executives including the Administrator and 14 other FAA Unions in an effort 1) foster effective collaborative relationships and; 2) work issues together for the betterment of the entire FAA.

Advocating for Employees

AFGE 200 has intervened in impacts to our employees such as: lost jobs, improper discipline, and changes in travel requirements, work locations, work assignments, and management. We have also served as advocates in cases of difficult work environments. And we will continue to do so.

Travel / Hours of Work

On 02/24/11, the FAA stated that all bargaining unit employees in AFGE 200 are entitled to travel comp time. This was long overdue. We may now work with our managers for better planning of travel with this 'tool' available. However, remember that the FAA is still required to pay 1½ time overtime for travel under certain circumstances. The most common reason is for restoration of the NAS.

WJHTC OSHECCOM

AFGE has the position of Chair of the WJHTC Occupational Safety, Health, Environmental Compliance and Committee. The committee is to, "... maintain an open channel communication between employees and management concerning safety and health matters in agency We workplaces." believe this committee will, in part, be a means to avoid issues like the recent mold and high voltage installations. Instead, the committee hopes to foster advance communication of planned changes and transparent reaction to potentially unsafe conditions.

> **AFGE Local 200 Helps Raise** \$5,160 for St Baldrick's Day



From Left: Caleb, Luis, Tony, Gary, Bob

THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED !!!

AFGE Local 200 Union officers are:

Vice President - Bill Heintzberger Shop Steward – Dave King Vacancies exist for Union Reps - Contact Us!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been privileged to be an officer of AFGE 200 for 8 years and will continue to help as time passes.

Dues paying members should be receiving notice of a meeting to choose the next cadre of officers for your representation. Unlike our 'lunch and learn' get-togethers and the Core Comp informational meeting, this meeting is for paying members for the election.

I have tried to foster participation in AFGE 200 activities, representation work, and research on issues important to our careers and work place. I offer deep thanks to those who supported our interests. But I would hope that in the coming months and years, more people will offer assistance. As many will tell you, paying dues was never a must to be part of our team. But I will make an appeal for union employees to consider paying dues (\$13.50, \$11.50 or \$7.50 per pay period depending on your grade). There are fringe benefits (found at AFGE.com) as well as benefits gained through financial support of AFGE National and Local 200 causes.

In closing, some hard work has occurred in cooperation with the FAA to improve the agency and our WJHTC work place. I believe we are fostering better relations with all 2nd Level Managers and the majority of 1st Level Managers. But more work is needed.

I ask the ~360 employees in AFGE 200 to consider helping your new officers or even becoming a union representative. The pay stinks (\$0), but there is much heartfelt satisfaction to be found.

Remember - This Is Your Union! Take Care and Be Happy!

Secretary/Treasurer - Deborah Capasso Shop Steward - Gary Baca