



ATU 1342 Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 2

196 Orchard Park Road West Seneca NY 14224 825-9217 Fax: 825-9243

February 2018

Charter Union Meeting

February 14th

ATU Union Hall
196 Orchard Park Rd.
West Seneca NY

**10:00 AM and
7:30 PM**

Agenda

Regular order of
Business

From the President's Desk

By: Jeff Richardson

Benefits of Union Membership

Union Membership Gives Strength in Numbers:

All workers benefit from unions, because unions set pay standards and workplace protections. Union members — workers like you — benefit most from the union's collective bargaining power to negotiate with employers on their behalf. This basic right gives you as a union member more power than if you tried to negotiate as an individual. More benefits of union membership.

- Union employees make an average of 30% more than non-union workers.
- 92% of union work-

ers have job-related health coverage versus 68% of non-union workers.

- Union workers are more likely to have guaranteed pensions than non-union employees.

Unions help protect employees from unjust dismissal through collective bargaining agreements (CBA). Because of this, most union employees cannot be fired without "just cause." This is unlike many nonunion workers who are considered "at-will" employees and can be fired at any time for almost any reason.

Unions are Good for America and all Americans: Unions are associated with

higher productivity, lower employee turnover, improved workplace communication, and a better-trained workforce.

There is a substantial amount of academic literature on the following benefits of unions and unionization to employers and the economy:

- Economic growth
- Productivity
- Competitiveness
- Product or service delivery and quality
- Training
- Turnover
- Solvency of the firm
- Workplace health and safety
- Economic development

In Solidarity,
Jeff Richardson



Union Newspaper

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A Message From Charlie Sikora Financial Secretary/Treasurer



The new tax law, commonly called the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act” is the biggest federal tax law in over 30 years. Below are some significant changes affecting individuals. Check with your tax preparer to see what does or doesn’t apply to you.

Tax provisions that were eliminated:

- Personal exemption deductions are suspended.
- Itemized deduction for home equity interest is no longer allowed.
- Alimony is not deductible by the payer nor includible in income by the recipient for agreements entered into after Dec 31, 2018
- Personal casualty loss and theft deductions are eliminated unless incurred in a federally declared disaster area.

Tax provisions that were reduced:

- The threshold for deducting medical expenses is 7.5% of adjusted gross income for all tax payers for 2017 and 2018.
- The itemized deduction for state and local taxes limited to \$10,000 (\$5,000 married filing separately) with certain exceptions.

Tax provisions that were increased:

- The 2018 standard deduction is:
- Single or married filing separate...\$12,000
- Married filing joint or qualified Widow(er)...\$24,000
- Head of household...\$18,000
- The Child Tax Credit increased to \$2,000. Per qual-

ifying child and the phase-out-threshold increased.

- There is a new Family Tax Credit of up to \$500 for dependents who are not a qualifying child for purposes of the Child Tax Credit.

Lastly to follow up on last month’s newsletter; if you have to go out of work either unexpectedly or on a planned medical leave, whether it’s disability or compensation. Please call the union hall so I can make arrangements with you to keep up on your per-capita obligation. This will insure that you do not become delinquent and then suspended as a union member to this local.

Deceased Members

◆ Charles Wilkinson	12/20/17
◆ Paul Schulze	12/29/17
◆ Carole Gruschow (Williams)	1/14/18
◆ Suzanne Doughty	1/28/18
◆ Richard Canzoneri	1/28/18



Happy Birthday

January



Atkinson, Niama
 Badura, Dale
 Banister, Timothy
 Barron, Cory
 Becton-Schmitt, Annette
 Biniecki Jr, John
 Blowers, Joseph
 Brauza, Walter
 Britt, Rhonda
 Brown, Denise
 Burkell, Cornelius
 Carpenter, Antwine
 Chiles, Cleveland
 Conrad II, John
 Curuth, Stevie
 Dixon, Antonio
 Edmond, Michael
 Ferguson, Sonya
 Gidney, Donnie
 Green, Anthony
 Green, Lorenzo
 Greiner, Thomas
 Hall, Carolyn M
 Harris, Michael
 Henry, Michael
 Hernandez, Misael
 Hodge, Kenneth
 Holmes, Agnes

Hughes, Terry
 Johnson, Cassandra
 Johnson, Jennifer
 Johnson, Rita
 Jones, Brandon
 Keigley III, John
 Kieffer, Paul
 Lane, Adrian
 Lee, Lynda
 Love, Clyde
 Maddox, Jasmine
 Maldonado, Jessica
 Massey Jr, Clarke
 Matheron, Glenn
 McDougald, Samuel
 McMillon, Patricia
 Medero, Jose
 Mitchell, William
 Muhammad, Sammy
 Mulhisen, Michael
 Nesbitt, Troy L.
 Oehler, Robert
 Parker, Mark
 Patton, Nicole
 Pellish, Galen
 Peterson, Brent
 Pilarski, Alex
 Plewniak, Nicholas

Porter, Levelzo
 Purdue, Gary
 Rizzo, Michael
 Rosado, Angel
 Salunek, John
 Scarano, Richard
 Schaefer, Brian
 Scheuneman, Richard
 Schichtel, Gerald
 Schneggenburger, Donald
 Shingledecker, Paul
 Simpson, Justin
 Skoczylas, Anthony
 Smith, Kimberly
 Stafford Jr, Derek
 Stewart, Lynette
 Stoczynski, Craig
 Stone, Jeremy
 Striker, Roy
 Szejnar, Shaun
 Tiede, Karl
 Tillis, Lavar
 Washington, Clifford
 Wiggins, Pamela
 Wright, John
 Zarnikau, David

Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday

February

Happy Birthday!



Ando, Frederick
 Baldwin, Johnny
 Bandinelli, Brian
 Billingslea, Antionette
 Bishop, Leonard
 Brill, Rudy
 Brown, Clarence
 Brown, William
 Bruno, Leonard
 Brush, Graham
 Burke, Michael
 Cameron, Janice
 Chojnacki, Cheryl
 Cosgrove, Bruce
 Crapo, Bonnie
 Cupples, Glenn
 Dantzler, Bonnie
 Dauer, Wayne
 Delaney, April
 Depczynski, Robert
 Evans, Sheila
 Fiorella, Daniel
 Ford, Marcus
 Garcia, Edioriel
 Glover, Wyetta
 Goss, Gary
 Hall, John
 Higgins, Jeannine
 Hill, Damara

Hundley, Jerome
 Jones, Tamica
 Kearney, Rickey
 Kenward, Laurey
 Krauss, Shawn
 Lainis Jr, John
 Lewandowski, Thomas
 Marrero, Joseph
 Mathis, Tommy
 McMenamin, Richard
 McClamb, Demarcus
 McCollum, Arthur
 Miller, Keesha
 Mosher, Ricky
 Moye, Laquesha
 Murshed, Nurul
 Myree, Roselyn
 Nervo, Gary
 O'Connell, Jason
 O'Neill, Timothy
 Padilla-Vazquez, Candace
 Parmer, Leslie
 Patterson, Demettrius
 Payne, Thomas
 Peacock, Valencia
 Pendrak, Joseph
 Penelton, Lamont
 Phillips, Calvin
 Pittorf, Michael

Polasky, Melissa
 Pratcher, Dylan
 Reeve, Julie
 Rost, Thomas
 Saia, Frank
 Sampman Jr, Samuel
 Santana, Wilfredo
 Santana-Garcia, Yaniz
 Scime, James
 Shahzad, Amir
 Shanley, Raymond
 Skea Jr, Richard
 Smith III, Andrew
 Smith, Martin
 Stanchfield, Dean
 Stevenson, Willie
 Thomson, Scott
 Wagner, Charles
 Wagner, Melissa
 Walker, Gina
 Warnes, Ross
 Weisbeck, William
 Wright IV, William
 Wright, Dawn
 Yancey, Jose
 Zimmermann, Kevin

Metro Anniversaries

Badura, Dale	33	Harper, Carl	5	Schilling, Cynthia	33
Beal, Keith	7	Houston, Rodric	17	Shealy, Michael	5
Beal, Vernon	7	Jackson, Ariana	5	Shelton, Lamont	15
Bennett, Damarr	5	Johnson, Arthur	24	Shephard, Demetrius	17
Boykin, Kenneth	3	Kalman, Robert	39	Szejnar, Shaun	11
Bratek, Justin	2	Kieffer, Paul	33	Taylor Jr, Raymond	10
Brauza, Walter	33	Kozak, Bernice	18	Truesdale, Michael	19
Burke, Patrick	10	Kubisty, Christian	14	Tymorek, Darlene	11
Carter, Brett	1	Kurtzworth, Michael	8	Vega, Maira	12
Caudle, Raymond	1	Mann, Trichel	1	Walden, Joseph	17
Clemons, Jerome	18	Moore, Lydia	19	Washington, Clifford	17
Cole, Reginald	7	Morrissey, John	39	Weber, Brian	18
Confer, Marygrace	7	Myers, Gary	7	Wengewicz, Mark	8
Conner, Joan	18	Myree, Roselyn	11	Whitney, Patrick	2
Cunningham, Robert	25	Nelson, Thomas	7	Wiggins, Pamela	33
Dantzler, Bonnie	7	Nesbitt, Troy	5	Wilczak, Ronald	11
Davis, Tahje	18	Nieves Sr, Bernardo	25	Zee, Lance	8
Drayton, Dennis	19	Peay, Antwan	5		
Fletcher, Quinton	24	Phillips, Calvin	12		
Foster, David	18	Price, Barbara	21		
Germanovich, Nicholas	1	Quick, Darlene	18		
Griffin Jr, Willie	10	Rizzo, Kristine	3		

Retired in February

Richard Ball

Annette Kasprovicz

Robert Brown

John Kelley

Robert Cummings

Brian Langlands

Thomas Gerrity

Joseph Ratka

Gwendolyn Johnson

Milton Rowe

Carieta Jones

Kenneth Schaefer

Teresa Justinger

Pamela Wiggins



AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION LOCAL UNION 1342

196 ORCHARD PARK RD. WEST SENECA, NY 14224
PHONE: (716) 825-9217 FAX: (716) 825-9243



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Listed below are the standard amounts that most members paid in dues and assessments in 2017. This can be used for those of you who itemize and use the union dues and assessment deduction option on your taxes:

Please note that not all of you may have paid these amounts. If you're not sure these amounts reflect your individual deductions, please contact me at the union hall for your correct amounts.

2017 Dues: \$680.68

2017 Assessments: \$148.00

If you need further information regarding your individual dues and assessments amounts paid in the year 2017, please contact me at 825-9217.

Charles H. Sikora
Financial Secretary/Treasurer
ATU Local 1342