

## **Plant Chairperson's report**

As had been previously mentioned in the leaflet that was circulating, the elected and appointed leadership in the Mopar Parts Depot intends to use a monthly report on the Unifor Local 1285 website to keep the membership in our unit more up-to-date with the ongoing month-to-month events.

This being the first of hopefully many posts, I would like to start by thanking the entire membership for the acclamation of both George and myself. This show of confidence will only motivate us further in our fight to not only police the negotiated contract, but also go over and above the call of duty when it comes to our membership.

This new motivation went a long way in right from the beginning of our new term, as we had a meeting with Adam Lackner (Syed's boss), Glenn Gorick and Jim Favrin (HR Windsor), that also included our National rep Whitey MacDonald, and local rep Dave Ireland. The in-plant committee made it very clear to the group that our number 1 concern, one that has not changed in a few years, was the integration of new work into our facility. After hearing what the committee believes to be unrealistic manpower and metric goals for the 2014 year, it was apparent that the only way of insuring that each current member of our unit stayed employed, was getting new work. It was Adam Lackner who revealed to the group that the company was currently looking into having the fascias that are manufactured just down the 401 from us, at PolyCon, warehoused here. We were told that this work would sustain the entire membership at our facility, and possibly also be enough work to get the 2 members who currently are on layoff, back to work. Mr. Lackner's original estimate that he would have an answer for us in 72 hours was clearly overestimated, as the last we have heard, from a more recent meeting with Glenn Gorick, we will probably still not hear anything for 3 to 4 more weeks. The meeting concluded with Whitey MacDonald getting a commitment from the company that there would be no layoffs until we were given an answer about the fascia work.

As for the most recent meeting, it was attended by the in-plant committee, with Local rep Dave Ireland, and from the company Syed, Frank, and Glenn Gorick. This meeting was once again to discuss the Manitoulin and Stock pack up work that was re-allocated to Team Industrial employees once the Manitoulin routes became part of our DDS routes with Day & Ross. Unfortunately, once again, the committee came away with no commitment from the company to return the work to Mopar employees. Dave Ireland has brought the issue again to our National Rep Whitey, and hopefully we can expect a resolve soon.

The in-plant committee also brought up the issue of vacation canvassing. So far things have been on hold because the committee did not want to get into a situation where we had our vacation canvass just to see an open season have members moved from days to afternoons, on which they would be entitled to different vacation eligibility. In the meeting, the committee made it clear that if the company could agree to bring back the 2 laid off members, it would open up the flexibility to possibly restart the summer student program, and/or use TPT's through the week, which would allow us to get the months of July and August opened up to give some more openings for those who want vacations in our

traditionally most sought after months. We have yet to receive an answer on this, but hope to sometime this week.

The committee has again requested, and will keep insisting that we have a grievance meeting to resolve some very long overdue grievances. Again, thus far, all attempts to get something scheduled by the company have gone for not.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Gwen Campbell on her nomination for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President with the local. Gwen is one of, if not the most, active member we have in our local. As chair of the local Women's Committee and the Women's Advocate of our facility, Gwen has been leading the fight for women's rights for many years now within our facility, our local, and the surrounding communities. I would like to wish her good luck in her campaign and thank her for all her work as our facilities women's advocate.

That is all I have for this month. We have a unit meeting coming up on April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10am, in which we will be electing our new election committee and talking of any updates with regards to new work and vacation scheduling. I look forward to seeing many of you this Sunday.

In Solidarity,

Todd Rivero

Mopar Parts Depot Unit Chairperson.