



LOCAL 2-21 C.A.T. Letter

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Distribution: # 33

Date: September 1, 2009

Within the last week or two all of you should have received a 5 by 7 card in the mail pertaining to the USW International Elections. This is something new to us as we didn't have this protocol when we were with PACE. Instead of the International President appointing people and then those people having a lifelong job, the USW runs their elections through the Democratic system with each position expiring (at once) at the end of a 4 year term. When I say they all expire together I'm including the International President too. This is new to us so I'm trying to be very careful to make sure I handle it correctly as these nominations come with a list of rules the length of your arm.

The available positions are: International President, International Secretary-Treasurer, International Vice President (Administration), International Vice President (Human Affairs), International Vice President at Large, International Vice President, and Director of District 2.

Because EVERYONE IN OUR LOCAL has a right to nominate a party, there will be three nomination meetings scheduled for Wednesday September 9, 2009. The first will be at 7:00am, the second will be at 1:00pm and the third will be at 7:00pm which will coincide with our union meeting. The International Union Elections Manual provides that no candidate may be voted upon at the nomination meeting unless the name of that candidate has been submitted in writing by a member of the Local Union to the Local's Recording Secretary (Karen Maggart) at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the hour on which the first session of the nomination meeting is scheduled to begin. In other words, the written document will have to be in Karen's hand by 7:00am Monday September 7, 2009. The submission must be signed and indicate the office for which the candidate's name is being submitted. Once a name is submitted it cannot be withdrawn except by the candidate.

I know this all sounds confusing. The bottom line is this: We (the committee) have to make it possible for everyone to attend a nomination meeting if they so desire. REMEMBER, THESE NOMINATIONS ARE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, NOT FOR OUR LOCAL.

The current nomination ticket received by our local is listed below. These people currently hold each of the respective offices listed by their names. I currently have a document written out nominating this group which I will be giving to Karen later in the week.

Leo W. Gerard, Candidate for International President

Stan Johnson, Candidate for International Secretary-Treasurer

Tom Conway, Candidate for International Vice President (Administration)

Fred Redmond, Candidate for International Vice President (Human Affairs)

Carol Landry, Candidate for International Vice President at Large

Jon Geenen, Candidate for International Vice President

Michael Bolton, Candidate for Director of District 2

Even though you (hopefully) all received this CAT report, this article will also run in our September newsletter as well. One of the rules is to communicate this in the usual fashion the members have grown accustomed, which I feel has grown to be the newsletter as well as the CAT reports.

On another note, future negotiating dates are currently set for **September 18th, October 5th, 13th, 14th.** IF the October 12th Boiler House / Kraft Mill outage forces us out of the mill, the 13th and 14th dates will be canceled.

In Solidarity,

Bryon Branstrom