



Machinists Matters

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
 Local Lodge 839
 3917 E. MacArthur Rd.
 Wichita, Kansas 67210

Monthly Meetings

2nd Saturday of the Month

Executive Board meets at 8:00AM

Regular Meeting at 10:00AM

“ Decisions are made by those who show up.”

Presidents Day



History of the Holiday

The original version of the holiday was in commemoration of George Washington's birthday in 1796 (the last full year of his presidency). Washington, according to the calendar that has been used since at least the mid-18th century, was born on February 22, 1732. According to the old style calendar in use back then, however, he was born on February 11. At least in 1796, many Americans celebrated his birthday on the 22nd while others marked the occasion on the 11th instead.

By the early 19th century, Washington's Birthday had taken firm root in the American experience as a bona fide national holiday. Its traditions included Birthnight Balls in various regions, speeches and receptions given by prominent public figures, and a lot of revelry in taverns throughout the land. Then along came Abraham Lincoln, another revered president and fellow February baby (born on the 12th of the month). The first formal observance of his

birthday took place in 1865, the year after his assassination, when both houses of Congress gathered for a memorial address. While Lincoln's Birthday did not become a federal holiday like George Washington's, it did become a legal holiday in several states.

In 1968, legislation (HR 15951) was enacted that affected several federal holidays. One of these was Washington's Birthday, the observation of which was shifted to the third Monday in February each year whether or not it fell on the 22nd. This act, which took effect in 1971, was designed to simplify the yearly calendar of holidays and give federal employees some standard three-day weekends in the process.

Apparently, while the holiday in February is still officially known as Washington's Birthday (at least according to the Office of Personnel Management), it has become popularly (and, perhaps in some cases at the state level, legally) known as "President's Day." This has made the third Monday in February a day for honoring both Washington and Lincoln, as well as all the other men who have served as president.

In-Plant Reps
 David Eagle - 1st Shift
 Howard Johnson In-Plant Reps
 David Eagle - 1st Shift
 Howard Johnson - 2nd Shift
 (316) 524-1090

 Absent Reporting Line
 (316) 526-6900

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Everybody's An Organizer

Kevin Jamis Co-Chair Organizing Committee

During January's Monthly meeting we gave out several checks to members that have gone out and talked to 31 potential members and got them to join Our Union. Every week Spirit is hiring new employees into our shops. The first person they need to meet is our Stewards/ Members, we need to talk to them about joining our union. Then you need to listen to them and then maybe next month you might be the one that gets your picture taken and be presented with a check. Further, you gain personal satisfaction that you helped to grow this Union making this a better place to work and this world a better place to



Are You Ready For The Next Election ?

Top 10 Issues for Working Families

1. Keep Social Security intact.
2. Save Medicare.
3. A. strong Patients' Bill of Rights
4. No tax cuts for the rich
5. Protect workers pensions.
6. Improve our public schools
7. A clean and safe workplace
8. Reinforce the right to organize
9. Pay equally for women
10. Raise the minimum wage to a living wage

Why Unions Are In Politics

Union over the years have won major legislative battles that have improved the lives of you and your family. You probably take these important benefits for granted, and may have no idea of the long and often bitter struggle it took to win them. Here are a few examples.

You may find it hard to believe but until the mid-1930's, workers lucky enough to have a full-time job were toiling 60 hours a week, half-day Saturday, with no pay for overtime. There was no federal minimum wage law, so that employers, in the absence of a union, were able to pay their workers a bare subsistence wage. Employers were free to use child labor, even in coal mines.

From the 1880s on, unions fought to establish the eight-hour workday, even to point of bloody strikes, but they were largely unsuccessful because of fierce opposition from employers. According to the conventional wisdom, an eight-hour workday would be economically disastrous and would lead to an epidemic of business shutdowns and massive unemployment. Newspaper editorials warned that the shorter workday would encourage idleness, drunken and crime.

It was persistent union pressure, aided by friendly New Deal government of President Franklin Roosevelt, that led to passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act (also known as the Wages and Hours Act) in June 1938. That landmark legislation established the eight-hour day and the 40-hour workweek, with time and half for overtime. It also,

for the first time, decreed a federal minimum wage that would rise with the improvement of the economy. The Act also forbade the labor of children under 16 in most occupations and under 18 in hazardous ones.

Contrary to the claims of business associations and their lobbyists, the economy didn't collapse because of the eight-hour law. Companies reluctantly adjusted to the new situation. Productivity, in fact increased. Employers got used to paying for overtime work when they needed it.

Although the law has been in effect for more than six decades, the nation's corporations still regularly mount campaigns to weaken it.

Ready for the Big Game?



Mike Shock

At the January meeting of Local Lodge 839, the Community Service Committee held a drawing for a Super Bowl Basket. The basket contained various Hickory Farms snack items, 4 prime-seating tickets to a Wichita Thunder Hockey game, Car Wash coupons from Green Lantern and other fun stuff! The basket, valued at over \$120.00, was won by Michael Shock. Mike is a first shift Union Steward in dept. 2964 located in Plant II. Congratulations Mike!

The Community Service Committee cooks and sells cheeseburgers at the Local Lodge meeting each month, and tries to have basket drawings whenever they can to help raise money to donate to community organizations that help our members in need. Be sure to attend the February 9th Local Lodge meeting for a chance to win a Valentine's basket!

Better yet, become a member of the Community Service Committee and work with us to demonstrate to the Wichita area that union members are actively working to help improve our community. We have immediate openings now on the 2008 committee! Contact the Local Lodge for more information on how you can get more involved! (524-1090).

By Kathy Petersen

Welcome Our New Union Brothers and Sisters

New January IAMAW LL839 Members

ANDREAE, ANTHONY
 ANDREWS, AUSTIN D.
 ATTREAU, CHRIS M.
 BABCOCK, ROBERT E.
 BAKER, RACHELLE
 BEISTLINE, KARL W.
 BIELER, NATHAN
 BRADY, JESSI A.
 BRECHEISEN, MIKE
 BRUSO, ANDREW
 BRUSO, LITA
 BURNETT, JEFFREY D.
 CARPENTER, MIKE P.
 CARTER, MICHAEL D.
 CLAUNCH, GARY
 CROSS, ADAM E.
 CYBULSKI, JOSEPH P.
 DANG, DAVIS
 DAUSTER, WILLIAM C.
 DAVIS, BILLY J.
 DAVIS, MARY L.
 DEBUHR, KALEY
 DEY, JEFF A.
 DOLEN, KIRK
 DREYER, MICHAEL A.
 EATON, MICHELLE
 ELLIOTT, CLINT
 EVANS, STEPHANIE
 FIOLA, DUANE

FORSHEE, CODY
 FOSTER, DUSTIN
 GARCIA, REBECCA L.
 GATES, SKYLA L.
 GIBSON, GREGORY S.
 GILLESPIE, JASON R.
 GILLESPIE, TRACY
 GRAMMER, MICHAEL D.
 GREEN, PHILLIP
 GUINN, STACI K.
 HACKLER, BRAD
 HARMS, TRAVIS
 HARTMAN, KENT
 HEALD, SHAUN
 HEBB, KATHA
 HERPOLSHEIMER, TIMOTHY A.
 HICKS, FORREST
 HILL, ALAN
 HOANG, ROSEANN
 HOER, DUSTIN
 HUDSON, JEFFREY S.
 HUFF, EDWARD
 INSIXIENGMAY, PETE
 JACKSON, MICHAEL R.
 JACOBS, GLENN J.
 JOHNSON, DANNY C.
 JOHNSON, JUSTIN E.

JONES, COLBY
 KLOSTER, KIM R.
 KOCH, AARON
 KOPPLIN, ELVA
 LAU, ANITA
 LAW, WILLIAM E.
 LE, DAVID P.
 LE, EM T.
 LEA, RONALD
 LINDEN, BRYAN
 LINSOTT, DAVID B.
 LUX, STEPHANIE
 MCCONNELL, ROBERT P.
 MITCHELL, DONITA
 MONTANO, MARIO
 MOUNIVONG, THONGDY D.
 MURPHY, MICHAEL D.
 NICHOLSON, BRADLEY L.
 NIGHSWONGER, AUSTIN
 OETTING, BRADLEY S.
 OWENS, BRETT A.
 OYALAMI, SAMUEL O.
 PETTY, HALIE R.
 PHAN, THIEN X.
 PHELAN, KELSAY T.
 PLUMMER, CHRISTOPHER
 PONDER, ALICIA
 RAPP, JACOB "JAKE"
 RAUSCH, LINDA S.

RHODES, DUSTIN L.
 RICHARDS, RHONDA
 RIEMEN, GREGORY S.
 RINKE, RALPH L.
 ROACH, GARY L.
 ROLL, D. JAYSON
 ROUNTREE, ROBERT S.
 SANOUVONG, MICHAEL
 SMALLWOOD, ELIZABETH A.
 SMITH, MICHAEL "MIKE" J.
 SMITH, RANDY L.
 SMITH, REGINALD C.
 SNYDER, MATT L.
 SOELL, WILLIAM N.
 SOWERSBY, DENNIS W.
 STANLEY, PHILLIP L.
 STEWART, WALTER T.
 TEMPLETON, COOPER
 TURNER, BRIAN L.
 VONGKHAMCHANH, SOUKANTHONE
 WEBB, LAMONT
 WESLEY, VINCENT
 WILEY, MAURICE R.
 WISE, CHRIS
 WOOD, BRIAN
 YOESTING, CATHERINE

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The Fighting Machinists

www.ll839.org

Local Lodge 839 Officers



President - Gary Cochran
Vice President - Kathy Petersen
Recording Secretary - Kevin Jamis
Treasurer - Joni Pierce
Conductor/Sentinel - Dennis Williams
Trustees - Roger Stamback, Stan Chapman, Rickey Nelson

Communicator - Dennis Williams
Educator - Roger Stamback

1st Shift In-Plant Representative - David Eagle
2nd Shift In-Plant Representative - Howard Johnson

LL839 Newsletter Editor - Ernest (Ernie) L. Gonzales