



AMEA Beacon



August 2007

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Newsletter Committee

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Contact Us

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A Letter from the President by Arshella Smith



Hello AMEA members! Let me start my saying thank you very much for your vote to continue to be your president. Again, there have been very challenging and rewarding moments since I have been the president. We have continued to strive to protect our contract and the integrity of our membership. Without your support we could have not done this. Please

keep up all of you efforts and good work. I truly think working for the Municipality of Anchorage is wonderful due to the hard work you do.

We will be going into contract negotiations in the fall of this year. I am asking for your suggestion of concerns or issues we may need to bring up during this time. Currently we have a central email address to send your question and issues to. Please feel free to e-mail those to amea@gci.net.

Many of you may be aware that the Teamster have a new Leader, his name is Ken Coleman which is the Secretary/Treasurer. He has added a new business agent with us and his name is Dale Miller. Dale brings a wealth of knowledge understanding contracts language. Dale has jumped right into AMEA business so that he can understand the concerns and issues of our membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Board Meeting – September 4
- Nominations Meeting – September 11
- Shop Steward Workshop – September 13
- Adopt-a-Park Cleanup – September 18

See www.akteamsters.com , click "resources" then AMEA for schedule and other information.

Pay step increases due immediately

by Hank Wiedle

It appears some MOA managers are still holding to the mistaken belief that they can withhold the award of a pay step increase for employees who complete probation until the management gets around to writing evaluations on the employees. This is incorrect and violates our Contract.

Article 9 (9.1.1.A) states "Upon satisfactory completion of the probationary period after initial appointment or promotion, the employee's entrance pay shall be advanced one (1) increment to the next higher step in the pay range..."

An employee satisfactorily completes the probationary period on the first business day following completion of the probationary period unless, prior to that day, the employee is separated, demoted or extended in the probationary status (10.3.4.A).

If your step increase following completion of probation or your annual step increase is not given in a timely manner, please notify your shop steward.



A Familiar face

by Sonia Walker



Do you recognize this person? It's Jack Puff of Project Management & Engineering. As of this date, he has walked the halls of this department for forty years, and plans to do so for some more! Presently, Jack is assisting the current Flood Hazard Administrator for the Municipality of Anchorage. In addition to his primary role, Jack is organizing records management for the Development Services Department. Jack enjoys the camaraderie of the employees at his work place.

Jack hails from Geneva, New York. During the 1960's, Jack served with the Air Force for four years. His assignment was at Elmendorf Air Force Base. The breathtaking scenery of Anchorage, and the friendliness of its residents, convinced him to stay after his service career ended. According to Jack, Anchorage was a good place to raise children. In 1967, he began his employment with the "City of Anchorage." He was hired as a surveyor and chairman for the survey crew of Project Management & Engineering. Over the years, as a draftsman and map maker, he did varied projects for the department, and eventually landed his present position. As an expert with flood hazards and mapping, Jack is much in demand, especially with Federal agencies such as FEMA. Due to the longevity of his municipal career, Jack knew all the Mayors from Mayor Sullivan to current Mayor Begich.

Jack has two daughters, Cindy and Sherry. He is the grandfather of five children. During his spare time, Jack enjoys tinkering with his vintage cars (1941 and 1955 Ford Pick-ups). With much enthusiasm, he attends vintage car rallies in Las Vegas and Tucson. His other hobbies consist of gardening, fishing and "roughing it smoothly" with his recreation vehicle. Jack is quick to help his family with remodeling projects.

By the way, he insists that he did not write the song, "Puff the Magic Dragon." On occasion, Jack likes listening to "oldies but goodies."

In 1971, he became a member of our Union. He served on the Board of AMEA for ten years; Vice-President for one year, and President for four years. One can agree that Jack is a loyal member of AMEA, and a beacon that continues to shine!

Address Change Form for AMEA mailings to be filled out and mailed to Teamsters

The form below is an important piece of information for staying in the loop with mailings AND ELECTION BALLOTS from AMEA. To ensure Teamsters has your current address to receive a ballot in the mail, send this form in by October 1, 2007.

F.Y.I. MOA Employee Relations **DOES NOT** send your new address change to the Teamsters! IT IS UP TO YOU! Just detach the form, fill it out, and mail it to:

Teamsters Local 959
520 East 34th Avenue, Suite 102
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

ADDRESS CHANGE

NAME _____ DATE _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NO. _____

TEAMSTER LEDGER NO. _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NO. _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

MEMBER SIGNATURE _____

DISTRIBUTION:

WHITE – Local 959
GREEN – Accounting Dept.
CANARY – Trust Offices

THIS FORM CHANGES YOUR ADDRESS AT:

– Local 959
– Accounting Dept.
– Trust Offices

Featured Recipe - Veggie Tortilla Lasagna

by Sonia Walker

Prep time: 15 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2 tsp. vegetable oil
- 1 large zucchini, cut in half and sliced
- ¾ c. frozen corn, thawed
- 7-oz. jar roasted red peppers, sliced
- 1/3 c. ricotta cheese
- 1 ¼ c. grated Monterey jack cheese
- 1 c. salsa, drained of juice in a colander
- 6 6-in. corn tortillas

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 500 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Add vegetable oil to large pan and heat, adding zucchini, corn, and peppers.
3. In bowl, mix cheeses.
4. Trim sides of tortillas to fit a loaf pan. Layer tortillas, veggies, cheeses, and salsa.
5. Cover with aluminum foil and bake for 10 to 15 minutes.

Serves 5

Your Current Officers and Shop Stewards

Be advised that under the contract AMEA members are permitted to have a union representative present during discussion of all disciplinary actions upon request, and the employee shall be advised of that right. If the employee requests that a Shop Steward or other AMEA representative be present during any meeting concerning disciplinary action, the MOA will allow a reasonable amount of time for the employee to contact his or her AMEA representative in order for AMEA's representative to be able to attend the meeting scheduled by the MOA. **Below is a list of shop stewards and AMEA representatives:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AREA ASSIGNED</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Arshella Smith	President	At Large	786-5525 244-8235 Cell
Mark McKee	Vice President	At Large/Property Appraisal	343-7928
Ginny Fritz	Treasurer/shop Steward	Finance/City Hall	343-6765
Stephen Rerko	Secretary	PM&E	343-8105
Eva DuRant	Director/Shop Steward	Health Department	343-4626
Jillanne Inglis	Director/Shop Steward	4700 S. Bragaw	343-8353
Pete Jeskie	Shop Steward	AWWU	751-2253
Robert Palmer	Director/Shop Steward	4700 S. Bragaw	343-8111
Sondra Scobee	Director	Solid Waste Services	343-6272
Mel Finau	Shop Steward	4700 S. Bragaw	343-8036
Brenda Bergsrud	Shop Steward	Public Transportation	343-8209
Steve Cooper	Shop Steward	Solid Waste Services	343-6274
Gerri Elliott	Shop Steward	Libraries	343-2843
Beverly Wilke	Shop Steward	Libraries	343-2844
Rod Hill	Shop Steward	Parks & Recreation	343-4564
Tommie Bishop	Shop Steward	Parks & recreation	343-6992
Marlene Kanner	Shop Steward	AWWU	751-2215
Mark Litrell	Shop Steward	AWWU	786-5516
Rhonda Jamestown	Shop Steward	O & M	343-8184
Wendy Lawrence	Shop Steward	Appraisals/City Hall	343-6789
Stephanie Wilhelm	Shop Steward	HHS	343-4653
Hank Wiedle	Chief Shop Steward, Labor Relations Specialist	At Large	349-9790

Volunteers NEEDED!

by Stephen Rerko

We need your help! There are several committees that need you:

- **Sunshine:** sends "sunshine" to members in need (ill, surgery, loss of a loved one)
- **Newsletter:** let your creative juices flow and communicate with fellow members
- **Tier IV benefits:** just forming, the plan is to explore options for Tier II members
- **Nominations/Elections:** help with nominations meeting and count votes
- **Member Attendance:** forming now!

Contact any board member to volunteer. The success of this Association rests with your willingness to volunteer! Show your UNION PRIDE!