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Local 201 New

Celebrating 92 Years as a Chartered Local 1933 - 2025

Local 201 is an amalgamated local representing approximately 1,600 members employed by GE River Works (Lynn), Ametek Aerospace (Wilmington), LWWTP (Lynn), Avis-Budget Group (East Boston), Avis (Boston/Cambridge), FleetLogix (East Boston), the Saugus Public Library (Saugus), the NSLC (Lynn) and thousands of lifetime Retiree members across the country. www.local201.org

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EDITOR Jefferson Cruz Ruales MANAGING-EDITOR Tom O'Shea Subscription \$1.00 Per Year Published By IUE-CWA Local 201, AFL-CIO Tel: (781) 598-2760 Fax: (781) 595-8770 70

C.O.L.A. Day of Action

On Tuesday March 25/26 the IUE CWA held a National Day of Action to unfreeze C.O.L.A. Union members across all 201, 301, 701, and 1004 were asked to wear a sticker and hold up a sign and take a group picture to show our solidarity on the issue, participation across all theses sites was overwhelming. GE Lynn had a great turn out on the 25th. Buildings emptied at break times, members wore their stickers and photos were taken. In the past few years, we have felt the pinch of inflation. If we had Cost of Living Adjustment Protection we would have gotten \$3 an hour more in automatic raises. Now is the time to fight for C.O.L.A. in our upcoming contract negotiations.









MAY DAY NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

GE AEROSPACE WORKERS TAKE A STAND FOR A FAIR CONTRACT

IUE-CWA GE National Bargaining Committee and GE workers from around the country will join Local 201 on May 1st to demand a fair contract and forge solidarity heading into National Contract Negotiations.

We will practice picket on Western Avenue, in the afternoon, and join a community march in the evening. A Fair Contract for GE Workers a central demand of the community march. We are building solidarity for our contract across the supply chain and across our community.

May 1st 2025: Rally for a Fair Contract at GE

WHAT: IUE-CWA Local 201 Practice Picket at GE Lynn
WHERE: 1000 Western Ave, Lynn
WHEN: 2:00pm – 4:00pm
2nd and 3rd shift arrive at 2:00pm
1st shift punch out at 3pm and join the line

WHAT: May Day March and Rally
WHERE: Lynn Commons
WHEN: 5:30pm

Election Results: Chris Moody Elected VP/Recording Secretary
Next Local 201 Membership Meeting April 15, 2025
On the Agenda: Strike Authoriztion Vote - See page 4

- * Workers' Compensation
- * Social Security Disability
- * Accidents

Law Offices of James J. Carrigan

James J. Carrigan

(Former member Local 201 and Lynn Teachers Union)

Anne Gugino Carrigan

(Former member AFSCME)

225 Boston Street, Suite 306 Lynn, MA 01902

Tel. (781) 596-0100 Fax (781) 592-7555



Free consultation.
*No fee unless successful.
jimcarrigan@jamescarriganlaw.com

Employee Assistance Program Support

For more information please call the Employee Assistance Team Local 201/GE Working Together. Located at the Medical Center and IUE CWA Local 201 Union Hall.

> Local 201: Derek White 781-584-7641 Optum EAP: Laura O'Neal 763-330-4942

All calls are strictly confidential.





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SYMPATHY

The Sympathy of IUE-CWA Local 201 Officers, Executive Board, Retirees and Staff is extended to the family and friends of GE Retiree Harold Gately Jr. on his recent death. Harold worked in building 74 and retired in 2017.

Service Directory

As a service to our members and retirees, Local 201 offers classified ads at minimal rates. We encourage members to consider their brothers and sisters when hiring for odd jobs. These ads do not imply any endorsement or guarantee of workmanship by Local 201.

Fix-A-Brick

Foundations - Stairs - Chimneys - Walkways - Repairs Call 978-239-9801 Ted Crowley

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- Repetitive Stress Injuries Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

Complimentary Exam and Evaluation for GE, AMETEK, Veolia at Lynn Wastewater Treatment Plant, and/or Local 201 IUE Members

Print your ad on this form.

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Enclose Payment:

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| | TITLE | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------------|---------------|
| | WORD | | |
| | PHONE # | <u> </u> | |
| Your Name | | | Amt. Enclosed |
| Your phone # | | Circle: active or retired | Date mailed |

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Union News

By FRED HOGAN

Chief Steward Lynn Wastewater Treatment Plant

Brothers and Sisters,

As we welcome the month of April here at the Lynn Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, we're looking forward to the good weather ahead and the continued hard work and dedication of our team. I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates happening here at the plant and within IUE-CWA Local 201 Lynn.

First, I'd like everyone to join me in welcoming two new members to our union family — Electrician Keeyonte Myrtil and O&M Tech Dariace Miranda. We're proud to have them both here at the plant and even prouder to have them standing with us as members of Local 201. Welcome aboard!

As many of you know, it's contract time at the plant. Our current union contract is set to expire on April 30th, 2025. Our negotiating team has already had one session, with three more scheduled before the expiration date. I want to personally thank everyone who showed up and participated in our recent standout at the plant gate. It was a great show of union strength and solidarity. We had the support of numerous unions and allies, and it was powerful to see everyone standing together. A special thank you to Lynn United for Change for showing up strong with us.

I want to assure all of you — we will continue to **bargain in good faith** and fight hard at the table for a fair contract that protects our jobs, benefits, and the dignity of every worker at this plant.

On the operations side, plant improvements continue. Our **second new bar**

screen is now fully online and operational, helping to remove debris before it enters the plant and improving the efficiency of our process.

As we move forward, we also take time to recognize two of our long-time union brothers who are preparing for retirement in the coming months — Larry Mason and Kirk Donaghy. Both have been proud members of Local 201 for over 30 years. Their dedication, knowledge, and commitment to the union and the job will be missed by all of us. We wish them the very best in their well-earned retirement.

On the training front, I want to highlight an excellent opportunity for our members. Our brother **Kian Breslin** has offered to help members study for their **Grade 2 and Grade 4 Wastewater Operator licenses**. Management has approved these study sessions to take place during **company hours**. I encourage all of you to take advantage of this opportunity and continue to grow your skills and certifications.

Lastly, congratulations to the winners of this month's **Union Unity Monthly Contest**:

- Cory Scott, who won a \$50 gift certificate to The Brickyard in Lynn
- Heath Kiley, who won a Local 201 union
 T-shirt

Great job and thank you both for your continued support and union pride.

Let's keep moving forward together, standing strong, and supporting one another every step of the way. **Solidarity Forever.**

In Unity, Fred

CWA Statement on Executive Order Silencing Union Workers

March 28, 2025

Last night, President Trump issued yet another illegal executive order targeted at workers' freedom to form unions and bargain contracts. This time, he is trying to prevent workers at over 30 federal agencies from exercising their fundamental right to join together to improve their working conditions.

That's bad enough. But the executive order makes it clear that Donald Trump wants to go even further. He says he has specifically targeted these workers and their unions because they have filed grievances against him and members of his administration over illegal layoffs and other actions they have taken to violate union contracts and federal law.

CWA is a fighting union. When our employers violate our collective bargaining agreements, when they refuse to bargain fair contracts, when they stand in the way of workers' organizing to join our union, we use every tool we have to protect our rights. That is exactly what the federal workers are doing, and Donald Trump is attempting to punish them for it.

We won't back down. We won't be silenced. Our solidarity is stronger than Donald Trump and the CEOs and billionaires who helped elect him. We will rally, we will march, and, if necessary, we will strike to ensure that every worker is able to join a union and collectively bargain to ensure a better future for themself and their family.

Veolia Picket March 25, 2025

On Tuesday March 25 Local 201 kicked off their Veolia contract campaign by staging a rally and stand out on the Lynnway. 201 members along with many community supporters came out on a cold windy day to march with the workers. The Veolia 201 workers run the Lynn Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility. This treatment plant treats municipal wastewater that is then discharged into Lynn harbor. It can be a dirty job but they are doing very meaningful work. Thank you to everyone that came out and thanks to the workers for the work you do every day.







GE Stewards Council

May 13, 2025
Building 40 Break Room
8am-9am and 4pm-5pm
Please let your boss know you'll be on
union business for the hour. This meeting is open to all Stewards at GE.

"Shoptalk"

Coffee with GE Union E-Board

April 17, 2025 Building 40 Breakroom 3rd Shift: 5:00 am 1st Shift: 11:42 am 2nd Shift: 5:00 pm

May 29, 2025 Building 63/32 Breakroom 3rd Shift: 5:00 am 1st Shift: 11:42 am 2nd Shift: 5:00 pm



Organizing Report

By NICK BECKER Local 201 Organizer

UAW Rolls-Royce Aircraft Engine Workers Wins Strong Contract Amid Company Record Profits and Credible Strike Threat

On March 12, 2025, over 800 UAW Local 933 members in Indianapolis, IN, who build military aircraft engines at Rolls-Royce' primary U.S. manufacturing plant, ratified a strong 5-year contract after they were hours away from a potential strike. Here is a summary of their victories, many relevant to our GE Aerospace members in this contract year:

- ENDED WAGE TIERS: Before this contract, Rolls-Royce workers were on multiple tiers of wages, with the lowest tier topping out at only 65% of the Legacy rate. This contract ends one tier in year one, and completely phases out all tiers by the final year of the contract. For those on the lowest, this represents a 68.1% increase over the life of the contract.
- COLA FOR ALL: Existing Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) formula extended to all tiers. Further, COLA increases will now be rolled into the base rate, further compounding each year's general wage increases (GWIs) instead of being compensated sepa-
- 3-YEAR PROGRESSION: All new hires will reach top rate after 3 years of work.
- RETIREMENT **IMPROVEMENTS:** Basic pension benefit increased from \$60.94 to \$65 for every credited year of service, the largest increase for pensioneligible Rolls-Royce members in 20 years. 401(k) improved from 5% Company match to 7% Company match, with a 3% automatic contribution remaining unchanged. Additional improvements to retiree bonuses and post-65 retiree Medicare supplements were also won.
- PROFIT-SHARING: Won a profit-sharing formula of \$400 for every 1% of reported (i.e., public number given to stockholders that can't be manipulated) underlying operating margin of the Rolls-Royce defense division. The estimated 2024 profit-sharing under this formula for the average member would have been \$5,112.

MASSIVE VACATION INCREASES:

HEALTHCARE COSTS: Out-of-pocket maximums capped for lowest Tier members, and no healthcare cost-shifting for the rest of the bargaining unit during the contract.

| For an eligible employee with Seniority of | Hours of Vacation Entitlement Before Improvement | For an eligible employee with Seniority of | Hours of Vacation Entitlement New Vacation Allotment |
|--|--|--|---|
| Less than 1 Year | 80 | Less than 1 Year | 120 |
| 1 to 4 years | 120 | 1 to 4 years | 160 |
| 5 to 9 years | 160 | 5 to 9 years | 176 |
| 10 to 19 years | 200 | 10 to 14 years | 200 |
| 20 + years | 240 | 15 to 19 years | 220 |
| | | 20 + years | 240 |

- **JOBS INVESTMENT**: Increased hiring in Assembly, Test, and Facility Trades with guaranteed numbers for new apprenticeship classes over the life of the
- **OTHER WINS**: Improvements to Paternity/Maternity Leave, Boot Allowance (\$150-\$200, now includes inserts), Bereavement Leave (adding brother/sister/son/daughter in-laws to covered relatives), and many other local issues regarding training, safety, facilities.

This contract represents a critical step forward for our UAW brothers and sisters at Rolls-Royce. Ending tiers, capping progression to 3 years, extending COLA and profit-sharing to all members puts the entire bargaining unit on a much more equal ground. By killing divisive concessions like tiers in this contract, they put themselves in a much stronger position in their next contract when it comes to issues like pensions for new hires, healthcare costs, and their GWIs.

Important takeaways for Local 201 GE members: During negotiations, UAW highlighted that Rolls-Royce has raked in nearly \$2 billion in profits in the last year, a 144% increase in 2022-2023, with their CEO making \$16.9 million, a 255% increase in the same timeframe! Do record profits and record CEÓ pay sound familiar? However, just because Rolls had the money to pay for a record contract didn't mean they would do so out of their own good-will. Two weeks before contract expiration, the membership voted 99.5% to authorize a strike. It appears many of the core improvements to the contract were secured in the last days of negotiation as members looked ready to strike at contract expiration.

From the Big Three automakers to Boeing, Textron, Daimler Trucks, to the East Coast Longshore workers, it is clear that to turn record profits into record contracts, workers were ready to take their employers to mat for everything we deserve. GE Aerospace should take notice!

OFFICIAL NOTICE

LOCAL 201 IUE-CWA (AFL-CIO)

COMBINED SHOP STEWARDS & MEMBERSHIP MEETING

APRIL 15, 2025

IN PERSON AT THE IUE CWA LOCAL 201 UNION HALL 112 EXCHANGE STREET LYNN, MA 01901



OR VIA ZOOM

https://shorturl.at/ryPhg

THIRD SHIFT MAY ATTEND EITHER MEETING.

AGENDA:

- FEATURED PRESENTATIONS:

 1. 30+ YEAR PIN AWARDS

 2. SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS
- GENERAL BUSINESS:

 1. MEETING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

 2. POLICY BOARD

 3. TREASURER'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL PERCENT

- REPORT
- AVIS/BUDGET GROUP REPORT
- AMETEK REPORT
- **VEOLIA WATER REPORT** VI.
- VII. SAUGUS LIBRARIANS REPORT
- VIII. FLEETLOGIX REPORT
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. MATTER OF \$6000 FOR OFFICE SUPPLIES
 - 2. MATTER OF STRIKE AUTHORIZATION VOTE
 - a. 37290 Management Doing Bargaining Unit Work
 - b. 37321 Management Doing Bargaining Unit Work c. 37322 - Management Doing Bargaining Unit Work
 - d. 37345 Management Doing Bargaining Unit Work
 - e. 37346 Management Doing Bargaining Unit Work
 - f. 37427 Violation of Joint Health and Safety Program/Intentionally Excluding Plant 2 Health and Safety Rep During Accident Investigation
 - g. 37457 Failure to Answer Information Request
 - h. 37480 Fundamental Grievance, Violation of Article 5 working hours & Article 6 Wage Rates
 - i. 37481 Fundamental Grievance, Violation of Massachusetts General Law - Payment of Wages

Signed,

ADAM KASZYNSKI, President JEFFERSON CRUZ RUALES, Business Agent

Listed Below are Open Positions as of April 1, 2025

Lynn GE

You can apply for these jobs at GEcareers.com

4 Bench • 25 AAEM • 2 Auto Lathe • 1 Boring Mill Vertical • 1 Broach Vertical 1 Milling Machine Electro Automatic • 1 HVAC • 1 Material Handler • 1 Punch Press 2 Repair Control • 2 Stockkeeper • 1 Tig Welder • 2 Spot Welder

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201 Retiree's Column

By ALEX BROWN

President of the 201 Retirees Council

Retirees: Let's join Local 201 on May 1 at the plant gates for the practice picket in the afternoon and the community march in the evening. They are calling for a fair contract and we want them to raise our issues too. They are building solidarity for their contract across the supply chain and across the community. And we are part of both. The practice picket is from 2pm to 4 pm at 1000 Western Ave. Look for the Retiree Banner. And if you can't come for the whole time, come for as much as you can. Those still with the energy can join the community support gathering at 5:30 at Lynn Commons and marching to the Plant Gate.

How long do retirees have to wait? GE Aerospace has not been a smooth take off for us. Check out our letter to GE Aerospace in Letters to the Editor.

Coming up in June: Retirees hope to host a fun event. Our latest idea is an afternoon at the bowling alley. Stay tuned for details.

What else do retirees need? Retirees need a raise. Thank you to the retirees who called to tell me their situation. The

Cincinnati Enquirer reported recently that GE Aerospace CEO Larry Culp just got a 539% raise. That's an increase to \$88 million a year! The median for workers is \$70,000. And a retiree making \$1000 a month makes \$12,000 a year. Something is wrong with this picture. A company like GE Aerospace that made \$6.7 billion in profits can afford to treat it's active workers and retirees better.

Retirees also need support for their health care costs. Some get \$1000 a year from GE Aerospace through VIA benefits to reimburse their post 65 supplemental costs, some don't. That's wrong. Everyone should. We need GE Aerospace to continue to support this program and expand it to those not currently covered. Doctor, and hospital care, prescription drugs, hearing aids, dental and vision care are all expensive for retirees on a fixed income. Medicare does not cover everything. There are premiums, deductibles, and copays that continually go up. We seniors rely more on health care as we age.



Letter to the Editor

Open Letter to GE Aerospace: How Long Do Retirees Have To Wait? Subject: Inadequate and Uninformed Retirement Benefit Support for Retirees

We are tired of waiting. Since GE Aerospace took over in January GE retirees can no longer access their benefits in a timely and respectful way and with no resolution of issues for months. There is no clear communication for retirees to get concise resolution to their questions or problems. Retirees face long times on the phone. We are passed from service rep to service rep without any resolution or plan for resolution. We can't understand the reps or they can't understand us. The reps ask for the same information repeatedly. Retirees have to spell our names and addresses multiple times. The service reps don't know our union contract rules so they give out wrong information. Or no information. Repeatedly.

Some examples of the impact on retirees: no pension checks, health insurance terminated without explanation, life insurance waived, no record of life insurance beneficiaries, no survivor benefits, waiting months to collect on a life insurance policy,

no 1099- R forms, no accurate Medicare part B reimbursements. Simple inquiries that used to take 5 minutes, now take 30 minutes. Many retirees do not have access or feel comfortable accessing their benefits through computers.

What we expect is a professional level of business interaction and the realization that people are, in many cases, making life-changing decisions. You are paying employees at HR Central/Fidelity and getting little if nothing in return. Certainly not for retirees.

We need access to a benefits manager whom we can understand and can resolve our issues correctly. GE Aerospace has not been a smooth take off for us. How long do we have to wait?

Signed:

Alex Brown, President
Gregg Johnson, Recording Secretary
Joe Mills, Treasurer
Mike McDermott, Executive Board Member
Wayne Murray, Retiree
Local 201 IUE-CWA Retiree Council

112 Exchange Street, Lynn MA 01901

IUE-CWA Local 201

RETIREES COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

Wednesday April 23 at 11:00 AM

In Person at the Lynn Housing Authority Community Room 10 Church Street, Lynn and on Zoom

If you need help getting on Zoom, please contact us in advance.

Join Zoom Meeting

(Limited Zoom Available) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86199516446

> Meeting ID: 861 9951 6446 Passcode: 153283 Call in: + 646 558 8656

For more info call Alex Brown: 617-922-5573

Alex Brown, President Gregg Johnson Recording Secretary Joe Mills Treasurer



Letter to the Editor

Originally published on the Lynn Item on April 1, 2025 To the editor:

This letter is in support of the union members of Locals 201 and 509 featured in articles of the March 26 Item, "wastewater and mental health workers." It is time for private and public sector employers to recognize the vital work these employees perform and treat them fairly, as well as all union workers across this country.

Everyone needs to remember who really made America great. Unions made America great, not windbag politicians or corporate greed!

Unions today are still on the frontlines, trying to improve wages and working conditions. Think back to the era before unions, when workers toiled long hours — most in unfit working conditions — for low wages. A lot of people would still be working in these conditions if not for organized labor unions.

Keeping unions strong keeps America strong.

Respectfully, John S. Norton, Lynn



C.O.L.A. Day of Action March 25, 2025





























The Union Tool Belt: **Practice Pickets**



A practice picket is a demonstration commonly used by unions to send a powerful message to management that we are united and prepared to strike if necessary. It is legally protected and performed when we are off the clock. Although it is not a strike, it looks and feels like one.

A practice picket allows us to build solidarity and become more comfortable with striking while communicating to our managers that we are serious about getting our issues resolved. It can push management to negotiate fairly at the bargaining table to avoid further escalation.

GE knows that our frustrations with offshoring, stagnant wages, and inadequate benefits have reached an all-time high. A practice picket is the next step to reinforce our message to GE that we demand change.

SOLIDARITY MAKES US STRONG



Frequently Asked Questions

When does a practice picket happen?

- · Your Local will organize final details for your location.
- Generally speaking, a Local will organize a practice picket by your employer's gate before and/or after each scheduled shift for a given day.
- Show up at the agreed upon time and location. There you will participate in the practice picket for about 45 minutes.

Do I have to skip work?

- No, you will not skip work. You are required to work your scheduled shift.
- Make sure you have sufficient time to go and clock-in for your scheduled shift (likely 15 minutes prior to your clock-in time).
- You are welcome to participate in any of the planned practice pickets as long as you are off the clock.

Do we block the gates?

 While participating in the practice picket, DO NOT obstruct entry or exit into the plant or facility.

What do I do if the press wants to talk to me?

 If the press shows up, refer them to the spokesperson assigned by the Local.

Can GE retaliate against me?

- No, GE cannot retaliate against you for participating.
 This is protected concerted legal activity.
- The timing of when union workers can engage in practice picketing vis-à-vis their employer is governed by labor law and your labor contract. If your labor contract has a no-picketing clause, you cannot engage in this tactic until the contract has expired.
- The IUE-CWA contract with General Electric permits us to do practice pickets.

What can I bring to the picket?

- Bring your outside voice, and be ready to chant loudly so GE and your co-workers can hear.
- Your Local will provide you with signs.
- · Dress accordingly for the weather

What can I do to prepare?

- Talk to your coworkers about the event and why it matters
- Sign up to be a flag bearer.
- Prepare ahead of time to get there and then to arrive at work on time.

THE CWA Local 201 Lynn, MA A Force For Working Families AFL-CIO

112 Exchange Street Lynn, MA 01901-1435 Tel.: 781-598-2760 Fax: 781-595-8770

On behalf of the Local201 Election Committee, I hereby certify the following IUE-CWA Local 201 Special Election for Vice President-Recording Secretary held on March 26, 2025 for the remainder of current term.

The IUE-CWA Local 201 Special Election for Vice President-Recording Secretary for remainder of current term has been ratified per membership vote.

Christopher Moody was elected Vice President-Recording Secretary.

Fraternally,

Jason E. Daley, Election Compattee Chair



Saugus Public Library

By JACKIE MILLER

Chief Steward Saugus Public Library

IUE-CWA Local 201 and its units recently elected Chris Moody as its new union vice president.

In announcing the results, I also added a note to the union members at the Saugus Public Library, as most of the staff rarely has reason to interact with the union leadership team even though everyone at Local 201's union hall is fighting for us, and the other units they have adopted, as the GE union members understand there is strength in numbers.

Although you may not see or hear from the elected union officers

often-unless you read the monthly newsletter-or meet many of General Electric's employees who are our union brothers and sisters, they have played a key role in our having the benefits and pay we get as well no longer being eyed as the first target when layoffs are needed to cut costs in Saugus. The other units have also benefited from being part of Local 201 and the IUE-CWA on a national level.

Having been to the union hall, I can assure readers that our union dues are not paying for luxury offices. I've seen better-looking office furniture put out in the trash than what our union representatives and support staff use. We, the union members, are getting the better end of the deal when it comes to what we get in return for our union dues.

Since 2016, I've sat through seemingly endless contract meetings in negotiations that dragged on for years with business agents who stayed with us to ensure we received the protections we needed against a terrible director (and any other future directors fond of splitting shifts, denying vacation time, and violating rules). A business agent was with me when I went to the state following an egregious violation of our contract. Kaz organized a protest when our last contract talks stalled. When I've needed advice and guidance on an issue, Kaz, Jeff Cruz, and Tom O'Shea get back to me ASAP. As for Britani and Jossie, where would any us be without them!?!

Showing up to vote matters. Everyone at Local 201's union hall is fighting for us and the other units they have adopted, as the GE union members understand there is strength in numbers. Making the small effort to vote is a way of saying thank you for all they do for us.

Studying each candidate's position and making the time to vote matters. It is each union member's responsibility to do that much for themselves and the people who take on the frequently tedious and challenging (especially during these times) job of negotiating contracts, dealing with disputes, and filing grievances.

Thank you to all who take the time to vote. Your vote always matters.



LCM Report

By BRIAN MERCHANT LCM Executive Board

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters, I would like to begin by expressing my sincere gratitude to Chris Moody and all the Stewards at LCM for their unwavering support and trust. I truly appreciate it, and I believe that, with the assistance of dedicated Stewards like Nick Velasquez and VP Chris Moody, who have been guiding me, we can accomplish great things for the hardworking members of Local 201.

For those who may not know me, my name is Brian Merchant. I am approaching my 19th year with the Company. I began my career in Mixed Products at the old Building 85, before transitioning to Large Engines in Building 40. I have had the privilege of serving as a Steward for approximately two years. During this time, I have forged meaningful relationships with many members, always striving to provide the best representation possible.

Although I would have liked to be more involved with the Union in the past, I faced some health challenges that required my attention. I wanted to ensure I could dedicate myself fully before committing to this important role. I am proud to say that I now feel prepared to do so.

My family has a long and proud history with Local 201, as my father often says, "it's in our blood." My grandfather, Fred Merchant

Sr., retired in 1987 after 45 years with the Company and served as an Executive Board member for the old Everett plant. When he retired, my father, who began his career in 1966 and later served in the Navy, was elected to take his place as an Executive Board member. He retired in 2009 after 35 years of service. Additionally, my great-grandfather, James Sullivan, started as a tool maker in 1917 and later became a manager in Building 74. He was so well-liked by the workers that, when he passed, a plaque was placed in his honor at the far end of Building 74. It's hard to imagine a manager receiving such a tribute today.

I recognize that I have big shoes to fill, as many remarkable individuals have held this position before me. If I am able to accomplish even a fraction of what they achieved, I will consider myself a successful man. I look forward to collaborating with everyone at the Union Hall to ensure the Company remains accountable to its workforce. In closing, I want to emphasize that I will always be available to assist the membership in any way I can. Thank you for your continued support.

As the Romans once said, "Cura ut valeas", which translates to "Take care that you are well."



Machinist Training Opportunity

The E-Team machinist training program is currently recruiting and accepting applications for its next class. We are looking for motivated people who want to change their lives by learning to work in a highly technical field that offers strong employment, good wages and benefits, and a career with opportunities for growth. Students are enrolled tuition free in our demanding 5.5month training program. Classes are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights 6pm-9pm and Saturdays 7am-3pm. Applications may be submitted on our website:

www.eteamhome.net

Facebook.com/ ETeammachinisttraining Call us at 617-699-1071

The E-Team is associated with the Essex County Community Organizations, IUE-CWA Local 201, and the Boston Tooling and Machinist Association.



Sevenwood Financial Services, LLC.

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Health & Safety Notes

By CARMEN DEANGELIS Local 201 Health & Safety Director

Forklift Training

This article addresses recent concerns about refresher forklift training, initial training, whether people using forklift are certified at all, and our ability to validate training records. Concerns like this from members are especially good for us because we focus on parts of our program that can be overlooked as we deal with shop floor hazards. PIT (Powered Industrial Truck) training is broken into two parts, classroom and practical evaluation. I have determined with the Company that current forklift certification records are being recorded as required by OSHA 1910.178 (I)(6). The harder part to keep up with can be the evaluation part, Safety Committee members (PIT, forklift evaluators) and Joint H&S team. Both classroom and practical demonstration will need effort to get us where we need to be. Recent training record system management changes have caused a learning curve that will be sorted out.

The extent of operators needing full or partial training varies from business to business. The date a forklift operator is completely certified starts when the training is complete and that can be on any day starting the three-year clock, so retraining starts on different dates. A rolling calendar training schedule is necessary as opposed to starting on a fixed calendar year because of the volume of training which needs to be spread out. It's just harder to track.

Having training that needs to be cleaned up is not uncommon in this business, how we deal with it is the measurement I'm concerned with at the moment. The good news is that we know the who and what part of the training that needs to be done, the bad news is it is time consuming, requiring scheduling and business support to get our people for training and/or evaluation.

We can use it as an opportunity to identify other members that need to be forklift certified outside of the current list based on what they do on the shop floor.

So, what do members do in the meantime that use a forklift? If you have not been, or are unsure about your current forklift training status, do not use a forklift.

Your cell leader or EHS leader will need to verify your training status. By the time this is printed your Elected Safety Reps may also be able to verify forklift status as we coordinate this

We have a Joint Local 201-Company Safety program, meaning we are all going to have to strengthen this program together along with other training requirements on site. Special thanks to our Local 201 Stewards and members for raising this concern and others working to create a safer shop floor.



LPS/M&E Report

By JOHN LEIGHTON Crafts Executive Board

I would like to congratulate Chris Moody, our new Vice President, on his successful campaign. Although he will be sorely missed as the representative to the LCM Executive board, I am confident he will carry on with his dedication and advocacy for all our members in his new position.

Recently we have gotten some good wins at Step II for 21 Day Notice Violations and Management doing Crafts work resulting in getting payments for the groups affected. Please continue to stay vigilant in the protection of our work.

The Company has made changes to our pay

stubs in response to member issues with determining proper payment. There will be communications posted around the shop floors explaining these changes and what they mean. There also should be some training/informational meetings for our members.

Veolia recently kicked off their contract negotiations with an informational picket. It was a great turnout with support from many other union, political allies and community groups. We wish them success in winning a fair and equitable contract.

In Solidarity John



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

By DEREK WHITE

EAP Director

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, a time dedicated to educating people about alcohol use disorder and encouraging informed choices about drinking. This month serves as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of moderation and responsible alcohol consumption while also addressing the serious health and social problems associated with excessive drinking. Alcohol misuse remains a significant public health issue, affecting individuals, families, and communities. Drinking too much can lead to a wide range of physical, mental, and social problems.

One of the most concerning effects of excessive alcohol use is its impact on physical health. Heavy drinking increases the risk of developing serious health conditions such as liver disease, heart disease, and certain types of cancer. Over time, alcohol can weaken the immune system, making it harder for the body to fight off infections and illnesses. Alcohol use disorder is also closely linked to mental health issues. Many people who struggle with excessive drinking also experience depression, anxiety, or other substance use problems. In some cases, drinking can worsen these conditions or even contribute to their development. While some individuals turn to alcohol to cope with stress, excessive use often leads to further emotional and psychological struggles.

Beyond health concerns, alcohol misuse can cause significant social and economic difficulties. It can strain personal relationships, contribute to conflicts within families, and lead to job loss or financial hardship. Many people who struggle with alcohol find that it negatively affects their work performance and ability to maintain stable relationships. Alcohol consumption is also a major public safety concern. Drinking impairs judgment, coordination, and reaction times, which increases the risk of accidents and injuries. Drunk driving remains a leading cause of traffic accidents and fatalities, putting not only the drinker at risk but also passengers, other drivers, and pedestrians.

Raising awareness about the risks of excessive drinking and promoting responsible habits can help reduce the negative effects of alcohol misuse. By making informed choices and supporting those who are struggling, individuals and communities can work together to create a safer and healthier environment. This Alcohol Awareness Month, let's take the time to reflect on our drinking habits and encourage responsible decisions about alcohol use

Please reach out if I can be of any assistance or if you have any questions about our EAP program. I can be reached by voice or text at 339-338-2508. I can also be contacted by email at dwhite@local201iuecwa.org. Laura O'Neal, our Optum on-site dedicated workplace consultant for EAP services, is available at the medical center and can be reached at 763-330-4942. All communication is strictly confidential.



VP's Corner

By CHRIS MOODY

Vice-President/Recording Secretary

Hello brothers and sisters of Local 201!!!

I'd like to start by thanking this membership for voting me in as your next Vice President. I couldn't be thankful enough for the support I received leading up to the vote. My promise to this membership during my time as Vice President is to carry the same dedication, I had in LCM over to the Union as a whole. While learning in any board role is everlasting, it is my responsibility to learn everything I can as quickly as possible so I can be positioned to best serve this membership. I've always leaned on the LCM Stewards for help, I plan on now doing the same across all businesses. Again, thank you for all your support. While there will be plenty to miss from my time as LCM Executive Board Member, I look forward to taking on a larger role and being a voice for all members of this local.

I am glad to say that LCM will be left in good hands as Brian Merchant will be filling the Executive Board Member role. Congratulations Brian, well deserved! Brian served the members in Plant 2 greatly in his time as a steward and I know he's going to do great things for the members of LCM.

During my time as Board Member, there was one common theme that was hard to miss, and I'd like to touch on it this month. What I'm talking about is the unchecked power that has been given to HR managers. I wish I could say it was a GE problem but ask around and you'll find out that the entire country is moving

in that same direction. I've heard stories of members trying to retire and asking HR for help just to get nowhere. I've had even more members ask me why they're involved in everything discipline related. Do you want to ask the person that just gave you a suspension to help you figure out your benefits? The line as to what their actual job is has been blurred for the members on the floor and its creating issues.

I can't tell you how many times Stewards have served grievances, and upon chasing them down get the same tired line from managers that "it's in HR's hands?" Whatever happened to management discretion? That's how we build relationships and settle things on the floor without issues escalating. Seems as though it's now a thing of the past. It makes life harder for Stewards and all the members on the floor when someone with "resource" in their title is everything but.

My only advice is to proceed with caution if HR approaches you for anything. Tell them you do not have to talk to them, and if they insist ask for a steward immediately. In any case tell your steward that you were approached by them. Other than that, I look forward to meeting and building relationships with other members of Local 201 and if any of you ever need anything, I will do my absolute best to help, so always feel free to reach out directly or shoot me a call down the Hall!

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FREE PARKING

EVENING AND SATURDAY HOURS

URGENT URGENT Part III

By Tom O'Shea former VP IUE CWA Local 201

This is the third in a series of articles on applying for your pension at GE Lynn. In Part II of this series (published in March) I thought things were getting better. In my opinion things are about the same. We are seeing problems for existing retirees that have been receiving their pensions for years. More money, less money, insurance coverage dropped etc. If you are one of these retirees, please call Alex 617-922-5573.

The process to retire from GE is now through Fidelity. If you already have an online account with them good. You can access your pension benefits through this account. If you do not have a Fidelity username and password, you need to do this in order to collect your pension.

The first step in the process is to determine when you want to retire. Your pension benefit must start on the first of the month. That means your last day of work is your retirement date. The one takeaway from this article should be the definition of your retirement date. Your pension begins on the first of the month. Your retirement date is the last day of the previous month. If you want to retire June 1, 2025 your retirement date is May 31, 2025. When going through the process one of the first questions asked will be when do you plan on retiring. Remember to choose the end of the month prior to the start of your pension as your retirement date.

If you are considering retirement. Give yourself three months to prepare if you can. Again. If you are over 65 or going to be 65 soon and are considering retirement securing your Medicare should be your priority. You need to get this done before you retire.

Any questions call or text me directly 781-215-3974.

Officer Election Period Starts Soon Good Neighbor Fund!

With funding from GE Lynn Aerospace employees, the Good Neighbor Fund of the River Works connects local Lynn and neighboring north shore communities to resources that provide support for improving public health, food security, social welfare, education, and the veterans community.

In 2024, you lived our purpose of lifting people up through donating >\$60K to support local communities, including the hundreds of homeless and at-risk young adults aged 17-24 who depend on the Haven Project to learn the skills and receive the support they need to achieve stability and self-sufficiency, and the individuals, children, and families in need who rely on food banks including the Salvation Army of Lynn, SPUR, the Pettengill House and New Lynn Coalition.

You can help shape the future of the fund and direct how best to lift people up on behalf of your fellow Members - nominations (including self-nominations!) are open for all elected Board of Directors positions (3 hourly, 2 salary) until April 4th, 2025. Elections will take place May 5 – May 16 and the new Board will be seated on June 1, 2025 for a two-year term. You must have payroll contributions to the Good Neighbor Fund set up by April 4th, 2025 to be a Member eligible to vote, nominate candidates, or participate as a candidate in the election. Contact Election Committee Chairperson Ross Stavoe (Charles.Stavoe@GEAerospace.com) or another Board member to learn more.



AS THE ROTOR TURNS

By BOBBY ELDRIDGE LAT&O/Logistics Executive Board

There has been an uptick in members being disciplined all over the plant, even some that have led to termination. HR has informed the Union that any potential infraction of the Lynn plant code of conduct (which the Union doesn't recognize) is going straight to a day in court now instead of it being handled at the step 1 level with your cell leader and a steward. The day in court process has changed. It used to be used as a fact-finding investigation, now you are guilty in the eyes of the Company until proven innocent. Some HR members are being overly aggressive when asking the same questions multiple times and multiple different ways to try to confuse you and make you admit to something you didn't do, that is called entrapment, and the Company is using it against the members to discipline and terminate. So, remember, HR is not here to help you most of the time, they are unavailable because they are tied up in meetings all day but seem to always have time for days in court because it looks good when they go for a new job with all the boxes checked. Don't let HR use you as a check mark, always get a steward and answer as little as possible and after the day in court have the steward put in a grievance for violating Step 1.

LATO

At the last JCGC meeting between the Company and the Union the business told us that they are flipping the 414 and 404 engine lines in building 42 due to the high volume of 404 orders this year and the low 414 production schedule.

It was a hell of a quarter and once again the Assemblers came through for the Company. For a thank you, what does the Company do? They turn around and start writing members up. Real slap in the face if you ask me. I hope everyone remembers this next time the Company asks a favor. I know I will.

Logistics

There's going to be a lot of new faces in Logistics and with that members should show them the right way to do things and give them proper training, remember someone trained you at some point. There is so much work in 63 that there is no reason to stop the overtime other than the business doesn't want to pay. There is fork truck training for everyone in Logistics. Having your fork truck license is part of the material handlers job classification. I hope members are taking advantage of all the training classes being offered for upgrade purposes.

Hope to see you around the shop Bobby

Business Agent's article continued from page 12

the Company chooses a third party to administer its operations, it reduces the quality of our hard-fought benefits, and places an increased burden on its employees and on our Union.

Since these issues have crept up stewards and board members have been diligently seeking resolution from the Company, but even the simplest of fixes seem to require an act of congress to fix. As we face this attack on our benefits, we need the entire membership to keep doing what they are doing, remain vigilant of your paycheck and benefits and inform the Company immediately of any discrepancies. The Union will be there to push things along, but the first step we all need to take if there are any issues is making the Company take responsibility for this disgraceful performance. Tell your cell leader, and stay on them about your issue, go to payroll and wait for them to address your issue. The Union is already working to address these issues at Step-3 but we need the continuous support from the floor. From the way the Company is handling this I can tell you that it is not going away any time soon, so we need to stay on them.

MBW: Éarlier this year we reported on the result of the Top of the Market review which resulted in increased runways between Top of the Rate and Top of the Market. However, the whole MBW agreement is also due for review by the Union and the Company. Earlier this month, the

Union and the Company agreed to open negotiations for MBW in September of this year. This is in part due to the contract expiration timeframe and the extensive administration issues the Company is currently addressing and which the Union has been forced to address. To put it simply, the MBW deserves our full attention, which we cannot provide at this point. Expect to see more information as well as an MBW survey after the contract is settled.

ABG Report

After several delays, it seems like we will finally be able to hold a step 2 meeting with the Company. The head of UR on site left the position last month which pushed the meeting out to the second week of April. A lot of issues have been building up on the shop floor since the last time we met. Contract violations are continually being reported up the chain to Sam Sanchez and myself and we are diligently building up our cases. Our case load has increased dramatically since many of you have started to bring up these issues as well as relevant details to us. Keep up the good work, I know it seems like nothing is being done, but we want the Company to once and for all cease all their improper practices, not just wave them away for the time being. As it gets busy you will see management ease up on THEIR rules, do not hesitate to continue letting us know of their unequal application.

Veolia Report

Contract negotiations started on March 24. The Bargaining Committee organized a rally outside the Veolia gates on March 23 to show the Company the strength of the workers and the community support. We had multiple unions and community groups turn up for the rally who accompanied the workers by holding signs and joining in chants. This was an incredibly powerful way to kick off negotiations.

Our first day at the table was as to be expected, the Union made it clear how vital our members are to the operations of the Lynn facility, the Company as a whole and to our community and neighbors, and that they need to be treated and compensated fairly. We also made it a point to put health and safety as a priority. While some points of disagreement arose and some consensus was reached, there was not much movement in either direction during this session. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 7, and we expect to be jumping into economic packages. This is always a high priority topic and the Company's attitude to our proposals will set the stage for the remainer of the negotiations.

I want everyone to remain informed, so if you have any questions, please reach out to myself or the Bargaining Committee, Fred, Kory, and Chris. The only reliable information will continue to come from them.

President's article continued from page 12

Resist the Attacks on Federal Worker Union's

The White House issued an executive order stripping Federal workers of their right to a Union, some for "National Security" reasons. We must back these workers up in the streets – or we are next. An injury to one is an injury to all!

GE Workers around the US Demand GE Unfreeze COLA

It's a contract year, and these actions are essential to show the Company the members mean business about their demands. We are less than 3 months away from contract expiration. We ask every member to

continue to support these mass actions. In April we will be dealing with retirement. See you there.

New VP and New GE LCM E-Board

Congrats to Chris Moody on winning the election for Vice President, and Mike Greene for running. Chris has left the GE LCM E-Board position as a result of the election. Per the Local 201 constitution, the Local president appoints the board member between election years. The LCM stewards reccomended Brian Merchant Unanimously for appointment to the LCM E-Board role, and he was appointed thereafter. Congratulations Brother Brian Merchant.



Business Agent's Column

By JEFFERSON CRUZ RUALES

Business Agent

VP Election

My deepest admiration goes out to both members Mike Greene and Chris Moody, who stepped up during a hectic time in our local and threw their hat in the ring as Vice-Presidential candidates. It takes a lot of time and dedication to pound the ground across our entire Union and campaign. This is the kind of energy that puts Local 201 above the rest.

Congratulations to Chris Moody for his victory! I have gotten the chance to see Moody operate competently and passionately in his LCM role. As the Business Agent, I have benefited incredibly from Chris' experience and attitude and have relied on Chris countless times. Moody is someone who legitimately cares about those he represents and who has done an amazing job holding the line and pushing back against the Company.

Chris, I look forward to continuing to work by your side, I just hope the last VP didn't leave you a mess.

Finally, thank you, thank you, and thank you again to all the members of the Election Committee who once again ran a seamless election process and who made sure the democratic pillars of our union are well kept.

GE Report

LCM E-Board: Congratulations and thank you to Brian Merchant for stepping up and accepting the appointment to LCM E-Board. Brian's appointment is backed by the unanimous recommendation from the LCM stewards. I have heard Brian's name time and time again as a reliable and knowledgeable steward, and on the brief occasions I have gotten a chance to see him representing a member, I was glad to have him on our side of the table.

Brian, I look forward to working with you, and I hope you can continue to school me up on all things LCM.

Kaizen: The Company announced a weeklong Kaizen event from April 28 to May 2. The event will take place in LATO-29 Post-test inspection, TPMO inspection area, MPO, and TC64. The focus of this event is not much different than prior events, the Company is looking to scrutinize the current processes with the intent of improving quality, flow, and you guessed it, processing time.

Focusing on times is not new and is not something which the Company will ever turn from, but it remains a sore subject when it comes to our work, and its quality. While we will never oppose continuous improvement, going into these events with the intent to cut times is a terrible starting point, that is FAKE LEAN. While the continuous improvement of true Lean, MAY lead to time improvement, this should not be the main focus at all. The Union and the Company have reached several agreements in the past which protected our rights, our work, and the quality of the product from the ambitious ideas of outsider Lean Specialists, we expect to come to a similar agreement prior to the beginning of this event. It is also incredibly aggravating for the Company to be throwing so many resources and attention into these events while their employees are not even being paid right!

Payroll, Benefits, and Retirement: On April 2, 2024, GE Aerospace officially became its own company. Since then, the Company has touted its rising stock price and thrown wads of cash at their investors (and a couple of pennies at its workers). Meanwhile, they can't even pay their employees right. By now everyone in the plant has either been affected, or may soon to be affected, by some kind of idiotic administrative error. Incorrect payments, being charged incorrectly for benefits, and outright inability to access benefits, are just some of the consistent issues across not just Lynn, but the entire Company. Not to mention the already treacherous post-retirement hurdles which have suddenly tripled since GE Aerospace's "Smooth Takeoff" (The title of several of the Company's press releases). We got a taste of this when Sedgwick became one of their benefit administrators, you can add Fidelity (retirement) and Workday (payroll) to that circus. Every time



President's Column

By ADAM KASZYNSKI

President

Membership Meeting April 15: Vote YES for Strike Authorization at GF

Come to your union meeting to hear about several major local issues we have with GE that we have the right to strike over per our contract. We are asking the membership to give the Local 201 Executive Board authorization to put the Company on strike notice if these issues are not resolved in a timely manner.

Calling all 201 Member's: STOP TALKING TO HR

GE: HR Overreach Ends Today

You do not have to, nor should you, talk to HR without union representation.

Talking to HR is asking for trouble, and it is your right to refuse to talk to anyone in management but your direct supervisor or his/her designee in their absence. The Union asks you to assert that right. You are Union. YOU have one supervisor.

At GE, our benefits and pay have been messed up for 3 months, and GE's Human Resource Department is too busy with BS discipline investigations that affect a minority, while the Company drag's their heels on the pay, benefits, and grievance issues that affect the majority.

If you have a **benefits** issue, tell your cell leader to notify HK, and ask for a copy of the email sent. If it is not resolved in 48 hours, notify your steward to file a grievance.

If you have a **pay issue**, tell your foreman to notify **Payroll**, and ask for a copy of the email sent. If it is not resolved in 48 hours/that weeks paycheck, go talk to Payroll yourself and bring a steward, then file a grievance.

If you have an **upgrade or employment question/issue**, ask a steward or go to the employment office with a steward. Do not go to HP

If the Company calls you to an **investigatory meeting that could result in discipline**, do not attend without a steward. You do not have to attend any such meeting or answer any questions without union representation. If HR is present at the meeting or plans to be present in the investigatory meeting, the steward should notify the board member.

If you **do not feel safe performing your job**, shut it down and notify your Union health and safety rep and/or steward. The employee does not have to work on an assignment that they consider unsafe until a decision is made by the safety representative/EHS. NOT HR! (and NOT the foreman, business leader, plant leader, "technical expert", or the CEO himself)

If you think you have experienced a **contractual violation** of any kind, see your steward and discuss filing a step 1 grievance and deliver it to the supervisor. Do NOT talk to HR.

Do NOT sign <u>anything</u> from the Company except your paycheck, an IR form for upgrade, or an injury report form, and if you're signing retirement paperwork, make sure they got the date right!

Local 201 to Host National GE Contract Rally on May 1st in Lynn: See you There

GE Worker delegations from IUE-CWA Local 301, 701, 1004 will participate with Local 201 in daytime informational picket at the gates of GE Lynn and then take part in the Lynn May Day Community March that evening, the main demand of our community coalition will be "We Support GE Worker's Fight for a Fair Contract." Wondering how you can help achieve a good contract with GE? Stand up, show up, and be counted at the informational picket 2-4pm and attend the community rally in the Lynn Commons at 5:30 and March to the plant gates.

Veolia LWWTP Contract Kicks Off

Solidarity with members at the Lynn Wastewater Treatment Plant! Congratulations on a strong action at the plant gate, and a solid first session of negotiations. The whole Union stands behind you for a fair contract with any resources you need to get the job done.