



Informer

February 2012

Mobility Bargaining Begins

By Sonya Lasseter
Chief Steward

Our contract between AT&T and the Union is quickly approaching its final days and I wanted to take this time to express to you ALL the importance of being involved. It has been 20 years since the first contract was negotiated and we have made big strides; however, we still have a long way to go. Over those 20 years, we have been able to bargain the best contract possible given our member numbers. It is proven that the higher the membership is the better the contract will be.

That is why I am coming to you and expressing the importance of being involved with "YOUR" contract. If we expect to have the benefit increases that we deserve, we must ALL come together. Our company is a strong company because of all the hard work you do, each and every day, on

your jobs. Workers strengthen companies, companies do not strengthen themselves.

AT&T's profits are at record levels, \$160 Billion, and that is because of you! If you were to lose the company 4 billion dollars, would you still be employed? I don't think so, but Randall Stevenson is. He himself earned over \$27.3 million dollars in 2010. AT&T is having to payout \$51 million to TiVo also for their mistakes, but still our President and CEO Ralph De La Vega took home \$10.9 million in 2010. Where do they expect to get this back from? You guessed it, WE, the employees that are making this company strong. AT&T pays its exec's enough to put them not just in the top 1%, but in the top 1/10th of one percent. They each make more than 99.9% of American families just like you and I.

Being a union member is not to get back at your managers, it is there to make your life and the lives of your families secure. Yes, we do on a daily

basis encounter negative issues that need to be addressed with our management team, but that is just a very small part of the picture. Being a union member is a benefit that each and every one of us should be paying for, just like our medical benefits that we fight for each day.

In order for us, the employees, to show the company that we expect a fair and honest contract, we too must stand up for what we deserve. That is why I am coming to you and expressing the importance of becoming a CWA member, if you are not one today. It is not too late to take your place with the ones that came before you, or the ones that will come after you, in this fight for better wages, work conditions, and better health benefits.

As it is often stated "United We Bargain, Divided We Beg."

36 Reasons to Thank a Labor Union!

1. Weekends
2. All Breaks at Work, including your Lunch Breaks
3. Paid Vacation
4. FMLA
5. Sick Leave
6. Social Security
7. Minimum Wage
8. Civil Rights Act/Title VII (Prohibits Employer Discrimination)
9. 8-Hour Work Day
10. Overtime Pay
11. Child Labor Laws
12. Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA)
13. 40 Hour Work Week
14. Worker's Compensation (Worker's Comp)
15. Unemployment Insurance
16. Pensions
17. Workplace Safety Standards and Regulations
18. Employer Health Care Insurance
19. Collective Bargaining Rights for Employees
20. Wrongful Termination Laws
21. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
22. Whistleblower Protection Laws
23. Employee Polygraph Protect Act (Prohibits Employer from using a lie detector test on an employee)
24. Veteran's Employment and Training Services (VETS)
25. Compensation increases and Evaluations (Raises)
26. Sexual Harassment Laws
27. Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)
28. Holiday Pay
29. Employer Dental, Life, and Vision Insurance
30. Privacy Rights
31. Pregnancy and Parental Leave
32. Military Leave
33. The Right to Strike
34. Public Education for Children
35. Equal Pay Acts of 1963 & 2011 (Requires employers pay men and women equally for the same amount of work)
36. Laws Ending Sweatshops in the United States

CWA LOCAL 6402

FEBRUARY 2012 AGENDA

Tuesday	February 14th	5:30pm	Executive Board
Tuesday	February 14th	6:30pm	Stewards' Meeting
Tuesday	February 21st	6:30pm	Regular Membership

HELP OUR LOCAL



HELP YOU!

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