



# THE EAGLE

LOCAL 1103

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July 2008

## **‘Hey! Remember us retirees’**

### **CWA & IBEW take on Verizon at Annual Stockholders Meeting**

The sign says it all about what’s been going on at Verizon Wireless, VZ Business and about their corporate philosophy in general.



This year Verizon chose Lincoln, Nebraska for its annual shareholders meeting. In attendance were the usual cast of characters - CEO Ivan Seidenberg and the “bored to tears” Board of Directors. Also in attendance were a few (very few) interested shareholders as well as a couple of Verizon cheerleaders – shareholders who are charmed and delighted to take the microphone (and corporate perks) to tell everyone how much they appreciate the management of Verizon. The Verizon Board of Directors is a captive audience and it shows. They are like deer in the headlights standing around trying to look important while they wait for the meeting to end, hoping no one

will ask just what they do for Verizon to earn their salary, or perhaps inquire why Verizon stock is just about trading water on the New York Stock Exchange. Since the last shareholders meeting, our stock value has dropped from \$46 per share to the current price of \$37 per share.

This year there were many more union members attending than shareholders. When this annual meeting is held in a large city, the major brokerage firms and mutual fund managers attend as well as representatives from the national newspapers and

*Continued on center page*

By-Laws Adopted



..... pg. 3

Buy Union Car List



..... pg. 6

Remembering July 4th

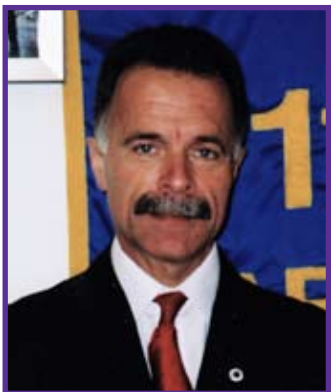


..... pg. 7

Picnic R.S.V.P. ....pg.8



## In My View . . .



I want to thank everyone that “weathered” the 100 degree day last month to come to the quarterly General Membership Meeting where the bulk of the changes and deletions that were mailed to them earlier were adopted. Over half of the changes were the

deletions of all the language that pertained to us when we were merged with Local 1120 nearly seven years ago. These changes were way overdue. Some of the added language was: (1) that CWA Local 1103 could now assess a \$500 “re-entry fee” on any Member that left voluntarily (for example to take acting management) in excess of 30 days and came back to the Local; (2) the creation of a Working Families Committee; (3) a more definitive explanation of the Business Agents units of responsibilities; and (4) that Chief Stewards may be elected by the Members they represent. The proposal to create an At-Large Diversity Executive Board Member was defeated.

The Executive Board was in favor of this proposal. Our intentions were based on inclusion, but the Members present felt the way we have conducted business over the years barred no one from advancing to the Executive Board. So, once again, you spoke your mind and voted not to have this At-Large Diversity seat on the Executive Board. To those that do not attend General Membership Meetings, this is a classic example of “Your Vote DOES Count” and you can and do make a difference. By the CWA Constitution and our By-Laws, the Executive Board conducts the business of the Local between membership meetings, but it is you the membership, that are the final governing body of the Local, so it is important that you come to these meetings. They are only four times a year.

With only a month to go until our contract is up with Verizon, I regret to say that nothing

has changed. As of this writing, nothing has been settled. I know I’ve been preaching for over a year now that you should be saving your money for a strike, and if Verizon does not want to bargain in good faith, WE WILL BE ON STRIKE.

There will be increased mobilization activities occurring as the strike deadline nears, so help yourself and your family and participate in everyone one of these activities. Don’t leave it to the other person to do. Let’s send our message to Verizon, to the communities we live in and to our Brothers and Sisters in the American Labor movement who are also in their own battles with corporate America that we will not go backwards at the bargaining table.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joey".

**JOSEPH A. BARCA, Jr.**  
President



# THE EAGLE

**Proud To Be 1103**  
Official Publication of the  
**Communications Workers of America Local 1103**

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Joseph A. Barca, Jr. .... President  
Kevin Sheil..... Vice President  
Douglas Sheahan..... Secretary/Treasurer

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Mark Crumm      John Gentile  
Ron Mangeri      Joe Mayhew      Anthony Pugliese

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# Amended By-Laws Adapted

By a majority vote at the June General Membership Meeting, the Members present voted to accept the bulk of the overdue and much needed changes, additions and deletions to our Local By-Laws. The last time our By-Laws had been amended was in November of 2000 to accommodate the merger of our Local with our Sister Local 1120 based in Poughkeepsie. Prior to that, our old By-Laws were amended on September 14, 1992.

Let's go back in time to refresh everyone's memory about this so there are no questions. In the Fall of 2000, we attempted to merge with Locals 1107 and 1120; but the membership of Local 1107 said No to this at their membership meeting, while Local 1120 approved it at theirs. Thus the merger of three Locals became the merger of two because the Members had spoken. This merger had a one year probationary period where one Local or the other could get out for any reason at all if that is what the Members wanted. The Members of Local 1103



*Members listen to By-Laws changes before voting.*

North (1120) petitioned for a secret ballot to dissolve the merger and a secret ballot was held on September 19, 2001. The majority of the Members of 1103 North voted NO and the two Locals were dissolved. Once again, the Members had spoken.

Well, those old merged By-Laws had never been brought up to date, so one of the first things this Executive Board did was to update and make changes to bring our By-Laws current with the CWA Constitution and with the needs of our Local. All of the old language was deleted and new language was added. Besides deleting all of the non-germane language that used to refer to our previous merger, there were a few other additions. That is why we mailed it out to everyone prior to the General Membership Meeting so everyone would be informed prior to the meeting and could make an intelligent decision on these matters. We also posted a complete set of these changes and dele-

tions on the Local's website. If you still have any questions regarding this, please contact your Business Agent who can give you an explanation of any of this in detail.

Prior to voting on the By-Law changes, we had a special guest that night, Adam Trainer, a Field Tech from Verizon Business (formerly MCI). He told us about their fight to not just be union, but to be in CWA. What we take for granted (and possibly be going on strike for), he doesn't even have. He pays \$5,000 a year for his medical benefits, does not have any sort of pension and is underpaid as well. After briefing us on the plight that he and his co-workers are going through, he concluded by saying, "We can't wait to be union with you, and if you are on strike on August 2nd, we Verizon Business Techs will honor your cause and have no intention of crossing your picket lines."



*VZ Business Tech Adam Trainer*

## *Happy July 4th*

*Enjoy your freedom and keep it! Excercise your right and*

### **REGISTER AND VOTE**

*We have the forms for New York and Connecticut at the Union Hall*



# DO BUY

## 2008 Vehicles Built by Union Members In the United States & Canada



### U A W

<b>CARS</b>				
Buick Lucerne	Mazda 6	Chevrolet Suburban*	Jeep Commander	Dodge Ram Pickup*
Cadillac CTS	Mercury Sable	Chevrolet Tahoe/ Tahoe Hybrid	Jeep Compass	Ford Explorer Sport Trac
Cadillac DTS	Mitsubishi Eclipse	Chrysler Aspen	Jeep Grand Cherokee	Ford F-Series*
Cadillac STS	Mitsubishi Galant	Dodge Durango	Jeep Liberty	Ford Ranger
Cadillac XLR	Pontiac G5	Dodge Nitro	Jeep Patriot	GMC Canyon
Chevrolet Cobalt	Pontiac G6	Ford Escape/ Escape Hybrid	Jeep Wrangler	Isuzu i-Series
Chevrolet Corvette	Pontiac Solstice	Ford Expedition	Lincoln Navigator	Lincoln Mark LT
Chevrolet Malibu/ Malibu Hybrid	Pontiac Vibe	Ford Explorer	Mazda Tribute/ Tribute Hybrid	Mazda B-series
Chrysler Sebring	Saturn Aura/ Aura Hybrid	Ford Taurus X	Mercury Mariner/ Mariner Hybrid	Mitsubishi Raider
Dodge Avenger	Saturn Sky	GMC Acadia	Mercury Mountaineer	Toyota Tacoma*
Dodge Caliber	Toyota Corolla*	GMC Yukon/ Yukon Hybrid	Mitsubishi Endeavor	<b>VANS</b>
Dodge Viper	<b>SUVS/CUVS</b>	GMC Yukon Denali	Saturn Outlook	Ford E-series
Ford Focus	Buick Enclave		<b>PICKUPS</b>	Chevrolet Express
Ford Mustang	Cadillac Escalade	Hummer H1	Chevrolet Colorado	Chevrolet Uplander
Ford Taurus	Cadillac Escalade ESV	Hummer H2	Dodge Dakota	GMC Savana
Lincoln MKS	Cadillac SRX	Hummer H3		

### C A W

<b>CARS</b>		<b>SUVS/CUVS</b>	
Buick Lacrosse	Dodge Charger	Chevrolet Equinox	Ford Edge
Chevrolet Impala	Ford Crown Victoria	Chrysler Pacifica	Lincoln MKX
Chrysler 300	Lincoln Town Car	Dodge Magnum	Pontiac Torrent
Dodge Challenger	Mercury Grand Marquis		Suzuki XL7
	Pontiac Grand Prix		

### U A W / C A W

<b>PICKUPS</b>	<b>UAW/CAW VANS</b>
Chevrolet Silverado*	Chrysler Town & Country
GMC Sierra*	Dodge Caravan

### I U E

<b>SUVS/CUVS</b>	
Chevrolet TrailBlazer	GMC Envoy Denali
GMC Envoy	Isuzu Ascender
	Saab 9-7X

This guide is prepared by the UAW to provide information for consumers who want to purchase vehicles produced by workers who enjoy the benefits and protections of a union contract.

All these vehicles are made in the United States or Canada by members of the United Auto Workers (UAW), Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) or International Union of Electrical Workers-Communications Workers of America (IUE).

Because of the integration of U.S. and Canadian vehicle production, all these vehicles include significant UAW-made content and support the jobs of UAW members.

However, those marked with an asterisk (\*) are sourced from the United States and another country.

When purchasing one of these models, check the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

A VIN beginning with "1", "4" or "5" identifies a U.S.-made vehicle; "2" identifies a Canadian-made vehicle.

Not all vehicles made in the United States or Canada are built by union-represented workers. The Toyota Corolla, for example, is made in the United States by UAW members, but the Canadian model is made in a nonunion plant and other models are imported from a third country.

*\*Vehicles marked with an asterisk are produced in more than one country, but all models made in the United States are assembled by UAW members.*

# Recognize the Sacrifices Made by Our Founding Fathers In 1776

*Editor's Note: The July issue of The Eagle will probably not reach you pre-July 4th; but we thought running this article was more than appropriate as we commemorate Independence Day. This is a reprint of an article that appeared in The Daily News in 2000 and we have reprinted it previously; but it's never too late to go back in history to appreciate what we have today.*

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and were tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons who served in the Revolutionary Army. Another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds and hardships of the Revolutionary War. They pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants. Nine were farmers and plantations owners. All were men of means and well-educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing that the penalty would be death if captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealth planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts and died

in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family constantly. He served in Congress without pay and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken and poverty was his reward.

Vandals and soldiers looted the properties of Ellery, Hall, Clymer,



Walton, Gwinnet, Heyward, Rutledge and Mittleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr. noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed and Nelson died bankrupt. The home of Francis Lewis was also destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from the bedside of his dying wife. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in the forests and caves, returning to find his wife dead and his children gone. He died shortly thereafter, heartbroken. Morris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wide-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. These were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight and unwavering, they pledged "for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

They gave us a free and independent America. The history books never tell us much of what happened in the Revolutionary War. We were British subjects at that time, and we fought against our own government. Too often, we do not take these liberties for granted.

So while you are enjoying the festivities of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, take a few minutes and silently thank these patriots for their heroic contributions. It is not too much to ask for the price they paid. Freedom is never free.

LETTERS  
TO THE LOCAL



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103

(AFFILIATED WITH A.F.L.-C.I.O.-C.L.C.)

345 WESTCHESTER AVENUE • PORT CHESTER, NY 10573



Dear Joey (Barca),

On behalf of everyone who benefited from your Members generosity at the recent blood donation drive held at the Peekskill Firehouse - THANK YOU!!! 249 hospital patients and community residents are grateful. As the saying goes, "Together we can save a life."

/s/THOMAS KANE  
American Red Cross

PERIODICAL

## LOCAL 1103 ANNUAL PICNIC



When: Sunday, July 27th  
Where: Ridge Road Park, Hartsdsdale, NY  
Time: 12 Noon till 6 p.m.

Members Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ @ \$20 - Members Family  
(Members, Spouse & Children under 18)
- \_\_\_ @ \$10 - Individual Member or Additional Family Member
- \_\_\_ @ \$10 - Retired Local 1103 Member & Spouse
- \_\_\_ @ \$5 - Retired Local 1103 Member



Total # of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to: CWA Local 1103 - Special Events.

**A BRIEF REMINDER:** The Picnic is FREE. Your check will be returned to you at the gate when you check in and get your free gift. Send this reservation form back to the Union Hall ASAP. Thank You.

This year, the Picnic menu will include:

- \* HAMBURGERS
- \* GIANT HOTDOGS
- \* SAUSAGE & PEPPERS
- \* B-B-Q CHICKEN
- \* KEILBASI
- \* POTATO SALAD
- \* COLE SLAW
- \* GARDEN SALAD  
w/Dressing
- \* CORN ON THE COB
- \* DRAFT BEER, SODA, ICED  
TEA & LEMONADE
- \* WATERMELON
- \* ICE CREAM (for the kids)

There will also be Music provided by a D.J. along with Games for the Children.

Due to restrictions placed upon us by Westchester County, the Picnic will be limited to the first 500 People who make reservations.