



THE EAGLE

LOCAL 1103

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July 2011

VERIZON BARGAINING GETS UNDERWAY



"This is what we mean when we say we are "Proud to be 1103."

RYE BROOK, N.Y. --- Hundreds of Local 1103 Members in RED were joined by their CWA and IBEW brothers and sisters from across the northeast, many traveling a long distance, while braving monsoon like conditions that closed roadways due to severe flooding, to send a message of solidarity. Members attended from places

such as Albany, Utica, Poughkeepsie, Staten Island, Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan, Long Island, Rhode Island, Boston and the Cape Cod area. Local 1103 Vice President Kevin Sheil kicked off the CWA/IBEW Verizon bargaining and mobilization rally on June 23 by affirming that fighting for job security was

Continued on page 4

**Verizon
Bargaining!**

..... pg. 1, 4 & 5

MEMBERS
approve by-law change



..... pg. 3

**Letters
To The Local**



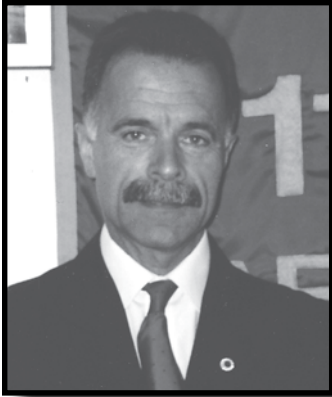
..... pg. 6

The Retiree's
Corner..



..... pg. 7

In My View . . .



The Truth about Social Security

Your probably tired of hearing about Social Security, but you should know that there is no Social Security "Crisis", its not in" Financial Trouble", and its not going "Broke".

There are huge lies being floated by the "Right", and there Banking Industry friends since this was signed into Law by FDR over 75 years ago. These robber barons would love to get there hands on the Trillions in this fund, your money. They use feel good words like "save", "strengthen" and "protect" when they really mean eliminate by privatization, and the only way for them to achieve their goal is to remove the funds out from under government control. Can you imagine for a minute, what would have happened to your Social Security if George W. Bush had his way and was able to have it "Privatized", and then Wall St had there meltdown an crash as we all witnessed. Next are some of those lies about the status of Social Security. I will state the lie, and then follow it with the fact.

* Social Security is going "Broke"!

Fact: SS has a \$4.3Trillion Surplus

*The retirement Age must be raised to 70 because people live longer!

Fact: People are living about as long as they did in the 1930s' although life expectancy has risen due to lower infant mortality, it has dropped by 2 years among retirees in the bottom half of the income bracket.

*Benefit Cuts are the only way to fix SS!

Fact: You can't fix something that isn't broken, but you can always improve it. You do this by requiring every earner in the system to have SS taxes withheld 52 weeks a year.

This means, the wealthiest among us, including the millionaires and billionaires will get to pay there fare share, and the system will get a tremendous infusion of" Dollars".

*SS ads to our Nations deficit!

Fact: That's impossible, by law the SS Fund is separate from the budget and must pay its own way. In addition, again by law, it can not add one penny to the deficit.

I have researched many different sources for this article and in my opinion Social Security is the most successful US Government program ever. It serves, currently 53 million Americans each month, and does what it was designed to do. I do not get any sense of security thinking about if those bums in our financial sectors, that are walking free amongst us, were to somehow get there greedy little hands on our money. I will end with FDR's quote "We can never insure 100% of the population against 100% of the hazards and vicissitudes of life, but we have framed a law which will give some measure of protection to the average citizen and his family against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age".

In Solidarity,

Joey Barca, Jr.
President



THE EAGLE

Proud To Be 1103

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Elections Have Consequences – Who's not voting to supporting our jobs?

On June 14th 2011, Albany was in a fever pitch as the end of the session was just days away when, the CWA District 1 Legislative Political Action Team (LPAT) trekked to the capitol. LPAT Coordinators from across the state turned out in force to support and fight for our jobs using the legislative process that began on the work place floor by your Chiefs, Shop Stewards and LPAT Work Place Members. Asking you to click the links, write letters and make phone calls is the heart of the LPAT and the pressure we need to help gain the legislative/political solution to protect our jobs and the middle class. In this session, these were the bills we lobbied for and the committees they were in:

NYS Assembly Corporations Committee

Land Line Merger Bill – Protect CWA jobs from a bad sale of Telecom plant.

Double Pole Bill – Require Telecom & Electric Companies to identify and remove double poles.

Call Center Bill – Help to bring back jobs to New York.

NYS Assembly Ways & Means Committee

FiOS Deployment Bill – Require any company creating a fiber to premise plant to undergo a study of deployment.

The first step was to get all these bills out of committees to floor votes. For our bills in the Corporations Committee we needed 14 yes votes out of 25 members on the panel. In all three of the votes, every single Republican present voted against our bills and your job security. The most vocal champion in support of the Company was Republican Assemblywoman, Jane Corwin of Erie & Niagara counties who battered the Committee Chairmen with questions and statements calling for the committee to reject all our bills.

Typical of the nationwide Republican stand against regulation, during the Landline Merger vote, Corwin stated it was not the job of government to protect customers from a bad sale. On the issue of keeping jobs in NY the nexus of the Call center bill, Corwin stated it would cause the Company to spend more money taking their ability away to reinvest and cause the loss of more jobs. Ridiculous!

The Double Pole and Call Center bills passed through the committee with support from all the Democrats (and not even one Republican) on the panel. However, our Landline Merger Bill did not survive and was

lost by one vote. Democrats Carl Heastie of the 83rd district in the Bronx and Robert Rodriguez of the 68th district, along with every single Republican --- even the one GOP member who was a co-sponsor of the bill -- voted to kill the Landline Merger bill. To put this vote in prospective, it must be noted that Heastie and Rodriguez were never supporters of the bill and we did not count on their votes, yet we had a safety margin, with one lone republican who agreed to be a co-sponsor. Had this single Republican keep his word and just stood up to his party, a bill that would grant us job protections from a bad sale would now be moving through the legislative process, instead it will be pushed back yet another year. Marking it now a half-decade that we have been fighting for job protection without any Republican support.

Much credit needs to be given to CWA 1103, 2010 endorsed candidates: freshmen Assemblymen Tom Abinanti (D-Westchester) and veteran Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D-Westchester) for supporting all three bills.

CWA 1103 Members Approve By-Law Change

Faced with the challenges of a declining membership, within a number of our represented employers, CWA Local 1103 Members voted to approve a By Law proposal which will decrease the size of the 1103 Executive Board.

To the Local 1103 Executive Board, it was clear that it was necessary to size the Executive Board accordingly. The Local 1103 Executive Board identified the place where a reduction could be made, while still providing the quality service that our Members expected and deserved. Therefore, the Local 1103 Executive Board proposed a By-Law change that eliminated one Business Agent position.

At the General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, New York, a secret ballot vote was conducted to amend our By-Laws, and our Members spoke by overwhelmingly approving this change.

The change will be effective January 1, 2012.

We thank you for participating in the full and open discussion of all the issues, which necessitated the changes, at the General Membership Meeting.

Thank you for your support.

Kevin Sheil,
Vice President

Verizon bargaining... continued from front cover

paramount. "My job, out of my cold dead hands," he said.

District 1 Vice President Chris Shelton said, "There is an ill wind blowing across the country, this entire country, that ill wind brothers and sisters, in the public sector is taking away collective bargaining rights, in the



make it apparent that corporations that make 106 billion dollars have to get this country on its feet. We can't allow what is going on here in America, led by Ivan Seidenberg and his business roundtable who are paralyzing and



private sector, pushed by corporations and CEO's and bankers and brokers are trying to take away your rights. They are trying to take away your livelihood."

President of IBEW T6 Council Miles Calvey said, "It's all about us, we have watched the fight in Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois and New Jersey, but now the focus is on us. We have a corporation that is going to break 106 BILLION dollars this year in a bad economy. We owe it to future generations to



Continued on page 5

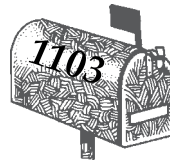
Continued from page 4

crippling workers in this country. It's up to all of us as soldiers of organized labor to get this country up on its feet."

The Local 1103 Executive Board is proud to have played host to such an important event and we thank our Membership who continue to support the efforts of the Union.

To stay current with bargaining updates and mobilization activities, please go to CWA Local 1103's website at CWA1103.org or call the union tape at 914-939-8205. You can also go to [@Unity](https://www.facebook.com/Unity) @Verizon to see what other Members are doing in an effort to secure a fair and just contract.





LETTERS TO THE LOCAL

Twenty two years ago a man woke up and got out of bed.

He ate breakfast, and read about a Union strike in the paper.

He hugged his kids, kissed his young wife goodbye and drove off to stand beside his brothers and sisters of the CWA.

He didn't know that he wouldn't come home that night. He didn't know that that kiss goodbye, was his last.

I believe that if my father, Edward Gerry Horgan, had known what he would sacrifice for the rights and betterment of his friends and coworkers, he would have still shown up to the picket line that day, with a smile and a joke. My father knew the importance of what he and his fellow strikers were doing; he knew how strong that bond between him and all the members of his union was.

And he was right. To my family, the CWA was more than just a collective bargaining unit. It was more than just trying to get the best "deal" possible. To my family, CWA was my family.

We had sleep-overs with Joey and Michael at Uncle Joey's house. Aunt Janie curled our hair for Christmas. And Uncle Tony never once forgot a birthday. One of my fondest memories is pedaling my bike with the sparkly streamers around Baldwin Park, eating a hotdog, the smell of lots and lots of beer and seeing all of my "extended family" at the annual softball tournament. I can't list all of the people who did those little things that a dad might do, but all of them had an impact.

My sister and I grew older, but we never forgot the support of our loving CWA family. We carried with us the heart, strength and wisdom of all our aunts, uncles and cousins who were such an important part of our childhood. Without your help, we wouldn't be who we are today.

My sister Danielle is finishing her undergraduate in history at Baruch College in New York City and will be moving to Florida to pursue her masters and eventually teach, spreading her own knowledge and helping kids. She will carry on the legacy of, our grandmother Audrey, Gerry's mom, who passed away on October 4th last year. We can only hope that Danielle will be half as terrifying with a wooden ruler.

I recently started a new job with a Marketing and PR firm that is challenging and exciting to me, the first step on a long career. I am also engaged to be married, and though we haven't set a date yet, I've already got everything for the wedding picked out - at least until I change my mind again.

When I look back on my life so far, short though it may be, I don't think I am lucky. I don't think I "caught a break." I think that I am blessed. Blessed to have had a father who had friends and acquaintances of such amazing heart and courage. Blessed to have known so many people who demonstrate on a daily basis what the meaning of hard work truly is. Blessed to have had so many people there to share in the tears of one lost. And blessed to see so much good come from an evil and unfortunate act.

My family has been blessed to be a part of your family, and for that we will always be grateful and thank you.

Christine Horgan

To all the Officers and Members of 1103 and all those who participated in the Horgan/Borella Outing:

Thank you for the love and support that you have provided me and my girls over the past 22 years. Words cannot express how truly grateful we are.

May God bless all of you.

Sincerely,

Karen Horgan Martini

*** * ***

To the Officers and Members of CWA Local 1103,

Thank you to all of the CWA for your continued support and gracious help that you have shown to my family over the past 22 years. And most of all thank you for continuing to fulfill your promise to never forget my father, Gerry Horgan.

Love always,

Danielle Horgan

*** * ***

Dear Mark Crumm,

I wanted you to say thank you. I wanted to let you know that even though my life is crazy at the moment, I truly appreciate what you did for me and my family. This will never be forgotten.

Thank you!

Rebecca

The Retiree's Corner..

On Tuesday, June 14 we held our quarterly meeting in Hawthorne, NY. Coincidentally it was also Flag Day.

A bit of trivia: do you know what the red, white and blue in the flag stand for? Red stands for courage and hardiness, white stands for purity and blue stands for vigilance and justice.

Over the coming months we will need to apply these attributes to ourselves. We will need courage and hardiness to stand up against those who blame us for the ills of mismanaged governments and greedy corporations who are only looking to make more profit at the expense of the average worker. We will need purity to remember what we stand for as union members, one for all and all for one. And finally vigilance and justice to persevere and ultimately win our goals of protecting what is rightfully ours.

On June 23 bargaining began for the Verizon Contract. As always our local asks us to step up and participate in demonstrating to Verizon that we absolutely do not intend to give up the benefits that we earned over the years. One of the ways a retiree can show support is by joining their local retiree chapter. Through membership, with the CWA Retired Members Council and Local 1103 Retiree Chapter, you will be kept apprised of the issues that affect both us and our active brothers and sisters.

In addition to dealing with Verizon, we also need to be aware of what our politicians are doing or not doing to protect public sector workers and their families and their right to a decent living wage, good jobs and health care.

This is only the beginning of a long and tedious road. As I am sure you are painfully aware of the general mood of some in the country who favor big corporations and are indifferent to the needs of the average working person especially unionized workers. They accept corporate America's injustice to declare null and void legally bargained contracts. They attack public employees and hold them responsible for the financial mismanagement of the government entities they work for.

How can we make a difference in the face of seemingly overwhelming odds?

One example of what we can do is to become involved with your union. An example of this involvement was back on May 19 when some of our retired chapter members, at the request of Joe Mayhew, Local 1103 Business Agent and LPAT Coordinator, participated in a demonstration in front of Rep. Nan Hayworth's office in Somers. She, along with Sen. Paul Ryan, wants to repeal the Health Care Reform Act, change Medicare to a voucher system and cut the Veteran Administration's budget by 6 billion dollars. I along with Jim Condon, Bill Tegmier, Bob Ferguson and Billy O'Mara, all proud veterans by the way, went to Somers and showed our dismay and dissatisfaction with her and her policies.

On June 23, retirees joined with our active brothers and sisters from Local 1103 at the Rye Town Hilton to let Verizon know we will not accept anything less than a fair and equitable contract with no loss of health care benefits!

Your turn is next. What will you do to make a difference?

At our June 14th quarterly general membership meeting, we discussed and voted on two article revisions to our by-laws. These revised by-laws articles will be forwarded to our District Council in Washington for filing. We welcomed several new members into the Council and our chapter. We also are planning a "Tommy Wonsor" appreciation day in September. Details will follow.

Stay informed and keep in touch with us via our website: cwalocal1103rmc.org or contact us at cwa1103rmc@comcast.net

As always, proud to be CWA 1103!

Jeanette Spoor,
President CWA Local 1103 RMC



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103

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

345 WESTCHESTER AVENUE • PORT CHESTER, NY 10573



*IN MEMORY
of our
Union Brother*

*GERRY
HORGAN*

*Who was killed on a
picket line in August 1989,
striking with his
Brothers and Sisters against
the greed of a wealthy
NYNEX Corporation*

PERIODICAL



*IN MEMORY OF
E. GERALD HORGAN*

*REST IN PEACE,
GERRY HORGAN*

WE WILL NEVER FORGET