

Canadian Union of Brewery and General Workers Component 325

July 2008

LOCAL 325

Retirement

Brothers **John Passerino, Don Obelnycki, and John McClurkin** will be retiring on the 1st of August after many years of loyal and faithful service as employees of Molson Breweries and as cherished Members of Local 325. On behalf of the entire Membership, we wish John, Don, and John all the best in their retirement.



Welcome

On behalf of Brother Hamilton, our Executive, Stewards and the entire Membership of Local 325 we would like to welcome Brother Mahendra Thumbasamy as our latest Member in the Maintenance Department. Please take a moment to extend your personal welcome to Mahendra.

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NUPGE Board Meeting

Brothers Hamilton and Menezes will be in attendance at our National Union's Executive Board Meeting being held in Ottawa on September 8th and 9th. These meetings are held four times a year and bring together leaders of all the 12 components that make up NUPGE (National Union of Public and General Employees). To find out more about your National Union, check them out on line at.

<http://www.nupge.ca>

Committee Meeting

Our next Committee Meeting is scheduled for the 18th of September. The entire Local 325 Committee gets together four times a year at the Quality Suites Hotel on Dixon Road to discuss a wide range of issues that are of concern to the Membership. It has always been a great opportunity for all in attendance to see what is happening in the other departments and to see if solutions in one area can fit the next. Thanks to all for their ongoing contributions.

Teamsters Meeting

Brothers Hamilton and Menezes will be traveling to Montreal on the 11th of September after the NUPGE board meeting in Ottawa and will be meeting with Teamsters Molson Montreal Union Representatives Brothers Yves Philie Plant Chairmen, Gilles Charles Secretary, and Guy Deslauriers Business Agent Local 1999. We will be touring the Montreal Brewery and discussing a number of issues mainly around the upcoming contract talks both here in Toronto, and in Montreal. We will continue to meet regularly and have built a very strong relationship over the past several years.

Certified Rep. Co-Chair

Congratulation to Brother Manny Desousa on his recent election as our new Certified Representative/ Co-chair and to all the members elected or acclaimed in the recent safety elections, we are all more secure in our safety in the plant because of your involvement. Thank you also to all that chose to get involved and run as a candidate. Thanks also go out to our three Scrutinisers' Laura Drover, Anita Samlall and Luciano Derenzo on a job well done.

Membership Meeting

Our next Membership Meeting is scheduled for the 21st of September, with one to follow on October 19th. Please make an effort to be in attendance if at all possible. We are still looking for a Midnight Alternate Stewart for the Warehouse. Nominations are on the agenda, as well as our regular business.

Thank You

A special thank you to Brother Ken Durno for his many years of service as our Health and Safety Committees Certified Representative/Co-Chair and Brother Arunas Gataveckas for the fine job he did as a the temporary replacement for Ken. Many thanks to both of you for your dedicated service to the Members of this Local.

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Manulife Benefits

We continue to encounter problems with Manulife regarding the management of our benefit plan. We have met with the Company as well as representatives of Manulife on a number of occasions, attempting to resolve ongoing issues around eligibility of certain claims (coverage). We encourage all of our members to check with the Union office regarding any denied claim. Our members have on occasion been given incorrect information from Manulife, denied valid claims, requested to provide more information than what is required under our collective agreement, as well as requesting the same information on multiple occasions. Please see your Steward or inform the Union office of any problems in this regard ASAP.

Education Week

Our annual Union Education Week took place at Fern Resort in Orillia, from June 9th to 13th. This is an annual event for our entire Union Committee to get together outside of the normal work environment. It was a very successful week, a lot of ground was covered on a very wide range of issues. Koskie and Minsky Lawyers Larry Steinberg and Ernie Schirru conducted a seminar for the group on the Tuesday which was very well received. They covered the issues of WSIB, the duty to accommodate and the handling of grievances from a legal perspective. Thanks to all involved for their contribution in making the week a great success.



Grievance Problems

The Union is in the process of trying to organize and modernize the tracking of our member's grievances through the use of a common spread sheet and new software. It will take some time and we thank all the Stewards for their help in the process.

We continue to push the Company along in respect to timelines through dialog and the grievance procedure. If contractual timelines are violated we will move the grievance on to the next step in the procedure. Each and every member has the right to know exactly where their grievance is, and when they can expect a resolution.

Addresses

All Members of Local 325 please advise the Union office of any change of address or phone number.

Newsletter Content

Any ideas, stories or suggestions as to the content of this newsletter would be much appreciated.
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