

# Potomac Air Lodge 1976

**Potomac News & Views** 

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## The President's Soap Box

Hello, All,
I hope you are enjoying this spring weather. American is continuing to hire new employees at a tremendous rate. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication in helping to bring the new employees up to speed.

Please continue welcoming the new hires and answer any questions they may have. Talk with them about getting involved with our local here in Pit and invite them to attend our union meetings with you.

Have a great Independence Day and a safe Memorial Day. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely, Howard Ferguson, President, LL 1976

### Greetings All ...

SOLIDARITY, as defined by the Merriam-Webster dictionary – unity (as of a group or class) that produces or is based on community of interests, objectives, and standards.

Examples of groups that rely on solidarity to achieve common goals are: Alumni, School, Sports Teams, Political, Military, and in our case, Work and Union. All these different groups come together for the good of the group and taking action needed to support the needs of the group.

Solidarity in our work groups and The IAMAW is very important to reaching the goals of the members. Whether it is achieving an industry leading contract or in the daily job functions. Solidarity is our strongest strength.

Watching over each other to make sure the contract is followed, jobs are completed properly, health and safety concerns are addressed, or providing guidance on how to handle issues and confrontations. We should have each other's backs. When an individual or group has been unjustly dealt with, results are better achieved when the group acts as a whole. People acting for individual gain often adversely affect the whole.

Show support for each other when someone speaks up on a legitimate concern. Issues can often be resolved with a conversation. Stewards are an essential tool in helping. They can address your concern and direct accordingly.

Solidarity is very important when negotiating a contract. The company must know the membership supports the Negotiating Committee. More can be achieved in negotiation with a strong and united membership.

Our best resource is each other. If the membership supports each other, the stewards, the grievance committee, the Negotiating committee, and the IAM we can accomplish many good things.

– In Solidarity, Mark Ball, Grievance Committee Chairman, LL 1976 -

### Our Local Lodge 1976 Hall Celebrates 25 Year Anniversary

THIS MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT was 49 years in the making! Local Lodge 1976 was chartered on September 27,1950. Union meetings were held in various locations throughout the years, such has the V.F.W. in Coraopolis, the ELKS Club and a shopping plaza in Moon Township. The property, purchased on January 16,1997, was once occupied by a Uni-Mart convenience store. On April 7,1999, the first meeting

was held in the new hall. The official dedication of Local Lodge 1976 was held on Saturday, May 22,1999 with an open house.

To celebrate this milestone we would like to invite all Retirees and Active Members to our hall for snacks and refreshments on Wednesday, June 5th. Open house hours will be:  $3:00\ PM-4:30\ PM$  /  $11:00\ PM-12:30\ AM$  /  $7:00\ AM-7:30\ AM$ 

Pictured at left: Uni-mart store located on property prior to 1997. Center and right: Our Lodge Hall as it looks today.







# PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY Potomac Air Lodge 1976 IAM/AW

#### Local Lodge Directory

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

<u>D DO:IND</u>
President
Vice President
Recording Secretary
Secretary-Treasurer
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Conductor Sentine

#### **Union Label**

Brian Lewis 412-216-4876

#### Medical Benefits

Vacant 412-538-4353

#### Education

 Steve Mader
 Shift 1
 412-538-4353

 Garry Jacobs
 Shift 1
 724-480-2244

#### **Auditors**

Mike Lewandowski Jim Onuska Lenny Pushinsky

#### **Employee Assistance Program**

#### IAM & AW - AA System

Paul Shultz District 704-907-3563 Robert Rodriguez Local 724-315-7234

#### Member Services

 Richard Keller
 Shift 1
 412-538-4353

 Pete Wojtechko
 Shift 2
 724-738-3227

 Joe English
 Shift 3
 412-848-0106

 Fred Bosh
 (Retirees)
 412-833-6276

#### **Grievance Committee**

 Mark Ball, Chairman
 412-538-4353

 Ernie Fritz
 412-538-4352

 Dennis Tkacs
 412-538-4350

 Union Office Fax
 412-538-4359

#### **Legislative Committee**

Dennis Tkacs, Chairman 412-538-4350

#### **Community Services**

Steve Gallagher, Coordinator 412-538-4353

#### Workman's Comp

Rick Palaschak 412-551-8519

#### DL 142 General Chair

**Ken Coley** 

#### DL 142 Ground Safety

Brian Szolodko, Director 407-825-6370

#### DL 142 Ground Safety Rep

Tom Perkins 412-779-6195

#### **Ground Safety Committee**

 Vacant
 Shift 1
 412-538-4353

 Dan Gibson, Chairman
 Shift 2
 412-630-7868

 Robert Hribal
 Shift 3
 412-538-4353

 Ben Kachmar (Alternate)
 412-398-6359

#### DL 142 Flight Safety

Bud Brown, Director 803-431-9470 Jim Puhalla 412-551-3948

#### L/L Flight Safety

Jim Puhalla, Chairman 412-551-3948 Garry Jacobs 412-480-2244

#### Potomac News & Views / Web

Richard Keller PNV Editor 412-538-4353

# Passed Away

Name	Position	Department	Relation	Date
Charles McLane	Retired AMT	Base	Self	2021
Howard Gardner	Retired AMT	Base	Wife	Jan 21
Dave Buchanan	Inspector	Inspection	Mother	Feb 01
Ken Goddard	Crew Chief	Base	Mother-in-Law	Feb 02
Craig Gratkie	Machinst	Machine Shop	Mother	Feb 04
Ken Gratkie	Mechanic	Facility Maint.	Mother	Feb 04
Steve Wilson	Retired AMT	Base	Self	Feb 05
Loren Carlson	Retired Crew Chief	Base	Self	Feb 05
Jack Rodman	Retired MLS	Stores	Self	Feb 09
Craig Rodman	Mechanic	GSE	Father	Feb 09
Donald Jones	Retired MLS	Stores	Self	Feb 20
Ed Owad	MLS	Stores	Father	Feb 21
Bennie Martino	Crew Chief	Base	Wife	Feb 23
Robert Faulkner	Inspector	Inspection	Self	Mar 03
Jim McDonough	AMT	Base	Self	Mar 08
Emmett Fusco	MLS	Stores	Father-in-Law	Mar 13
Dan Feyrer	AMT	Base	Father-in-Law	Mar 16
Joseph Clemente	Retired MLS	Stores	Self	Mar 26

Please accept our condolences on the loss of your loved ones.

#### **2024 PIT BASE CAR CRUISE!**

Wednesday, August 21st (Rain Date: August 22nd) 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Great Food, Music, Prizes and a Black Jack Tournament!
Bring your Antique, Street Rod, Classic Ride, Motorcycle or Custom Truck
Dash Plaques given out to Car Owners



Bill Latour recently celebrated 55 years of dedicated service in Pit Hangar 5 Maintenance. Congratulations Bill on this tremendous milestone!

Congratulations To Our Recently Retired Members: Mark Byerly, Jeff Roberts, Elizabeth Sanso, Don Obusek, Charles Siefert, Ron Claypool, Tim McRickard, Deborah McCaffrey, Jeff Maher, Joe Colatruglio, Ellen Creach and Jeff Demello

#### Flight Safety Report for April 17th, 2024

QUALITY ASSURANCE has reported that an Air Monitor from 2016 was found inside a fuel tank after open-up. Also flight crews have reported several times in the last months that tools were left in the flight deck and cabin.

Remember when leaving an area or performing close-up of a panel or door, always double check the area before leaving.

Also reported, Rotables are not being entered in SAFE.

Airbus tie bolts continue to be a problem. The Line MTC Program are reviewing bringing back the Wheel/Oil Check on all overnight aircraft. Too many issues in the AM during dispatch.

Lastly, if servicing the engine or APU record the authorization code on the appropriate work card and/or 'Action' remarks for unscheduled oil servicing recorded in a AML MIC entry.

The FAA will be sending out a letter of investigation to AMTs for undocumented MTC.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORT

#### Our Unions and Allies

THE AFL-CIO IS A democratically governed federation of 60 unions, each with its own distinct membership and unique voice. Members have come together to build and support the rights of working people. In pursuit of these goals, the unions fight to vanquish social and economic injustice.

The 60 unions that make up the AFL-CIO include more than 12.5 million working people. They come from every walk of life and make America great. The union workers build homes, and get you home safely to and from work. The union workers take care of the sick, injured and teach your children and grandchildren. Also believe it or not union member score touchdowns to help win your fantasy league. So look around you as the person you are talking to may very well be a union member.

The AFL-CIO trade departments advocate for working people in industries with similar challenges. Some of the trade departments are Maritime Trades Department: Formed in 1946, provides grassroots support for the federation's initiatives in maritime programs and policies. It works to ensure maritime industries continue to play a pivotal role in defense and economic development of this nation. Transportation Trades Department: Formed in 1990, the Transportation Trades Department provides a strong national voice in the legislative, policy and political arenas for the millions of workers in aviation, rail, trucking, highway, parcel delivery service, longshore and maritime sectors. Union Label and Service Trades Department: The Union Label and Service Trades

Department promotes the union label for all union-made products and for all union services AFL-CIO is partner with organizations that share our values. More than 160 full time liaisons make up Community Services network. They help with everything from charitable giving to personal and economic crises. United Way, Worker Center Partnerships and NEA Partnerships to name several. We as Labor and the Legislative Committee will be involved in making the politicians and our community aware of us at American being a vital part of Allegheny County and the city of Pittsburgh.

Congressperson Valerie Gaydos of Moon Twp. was here visiting us in PIT this past Friday, January 26, 2024 during the day shift. Congressperson Gaydos was here along with Allegheny Airport dignitaries and American Airlines Airport management along with Manager Mark Mascara and myself. Discussion was on Pittsburgh's aircraft maintenance facility and the goings on with the operation. Congressperson Gaydos was shown the hanger and saw what was happening in Base (Hangar 5). Congressperson Gaydos was amazed at the operation and talked with several mechanics working center dock. Congressperson Gaydos was impressed with the talent, professionalism and skills of the mechanics she talked with. We as a union have been contacted by other politicians in the area to meet with American Airlines and your union to observe our operation. Hopefully this will occur in the near future. I personally would like to thank everyone that Congressperson Gaydos had the opportunity to meet and talk with for being who you are and so forthcoming.

In Solidarity, Dennis Tkacs, Legislative Committee Chairman, LL1976

#### - Retiree Club Chairman-

ELL, IT'S SPRING, or is it? It's 70 degrees one day and frost warnings that night with temps in the 30's. Mother Nature is just trying to make us crazy, I think. But if you follow any of the evening news and weather, you will see how crazy the entire planet is. What should you do? I suggest that you park your gasoline powered car and truck and get a battery powered bicycle with big baskets on the back to carry all of your new found money to the bank. Perfect solution to the heating of our planet.

When you read this, I hope you might have made it to the last retiree meeting on May 7th. We planned on having speakers from the Fidelity Investment Group

in Cranberry Township. On the program we will have discussions on your 401K and roll overs, Roth IRA's along with regular IRAs and other means of saving and investing for your retirement life. Our plans are to make it easier to understand the world of investing and to enjoy your retirement with less worry about your savings. There will be plenty of time for question and answer and a personal one on one with an agent to discuss your special needs for your retirement plans. This is a great opportunity for important information with no pressure.

I hope that we might be able to bring other interesting speakers to our future retiree meetings. Any suggestions would appreciated. Thank you and have a great Spring.



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE

PAID

SHARON, PA PERMIT #50



Visit Local Lodge 1976 on the web @ www.LL1976.org
Also join us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/potomacairlodge1976







**Innovations & Technology for the 21st Century** 



# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

		<u>Union Meeting Schedule</u>
MAY	01 08	Daylight LL Meeting
JUN	19	Afternoon LL Meeting 11:15 PM
JUL	03	Daylight LL Meeting 3:15 PM

Retiree's Meetings 11:00 AM

MAY JUNE JULY 07 04 02

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!

## Pit Maintenance BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE

(Due to Vitalant Blood Banks reduced staffing, the time has been adjusted to 5 AM - 10:00 PM)

Wednesday, June 19th Wednesday, Aug. 28th

Wednesday, Nov. 13th

Located Hangar 3 - 3rd Floor - Rooms 319 and 322

Please donate if you can ... there is no substitute for blood.

## Pension Fund Information ... Web Sites and Phone Numbers:

IAM NATIONAL PENSION FUND:

1-800-424-9608 FAX # 202-457-8653

Website: www.iamnpf.org E-Mail: pensions@iamnpf.org

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**AMERICAN AIRLINES BENEFITS:** 

1-888-860-6178 E-Mail: http:/my.aa.com

**PBGC** 

1-800-400-7242

*E-Mail*: mypension@pbgc.gov

Plan Sponsor: US Airways

Case Number: 20357000 (Machinists)

Plan Termination Date: 1-10-2005