



GCC/IBT Local 546M

STEWARDS LETTER

SUMMER 2015

CALENDAR SUMMER 2015

June Executive Board Meeting:
Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 4:30
PM at the Union Hall.

**District Council 3 Delegates
Meeting:** June 14, Springboro, OH.

July Executive Board Meeting:
Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 4:30 PM
at the Union Hall.

July Membership Meeting: Per
action of the membership, there will
be no July Membership Meeting.

**August Executive Board
Meeting:** Thursday, August 6, 2015
at 4:30 PM at the Union Hall.

**September Executive Board
Meeting:** Thursday, September 3,
2015 at 4:30 PM at the Union Hall.

Labor Day Festival: Saturday,
September 5, 2015.

Stewards Training Seminar:
Saturday, September 12, 2015,
9:30 AM at the Union Hall on W.
25th St.

September Membership Meeting:
Sunday September 13, 2015 at
10:00 AM at the Pipefitters' Hall,
6305 Halle Drive, Valley View.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday,
September 13, 2015
at 10 AM

Pipefitters' Hall
6305 Halle Dr., Valley View

In MEMORIAM: Stan Otcovsky and Ron Edmonds

Local Loses Two Key Members

They were from different generations, but the Local will sorely miss the loss of two of its most dedicated members.

Stan Otcovsky (1938-2015)

On April 23, 2015, former Local 546M Recording Secretary **Stan Otcovsky** passed away suddenly in his sleep. Stan was 76.

Starting his career as a pressman at *Copyfier* and later working at *William Feather*, *Continental Lithograph*, *Carpenter Reserve* and finally *Litho Color*, Stan was a member that the officers and Local could always count on to lend a hand. Among other things, Stan was a shop steward, a member of the New Member Orientation Committee and of the Organizing Committee, Chairman of the Golf Outing, as well as a delegate to the GCIU International Convention.

Retirement never stopped Stan nor his work for the Union. His wife Sharon observed, "Stan loved his Union and would do anything for it." Even when many "active" members don't bother to show up for union



meetings, you could always expect to see Stan. He was a warm-hearted and generous soul. All of us who knew him and worked with him have lost a dear friend and Brother. Our thoughts go out to his wife Sharon and sons David and Scott.

Ron Edmonds (1960-2015)

Within days of losing Stan, the Local learned of the sudden death of **Ron Edmonds**. Ron was a 20-year member of the Union and the Night Shift press steward at *CCL Design* (formerly *Avery Dennison*) in Strongsville. At the time of his death, Ron was serving on the Union negotiating committee with CCL. His death has been a big loss to the Local and to his co-workers at CCL. His dedication and his calm and thoughtful deliberation and wry humour will be missed. Our deepest condolences to his loved ones and family.



Negotiations

On December 30, 2014, members of the press unit at **Oak Printing** ratified a 5-year agreement. The agreement provides for a 1% signing bonus in year 1 and a 2% signing bonus in year 2 with wage increases of 1%, 1.5% and 2.5% in years 2, 3 and 5 respectively. There were additional wage increases in the lower paid classifications. Members will pick up an additional 5% of the cost of insurance in year 3, while caps will be increased in each year. There were improvements in S&A pay and duration as well as in life insurance. Thanks to **Jerry Hammond** and **Tim Dick** for their work on the negotiating committee.

Negotiations for a first renewal contract at the **City of Warrensville Heights** are continuing. The City and the Union are still far apart on wages. A federal mediator has been brought in to assist the parties. The City is also in negotiations with 3 other unions. The bargaining committee consists of steward **Brian Headen**, **Tiffany Cameron**, **Jenise Spencer** and **Carolyn Albright**. Several of the other unions have decided to go to factfinding. Our committee has decided to wait to see the outcomes before proceeding.

Members at **American Printing** ratified a 2-year agreement with wage increases of 1% and 2%. The Company continues to pick up the cost of insurance.

A tentative agreement has been reached with **Zippity Print**.

The Union and **CCL Design** have held eight meetings so far. Additional meetings have been scheduled. Negotiations have been interrupted by the sudden death of one of our bargaining committee members, **Ron Edmonds**. The other members of the Union committee consists of CCL press stewards **Bill Schillace** and **Bob Smigelski**. This is the Union's first full negotiation since CCL acquired the former **Avery Dennison** facilities.

Members at **Davis Printing** have rejected a tentative contract settlement. Additional negotiations with the Company are underway.

Jean Kosmac Resigns as VP

Local 546M Vice President **Jean Kosmac** recently turned in her resignation in a letter to the Executive Board. As a result of the closing of her employer **Orange Blossom Press**, Sister Kosmac is no longer working in the industry.

Kosmac has served as shop steward, Executive Board member, Vice President, convention delegate and delegate to the Northshore Federation of Labor, in addition to volunteering for many union committees and tasks. We will miss her contribution to the Local and wish her the best in her future.

As there is no requirement to fill the office of Vice President in the last year of a term, the position will go vacant. Recording Secretary **Hosea Howard**, from **CCL Design**, will be the second-ranking officer in the Local for the balance of the term.

Joining the Local 546M Executive Board at our February meeting is **Dale Stupp**. Brother Stupp is steward at **Schaefer Printing**.

Arbitrations

The Union has recently been involved in two arbitrations at two employers.

An arbitration was held with **CCL Design** on April 7 over the termination of a member following an altercation with a co-worker. The Union challenged the company's decision to discharge the 17-year employee as too severe. We expect a ruling in the case toward the end of June.

At **Davis Printing**, the Union also had an arbitration hearing challenging the discharge of a 20-year employee. The employee was terminated for alleged threatening and intimidating behaviour. The arbitration was held May 6. In an unusual move, the arbitrator interrupted the hearing after the Company had rested its case and urged the parties to seek a resolution. A settlement was reached that day to the members satisfaction and the member is being reinstated.

Stewards Seminar Rescheduled

Due to the injury of GCC Representative **Phil Roberts**, who was scheduled to conduct the May training seminar for Local 546M stewards, a new date has been scheduled. The stewards training seminar is now scheduled for **Saturday, September 12** at the Union Hall, 3227 W. 25th Street. The seminar will begin at 9:30 AM. Notices will be

Stewards Elections

Steward elections were held for 2015. The following are the stewards for 2015:

CCL Label (Press)

Bill Schillace (Chief Steward)
Bob Smigelski
Ron Edmonds

CCL Label (F&P)

Kim Tehoke (Chief Steward)
Ray Sheets
Donna Ray

Cuyahoga County Print Shop

Gina Kirby

Davis Printing

Sam Baglia

William Exline

Ron Greenfield

Oak Printing (Press)

Jerry Hammond

Oak Printing (Bindery)

Rhonda Melton

Plain Dealer

Terry Donovan (Chief Steward)
Bill Frey
Mike Bisson

PPI Graphics

Leroy Shankle

The Repository

Denny Pollilli (Chief Steward)
Eddie Evans

Schaefer Printing

Dale Stupp

Warrensville Heights, City of

Brian Headen

Zippity Print

Noel Ruessman
