

# REP RTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF PACE LOCAL 7-232

VOLUME 24, NO. 4

MAY 2003

## President Greg Gorecki Retires

By Scott Godshaw

President Greg Gorecki retired on May 1, 2003. He will be doing consulting work with Aurora Insurance as a Labor Liaison.

Gorecki began his career at Briggs and Stratton on September 8, 1971 as a trucker in Die Cast, 2nd shift at the old East Plant. Six months later he became a L.G. 18 Dyna Cast helper. While still at the East Plant, a senior pieceworker said, "Hey kid, if you want to make some real money, go to the big plant." So he did. He became a pieceworker 1st shift in dept. 168 crankshafts and never looked back. From there he decided to transfer to West Allis, dept. 552 flywheels in 1975. It was at that point that a coworker from cranks, Al Troop, a strong union-minded worker, told him to not take any guff at West Allis. "Talk to the steward or grievance representative immediately if that happens." Troop said.

After four months, the flywheels dept. was not for him and he attempted to transfer back to crankshafts. Nothing was available there but he was informed that dept. 194 cylinders had openings. It was in dept. 194 that Gorecki's union career began. In 1982, with the influence of Colin Campbell, he was successful in his first attempt, winning the alternate steward job. In 1983, he was elected the steward.

Gorecki states, "The one regret I have is that I didn't run for a union position sooner in my career."

The alternate grievance rep. position was next in line, winning that election in 1984. That position was held until 1991 when Karen Graef, the grievance rep, retired and Gorecki fulfilled the rest of her term.

With the elimination of the small engine division in 1996, Gorecki was placed in dept. M-2 through job elimination.

In January of 1997, the International removed most of the elected grievance reps at Briggs. Gorecki was among them; however the international later decided to offer Gorecki a position on the Bargaining Committee. He refused this position not only because he didn't agree with the Trusteeship but he was instructed that if he didn't recommend the contract, he would be gone. He said, "In good conscience, I could not look at people in their face and recommend it."

When the Trusteeship ended, he put in his application for the open time study analyst position and also sought the re-election for his grievance rep. job. He was re-elected as a

grievance rep and then was offered the analyst job. He declined the analyst job due to his recent election.

In 1998, the time study analyst job opened up again and this time when offered the position, he accepted.

The year 2000, brought an unexpected career change. He was originally going to run for Vice-President and was nominated for that position at the 12:30 membership meeting. But, even to his surprise, he was nominated at the 3:30 meeting for the office of President. 48 hours was the time limit to put in his acceptance and he used most of that time to finally decide to run for President. He was successful in that election and again in March of 2002 when he was re-elected.

Gorecki states, "The one thing I will miss the most is working with the Committees. The closeness and knowing that you are all pulling in the same direction. These people know what you are going through."

"I believe my best accomplishment is increasing union participation on Labor Day. Also seeing many members wearing union t-shirts all year long." he added.

"I enjoyed helping out in the community and having members do the same, showing what union people are really made of."

Gorecki recently received an e-mail that stated, "I enjoyed working with you. You got more for the people you represented because people on both sides respected you. Whenever you said you would do something, it would get done. People trusted what you would say. The Union will miss you."

Although that came from one member, it is quite certain that many, many other members feel the same way.

Gorecki would like to be remembered as someone that always wanted to have the workers' best interest at heart.

This writer knows for a fact that President Greg Gorecki will be remembered for that and much more as well. We've been together for a long time in this business and I personally will miss you always being there for myself and the membership. I will miss our camaraderie, your commitment, your extensive union knowledge, and your strong leadership. I've always been proud to call you friend.

When I asked Greg, "What will you be thinking when you walk out the Union Office door as the President for the last time?" He stated, "My body is leaving but my heart is staying."

For all of us that know you well, we know how true that is. Thank you Greg Gorecki, for all you've meant to us. You will be missed.



***"My body is leaving but my heart is staying."***

**PRESIDENT GORECKI'S REPORT**

# ***“Thank you, I won't forget you.”***

This month we received some very disturbing news from the Milwaukee County Labor Council regarding the United Way. We were told that the Labor Liaisons are going to be dropped off the United Way staff. Julian Jasper, a long time Labor advocate for the United Way retired and has not been replaced. The reason we are hearing that is because they have participated in a couple of Union rallies. If the United Way is only looking for our donations but not willing to stand behind its struggles in the community, maybe we have been fooling ourselves as far as working hard for the United Way. If that is the final decision to let our Labor people go from the United Way, I would hope that all the Unions drop their participation and focus their money and energies to other good causes in the community. I would also hope the person responsible for starting the riff with the United Way be held accountable to the community for his or her actions.

## **BRIGGS**

On March 26th, the Company told the Union of their plans for the Die Cast division. What it boiled down to was, Briggs plans to terminate their contracts with all outside customers. This was communicated to us on March 27th through departmental meetings. They also told our members that there are other “pockets of jobs” that they would be looking to outsource. The job loss in Die Cast will be somewhere in the neighborhood of 250. The different pockets they refer to could add up to at least 50 more jobs. We are getting mixed messages from the Company. Depending on who you talk to, we are either going to get rid of the small pockets of jobs around the plant, like counterweights, aluminum machining in M3 and some carburetor work. On the contrary, we have a couple managers that are trying to find ways to stop the bleeding, try to stabilize our work force and bring these little pockets of jobs in. So far the latter of the two has not been real successful. The Union has tried to schedule a meeting with the Company to see if there is some possible way to keep some of these pockets here, without cutting our own throat. To this date we have not received a reply in almost a month.

Right after the Die Cast announcement, the Union did receive a W.A.R.N. notice for (8) eight jobs in Die Cast, mainly set up helpers that would be tested, and moved up if they pass or bumped down if they are not far enough along in their training.

Shortly after receiving that W.A.R.N. notice, the Company followed up with another notice that would encompass the other 240+ jobs in the Die Cast division. I spoke to the Company about this, and I was told that the additional notice was to cover themselves in case their customers would find replacement suppliers immediately.

On 4-28-03, the Union met with the Company and a HIRE CENTER representative to discuss schooling and retraining for the many workers who will lose their jobs due to the Die Cast reduction. The Company has agreed to allow the DISLOCATED Worker group including

Unemployment to have the seminar on company premises. The details have not been worked out for a time and date.

Prior to that meeting, the Union and the Company did discuss movement of personnel from the Die Cast Division under the job elimination language. The meeting ended with both sides agreeing to reconvene on May 7th. The Union is asking the Company to be a little more flexible with our members options being so few, due to the constant job loss. The Bargaining Committee officials did send a letter to the top company officials asking for 3 additional years to be added on to people's seniority who retire between May 31, 2003 and October 31, 2003. This would widen the scope of people eligible to retire and hopefully significantly reduce the number of our members on layoff.

The Company also talked about the possibility of moving the Service Division from the Falls to the Burleigh Plant. The Union met with the Falls management and asked them what the chances were of keeping the division here in Milwaukee. They wouldn't commit to one way or the other but I was encouraged after meeting with them. They lauded the praise of productivity since the change to measured Daywork. This was one thing the Union had hoped for when they approached us about adopting the system. We are still putting pressure on them to adopt an incentive based system out there. So far their only response has been that they are exploring different methods. We also looked at a way to adjust the vacation to try to make it possible for everyone to get at least one full week of vacation during the late spring and summer months. We presented the final offer to those employees and it was turned down handily. So vacation scheduling will proceed as it has in the past.

## **STRATTEC**

Our relationship with Strattec management has really declined. We are seeing more job complaints, less cooperation and an attitude of do it and if you don't like it, grieve it. The Committee has attempted to resolve some issues that might be deep seeded. The Company insists that they are just going about handling business as usual. Things that they used to let go by are now becoming written complaints to lay the ground work for further discipline.

The Union did 3 third stage grievances that were job complaints. This is the result of the Company moving backwards and falling back into what they call “a more traditional relationship”. That's fine by the Union's feelings, but then don't come running to the Union for help or advice when difficult issues arise, such as layoffs, recalls and insurance issues. Karl and the Committee have spent countless hours trying to resolve potential grievance situations before they happen, only to find that when things slow down the Company starts encouraging grievances. The Company always talks about working with the Union.

**continued on page 3**

continued from page 2

The Union's position has always been, we're willing to work together and cooperate, but the cooperation has to be a TWO WAY STREET. This Union has demonstrated in the past that we have been very versatile. When the Company worked with us, we cooperated with them, and when they chose the confrontational approach, we could also be confrontational. I guess the point is it should be one way or the other, and not teetering back and forth.

In the Service Department, the Work Group Leader has been trying to intimidate the workers there, telling them that they should go to her before going to the Union with a problem. When Karl became aware of this, he addressed the issue immediately. Karl and I did go into the department to make ourselves accessible and see if the Work Group Leader would question us. Either she didn't see us or chose not to confront us. Karl will keep an eye on that situation. If anyone is denied their right to talk to their Union Rep. or are being harassed or intimidated for making the request, we want to know about it right away.

The Company has agreed to mediation on a grievance that was third staged some time ago. We have selected an agreeable mediator from the C.N.C. and the case is scheduled to be heard on May 20th. This process is not a binding situation. On the subject of pending grievances, we are still waiting for a decision on a discharge grievance that was heard in early November. Briefs were submitted to the arbitrator over 4 months ago. Both sides are hesitant to call the arbitrator though, fearing the contacting side could offend the arbitrator and influence his opinion in a negative way. Our attorney was in the process of contacting Strattec's attorney to submit a joint letter to the arbitrator. Our attorney did advise us that some cases can take up to 6 months for an arbitrator to decide.

#### PERSONAL

I want to thank all of you responsible for allowing me to serve as your President for the past 3+ years. Given the times and conditions over the past 3 years, I'm proud of the things that we have accomplished as a Joint Board.

- There are more of our members walking around wearing our Local Union t-shirts, displaying their pride in our Local.
- We were able to get decent contracts at both companies during some poor economic times. At Briggs, we've had almost 600 people take advantage of the increased pension since the contract less than 2 years ago. At Strattec, we've had a better increase in the minimum pension in the last contract, better than I've seen in 25 years.
- I believe we did a fine job of supporting our Union brothers and sisters that were in need, like Midwest flight attendants at several rallies, the asbestos workers and the Kramer foundry workers.
- We helped in the political process by working the phone banks as a group. We leafleted, did the knock and drops for labor candidates and participated in several rallies supporting candidates that help working people.
- We volunteered at the labor booth for 3 years to help educate people about Unions.
- We tripled our participation in the Labor Fest parade.

- We sent more rank and file members to conferences than in the past.
- Our participation and attendance at the Milwaukee County Labor Council meeting and being represented on the Milwaukee County Labor Council and the Region X Executive Board.
- We have volunteered over 175 labor hours at the Hunger Task Force to help feed hungry people in our community.
- We selected a very knowledgeable and dedicated time study person in Tom Bishanell. He adjusted to the job so quickly, he was on his own in a few months, which was a great relief to me. He has done a great job during a very rough time.

I would ask that you show the support for my successor and Joint Board that you have shown in the past. I may not be here physically anymore, but my spirit will - with our members and the Labor movement forever.

I would like to take one last opportunity to thank all the people that were so helpful to me over the past 3 years. I had the privilege of working with a very supportive Executive Board. The Bargaining Committee put in countless hours of their own time, never complaining. Last of all, a special thanks to our office administrative assistants who truly cut my work week by 10-15 hrs. per week. Thank You, I won't forget you.

## Notice:

**According to our by-laws, Article XV Section 6, an election will be held at the membership meeting on Sunday May 18, 2003, 9:30 a.m. at Monreal's El Matador, 9155 W. Bluemound Rd. to fill the vacancy of President. If any Executive Board vacancy is created by the election for the Presidency, an election for that office would also be held at the same meeting.**

## Membership Information

### March 2003

2,005 Members in Good Standing  
1,576 in Briggs & Stratton Unit  
429 in Strattec Unit

### March Dues Payments

1,313 Dues Paying Members at Briggs  
370 Dues Paying members at Strattec  
1683 Total Dues Paying Members  
(Difference reflects members off work for lay-off, illness or other reasons)

# Strattec Corner

By Bigg Al Olivares

Well, it's that time again. I wish I could make this article a little more positive than my last editorial. Unfortunately, the current management regime and overall state of business does not permit such a positive article. The Union and management had a meeting on April 23rd to discuss the relationship between Union leadership and management. At that time the Union was informed that we will be having what the upper management refers to as a "Traditional Relationship". Some of you may ask what exactly is a "Traditional Relationship"? From what I can tell it is the exact same unfair, unprofessional and most of the time disrespectful chasm from which I feel we have always been in. From our perspective nothing is really changing except that the current company management regime will now instead of trying to resolve issues, will go right to verbal and written discipline.

These swift and at times unjust acts of discipline will lay the ground work for further and possibly far more severe discipline. In my opinion this meeting that took place was the company's way of presenting the Union with a formal "Declaration of War". The reason I use such a harsh term is because the reality of the management regime recognizing any change in the Union and Company relationship, in this case a negative change, is a tell tale sign the management regime will provoke us more so than ever to react. It drives us to fight and attempt to spread our forces thin. We, as members of this Union, are soldiers fighting for our rights and livelihood day in and day out. We will not let this current situation break our backs. Even though our numbers may get lower, our spirits to fight get higher. All of us need to be more aware of tactics being used by the current management regime. For example, in certain areas some of the foreman and forewoman are using intimidation tactics by instructing our members to confront them before meeting with their Union representatives. These types of actions will not be tolerated. Also, another tactic being used by the regime is the unfair issuing of discipline. What I mean by this, for example, you get written up for doing "something" that very well may be just, but then you get angry when your peers are not disciplined, or equally disciplined for that very same "something". I urge you not to fall into the regime's trap by turning your brother or sister in to the regime's puppets on the floor and further create dissension and poor morale among our ranks. I ask you to please let your brothers and sisters know you have noticed a fault or error and address this from within our ranks. If you feel that certain individuals may be unapproachable, then I recommend you to get your Union steward and have them confront the individual. We do not as a Union fuel the regime's fire for our downfall. As members we are all on the same team, fighting the same fight. We cannot afford to lose our "heart". We must stand up to the scourge of "Union America" known as "Corporate Greed". These corporations, includ-

ing our own, have brought this war to us. Historically, Unions have the advantage, because we are defending our livelihood on our own turf. If I may be so bold as to compare our situation to that of a famous Texas mission known as "The Alamo". We are 370 brave volunteers from Local 7-232 fighting against a force that has us out gunned, out manned, and far better supplies with the help of the government. As everyone knows after a ferocious fight the "Alamo" was unfortunately finally lost. However their fight, as well as ours, will never be forgotten. We as one of the oldest and largest private sector Unions, with a proud history of meeting the unfair and unjust tactics of "corporate greed" head on, still have a chance to change history by winning our battle at our "Alamo", Strattec De Milwaukee. I feel with the 370 current volunteer soldiers enlisted at our "Alamo" we can be successful. If, however, we do go down, our fight will be remembered. The wrath and fury of Labor Unions of which we so willingly applied to the asses of our corporate oppressors will be a light and inspiration for others in the continuing war for a Labor minded America.

In closing, I would like to let retired President Greg Gorecki know that with the leadership and guidance he offered during his enlistment, that every member of our Local will fight to the end and none of us will give up or surrender. Gods' speed Sir. Gods' speed and thank you from all of us at Strattec.

## LOCAL 7-232 REPORTER

May 2003 Volume 24, Issue #4

**LOCAL 7-232 PAPER, ALLIED INDUSTRIAL, CHEMICAL AND ENERGY WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION**

*Representing employees of Briggs & Stratton Corp. and Strattec Security Corp.*

Office 8500 W. Capitol Dr.

Phone 414-463-7425 Fax 414-463-7638

e-mail -office@pace7232.org Website- www.pace7232.org

Hours 8:00a.m.- 4:00p.m. Monday through Friday

The information contained herein is of informal nature and is not intended to be final and authoritative.

Editors: Scott Godshaw, Ross Winklbauer, Al Olivares

Officers: President: vacant Vice President: John Nalepinski, Secretary-Treasurer: Joe Chambers, Recording Secretary Scott Godshaw, Trustees: Ross Winklbauer, Ralph Schweiger, Vicky Black, Guide: Greg Weber, Sergeant at Arms: Dennis Clark.

Briggs Bargaining Committee: Greg Gorecki, Scott Godshaw, Mike Merrill, Barb Schuller, Jesse Edwards

Strattec Bargaining Committee: Greg Gorecki, Karl Schneider, Dennis Nowak, Al Olivares

# Membership Meeting Recap

by Scott Godshaw

The membership meeting was held on April 27, 2003 at Monreal's El Matador at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

Ralph Schweiger read the Trustee report. Joe Chambers, in his Financial Sec/Treasurer Report stated there were 1313 members at Briggs and 370 members at Strattec for a total of 1683 dues paying members in March. A motion was made and passed to accept the report as read.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Worker's Memorial Day, April 28th, a program will be held at Zeidler Union Square at 5 p.m. honoring those members that died on the job last year.

On May 4, 2003 a commemoration will be held for the Bay View Tragedy at the State Historical Marker Grounds.

National Association of Letter Carrier's Annual Food Drive will be held on Saturday May 10, 2003. Volunteers are needed at the post office from 1-6 p.m. or at the Hunger Task Force from 1-5 p.m. or 5-9 p.m.

Wisconsin Labor History Society Conference will be held on Sat. May 17th at the Plumber's Union Hall in Milwaukee.

This year's theme is *The Building Trades: A Heritage of Struggle and Success*. The fee is \$20.00 and anyone attending will be reimbursed.

Executive Board recommended motions as follows:

Send six delegates (4 elected and 2 automatic) to the PACE International Convention to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada August 18th through August 22nd - motion passed.

Send a \$50.00 donation to PACE Local 7-0852 on strike against Milwaukee Dustless Brush - motion passed.

Send a \$100.00 donation to UFCW Local 538 in Jefferson, Wisconsin on strike against Tyson Foods since February 28 - motion passed.

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President Greg Gorecki reported on disturbing news from United Way, update on Die Cast at Briggs, W.A.R.N. notices, and attempts to schedule meetings with the Company. The meeting with the Service Division Management and attempts to change vacation was turned down by members. At Strattec, Gorecki reported on a declining relationship with management, settlement on a grievance prior to arbitration, problems in Service Division, upcoming mediation on May 20th on a grievance still awaiting a decision on an arbitration case that was heard in November of 2002.

Mike Merrill reported on the Micro line, harassment meetings, respect your co-workers and giving a lot of credit to M-8 steward Raylonzo Woods for doing a fine job in handling a situation in his department.

Karl Schneider reported on updates at Strattec, managers going to a more traditional relationship with the Union, grievances on management doing bargaining unit work, vacation scheduling and thanking the stewards for their hard work.

Tom Bishanell gave his Time Study and Job Evaluation Report for both companies.

Joe Chambers, under old business, read the by-laws

# Ask your Lawyer

By Thomas Flanagan

## **WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE**

How many times have you been asked, "How are you?" and you have answered "great" or "fine," when you know that was not exactly accurate? When you are involved in a personal injury or worker's compensation situation, and you are dealing with medical doctors or the insurance company's adjuster, watch your language!

Never tell a doctor that you are "good" or "fine" unless you are back to your pre-injury state of health. The words good, fine and okay are relative terms. You may feel better than you did at the time of the injury, but you are still not back to the health that you had before the injury so that relatively speaking you are not good or fine compared to how you used to be.

Rather than using the words noted above, use more accurate terms such as "I feel improved but...." or "I feel better but...." and then explain the continuing problems that you are having. Your use of more accurate terms also helps the doctor assess your current state of health and any further treatment that is needed.

Using terms like good or fine may lead an insurance adjuster or perhaps a "company" doctor to conclude that as of the date you uttered those words, you are 100% recovered. If that is not accurate, then you have just put up another hurdle in your case. Think carefully before seeing the doctor. Be accurate.

If you have questions on worker's comp, personal injury or social security disability, please feel free to call the Previant, Goldberg, Uelmen, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman law firm at 414-271-4500 (Milwaukee) or 262-789-5000 (Brookfield) or 800-841-5232 (Statewide toll free).

**Do you have legal questions or problems facing you or your family? Have you suffered a major personal injury? If you have, or if you have any other legal problem, Local 7-232 is providing free legal consultations with lawyers from the law firm of Previant, Goldberg, Uelman, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman at the Local 7-232 Union office, 8500 W. Capitol Dr. Legal clinic hours: 1:00P.M. to 4:00P.M. First Monday of the month. Call for an appointment 463-7425.**

to be discussed and voted on. The by-laws were read at the March membership meeting. An amendment to the by-law regarding vacancies was moved and with it the by-law passed. The by-law regarding per diem money also passed.

Under new business, a member from Strattec wanted his grievance to go to arbitration but his motion did not pass. The grievance dealt with a 3-day discipline.

Before adjournment, Vice-President John Nalepinski read a prepared statement honoring Greg Gorecki. Nalepinski then introduced retired Vice-President, Colin Campbell who gave a special presentation to retiring President Greg Gorecki. It was a plaque with Gorecki's gavel on it.

The next meeting will be held Sunday May 18, 2003 at Monreal's El Matador at 9:30 a.m.

## Grievance Rep Reports

### Strattec Security

by Karl Schneider

The Company has recently announced organization changes and in that process they have terminated some people. This is yet another reminder that by being in the Union, the Company has to have just and sufficient cause to terminate a union member. With all the changes the Company made, my hope is new work will find its way into the Milwaukee facility.

Members continue to receive discipline for a variety of reasons such as; not reading method sheets, being out of the work area, and horseplay seem to be the big issues.

We met with the Company for a third stage meeting on April 23rd, two grievances were about work performance issues. One was amended from a work performance to a labor grade upgrade. The last issue was a policy grievance I wrote and it relates to how the Company awards daily overtime from the sign-up sheets.

The Bargaining Committee will be meeting on May 9th to review the Company's reply.

We had settled a policy grievance prior to arbitration. The issue was Article XIII, Section 3. The Company was outsourcing tools without offering full weekend overtime. The settlement amount was \$15,000 which included another grievance attached to it from the machinist's with the same issue.

The Company has informed me that they are in the process of paying everyone their 1% retroactive pay increase under the collective bargaining agreement. This should be completed by the end of June.

There are rumors going around that the Company is getting ready to do Magnesium Die Casting in Texas. In my investigation, the Company said they looked in Texas but did not find anyone. They are not looking at this time.

In closing, I would like to thank retired President Greg Gorecki for the leadership he gave, the compassion he showed, and the sacrifices he made for our Local. I have learned so much from you Greg- Thank You! My brother I wish nothing but the best to you in your new endeavors, Good Luck.

In Solidarity,  
Karl Schneider

## Recall Dates-Briggs

(As of April 24, 2003)

Machine operators January 24, 1977  
 Assembly February 25, 1974  
 L.G.23 or better September 20, 1977  
 L.G. 27 September 19, 1977  
**235 employees on layoff**

## Briggs Die Cast Update

by Ross Winklbauer

In the July/August 2002 issue of *Employee Connections*, there was an interview with Donald Klenk, the operations manager for Die Cast. He spoke of his enthusiasm for the potential growth in the Die Cast Department. He talked about the six new programs starting between June and December and how each new program would provide additional growth opportunities. He stated that the Die Cast Components Division was gaining recognition in the custom die cast industry marketplace as a competitive custom caster. That article was written just nine months ago. Wow. How things have changed.

On March 27, 2003, Larry Bartling, the Vice-President and general manager of the Milwaukee operations, announced that the Die Cast Division was going to leave the external die cast business altogether. This will cause the loss of 250 more family supporting jobs by July 1, 2004. Currently there are 53 die cast machines but this will go down to 19 machines which will only run internal work.

Bartling went on to say that nothing from the outside is profitable enough to remain in it. We will die cast 62 part numbers. He went on to talk about the elimination of the carburetor department and also about eliminating the 9 Horse Aluminum business. He continued on about the plans that are being made to move whatever is left in the South Building to the area cleared by eliminating the external die cast work. This would enable them to tear down the South Building.

Bartling further stated that they have to be out of the Menomonee Falls Plant by August 2006. He commented that one of options discussed might be to move it to the north end of the Burleigh Plant.

Larry concluded in saying he was going to work real hard to get the outside die casting work out of here as soon as he could. In fact, just like Donald Klenk had sounded just 9 months ago, Larry Bartling was pretty enthusiastic about it too.



# Union lost members and money during 2002

by Joe Chambers

During 2002 Local 7-232 lost 213 members. 159 jobs were lost at Briggs and 54 were lost at Strattec. In January, we had 1604 members at Briggs and 459 members at Strattec for a total of 2,063 members. In December, that was down to 1445 members at Briggs, 405 members at Strattec for a total of 1,850 members.

The job loss will be worse this year. Already through the first 4 months we have lost another 138 member at Briggs and 42 members at Strattec. Many more jobs will be lost in the coming months based on recent announcements.

During 2002, our expenses were about 103% of our income. We suffered a net loss of \$24,008.66.

To deal with the smaller membership, we made many adjustments, cutting hours and staff in the office, eliminating the outside printing and mailing of the newspaper and many other choices throughout the year to reduce expenses. We again are changing our union to be appropriate for our smaller size. In the first three months of 2003, our treasury increased by over \$8,000, but that trend will not last through the summer.

The failure of the efforts to sell the Briggs die cast division, and subsequent decision to exit the automotive supply business, will mean the loss of hundreds more jobs.

Our union will need to create a structure appropriate to our smaller size. Our structure has gone through many changes already and unfortunately, we have much experience in dealing with the loss of members. The Executive Board will be considering all parts of our union as we move ahead.

## Income and Expenses (As Audited)

<b>Total All Funds January 1, 2002</b>		<b>\$150,823.39</b>
	<b>Income</b>	
Dues from Briggs & Stratton Check-off		\$645,140.46
Dues from Strattec Security Check-off		\$176,303.98
Dues Received Directly		\$414.84
Income from Shirts Sold		\$342.00
Money Collected for Community Services Committee		\$521.50
Refund of Unemployment Comp. Tax		\$45.96
Reimbursement for Lodging Expense		\$306.00
Per Diem Returned		\$15.00
Refund on Workers Compensation Premium		\$844.00
Reimbursement from PACE for Time Study Consultant		\$3,750.00
Stale, Re-issued & Returned, Checks		\$4,580.21
Interest Income		\$1,796.19
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$834,060.14</b>
	<b>Expenditures</b>	
Per Capita Tax to PACE International Union		\$348,106.41
Per Capita Tax to Milw. & Wauk. County Labor Councils		\$17,649.92
Per Capita Tax to Wisconsin State AFL-CIO		\$13,154.35
Net Wages (Officers, Reps, Stewards, Analyst, Members, Staff)		\$200,510.50
State & Fed. Inc. Tax, Soc. Sec. & Medicare Taxes - Payroll		\$109,207.83
Disburse Payroll Deductions		\$45,798.28
Refund of Dues		\$7,215.49
Office Rent		\$27,108.25
Office Supplies, Postage & Stationery		\$10,502.05
Office Operating Expenses & Utilities		\$9,644.25
Floral Arrangements & Bibles for Funerals		\$1,306.13
Life, Health & Accident Insurance Premiums		\$8,288.82
Pension Contribution for Secretary		\$2,389.49
School and Conference Registration Fees		\$4,516.37
Conference Per Diem Expense		\$2,575.00
Multi-Peril Insurance Premium		\$762.00
Labor Press for 250 Members In Wauk. County Labor Council		\$2,500.00
Travel & Lodging Expense		\$7,750.97
Arbitration Expense		\$3,996.17
State & Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax		\$1,277.75
Newsletter Printing, Postage & Mailing		\$16,854.24
Per Capita Tax for PACE Region X Council		\$474.50
Workers Compensation Insurance Premium		\$2,042.00
Charitable Contributions & Memberships		\$2,910.00
Attorney Retainer & Fees		\$9,906.53
Tax Penalty		\$320.00
To Community Services Committee from Collections		\$521.50
Hall Rental		\$750.00
Replace Lost Check		\$30.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$858,068.80</b>
<b>Total All Funds December 31, 2002</b>		<b>\$126,814.73</b>
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>		<b>\$ (24,008.66)</b>

## 2003 Dues income & distribution

	Briggs	Strattec
Dues	\$ 35.26	\$ 34.63
PACE Per Capita	\$ 15.20	\$ 15.34
WI AFL-CIO Per Capita	\$ 0.55	\$ 0.55
Labor Council Per Capita	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.92
Remaining With Local	\$ 18.59	\$ 17.82

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 11th — Mother's Day  
 May 18th – Membership Meeting  
 May 26th – Memorial Day   
 June — Steward Elections  
 June 15th — Father's Day  
 June 22nd – Membership Meeting  
 June 27th – Vacation Shutdown at Briggs Begins  
 July 4th – Independence Day   
 July 14th – Return from Shutdown (Briggs)  
 August 10th Membership Meeting  
 August 18-22 PACE International Convention  
 September 1st - Labor Day  
 September 21st - Membership Meeting

## May Membership Meeting Sunday May 18, 2003

**9:30 a.m.**  
**Monreal's El Matador  
 Lower Level**

**9155 W. Bluemound Rd.**

### IMPORTANT BUSINESS

- Election of Local 7-0232 President
- Nominations for delegates for PACE International Convention
- Reports of Officers, Grievance Reps and Committees
- Discussion and action on any other proper business for this meeting.

## Briggs Retiree Club

Our coming Luncheon and Dance will be on Sunday May 18th at the American Legion Post 449 located on 3245 N. 124th St. The doors will open at 10 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12 noon. Dancing and door prizes to follow. There will not be any cards sent out to our members. Anyone interested in attending, please call Delores Higgins 414-873-7121 as soon as you can so we will have the right count for our food order. Do not bring birthday treats to this event as dessert will be included.

Our other upcoming events will be discussed at a later date.

Anyone needing or wanting to pay their dues, contact Erma Gorecki at 414-781-8951 for further information. Dues are \$24.00 per year or \$12.00 for 6 months (Jan.- June and July – Dec.). New members are always welcome and encouraged to join our Club. Meet your retiree friends and make new ones.

Our thanks to Briggs and Stratton for all their help in keeping our Retiree Club going.

Sorry our Reporter isn't delivered to us anymore, but you can get it on the internet at [www.pace7232.org](http://www.pace7232.org). You may also pick one up at the Union Office located on 8500 W. Capitol Dr.

We send our get well wishes out to Stefan Heinemann, Elise Weiseborn and Lorraine Lane.

Hope to see all of you at our upcoming May events!

Take Care and God Bless,  
 Frances P. Capello  
 Corresponding Secretary  
 262-251-7514

## Notice:

**Nominations will be taken at the May Membership Meeting for the election of delegates to the PACE International Convention which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The election for 4 delegates will be held at the June Membership Meeting, June 22, 2003, 9:30 a.m. at Monreal's El Matador, 9155 W. Bluemound Rd.**