



January 2008
TNG-CWA Local 31180

KN G NEWS

Kingston Newspaper Guild – News For, From and About the Union Workers at the Daily Freeman in Kingston, New York

Guild Activism Now: Vital and Determined

What's at Stake?

- **MONEY:** How does the company repay you for the miles you put on your car during work?
- **REPRESENTATION:** Who's got your back when you've been wronged at work?
- **HEALTH INSURANCE:** Did you receive your MVP insurance card?

By Blaise S.

With a smile I welcome two new activists to our Guild leadership. Both Joe Gerace, a night copy editor, and Peter Dockery, an advertising salesman, have shown moxie and determination to make a difference for their colleagues. Each has distinct interests that coincide with the needs of the membership, and that's a good thing.

Peter has a family background in unionism, and Joe has put his money where his mouth is, bringing the local's newsletter back to life. Both Peter and Joe have been to the Guild's New Officers Seminar in Silver Springs, M.D., and have connected with other Guild activists to get a feel for what can be done through unionism.

Dwayne Kroohs, Guild treasurer, has said he will continue in that position for this year. The job requires much annoying paperwork and we are grateful to him. Our finances are in great shape thanks to him.

I thank Bonnie Langston for all her work as our secretary, keeping files of our correspondence between Guild and company. She also has done all possible to keep track of members who have suffered losses and sending condolences and "get well" messages. I've seen her work buoy people at low ebb. She is looking toward retirement and has said she will relinquish her post as Guild secretary. I hope someone else will step up to help the

Guild's great loss in her absence.

This summer a committee will form to negotiate the upstairs unit contract. This occasion requires lots of preparation. At the bargaining table you can look forward to the company's gnashing of teeth regarding the plight of the industry; this means membership must be prepared to fight back.

One contract change being sought is fair gas mileage reimbursement for what the company pays when you drive your car on the job.

We shouldn't have to subsidize the company's execs by donating our hard-earned money each time we fill our gas tanks.

There's lots of good stuff cooking at the Guild, so keep your nose perked and don't forget to vote this Tuesday!

We're on the Web!

kingstonnewspaperguild.org

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD: GET INVOLVED WITH THE GUILD!

Every person matters, and with your support we can make the *Freeman* better!

MVP Health Care Cards Should be in Your Mailbox

Everyone who recently enrolled in the MVP insurance program at the beginning of this year should have received insurance cards in the mail.

MVP, without informing anyone, had un-enrolled a number of people in early January, and promptly reenrolled them. However some were not included and found themselves without insurance.

If you have not gotten your insurance card yet please see Crystal in Human Resources.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD: EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS HELD 6 P.M. TUESDAY FEB. 5

The Kingston Newspaper Guild's Executive Board elections are Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008, at the Hurley Reformed Church at 6 p.m.

ALL GUILD MEMBERS are eligible to run for all positions including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Hurley Reformed Church is located at 17 Main St. in Hurley. To get there head WEST on Hurley Ave. (away from Washington Ave. past the *Freeman* building) for 2.2 miles. Eventually you'll arrive at Main St. in Hurley. Turn RIGHT onto Main St. The church will be directly in front of you down the road. There's a parking lot on the right side of the building.

For more information or car-pooling requests please speak with Blaise or Joe.

KINGSTON NEWSPAPER GUILD
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