

Hello Brothers and Sister of PRIAL 387

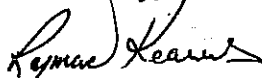
First, I would like to thank President Ron Mathieu for appointing me his interim Vice President. Also, I would like thank the members of our Local for nominating me to be their Vice President. Because no other nominees came forward for the office, the Secretary Treasure was able to cast the one vote to make my Vice Presidency official. The support I've received from our members since being appointed Vice President has been very encouraging. I will continue to handle Step twos' in the grievance procedure for the plant. Recently, under Ron's leadership, I have seen the lines of communication improve with the officers and stewards of our local, this I find very encouraging. I have not seen this level of communication in past administrations of our local. We as officers, stewards, and members of this local need to keep improving the lines of communication so we can unite the local into the force we will need to be, to face the challenges that face us as a Union and workers moving into the future. If, we as a union can become unified as one, there is nothing we can't accomplish or overcome.

Unity is defined in Webster's: "as the quality or state of not being multiple: oneness". Unity is such an easy word to say, but such a hard thing to accomplish as a group of individuals from all walks of life. The one thing we all have in common is where we work. If we can't come together as one in the work place we are bound to be the servants of the master. If we as a union don't make every effort to unite our local we will become an extinct organization.

This is not to say that there won't be differences of opinion on issues we face there will be differences. We can and must move beyond the petty bickering in order to keep moving forward as a unified organization. This task can and must be accomplished, we have to put forth every effort to do so, or we will certainly end up as the dinosaurs.

We are on the right path in keeping our local moving forward into the future but we must be diligent in our efforts, to improve the lines of communication. A quote from Mother Jones "My friends, it is solidarity of labor we want. We do not want to find fault with each other, but to solidify our forces and say to each other: "We must be together; our masters are joined together and we must do the same thing". The following is a quote from Aesop, the Greek slave & fable author (620 BC - 560 BC) "United we stand, divided we fall". Again let me say thanks for this opportunity to serve. Anyone wishing to get involved, stop by, lets' talk.

In Solidarity, Your Brother



Raymond Kearns

Vice President PRIAL 387