

Negotiators' Notepad



October 26, 2007

We would like to congratulate our fellow employees and company on yet another record quarterly profit announced yesterday. Our company is prospering, yet management is leaving us further behind. We are beginning to discuss **retirement benefits**, **health benefits**, and **job security** along with **compensation**. The time has come for management to recognize the contributions we make to our company's success despite the impact management's cuts have had on us.

On Thursday we met with Bennie Johnson and Elizabeth Ryan to address the remaining open issues in Section 25 (Scheduling). We were able to close all the issues but one. Though we are in agreement on this topic, we want to ensure the language properly captures the intent. We believe that objective was met by Thursday afternoon, but both parties adjourned to deliberate the language internally and talk with scheduling experts.

Tuesday was spent in caucus with R&I Committee Chairman Gary Nowak, Committee Member Sid Graham, Senior Benefits Specialist Victoria Brady and ALPA Manager of MEC Benefits Steve Hodgson. We spent the day reviewing Section 27 (Insurance Benefits).

On Wednesday, Gary, Sid, Victoria and Steve joined us at the table as we presented our position on Insurance Benefits to management. Management was represented by Dennis Hamel, Bennie Johnson, Elizabeth Ryan, General Counsel Keith Loveless, Director of Employee Benefits Tom Richards, and Gail Neufeld, who was there to take notes. After a constructive question and answer period, management entered into caucus to review our Insurance position.

We are scheduled to meet with management next Tuesday to discuss scheduling and training. We believe that the "scheduling package" and training both will become tentative agreements next week. We plan to reconvene on Wednesday and Thursday with management to continue deliberations on Insurance Benefits.

As a reminder, the Web poll closes on November 2. The poll is available at <https://www.ballotpoint.com/SPALPA>. To log in, use your ALPA Member ID and the password "password."

Fraternally,
Your Negotiating Committee