

THE LOCAL LINE

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RIP Gary Meyer

Palatine MVS driver, Gary Meyer passed away on March 30. He was a good Union man. Around 2010 or so, Palatine had no MVS stewards. As Vice President at the time, I filed grievances for all 3 tours. This went on for around 2 years. It was Gary Meyer who finally stepped up and volunteered to be the MVS steward for all 3 tours, and had been a steward ever since. Rest in Peace Gary.

Baseball outing

The baseball outing at a Kane County Cougars game is scheduled for Sunday, June 23rd. Tickets are only \$12 each. This is a discounted rate. Hurry up and sign up if interested. Contact your steward. If you don't have a steward, contact us at the Union building (630-833-0088).

LM-2 report

Every year businesses need to submit an LM report to the Department of Labor. This year, the deadline was March 30. For the first time since at least 2005, when Jackie and I were first elected as President and Vice President, we missed the deadline. We still have not submitted our report. Due to our size, the report is called an LM-2. This is a major report and there are no extensions. We will probably be fined and the National Union notified. It may also trigger an audit by the Department of Labor.

What happened? Why are we late?

After the election we conducted an audit covering the previous 6 years up to the date of the election. It is to be done after each election but 3 years ago was Covid and there was no

audit. The result of the audit was although there were a few minor issues, they were very minor and the company conducting the audit stated the books were among the best they had seen. Bhupendra Patel was our Treasurer for those 6 years. Our new Treasurer claimed to know how to perform the duties of Treasurer. She did not know how to do QuickBooks. We sent the Treasurer to Baltimore, for 3 days of training for QuickBooks. This was Union sponsored training. During the training, she was shown how to reconcile the bank statements and credit card statement with QuickBooks. When she returned our Treasurer still did not know how to do QuickBooks. The President of the Waukegan Local, who

also trains people on QuickBooks, offered to help teach her. She finally agreed to have the Waukegan President help her but she still did not learn. We had the Training company fly here for 3 days. Instead of having them train her, the Treasurer had them do our books (her work) for her. She still did not learn. In October, I started asking her if she reconciled the books. She had not. I have asked her many times since if she has reconciled the books. To date, she has never reconciled our statements with QuickBooks. After the training people came out to try to teach her, the Executive Board and membership voted for us to have the company provide up to \$5,000 in additional training for our Treasurer. They agreed. After providing a little more than half the training, I was notified by the company, they were no longer willing to train her. They said she was impossible to work with

and unable to learn. Our Treasurer is on the phone every day with QuickBooks Support to help her. The Union sponsored QuickBooks training again recently in Maryland. Our Treasurer again went to the beginners QuickBooks training. Still, she has not learned. She still claims not to know how to reconcile the statements.

What went wrong with the LM-2.

A few days before the March 30 deadline, our Treasurer showed her books to our Accountant. He stated he was refusing to touch them, they were in such a mess. Our Treasurer added accounts to the Chart of Accounts in Quickbooks making it difficult to determine what category each check was for. There were many duplicate checks subtracted in Quickbooks showing we had less money than we have. There were duplicate entries for dues rebates showing us to have more money than we have. There was

a \$1,300+ check in Quickbooks that someone reconciled that was never issued. The bottom line is the books are a mess and our accountant will not touch them until they are fixed.

What have we done about this?

I spoke to Jackie and asked her if we should ask Bhupendra to help fix the books. She agreed and so did the Executive Board. Bhupendra has been coming to the building to fix the mess. We are paying him lost time. To date, he has reconciled our bank and credit card statements from last May (election) up to the last 3 months. He had to stop there until receipts and invoices that are missing are found. We can then send the accountant our books for him to file the report.

Thank you Bhupendra. Bhupendra did not have to help us out, but he agreed to help as soon as I got the request for help out of my mouth. Thank you Bhupendra.

Work safe. Be safe.

