



**Happy Thanksgiving
from the
Officers and Staff
of
Local 655**

300 Weidman Rd
1-800-882-6560 636-394-6500
www.tfcw.com

**AN EXCLUSIVE
TWICE MONTHLY
REPORT FOR**

**UFCW 655
MEMBERS &
THEIR FAMILIES**

www.tfcw655.com

Education grants

Each January and June (20) Education Grants of \$150.00 are randomly drawn at the 7 p.m. monthly Union Meeting. Local 655 members who are in college, pursuing higher education or technical training following high school are eligible for the drawing. The next scheduled Education Grant drawing will be held during the January 2012 monthly meeting.

Don't forget!! Fill out those applications.

“SHOP UNION” for your holiday ham

When planning your holiday meal, make it easy on yourself and leave the gourmet work to the dedicated Local 655 members at Double-G and Miller Ham companies. These hometown companies still make hams the old-fashioned way.

Miller Ham in the Benton Park neighborhood of St. Louis produces only about 1000 hams a week – and each one is lean, mean and mouth watering.

Double G in Pacific cuts and cures hams in the family's strong German tradition, making them so special they hold a U. S. federal trademark registration touting “HAM THAT TASTES LIKE HAM USED TO TASTE”.

Double G hams are available at Schnucks, Dierbergs, Shop 'n Save and Straubs markets. Miller Ham sells under private labels. For information on where to find Miller hams call 314-776-0190.



**Find us on
facebook**

Local 655 is coming to Facebook!

Local 655 will launch its new Facebook page on Tuesday, Nov. 22 as an interactive tool for Local 655 members. There will be postings, pictures, information, dialogue and much more.

Come join us.

Say it loud

“UNION PROUD.” That is what the new Local 655 union buttons say, and that is what Local 655 members need to tell the world. “If you want good benefits, work rules and wages you need to be Union; you need to be members of Local 655.”

Wear your union button and be **UNION PROUD.**

Stay in the loop with

Local 655 Mobile Text Messaging

Local 655 has launched a new texting program to communicate better with our members. Want to know what is happening in contract negotiations? Want to know which politician is supporting worker issues and who is not? Stay informed!

Text UFCW to 738674 for union/worker updates.

Vision of the Future (President Cook's Message)

All 655 members want better contracts, and you can help make that happen. Find out how by visiting the Local 655 website www.tfcw655.com or search for “Dave Cook Vision” on YouTube. Get the message; spread the message.

SPOTLight on: Mike Lorance

Chugging along with steam engine trains

As the dairy department frozen foods manager at Shop 'n Save in Kirkwood, Mike Lorance finds himself in frigid areas more than most people, but in his free time, he's up to his elbows in steam—the steam of old train engines.

Lorance, a 32-year member of Local 655, has been an active volunteer with the Wabash, Frisco and Pacific Association for 23 years. The not-for-profit organization got its start in 1939, and has never seen a lack of volunteers in its long tradition of preserving live steam engines.

He and others in the organization restore, refurbish and bring back to life the old-time engines that once powered trains along rickety steel tracks.

“I enjoy it. It's fun; it's my hobby,” said Lorance. “I enjoy running the engines, meeting the members and showing visitors something from a by-gone era.”

The visitors he refers to are passengers, folks that visit their tract of land along the Meramec River in Glencoe to take a brief ride on a restored train, along an authentic 12-gauge track, adjacent to the Al Foster trail.

“The train at the Zoo is about half the size of the train we've built,” said Lorance. “These engines were built by people years ago. We purchase them, refurbish them and reuse them.”

Lorance said he got involved with the club after his 10-year old son urged the two of them to check it out. He says his son eventu-

ally lost interest, but his interest and learning never ended. He now serves as a board member, treasurer and superintendent of building and grounds.

“We all volunteer. Some work on the engines, some work on the track, but overall about 24 members do various phases of the refurbishing,” Lorance said. “I started with American Flyer model trains as a kid, and when we built a home near the Wabash-Crystal Railroad, I guess it was the call of the train whistles.”

Lorance said there's always a new train engine in progress. They require a lot of maintenance because of the moving parts. That's probably why they disappeared because diesel engines were easier and they didn't need as many people to maintain them.

“For ours, we use oil or coal to fire the engines, like they used to be fueled,” Lorance said. “The big trains use diesel engines these days, so many people have no idea how a steam engine works. We tell visitors how they work and how we maintain them. It's more than just giving a ride.”

LORANCE