



**Local Lodge S6  
Leadership Connection  
Proudly Serving  
Our Membership  
2/9/24**



**Congratulations on 60 Years!**

Henry Cole and Les Waltz, two of our off-site Material Handlers, have recently achieved an impressive milestone of 60 years of dedicated service. They are the two most senior members of Local S6 by a long shot. It is a rare achievement to amass such a wealth of experience, and we commend them for dedicating a lifetime to the pursuit of excellence in crafting the finest ships in the world. Thank you, Brother Cole and Brother Waltz.

**Labor History - Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 1894**

Union miners in Cripple Creek, Colo., begin what is to become a five-month strike that started when mine owners cut wages to \$2.50 a day, from \$3. The state militia was called out in support of the strikers — the only time in U.S. history that a militia was directed to side with the workers. The strike ended in victory for the union.

**Benefits Committee Alert**

Please read your mail. If you go out of work on A&S or Workers Comp, you may be placed on a Leave of Absence. If so, you will receive a confirmation of coverage letter from the GD Service Center. Up to ten (10) days later, you will receive an invoice for your healthcare coverage. Please pay attention and don't lose your coverage for lack of payment. Additionally, be mindful of any dependent verification information you receive. Compliance is essential to safeguard the healthcare coverage for your spouse and children. If you receive anything you don't understand or have questions about the process, please call the Union Hall and ask to speak with the Local S6 Benefits Committee.

**General Membership Meeting: Saturday 2/17/24**

Bath Area Senior Center - 45 Floral Street, Bath ME, 04530 - Meeting Start: 9:30 AM. All members in good standing are welcome. This is the membership's opportunity to participate in union business.

**New Hope Midcoast - 24/7 Helpline 800-522-3304**

If you are experiencing domestic abuse, dating violence, or stalking, New Hope Midcoast can help. Their staff can: provide emergency sheltering options, help find long-term housing, connect you with support groups, help file legal paperwork, help find a lawyer, go to court hearings with you, assist you in reporting abuse, and offer you community resources. You can call their 24/7 helpline or find them online at [www.newhopemidcoast.org](http://www.newhopemidcoast.org).

***In Solidarity, Local S6 Leadership***

***All updates can be viewed on the LS6 Website: <https://iams6.org>***

***All updates can be viewed on the Official LS6 Facebook Page: [Local-S6](https://www.facebook.com/Local-S6)***

<b>Chris Williams</b> President	<b>Ray Orff</b> Vice President	<b>Tim Suitter</b> Chief Steward Bath/EBMF	<b>Scott McFadden</b> Chief Steward Hardings/CW/Bissons	<b>Ryan Ryder</b> Recording Secretary	<b>Stephen Stewart</b> Secretary-Treasurer
<b>Marc Lindvall</b> Trustee	<b>Clayton Reid</b> Trustee	<b>Josh Johnstone</b> Trustee	<b>David Clukey</b> Conductor-Sentinel	<b>Devin Ragnar</b> Communicator	<b>Brad Farrell</b> Educator



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**Address/Contact Information Reminder**

If you move, changed your mailing address, or contact information, please contact both the Union Hall and Company to guarantee both sides have your correct information. Doing so will ensure you don't miss out on any pertinent information.

**New Bill Could Streamline Unionization Process for State Employees**

A bill is working its way through the Maine State Congress that would make it easier for state, judicial, and public sector higher education employees to unionize. This bill would allow automatic union recognition for workplaces that can provide the Maine Labor Relations Board proof that a majority of workers signed union cards for an organizing drive. If this bill becomes law, it would remove the opportunity for management to use coercion and intimidation to sway a unionization vote, a tactic that is used all over the country to interfere with unionization efforts. Many unions have failed to be formed because of manipulation from union-busting consulting firms that are hired to convince workers to not bring democracy into their workplace. This would be a big win for labor rights in our state, but it isn't a new idea. In 2019 a similar bill was passed to allow for the same streamlined process for public education, municipal, and county workers trying to organize. When we allow management to stall our efforts to organize, we allow them to gain the upper hand and continue to dismiss our grievances. There is power in numbers, with more unionized workers in our state, we will have a greater voice to address the issues in our workplaces and communities that impact working-class families the most.

**New IAM EAP Representatives Complete Training**

Did you know that there are union-trained IAM EAP representatives? You are not limited to just using the company's Employee Assistance Program. Three Local S6 members just completed a week-long EAP training and are ready to help. The growing disease of substance abuse, addictions, mental health, stress, depression, and financial hardship, including but not limited to socioeconomic issues, are serious problems that hinder the quality of life for many of our members. The IAM Employee Assistance Program's objective is to assist workers and their families through prevention, intervention, assessment, directed care, and follow-up services for problems that adversely impact workers' lives. We now have more representatives in the hall to respond to the increase in issues that impact many of our members today. All services are confidential. Please call the hall or any Local S6 rep and ask for an IAM EAP representative if you are in need of help. If a Local S6 representative cannot be reached you can always find help through the IAMAW EAP Helpline by calling 301-335-0735.

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