

**APRIL 18, 2012 MINUTES OF THE OMAHA WORKS RETIREE GROUP
AT THE IBEW UNION HALL**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Our President asked us all to stand for the pledge of allegiance to our flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL: Present were Dan Kovar, Howard Clark, Pauline Lieth, Andy Barges, John Barnes, Bill Love, John Pinkerton, Mary Jo Pinkerton, Edie Riester, Ray Sempek, Cheryl Todd, Vern Klaumann, and Don Kadereit. Absent were Jim Filipiak, Bob Agee and Mary Ellen Newell.

DECEASED RETIREES: Pauline read from a list those that have passed away since the October 19, 2011 OWRG meeting. The attendees were asked if they knew of any other retirees that have passed away that was not mentioned. Harland Thompson, Joyce Hitchcock, Rita Shomeness, and Edward Olsson were added to the list.

BUCKETS: The collection buckets were passed by John Barnes and Bill Love.

MINUTES: Pauline read the October 19, 2011 minutes. Claude Welch made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Don Nelson, all ayes, the motion was carried.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Pauline announced that we still have e-mail addresses that are being rejected. "If you are no longer receiving e-mails from us, let us know today what your new address is."

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beginning Balance-----	\$2414.20
Deposits-----	\$675.25
Expenses	
Interpreter-----	\$70.00
P.O. Box Rental-----	\$70.00
Hall Rental-----	\$75.00
Office Supplies-----	\$74.46
Checks-----	\$6.00
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Ending Balance-----	\$2793.99

OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None given:

NEW BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR:

CSMI INFORMATION: Edie reported on the following:
I want to say that we have two more Connectivity Solutions retirees up here on the board. There is Bob Agee and Don Kadereit. We welcome their input helping us serve you folks.

It seems as if we got it stuck to us again. A letter was sent out from Met Life about supplemental insurance going way up. After checking this out there was an agreement made in December, 2006; that in January, 2012 CSMI retirees would lose their group rate with Met Life. As usual Jay Vick did **not** communicate this with everyone. You still may keep your Supplemental Life Insurance until you reach 95 but there will be a much higher premium. You can always lower your coverage, but once you lower it you can never raise it back up.

There is a flyer back on the table for all CSMI retirees explaining the Portable Group Rates, don't forget to pick one up.

Now I will tell you about the sale of the property:

Connectivity Solutions Sale keeps jobs hub at 125th, I Streets

The 105-acre site and its 1.3 million square feet of space once was an employment hub in the Omaha metro area:

Hickory, N.C. - based Comm. Scope Inc. has owned the property since 2003 when it purchased a division of the communications company Avaya. Before that, the plant that started production in 1958 also donned the names of Western Electric, AT&T, and Lucent.

The property's buyer, Industrial Realty Group of Downey, Calif. Specializes in taking over massive industrial spaces, said the firm's owner Stuart Lichter. The company has projects scattered across the country.

This project will be Lichter's first in Omaha.

Taking over the Connectivity Solutions campus-to be renamed Omaha Works, a tribute to the former title-Omaha Works of Western Electric-Lichter said, is a more modest project compared with others he's undertaken. But he expects the site to regain its status as one of Omaha's main employment hubs.

That goal will be easier, he said, because of low unemployment rates and a strong state economy.

AVAYA COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT: In absence of Jim Filpiak, Pauline read the information:

The following message was copied from this web site: http://www.cwa-union.org/news/entry/avaya_collectivebarging_agreement

I am pleased to announce that CWA and Avaya have reached an agreement to extend the current Collective Bargaining Agreement until June 7, 2014 at 11:59 p.m. Working closely with the elected bargaining team, Richie Meringolo (CWA Local 1101) and Kevin Kimber (CWA Local 6016) we were able to negotiate that all provisions of the 2009 CBA remain in effect. In addition, wage schedule increases are scheduled as follows:

2% on June 10, 2012

1.9% on June 9, 2013

The extension will keep the current health care benefit package for active employees and retirees in tact with NO premiums or additional costs. In today's economy this is a major accomplishment and the bargaining team should be applauded for a job well done.

In Unity,

Bill Bates

Assistant to VP/Telecommunications Director

ALCATEL-LUCENT: Ray Sempek discussed the new PP0 Health Care Plan:

Emphasize how important it is to make sure your doctors or hospitals are in the Medicare system. If your doctor does not accept Medicare you may be responsible for these out of network costs.

In case of an emergency you will be covered no matter what the circumstances are. If you have a heart attack or you are in an accident you will not be thinking of Medicare. You will be covered.

We had a case of someone going to the Mayo Clinic. Even though some of the doctors at Mayo accept Medicare it seems that they all don't. Check these things out before hand.

I also had a case where a pensioner was transported to the hospital by the Rescue Squad. Even though it was a short distance he was still presented with a \$600.00 bill by the City of Omaha. You can call the city and get a claim form, fill it out and send it to United Health Care or have the city just send the form to United Health Care. This fee should be paid.

DMO

Dental Insurance: Traditional or DMO (Dental Maintenance Organization)

People have been asking about the DMO Plan: It is available to us and may be a lower cost insurance plan.

You must choose a primary care dentist.

If you need to see a specialist (Oral Surgeon. Etc.), you must get a referral from your primary care dentist! This specialist must also be a HMO doctor.

When I looked up the information on the internet, it said that you do not need a referral to see a DMO Orthodontist, but you should check this out first.

If you go out of network there will be a \$100.00 deductible. This is a once a year deductible.

You can always opt out of the HMO and go back to the Traditional.

You can do this once a month. It must be done by the 15th of the month and it goes into effect the 1st of the next month.

DMO pays 100% of preventable dental work:

Major dental work, fillings, crowns, etc., you will be responsible for 25% of the bill.

THE ONLY DRAWBACK:

When I checked the internet I came up with only 10 General Practice Dentists in the Omaha area that accept the HMO plan.

I came up with 7 HMO Specialists:

I have the list of dentists and the telephone number for Aetna HMO Dental Insurance. I will have them on the table up here in front if you are interested.

Also the HMO Dentist seems to change on a daily basis. If you're interested I can show you how to access them on your computer.

AETNA HMO 1-800-220-5479

Also, always remember on any dental work or even medical you can always get a **PREDETERMINATION OF BENEFITS**. This means the doctor should give you an estimate of what your cost will be before you have the procedure done.

A little about the Silver Sneakers card: You could get this in the mail soon or you may have already received it. Some just threw the United Health Care brochures with the Silver Sneakers cards inside away, not knowing what they were. If you receive anything from United Health Care please be very careful and check out the whole brochure or mail, it may be of great importance.

COMMSCOPE ANNOUNCEMENT: Don Kadereit asked ho many are here from Connectivity Solutions? How many are over 65? We did not know at our E-Board meeting about when we would find out about our Medicare Plan B. The checks came and I did not have any idea what it was all about, there were no explanations given. There were different amounts disbursed. They were probably prorated. That is why we are here; to help each other and giving as much information out that we know to all of you. Thank You:

SPECIAL SPEAKER: Dan Kovar introduced Jackie Eichelberger, representative for the Omaha Silver Sneakers program.

Silver Sneakers positively affects members' health care costs, as a result of

- fewer hospital admissions
- lower inpatient care costs
- significant reductions in overall costs

Any questions you may call 1-888-423-4632 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern www.silversneakers.com

Regular physical activity is key in helping to combat depression.

Physical activity has been shown to improve mental health and cognitive function in older adults and has been found to contribute to the management of disorders such as depression and anxiety. Silver Sneakers is the nation's leading physical activity program designed exclusively for people with Medicare.

By increasing physical activity through regular participation in programs such as the Silver Sneakers Fitness Program, you can:

- have more energy
- manage your stress and release tension
- improve confidence and overall well-being

- increase muscle strength and endurance
- participate in social and educational activities
- meet new people who share your interest in a healthy lifestyle

Please check with your doctor before starting Silver Sneakers or any exercise program. Exercise helps people feel younger and live healthier. Silver Sneakers Steps can help you get the activity you need to maintain good health and gain balance and muscle strength without having to leave your home. The best thing is, you can do the Steps program anywhere—even on vacation! If the location is 15 miles or more from your home call 1-888-423-4632 to find out if your health plan offers the Silver Sneakers Fitness Program and Silver Sneakers Steps as a benefit.

You've just ended rehab. What now? Keep on improving with the Silver Sneakers Fitness Program.

Your doctor recommended rehab to help you get back on track. Maybe you had a joint replacement or other surgery, are recovering from a stroke or heart attack, or are healing from a broken bone.

No matter why you needed rehab, it's important to keep up the good work so you continue to get better. There's no better way to keep feeling better than with this program.

You get a fitness membership as one of your benefits with the United Healthcare Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO).

As a member you can work out at your own pace at any participating location in the nation. Walk on a treadmill or lift weights, use the pool and other amenities (as available) or join others in a Silver Sneakers class.

Silver Sneakers classes, taught by certified teachers, are low-impact and designed to help you be stronger and have better balance. Silver Sneakers, a pool based exercise, is especially gentle on the joints, and Yoga Stretch is good for helping you be flexible. Keep feeling better!

“If it weren't for the wonderful Silver Sneakers Muscular Strength & Range of Movement class, I wouldn't have been able to walk without a walker following my knee replacement. Thanks to my health plan for this program!”

- Stella P., Silver Sneakers Member, Arkansas

*Not all classes are available at every Silver Sneakers location; check with your local site for classes and schedules.

Find them on Facebook! www.facebook.com/silversneakers

Someone said they did not get an e-mail notifying them of this meeting today, and Bill Love is usually right on a timely schedule, but this time the notice did not go out until after yesterday evening. He apologizes for the delay. He does a lot for us so we can excuse him this once. Please take a meeting schedule and put it down on your calendars when the next meeting will be.

Claude Welch notified us that Met Life is raising their premiums to 35-45% on their long term policies.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, all ayes, meeting was adjourned.