

Jason M. Creager
Safety Committee Chair
September, 2015

CWA Local 4900

Safety Report

The CWA Local 4900 Safety Committee continues to help make the work place safer! Our hope, as a committee, is to minimize or eliminate our members exposure to hazardous working conditions and potentially related injuries, illnesses and fatalities. Our committee is made up of several subcommittees: Indianapolis- Outside, Indianapolis- Inside, North Central, South Bend- Warehouse, South Bend- Outside and Mobility.

The Indianapolis- Outside subcommittee, chaired by Bryan Halterman, meet last on July, 2015. Distracted Driving and Distracted Drivers continue to be a large concern. We continue to work with the company to come up with creative ideas to help change behaviors concerning this safety issue. The company has a texting and driving simulator that they are slowly moving to each garage location. The U-Verse Safety SPOC's are still being provided time to visit their peers in the field to encourage and promote safety. Their next meeting will be in October.

The Indianapolis- Inside subcommittee, continues to work on its issue and find solutions through the direction of David Towne. We continue to work toward establishing a functioning subcommittee for the Indianapolis Inside folks. We hope to have a meeting established within the fourth quarter of 2015.

The North Central subcommittee, led by Mike Adams, last meet on September 17, 2015. This committee has been hosting Ladder Safety Refresher Training and Space Cushion Awareness Training throughout the North Central areas with much success. They have been asked to present a Lead Safety Refresher for the North Central area as well. Management has been working closely with Union Safety committee to resolve issues and educate the membership on safety topics. The company has been holding safety training for the Safety SPOC's at the Girl School Rd location. Union leadership, safety SPOC's and safety committee members have been able to attend. The North Central Group will be able to attend on September 24, 2015.

The South Bend- Warehouse subcommittee, meets monthly. The committee is chaired by Steve Kaufman. Their last meeting was held on September 15, 2015. The warehouse went nine months, December 2014 until September 2015, without a personal injury accident.

Unfortunately, they had a personal injury accident this month. Our member tripped over a pallet while walking backwards looking a labels. The fall injured our members shoulder. The pole yard has become a large safety concern due to the numerous pot holes. The company has not taken the initiative to repair this problem. So, we will initiate a grievance.

The South Bend- Outside subcommittee, chaired by Dick Pfaller, recently meet on August 21, 2015. Dick is back to work after a work place shoulder injury that had him off the job for several months. The company has mandated that BAU now strap the ladders to the company vehicles ladder rack due to a recent accident where a tree branch pulled a ladder from the ladder rack. We are seeing a few recalls on the Transit vans. There is an issue with the Transit's seat belt retaining bolts working loose and ladder rack bolts working loose.

The Mobility subcommittee, led by Alan Pemberton, has yet to meet as a committee. The safety issues are being addressed through the Wireline subcommittees and local WRMs. The goal is to have a dedicated committee for Mobility.

In Solidarity,

Jason M. Creager