

# March 11, 2012 Chairman's Report

Respectfully submitted by Rick Martinez Shop Chairman

**Negotiations Update:** The Bargaining committee continues to work the demands of our membership. The rumors in the plant of a 5-day letter being issued are not true, however I have communicated to management that it is our expectation and belief that an agreement can be reached by early April.

**Skilled Trades SAP Update:** When the National parties began negotiations last fall on the SAP for our Skilled Trades brother and sisters LDT management reported to the corporation that there were approximately 50 journeypersons working production at our plant. When we actually had joint discussions on this issue after the agreement was made and ratified in the National Agreement the local union had identified a significant discrepancy in their numbers reported to Detroit. We had documentation that the actual number here at our plant was well over 80 journeypersons reduced to production. In response to this new information management had taken the position that only those members identified in their original reported numbers would be part of the SAP program ultimately leaving over 30 of our members with no chance to participate in the program and return to a skilled trades position. With the assistance of our international union we were able to remedy this situation and reach agreement that all of our trades could participate. As of today 60 of our members have received offer back to trades and the remaining 23 should hear something soon and all of our tradespersons who had signed up to retire have been formally notified that they are good to go...Congratulations to all in their retirements!!

**Production Hiring:** Management has hired approximately 75 entry-level employees here at LDT. The process that they have utilized was to have DDI contact potential new hires from a pool of DDI temporaries. The temporaries that they made contact with were given a report date and required to pass an initial drug screening. We welcome all these new members to local 602 and would encourage their participation in our local union.