## JANUARY 21, 2009 OMAHA WORKS RETIREE GROUP MINUTES AT THE IBEW UNION HALL

**CALL TO ORDER:** Lyle Nicholson called our meeting to order.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** We all stood for the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Present were Lyle Nicholson, Dan Kovar, Pauline Lieth, Andy Barges, Jim Filipiak, John Barnes, Howard Clark, Bill Love, Bev Opfer and Edie Riester. Absent were John Pinkerton, Mary Jo Pinkerton, Everett Peterson, Martha Ross, Ray Sempek and Cheryl Todd.

**DECEASED RETIREES:** A list of the deaths since our October 15<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting was announced. We all stood for a moment of silence.

**MINUTES:** Pauline read a summary of the minutes of the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes as read, seconded, all ayes, and motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Andy gave the following report: Beginning balance was \$1074.60, Deposits of \$385.00, Hall Rental Expense of \$150.00, and Office Supplies of \$179.37, LAANPA affiliation fees of \$25.00, leaving an ending balance of \$1105.23.

**DONATION BUCKETS:** John Barnes and Bill Love passed the donation buckets.

**OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None

## **NEW BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIR:**

Dan Kovar reported on the Medco letter from Lucent about prescription drugs. They are pushing the importance of going to RX choice by mail. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> prescription you will be paying double the copay amount if you do not wish to go to Medco by mail. They just want to save money by using this program. Questions were taken from the floor. If you have any questions please call Bryan Flickinger, our Lucent healthcare coordinator.

Edie Riester reported what she knew about the new contract from Connectivity Solutions. Her first question was how many are here from Connectivity Solutions. Many new retirees are in attendance that were called and notified of this meeting and we thank you for coming. The contract is subject to ratification. They actually have not sent the contract to her yet, whether they forgot or what is unknown, but this is the information she has so far. For the actives it is very good, but for the retirees it stinks! When a retiree turns 65 they are taking away your medical insurance because you will be signing up for Medicare Part B. Your prescription drugs and vision will be gone. Watch your mail for the changes and call Jay Vick with any questions. They no doubt will have to do open enrollment again for CSMI.

Don't shoot the messenger! Question from the floor; 'Will they be sending out supplementary insurance offers'? Edie said you will be receiving many different insurance offers through the mail from different companies. You need to make your own decisions on this issue.

**LAANPA:** Lucent, Avaya, Agere National Pensioners Association is trying to reach out to different states that have retirees so that they may join the national group. They have contacted those from the Hawthorne plant and many joined. It is taking some time, so this endeavor is ongoing. The group is meeting here in Omaha this spring on May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

**INVOLVEMENT POLITICALLY:** Jim encouraged everyone to contact their elected official because that is where it starts. Getting involved to change outcomes is very important going forward.

**SPEAKER:** Lyle introduced Brad Ksiazek, financial advisor with Edward Jones. Brad stated that he graduated from Plattsmouth High School, served four years in the US Air Force, worked at Lucent until layoffs, attended college, Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, joined Edward Jones in 2004 and received the Ted Jones Prospecting Award, 2006 Partners Award, 2006 Regional Leaders Award, 2007 Winners Circle Award and 2008 Client Service Excellence Award. He is active in community organizations: Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Association, Kiwanis and Neighborhood Association. He provides educational services to the community by teaching classes for Southeast Community College and presents investing and retirement planning seminars in conjunction with local businesses.

Brad represented Cheryl Todd when her husband Dennis Todd died. Cheryl laid down a box of contents on his desk and asked for his help. It's been challenging. Explanation of the different steps they had to take to get all the assets from Denny's accounts.

The Description of the case that brought the difficulties to light:

Husband and wife both were employed with Alcatel/Lucent and both retired from there.

- I. The companies that were contacted:
  - 1. Avaya Pension
    - 2. Fidelity Investments
    - 3. Alcatel/Lucent Pension
    - 4. BNY Mellon Shareholder Services
    - 5. Computershare
- II. Steps to take to alleviate the problems
  - a. Organize paperwork in one central location
  - b. Consolidate accounts
  - c. Ask question

They could not access Denny's accounts number so what Brad would like to convey to us is to know every aspect of what you have and transfer it into something else if you don't understand it. It was a difficult procedure. Do everything you can while you're alive. It is much easier for your loved ones. We are not finished yet, we still have to go over Metlife when I get with Cheryl again. Brad took some questions from the floor and said they could come up after the meeting and talk to him.

Dan Kovar mentioned that everyone make sure you have the right beneficiaries on your policies.

**PLANNING FOR THE UNEXPECTED:** We copied more of these documents and we will sell them for \$1.00 each after the meeting: Please come up and pick them up!

**EVERETT PETERSON:** Howard reported on Everett and said he would like to be here, but just could not make it.

**CHAIRS:** John Barnes asked everyone if they could fold their chair and bring it to the back to be put away after the meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** Our next meeting is April 15<sup>th</sup> here at the Union Hall at 10:00 A.M. only.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Motion was made to adjourn, seconded, all ayes, motion carried.