

Hello 265 Retiree's

Let me share this article I came across in the Grand Prairie Union News. This was Written by Robert Reich, former U. S. Secretary of Labor. Titled WHY UNIONS MATTERS. You strengthen the middle class by strengthening UNIONS. In the mid-1950s UNIONS were strong and wages grew in tandem with the economy. Nearly one third of all workers in United States were unionized. This gave workers across America - even those who weren't unionized - significant power to demand and get better wages, hours, benefits, and conditions. Yet starting in the 1980s (under the Ronald Reagan and the Republican party) and with increasing ferocity since then, the private - sector employers have fought against unions. Corporate raiders demanded that companies boost share prices by busting unions or moving to non - union states.

We now know that as union membership declined, middle incomes shrank. As an individual your voice is limited, but there is power in numbers. Today, unions are more important than ever to the survival of the middle class.

Corporation have tremendous power over our lives. They dictate everything from bathroom breaks to health care for millions of Americans. Unions are essential to the workplace of future.

The tangible, real - world examples of how unions make workers lives better are everywhere you look.

That is why we must continue to expand unions to restore balance to our economy.

This is just a few of the high lights from the former U. S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich.

If you want a better life for your grandchildren and America, support UNIONS.

And now for birthday people. A GIANT HAPPY BIRTHDAY goes out to Brother Terry Hahn, Brother John Morris, Brother Jerry Holohan, Brother Loran Lamie, Brother Steve Michalak, from all of us to all of you HAVE GREAT DAY AND A GREAT LIFE.

Next meeting will be at AL's Steak House on May 28. Hope to see you all there.

And now until later in the month I leave you with these words: Time is like a river. You cannot touch the same water twice, because the flow that passed will never pass again. Enjoy every moment of your life.

See you at AL's on the 28th.

Yours Truly

Alfie Rodriguez

Larry Shroba