

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I sit here at almost 11p.m. and I wonder what is going on at bargaining and how proud I am of my members, I wonder how long can they hold up and do they feel the same way as I do. Then I check my inbox and I get an email from a long time member that I would not expect to hear from and in 15 years of knowing him I had never heard him speak ten sentences. This really is the fight of our lives and a fight for all of labor and a fight for all of our families. The offers Verizon put on the table on my birthday April 28th was an offer that would have changed all of our lives for the worse and all of the retirees lives not only for the worse but down right destroy some of them. Remember we are fighting for those who fought before us, those who have no income. I learned many years ago from a smart guy and one of my few hero's, that there are two sides in bargaining. Keep up the fighting and the solidarity and continue to lean on each other.

When I graduated high school I weighed 109lbs, that meant most of my growing up involved someone picking on me. My father taught me to never fear losing a fight but always fear not fighting. He also taught me that when you hit them, hit hard and keep right on hitting. These lessons are very true right now, we are fighting, we are fighting the big greedy's and we are not going to stop hitting!!

Strength

Mike,

As I walked the picket line with my Brothers and Sisters today I noticed how strong the members have remained. Brother, we are in this for the long haul, no matter what. Verizon has fomented such anger and disgust toward the management of this greedy company. We know to the bottom of our hearts that this strike is completely necessary. This is my 4th strike and I have never been prouder to be part of our Union family. These past weeks have brought us closer together than I can ever remember. No more business as usual. We will challenge them at every turn. I've heard so many other members say the same thing. The company has been building up this confrontation for years. An animal is most dangerous when cornered.

No matter how the next contract shakes out, one thing is certain:

THE BULLYING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! WE WILL NOT ACCEPT THE DISRESPECT ANY MORE!

Thank you, Brother. And thank you to everyone who has been giving so much of their time and energy to this great cause.

In Solidarity,

Thank you all for making me so proud!!

Mike Somers

President

CWA Local 2100