

# **G-P BARGAINING UPDATE**

**January 18, 2008**

Negotiators representing Georgia-Pacific and IAM locals W52, W331 and W354 met again for three days this week in Rocky Mount, NC. Very little progress was made. **Major issues continue to include Wages, Pension and Insurance.**

Georgia-Pacific has inched toward the proposal they want to give you. A proposal that is not nearly good enough if recent settlements with the UBC is any indication. The latest was for a 4 year contract offer with a \$600 bonus the first year but no wage increase. The other three years had increases of 2%, 2% and 1 ½%. This is simply unacceptable. Just 12 months ago, G-P settled with the Mid-Continent locals in the IAM for 2 ½% each year! This would leave your wages 4% behind your counterparts in Arkansas and Mississippi.

G-P continues to offer a cheap proposal on pension improvements -- only \$1 in 2008, \$1 in 2010 and \$1 in 2011. Whatever happened to 2009? Your pension benefit is already \$1 per month per year service behind Mid-Continent and this would put you another \$1 behind.

Insurance continues to be a major issue that G-P doesn't seem interested in resolving. Despite strong evidence that the Nelson Trust will continue to provide its excellent benefits for less money than G-P's insurance, G-P will not even give it serious consideration. They won't even look at the numbers from **MANAGEMENT'S CONSULTANTS**. *Their only real objection is that the Nelson Trust offers affordable insurance for our members when they retire!*

Georgia-Pacific representatives have stated many times that G-P is not interested in helping provide insurance for its retirees. This is not only unacceptable; it says something about Georgia-Pacific and the people who are making these decisions! Evidently they want to just use you up while you are young, and then throw you away without a good retirement and without any responsibility for your healthcare. When G-P can provide those benefits at no cost to G-P, but will not, something is seriously wrong.

NEGOTIATIONS ARE SET TO RESUME ON FEBRUARY 19 & 20. A FEDERAL MEDIATOR WILL BE INVOLVED WHEN NEGOTIATIONS RESUME.

**PLEASE ATTEND YOUR LOCAL LODGE MEETINGS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Ask your co-workers to join you and support the Union committee in bargaining a contract that provides the protection and benefits that you deserve.**



Updates may be viewed at IAM District Lodge W2 web site [www.iamwwd2.org](http://www.iamwwd2.org)