

Did You Know????

About Our Vacation Time

By Bill Montgomery, ANS Shop Steward

Have you ever how much vacation time you get per year?

After 6 Months of service	1 week (5 days)
After 12 months of service	2 weeks (10 days)
After 5 years of service	3 weeks (15 days)
After 10 years of service	4 weeks (20 days)
After 20 years of service	5 weeks (25 days)

The year in which vacation leave may be taken shall be known as the “vacation year”. A maximum of 1 week of vacation may be carried over into the next year to be used in the 1st quarter. A vacation year is defined as a period of time beginning January 1 and ending on December 31.

Employees must express preference for full weeks including full carry over weeks of vacation in seniority order within the work group.

More information is available in your contract article 22 pages 36-37.

Please keep a copy of the contract available for reference. If you need a copy see a shop steward or Cingular Action Team member.

Cingular Members to Elect Bargaining Unit Vice Presidents

By Marcus Courtney, WashTech President

Democracy is the corner stone of our union. A union brings economic democracy on the job. Good contracts that promote strong wages and benefits happen when employees in the workplace are united through the union, with one voice. That voice doesn't just end in the workplace, but it also carries over into giving members a strong democratic voice in the local. The WashTech local has a very proud tradition in union democracy—our members are our union!

In that tradition, I am pleased to announce that you will have the opportunity to elect three Vice Presidents this fall as your representatives to the union's governing board, called the Planning Council. This is the largest expansion of the Planning Council in our local's history.

Over the past several months, WashTech officers and other elected committee chairs have been working on bylaws reforms to accommodate this change. The newly amended bylaws grant a unit Vice President for every 300 members. Since your bargaining unit has over 900 members, you will have the opportunity to elect three new Vice Presidents.

The newly elected Vice Presidents will be focusing on building a stronger union for the members at Cingular. Their duties will include:

- Attending the monthly Planning Council meetings
- Conducting Cingular bargaining unit meetings
- Help ensure contract enforcement through the grievance process
- Help with the set up and maintenance of the required labor management committees as set forth in the contract

The Planning Council sets the direction and allocates the resources of the union. The 3 new Vice Presidents will be very involved in the details of the union's internal planning and overall operation.

Nominations will be taken at the September 27th General Membership meeting. All union members in good standing are eligible to be nominated for one of the Vice President positions. You will also be able to nominate candidates through e-mail. Ballots will be sent out to the bargaining unit in October, and then counted in November.

If you are interested in the one of the Vice President positions or would like more information about this process, please feel free to contact me at courtney@washtech.org and I will be more than happy to answer your questions.