

August 12, 2003

TO: ALL NABET-CWA Local 11 Retirees

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am writing you this letter to let you know that Local 11 is in the process of starting a CWA Retired Members Club. Our Club will join other CWA locals in the CWA Retired Members Council.

Forming this Club has more than one purpose. First, there is the social aspect of getting together with former colleagues to swap stories and experiences. However, the second, and I believe the most important purpose is to bind us together in an organization that can deal with issues that effect retirees. Although pensions and 401K Plans are regulated very closely by the Federal Government, our medical benefits are not. Absent specific assurances in collective bargaining agreements, these benefits are at the whim of the employer. In addition, since there are rarely union representatives appointed as trustees to employers pension plans, we have virtually no influence when it comes to increasing pension payments. That is, unless we band together and organize. GE has more than 200,000 retirees. You can be sure that we can become a force to be reckoned with.

Other benefits of the club include a subscription to the CWA News, which periodically will include a copy of the NABET News, and Journeys, a quarterly publication exclusively for members of retiree clubs, and with the Executive Board's approval, the Local 11 Newsletter. In addition, club members are entitled to participate in the CWA Union Privilege programs which include a low cost mail order prescription plan, free and discounted legal services, travel service, and supplemental life insurance, as well as a low interest Master Card.

Please find enclosed an Application for Membership and a self-addressed envelope. When we get organized, Local 11 will apply to the CWA for a charter. By-Laws will be drawn up and a dues structure put in place.

I truly hope that this idea excites you as much as it does me.

Fraternally,

Bill Freeda