

**UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL**

**LOCAL 971**

# SHOP NOISE



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## **IAM Members Stand Strong as Boeing Strike Enters Third Month**

As November unfolds, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) continues to face a defining moment in its ongoing fight for fairness and recognition. The strike involving The Boeing Company and IAM District 837 in St. Louis has now entered its third month, with more than 3,200 members maintaining firm resolve. Their stand has become one of the most closely watched labor disputes in the aerospace industry, underscoring the importance of protecting wages, pensions, and job security for highly skilled union workers.



Since the walkout began in early August, IAM members have remained united on the picket lines, demanding a contract that reflects both their technical expertise and the critical national defense work they perform.

Negotiations have seen limited progress, and while talks have continued intermittently, Boeing has yet to bring forward an offer that meets the members' expectations. The union's leadership has been clear that the fight is about more than pay. It's about long term respect for the craft, stable retirement benefits, and a contract that keeps good jobs in American communities.

The solidarity surrounding District 837 has been strong. Support has poured in from across the country, including donations from IAM District 751 members in Washington State who contributed tens of thousands of dollars to help sustain strike operations. The national strike fund and grassroots contributions have helped keep the momentum going as winter approaches, proving that the spirit of solidarity within the IAM runs deep.

While the Boeing strike has taken center stage, the union has seen progress elsewhere. In early November, IAM Local 1297 in Toledo, Ohio, ratified a new agreement with Libbey Glass following an 11 week strike. The outcome there demonstrates how persistence and unity can lead to results, offering a measure of optimism as other bargaining tables remain active.

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### **IAM Veteran Services**

[www.goiam.org/departments/headquarters/veteran-services](http://www.goiam.org/departments/headquarters/veteran-services)

You can find these, along with other resources at

GOIAM.org - under the Resources Tab

### ***International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers Local Lodge 971***



[www.iamll971.org](http://www.iamll971.org)



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Beyond these high profile disputes, IAM continues to push forward on multiple fronts. The union recently urged the U.S. Trade Representative to strengthen labor enforcement under the United States Mexico Canada Agreement. The goal is to prevent offshoring and safeguard aerospace and manufacturing jobs that form the backbone of IAM's membership. The union's legislative advocacy ties directly to the issues at stake in St. Louis: protecting American industries and ensuring that the workers who make them run are treated fairly.

In other sectors, IAM's divisions continue to focus on training, organizing, and internal communication to maintain strength and readiness across its regions. Even as one group of members fights on the picket lines, others are advancing skills and preparing for future negotiations, embodying the same determination that has defined the IAM for generations.

As the Boeing strike enters its third month, the message from IAM leadership remains steady. The fight is about dignity on the job, the value of skilled labor, and the future of American manufacturing. The men and women standing outside the Boeing gates in St. Louis are doing more than bargaining for themselves. They are standing up for every worker who believes a fair contract is worth the struggle.

November may be marked by cold mornings and long days, but for the machinists of District 837, it's also marked by unity, pride, and an unshakable commitment to the principle that good work deserves good pay and respect.



## **Pride in Every Product: IAM Leadership Tours Wisconsin Facilities**

In early November, IAM International President Brian Bryant and Resident General Vice President Jody Bennett visited Wisconsin to tour two of the state's premier manufacturing facilities, Mercury Marine and John Deere. The visits were meant to recognize the exceptional work of IAM members across District 10 and District 66 and to showcase the skill, craftsmanship, and pride that define the union's presence in American manufacturing.

At Mercury Marine, represented by IAM Local 1947, union leaders walked the production floor and spoke directly with the workers who build some of the world's most trusted outboard engines. Members demonstrated each stage of production, from casting and machining to assembly and final testing. The visit highlighted not only the precision and expertise required but also the culture of pride that drives every product out the door. "These are some of the best tradespeople in the country," President Bryant said. "You can see the pride in every product that rolls off the line here."

From there, the delegation traveled to the John Deere facility represented by IAM Local 873, where members build heavy equipment used in agriculture and construction. The workers described how their IAM contract supports fairness, safety, and stability, allowing them to focus on producing high-quality machines that keep industries running across the country.

General Vice President Bennett emphasized that protecting jobs like these is central to the IAM's mission.

"When we support our members, we're supporting the communities and families who depend on this work," he said.

Throughout the Wisconsin tour, one theme stood out clearly. IAM members take deep pride in what they build, and leadership takes equal pride in standing with them. The visit strengthened connections between national leadership and the local workforce, reminding everyone that the union's strength begins on the shop floor. It also provided an opportunity to discuss training programs, organizing goals, and the challenges that lie ahead in the manufacturing sector. Local leaders spoke about how collective agreements help both workers and employers by creating stability, improving safety, and ensuring long-term success.

President Bryant summarized the spirit of the visit by noting that every IAM facility tells the same story. When workers have a voice, quality rises, communities grow stronger, and pride shows in every piece of work. The union plans to continue these visits across the country, shining a light on the people who keep American manufacturing moving. For IAM members everywhere, the message is simple. Your skill, dedication, and solidarity are the foundation of this union. Stay engaged, stay connected, and keep building with pride.





## **IAM Union Salutes Our Veterans: Honoring Service, Sacrifice, and Solidarity**

Dear IAM Union Family,

This Veterans Day in the United States and Remembrance Day in Canada – and every day – we pause to honor and thank all those who have served our nation. We owe a profound debt of gratitude to the men and women who have stood on the front lines to defend our freedom, protect our democracy, and the values we hold dear. Their courage, sacrifice, and commitment to service represent the very best of us.

The same dedication that drives our veterans to defend our nation is what fuels their determination to build a better future for working families when they return home. Their leadership, discipline, and unity strengthen our union and inspire us all to keep fighting for dignity, justice, and respect on the job.

This year, our union achieved an incredible milestone. Through the IAM Veterans Services Program, the IAM became the first and only labor union officially recognized as a national Veterans Service Organization (VSO) by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This historic designation highlights our union's long-standing commitment to supporting those who have served in the military. It ensures that IAM military veterans and their families now have direct access to essential benefits, trusted repre-

sentation, and a strong advocate to help them navigate the system they have honorably earned. To all IAM Union veterans and to every veteran: Thank you!

Your courage and service remind us what true solidarity looks like. We may never be able to repay the full measure of your sacrifice, but we can and must honor it – by standing up for one another, by fighting for peace and fairness, and by ensuring that every veteran and their family receives the care, opportunity, and respect they deserve.

On behalf of the entire IAM Executive Council, we salute you.

In solidarity and gratitude – today and always,

*Brian Bryant*

*IAM Union International President*

## **Union Meeting**

**November 16th**

**7:00pm**

***Executive Board Meeting at 6:30***

**Old Town Hall,**

**1000 Town Hall Ave., Jupiter**

