

# UAW NEWS



Local 1853's Official Union Paper

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## 1853 Union Hall Update *Special Report*

**M**any of you know that over the last couple of years it has been a constant battle to maintain a positive cash flow at our union hall. The membership dropped to a little over 500 when The Spring Hill facility was idled followed by a slow progression upward to approximately 1200 members today. The drastic drop in membership affects the amount of union dues collected, thus directly reducing the amount of money available to cover expenditures. The Local 1853 Executive Board has searched for opportunities to reduce costs, having made some very tough decisions over the last few years to maintain financial stability. The Board has done an outstanding job of being financially responsible. Today we are looking at a more positive story and options.

As of today 71 team members have arrived back to Spring Hill with an additional 264 due to return from other facilities across the country. New team leader prospects have been interviewed over the last several weeks in hopes of joining the Spring Hill work force. Soon new team members will begin progressing through the hiring process. Not only are we happy to see friendly faces returning and excited about the new hire prospects needed to start producing quality Equinox's, we also know this will increase dues and help with our overall financial situation. We are aggressively pursuing options for the Hall to prevent this financial strain on our Union from ever occurring again.

Negotiations and details are rapidly being worked through with Olympus to have a professional fitness operation for our active and retired workforce. Agreements have been reached to have reduced rates for our members and their families to enjoy this all inclusive world class health and wellness facility. We held a special Executive Board meeting on Monday 4-16 to work through finalizing details around this agreement. General membership meetings were scheduled to roll out details about tentative agreements reached with Olympus to our members on 4-17 and 4-18. Common to many negotiations the last twenty four hours are crucial in finalizing details of the agreement. In the late hours of 4-16 some sticking issues in the negotiations needed more clarification. We decided to cancel the roll-outs until we could nail down final details of the agreement before bringing it forward for membership approval. We believe 1853 members will greatly benefit from this agreement with Olympus and look forward to sharing this exciting opportunity with the membership in the near future.

In Solidarity,

Tim Stannard  
Vice President Local 1853