

LOCAL 6201



Communications Workers of America

# CROSS TALK

Quarterly Newsletter / July — Sept

Fort Worth, Texas

July 1, 2017

## Presidents Corners

### This is not your old company...

Without a doubt, these are very difficult times. AT&T is downsizing, rightsizing, but not capsizing. The worldwide financial pressures have caused massive changes on businesses, many times with negative results.

Our organization is reeling from the lack of revenue from traditional telephone company work. We are now in an entertainment business. It is no longer important if each resident has a landline phone. So, gone are the days of needing employees to do that work done. With that we see reductions in work that goes with the traditional telephone. Most of the jobs can be handled by all entities. You can get everything done at the mobility store that once required you to speak to a Service Representative. Consolidation and automation.

It is not just our local that is feeling the decline in workforce. It's happening all over. Now is the time to adapt. Make yourself marketable. Take advantage of every opportunity this company has to offer. Take the schooling that is offered. The classes you take you may never get the opportunity to use with AT&T, but they may help you if you in the future. I would like to see everyone have a lifelong career here, but always keep your options open. Continue to learn and grow.

In Unity  
Georgia Day Johnson  
President



*Denny Kramer*

Executive Vice-President

### Surplus Announcement:

As expected on June 15th, 2017 AT&T announced the latest round of surplus. We were very fortunate in that there were no impacted members in our local. The surplus is centered in Dallas, Tx and Des Perez, Mo.

In Dallas there were 2 Senior General Clerks, 1 Senior Stenographer, 7 NCT's and 12 Customer Service Reps impacted by the surplus. In Missouri, 6 Senior Record Clerks, 30 NCT's and 2 Senior General Clerks impacted by the surplus.

A fairly small surplus but these members lives will certainly be disrupted as they attempt to find new jobs within the company.

For more information concerning this surplus or any other issues, please contact the Union Hall at 817-332-3186.

Opérateur 19:44  
hello

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Southwestern Bell**  
Phonhnabotti, Bouthavisouk

**AT&T Mobility**  
Garza, Orlando  
Johnson, Derek

**AT&T Southwest**  
Jones, Cynthia



## "THE RMC IS ABOUT SERIOUS BUSINESS"

The Affordable Act continues to be a complex problem for everyone and their medical insurance coverage. For those of us getting coverage through our employer or employee benefits, we too are impacted. If congress does away with it and millions are without coverage our costs will rise for sure. Hospitals cannot operate without money. Their costs are all ready beyond belief and fewer payers will inundate emergency rooms that have to be paid to remain in service. Small communities in small towns and over built hospitals in urban areas can't stay open. Hopefully Congress will make improvements to keep some kind of coverage for all Americans.

Medicare is under attack even though it has worked well and it too needs review for improvements. Age discrimination is alive and well in some large corporations as older workers are often pushed out and replaced by lower tiered pay for younger workers or sent overseas and the jobs are gone. Hewlett Packard has the most law suits for age discrimination in 25 years per the AARP magazine. Older retirees are the most likely to be over medicated and victimized with overprescribed medication than younger patients. The Drug companies love this plan. We are more likely to be victims of fraud and theft also.. Once we reach Social Security age and Medicare eligibility, the law allows all kinds of business access to our locations and the trash ads begin on everything from hearing aids to funeral plans. As we age and health need begins our Medicare is the first life-line for us and that too is in a risky place. You may not be old enough to concern yourself about this but if you are not the chances your parents are at risk now. Please take the time to write or call or contact your representative in office about it. Educate your self by reading all your mail from the company about benefits as October is just around the corner and enrollment start again. Ain't retirement in America grand? Defined pension plans are almost a thing of the past as companies are replacing them with 401k shared plans and hello Wall street markets!

We meet the third Wed. of the month at 421 S. Adams in the union hall in Fort Worth Texas at 10:00am followed by lunch in a nearby restaurant. WE welcome you and need your support.

**Priscilla Brown / RMC CWA 6201 Council Pres.**

**Communications Workers of America**

Local 6201  
421 S Adams  
Fort worth, Texas 76104  
817.332.3186

**OFFICERS**

President ..... Georgia Day-Johnson  
Executive Vice President ..... Denny Kramer  
Secretary - Treasure.....Charlotte Brigham

**VICE PRESIDENT - AT - LARGE**

1st Vice-President.....Tommy White  
2nd Vice-President.....Angela Lewis  
3rd Vice-President.....Kenneth Covington

**NEWSPAPER**

Editor ..... Pat Bratcher  
Printer.....Reiley Echols Printing, Inc.



Send articles or suggestions for the CrossTalk to Pat Bratcher

[webcwa6201@loudnclear.com](mailto:webcwa6201@loudnclear.com)

Annual Membership Dues:  Send

CWA RMC 6201

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company retired from: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is this a change of address? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

# Go Six Flags !!!!

## CWA 6201 Annual Picnic



Saturday Sept 30, 2017

Meal Serving Time 2pm-3pm

For More Info: 817-332-3186

**Quitters never win and Winners never quit.  
Be about something !!**

Can anyone please show me where at anytime or anywhere a quitter has won anything? History is full of people who fought the good fight, some in defeat and some in victory?

In fact, people died (grandfathers/mothers, fathers, mothers, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, etc) fighting for the rights that we all have now and live by. (go to YouTube and search Labor Unions.) They all took action rather than just complain about their situations like a lot of people now do.

What I'm saying is that nothing changes on it's own, it takes people to stand up and say "Enough Is Enough" and "Be About" the change they want to see. If you fell Leadership is failing you "Be About" electing new leadership

If you don't like how elections are ran "Be About" presenting an alternative solution

If you don't like not striking for a stronger contract "Be About" helping organize and educate members of the union on how to be prepared to truly strike

If you don't like how AT&T has been blurring the lines of job duties between job titles "Be About" filing grievances

The key to any real change is "YOU". Anyone who makes up the union must "Be About" becoming accountable in holding each other responsible for learning their contract, policing it, and holding AT&T's feet to the fire.

"If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything"

**VP3  
Kenneth L Covington**



### Summer Workplace Safety Tips to beat the sun and the heat:

Always dress appropriately. While short sleeved shirts and shorts are great when it is hot, they don't protect against the sun and they often don't meet site PPE minimum requirements. Keep all clothing light colors. The darker the fabric the more sun it will attract and absorb.

Wear clothes that breath. Nothing should be too tight. This will allow fresh air to flow over your skin and help you stay cool. Modern UV resistant fabrics are fantastic at keeping out the sun and keeping cool. Drink plenty of fluids. Water and sports drinks are two excellent choices. Stay away from sugary soda's and energy drinks. They can speed up the dehydration process. Wear sun block and a protective hat if you are going to be in the sun. The sun can be very damaging to your skin if it is left unprotected. Bug spray will help you avoid insect bites.

Take breaks and go indoors or into an air conditioned car. It is important to allow your body a chance to recover from the heat. If you being to feel dizzy, weak or nauseous please take a break immediately. If your symptoms do not go away after getting out of the heat you should call for medical attention. 10 am till 2pm is when the sun is at its highest point in the sky. It is also when it is at its hottest. If it is at all possible to avoid outdoor work during these hours it will greatly reduce your risk of a summer heat related injury or illness. Sunglasses and hats are great accessories for the summer season. Sunglasses will help to protect your eyes from harmful UV rays.

Hats are great at preventing sunburn. They also help keep your body slightly cooler than it would be if you were to go without a hat. Your head has a large number of close to surface blood vessels which are good at keeping your head cool, but move the heat to the rest of your body.

These are just a few great workplace summer safety tips that will help you to make it through the hot summer months. Remember that safety is important all year long.

Angela Lewis Health & Safety

### Health & Safety Training Class

**July 20th, 2017 @ 7pm**

**At the Union Hall**

**421 S. Adams St Ft. Worth, Tx.**

**Info: 817.332.3186**



### VOICE BOX

#### In Memoriam

***The officers and members of LOCAL 6201 wish to extend their heartfelt sympathies to the following members/members family in the loss of their loved ones:***

**Keep Your Union Strong !!! Access Cross-Talk Newsletter Online [www.cwa6201.org](http://www.cwa6201.org)**



N R R D T N T L S R F M O D E M C S H P  
 I G E H R E G L F E I G L A E T Z M Q Y  
 W W G M R O A U W B B R E C I L P S C B  
 U I P M M C P B D I E C F Q H B K E U N  
 L D A N K I Y O Y F R F P J J R F Z E B  
 L Q P N H P R U T G L W C V D T W L Q E  
 M E I B P M S T Z J O T G P E V P Z T A  
 Q D U L Q S R J K A C Z B U Y O W F E M  
 K N B O U W P K C V K Q V E R T N O P Z  
 D N B T K E A N O S S N L V J C K T B R

BEAM, DROP, FIBER, FIBERLOCK, LIGHT, MODEM

ONT, PFP, SLACKNID, SPlicer, TERM, TRIMMER



**Remember to always work SAFE !!**

#### FAMOUS QUOTES

**BLOOD  
SWEAT &  
RESPECT...**

**The first two  
you GIVE.**

**Last one you  
EARN!**

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson



## JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	*25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Jul. 04th Independence Day  
 Jul. 17th E-Board Meeting  
 Jul. 19th RMC Meeting  
 Jul. 25th \*Regular Monthly Meeting

## AUGUST 2017

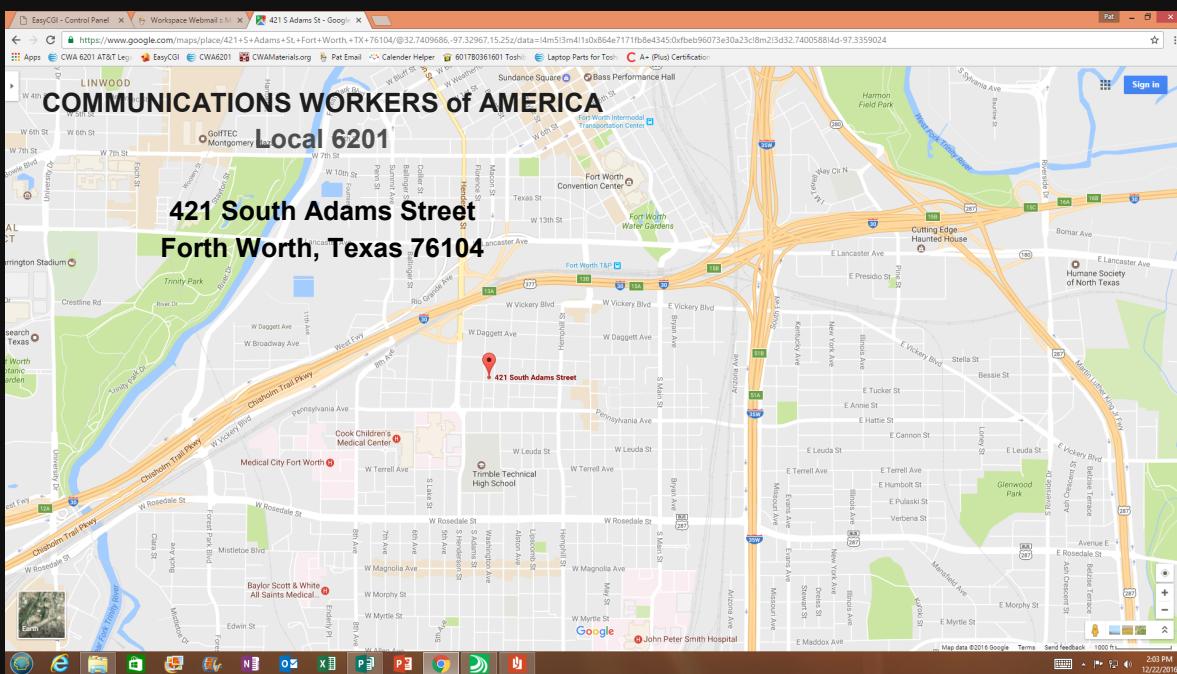
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	*22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Aug. 14th Healthy & Safety Meeting  
 Aug. 16th RMC Meeting  
 Aug. 21st E-Board Meeting  
 Aug. 22th Regular Monthly Meeting

## SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	*26	27	28	29	30

Sep. 04th Labor Day  
 Sep. 18th E-Board Meeting  
 Sep. 20th RMC Meeting  
 Sep. 26th Regular Monthly Meeting  
 Sep. 30th Six Flag CWA 6201 Picnic



MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING 4TH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH - WEDGEWORTH HALL - 7:30 pm

