



# 'ANGUS BARKS'

By Jeff Francis  
AEG Executive Board

## *Vacation Improvements*

The 2007 contract improved vacation time for all union members with less than 2 years service. Gone are the ghosts of Christmas weeks past when our new members had no choice but to work, while their families were home on the holidays.

### **2007 VACATION**

**NEW HIRES AFTER 6-17-07-** The following vacation allotment must be scheduled with your cell-leader, and used by 12-31-07. Same goes for your 2007 floating holiday. Use this time or lose it.

Newly hired in:	'07 vacation:
JULY '07	- 5 days
AUG '07	- 4.5 days
SEPT '07	- 3.5 days
OCT '07	- 2.5 days
NOV '07	- 2 days
DEC '07	- 1 day

**NEW HIRES AND RE-HIRES 1/1/07-6/17/07-** Members with service dates from 1-1-07 thru 6-17-07 are entitled to one week's vacation in 2007. Schedule and use these 5 days (and your floating holiday) by 12-31-07.

**NEW HIRES AND RE-HIRES IN 2006-** Members with 2006 service dates are entitled to 2 weeks vacation in 2007. Schedule and use these 10 days (and your floating holiday) by 12-31-07.

**NEW-HIRES AFTER 6-17-07-** The status of your vacation allotment is being discussed at the Corporate level. Be prepared to schedule additional vacation days for 2007, if a communication from Corporate HR is forthcoming this month.

**RE-HIRES FROM 2004-** Members who gain vacation time by completing their three years for service restoration in 2007 must schedule and use that vacation by 12-31-07.

### **2008 VACATION**

**2006 AND 2007 NEW HIRES AND RE-HIRES-** In January 2008, all active members with 2006 and 2007 service dates will have 2 weeks vacation available to use any time in 2008. Schedule these 10 days with your cell-leader, as well as your floating holiday.

**RE-HIRES FROM 2005-** Members who gain vacation time by completing their three years for service restoration in 2008, may schedule that additional vacation with cell-leader's approval either before or after their service anniversary. If scheduled and taken before service restoration, vacation payment will be received after service restoration.

### **E.A.Y.G.**

Of course the Company achieved some cost savings alongside the improvements that came from negotiations. These apply only to new-hires after 6-17-07: If such a new-hire uses their entire allotment of vacation in a calendar year, and then quits or gets fired before December, the Company will demand some of that vacation be paid back. Also if such a new hire goes out on extended absence for the remainder of a calendar year, or retires, before using their full allotment of vacation time that calendar year, they will not get the balance paid to them. Thirty years from now, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> will not be as popular a retirement date as it is today.

On balance, the changes achieved by the Union improved the availability of vacation time for our short-service members, which was much needed, and much deserved.

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