

# What is UE Local 601, Grove City United Employees?

We are an organization of GE employees in Grove City dedicated to maintaining and improving our wages and conditions. We have dozens of dues-paying members in both the old and new plants. We are a local of the United Electrical Workers (UE), an independent national union that has represented GE workers across the U.S. since 1936. UE negotiates a national contract with GE and represents workers at Erie GE.

## What are the union's goals?

One of our main goals is to fight back against GE's devaluation of our jobs. We believe in equal pay for equal work; we want to close the two-tier wage gap. Other goals include fair and consistent treatment in the workplace and stopping cuts to our insurance and pension benefits.

## Do we get a voice in national contract negotiations with GE?

Yes, and that's important because those negotiations still have a big impact on what happens at a plant like ours, even if we're not covered by the contract. Our local union has delegates who attend regular meetings of the UE-GE Conference Board, where union GE workers from around the country discuss workplace issues and decide priorities for national bargaining. We will join UE representatives at the national bargaining table in 2015. Our voices will be heard! *(Picture at right is Local 601 elected officers with UE national officers at the national union headquarters in Pittsburgh.)*

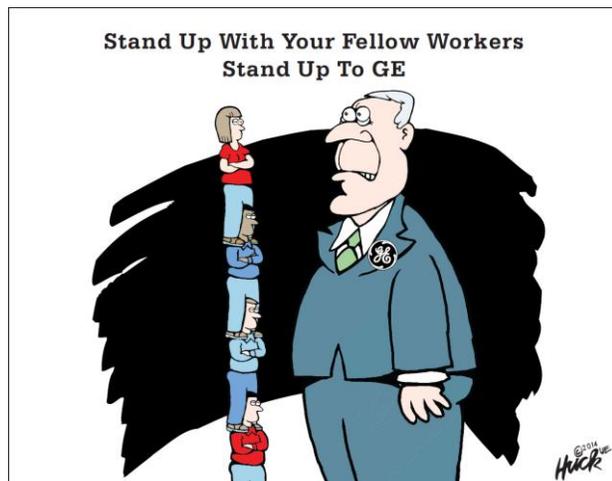


## How do I join the union?

The easiest way to join is online. Go to [www.ueunion.org/grovecity](http://www.ueunion.org/grovecity). Fill out the short membership form and continue to the next page to pay your dues. The dues are \$20/month. You can pay through a regular monthly charge to your credit card. Our dues cover the cost of renting meeting space, printing newsletters, sending representatives to regional and national meetings and supporting our national union. Members vote on local union expenditures. Our members also vote to elect officers and decide priorities.

## Can we be disciplined or fired for joining the union?

You have a legal right, protected by federal law, to participate in union meetings and activities. You can wear union insignia and hand out union information in non-work areas of the plant during breaks or lunch. Wherever you can talk about baseball, football, or fishing at work, you can also talk about your union. It is illegal for the company to stop you. It is illegal for the company to treat you differently because of your union activities. Any violations should be reported immediately to a union officer or representative.



## Will we be covered by the UE-GE National Contract?

Not yet. But we believe that building our own local union will help us achieve that goal down the road. Many of us wish we had the contract to protect us now. However, we can only win contract coverage when we can assemble a majority big enough to overcome a GE anti-union campaign and win a plant-wide election. Meanwhile, we can educate our coworkers about the union and use the rights we have to argue for improvements.

## Will having a union really make a difference?

No doubt about it. Ask yourself how GE gets away with cutting wages and reducing insurance and pension coverage for us when corporate profits are soaring. It's because the unionized portion of the GE workforce has shrunk, and there aren't enough workers exerting pressure to keep GE honest. We can help change that by organizing our union, by speaking out for better wages and benefits, and by standing up together for the good jobs GE used to be famous for.