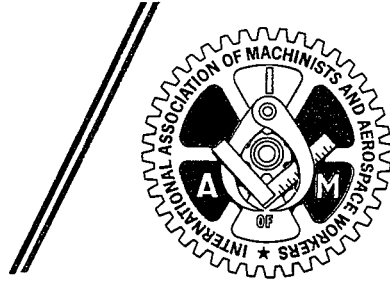


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I don't need to tell you, because you already know - - these are hard economic times. Layoffs, outsourcing, billion dollar payouts to financial institutions funded with taxpayer dollars from hard-working Americans who are already squeezed to the limit are having detrimental affects on all of us.

I do want you to know and to be absolutely sure that *your union*, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, is here for you. We have stood together against companies to make sure we have fairness and justice on the job. We are standing together now with our brothers and sisters who are struggling to make ends meet day by day.

The IAMAW's Guide to Survive for Union Leaders and Members contains tangible information to guide our members and leaders to specific resources where help can be obtained. It also provides an overview of important federal laws and points our leaders to where they can find more information.

Your dues dollars have made this Guide possible. Together we can overcome the hardships we all are facing. Together we will not only survive, but we will be stronger and prosper.

In solidarity and fraternally,

R. Thomas Buffenbarger
International President