

GOLDEN LODGE NEWS

Volume 68, No. 2

February 2021

Nominations, Officers election & new BLA



Bob Harper
President

February 1st and welcome to winter's cold and snow. The TimkenSteel contract ends 12:01 a.m. September 27, so get ready, it will be here soon. I've have taken e-mails and phone calls from members with suggestions and what they are looking for out of the next contract. The rumors that the Company is talking with the Union or will soon contact the Union to start talks is not true.

Usually, negotiations between the Union and Company start 60 days before the contract is over, and by that time we have our members input and set up the direction we want to go with negotiations. So, make sure in upcoming elections you vote, and this year make sure your Negotiators from each plant (HSP, GSP, FSP) are who you want to represent your views. Remember the Basic Labor Agreement is how members receive benefits, above minimum wages, health insurance, overtime after 8 hours. The only things that are guaranteed are a minimum wage and overtime after 40 hours (Fair Labor Standards Act) from the Company.

We are having issues with different departments; Harrison Melt is rumored to go idle at the end of March or early April and what to do with the members that are affected. Nothing is settled on this issue and the Union will follow the language of the BLA. The issue about combining departments is not settled at this time (2/2/2021) and nothing has come to the Union as to what the Company is planning. So, when management is telling members it is a done deal and our members spread the rumors, slow down and see what the Company is trying to do with the changes they want to make.

We have had input from members in the departments, especially stewards, that are affected. Input concerning what is going on and how it will affect our Union members.

Problems with fill-ins and special assignments that our members have set up for themselves are concerning. Ask yourself this question. Are you strengthening the Union or thinking of only yourselves? Most of our members just want to come to work for 8 hours and go home without any incidents. They are here to make a living and benefits. To care for their families. It's upsetting to see members working overtime while others are laid-off and some are even losing their unemployment.

They give all kinds of excuses why they do this. Management made me, need the money because I have not worked enough hours. Remember you are only guaranteed 32 hours. I ask you to look in a mirror and see, if what you do strengthens the Union or weakens our members? Like I have said before, the members are the USW 1123 not the Hall. Stand together, make the Union stronger for all.

The virus still stalks our workplace. Wear your masks and follow cleaning protocols. Take some responsibility for yourselves.

On a final note, the 2021 Union calendars were taken to the post office on January 29. Hopefully they will be delivered before you read this. Our vendor had numerous problems procuring them from their supplier as a result of a staff shortage due to the virus. We have also had numerous problems getting the Golden Lodge News delivered with the Post Office backlog. Some members have not received the December or January GLN at the time of this writing. Fingers crossed.



By Sean Els

*Fulltime Union
Safety Chairman*

We are now a little over a year from the first travel related case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) being brought into this country. A lot has happened since that first positive case was confirmed on January 21, 2020. ([link 1](#))

Although COVID-19 comes to most of our minds for 2020, it's only an addition to what the Union Safety Committee faces. I want to review some COVID-19 related basics through a hypothetical scenario. Your USRs feel this is important because the cases among co-workers will continue to grow along with the concerns when it hits a crew or department. Our scenario:

Tom, Sean and Trish all work together and share the same pulpit. The three of them work Monday – Friday, additionally, Scott rides to work with Tom. Scott comes into this scenario later. Tom, Sean and Trish may, at times, be close contacts - **within 6' of each other 15 minutes or more cumulative (5 blocks of 3 minutes, 3 blocks of 5 minutes etc) over a 24-hr period.** ([link 2](#))

Sean developed some COVID-19 symptoms ([link 3](#)) Saturday morning and was tested on Sunday. He came back positive which prompted him to report off and call medical. Sean also shared the information with Tom and Trish. Identifying any close contacts to Sean (contact tracing) now kicks in. This will determine who needs to quarantine.

Sean is in isolation because of his positive test. ([link 4 COVID-19 Quarantine vs. Isolation](#)) Medical did contact tracing first because they learned of Sean being positive long before the Health Department. The conversation between medical and Sean identified both Tom and Trish as close contacts - **within 6' of each other 15 minutes or more cumulative over a 24-hr period.** All three worked on a machine crash for an hour on Friday.

This is within two days of Sean's symptom onset (Saturday morning). The Health Department later contacted Sean in which the same information was gathered along with determining contacts outside of the workplace.

Tom and Trish both are placed into quarantine based on being exposed (close contact) to Sean. You **must** fit the definition of exposed/close contact. They both start their quarantine with no symptoms (asymptomatic). The time frame for their quarantine started on Friday since that was their last exposure to Sean. The duration for Quarantine could be anywhere from 7-14 days depending on the circumstances. ([link 5](#)) This is a change the CDC has made from the original 14 days. New science/data is a driving factor for the CDC to make changes.

Trish returned to work after a 10 day quarantine; she never got any symptoms but chose not to get tested on day five of her quarantine.

Sean returned to work after 10 days from symptom onset. He still had symptoms though, a slight cough. He can return because he met the two elements to return. 1. No fever and fever reducing medication within 24-hrs. 2. Symptom improvement. He no longer has a severe cough and his sense of smell returned. ([link 6](#))

Tom developed symptoms a few days into his quarantine. He then tests positive. The clock will start for his isolation from day one of his symptom onset. Scott was aware of this whole situation from the beginning and how it has been playing out with all involved. All Union members involved here have been keeping each other informed and checking on each other.

Scott has been concerned since he rides to work with Tom. Others in the shop couldn't believe Scott wasn't quarantined since Tom was positive and they both ride together. Why did Scott not have to quarantine? He didn't fit the criteria; his last ride with Tom was over two days before Tom's symptom onset.

Keep in mind that this scenario very well could have been an event of workplace spread. Under OSHA's recordkeeping requirements, COVID-19 is a recordable illness, and thus employers are responsible for recording cases of COVID-19 if three things are met. ([link 7](#))

Employers should do a reasonable investigation when making this determination. It is way too easy to say an employee(s) got it outside of here with these types of events. The USRs feel workplace spread has happened here but the Company sees it differently and has logged nothing. Evidently their investigation led them to that determination. Not to have any events of spread at work would be damn neared a miracle this far into the pandemic... just my thoughts.

Be mindful things do change with CDC guidance and local Health Departments can add to guidelines based on Community needs/trends. Information can be rather overwhelming when you start looking for answers. Be careful of the false information out there, there's plenty. The CDC, OSHA and Health Departments are good sources for information; Facebook and other social media outlets, not so good. Don't hesitate to reach out to the USRs or Union Safety Committee reps with questions. We will get you an answer. Everyone deserves that. Links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/p0121-novel-coronavirus-travel-case.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID-19-Quarantine-vs-Isolation.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

<https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-05-19/revised-enforcement-guidance-recording-cases-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

GOLDEN LODGE NEWS

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USW honors John Lewis this Black History Month

“February is Black History Month, when we honor the often-neglected accomplishments and contributions of Black Americans. It is usually a time for celebration, but this year is bittersweet as we spend it without the trailblazing civil rights icon John Lewis.

“Lewis, who passed in July 2020, has been described as the greatest leader ever produced by the Civil Rights Movement. Not only was he a crusader for civil and human rights, he was also a friend to labor, and dedicated his life to getting into “Good Trouble” in the fight for justice and equality.

“This Black History Month, we honor our friend and brother, the late but never forgotten John Lewis. We are thankful for him and the legacy he left behind. “May we commit to picking up his torch, and carrying it to light the path towards justice.”

USW: Chelsey Engel, cengel@usw.org,

ARTICLE VIII - Constitution of the International Union

“Section 1. Duties of President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Local Union and preserve order, and shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Local Union.

The President shall have the right to vote at all elections of officers, and, when the members are equally divided on other questions, shall have the deciding vote. The President shall call special meetings by request of ten (10) members in good standing of the Local Union, and shall enforce the provisions of this Constitution. The President shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided for and be ex-officio member of all committees. The President shall perform such other duties as the Local Union may assign.

In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Guide, Guard or Trustee or in the position of Grievance Committee Member at any time during the term of office, the remaining Local Union Officers shall, by majority vote, select a successor to serve for the remainder of that term.

Section 2. Duties of Vice President. The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge of the President's duties and during the President's absence shall perform the duties of the President. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall act as President for the unexpired term.

Section 3. Duties of Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall record the proceedings of the Local Union in a book kept for that purpose, read all papers and perform such other duties required under this Constitution and as the Local Union may assign. The Recording Secretary shall also have custody of the Local Union Seal, and shall be responsible for any misuse of same.

Section 4. Duties of Financial Secretary. The Financial Secretary shall receive all money due the Local Union and pay the same to the Treasurer, from whom the Financial Secretary shall take a receipt. The Financial Secretary shall also keep accurately the accounts of the Local Union with its

members, and shall at all times have the books open for examination by the Auditing Committee, and perform such other duties required under the Constitution and as the Local Union may assign.

The Financial Secretary shall make out the various reports required by the International Secretary-Treasurer and forward such reports to the International Secretary-Treasurer in accordance with instructions.

Should it be proved that a Local Union Financial Secretary has failed to report monthly the full membership of the Local Union as provided for in the report to the International Secretary-Treasurer and transmit the full amount of initiation fees and dues, the Financial Secretary shall be suspended from all privileges and benefits until the deficiency is made good, and shall be liable to the International Union for the full amount unpaid.

The Financial Secretary shall keep a record of all transfer request forms issued and received. The Financial Secretary's accounts shall be subject at all times to audit by the International Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 5. Duties of Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary all money collected by the Financial Secretary and shall deposit all money belonging to the Local Union in a bank designated by it. All initiation fees and dues shall be deposited in a separate bank account to be designated as a trust fund for the International Union.

The Treasurer shall cause to be issued to the Financial Secretary a receipt for all money turned over to the Treasurer or deposited to the Treasurer's credit in the regular bank account. The Treasurer shall issue a separate receipt for the amount of money turned over at any time or for such deposit made, and shall sign all checks and have them countersigned by the President and the Financial Secretary.

The Treasurer shall keep regular and correct accounts of all money received and paid, and report at each meeting the balance of cash shown by

the last report, the amount received since, the total checks issued and authorized, and the balance remaining. The Treasurer's accounts shall be open for examination by the Auditing Committee at any time when called upon. The Treasurer's books shall be subject at all times to audit by the International Secretary-Treasurer of the United Steelworkers. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties required under the Constitution and as the Local Union may assign.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer to insure that the funds and property of the Local Union are preserved, managed, invested and expended in accordance with the International Constitution and policies and Local Union By-Laws.

Section 7. Duties of Guide. It shall be the duty of the Guide to see that all present are entitled to remain.

Section 8. Duties of Guards. It shall be the duty of the Guards to take charge of the door and see that no one enters who is not entitled to do so.

Section 9. Duties of Trustees. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to have charge of the hall and all property of the Local Union, subject to the direction of the Local Union, and perform such other duties as the Local Union may require.”

Other positions to be filled

Grievance committee members are elected from each division. They investigate grievances, participate in Step 2 and Step 3 of the Grievance Procedure and approve grievances to go to arbitration. They also assist the President in the appointment of Shop Stewards and coordinate Union activities within their division.

One Negotiator is elected from each division. They meet with members at department and division meetings in order to have information to draft proposals for negotiations with the Company. They also research recently negotiated contracts with other bearing and steel companies to judge trends in the industry. The negotiators participate, with other members of the Bargaining Committee, in contract negotiation meetings with the Company.

Pandemic requires a change to Local Officers election

Due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, the USW International Secretary Treasurer, John E. Shinn, has authorized changes to the upcoming local Union elections. Instead of requiring that nominations for office “come from the floor” the local Union Recording Secretary is empowered to accept written nominations submissions from members in good standing.

Those written nominations will be accepted at the Golden Lodge and placed in a designated drop box. Nominations will be accepted during business hours from March 3rd through March 17, 2021. Nominations must be signed, include the member's name, contact phone number and what office they wish to be a candidate for.

If a member is nominating another member for office, that members name and contact phone number must be included so they can be contacted by the Election Committee.

Members **can only** be a candidate for one (1) office. Members **can** be a candidate for local Union office and Grievance Committee and/or Negotiator. Members **can** also be a candidate for local office and an Amalgamated Unit position.

The Golden Lodge Executive Board will also make recommendations for Election Committee (Tellers). Tellers must be a member in good standing and not a candidate for any elected position.

Any member wishing to be considered for Teller should also submit their nomination during the above time period. These one-time modifications are based solely on the Covid-19 meeting restrictions and should not be considered a permanent amendment to the current Election rules.

Additionally, the Recording Secretary is charged with working with the local Union Safety and Health Representatives and provide for suitable Covid-19 protocols.

Copies of the “2021 Local Union Nominations & Elections” are available at the Golden Lodge. The 2021 Nomination Notice is included elsewhere in this issue.

GET INVOLVED

NOMINATION NOTICE

Written Nominations of candidates will be accepted during business hours at The Golden Lodge, 1234 Harrison SW. Canton, Ohio beginning,

8:30 am Wednesday, March 3, 2021 until

4:30 pm Wednesday March 17, 2021.

Nominations for the following offices: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Guide, Inside Guard, Outside Guard, Trustees (3 to be elected), Grievance Committee Members (4 to be elected from each division; FSP, HSP, GSP, GRP) and Negotiators (1 to be elected from each division). In addition, Members of Local 1123-01 (Golden Circle Credit Union) will nominate a Unit President, Unit Secretary, and Unit Griever. Members of Local 1123-04 (The Timken Company) will nominate a Unit President and Unit Secretary.

During this Nomination period anyone wishing to be considered as a Teller may also submit a Nomination.

OFFICERS ELECTION

The election of officers, grievance committee members and negotiators will be held on **Tuesday, April 6, 2021**, at Golden Lodge, 1234 Harrison Ave. S.W., Canton, Ohio 44706 between the hours of **6:30 a.m.** and **6:30 p.m.** Ballots will be counted at Golden Lodge. **Members will be required to wear a mask and should plan to social distance.**

Anyone whose work, including official union business, requires them to be more than 50 miles away from the polling place or whose service in the armed forces or vacation prevents them from appearing at the polls during the time of the election may request an absentee ballot. The request for an absentee ballot must be made in writing to the chairperson of the election committee and must state why and what work assignment will require you to be more than 50 miles away during the hours of the election and must be received by the chairperson of the election committee 7 days or more in advance of the day of the election.

Those elected will take office in May 2021 and serve for 36 months. This notice is posted in compliance with the local union bylaws, International Constitution and Election Manual.

Approved: Golden Lodge Executive Board, Exclusive Union Affairs

IN MEMORIAM

The following members of the Golden Lodge have passed away and Bibles have been presented to their families.



GERALDINE BELOPOTOSKY, Age 83, Dept. 75, passed away October 17th, 2020. Sister Belopotosky joined the Union in 1967 and retired in 1997.

THOMAS D. MOORE, Age 65, Dept. 736, passed away December 12th, 2020. Brother Moore joined the Union in 1973 and retired in 2004.

JAMES A. LEHOTAY, Age 81, Dept. 59, passed away December 27th, 2020. Brother Lehotay joined the Union in 1962 and retired in 1994.

ANNIE R. DAVIS, Age 68, Dept. 189, passed away December 29th, 2020. Sister Davis joined the Union in 1972 and retired in 2009.

PAUL E. SHELTON, Age 82, Dept. 72, passed away on December 31st, 2020. Brother Shelton joined the Union in 1964 and retired in 2000.

GASPARINO SETTAMIO, Age 92, Dept. 733, passed away on January 2nd, 2021. Brother Settamio joined the Union in 1977 and retired in 1994.

JO-LIEANA HACHA, Age 70, Dept. 753, passed away January 6th, 2021. Sister Hacha joined the Union in 1973 and retired in 2003.

RICHARD L. BRENDLEN, Age 75, Dept. 59, passed away January 7th, 2021. Brother Brendlen joined the Union in 1964 and retired in 1999.

ROBERT E. CLAPPER, Age 85, Dept. 736, passed away January 9th, 2021. Brother Clapper joined the Union in 1955 and retired in 1996.

DAISY L. TRUITT, Age 85, Dept. 81, passed away January 10th, 2021. Sister Truitt joined the Union in 1969 and retired in 2000.

RICHARD L. WOLFORD, Age 84, Dept. 91, passed away January 13th, 2021. Brother Wolford joined the Union in 1965 and retired in 1995.

ROBERT G. BAILEY, Age 73, Dept. 80, passed away January 17th, 2021. Brother Bailey joined the Union in 1969 and retired in 1990.

RICK L. METZGAR, Age 62, Dept. 185, passed away January 21st, 2021. Brother Metzgar joined the Union in 2005 and was active at the time of his death.

CARL J. BENDER, Age 81, Dept. 750, passed away January 22, 2021. Brother Bender joined the Union in 1964 and retired in 2000.

DONALD L. MENCER, Age 90, passed away January 24th, 2021. Brother Mencer joined the Union in 1983 and retired in 1994.

JUSTEN L. JARRETT, Age 65, Dept. 753, passed away January 24th, 2021. Brother Jarrett joined the Union in 1974 and retired in 2008.

Coming Events

March 3 thru March 17
Nomination Period

April 2*
Good Friday

April 6
Officers Election

**Union negotiated benefit*

Recent Retirees

Congratulations to the following members who have recently retired and will now enjoy their Union negotiated retiree pension and healthcare benefits.

Mark Fox Paul Dagenhard
Michael Paul William Patterson
William Schweitzer Keith Strobel
Richard Miller



United Way of Greater Stark County

United Way of Greater Stark County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program is now scheduling drop-off appointments February

through April for the 2020 tax return season.

VITA offers free tax preparation services to eligible, moderate to low income households, who earn under \$60,000 if filing single and under \$90,000 if filing a joint return. Volunteers work with clients to identify tax credits that are often overlooked, while helping people avoid the high cost of paid preparers and predatory lenders. Clients filing with direct deposit can typically expect a refund in 7-10 days.

Drop-off locations include Carroll County District Library, DoverPhila Federal Credit Union, Massillon Recreation Center, OhioMeansJobs Stark, Stark State College, and United Way of Greater Stark County. Other sites may be announced throughout the season.

Due to mandatory pandemic restrictions, VITA regulations will follow public health orders and restrict tax interactions to drop-off only services this year. In-person appointments will not be available. The drop-off only clinics start approximately February 1, 2021 and run through April 15, 2021. Clinic drop-off times vary, based on location. VITA only accepts clients who have scheduled drop-off appointments.

Appointments are **only drop-off** and must be scheduled. To schedule an appointment visit uwstark.org/vita or call 330-994-VITA (8482), available 24 hours a day.

Please bring the following documents to your appointment:

- A copy of last year's federal and state tax returns
- Photo ID or proof of identification
- Social security cards for you, your spouse and dependents
- (An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number assignment letter may be substituted if social security numbers are not available)

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 973
CANTON, OH

Steelworkers Local 1123, Golden Lodge
1234 Harrison Ave. SW
Canton, OH 44706

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

- Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents
- Wage and earning statements (Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, 1099-Misc) from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- If you purchased Health Insurance through the Marketplace you **MUST** bring your 1095-A
- Blank check or proof of bank account routing and account numbers for direct deposit (Deposit slips are not acceptable)
- Total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number, such as a social security number or Business Employer Identification Number
- Copies of income transcripts from the IRS and state, if applicable

Please note that to file taxes electronically on a married-filing-joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.