Ben Salazar President

Martin Fox Vice President

August, 2021 Rank & Filer



**Tino Kalantzis Recording Secretary** 

**Steve Berendsen Financial Secretary** 

**George Guinea** 

Treasurer

# **President's letter**

**The Union Difference** 

Brothers and Sisters,

First to the hot topic around the mill, Last week there was a press release that UPI was fined by the county for environmental issues. The fines are from the findings that started back in 2017 for procedural issues, Last June the county officials were out for an inspection with good results. We all have come a long way in the last 6 years regarding the environment. From knowing what needs to be done and how to accomplish this, when I talked to the company about the fines I was told it would not affect the profit share. Keep up the good work.

Now moving onto Covid, as you know we have moved back to everyone wearing face coverings and are back to seeing the potential covid exposure papers. Which are coming out just about weekly again, I wanted to find out the numbers we have had at UPI. As of last week, we have had 93 positive cases, 10 current positive cases, 4 hospitalized for severe symptoms and hundreds that have been tested. We currently have a Brother that is fighting for his life and needs a miracle to make it through. Covid is no joke millions of people have lost their life and hopefully it doesn't take on our UPI family. Positive thoughts and prayers are needed.

Thank you Ben Salazar (Salazar.usw1440@gmail.com) USW Local 1440

President / Rapid Response Coordinator

Maybe it's just us, but we think higher wages are pretty great.

Health care coverage and paid sick leave are helpful.

And don't pension and retirement security sound nice?

This is what unions fight for. This is the union difference.

- 11.2% more in wages.
- 96% have employer-sponsored health care coverage.
- 93% have paid sick leave.
- 79% have pensions.

We form unions to fight for ourselves and our co-workers in the workplace. So of course, union members have stronger pay and benefits—that's the point! In Solidarity.

Team AFL-CIO

P.S. The PRO Act makes it easier to join a union. So if you support unions, sign our petition to pass the PRO Act!

## **Looking for more Union Info?** Our local has a web site!!

Did vou miss last month's Filer? Looking for a form? Heard about an event? Want to sign up for email alerts? All of this and more can be found online at: uswlocals.org/local-1440

### **Retirements:**

Chung, Loi V.

**Optec 2 ETL/Tin Division** 5/18/1987 - 8/6/2021

34 Years



The equipment that we operate is vital to our jobs. Without it, most jobs in the plant could not be done. The plant will not run without the equipment. We want to take care of our equipment so it can take care of us. How do we do that? Do your inspections on your piece of equipment, weather it is a process line, scooter, forklift, ram tractor, truck, engine or crane. If there are any issues, note them in the comment section for mobile equipment inspections or notify your supervisor for equipment on the lines. If the mobile equipment is unsafe to operate, fail and tag it out. If it is on a process line, notify your supervisor. All comments that are made in the mobile equipment inspections are sent to the appropriate shop so they can be addressed. The better the comment, the better the shops can address the issue before it comes a safety issue. Some of

these mobile equipment issues can be addressed without taking the equipment out of service. Do we let repairs go on our personal vehicles or our equipment at home ie: dishwashers, mowers, HVAC etc.? Most likely not! Why would we want to let them go at work when we need the equipment to do our jobs to get that pay check? When our equipment runs well, we are better equipped to do our jobs safely which means we go home at the end of the day! Our families depend on us to be there for them. Let's all inspire each other to do better.

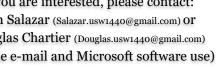
Brought to you by your Safety Reps.

If you are interested, please contact: Ben Salazar (Salazar.usw1440@gmail.com) or Douglas Chartier (Douglas.usw1440@gmail.com) (Simple e-mail and Microsoft software use)

# Union Meetings Are Held the 2nd Thursday Of Every Month. Our Next Meeting Will Be: Thursday Sept, 9th 5:30PM At the Union Hall 677 Cumberland Street Pittsburg, CA 94565 Phone: 925-432-7396

#### **Union Journal Agent Position Opening!!**

We are looking for someone to cover position of Journal Agent. Taking charge of Rank and Filer, Website, Email Blast, Communication between Union and Membership.



I know the news the past few days out of Afghanistan may be tough for some of us to see and hear. We are here for you - you are not alone. https://www.usw.org/members/veterans-of-steel

https://www.veteranscrisisline.net

If you have any veteran buddies or family members, be sure to take a minute and check in with them. And if you're feeling the stress, reach out to your friends and family. Just like you'd want to help them, we want to help you. #BuddyCheck

