**Presidents letter**

As we now get ready to close another year, I hope everyone had a great thanksgiving and are ready for Christmas and the new year.

On the safety side 2019 has been a rough year for everyone at USSPOSCO. We have had far too many brother and sisters injured this year. 2020 will be the year we turn that around.

Negotiation are continuing this week as we are down to the last few items which are the toughest items to find an agreement with. Hopefully you all have signed up for the email updates so that you know what has been done and where we stand.

This Friday will be our Union Christmas party and December Union meeting, I hope to see everyone there as we will have great food and if you have any questions or concerns on what is happening at the mill or in Negotiations they can be answered at the meeting.

I wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy New year! Here is to a safe 2020.

Thank you and in Solidarity,

**Ben Salazar**



Union Meetings Are Held the 2nd Thursday Of Every Month. Our Next Meeting Will Be

**Thurs, Dec. 20th**

5:30PM At the Union Hall

677 Cumberland Street

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Phone: 925-432-7396

**2019 Christmas party is Friday the 20th.**

**Come Join us for some holiday Cheer!**

**It’s an all-day event, Food will be served at 11am and 3 pm.**

**Come get some delicious BBQ food, mingle with your local brothers and sisters.**

**It will be held at the union hall.**



Submit your email to receive Contract updates

and other important notifications.

* Go to: **uswlocals.org/local-1440**
* Click on the link “stay updated”
* Fill out the form and Submit.

**Wage Safety**

PREVENTING HOLIDAY TREE FIRES

Special fire safety precautions need to be taken when keeping a live tree in the house. A burning tree can rapidly fill a room with fire and deadly gases.

***Selecting a Tree for the Holiday:***

Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

***Caring for Your Tree***

Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame, or sparks. Do not put your live tree up too early, or leave it up for longer than two weeks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

***Artificial Holiday Trees:***

If you are using a metallic or artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

***Disposing of Your tree***

Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood burning stove. The best way to dispose of your tree is by taking it to a recycling center or have it hauled away by a community pick-up service.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

***Maintain Your Holiday Lights:***

Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. Use only lighting listed by an approved testing laboratory.

***Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets:***

Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be warm to the touch.

***Do Not Leave Holiday Lights Unattended.***

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Use Only Nonflammable Decorations:

All decorations should be non-flammable or flame-retardant and place away from heat vents.

***Never Put Wrapping Paper In the Fireplace:***

It can throw off dangerous sparks and produce a chemical buildup in the home that could cause an explosion.

USE CARE WITH CANDLES

***Candles Can Be Dangerous***

If you do use them, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked. Never leave the house with candles burning.



Brothers and Sisters

I would like to Thank everyone who supported our efforts in Fundraising for Women of Steel in 2019. I wish all you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In Solidarity, Steph De La Rosa

**USW Cares: 2019 Jefferson Award Winners Announced**

District 12 –

Xochitl Cobarruvias, Local 675: Xochitl has created strong ties to the communities of Carson and South Los Angeles, Calif., through her tireless efforts bringing money, food, school supplies, and legal help to struggling people.

She started a monthly food bank at her local’s Maywood office, which has distributed more than 10,000 bags of groceries to people in need. Because of her, 2,000 families were able to have a Thanksgiving meal and 500 children received backpacks with school supplies last year.

She raised over $7,500 for families involved in the area sports program to buy uniforms and cover fees, and she is a great help to Local 675’s annual children’s Christmas party, which provides gifts to underprivileged kids.

For List of all winners visit online at usw.org

unity****strength****respect****united****steelworkers