**Presidents letter**

**Stay Connected!**

It is more important than ever to stay updated with recent items, both union and non-union. We suggest many ways to stay connected, Our Primary way is to join in on the monthly meetings at the hall. This is the best way because it gives information out and allows instant feedback and questions.

Other secondary ways include this Rank and Filer,

Facebook at **www.facebook.com/usw1440** which is updated by our local.

The local union website at the following **http://uswlocals.org/local-1440** this website is newly founded by the local and will be updated to fit our own shape and need.

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.

Simple as that!

You will receive updates of the contract by email.

Take a look around the website.

This year will be very busy with Negotiations starting in mid-June. We have our committee all setup with the use of our grievance people from each area. We had our kick off meeting last week and will start getting things prepared soon. **If you have any information on changes you would like to see** please get that information to your Grievance person, email me, or on our union website where you can submit your Information along with leaving an email address for future updates. As we gather more information, we will keep you informed thru email Blasts & Website Updates as negotiations progresses.

Last Union Meeting we approved the bid for the T-shirts to be made and should have them ready for purchase at the Union hall soon for $20. Talking with the different committees’ things have been going pretty well, Wage & Rate and Safety has been very busy but other than that things have been fairly quiet. We are still looking for people that would be interested in starting up a Next Gen group as well as getting Woman of Steel going strong. If there is anyone interested please let me know.

A little update on the trade case to get POSCO steel. The final ruling has been pushed back, we are hearing that the ruling should be done in June due to the government shut down that took place. So, we hopefully will see a ship around August. Thank you to everyone for your continued support and please follow United Steelworkers Local 1440 on Facebook and our web page is up and going at **Uswlocals.org/local-1440**.

In Solidarity, Ben Salazar

Salazar.usw1440@gmail.com

What does the future hold for us?

How invested are **YOU** in **Your** union?

Join, Campaign, Contribute,

Be part of the movement that you want to see.









Feb 11, 2019 **CONTACT**:   R.J. Hufnagel: (412) 562-2450, rhufnagel@usw.org

# USW Welcomes U.S. Steel Plan to Restart EAF Construction

PITTSBURGH (February 11) – The United Steelworkers (USW) union today welcomed the announcement from U.S. Steel that it would restart construction of an electric arc furnace (EAF) at its facility in Fairfield, Ala.

“The USW is pleased to have finally concluded an agreement with U.S. Steel to build a new EAF,” said USW International President Leo W. Gerard. “This decision paves the way for a solid future in continuing to make steel in Alabama and the Birmingham region.”

The company said it would invest approximately $215 million and add about 150 employees at the plant. The EAF is expected to have an annual capacity of 1.6 million tons.

“This is an important step forward for the current employees making world-class pipe, and it will further result in additional jobs,” said USW International Vice President Tom Conway, who serves as chair of the union’s U.S. Steel bargaining committee. “Restoring a hot end at the plant is essential to maintaining and growing good union jobs in Fairfield.”

The USW in October reached a new four-year contract with U.S. Steel covering about 16,000 workers at the company’s facilities across the United States, including Fairfield.

“The USW operates EAF furnaces at many of our represented plants across the country, and we look forward to starting up another new furnace and delivering top-quality products for our customers,” said Kevin Keys, president of USW Local 1013, which represents the Fairfield workers.

The company said construction was expected to begin immediately and that the furnace would be producing steel by the second half of 2020.

“This re-establishes steelmaking again in the valley and ensures the future of the plant. It’s a very welcome development,” said Daniel Flippo, director of USW District 9, which represents Alabama and six other states, as well as the Virgin Islands.

# Pension Benefits Are Not Only Critical to Retirees but to the Overall Economy

Retiree pension benefit spending generated $1.2 trillion in total economic output in 2016, supporting 7.5 million jobs across the United States, according to a recent report by the National Institute on Retirement Security.

The most substantial effects on employment occurred in the health care, real estate, food services, and retail trade sectors.

When a retiree maintains a steady income, the whole community thrives. This is especially true for lower-income areas and areas fraught with higher-than-average unemployment. It is not just a drop in the bucket, either. Each dollar of defined benefit pensions contributes more than double, $2.13, back to the economy.

Pension spending added a total of $202.6 billion to government treasuries since retirees paid taxes at the federal, state and local levels on their benefits and purchases in 2016. Virtually every state and local economy across the country gains when retirees spend their pension benefits.

That spending also provides stability in the face of economic downturn. This is most noticeable in rural areas with less economic diversification.

Our unions are crucial in the fight to maintain and improve pension benefits for workers around the country. We defend these earned benefits because no one who has worked hard, in some cases for over forty years, deserves to live in poverty.

The Alliance’s defense of traditional pension benefits is particularly important as we experience a rising life expectancy and longer periods of retirement. Our current retirees, our future retirees, and their communities all depend on them.

Robert Roach, Jr. is president of the Alliance for Retired Americans. He was previously General Secretary-Treasurer of the IAMAW. For more information, visit [*www.retiredamericans.org*](http://www.retiredamericans.org).





**Housekeeping Safety**

A cluttered workspace can restrict movement in the plant and increase the likelihood of slips and falls. Chances are that when somebody slips on something, it is something that shouldn't be there.

In a recent year over 400,000 reported injuries were the result of poor housekeeping causing slips and falls, and 35 percent of all lost workdays were caused by injuries due to slips and falls. A cluttered workspace can also be a firetrap. Poor housekeeping creates more places for fires to start and provide fuel for fires to feed on. In fact, many industrial fires are the direct result of accumulations of oil soaked, and paint saturated clothing and rags. If there is a fire, clutter can prevent a quick and safe exit and restrict access by fire extinguishing equipment.

Clutter on the job is not only dangerous, it is counter-productive. Quality on the job is hard to maintain when the workspace is crowded and messy. Housekeeping clutter can grow like vines, but it can only grow where it's allowed to grow. When last week's clutter is still in our midst to be stumbled over or pushed aside, the system has broken down. A clean work place should be a common concern for all, but it must be established as such. Identifying common concerns help promote cooperation.

Nobody said housekeeping safety is fun, but it’s a part of the job and if you let it accumulate then you've got to get out the machete and that is a chore. Teamwork is the key to a clean work area and housekeeping-safety. Everyone must do their part and realize that housekeeping is a shared responsibility. Remember that good housekeeping reduces accidents, improves morale and increases efficiency. Most people appreciate a clean and orderly work place where they can accomplish their tasks without interference or interruption.

**THOUGHTS:**

Do we have cluttered work areas? Housekeeping does not JUST apply to trash; it applies to everything we deal with from tools to parts to chemicals. We need to ask ourselves several questions on a daily basis. How do our storage areas look? How are our chemicals stored? Where are we placing our tools? Are our scooters/vehicles/mobile equipment collection points for material? Do we keep our scooters/vehicles/mobile equipment clean and organized? What can we do in our immediate work areas to keep housekeeping as a top priority? If we ALL take a few minutes each day to clean our areas, just think how fast the work would get done and how nice our areas would be and how much safer our work place, which is our second home, would be!

**--In solidarity Your wage safety reps--**



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

**Thurs, March 14th**

5:30PM At the Union Hall

677 Cumberland Street

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Phone: 925-432-7396



Please join us at the next

Women of Steel meeting on

**April 10th @ 4pm**.

We are teaming up with Local 5 and will be discussing The

**Veterans Project**.

Please come help support your WOS and the Veterans of our community.

**Upcoming Meetings**



**Columbia Athletic Association  
PRESENTS  
COSMIC BOWLING**

***Enjoy your “Sparetime” At*** **DELTA BOWL**

**3300 Delta Fair Blvd. Antioch, CA**

**Saturday March 2, 2019  
  6PM to 8:00 PM**

**Sign Up Today Space is limited**

**A Family & Friends Event**

**$10.00 Per Person**

**Includes**

**Rental Shoes, Pizza and drink**

**A Private Party Room with Glow-In-The-Dark Bowling, Strobe and Dance Lights, Exciting Music and Videos**

**To sign up for Cosmic Bowling or for information about CAA membership, events and services please contact**

**Michelle Miller @ x6068 or Alicia Torres @ x6040**

Is there something you like to see

in your Rank and Filer?

Do you have a question or comment on The Issues?

Get Ahold of us at Douglas.usw1440@gmail.com

“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” – Winston Churchill

**Information & Resources**

It’s a new year, that means another **$3,800** in your ICD Account!

Want to learn a new skill?

-Open water diving

-A new language

- Glass Blowing

And Tuition Assistance

Have an idea for a class?

Let your ICD Learning Advocates know:

Bryan Afflerbach     Machine Shop

Charles Bell              Safety - Sheet

Tim Chamblee         Tin Anode Caster

George Guinea        Transportation

Nancy Holt               Business Services

Brady Mahler           PCM Maintenance

Jennifer Moreno      Business Services

Joshua Newman      ETL CRU Pad

Bryan O'Hara           Spares

Eric Ottosen             Reliability

Andrew Rowlett       CC2

Danny Smith            Tin Warehouse

Joe Vreonis               Tin Side Trimmer

**Online @ www.icdupi.com**

U.S. Equal Employment

Opportunity Commission

Oakland Office 800-669-4000

Website www.eeoc.gov

**CA Dept. of**

**Fair Employment & Housing**

Discrimination Cases 800-884-1684

Website www.dfeh.ca.gov

**National Labor**

**Relation Board**

Oakland Office 510-637-3300

Website www.nlrb.gov

**CA Dept. of**

**Industrial Relations**

CAL/OSHA 800-963-9424

Oakland Office 510-286-7000

Website www.dir.ca.gov

**CA Employment**

**Development Department**

Disability Insurance 800-480-3287

Unemployment Insurance 800-300-5616

Paid Family Leave 877-238-4373

Website www.edd.ca.gov

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

**Drug & Alcohol Committee**

If you’re struggling to overcome an addiction, no one needs to tell you it’s tough – you’re living it. Sometimes you could use a few encouraging words to remind you that you’re not in this alone and that, yes, change really is possible.

The path of healing starts with a single step, and if you need any assistance, do not hesitate to reach out.

In solidarity;

Charles Bell Jesse Victor

Work: 925-439-6142 Cell: 707-290-3080

Cell: 925-595-5807

**Grievance Committee**

**Buzz Enea Jr - Grievance Chairman**

**Lashon Craig - Rolling Grievance**

**Steph DeLaRosa - M & I Grievance**

**Joe Perez - Sheet Mill Grievance**

**Mike Miller - Tin Mill Grievance**

**Phil Blasingame - Wage & Rate**

**Luke Adkins - Contracting Out**

**Ramil Jose - Bishop Wisecarver**

**Dan Evans - Roll Technology West**