**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 month I need to start off with safety, so far in the first 3 months of the year we have 4 OSHA recordables. That is 4 of our brothers and sisters with some kind of major injury. We all need to step back and reflect that any one of those could have been ourselves. Safety is not something any of us can overlook, so when a job is about to be started take a step back and make sure you are doing it the safest way possible with the correct tools for the job. Always watch out for yourself and your coworkers to make sure nobody is in harm’s way and we can all go home to our family without injuries.

The negotiations team had our first meeting together last month and it went very well. There was great ideas and communication on each issue brought forward. Everyone was tasked to talk with the people in their area to get any concerns and changes. we all want to see happen we are meeting again this week.

On a side note Earlier last year a letter was sent out from the company about certain fees associated with 401k would be passed to the membership to pay. This letter was sent out without our notice and we quickly responded and corrected the issue making the company pay them. We recently learned the membership was not updated by the company that this was resolved. If you have any concerns please contact me.

Our web page is up and running, you can sign up for all Local 1440 updates there. We will be doing our best to keep everyone updated thru Email blast and updates of our websites. We are also looking to have a Union and family picnic sometime in May at a local park so there will be more information to come.

In solidarity,

Ben Salazar

salazar.usw1440@gmail.com



# Unity and Strength: Why membership is so important

By Mike Millsap, District 7 Director

Unity and Strength for Workers. These words are literally in our name, but what do they really mean? I want to share with you a story out of our district that I think is a good example of why nothing is more important than our unity, our strength and our members.

This story begins at Batesville Casket in Batesville, Indiana – now a so-called right to work state. Obviously, the plant manufactures caskets with about 320 employees. It’s an open shop where Local 525U has been privileged to represent employees at this plant for about 40 years, and we’re about to begin bargaining there next month.

Over the four decades our union has been here, we’ve had good times and bad times. The difference? The level of our strength and unity. Like at all locals, when our membership is together, when we all have each other’s backs, and when we maintain the ability to be able to withhold our work, we have more leverage.

Leverage is important especially during negotiations with the company. Three years ago, Batesville Casket’s final company proposal had drastic changes to the healthcare with minimal wage increases. The union’s bargaining committee did not like the proposal and did not take it back to the membership for a vote. At some point some non-members took a petition up for a decertification from the union. In order to block the decertification to keep the USW, the bargaining committee took a not-so-great proposal to the membership, which voted for the agreement – and to keep the union to fight another day.

That day is now here. It’s important that this time around we send a clear message to the company: we are strong, we are unified and we will stick together to get the best deal we can get for our members.

We’re in this together so here are some things all of us can do right now to help us achieve this unity and strength:

* Talk to your co-workers about the benefits of our union and make sure everyone has signed his or her union card.
* Attend your union meetings to stay updated.

We should all remind each other often that despite what companies may say, there are no guarantees without a union contract. There is no way to have a say in wages, healthcare, benefits, health and safety and other issues at work without a union. The gains we win when we negotiate together as a union often outweigh the cost of dues, and these are gains we would not likely win without a union. Make no mistake about it, that is why companies want to keep us divided, weak or keep us out altogether.

Our unity and strength give us leverage, and it sends clear message that if anyone takes us on, we will stand up and fight back!









Importance of

Unity and Strength

**Wikipedia:** Awareness is the ability to perceive, to feel, or to be conscious of events, objects, thoughts, emotions, or sensory patterns.

**Awareness**

**Merriam-Webster:** The quality or state of being

aware: knowledge and understanding that

something is happening or exists.

Are we aware of the hazards of our jobs? The bolt sticking out? The oil on the floor? The water leak next to the control panel? The tractor passing by? The beam over our head? Are we aware of the potential injury(s) these can cause? Do we have the knowledge and understanding?

We must stop and evaluate our work areas. After the best safety year UPI has ever had we are off to a bad start for 2019 4 injuries and they are all OSHA recordables. We need to look out for each other, the hazards of our work areas and the potential items that can “get” us. We all want to work safe and make it home to our families and it is going to take all of us to accomplish this. We CAN DO IT!

Let’s work to be “ZERO’s”, zero injuries from today forward, we have done it before and we can do it now. We must be able to perceive the hazards and correct them before they happen so we can go home better than we came in to work. How are we better? We are better because we are going home on our own accord, walking out and not being carried out and have made at least 8 hours of pay! Let’s all have a safe, profitable career here at UPI.

**In Solidarity, Your Wage Safety Reps.**

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

Join, Campaign, Contribute,

Be part of the movement that you want to see.





|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| EVENT | DATE |
| CAA MEMBER APPRECIATION BBQ | SPRING 2019 |
| WHITEWATER RAFTING | 7/27/19 |
| STOCKTON PORTS | 8/24/19 |
| COSMIC BOWLING | FALL 2019 |
| HALLOWEEN DANCE | 10/26/19 |



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

**Thurs, April 11th**

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**.

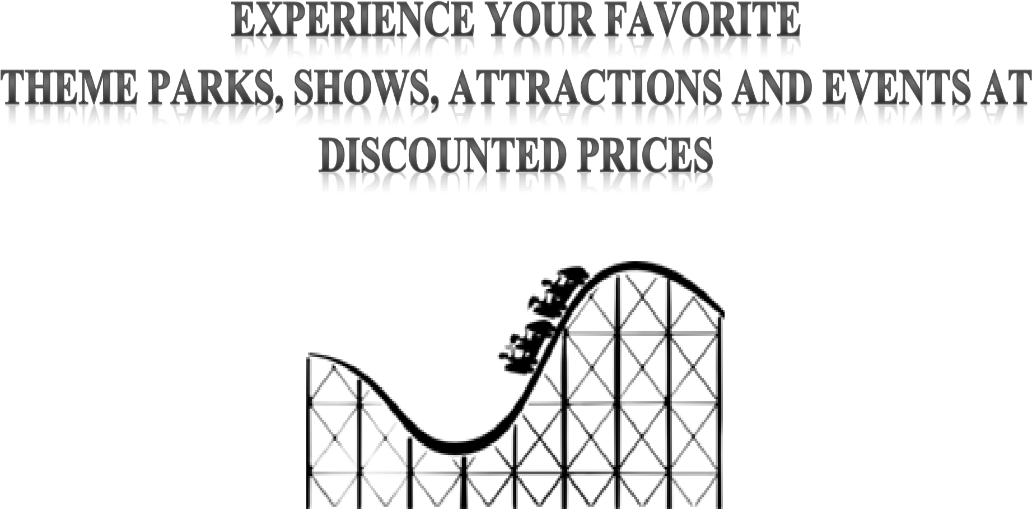
We are teaming up with Local 5 and will be discussing The

**Veterans Project**.

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

**Upcoming Meetings**

****



**Retirements:**

**Ochoa, Frank – 20 Years**

**Op. Tech I Duo Mill/Tin Division 09/27/99 - 03/08/19**

**Love, Steven – 17 Years**

**MTE-Electrical Field Service/Reliability Division 06/24/02 - 03/04/19**

**Jackson, Stanley – 29 Years**

**Op. Tech II CC2/Sheet Division 09/10/90 - 02/27/19**

**We Want to Wish our Union Brothers A prosper and Healthy Retirement**

# Monterey Bay Aquarium

**Adults $41.95**

**Seniors (65+) $33.95**

**Students (13-17 or college ID) $33.95**

**Child (3-12) $24.95**

**SAVE $5**

**Please contact Michelle Miller (6068) or Alicia Torres (6040) for tickets and more information.**

***Discount Ticket Program 2019***

Is Rank and Filer missing Something?

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

# Six Flags Discovery Kingdom & Hurricane Harbor

**Daily Discovery Kingdom $45.00**

**Daily Hurricane Harbor $38.00**

**Discovery Kingdom/Hurricane Harbor Gold Season Pass (w/parking) $72.00**

# Gilroy Gardens

# Family Theme Park

**Price $30.00**

# Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk

**Rides + MyBoardwalk Card Combo**

**Unlimited rides all day long plus $25 in Bonus Points**

**$45.59 plus tax**

**Information & Resources**

**From your contracting out Chairmen**

Do you see a contractor doing a membership job? That member may not even know they should be getting that work!

If you see something, say something!

But who do you get ahold of?

Please contact Luke Adkins for any questions and concerns.

**Adkins.usw1440@gmail.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

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?

**Online @ www.icdupi.com**

**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**