



MICHAEL H. BOLTON, DIRECTOR

# UNITED STEELWORKERS USW UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS DISTRICT 2

# NEWS

DECEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 9, ISSUE 12, PAGE 1

## DISTRICT 2 CONTACT INFORMATION

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Bay City, MI 48706  
(989) 667-0660

**Southern MI Sub-District Office**  
20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300  
Taylor, MI 48180  
(734) 285-0367

## USW District 2 Council Steering Committee

The District 2 Council By-Laws established a District 2 Council Steering Committee comprised of a rank and file structure. It was set up to assist in the following:

- Development of agenda for Council Conference.
- Planning of the District Council Conference Educational Conferences.
- District 2 strategic planning.
- Determining and assessing educational needs within the District.
- Generating and leading activism and other purposes consistent with the mission and directives of District 2 and the USW.

The elected members of the Steering Committee are listed below by manufacturing sector. If you need to contact a Steering Committee Member, please do so by using the email provided below.

Name	LU#	Sector	Email Address
Ron Fancal	1296	Steel and Related	rfancal@yahoo.com
Don Carlson	58	Paper	doncarlson@gta.net
Robert Desmond	13792	Amalgamated	rdesmond@aol.com
Jesse Edwards	2-232	Automotive Related	Jesse_edwards2191@yahoo.com
Kent Holting	12075	Chemical & Energy Related	kentholting@gmail.com
Jackie Ankam	9898	Health Care	jackieankam_uswlocal899@yahoo.com
John Mandyk	12634	Public	jmandyk@uswlocal12934.com
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## USW NEWS

is published by the

**United Steelworkers District 2  
AFL-CIO-CLC**

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Union Review - todayinlaborhistory.tumblr.com,  
The History Channel

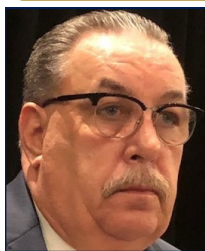
Articles and photos are welcome and should be sent:

Art Kroll, Editor, District 2 News  
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d2@usw.org • 734-285-0367

**January 20, 2019, is the deadline for submissions for the next issue.**

## Wishing You and Your Family a Happy Holiday Season!

### A Message from Michael Bolton



On behalf of our District 2 servicing and support staff, I would like to wish each of you and your families the very best this Holiday Season. I hope the New Year brings good health and happiness to you and yours.

Speaking of the New Year, I've heard folks refer to 2020 as the opening of the new "Roaring 20's." I think if we all resolve to work together, we can make this the decade that Organized Labor comes roaring back from the attacks of the past years. The important challenges we have before us this year will set the tune for the success of our work going forward.

As the New Year begins, we have two major priorities to commit to. The first is safety and health. We have to dedicate ourselves to working in making 2020 the safest yet in District 2. There are way too many of our brothers and sisters getting hurt or dying on the job. I could cite a bunch of figures about the tragedies. You've heard them before. We all know that even one death or injury is too many. It must be our goal to continue to provide our members the training and support so that we reach our goal of ZERO deaths and injuries our goal.

Our second order of business is engaging and listening to our members on what their position is on our issues. We must work together to elect representatives who support our issues. Our goal should be to elect the candidates that support our issues and working-class people in all elected offices from the White House to the Senate and House of Representatives, to all of our State offices. We all are well aware of what can happen when the wrong person is elected. It's an agenda that was used to make the American middle class the envy of the world. As we begin the New Year, we will be having meetings where we can talk about these issues together, which include Collective Bargaining, Safety and Health, Job Security/Trade, Domestic Economic Issues, Healthcare, and Retirement Security.

Right now, we have some issues that we should begin addressing.

**Health and Safety.** Health and Safety is our #1 priority. After all, what good is the best contract in your industry if you are not around to enjoy it? For the past ten years, the Republicans have been defunding programs like the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The lack of financial support for federal programs that benefit workers' on the job safety is reflected in annual workplace injury and death reports.

Our government has an obligation to protect our country's workers. We aren't asking Washington to do our work. Congress needs to restore appropriate funding to OSHA and other agencies to give us the resources we need to ensure our members' safety.

**Health Care.** As I reported earlier this year, the cost for an employer providing family health care insurance has now reached \$20,000 per year in some parts of the country. This is unsustainable. In negotiations, wage and benefits gains are being eaten up by rising health care costs. The system is broken and something needs to be done to fix it soon. I don't know if single payer is the answer; or if some other plan is more appropriate, but Congress needs to sit down with business and Labor leaders to craft a program to come up with a solution. We've been talking about health care for too long. It's time to act!

**Modernizing the NLRA.** The National Labor Relations Act, which gives us rights to organize and bargain collectively, was passed in 1935. It has not been amended in 84 years. Over that timespan, court decisions, administrative rule changes and legislative actions at the state and federal levels have watered the Act down to the point that it no longer protects the people it was intended to. Instead, it has become a tool for high-priced Union-busting lawyers to use in their art of "Union Prevention". It is time to update the NLRA to restore a sense of fairness for workers attempting to form a Union, negotiate a first contract, or engage in strikes or lockouts. The Protect the Right to Organize (PRO) Act is a step in the right direction. It is pending in the House of Representatives and is expected to pass before the New Year. However, it faces little chance in the Senate, where Mitch McConnell is holding up every piece of legislation Republicans oppose. Even if it did pass, Trump holds the veto pen and would likely reject any bill that would benefit workers.

**Pensions.** We have two demands when it comes to this issue. First, Congress must Act to help secure multi-employer pensions. The multi-employer pension system was designed to help small employers who wanted to provide good retirement benefits for their workers. By joining together with other small businesses, costs were shared and it was an affordable option to offer defined benefit pensions. However, our country's failed trade agreements have put the system in serious jeopardy. Millions of jobs have been lost, which has resulted in less workers contributing to the plan, resulting in funding shortages. As plants have been closed due to relocation to low-wage nations or the inability to compete with low-wage nations, workers have turned to collecting benefits sooner than projected. This, too, has led to further funding shortages.

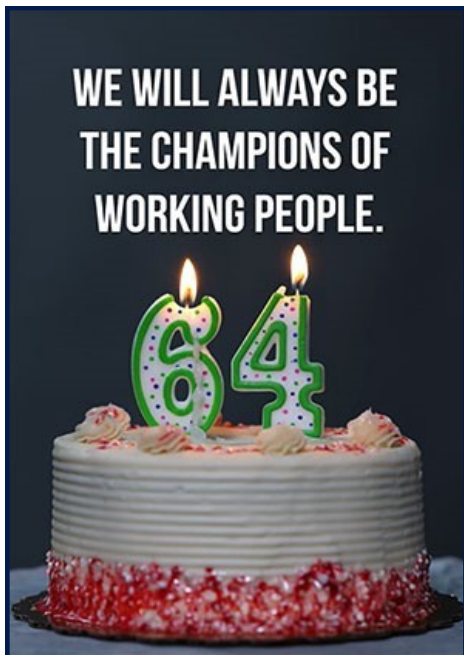
The U.S. House has already passed the bi-partisan Butch Lewis Act, which creates an administrative

— Continued on Page 2 —

# "GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

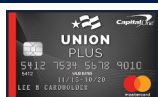
## Did you know?

### 64 Year Anniversary | AFL-CIO



On December 5, 1955, the AFL and CIO gathered at their first joint convention.

Sixty-four years later, the AFL-CIO has so much to be proud of. Under leadership of five presidents, the federation has championed critical fights for workplace safety, trade fairness, rising wages, secure retirements and equal pay.



The Union Plus Credit Card program.

With 3 card choices - designed to meet the needs of union members. All with competitive rates, U.S. based customer service and more. Plus, exclusive hardship grants for eligible cardholders.

The Union Plus Credit Card Program is designed to meet the needs of hard-working union members and their families.

To apply by phone, call: 1-800-522-4000

## A Message from Director Bolton - continued from page 1

agency to secure the multi-employer pension plans. However, it has moved to the Senate, where Republicans are dragging their feet. If something isn't done before the year is up, coal miners could suffer reduced benefits or worse. It's time to put politics aside and act to protect seniors counting on those benefits.

Of course, there are many other issues we will be talking about as the election nears. It is my hope that as you read the issues and what can be done to address them, you will see just how important the 2020 elections are and be inspired to join our District 2 election program. There are a number of ways you can help and we are in need of the talents you have to offer. Whether it's making phone calls to other Union members, distributing leaflets at your workplace, helping to prepare campaign materials, or talking issues one on one with your co-workers, we have a job for you. If interested, please contact your Local Union President or International Staff Representative Denny Lauer or myself. Please join with us and make this the decade we restore the roar!

## SAVE THE DATE • District 2 Conference, March 23 - 27, 2020

# USW District 2 Conference

Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley  
Appleton, Wisconsin

## March 23 - 27, 2020

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
Women of Steel:	March 23 - 24
Health & Safety:	March 23 - 24
Next Generation:	March 24
Education Day & Council Conference:	March 25 - 27

Guest rooms will be available at a group rate of \$129 - \$149 per night.

Call letters and registration forms will be mailed to all Local Union Recording Secretaries in January.



**NEWS**

United Steelworkers District 2  
AFL-CIO-CLC

MICHAEL H. BOLTON, Director, 1244A Midway Road, Menasha, WI 54952  
(920) 722-7630



**HAVE YOU BEEN TO DISTRICT 2'S  
PAGE ON FACEBOOK?**  
[www.facebook.com/USWDistrict2](http://www.facebook.com/USWDistrict2)

YOUR HARD WORK IS PAYING OFF.  
**DON'T STOP NOW!**



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**





## 2020 District 2 Calendar of Events

### JANUARY

- 8 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 9 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 16 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 1299 Hall, 11424 West Jefferson Avenue • River Rouge, MI*
- 17 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Dist. 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 17-19 **AFL-CIO Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil & Human Rights Conf.**  
*Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave Northwest • Washington, DC*
- 21 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 21 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Kent Ionia Labor Hall, 918 Benjamin Avenue NE • Grand Rapids, MI*
- 21 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*
- 22 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Clarion Inn, 3640 East Cork Street • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Old Morton Federal Credit Union, 516 Kosciuszko • Manistee, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-148 Hall, 1201 Gillingham Road • Neenah, WI*
- 23 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport, 5311 South Howell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI*
- 24 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 24 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Joann Lester Library, 100 Park Street • Nekoosa, WI*

### FEBRUARY

- 4 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Eau Claire Labor Temple, 2233 Birch Street • Eau Claire, WI*
- 6 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI*
- 11 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Holiday Inn, 4079 US-10 • Ludington, MI*
- 13 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*McRae Park Hall, 1301 N 2nd Ave, Alpena, MI 49707*
- 18 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 4950 Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI*
- 25 **LM Review Session**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 26 **LM Review Session**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 27 **LM Review Session**  
*Kronenwetter Village Hall, 1582 Kronenwetter Drive • Kronenwetter, WI*
- 28 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*

### MARCH

- 2 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 3 **LM Review Session**  
*Bungalow Inn, 1100 28th Street • Manistee, MI*
- 4 **LM Review Session**  
*Clarion Inn, 3640 East Cork Street • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 5 **LM Review Session**  
*USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 10-12 **USW District 2 Collective Bargaining Training**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport, 5311 South Howell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI*
- 23-27 **District 2 Council Conference**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley • 333 West College Avenue, Appleton, WI*

### MAY

- 3-8 **District 2 WOS Leadership Development Course (Levels I & II)**  
*Zehnder's Splash Village Hotel & Waterpark, 1365 South Main Street • Frankenmuth, MI*

### AUGUST

- 3-6 **USW International Constitution Convention**  
*MGM Grand Hotel • Las Vegas, NV*

This schedule is designed to assist in planning this year's events. However, there is a possibility dates and/or locations could change due to unforeseen circumstances. Changes and corrections will be made ASAP and updated on the USW District 2 website.



## UNITED STEELWORKERS **TOWN HALL MEETING**

The most important work we do as a union involves bargaining and enforcing good contracts to secure fair wages, dependable benefits, and safe working conditions. However, whether we like it or not, workplace health and safety, wage and overtime regulations, retirement security, even our right to organize and bargain collectively, are all tied to local, state, and federal laws and the people making them.



# YOUR UNION YOUR VOICE

#USWVOICES

As we move into 2020, we want to hear about the issues that matter most to you. That's why we're holding a series of town hall meetings across the country. We'll have a conversation about your priorities and share some of our union's work to impact government decisions.

Join United Steelworkers leadership, members, retirees, and families for a  
**TOWN HALL MEETING**

DATE	LOCATION OF TOWNHALL MEETING	TIMES OF MEETINGS
1/9/20	USW LU 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road, Midland, MI 48641	10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
1/16/20	USW LU 1299, 11424 West Jefferson Ave., River Rouge, MI 48218	10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
1/21/20	Lucky Dogz, 157 S Green Bay Rd., Neenah, WI 54956	10:00 AM and 6:30 PM
1/22/20	Clarion Inn, 3640 East Cork Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001	10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
1/23/20	Four Points by Sheraton, 5311 South Howell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207	10:00 AM and 6:30 PM
2/4/20	Eau Claire Labor Temple, 2233 Birch St., Eau Claire, WI 54703	10:00 AM and 6:30 PM
2/6/20	Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449	10:00 AM and 6:30 PM
2/11/20	Holiday Inn - Ludington, 4079 US-10, Ludington, MI 49431	10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
2/13/20	McRae Park Hall, 1301 N 2nd Ave, Alpena, MI 49707	10:00 AM and 6:00 PM
2/18/20	USW LU 4950 Hall, 1206 Baldwin Ave., Negaunee, MI 49866	10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## USW Local 4950's Women of Steel Help Families in Need for Christmas - Submitted by Linda Lucas

Local 4950's WOS Committee has had a busy holiday season this year. They initially adopted three families this Christmas; and were overwhelmed with the response they received in donations, which, when all was said and done, they collected well over \$3,000!

On December 7, the committee shopped at Meijer for their families. It was amazing to see all of the items they were able to buy, including toys, clothes, and necessities for the parents and children. What a feeling of pride to know that these families are going to have a wonderful Christmas thanks to these amazing ladies and the community!

Then, on December 15, they gathered again to wrap over \$2,000 in gifts they purchased the week prior. The remaining \$1,000 was given to the Salvation Army.

The Women of Steel were also featured in the TV 6 news on December 7.

WOS members that participated this year: , Callie Ruohomaki, Karen Maki, Bobbi Cleghorn, Liz Swartz, Michelle Ayotte, Cecily Milkie, Danielle LaForedt, Nicole Cox, Stephanie Shirley and Dianne Tincknell. Not pictured was Erin Pirkkloa.



## USW District 2 Milwaukee Women of Steel Volunteer Their Time - Submitted by Cindy Odden

On Saturday, November 23, 2019, the Women of Steel Council in Milwaukee volunteered for Safe and Stable Homes Pantry Project in Milwaukee from 9:00-12:00.

Team Union Safe and Stable Homes Pantry Project is about giving back to help families experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

The committee packed food kits for local families filled with nutritious snacks easy to prepare ensuring they have enough to eat during winter break. Food kits will be distributed through United Way, community schools and other United Way Agencies.





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
DEC. 10, 2019

**CONTACT:**  
Jess Kamm Broomell, [jkamm@usw.org](mailto:jkamm@usw.org)  
412-562-2444

## USW Supports Adoption of Improved USMCA

(Pittsburgh) – *United Steelworkers (USW) International President Thomas M. Conway issued the following statement today regarding changes to improve the negotiated U.S.-Canada-Mexico Agreement (USMCA).*

"Members of the USW, the largest industrial union in North America, have suffered firsthand the devastating effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The bad trade deal cost countless jobs, ravaged families and communities and pulled down wages as companies have outsourced jobs and production to Mexico.

"For 26 years, workers have lived with NAFTA as a yoke around their necks, and we have been committed to fixing it.

"Last fall, the administration, along with the Mexican and Canadian governments, signed an agreement they thought would sail past the labor community. But that agreement, called the USMCA, fell far short of what workers in all three countries needed.

"Since the negotiations to improve the proposed USMCA began last year, we have been deeply involved in identifying essential changes to help working people, coordinating with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Democrats and other key leaders to address significant problems.

"The core concern has always been that companies profit by exploiting their workers – here, in Mexico and across the globe.

"In Mexico, there are hundreds of thousands of so-called 'protection contracts' signed by corporations with sham unions that have no regard for the interests, rights or needs of workers. Workers at facilities in Mexico operated by some of the world's biggest and most profitable corporations are paid only a fraction of what workers get in the United States or Canada for essentially the same work. Workers who have attempted to form democratic unions have faced repression, violence and murder.

"The original USMCA required changes in Mexican labor law that we supported, as they were clearly better than current law. But the agreement had no clear path to ensure that workers' rights would be safeguarded.

"The updated draft agreement now has enforcement provisions that can help make a difference. There is still a great deal of work to do in terms of implementing, monitoring and enforcing the provisions, but the base for progress is there.

"There were also problematic provisions in the original USMCA that showered U.S. drug companies with huge opportunities for higher monopoly profits. Democrats, working with labor, were able to eliminate this language from the agreement.

"In addition, the labor movement, working with Democrats and other key allies, was also able to beat back portions of the original USMCA that would have jeopardized our ability to protect a sustainable environment.

"The revised deal is better than the original USMCA and certainly better than NAFTA. It should be adopted. The leaders of all three countries must diligently enforce the provisions, however, and we intend to hold them accountable to ensure that workers, the environment and consumers are protected.

"No one should overplay this agreement's impact, or underestimate the work that remains to be done. Mexico must devote the money, resources and political will required to implement its commitments. The U.S. and Canadian governments must be active and vigilant in ensuring that companies respect workers' rights in all of their facilities.

"We also have concerns about definitions of aluminum sourced in North America as they exist in the agreement. We have been on the frontlines protecting jobs in smelting and casting, but leaders of all three countries should be equally invested in this industry.

"Speaker Pelosi, the members of the Democratic Working Group and key leaders such as Sens. Sherrod Brown and Ron Wyden deserve our thanks for their efforts and refusal to back down in the face of massive special interest lobbying. Mexican Senator Napoleón Gómez Urrutia should also be recognized for his key role in facilitating dialogue between the labor movement and the Mexican government.

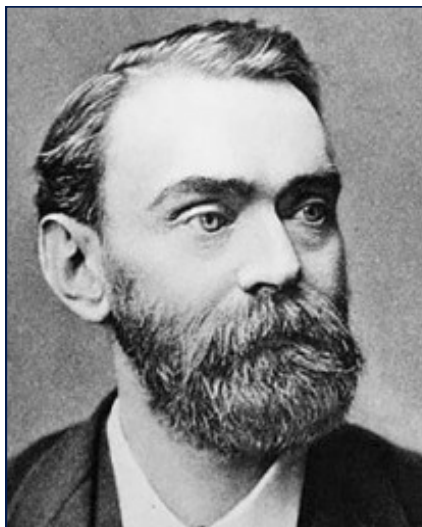
"Outsourcing won't end as companies continue to search the globe for places where they can profit off of the hard work of others, spoil the environment to improve their balance sheets and raise prices for basic needs. The fight for fair trade won't end with this agreement, but it's an agreement worth passing."

*The USW represents 850,000 men and women employed in metals, mining, pulp and paper, rubber, chemicals, glass, auto supply and the energy-producing industries, along with a growing number of workers in health care, public sector, higher education, tech and service occupations.*

###



## First Nobel Prizes awarded • December 10, 1901 - *The History Channel.com*



The first Nobel Prizes are awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature and peace. The ceremony came on the fifth anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite and other high explosives. In his will, Nobel directed that the bulk of his vast fortune be placed in a fund in which the interest would be "annually distributed in the form of prizes to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." Although Nobel offered no public reason for his creation of the prizes, it is widely believed that he did so out of moral regret over the increasingly lethal uses of his inventions in war.

Alfred Bernhard Nobel was born in Stockholm in 1833, and four years later his family moved to Russia. His father ran a successful St. Petersburg factory that built explosive mines and other military equipment. Educated in Russia, Paris, and the United States, Alfred Nobel proved a brilliant chemist. When his father's business faltered after the end of the Crimean War, Nobel returned to Sweden and set up a laboratory to experiment with explosives. In 1863, he invented a way to control the detonation of nitroglycerin, a highly volatile liquid that had been recently discovered but was previously regarded as too dangerous for use. Two years later, Nobel invented the blasting cap, an improved detonator that inaugurated the modern use of high explosives. Previously, the most dependable

explosive was black powder, a form of gunpowder.

Nitroglycerin remained dangerous, however, and in 1864 Nobel's nitroglycerin factory blew up, killing his younger brother and several other people. Searching for a safer explosive, Nobel discovered in 1867 that the combination of nitroglycerin and a porous substance called kieselguhr produced a highly explosive mixture that was much safer to handle and use. Nobel christened his invention "dynamite," for the Greek word dynamis, meaning "power." Securing patents on dynamite, Nobel acquired a fortune as humanity put his invention to use in construction and warfare.

In 1875, Nobel created a more powerful form of dynamite, blasting gelatin, and in 1887 introduced ballistite, a smokeless nitroglycerin powder. Around that time, one of Nobel's brothers died in France, and French newspapers printed obituaries in which they mistook him for Alfred. One headline read, "The merchant of death is dead." Alfred Nobel in fact had pacifist tendencies and in his later years apparently developed strong misgivings about the impact of his inventions on the world. After he died in San Remo, Italy, on December 10, 1896, the majority of his estate went toward the creation of prizes to be given annually in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace. The portion of his will establishing the Nobel Peace Prize read, "[one award shall be given] to the person who has done the most or best work for fraternity among nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies, and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses." Exactly five years after his death, the first Nobel awards were presented.



Today, the Nobel Prizes are regarded as the most prestigious awards in the world in their various fields. Notable winners have included Marie Curie, Theodore Roosevelt, Albert Einstein, George Bernard Shaw, Winston Churchill, Ernest Hemingway, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Dalai Lama, Mikhail Gorbachev, Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama. Multiple leaders and organizations sometimes receive the Nobel Peace Prize, and multiple researchers often share the scientific awards for their joint discoveries. In 1968, a Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science was established by the Swedish national bank, Sveriges Riksbank, and first awarded in 1969.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences decides the prizes in physics, chemistry, and economic science; the Swedish Royal Caroline Medico-Surgical Institute determines the physiology or medicine award; the Swedish Academy chooses literature; and a committee elected by the Norwegian parliament awards the peace prize. The Nobel Prizes are still presented annually on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death. In 2006, each Nobel Prize carried a cash prize of nearly \$1,400,000 and recipients also received a gold medal, as is the tradition.

## USW SOAR Chapter's 1299 & 2659 Volunteer Some Needed Help - by Jay McMurran, USW District 2 SOAR Executive Board Member



USW retirees are a valuable asset that our Union is working to get more involved. On December 16th, above members of SOAR Chapters from USW Locals 2659 and 1299 are seen getting a mailing ready for an upcoming District 2 action.

Pictured are Art Druyor, Tony Pascarella, Tony Nadeau, Marian McMurran, Greg Weiland, Blue Wilson, Milio Rinna, Phyllis Hull and husband Richard. Not pictured is Jay McMurran and Ceasar Randazzo.

This year District 2 will be working to build SOAR Chapters in each sub-district area. If your Local is interested in forming a SOAR Chapter, please contact Joe Nicosia in Wisconsin at 920-722-7630 and in Michigan Jay McMurran at 734-334-8582. The criteria for forming a Chapter is to have four members to serve as the Chapter officers and 20 members, although we can work with a smaller number to get started. Membership is open to Steelworkers and their spouses age 45 or older. Also, recent by-law changes allow membership for members of other Unions and like-minded organizations.

## This Month in Labor History - December 1936 & 1970



Left picture: On December 30, 1936, Autoworkers at the General Motors Fisher Body No. 1 plant in Flint, Michigan, occupy the factory and begin a sit-down strike that lasts 44 days.

The strike ended in a victory for the workers on February 11, 1937, when GM signed a contract with the United Auto Workers, recognizing the union as the sole bargaining agent for the workers in all of its plants.

Right picture: On December 29, 1970: After years of intensive lobbying by organized labor, President Richard Nixon signs the Occupational Safety & Health Act, creating the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), an agency of the Department of Labor.

Speaking for the bill, Representative William A. Steiger said, "In the last 25 years, more than 400,000 Americans were killed by work-related accidents and disease, and close to 50 million more suffered disabling injuries on the job."





## USW Free College Benefit for Union Members!

**NOW ENROLLING FOR SPRING CLASSES STARTING JANUARY 13, 2020**

### Imagine What You Can Achieve With The... **USW FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT**

Come and see what everyone  
is getting excited about,  
**A DEGREE FOR FREE!**



Union Members and their families can earn an Associates Degree with  
**NO out-of-pocket cost.**

#### **FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY**

The USW Free College Benefit offers working families debt-free and convenient higher education opportunity. You, your spouse, children, financial dependents and grandchildren, can all take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

#### **EASTERN GATEWAY CREDITS ARE TRANSFERABLE**

Eastern Gateway Community College is a public, non-profit school in the University System of Ohio and is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Credits you earn can transfer to other school, potentially saving you thousands of dollars.

#### **ZERO OUT-OF-POCKET COST**

Members and their families can earn an ASSOCIATE Degree online, with no out-of-pocket cost. A last dollar scholarship covers the difference between any Federal Grants and your tuition, fees and e-books at Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC).

Visit **FreeCollege.USW.org**  
or call **888-590-9009**



In Partnership With  
**EASTERN GATEWAY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Part of the University System of Ohio



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**