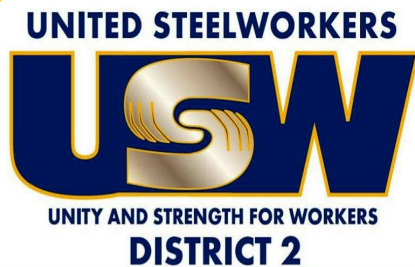




MICHAEL H. BOLTON, DIRECTOR



# NEWS

JUNE 2020 • VOLUME 10, ISSUE 6, PAGE 1

### DISTRICT 2 CONTACT INFORMATION

#### USW District 2 Office

1244A Midway Road  
Menasha, WI 54952  
(920) 722-7630

#### Northern WI & MI Sub-District Office

1244A Midway Road  
Menasha, WI 54952  
(920) 722-7630

#### Southern WI Sub-District Office

1135 South 70th Street, Suite 502  
West Allis, WI 53214  
(414) 475-4560

#### Northern MI Sub-District Office

503 North Euclid Avenue  
Suite #10 - Euclid Plaza  
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	LUF#	Sector	Email Address
Ron Fancal	1299	Steel and Related	Rfancal@yahoo.com
Don Carlson	59	Paper	doncarlson@2a.net
Robert Desmond	13702	Amalgamated	rbdesd@aol.com
Jesse Edwards	2-232	Automotive Related	Jesse.edwards21910@yahoo.com
Kent Holsing	12075	Chemical & Energy Related	kentholsing@gmail.com
Jackie Anklam	9899	Health Care	jackieanklam_uswlocal9899@yahoo.com
Michael Orvosh	12934	Public	muorvosh@uswlocal12934.com
Eric Hennricks	1327	AI Large	Eric.hennricks@alltel.com
Matthew Gibbons	5965	AI Large	usw5965@gmail.com
Jim Whitt	2-145	Allied Industrial	whittjim@yahoo.com

## USW's "Your Union Your Voice" Survey was Heard

### A Message from Michael Bolton



I am excited to announce that the Steelworkers have officially endorsed Joe Biden for election as President this November. I think it is an excellent selection and hope that you are as pleased with it as I am. I will talk about the selection process and the reasons for this endorsement below, but before I get to that, let me

share why I think Joe Biden is our best choice. In short, he is the candidate that is most like us. Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he is familiar with our Union and our issues. As a member of the U.S. Senate, he has worked and fought alongside us to help advance our USW working class issues through Congress. And, most importantly, he is the candidate who understands the importance of the right to join a Union and the right to negotiate strong labor agreements. He has pledged to work with us to repeal the anti-Union legislation that Republicans have heaped on us over the past 10 years. After a decade of attacks from the right, I am ready to fight for the opportunity to grow our Union again and strengthen our position at the bargaining table.

The process of selecting the right candidate began prior to the New Year and the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. The first step was taken in the fall of 2019 as the USW sent questionnaires to all announced candidates for president, including President Trump. A copy of the questionnaire was shared with each USW member and is still available, with Vice President Biden's responses, on the Steelworkers' website.

Next, your Union held a series of over 170 town hall meetings nationwide, including several that took place here in District 2. The meetings were held to get your input about this election and to identify the issues that are most important to you. In short, they were held to get your opinions of the issues.

In addition to the town hall meetings, each Steelworker received a copy of a survey asking them to identify which issues matter most to them. While the coronavirus threw us a curve and slowed down our efforts, thousands of Steelworkers across the United States returned their surveys to Pittsburgh. You may recall that in the survey we asked each Steelworker to identify their top 3 issues out of a list of 13. From the responses we got back, we were able to gather that for 87% of you, affordable health care and prescription drugs were your top issues; followed by 86% of you identifying retirement security (which includes Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid). The third most important issue you identified is labor laws that support our right to form a Union and negotiate strong

contracts - 81% of you cited that issue.

No other Union in the *country* has done as much as the Steelworkers to gather input from its members. Additionally to ensure a fair endorsement process, the USW changed a long time policy. In the past, we did not solicit candidates for endorsement and we did not mail questionnaires to candidates. We felt if a candidate wanted our support, he or she had to ask us. This time, in order to gain every candidate's position on our issues, we reached out to them, including President Trump. For whatever reason, Trump chose not to respond. Having ignored our request, we were forced to conclude that the President simply did not want our support.

The final step of our endorsement process was the Steelworkers' International Executive Board, which is made up of our Union's top officers and district directors. The Board met in Pittsburgh to consider which candidate to back this coming election. Since Trump refused to return his questionnaire, we were forced to assume his position on our issues based on his track record during the past three years. For example, regarding healthcare/prescriptions, we know he is a staunch opponent of Obamacare (ACA). However, since he and Congressional Republicans have never offered to explain a replacement for the ACA, we gathered that they were satisfied with the status quo.

The second most important issue on your list was retirement security (including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid). During his 2016 campaign, Trump said he opposed any cuts to Social Security. However, he has changed that position and is now saying that Social Security and Medicare are on the table. Again, without his questionnaire we have no way of knowing where the President stands on this issue. So, to determine where the president is on this issue, we are forced to consider past Republican schemes for reforming Social Security and Medicare. Their most prominent position has been privatizing both programs. The GOP's ultimate goal is to turn Social Security into a 401(K) plan and Medicare into a voucher program. Our Union opposes that type of reform.

Finally, the third issue you identified was fair labor laws. Again, we did not have Trump's questionnaire. However, we did have his track record for the past nearly four years and it doesn't paint a Union-friendly picture of the President. In fact, through his appointments, rule and regulation changes, the court cases his administration has sided with and defunding of agencies critical to workers, Trump's labor policies are simply a continuation of the job started by state legislatures ten years ago. I sincerely mean it when I say four more years of this administration is going to have a serious adverse effect on our Union and you, its membership!

Donald Trump has been, and continues to be,

— Continued on Page 2 —



United Steelworkers District 2 AFL-CIO-CLC

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

Contributors to this issue include:

Lori Gutakunst, Tammy Duncan, Jay McMullan,  
Jason Wilcox, USW New Media, National AFL-CIO, CDC,  
TodayLaborHistory.com, The History Channel.com

Articles and photos are welcome and should be sent:

Jason Wilcox & Art Kroil, Co-Editors, District 2 News  
1244A Midway Rd., Menasha, WI 54952  
d2@usw.org • (920) 722-7630

JULY 19, 2020, is the deadline for submissions for the next issue.

## "GO BUILD OUR UNION!"


## Did you know?



### USW Endorses **'Workers First' Plan for Reopening Michigan's Economy**

The United Steelworkers (USW) is backing the Michigan Legislative Labor Caucus plan for safely reopening the state's economy as Michigan continues to confront the Covid-19 pandemic. The Workers First Reopening Plan, a package of 11 bills, includes measures such as expanded paid sick leave and workers' compensation, extended hazard pay for frontline workers, strict health and safety standards, scheduling policies, mental health assistance, and safeguards against retaliation against workers.

"This plan ensures that the reopening of our economy prioritizes the safety of workers, families and communities over the profits of corporations," said Michael Bolton, Director of USW District 2, which represents tens of thousands of workers in Michigan and Wisconsin. "We all want to go back to work, but we cannot do so at the expense of the very people we need to ensure that our economy can function."

 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

 **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)

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

on the wrong side of our issues. However, I don't want to turn this election into a vote against Trump. Instead, I'd rather District 2 enter this election excited by the opportunity to support a candidate who is right on the issues and has shown his willingness to work with us to advance a pro-working class agenda. Joe Biden is not a candidate the Steelworkers are settling with. He has a distinguished history of service to our country and its workers. His 30 plus years in the Senate and 8 years as Vice President gives him unprecedented experience to lead our country for the next four years. And, his answers to our candidate questionnaire prove he is the candidate best qualified to champion your issues.

So, how did Biden respond to your issues? On health care, Biden supports expanding the ACA (Obamacare) to increase coverage and to lower such out-of-pockets costs as deductibles, premiums, co-pays and prescription drugs. He will create a public option that will allow workers to join a Medicare like program or stay with their private insurer; and he will lower Medicare eligibility to age 60, which will expand health care options for older Americans.

On retirement security, the former Vice President opposes any schemes to privatize Social Security and Medicare. He is also opposed to the GOP Social Security "Means Testing" scheme. Means testing is a plan that would look at a retiree's monthly earnings to determine how much, or if any, Social Security benefits a pensioner would receive. For example, a defined benefit pension or 401(k) would likely impact your monthly Social Security benefit.

Biden also proposes extending the life of Social Security by changing the tax cap. Currently the cap on Social Security taxes is \$132,900, which means all Americans pay the Social Security tax on earnings up to that amount. Any earnings above that threshold are nontaxable. Economists predict that eliminating the cap would expand Social Security's life by over 50 years.

Senator Biden, also "strongly" supports Congressional efforts to secure the nation's multi-employer pension plans. The U.S. House has already passed the "Butch Lewis Act", a plan that will not only shore up multi-employer pension but will also fund the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), the government program that guarantees defined benefit pensions, which Republicans seem willing to let go broke. The bill has been left to die in the Senate. However, Biden has pledged to use his experience in that chamber to get the legislation passed into law.

Finally, Union and Collective Bargaining Rights - Vice President Biden not only believes the government has a responsibility to defend your right to organize and bargain collectively, he believes the government should encourage Union membership. He has promised to encourage Union membership throughout his presidency.

Biden has indicated that he will begin his effort to protect workers' rights by appointing NLRB officials who are more in tune with the needs of workers. Currently, the board is run by lawyers with a deep history in Union busting and Union avoidance.

Additionally, Biden strongly supports the Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act), which has passed the U.S. House but is stalled on Republican Senator Mitch McConnell's desk. The Act would level the playing field for workers attempting to join a Union. It would also, for the first time, provide real penalties for employers who break the law.

As you can see, the contrast between a Trump or Biden presidency is stark, but there is one more difference that wasn't measured in our "Your Union Your Voice" survey. EXPERIENCE! The changes we need to bring about to rebuild the American working class will have to be accomplished legislatively. Joe Biden's experience in the legislative and executive branches of government make him uniquely qualified to hit the ground running to get America back on the right track again. On the other hand, Trump has been in office for nearly four years and only has one legislative victory to claim - the ill-advised tax cuts that are adding to our deficit and are failing to achieve their stated goals of job creation and increased wages.

In closing, all the things your Union has been doing leading up to the November election have been about you. We did that because this really is your election. It's about you and your family. All elections are. We will continue to provide information on Mr. Biden and Mr. Trump and the positions they have taken on your issues. Next month, we will begin a series comparing the candidates and where they stand on our "core issues". I hope you find it informative and helpful.

**"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 Dogz 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 Kosciusko • 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 • Nekeosa, 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 Dogz 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 **CANCELLED & POSTPONED until April 2022**  
**District 2 Council Conference**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley • 333 West College Avenue, Appleton, WI*

### MAY

- 3-8 **CANCELLED & POSTPONED until May 2021**  
**District 2 WOS Leadership Development Course (Levels I & II)**  
*Zehnder's Splash Village Hotel & Waterpark, 1365 South Main Street • Frankenmuth, MI*

### SEPTEMBER

- 8-11 **Local Union Leadership Training (Wisconsin)**  
*Dates and Locations to be determined*
- 21-25 **Local Union Leadership Training (Michigan)**  
*Dates and Locations to be determined*

### OCTOBER

- 5 - 9 **Presidents Meetings (Michigan)**  
*Dates and Locations to be determined*
- 19-23 **Presidents Meetings (Wisconsin)**  
*Dates and Locations to be determined*

## Important Notice

We apologize for any inconvenience, but the USW District 2 offices are currently closed. However, the health and safety of our members and staff is our number one priority.

We are committed to doing our part in preventing the further spread of coronavirus (Covid-19) while still representing our members. If you need assistance, you can still call each office; or, call your Staff Representative.

## STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

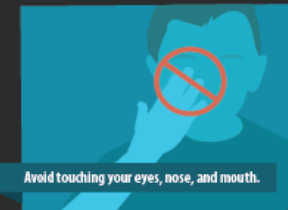
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://cdc.gov/COVID19)

19ECS-108-11L 021 10/20

The 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.

**Locals 2-144, 2-94, 2-87, 2-59, and 2-20 Next Generation Committees Hold Food Drive - Submitted by Jason Wilcox**



## FOOD DRIVE

**WHEN?**  
May 21, 2020 - June 3, 2020

**Where?**  
Boxes will be by  
13 & 14 paper machines  
10 paper machine break room  
The Lab

**WHAT?**  
This is to help our local food pantries.  
This is also a competition between other District 2 Locals  
to get the most weight!

**FOR?**  
All food collected will be donated to  
The Little Free Pantry  
(located inside Kaukauna library)

**NEXT GENERATION LOCALS INVOLVED**  
Local 2-144 (Midwest Paper and CBC Coating)  
Local 2-94 (ND Paper)  
Local 2-87 (Verso Papers)  
Local 2-59 (Domtar Papers)  
Local 2-20 (Thilmany Mill)

During the month of May and continuing into June, five Next Generation committees from Locals 2-144, 2-94, 2-87, 2-59, and 2-20 conducted a friendly Food Drive competition. The idea was formed by Jared Wedell, along with assistance from Tyler Rutten and Next Gen Area Coordinator Myles Bowden, who got the action planned and kick off. To date, hundreds of pounds of food have been donated to local area food banks that have been hit hard during these unprecedented times.

This is just another example of how our Next Generation committees and Local Unions are making a difference in giving back to the community.



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



For Immediate Release:  
June 25, 2020

Contact: R.J. Hufnagel,  
412-562-2450  
[rhufnagel@usw.org](mailto:rhufnagel@usw.org)

## USW Backs BlueGreen Alliance National Manufacturing Agenda

(PITTSBURGH) – The United Steelworkers (USW) union, along with other members and leaders of the labor-environmental partnership BlueGreen Alliance (BGA), today launched the group's ambitious agenda to rebuild American manufacturing while fighting the effects of climate change.

The BGA, founded in 2006 by the USW and the Sierra Club, now includes more than a dozen unions and environmental organizations committed to fighting for good jobs, clean infrastructure and fair trade. The group's proposal, released today, outlines a set of national actions necessary to create a manufacturing economy that is globally competitive, clean, safe and fair for workers and communities.

"The USW will always reject the false notion that we must choose between good jobs and a clean environment," said USW International President Tom Conway. "We believe this country must have both, or we will have neither. That belief has formed the basis for our membership in the BlueGreen Alliance for the past 14 years."

The BGA agenda outlines a set of national actions to modernize the U.S. industrial base, create good jobs, combat climate change and ensure fairness for workers and communities. The five pillars of the plan are to invest in a new generation of American manufacturing; to innovate to transform industry; to responsibly mine, recycle and reclaim the critical materials necessary for a secure, clean economy; to use public investment to create markets for a strong, clean, fair manufacturing economy; and to change the rules to build a clean economy that works for all Americans.

"These priorities, if they are followed, will mean a stronger, safer, more prosperous future for all workers, families and communities in the United States," Conway said. "American industrial workers - and Steelworkers in particular - are an essential part of that future."

"USW members have led the way in producing the next generation of clean, environmentally friendly products, including tires designed for greater fuel efficiency, paper products from recycled materials, bearings for wind turbines, and new steel pipe to prevent leakage," Conway said. "Manufacturing workers are the key to solving our environmental crisis while ensuring the growth of our manufacturing base."

Conway said that the COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the urgency of the United States rebuilding its manufacturing base and putting Americans back to work.

"We don't have the luxury of time," Conway said. "We need to act now, to ensure the long-term health of our citizens, our economy and our planet."

Conway is scheduled to testify on Wednesday, July 1, before a special U.S. Senate committee on the climate crisis, and he plans to submit the BGA's manufacturing agenda as part of his testimony.

"To achieve the goals laid out in the BGA's agenda, we will need the support of workers as well as government and industry leaders," Conway said. "We must make sure that American workers are leading the way on these changes, rather than becoming victims of them."

The full text of "The BlueGreen Alliance Manufacturing Agenda: A National Agenda for Clean Technology Manufacturing Leadership and Industrial Transformation" can be found here: [www.bluegreenalliance.org/manufacturing](http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/manufacturing)

*The USW represents 850,000 workers in North America employed in many industries that include metals, mining, rubber, chemicals, paper, oil refining, the service, public and health care sectors and higher education. For more information: [www.usw.org](http://www.usw.org).*

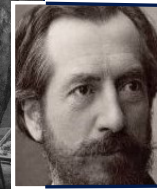
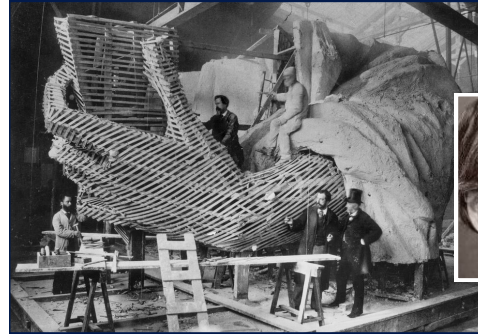
###

This Month In History • June 17, 1885 - Statue of Liberty Arrives - *By theHistoryChannel.com*



## Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor

On June 17, 1885, the dismantled Statue of Liberty, a gift of friendship from the people of France to the people of America, arrives in New York Harbor after being shipped across the Atlantic Ocean in 350 individual pieces packed in more than 200 cases. The copper and iron statue, which was reassembled and dedicated the following year in a ceremony presided over by U.S. President Grover Cleveland, became known around the world as an enduring symbol of freedom and democracy.

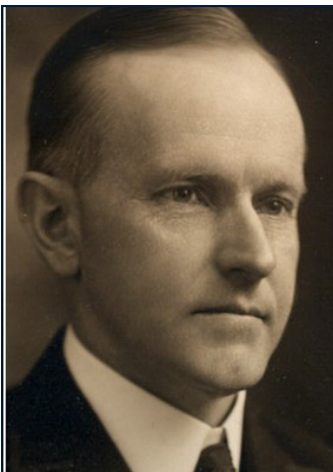


Intended to commemorate the American Revolution and a century of friendship between the U.S. and France, the statue was designed by French sculptor Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi (who modeled it after his mother), with assistance from engineer Gustave Eiffel, who later developed the iconic tower in Paris bearing his name. The statue was initially scheduled to be finished by

1876, the 100th anniversary of America's Declaration of Independence; however, fundraising efforts, which included auctions, a lottery and boxing matches, took longer than anticipated, both in Europe and the U.S., where the statue's pedestal was to be financed and constructed. The statue alone cost the French an estimated \$250,000 (more than \$5.5 million in today's money).

Finally completed in Paris in the summer of 1884, the statue, a robed female figure with an uplifted arm holding a torch, reached its new home on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor (between New York City and Hudson County, New Jersey) on June 17, 1885. After being reassembled, the 450,000-pound statue was officially dedicated on October 28, 1886, by President Cleveland, who said, "We will not forget that Liberty has here made her home; nor shall her chosen altar be neglected." Standing more than 305 feet from the foundation of its pedestal to the top of its torch, the statue, dubbed "Liberty Enlightening the World" by Bartholdi, was taller than any structure in New York City at the time. The statue was originally copper-colored, but over the years it underwent a natural color-change process called patination that produced its current greenish-blue hue.

In 1892, Ellis Island, located near Bedloe's Island (which in 1956 was renamed Liberty Island), opened as America's chief immigration station, and for the next 62 years Lady Liberty, as the statue is nicknamed, stood watch over the more than 12 million immigrants who sailed into New York Harbor. In 1903, a plaque inscribed with a sonnet titled "The New Colossus" by American poet Emma Lazarus, written 20 years earlier for a pedestal fundraiser, was placed on an interior wall of the pedestal. Lazarus' now-famous words, which include "Give me your tired, your poor/Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free," became symbolic of America's vision of itself as a land of opportunity for immigrants.

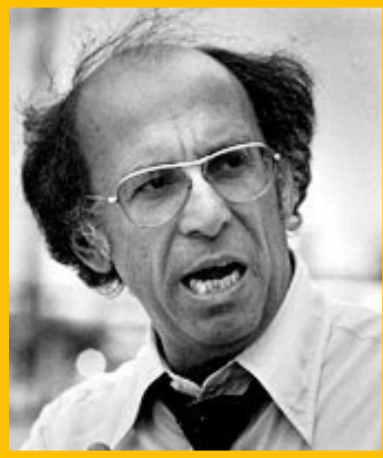


Some 60 years after President Calvin Coolidge (lower left photo) designated the statue a national monument in 1924, it underwent a multi-million dollar restoration (which included a new torch and gold leaf-covered flame) and was rededicated by President Ronald Reagan on July 4, 1986, in a lavish celebration. Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the statue was closed; its base, pedestal and observation deck re-opened in 2004, while its crown re-opened to the public on July 4, 2009. (For safety reasons, the torch has been closed to visitors since 1916, after an incident called the Black Tom explosions in which munitions-laden barges and railroad cars on the Jersey City, New Jersey, waterfront were blown up by German agents, causing damage to the nearby statue.)

Today, the Statue of Liberty is one of America's most famous landmarks. Over the years, it has been the site of political rallies and protests (from suffragettes to anti-war activists), has been featured in numerous movies and countless photographs, and has received millions of visitors from around the globe.

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**

**This Day in Labor History** - *By todayinlaborhistory.tumblr.com*



On June 13, 1926: Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union leader and labor activist Tony Mazzocchi is born in Brooklyn, NY.

Mazzocchi was an advocate for workers' health and safety, pushing the passage in 1970 of Occupational Safety and Health Act, and a key voice in the "right to know" movement in the 1980s.

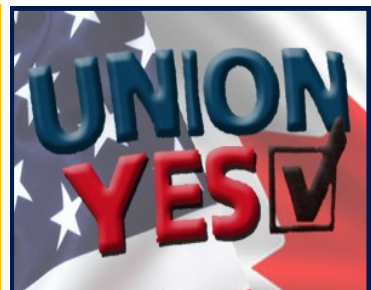
On June 2, 1952: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that President Harry Truman had no authority when he seized control of the nation's steel mills on April 8 – the day before a nationwide steelworkers' strike was set to begin – to keep them in production for the Korean War effort. 600,000 steelworkers went on strike on June 3, effectively ending production for the next six weeks.



On June 26, 1959: The St. Lawrence Seaway officially opens. The joint project between the U.S. and Canada employed 22,000 workers to build the 2,342-mile waterway system linking the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes.

The coronavirus pandemic has impacted the lives of millions of working people and our families. Go to the AFL-CIO Website or: <https://aflcio.org/covid-19/state-resources>

Select your state to find the resources, programs and benefits available in your area to assist you during this crisis.





For Immediate Release:  
June 19, 2020

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

## USW Applauds House Progress on Infrastructure Investment

(PITTSBURGH) – *United Steelworkers (USW) International President Tom Conway issued the following statement today on the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passage of the Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation (INVEST) in America Act:*

“The USW applauds today’s committee action advancing a robust infrastructure investment that includes strong ‘Buy America’ provisions.

“Our nation’s crumbling infrastructure has long needed attention. Now, as our nation works to recover from the economic devastation brought about by the COVID-19 crisis, it is doubly important that we devote significant resources to rebuilding our roads, bridges, highways and other infrastructure.

“Done properly, these investments will not only make our country safer and more secure but will also spur badly needed economic growth, strengthen domestic manufacturing and create jobs.

“The nearly \$500 billion in the INVEST Act, championed by House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Peter DeFazio, is an important start.

“The USW particularly commends Steel Caucus Chairman Rep. Conor Lamb (Pa.), Vice Chair Rep. Rick Crawford (Ark.), Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (N.Y.) and others who fought for amendments that strengthened Buy America language.

“These vital changes ensured that the bill closes loopholes in current policy, including those that allow foreign companies to skirt domestic content rules. The bill now also supports an increase of domestic content in rolling stock purchased with federal dollars.

“The INVEST Act serves as an integral part of a wide-reaching infrastructure proposal, the Moving Forward Act, which if enacted would provide \$1.5 trillion dollars of investments in our country’s infrastructure. The USW supports these ambitious investments, while at the same time recognizing that Congress must roll up its sleeves and pass surface reauthorization legislation by September of this year.

“We encourage lawmakers to continue working together as this legislation advances through the House and the Senate, where it faces an uphill battle, so that America’s workers remain the top priority.”

*The USW represents 850,000 workers 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.*

###





## MESSAGE FROM PITTSBURGH



*Thomas M. Conway, International President*

Sat 6/13/2020 3:46 PM

### More Work Ahead as Offices Begin to Reopen

This past week, we reopened the USW headquarters in accordance with the guidelines established by the CDC and the state of Pennsylvania.

This includes physical changes to the building entry, as well as restrictions on the number of people allowed on elevators and in conference rooms and public places. We are also ensuring social distancing, disinfecting the offices and providing PPE for staff.

Across the union, our district and staff offices are also resuming renewed levels of normal operations and instituting policies to ensure our vital work can continue while still keeping everyone safe.

Much as they did before and during the outbreak of the COVID crisis, our staff continue to do the crucial work of supporting our members.

We continue organizing new members, servicing our locals and membership, engaging in legislative and legal work at the federal and state levels and ensuring our health and safety experts are available to make our workplaces safer.

#### Members returning to work

We are slowly seeing members recalled to work, and the total number of laid off members, which we are tracking closely, is gradually and steadily adjusting downward each week. Although this is a good sign, it's certainly not happening as quickly as we would all like.

While there are some recalls taking place, there are other sectors where we are seeing tougher market conditions. In these areas, the longer term impact to our economy is concerning, and we are watching events closely.

Both of our nations need to focus on renewing domestic manufacturing, which must include significant investments in rebuilding infrastructure to help drive the foundations of the economic recovery.

In addition to manufacturing and building jobs, these investments will push forward sectors like transportation, hotels and hospitality and restaurants.

This is the focus of the legislative work we are doing every day.

#### Fighting injustice

We are living in difficult times during which we are all still adapting to the changes the pandemic brought to our workplaces and ways of life.

We are also experiencing a crucial time of outrage and protest, which has revealed an encouraging awakening to basic injustices and abuses in our systems.

Our union has never shied away from raising our voice against inequality and social injustice. We have a legitimate role to play in this fight because we have a responsibility as an organization dedicated to the advancement of all working people to fight for the fair and equal treatment of workers and all members of our society.

We will continue to speak out on these issues to make our union and our countries better places.

Stay safe,

Tom

## Free College for UNION MEMBERS and Their Families

# 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 dependants 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](http://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!"**