

GOLDEN LODGE NEWS

Volume 72, No. 3

Fall 2025



By Willis McCoy
President

Steel Plant Updates, Plus Negotiations

Around the plants: Harrison. The AGL (automatic grind line) project is complete and has been fully functioning for approximately three months. They are still working on fully staffing the line as well as a few automation kinks. It is currently running on three turns 5 to 6 days a week.

At Gambrinus, the #8 Roller Hearth Furnace is on time and on budget. The equipment is here and is being installed. The automation components are also here and bidding for those jobs has taken place. Once that process works itself out, these operators will be able to start training while the project is being finished.

Also, at Gambrinus there has been a project to extend the CTTF building. With this extension, we will be able to run Low Density Polyethylene High Pressure tubing out to fifteen meters in length. This will be through an affiliation with A&A Machine and Fabrication.

As we move out to Faircrest the big project is the Bloom Reheat Furnace. This project is also on time and on budget. Speaking of the company, the Department of Defense is incredibly happy with the members and the project. They have had weekly conversations with them.

Lastly, we will begin supplying steel to Ohio Ordnance Works in Chardon, Ohio. This is for gun barrels and components; fifty caliber gun barrels.

Negotiations: They are still ongoing. Unfortunately, there is not much more detail that I can give at this time. Once we get to a TA (temporary agreement) we will get summaries sent out and hold meetings to go over everything. The negotiating team is working hard to bring you the best TA we can. Remember in the end, it is ***your vote*** that counts.



Caught working are the USW Local 1123 Steel negotiators. Pictured left to right: Vice President Ed Smith, Mike Kiser-FSP, Bryan Weller-HSP and Jon Burdige-GSP. These gentlemen joining President McCoy, Sub-District 2 Director Bill Connor, District 1 Director Donnie Blatt and his staff, will be our reps.

Women of Steel golf outing benefits Clearview Hope

The Golden Lodge Women of Steel Golf Scramble to benefit Clearview Hope raised over \$3500. Renee Powell, founder of the charity says: "Clearview Hope gives assurance to women veterans who might feel as though they have been transparent. It is one way of thanking our women veterans for their service to our country through the game of golf."

First place; Bob Weekly, Donnie Byers, Brandon Bates, Christopher Faulk

Second place; Joe Sterling, Josh Lock, Jeff Cook, John Cook

Third place; Donnie Hall, Bill Miknis, Jim Hall, Jim Howenstine

Thanks goes out to the Golden Lodge kitchen committee, Natalie Davis for getting raffle prizes and to her and Elsie Fox for helping out the day of the scramble. And, a special thanks are due to Adam Holland for donating and cooking the pulled pork.

We Appreciate our sponsors:

Adam and Sons

USW District 1

USW 1123 Golden Lodge

HOF AFL-CIO

Northeast Ohio Area-

Labor Federation

Jefferson Jackson Club

Thank you all!



**Why am I using a new putter?
Because the last one didn't
float very well.**

- CRAIG STADLER

GOLDEN LODGE NEWS

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Accidents in golf happen;
they are called good shots.

—MARC OSTROFSKY



2025 District 1 Women of Steel Scholarships

The United Steelworkers District 1 Women of Steel Scholarship Committee met Friday, June 27th to select the 2025 scholarship recipients. Seventeen (17) applications were reviewed by the Committee before they randomly selected winners from the eligible applicants.



District 1 Women of Steel Scholarships were awarded as follows:

Academic Scholarships (\$2,000 each):

Mehki Harris, son of Lataya Ellis, Pontiac, MI, Local 690 L

Ava Kemp, daughter of Michael Kemp, Canton, OH, Local 1123

Technical Scholarship (\$1,500 each):

Ava Lindner, daughter of Shawn Lindner, Canton, OH, Local 1123

Essay Scholarship (\$2,000 each)

Zoey Maxwell, daughter of Matthew Maxwell, Canton, OH, Local 1123

The Committee members are Isabel Anzures-Barth, Christy Collins, Vickie Stage, Sonja Pachesny, and Coordinators Teresa Cassady and Tonya DeVore. Congratulations to all the winners!



The Golden Circle Credit Union needed to resolve the final two years of their contract wage increases. That meant both parties getting together to reach an agreement. That meeting was September 11, 2025 at the Golden Lodge. They hashed out a mutual compromise agreeable to both parties. Attending from left to right: Bill Connor-District 1 Sub-District 2 Director, Debbie Westfall-Unit Chair, April Gise- Unit Secretary, Willis McCoy-Local 1123 President, Ed Smith-Local 1123 Vice President, Kevin Whitfield-Sr Vice President and Assistant CFO, Tara Wentling-President and CEO, Jeff McClain-Executive Vice President and CFO. The meeting was a success. Congratulations to all on a job well done!



BARGAINING BASICS

INFORMATION ON HOW AGREEMENTS ARE REACHED AND
HOW YOUR INVOLVEMENT CAN HELP WIN FAIR CONTRACTS

WHAT IS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?

Collective bargaining is the legal process where a labor union and an employer negotiate a contract that covers the terms and conditions of employment. These include wages, hours of work, paid time off, benefits, employment security and protections against unfair treatment or discharge.

WHY IS HAVING A CONTRACT IMPORTANT?

A contract means that management cannot simply decide on its own to make changes such as cutting wages and benefits, firing employees, playing favorites or changing schedules and holidays.

Contracts also guarantee that there is a grievance and arbitration procedure that protects members if the employer violates the agreement.

HOW DO WE GET A GOOD CONTRACT?

We need to build our bargaining power. Bargaining power is the ability to achieve our bargaining goals and strengthen our contract. It comes from our solidarity—our determination and willingness to stick together.

Taking action to show our employer we support our Bargaining Committee can send a message that we are not satisfied with the status quo or our employer's demands. When our employer sees that we are united, it puts us in a stronger position at the bargaining table.

WHAT HAPPENS IN NEGOTIATIONS?

Negotiations take place at the bargaining table where representatives from our employer and our local union come together to put forth and discuss proposals. Both sides caucus (meet separately), make counter proposals, test out ideas and look for ways to bridge differences.

The union and the employer have mutual interests: both want the employer to prosper and grow. But the union and the employer may have different views on issues such as economic improvements and job security. The goal is to reach an agreement that will be mutually acceptable and beneficial to the employer and the union's membership.

WHAT KINDS OF PROPOSALS ARE DISCUSSED IN NEGOTIATIONS?

Proposals range from pay raises to safety conditions. Generally, contract proposals fall into the following categories:

1. Economic proposals, such as wages, benefits, retirement and healthcare
2. Non-economic items, such as safety standards, breaks, grievance procedure and seniority

DO MEMBERS GET TO VOTE ON A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT?

Union members in good standing may vote to ratify or reject a tentative agreement. Your bargaining committee may make a recommendation regarding a proposed agreement.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DON'T FINISH NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE THE CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE?

If the employer and the union have not reached an agreement by the contract expiration date, we each have three options.

The union can:

1. Negotiate an extension of the old contract, or
2. Continue to work while we increase pressure on management and build power for bargaining, or
3. Strike.

Similarly, the employer can:

1. Negotiate an extension of the old contract, or
2. Continue to operate while negotiating with the union, or
3. Lock out the bargaining unit.

It is common for local unions to negotiate beyond contract expiration dates as both parties work through the bargaining process and get closer to a deal.

In order to reach a fair and reasonable contract, we must be prepared to take action to show our employer that we are united and support our Bargaining Committee.



IN MEMORIAM

The following members of the Golden Lodge have passed away and Bibles have been presented to their families.

BETTY J. KITT, Age 86, Dept. 81, passed away February 5th, 2023. Sister Kitt joined the Union in 1969 and retired in 1999.

EUGENE P. HOOVER, Age 83, Dept. 98, passed away February 6, 2024. Brother Hoover joined the Union in 1965 and retired in 2003.

WALTER FAHRNI, Age 81, Dept. 182, passed away January 11th, 2025. Brother Fahrni joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 2004.

PATTIE L. KIRKSEY, Age 83, Dept. 81, passed away April 17th, 2025. Sister Kirksey joined the Union in 1965 and retired in 1995.

DAVID M. DECKER, Age 68, Dept. 62, passed away May 30th, 2025. Brother Decker joined the Union in 1976 and retired in 2009.

JAMES G. GREGORY, Age 97, Dept. 199, passed away May 30th, 2025. Brother Gregory joined the Union in 1947 and retired in 1987.

BOBBY G. MURPHY, Age 85, Dept. 98, passed away June 3rd, 2025. Brother Murphy joined the Union in 1959 and retired in 1994.

CHARLES E. FRY, Age 92, Dept. Bearing, passed away June 6th, 2025. Brother Fry joined the Union in 1951 and retired in 1994.

GARY W. GRAY, Age 81, Dept. 94, passed away June 6th, 2025. Brother Gray joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 1999.

THEODORE W. LARSON, Age 73, Dept. 162, passed away June 6th, 2025. Brother Larson joined the Union in 1997 and retired in 2018.

PETER RESANOVICH, Age 89, Dept. 120, passed away June 7th, 2025. Brother Resanovich joined the Union in 1956 and retired in 1997.

RICHARD G. LINDOWER, Age 82, Dept. 79, passed away June 14th, 2025. Brother Lindower joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 1997.

RONALD J. BIEHL, Age 81, Dept. 07, passed away June 26th, 2025. Brother Biehl joined the Union in 1967 and retired in 1998.

EDWARD R. HILL, Age 76, Dept. 69, passed away June 27th, 2025. Brother Hill joined the Union in 1969 and retired in 2005.

DAVID P. BARR, Age 85, Dept. 182, passed away June 28th, 2025. Brother Barr joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 2002.

CARL FRY, Age 92, Dept. 79, passed away July 3, 2023. Brother Fry joined the Union in 1956 and retired in 1986.

SUE A. FLOWERS, Age 78 Dept. 133, passed away July 4th, 2025. Sister Flowers joined the Union in 1978 and Retired in 2007.

DAVID M. REED, Age 70, Dept. 733, passed away July 4th, 2025. Brother Reed joined the Union in 1977 and retired in 2007.

DONALD E. ROHN, Age 83, Dept. 192, passed away July 6th, 2025. Brother Rohn joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 1999.

RICHARD L. STEESE, Age 90, Dept. 181, passed away July 10th, 2025. Brother Steese joined the Union in 1952 and retired in 1999.

LOUIS CAPUANO, JR., Age 91, Dept. 73, passed away July 13th, 2025. Brother Capuano joined the Union in 1964 and retired in 1994.

DAVE P. MATERNA, Age 93, Dept. 190, passed away July 17th, 2025. Brother Materna joined the Union in 1953 and retired in 1990.

JOSEPH M. BAKER, Age 81, Dept. 68, passed away July 18th, 2025. Brother Baker joined the Union in 1961 and retired in 2001.

DAVID O. REED, Age 77, Dept. 179, passed away July 18th, 2025. Brother Reed joined the Union in 1972 and retired in 2002.

ROBERT C. KLING, Age 83, Dept. 67, passed away July 21st, 2025. Brother Kling joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 2000.

PATRICK B. CROWE, Age 89, Dept. 62, passed away August 1st, 2025. Brother Crowe joined the Union in 1964 and retired in 1999.

GENE D. SCHLIMM, Age 92, Dept. 74, passed away August 2nd, 2025. Brother Schlimm joined the Union in 1951 and retired in 1989.

THOMAS D. ROUSH, Age 77, Dept. 66, passed away August 6th, 2025. Brother Roush joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 2003.

GEORGE M. JONES, JR., Age 54, Dept. 193, passed away August 9th, 2025. Brother Jones joined the Union in 1997 and was active at the time of his passing.

DAVID A. MERRYMAN, Age 80, Dept. 60, passed away August 11th, 2025. Brother Merryman joined the Union in 1965 and retired in 2000.

ROBERT E. BRYAN, Age 90, Dept. 120, passed away August 17th, 2025.
Brother Bryan joined the Union in 1952 and retired in 1994.

LEONARD WARNOCK, Age 81, Dept. 75, passed away August 22nd, 2025.
Brother Warnock joined the Union in 1966 and retired in 2001.

CATHY ANN ROSS, Age 74, Dept. 75, passed away August 25th, 2025.
Sister Ross joined the Union in 1973 and retired in 2002.

ARTHUR BLAKE, Age 83, Dept. 185, passed away August 30th, 2025.
Brother Blake joined the Union in 1972 and retired in 2004.

RUBY J. MCCRAY, Age 85, Dept. 82, passed away May 29th, 2023. Sister McCray joined the Union in 1969 and retired in 1992.

LARRY MCELROY, Age 75, Dept. 78, passed away September 3rd, 2025.
Brother McElroy joined the Union in 1968 and retired in 2004.

WAYNE RAMBAUD, Age 72, Dept. 753, passed away September 5th, 2025.
Brother Rambaud joined the Union in 1973 and retired in 2013.

**DEATH LEAVES A HEARTACHE
NO ONE CAN HEAL
LOVE LEAVES A MEMORY
NO ONE CAN STEAL**



ATTENTION! ALL VETERANS

(Spouses welcome, too)
You are invited to a free
Veterans' Breakfast



Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025

9:00 am - 11:00 am

at the

Golden Lodge Union Hall

1234 Harrison Ave SW, Canton, Ohio

**Feel free to bring photos, memorabilia, etc.
to share with others.**

For more information call: 330.454.6137

Approved: Golden Lodge Executive Board, Exclusive Union Affairs

Coming Events

Steward Classes

2nd Wednesday of the month

9:00 am / 4:30 pm

Regular Union Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the month

4:30 pm

November 27-28 Thanksgiving

& Day After*

Paid Holiday

**Union negotiated benefit*

Recent Retirees

*Congratulations to the following
members who have retired and will
enjoy their Union negotiated retiree
pension & healthcare benefits.*

*Eric Scott Thomas Pisani
Steve Stephan Alan Coffman
Roger Pershing Frank Silvestri
Chris Lemmon Jeffrey Stoffer
Mitchell Dunn Francis Carson
Steve Palmer*

Fall Time Change

Set your clocks back one hour on
November 2, 2025



Golden Lodge Family Fun-Day

On June 29th, the Golden Lodge hosted a Family Fun Day at Wood's Tall Timber Resort. Many of the attendees enjoyed dipping into the swimming lake to cool off.

The Picnic Committee volunteers kept busy serving food to the crowd and playing games with the kids. When it came time for the drawings, the newly remodeled main lodge got crowded and the lucky winners collected their prizes.

Thanks goes out to all the volunteers who worked to set up this event and to the Golden Lodge membership who allocated the funds needed.

Pictures can be found on our USW Local 1123 website, the USW Local 1123 Facebook page and our Flickr page. [2025 Golden Lodge](#)



Above: The Golden Lodge Picnic Committee. Thank you for all the time and hard work you do. Below: These are the raffle and door prize winners. Congratulations to all. We will do it again next year!



Here is a sampling of a few of the door prizes donated. Thank you !

Our Picnic Sponsors:

Please support these area businesses!

*Wood's Tall Timber
AVI Food-Systems, Inc.
Lindsey's Pizza
Gionino's Pizza
Bud's Corner
Poagie's BBQ
John's Bar
Golden Circle CU
LED Transportation
Mary Ann Donuts
Krackpots Comedy Club
Nut House Saloon*

*Lighthouse Grill
Rubber Ducks Tickets
The Cure Tree Service
Canton South Car Wash
Near Me Roofing
Gribble Painting
Rent-A-Hubby
Krazy Buys
Dairy Queen N. Canton
TD's Tailgate
Thank you all!*