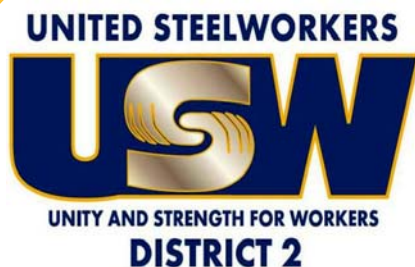




MICHAEL H. BOLTON, DIRECTOR



# NEWS

NOVEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11, 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 Fancsal	1296	Steel and Related	rfancsal@yahoo.com
Don Carlson	59	Paper	doncarlson@igda.net
Robert Desmond	13702	Amalgamated	rdesmond@tad.com
Jesse Edwards	2-232	Automotive Related	Jesse_edwards2101@yahoo.com
Kent Holting	13075	Chemical & Energy Related	kentholting@gmail.com
Jackie Ankam	9899	Health Care	jackieankam_usw@aol.com
John Mandyk	12934	Public	j_mandyk@uswlocal12934.com
Dave Page	1327	At Large	dpage08@yahoo.com
Matthew Gibbons	5965	At Large	usw5965@gmail.com
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United Steelworkers District 2  
AFL-CIO-CLC

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### Contributors to this issue include:

Lori Gulekurst, Tammy Duncan, Jay McMullan, Sue Browne, Stacey Benson, Tim Petrowski, Jackie Ankam, USW New Media, AFL-CIO.com, The History Channel, Union Review - todayinlaborhistory.tumblr.com

Articles and photos are welcome and should be sent:

Art Kroll, Editor, District 2 News  
20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300, Taylor, MI 48180  
d2@usw.org • 734-285-0367

December 16, 2019, is the deadline for submissions for the next issue.

## A Message from Michael Bolton



As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year holidays, it is a reminder that another year is coming to an end and the year 2020 is about to begin. As you prioritize your goals for the coming year, I hope you will include helping to pass the newly introduced PRO Act at the top of your list. What is the PRO Act?

The PRO Act, short for "Protect the Right to Organize Act", was introduced by Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives to reform the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, which gave workers the right to form Unions and to engage in collective bargaining. Unfortunately, many of these workers' rights have been so watered down by court challenges and administrative rule changes that it is now used by Union busting attorneys as a map to prevent Union organizing.

In addition to changes at the federal level to weaken Union protection, Republicans at the state level have passed legislation, such as Right to Work, and laws limiting subjects of bargaining for public employees. The PRO Act attempts to correct some of those injustices. A brief summary of what the law would do is:

- *Labor laws are the only laws in America that can be broken with little or no penalty. PRO would provide significant penalties for employers in violation by firing workers involved in Union drives or for threatening employees for Union activities.*
- *Strengthens our right to support our brothers and sisters involved in strikes or other job actions by joining in boycotts and corporate campaigns against rogue employers.*
- *Ensures that Unions can collect "Fair Share" fees for the contracts we negotiate for all workers. In short, it corrects the injustices brought on by "Right to Work".*
- *And, finally, it safeguards workers against "forced arbitration". The courts recently ruled that employers can legally make*

*workers agree to a system of arbitration that waives their right to seek justice through class action suits or collective litigation.*

Of course, there is more to the legislation. However, it levels the playing field for workers involved in organizing efforts and modernizes a law that has not been looked at since 1935.

While we're on the subject of organizing, I think we, as a Union, should be doing more to bring in new members. The USW is the most progressive and democratic Union in North America. Our members enjoy some of the best wages, benefits, and working conditions in the industries we represent. Additionally, they are not at will employees who can be terminated at any time with or without cause. They also have a voice at the workplace, giving them input in decisions that affect them and their families.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "If I were a worker, the first thing I would do is join a Union." Those words are just as true today as they were then. If you look at the industries that have enjoyed high Union density over the years (steel, auto production, paper and tire, to name a few), you will find that they are the sectors with pay and benefits others desire. It is obvious workers are not going to improve their lot by wishing for the boss to develop a generous streak. They are only going to change their work lives by gaining a seat at the bargaining table to negotiate improved working conditions.

In District 2, we represent several hospitals and other health care providers. Unfortunately, we have not reached the type of density needed to make significant changes in the industry. For example, there is an issue of caregiver/patient ratios. One complaint of workers who deal with patients on a daily basis is they are chronically understaffed. Some nurses have even taken their case to their state capitols seeking relief from lawmakers. The only real way for health care workers to gain a voice is by forming a Union to negotiate a binding contract that the employer is obligated to adhere to.

We have to dedicate ourselves to organize the health care sector. A recent poll of American attitudes towards Unions shows a majority of

— Continued on Page 2 —

## "GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

## Did you know?

### Executive Paywatch

- In 2018, CEOs of S&P 500 companies received, on average, \$14.5 million in total compensation.
- The average S&P 500 company CEO-to-worker pay ratio was 287 to 1.
- The imbalance in our economy between the pay of CEOs and working people continues to be a problem.

**\$14.5 Million**

The average compensation  
of S&P 500 company  
CEOs in 2018.



For more on this picture go to page 10



The Union Plus Credit Card program.

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

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**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)

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

workers would join a Union if given the opportunity. Providing that opportunity is up to us!

As the year 2020 begins, I would like to urge everyone to consider joining our District 2 Organizing team as a Local Union Organizer. Repeating what I've said in the past, we will provide you with the appropriate training and work to gain Union leave time that would enable you to assist in organizing drives in your area. It is the most challenging and rewarding work you will ever engage in. If interested, please contact your Local Union President or International Staff Representative.

Also, you are aware that 2020 is an election year and you know that District 2 is getting ready to launch its "Labor 2020" political outreach program. To get that effort going, our Political Team is looking for members to serve on our Local Union Political Committees. As a member, your role will be to help communicate our political message to members at the shop floor level. Some will be selected to serve as District 2 Political Coordinators. Those chosen to work at the District level will be asked to work with us on a release basis until Election Day.

In my column next month, I will include a list of issues we will be demanding each candidate pledge to support during the upcoming legislative sessions. The issues are common sense positions on matters most important to workers and their families, including: trade, job security, on the job safety and health, and protecting pensions and retirement. Again, as a member of your Local's Political Committee, you will be asked to take our message to our members. Of course, because communication is a two-way street, you are encouraged to report feedback you receive.

If you are interested in getting involved in our Labor 2020 program, please contact your Local Union President or USW International Staff Representative. Maintaining the Democratic majority in the U.S. House and winning back the U.S. Senate are critical in our effort to pass working class supportive legislation. The Presidency and control of our state legislatures will also be decided next November. It is going to take a real team effort to be successful. Please join our team and let's start rebuilding the American working class.

Finally, with impeachment proceedings gaining momentum in Washington D.C., it's hard to predict what is going to happen with NAFTA 2.0. Two things are pretty certain though. First, Trump needs a victory in trade to keep a campaign promise. While the trade war with China remains dangling over his head, the passage of the new NAFTA could improve the President's standing with his populist base. Second, if the agreement is allowed to get resolved before the year ends, it seems less likely that the controversial legislation will get acted upon before the election.

Having said all that, I would encourage each of you to contact your U.S. Senators and member of Congress and urge them to continue to oppose the Mexico, United States and Canada Trade Agreement. The President and U.S. Trade Representative should be congratulated for the steps they have taken to correct the problems NAFTA has created. However, the current language fails to enforce the good things the pact could accomplish. Without strong enforcement provisions, the agreement is just words on a piece of paper no one has to live up to. As the USW has urged with other failed trade agreements ---- tell Congress to --- **FIX IT OR NIX IT!**

Wrapping up, I would like to wish each and every District 2 member a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving. The year 2019 has been pretty good. We continued to improve our District 2 programs such as Rapid Response, Women of Steel, Next Generation, and SOAR. We educated new members, negotiated some pretty good labor agreements and worked together to make our workplaces safer in both states. I am thankful for all of these opportunities. Better yet, I am thankful for a chance to build on that record in the coming year.

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**





## 2019 District 2 Calendar of Events

### JANUARY

- 16 **WOS Lobby Day (WI)**  
*Capitol Building, Room 300 SE, 2 East Main Street • Madison, WI*
- 18-21 **AFL-CIO Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil & Human Rights Conf.**  
*Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave Northwest • Washington, DC*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*

### FEBRUARY

- 11 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 12 **LM Review Session**  
*Bungalow Inn, 1100 28th Street • Manistee, MI*
- 13 **LM Review Session**  
*Teamsters Local 7 Hall, 3330 Miller Road • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 14 **LM Review Session**  
*USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*American Legion Hall, 327 W. Wisconsin Avenue • Tomahawk, WI*
- 25 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*
- 26 **LM Review Session**  
*Kronenwetter Village Hall, 1582 Kronenwetter Drive • Kronenwetter, WI*
- 27 **LM Review Session**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 28 **LM Review Session**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*

### MARCH

- 13 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-148 Hall, 1201 Gillingham Road • Neenah, WI*
- 20 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Dist. 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 26 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Kent Ionia Labor Hall, 918 Benjamin Avenue NE • Grand Rapids, MI*
- 27 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Old Morton Federal Credit Union, 516 Kosciuszko • Manistee, MI*

### APRIL

- 9-10 **District 2 Legislative Conference**  
*Blue Chip Casino, Hotel and Spa, 777 Blue Chip Drive • Michigan City, IN*
- 15 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Ronn Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI*
- 16 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue • Marshfield, WI*
- 17 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 18 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 26 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Old Morton Federal Credit Union, 516 Kosciuszko • Manistee, MI*

### MAY

- 1 **District 2 Lobby Day (Wisconsin)**  
*Capitol Building (North Wing), 2 East Main Street • Madison, WI*
- 5-10 **District 2 WOS Leadership Development Course (Levels I & II)**  
*Landmark Resort, 4929 Landmark Drive • Egg Harbor, WI*
- 14 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (NMI)**  
*Holiday Inn, 810 Cinema Drive • Midland, MI, and  
USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Drive • Midland, MI*
- 16 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (SMI)**  
*Village Conference Center • 1645 Commerce Park Drive, Chelsea, MI*
- 21 **USW District 2 Lobby Day (Michigan)**  
*Michigan State AFL-CIO Office, 419 South Washington Square, Suite 200 • Lansing, MI*
- 21 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (NWI)**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley • 333 West College Avenue, Appleton, WI*
- 23 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (SWI)**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport • 5311 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, WI*

### JUNE

- 7 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Joann Lester Library, 100 Park Street • Nekoosa, WI*
- 11 **WOS Quarterly Meeting (Central Michigan Area)**  
*Michigan State AFL-CIO Office, 419 South Washington Square • Lansing, MI*
- 11 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Teamsters Local 7 Hall, 3330 Miller Road • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 12 **Presidents Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*

### JUNE continued

- 12 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-148 Hall, 1201 Gillingham Road • Neenah, WI*
- 13 **Presidents Meeting**  
*USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 18 **WOS Quarterly Meeting (Southern Michigan Area)**  
*Michigan State AFL-CIO Office, 419 South Washington Square • Lansing, MI*
- 21 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Kent Ionia Labor Hall, 918 Benjamin Avenue NE • Grand Rapids, MI*

### JULY

- 8-9 **Financial Officers Training (Wisconsin)**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley, 333 West College Avenue • Appleton, WI*
- 11-12 **Financial Officers Training (Michigan)**  
*Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, 5121 Bay City Road • Midland, MI*
- 12 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 21-25 **USW International Civil and Human Rights Conference**  
*Hilton Minneapolis, 1001 Marquette Avenue • Minneapolis, MN*

### AUGUST

- 20 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Upper Michigan Community Credit Union, 204 M-28 East • Munising, MI*

### SEPTEMBER

- 11 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-148 Hall, 1201 Gillingham Road • Neenah, WI*
- 9-13 **USW International Safety and Health Conference**  
*Westin Convention Center, 1000 Penn Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA*
- 13 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Marzinski Horse Trailhead & Campground, Marzinski Road (south of M-55) • Manistee, MI*
- 13 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Joann Lester Library, 100 Park Street • Nekoosa, WI*
- 19 **WOS Quarterly Meeting (Western Michigan Area)**  
*Michigan State AFL-CIO Office, 419 South Washington Square • Lansing, MI*

### OCTOBER

- 2 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 4 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Dist. 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 8 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Teamsters Local 7 Hall, 3330 Miller Road • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 9 **Presidents Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 10 **Presidents Meeting**  
*USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 11 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 15 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Ronn Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI*
- 16 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue • Marshfield, WI*
- 17 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Green Bay Labor Temple, 1570 Elizabeth Street • Green Bay, WI*
- 18 **Presidents Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Ronn Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI*
- 28-30 **USW International Rapid Response Conference**  
*Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue NW • Washington, D.C.*

### NOVEMBER

- 5 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (SWI)**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport • 5311 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, WI*
- 7 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (NWI)**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley • 333 West College Avenue, Appleton, WI*
- 18-22 **USW International Next Generation Conference**  
*The Westin Pittsburgh, 1000 Penn Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA*

### DECEMBER

- 3 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (NMI) CANCELLED**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Drive • Midland, MI*
- 5 **Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (SMI)**  
*Village Conference Center • 1645 Commerce Park Drive, Chelsea, MI*

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.

## 2019 Rapid Response Conference – by Sue Browne, District 2 Rapid Response Coordinator

Over 650 USW members from across the United States gathered in Washington D.C. October 28-30 to attend the 2019 Rapid Response Legislative and Policy Conference. The first day began with a panel discussion of how laws impact our bargaining power and ended with a rally in front of the Department of Labor where healthcare workers delivered our "Safe Jobs Now" postcards from our recent Rapid Response action. It was great to see our members take the entire street on the way to the rally, chanting along the way. Our presence was huge with car horns honking and bystanders waving and giving their thumbs up of approval.



The conference included multiple keynote speakers, additional panel discussions, and educational workshops that prepared attendees for the upcoming lobby day as well as information to take back to their local.

On the final day, all the delegates descended upon Capitol Hill and met with United States Senators and members from the United States House of Representatives to talk about crucial labor issues that, with their support, can make a difference through pending legislation and administration talks. The halls on Capitol Hill were flooded with members proudly wearing USW t-shirts, working together to make a difference.

USW members lobbied around the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 2474/S.1306) which would help restore the long-eroded rights of workers to organize a union; The Butch Lewis Act of 2019 (H.R.397/S.2254) to protect multi-employer pensions; and The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1309/S.851) which would provide a safer workplace for our members in the health care and social service fields. They also urged members of Congress to demand a renegotiated NAFTA to include enforceable labor standards, environmental enforcements, and fix access to medicine provisions.

Please help us as we work to strengthen Rapid Response so we can continue this vital work throughout the year. For more information, please contact Sue Browne at [sbrowne@usw.org](mailto:sbrowne@usw.org).



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



**Alliance for Retired Americans • Retiree News** - by Jay McMurren, 1st Vice-Pres., MI ARA & USW District 2 SOAR Executive Board Member



## SOAR Eyes on Washington

Last month, the Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees (SOAR), joined with over 650 Local Union Rapid Response activists to participate in the Steelworkers Annual Legislative Conference. The three-day event, held in Washington D.C., kicked off with a general session on Monday, October 27, with

the highlight of the day being an opportunity for delegates to meet our Union's new leadership. President Tom Conway, Vice-President At-Large Roxanne Brown, and Secretary-Treasurer John Shinn were on hand to greet conference attendees. They also urged delegates to take good notes and be ready to give a full report at membership meetings back home.

Tuesday's activities began with another general session that included panel discussions on a host of pending legislative issues. Roy Hauserman, the USW's newly appointed Legislative Director, reported on the status of the Butch Lewis (Multi-employer Pension) Act, Protect the Right to Organize (PRO) legislation and the Social Security Expansion movement. Each proposal has been introduced and is pending at different stages of the legislative process. Hauserman said that he was comfortable each would pass the House this year. However, their fate was less clear in the Senate because the majority leader has been killing legislation brought forward by the opposition.

Also, on Tuesday, delegates participated in a large protest at the U.S. Department of Labor. There, the boisterous crowd sent a message to the Department Secretary to stop dragging his feet and start pushing regulations promoting workplace safety. He has been accused of catering to corporations at the expense of workers. D.C. residents, who are used to seeing their share of demonstrations, were impressed with the size of the march and the energy of marchers.

As in past years, the highlight of the conference was Steelworkers Lobby Day, which was held on Wednesday, October 30. SOAR members joined with Rapid Response as a sea of blue and gold descended on Capitol Hill. Steelworkers visited their Congressional representatives to urge their support of the legislation described above. They also asked lawmakers to pass the Violence in the Workplace Act, which is aimed at extending new anti-violence protections for health care workers. While it is too soon to measure the impact of USW visits, the Steelworkers are going to continue to hold actions to support its working class agenda.



**NOTICE: Midland Local Union Leadership Steward Training & the District 2 Holiday Office Hours**

The **December 3rd Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (NMI)** located at: USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Drive • Midland, MI, has been **CANCELLED**.

The District 2 Office, as well as all District 2 Sub-District Offices, will be closed December 23, 2019, through January 1, 2020. Offices will reopen on January 2, 2020.

Please make note of this in your calendar. — *Thank you.*

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**

UNITED STEELWORKERS  
**USW News**  
UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Nov. 21, 2019

**CONTACT:**  
Chelsey Engel, [cengel@usw.org](mailto:cengel@usw.org),  
412-562-2446

## USW-backed Workplace Violence Bill Passes U.S. House

(PITTSBURGH) – After a months-long campaign bolstered by United Steelworkers (USW) activists, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1309) reached the floor of the U.S. House today and passed 251-158.

The legislation, introduced by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.), would direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires health care and social service industry employers to develop and implement comprehensive workplace violence prevention plans.

“Our members mobilized all across the country and across industries to collect more than 80,000 signatures in support of this bill because they know it affects all working people,” said USW International President Tom Conway. “This is how we make progress – by finding common ground and solidarity around issues that impact everyday Americans and making our voices heard.”

Three weeks ago, hundreds of Steelworker activists descended onto Capitol Hill for a legislative conference where they also marched to the Department of Labor to hold a rally in support of the bill. They were joined by several legislative leaders, including Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.), Rep. Conor Lamb (D-Pa.), and Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.), before walking the halls of Congress to speak to their representatives about the legislation.

Workplace violence is the third-leading cause of death on the job, and health care and social service workers are among the most vulnerable. Women are disproportionately affected, with two out of every three serious workplace violence events suffered by women.

“It is past time for these workers to have the protections they need,” said Conway. “We hope Majority Leader Mitch McConnell does what’s best for them, their patients, and their families by bringing this bill to a vote in the Senate, where we believe it will see the same support as it did in the House.”

*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 public sector, health care, and service occupations.*

###

### USW Local 9899 Donates Turkeys - by Jackie Anklam

Every year the Savoy Restaurant provides a free Thanksgiving meal to the community. USW Local 9899 is proud to donate turkeys to help that cause. What’s even more extraordinary about this year is the Savoy Restaurant is struggling to stay open so this could be the last Thanksgiving dinner.

The Savoy Restaurant is struggling to stay in business. It has been around for 100 years. Hopefully this won’t happen. It will be hard to see this restaurant close, especially one that gives so much to the community.



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## President John F. Kennedy is Assassinated • November 22, 1963 - The History Channel

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the 35th president of the United States, is assassinated while traveling through Dallas, Texas, in an open-top convertible.

First lady Jacqueline Kennedy rarely accompanied her husband on political outings, but she was beside him, along with Texas Governor John Connally and his wife, for a 10-mile motorcade through the streets of downtown Dallas on November 22. Sitting in a Lincoln convertible, the Kennedys and Connallys waved at the large and enthusiastic crowds gathered along the parade route. As their vehicle passed the Texas School Book Depository Building at 12:30 p.m.,



Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly fired three shots from the sixth floor, fatally wounding President Kennedy and seriously injuring Governor Connally. Kennedy was pronounced dead 30 minutes later at Dallas' Parkland Hospital. He was 46.



Vice President Lyndon Johnson, who was three cars behind President Kennedy in the motorcade, was sworn in as the 36th president of the United States at 2:39 p.m. He took the presidential oath of office aboard *Air Force One* as it sat on the runway at Dallas Love Field airport. The swearing in was witnessed by some 30 people, including Jacqueline Kennedy, who was still wearing clothes stained with her husband's blood. Seven minutes later, the presidential jet took off for Washington.

The next day, November 23, President Johnson issued his first proclamation, declaring November 25 to be a day of national mourning for the slain president. On that Monday, hundreds of thousands of people lined the streets of Washington to watch a horse-drawn caisson bear Kennedy's body from the Capitol Rotunda to St. Matthew's Catholic Cathedral for a requiem Mass. The solemn procession then continued on to Arlington National

Cemetery, where leaders of 99 nations gathered for the state funeral. Kennedy was buried with full military honors on a slope below Arlington House, where an eternal flame was lit by his widow to forever mark the grave.

Lee Harvey Oswald, born in New Orleans in 1939, joined the U.S. Marines in 1956. He was discharged in 1959 and nine days later left for the Soviet Union, where he tried unsuccessfully to become a citizen. He worked in Minsk and married a Soviet woman and in 1962 was allowed to return to the United States with his wife and infant daughter. In early 1963, he bought a .38 revolver and rifle with a telescopic sight by mail order, and on April 10 in Dallas he allegedly shot at and missed former U.S. Army general Edwin Walker, a figure known for his extreme right-wing views. Later that month, Oswald went to New Orleans and founded a branch of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, a pro-Castro organization. In September 1963, he went to Mexico City, where investigators allege that he attempted to secure a visa to travel to Cuba or return to the USSR. In October, he returned to Dallas and took a job at the Texas School Book Depository Building.

Less than an hour after Kennedy was shot, Oswald killed a policeman who questioned him on the street near his rooming house in Dallas. Thirty minutes later, Oswald was arrested in a movie theater by police responding to reports of a suspect. He was formally arraigned on November 23 for the murders of President Kennedy and Officer J.D. Tippit.

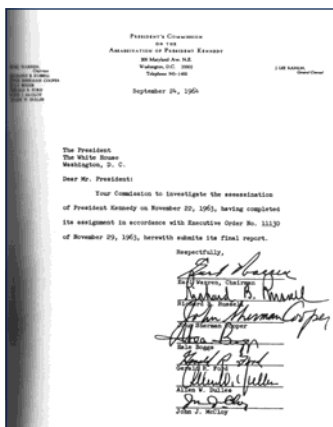
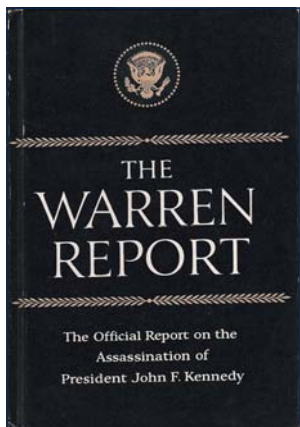


On November 24, Oswald was brought to the basement of the Dallas police headquarters on his way to a more secure county jail. A crowd of police and press with live television cameras rolling gathered to witness his departure. As Oswald came into the room, Jack Ruby emerged from the crowd and fatally wounded him with a single shot from a concealed .38 revolver. Ruby, who was immediately detained, claimed that rage at Kennedy's murder was the motive for his action. Some called him a hero, but he was nonetheless charged with first-degree murder.

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## President John F. Kennedy is Assassinated • November 22, 1963 - The History Channel - continued from page 7

Jack Ruby, originally known as Jacob Rubenstein, operated strip joints and dance halls in Dallas and had minor connections to organized crime. He features prominently in Kennedy-assassination theories, and many believe he killed Oswald to keep him from revealing a larger conspiracy. In his trial, Ruby denied the allegation and pleaded innocent on the grounds that his great grief over Kennedy's murder had caused him to suffer "psychomotor epilepsy" and shoot Oswald unconsciously. The jury found Ruby guilty of "murder with malice" and sentenced him to die.

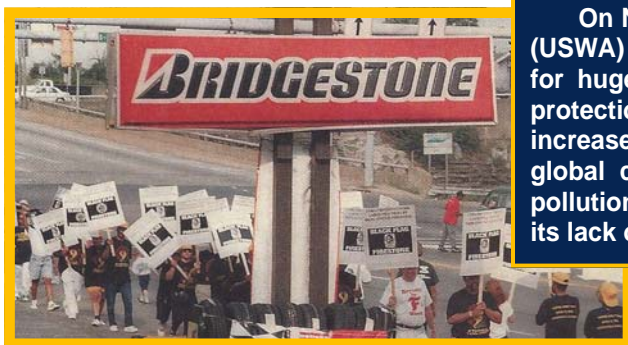


In October 1966, the Texas Court of Appeals reversed the decision on the grounds of improper admission of testimony and the fact that Ruby could not have received a fair trial in Dallas at the time. In January 1967, while awaiting a new trial, to be held in Wichita Falls, Ruby died of lung cancer in a Dallas hospital.

The official Warren Commission report of 1964 concluded that neither Oswald nor Ruby were part of a larger conspiracy, either domestic or international, to assassinate President Kennedy. Despite its firm conclusions, the report failed to silence conspiracy theories surrounding the event, and in 1978 the House Select Committee on Assassinations concluded in a preliminary report that Kennedy was "probably assassinated as a result of a conspiracy" that may have involved multiple shooters and organized crime. The committee's findings, as

with those of the Warren Commission, continue to be widely disputed.

## This Month in Labor History - 1875, 1946 & 1996



On November 4, 1996: A 28-month-long strike by rubber workers (USWA) against Bridgestone-Firestone over the company's demands for huge wage and benefit concessions and elimination of union protections ends with the rehiring of all former strikers, a wage increase, and all but one of the workers' demands. A coordinated global campaign put pressure on the company by publicizing its pollution record, its workplace safety and health violations, and its lack of civic responsibility.

On November 24, 1875: The United Cigar Makers of New York affiliates with the Cigar Makers' International Union (CMIU) to form CMIU Local 144. Samuel Gompers was elected first president of the local and served several terms before going on to serve as the international's vice president. "We are powerless in an isolated condition," Gompers said, "while the capitalists are united; therefore it is the duty of every Cigar Maker to join the organization."



On November 25, 1946: Teachers strike in St. Paul, Minnesota. The first organized walkout by teachers in the country. The month-long "strike for better schools" involving some 1,100 teachers – and principals – led to a number of reforms in the way schools were administered and operated.



UNITED STEELWORKERS  
**USW News**  
UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## USW Mourns Passing of District 12 Director Robert LaVenture

PITTSBURGH – USW International President Tom Conway issued the following statement on the passing of USW District 12 Director Robert LaVenture:

“It is with a heavy heart that I must announce that District 12 Director Robert LaVenture passed away today.

“Bob was a tireless union activist who always fought on the side of working people, first in his home state of Wisconsin and later on behalf of our members in District 12.

“Bob joined the labor movement in 1970 when he went to work at an International Harvester – now Navistar – foundry in Waukesha, Wis., as a member of Local 3740. He served many roles, including trustee, local union steward, vice president and president.

“As local president, Bob helped develop the Navistar Education Center, the first employee education center in Wisconsin. He then went on to help develop other education centers as a state AFL-CIO coordinator.

“Bob moved to Concord, Calif., in 1993 and then to Oklahoma in 1998 as a USW International staff rep. He became District 12 Director in 2009.

“As director, Bob was a fierce advocate for American industry and jobs, chairing contract negotiations with EVRAZ Rocky Mountain Steel, Kaiser Aluminum, ASARCO, and Kennecott Utah Copper, as well as heading the USW Cement Council.

“He was also profoundly dedicated to cross-border solidarity, working closely with our union brothers and sisters at Los Mineros in Mexico, fighting so that all workers could have a better life.

“Bob was a good friend who touched many lives. He will be sorely missed.”

*The USW represents 850,000 workers in North America employed in many industries that include metals, rubber, chemicals, paper, oil refining, the service and public sectors and higher education. USW District 12 encompasses the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.*

###

### Local 1900 Joint Union/Management “Union Approach to Health and Safety” Training - by Tim Petrowski

Local 1900 had a great two days of training on the Union Approach to Safety Committees. The training was put on by Steve Doherty, Tom Duffy and Randy.

The first day of training was a Union-only day where issues were reviewed; and things were covered on what should be brought to the new committee.



— Continued on Page 12 —

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## USW International Next Generation Conference • November 18—22, 2019, Pittsburgh, PA - by Stacey Benson



The slogan for the first International Next Generation Conference was **"900 Proud! 900 Strong!"**

The initial attendance goal was 500, but it was well surpassed and led to the slogan. The conference was held November 18 - 21, 2019, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the Westin Conference Center. Steelworkers from all over the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico attended this conference which had a vibe unlike any other. Three MC's as well as a DJ that played music aimed at the younger generation were incorporated into all aspects of the conference.

The goal was to educate and inspire young and new Steelworkers; and to lead them to a lifetime of activism. The conference kicked off Monday night after registration and included a "Meet the Leaders Town Hall" where Liz Shuler, Secretary Treasurer of the AFL-CIO, led questions for the International Executive



Thomas M. Conway  
USW International President



Board. Then the floor opened to allow time for the audience to ask their own questions.

A wide range of classes aimed at the younger generation and the issues they face today in the



workplace were also part of the agenda. Delegates were given the option to select three classes out of approximately 34 different subject matters, ranging from the basics of Next Gen, work/life balance, how contracts give us power, Women of Steel, Veterans of Steel, organizing, economics, issues confronting the cannabis reform LGBTQ+ 101, mass incarceration, plus too many more to mention. In addition to these classes, which were held throughout the days of Tuesday and Wednesday, each district had their own breakout session where members could talk to their Director as well as their Next Gen Coordinators.

— Continued on Page 11 —

## "GO BUILD OUR UNION!"



## USW International Next Generation Conference • November 18—22, 2019, Pittsburgh, PA - continued from page 10



Thursday's itinerary required 900 Steelworkers boarding numerous buses to provide a day of community service at various locations throughout Pittsburgh, including many different boys and girls clubs, Center for Hope, Nazareth Prep, and another school. Donations, such as food and toiletries, were collected throughout the conference. Additionally, the District Directors put together bags for veterans. The night ended with a reception as well as Life Time Achievement Awards for President Leo Gerard and Vice-President Carol Brown-Landry.



The conference was nothing short of a huge success. Our leaders are confident after the conference that our Union is in good hands. We need to keep our Next Generation active and educated. Our coordinators for the District are here to help locals with their committees. For more information, please contact your Staff Representative or one of the District 2 Coordinators listed below.

### Wisconsin:

**Eric Licht**

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**Myles Bowden**

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**T.J. Peters**

[Thomaspeters@delta.edu](mailto:Thomaspeters@delta.edu)

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**

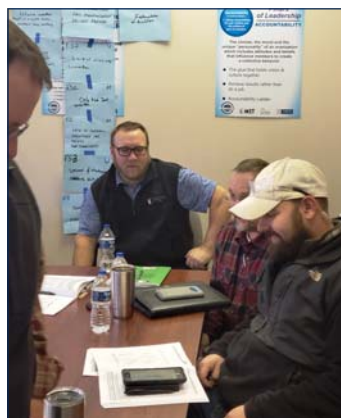
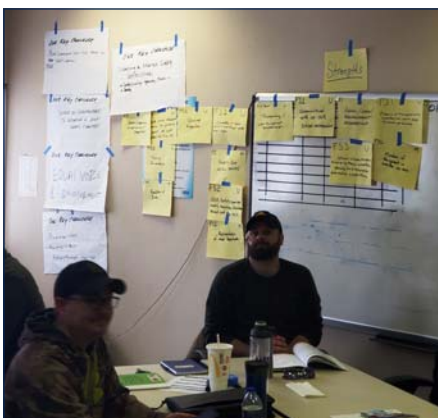
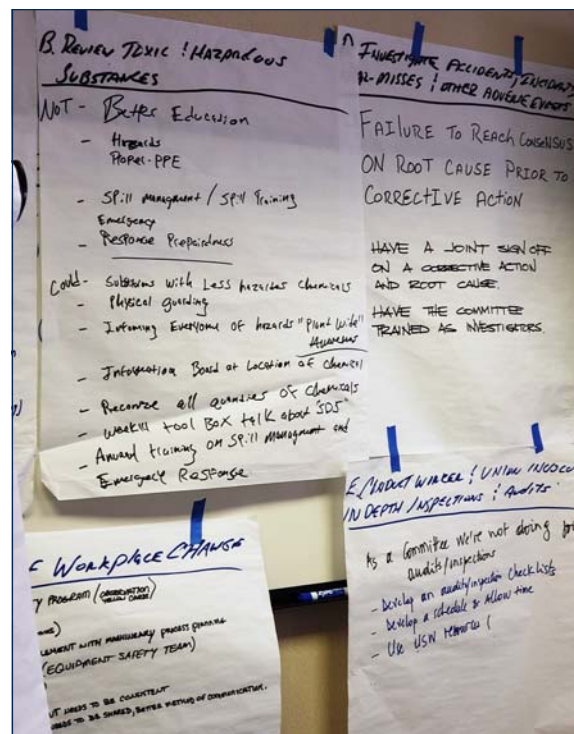


## Local 1900 Joint Union/Management "Union Approach to Health and Safety" Training - continued from page 9

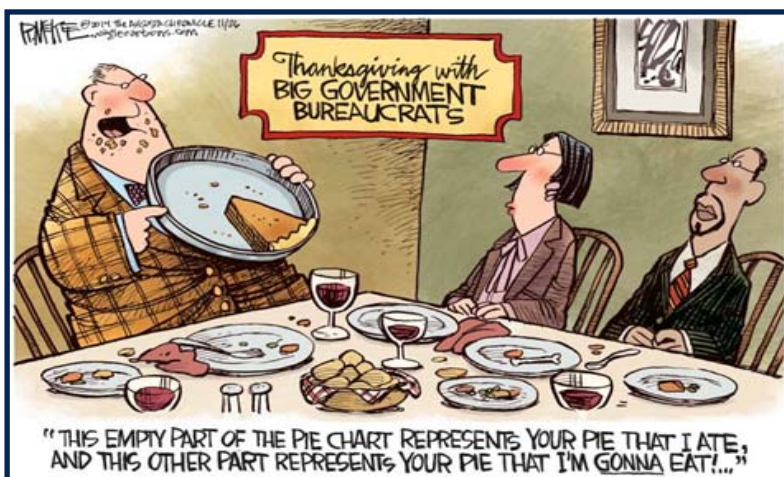
The second day included a joint session with Union and management. Working together, both parties were able to figure out and agree on many of the same issues. A committee was created with both sides having an equal number of representatives with an equal voice. The committee will consist of a Union co-chair and a management co-chair. Each will bring their own agenda and will come together to create a joint agenda for a monthly meeting.

Moving forward, the Union-only committee has the opportunity to meet bi-weekly.

Local 1900 believes with this foundation put in place, they will have an effective safety committee for years to come.



## Not So Funny Political Cartoons



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## USW Free College Benefit for Union Members!

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



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**