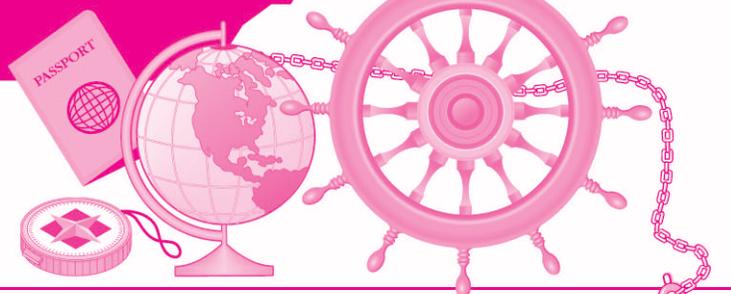




UNITED STEELWORKERS
USW
UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

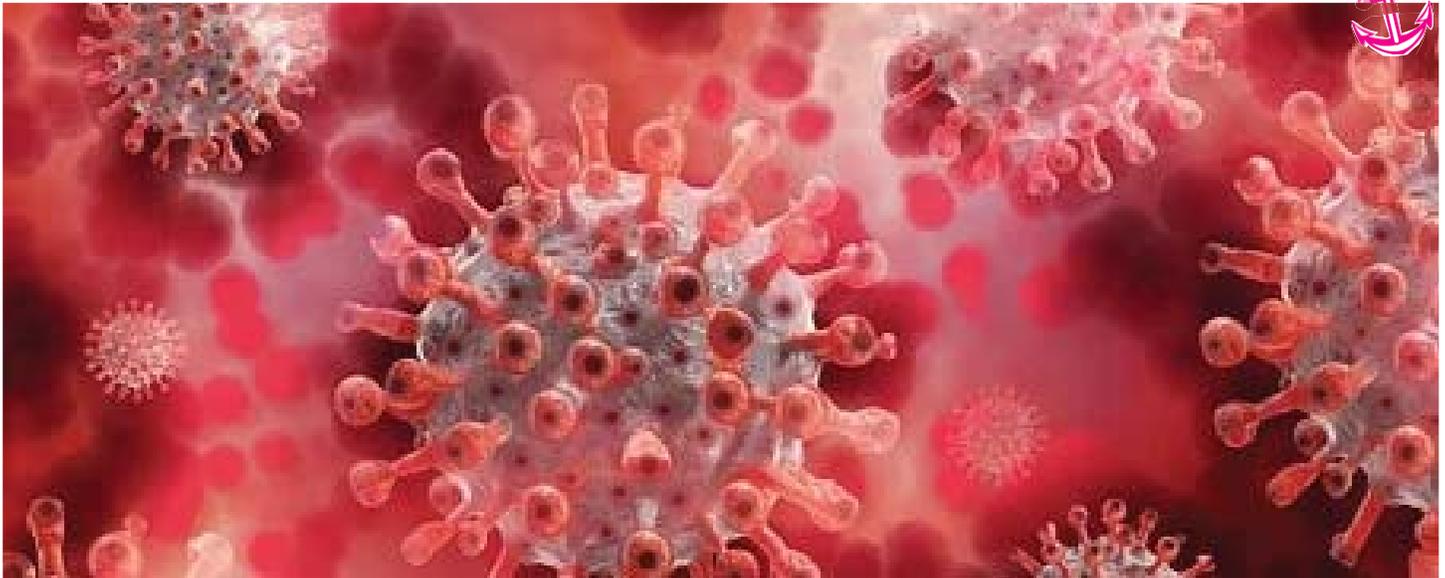


the **VOYAGER**



Volume 31, Number 11

NOVEMBER, 2020



**Due to COVID-19 Resurgence in Virginia:
Monthly Membership Meetings are
suspended until further notice,
The Annual United SteelWorkers Local 8888
Christmas Party is canceled for 2020,
We wish you all safety, health and
Happy Holidays!**



Keep Up Your Guard!

Maintain 6 feet of Distance between Yourself and Others.

Wear Your Cloth Face Covering while in Public.

**YOU MUST WEAR YOUR FACEMASK
WHILE IN THE UNION HALL!**



Executive Board
 President-Charles Spivey
 Vice President-Linwood Parrish
 Recording Secretary-Ashley Seabrook
 Financial Secretary-Verna Chamberliss
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 Trustee -Victor Boone
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Office Hours: Daily 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

United Steelworkers AFL-CIO-CLC

District Director - Ernest(Billy) Thompson

International Officers

Thomas Conway, President • John Shinn, Sec/Treasurer
 David McCall, Vice-President, Administration
 Fred Redmond, Vice-President, Human Affairs
 www.usw8888.com

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The Voyager is published by Local 8888, Newport News.

The Voyager is distributed free of charge to employees of
 Huntington Ingalls Industries by Local 8888 USW.

Deadline Reminder:

Please remember that all information, articles and material to be included in the next "Voyager" must be delivered in writing to the Union Hall or emailed by Friday, November 27, 2020 "The Voyager" email address is: voyager@uswa.hrcocxmail.com



From the
President's Desk
 Charles Spivey

Greetings Union Brothers and Sisters:

We are quickly coming to the end of 2020. This has been a year that has been very challenging for many of our members and their families. We are also approaching the Holiday Season. With that in mind, we ask everyone to continue to be safe. Keep wearing your mask and maintain social distancing. Don't let your guard down, this pandemic is not over.

The Union, QuadMed and HII-NNS had a successful Flu Shot drive the first two weeks of November. Many of our officers and members came out to receive their vaccination. I want to say thank you to those who assisted to make this event a success.

The elections are over here in Virginia and most of America. We hope all of you exercised your right to vote for the candidates of your choice. As co-workers and Union members, I pray we can work together as co-laborers in the work place without hostilities, regardless of who you supported in the election. We should never let politics divide us as a Company or Nation. It's our right to choose. Say something nice to your co-workers today. We all have been going through a rough season.

We honor all Veterans who have served this Country to keep us safe. We say Thank You from USW 8888. This reminds me of a photo I've seen with soldiers carrying their backpacks.

Continued on Page 3

Our Executive Officers wanted to give our Veterans and all the members a token of appreciation this Holiday Season. We have ordered backpacks for our faithful members who have stood with us as we continue to go through these rough days. We've been faced with many trials this year, but you stood with us. We didn't agree on everything, but you stayed in the Union. For that, we say thank you with this small token of love and appreciation.

We must remain mindful that our current Labor Agreement ends in November 2021. Although our membership is over 11,000 now, we must remain united to further build on our bargaining power. One last thing. Due to the continued rise of COVID-19 cases, we have cancelled all monthly membership meetings and any usage of the Hall for after hour activities. We will continue to practice this safe protocol until sometime early next year. Hopefully, things will be better by then.

As always, you may call the Hall at 757-247-5291 ext 110 or 111 to directly leave a message for me or feel free to come by.

Thank you.

Charles Spivey
USW 8888 President



Veterans Council

Vincent Harris, Chair

By the time you will have read this article, the Veterans Day Holiday (November 11, 2020) will have passed. Because of this, along with all your brothers and sisters and myself, we would like to wish you a BELATED HAPPY VETERANS DAY to all of you and your families who have given so much to our nation. It is because of us who have served in the military, this nation is what it is today. The Veterans Day Holiday is one of the most important holidays, but it is not celebrated as much as it deserves.

We at Local 8888 and the International Union feel All Veterans should celebrate it with a day off with their families due to all the times we could not. When you see a Vet the next time and you say "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE" – do not just say it, but really mean it from your heart.

Not all wounds are visible. Too many veterans suffer in silence from mental wounds related to their military service. We are here to help you. Let us know if you need us. You can talk to us. To us veterans, all days are Veterans Day. America owes its veterans and their families an enormous debt of gratitude for putting themselves at risk to protect our rights and freedoms. Some have made the ultimate sacrifice to safeguard our lives, and for that, Americans will and should be forever grateful.

To all the veterans of Local 8888, United SteelWorkers, please let us know what we can do to assist you. Join our group. Together we can make a difference. We are here if you need someone to talk to.

On behalf of Charles W. Spivey, President of Local 8888, the Executive Board, the International Union and your Local Veterans of Steel Council: "HAPPY VETERANS DAY"

I Salute You,

Vincent L. Harris, Chairperson
Milton D. Bates, Co-Chairperson
Veterans of Steel, USW, Local 8888

To learn more about Veterans compensation, pension and related benefits contact the DAV. Visit:

benefitsquestions.org call: 888-236-8313
email: veteransbenefits@messages.va.gov



Financial Secretary

Verna M. Chamberliss, X42

This has been a trying year for all of us, but together we can and will make it. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, we are unable to have our Annual Union Christmas Party this year. We will miss our fellowship with each other. We, the Union, do not want our members to feel like they have been forgotten so we have decided to purchase backpacks to give to each of our Union members. These backpacks will be distributed during the weeks of December 1st through 4th and December 7th through 11th between the hours of 5:00am until 7:00pm each day.

One backpack per member and no one is permitted to pick up someone else's backpack. Remember that facemasks are required to enter the United SteelWorkers Building. Thank You for working with us and be safe.



Annual Pay Rate Increase

On the nineteenth of last month all hourly employees here at Newport News Shipbuilding received one of the benefits of working within the protection of our Union. The annual pay rate increase. It amounts to an approximately three percent increase across all pay rates, that means more than \$1,000 more each year for every worker! This is not something to take for granted and it is not commonplace.

It comes to us all due to the hard work put forth by the negotiating team of our current contract, who act with the strength of the Union membership to back them. This is important to keep in mind as the end of the current contract period approaches. The strength of the Union and the strength of the negotiators are inextricably tied together. Strong Membership means a Strong Union and Strong Negotiations.

This will be our last guaranteed pay rate increase under the current contract. The United SteelWorkers Local 8888 Union's contract with Huntington Ingalls Industries and Newport News Shipbuilding expires on November 14th, 2021. Over the next year negotiations will be ongoing on your behalf between the new contract negotiation team and the company.

JOIN US!
Solidarity and Strength.



**American
Red Cross**



This October 24th we, your Local 8888 United SteelWorkers, hosted the American Red Cross at our Union Hall for a Blood Drive.

The donations collected at our blood drive could save almost 60 lives in Virginia. Each will be tested for corona virus antibodies and the donor informed if there are any found.

Each donor also qualifies for the Red Cross's drawing for a \$1,000 Amazon gift card.

Donated blood saves 4.5 million lives in America each year, and thanks to the participation of our members we were able to contribute to that.

If you missed our blood drive, please consider giving at another in your area, The need is constant. More information is available at redcrossblood.org



The Voyager is the newspaper created, published and distributed by your United SteelWorkers Union Local 8888 for you, our members. The Voyager is made by workers for workers and is not in any way answerable to the Management at Newport News Shipbuilding or Huntington Ingalls Industries. We do not need their permission to publish anything, nor is anything we publish a reflection of them. We may at times inform you of programs and events that the company offers, because that information pertains to you.

We do our best to fill it with information we believe you need. Whether it is concerning upcoming events, issues that will effect you in the yard or your life at home. We want to keep you informed of things that may benefit you, so that you can take full advantage of them. We want to warn you about things that might be a detriment to you, so that you may prepare for, or avoid them. We want to celebrate with you, those events that are positive and noteworthy.

You can help us do this. If you are a member and wish to have your birthday, retirement or other celebratory event shared in the Voyager; please send your information in to us before the end of the current month at our e-mail: voyager@uswa.hrcocmail.com. Please remember to include your name and department, as well as your preferred contact method so we can follow up with you. If you hear about a fellow SteelWorker who has recently suffered the loss of a family member, you can also share that with us so we can offer condolences.

The Voyager office is not a full-time position, so please be patient when it comes to communicating with us. For this reason we are also not the correct point of contact for resolving any issues or official business you may have with the Union as a whole or the various Committees which exist to help you, our members, with their expertise. The Voyager staff do not have access to any personnel files or personal information, we will not be able to help you file grievances or complaints, nor can we help you with any of your benefit enrollments. Please contact the relevant committees for their assistance.



Special Benefits Committee

Verna M. Chamberliss, Chair, X42

OPEN ENROLLMENT



Aflac BENEFITS FOR USW LOCAL 8888 New Member Enrollment

<p>ALL AFLAC POLICIES PAY CASH BENEFITS DIRECTLY TO THE POLICYHOLDER</p>	<p>Disability - Pays from 1st Day for accidents - after 7 days for Sickness.</p>
<p>Hospital Plan - pays cash benefits to you when confined in the hospital for any reason.</p>	<p>Critical Illness - Pays \$15,000 for listed critical illnesses (Heart Attack - Stroke - Cancer, etc.)</p> <p>Accident - pays benefits for covered accidents that happen on or off the job.</p>

NEW DATES!

Enrollment - New Members - Dec. 7,8,9,10&11 Coverage Effective - Jan. 1, 2021

Information Available at your Union Hall - every Wednesday & Thursday - 8 AM to 4:30 PM

This enrollment is for NEW Union Members

Phone: (757) 247 - 5291 ext. 118

CHECK THIS OUT!



Information available at your Local Union Hall
Every Thursday 8 AM - 4:30 PM

**New and Returning Union Members,
You have 45 days from joining to apply.**

The two Plans offered with no rate or benefit changes are
Delta Dental PPO and Delta Dental EPO Plan.

USW LOCAL 8888
4306 Huntington Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607
Contact Special Benefits at 757-247-5291 ext 118



HALLOWEEN AT THE HALL

This Halloween, Saturday October 31, your United SteelWorkers Next Generation Committee hosted a safe, outdoor Halloween event for the children at the Union Hall.

While this years Halloween celebration was reduced by precautions and concerns with the continuing pandemic, our spirits were not curtailed.



Your United SteelWorkers Local 8888 Next Generation Committee will be volunteering to feed the community at the Virginia Beach Judeo-Christian Outreach Center on Saturday November 28th.

Keep watching here for more upcoming events and news from the NextGeneration Committee





Political Action Committee

Gene E. Magruder,
X33, Chair

After a long and hard fought election for president Joe Biden has won the election with the most votes in the history of our nation. To be fair Donald Trump has received the second most votes in our nation's history. So the take away is that people voted. I never see that as a bad thing because I think everyone should vote. It is a sacred right that Americans died for throughout our history.

I have personally been involved in close elections and runaways. I have been in the room of very close races on 5 different occasions in recounts. Public servants sit for long hours from both sides, Republicans and Democrats observing the process and working long hours for low pay because they view it as a patriotic duty. The biggest problem today is there are people who know nothing about the actual voting process but somehow yell out fraud and corruption because it fits their narrative. By doing this they are calling these civil servants crooks or thieves. It fits none of these individuals, they are both fair and work together and it is a disservice to them. By doing this and questioning our election process with unfounded claims they are doing a disservice to these individuals as well as a disservice to the individuals who have died for you to be able to cast a vote.

As I said in the beginning Joe Biden will take the oath of office on Jan.20th of 2021 and I have no doubt there will be a peaceful transfer of power. Between now and then I would hope, when the current president finally concedes, that he will allow the wheels of our democracy to continue with a transition period. Presidents have always cooperated in some fashion with an orderly transition for a new president. There are major reasons for this including protection of our country. The whole world is watching. My hope is that although divided we can at least bring down the tone of our politics so possibly dialogue is possible. We live on this round planet together and to go through life finding bad, instead of good, in your fellow citizens seems to be quite the waste.



UNITED STEELWORKERS
PAC
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



IN MEMORIAM



Wilbert Chavis Jr.

July 22, 1957 ~ October 9, 2020

**United SteelWorkers Local 8888
X-33 Newport News Shipbuilding 42 Years
Avid Fisherman, Lottery Player
“Ask me no questions, I’ll tell you no lies,”**



CONDOLENCES

Our prayers go out to Tiketa McCray (X31)
and her family, on the passing of her daughter.

**IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS
WE SALUTE YOU**



VETERANS DAY: NOV 11, 2020

Announcements

BIRTHDAYS



Marquise "Keese" Cowen (X42),
John Smith (X36), Sandra White (X43)
Tamika Williams (X42), Karen Riddick (X32)

CONGRATULATIONS



To Crystal Deans (X-33) on her Retirement

To Evonne Locke (X-33) on her Retirement



Resources For SteelWorkers

USW International
COVID-19
Resources Page

www.usw.org/members/coronavirus-resources

COVID-19 Phone Line
Press "2" For Medical Clearance/ Badge Re-Activation
Press "4" For COVID Test Request/ Appointment

1-844-243-8749

TELADOC
24/7, 365 Doctor Consultation
\$10 Fee Waived for General Medicine and Behavior Consultations

teladoc.com

1-800-835-2362

Sickness and Accident
Leave of Absence

688-3800

FMLA and COVID-19 Medical Leave
May Require Documentation
Contact Labor Relations

688-8006

Kashable
Payroll Deduction Loans
From \$250 - \$20,000

www.kashable.com
646-663-4353
support@kashable.com

YOU MUST WEAR YOUR FACEMASK IN THE UNION HALL!

Saturday, Nov 21, 2020
Monthly Membership Meeting
~CANCELED~

Deadline for
"Voyager" will be Nov 27, 2020



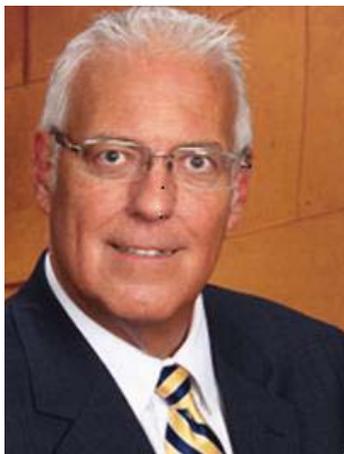
Meeting Sat, Nov 21
~CANCELED~



Meeting Sat, Nov 21
Behind the Union Hall
Noon

****IMPORTANT****

Union members must notify the Union to terminate coverage.
If you terminate your membership and/or employment, retire, become salaried, go out on Sick/Accident/ disability or no longer want Dental/Aflac coverage.



The Partners and Staff
Of
Montagna Klein Camden LLP
Wish you a
Safe, Healthy & Happy Thanksgiving!

Alan W. Broome Joins Montagna Klein Camden, L.L.P.

Montagna Klein Camden, L.L.P. is proud to announce that Alan W. Broome has joined our law firm as its newest attorney. Alan Broome provides aggressive, high-quality legal representation to all of his clients throughout Tidewater and surrounding areas. He consistently earns his clients positive outcomes before, during and after their legal issues have been addressed. He takes practical, creative approaches to each divorce, adoption, custody or family law issue he handles.

Areas of Practice

- Family Law
- Landlord Lease Law
- Business Law and Business entity formation
- Traffic Law
- Wills and Trusts
- Criminal Law

Education

- B.S. in Political Science from James Madison University 1976
- JD Regent University 2004

Bar Admissions

- Virginia 2005
- Virginia Supreme Court 2005

Associations

Virginia State Bar



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For more information visit our website at www.mkclawyers.com or call 877-622-8100.



THE LAW FIRM OF
Charlene A. Moring, P.C.

ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season



FREE FOOD TRUCK LUNCH

Attorney Moring and her staff invites you to receive a gift and **FREE** lunch served by E & G Food Truck to the **1st 200 workers!**

When: Thursday, December 17, 2020
Friday, December 18, 2020

Time: 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Gate: 46th STREET

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS, CONFIDENCE AND CONTINUED
SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

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