



MICHAEL H. BOLTON, DIRECTOR

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
1126 South 70th Street
Suite N509A
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@tcl.net
Robert Desmond	13702	Amalgamated	rdesmond@tcl.net
Jesse Edwards	2-232	Automotive Related	Jesse_edwards2101@yahoo.com
Kent Holsing	12075	Chemical & Energy Related	kentholsing@gmail.com
Jackie Anklem	9899	Health Care	jackieanklem_usw@aol.com
John Mandyk	12954	Public	jmandyk@uswlocal12954.com
Dave Page	1327	At Large	dpage08@yahoo.com
Matthew Gibbons	1965	At Large	usw5965@gmail.com
Jim Whit	2-145	Allied Industrial	whitjim@yahoo.com



United Steelworkers District 2
AFL-CIO-CLC

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

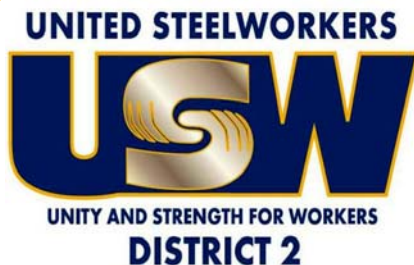
Contributors to this issue include:

Lori Gulekunt, Tammy Duncan, Jay McMullan, Leo W. Gerard, Kent Holsing, Linda Lucas, Tonya DeVore, Sue Browne, Maria Marks, Mark Gruenberg, USW New Media/Communication Dept., The History Channel

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

JULY 22, 2019, is the deadline for submissions for the next issue.



NEWS

JUNE 2019 • VOLUME 9, ISSUE 6, PAGE 1

"Don't Let Your Silence Be the Reason Your Elected Representative Doesn't Act"

A Message from Michael Bolton



For the past 25 years, American workers have been living a nightmare brought on by the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Just as we said would happen in 1994, millions of American jobs have moved south of the Mexican border as U.S. companies have rushed to exploit cheap labor and fewer regulations. And, as we also predicted back then, wages in our country have stagnated as our workers struggle to compete.

Now, President Trump and his administration have reached a new trade deal with Mexico and Canada. The Mexican government has already approved the deal and the Canadians are still debating it. Here in the U.S., the President has asked Congress to pass the United States, Mexico and Canada Agreement (USMCA) by August. While NAFTA 2.0, as I call it, is a significant improvement over the current agreement, it is certainly not ready for a vote in its present form. So, what's wrong with it?

Imagine for a minute that your Local Union's negotiating committee brought back a new labor agreement that did not include a grievance procedure. It failed to provide the Local with a way to settle disputes, resolve differences, correct unjust discipline, or to force management to keep its end of the bargain. The agreement would be useless without it.

That is basically the problem with NAFTA 2.0. The pact contains language to address many of the 113 concerns we raised with the administration prior to negotiations. However, as good as the text is, it's useless without enforcement language to back it up. Without the ability to police the agreement and take action against violators, what's the sense in having it?

Also, as I said above, we have been living with the consequences of NAFTA for 25 years. Millions of jobs have fled south and workers in both countries have suffered because of it. Finally, a President takes action to correct the deal and has foolishly set some arbitrary August deadline to pass it. It took 25 years for us to gain a second chance to fix NAFTA. If we don't get this one right,

how many more years will we have to suffer before we get another chance to fix this one?

I am asking all District 2 Steelworkers to contact their Representative and Senators to urge them not to support this trade agreement as it is currently written. The new deal must include strong language on workers' rights, environmental protections and end human rights violations. It must also include meaningful enforcement remedies.

Also, while you have them on the phone, take a couple more minutes to ask them to support the Protect the Right to Organize Act. This bill has been introduced in the House Education and Labor Committee by Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA) and is backed by many of the Democratic candidates for President. After ten years of attacks on our organizing and collective bargaining rights, this bill would remedy Right to Work, prohibit employers from launching aggressive anti-Union campaigns, and create real penalties for employers violating the law.

If you have ever been involved in a Union organizing drive, you know that since the passage of the National Labor Relations Act of 1937, court decisions and administrative actions have weakened the law. Employers have learned that breaking the law carries little consequences and can actually be used in their favor. For example, the NLRA prohibits employers from firing workers due to Union activity. However, the boss knows that the best way to kill a Union drive is to fire the people leading it. Sure, the Union can file a charge and win in a majority of the cases, but it's going to take months for the case to move through the underfunded system.

Also, following the Union filing charges, the National Labor Relations Board, the government agency charged with conducting Union representation elections, will move for a delay in the election until the unfair labor charge has been resolved. Unfortunately, the delay works in the employer's favor as it gives the company more time to beat up on its workers.

Eventually the Union's charge for the illegal firing will be heard. Even if the ruling is against the employer, there is little incentive to convince others to believe better as the only penalty is back pay for illegally fired workers and an order from the NLRB that the employer is required to post a notice admitting they broke the law.

— Continued on Page 2 —

"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

Did you know?

Did You Know?

Twelve of the 15 states with the worst pay gaps between men and women are "right to work" states.

In our glorious fight for civil rights, we must guard against being fooled by false slogans, such as 'right to work.' It is a law to rob us of our civil rights and job rights. Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and collective bargaining..."

—Martin Luther King Jr.



On June 14, 1777, John Adams introduced a resolution before Congress mandating a United States flag, stating, "...that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation."

FOR MORE ON THIS, GO TO PAGE 5

FREE

United Steelworkers is now offering **FREE** college!!!



Visit the link to find out more!

<https://freecollege.usw.org>



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.

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



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

A Message from Director Bolton - continued from page 1

Also, after voting to join a Union, workers have one year to bargain a new contract, or the boss's "No Committee" can file a petition for a new representation election. This happens frequently and serves a reason for employers to drag their feet during contract talks. The Union can file charges, but, again, the only penalty is being required to hang a notice that they broke the law.

It's time to reform the NLRA. After all, as mentioned above, it has been the law since 1937 and little has been done to modernize it over the years. Workers need a voice in the workplace to gain a fair contract and dignity on the job. It's time they had a fair system for joining a Union and a just system for dealing with lawbreakers, which includes real penalties to discourage bad behavior.

Speaking of current action taking place in Congress, I am happy to say that on June 11, the U.S. House Education and Labor Committee passed legislation in a bipartisan vote to create the Pension Rehabilitation Administration and a trust fund with the U.S. Treasury Department to make loans to multi-employer pension plans determined to be in critical or declining status. In order to secure a loan, the plan must prove that the loan will enable the plan to avoid insolvency and that the plan will be able to continue to pay benefits as well as repaying the loan.

The legislation is a win-win for everyone involved. First, it avoids the termination of multi-employer pension plans that currently pay benefits to millions of Americans. Second, it reforms existing plans and ensures their viability for years to come. Third, and, perhaps most important – it does all that, at no cost to taxpayers.

The funding problems with multi-employer pension plans have been brought on in part by 25 years of failed U.S. trade policy. The loss of millions of American jobs to low wage workers in developing countries has placed a tremendous strain on the pension system. HR-397, the Butch Lewis Act, addresses the funding shortage in a fair manner and ensures the retirement security of millions of senior pensioners.

HR-397 is in committee and although the date cannot be 100% confirmed, it is tentatively being scheduled to be heard on Wednesday, July 10, before the next step to move it to a vote of the full House of Representatives. We urge its passage and ask that the Senate take up and pass the measure in a timely manner.

Continuing with work going on in Congress, are you aware of the growing epidemic in the number of cases taking place where health care and social workers are being violently attacked on the job? For example, in 2017 there were over 400 reported homicides and some 28,000 serious, lost time injuries brought on by violence in the workplace. Sadly, workplace violence is preventable, but little is being done to train workers in violence recognition and the handling of violent situations.

HR-1309 changes that by creating an enforceable OSHA standard to prevent foreseeable violent incidences. Under the legislation, employers would be required to work with OSHA to develop plans to protect workers from violence on the job. The plans would be tailored to specific workplaces and employee populations. It requires identification of hazards, improved reporting, training for workers and management, review of existing policies and procedures, and the development of emergency response systems.

In 2004, OSHA issued a voluntary guidance to employers on how to prevent violence in the workplace. However, the number of violent attacks continues to grow. Voluntary compliance does not work. It's time for OSHA to set a real, permanent standard that employers are required to adhere to. Like other workplace accidents, violence is preventable. Congress must act now to pass HR-1309. Further delay only results in another health care or social worker being injured on the job. Tell your member of Congress to support the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Services Workers Act.

As you can see, there is a lot going on in the U.S. House; and it is the kind of legislation that benefits us, the American Working Class. Remember, the Koch Brothers and the other billionaire Republican donor classes never take a day off. They, and their top dollar lobbyists, are always working to pass their anti-worker agenda, which means we have to stay active too. Your member of Congress *does* listen to what you say. They are moved by what they hear. But they are also moved by what they don't hear.

Call your members of Congress today and let them know you support pro-worker legislation. Don't let your silence be the reason your elected representative doesn't act.

"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 19th AFL-CIO Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil and Human Rights Conference**
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 Kosciusko • Manistee, MI

APRIL

- 9-10 USW 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 Kosciusko • Manistee, MI

MAY

- 1 USW District 2 Lobby Day (Wisconsin)**
Capitol Building (North Wing), 2 East Main Street • Madison, WI
- 5-10 USW District 2 WOS Leadership Development Course Levels I and 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)**

MAY continued

- 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, Suite 200 • 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
- 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, Suite 200 • 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

- 9-13 USW International Safety and Health Conference**
Westin Convention Center, 1000 Penn Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA

OCTOBER

- 8 Presidents Meeting**
Ronn Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI
- 9 Presidents Meeting**
Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue • Marshfield, WI
- 10 Presidents Meeting**
Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI
- 11 Presidents Meeting**
Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI
- 15 Presidents Meeting**
Teamsters Local 7 Hall, 3330 Miller Road • Kalamazoo, MI
- 16 Presidents Meeting**
USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI
- 17 Presidents Meeting**
USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI
- 28-30 USW International Rapid Response Conference**
Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Avenue NW • Washington, D.C.

NOVEMBER

- 4-8 Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (Wisconsin)**
TBD • Appleton & Milwaukee, WI
- 18-22 USW International Next Generation Conference**
TBD • Pittsburgh, PA

DECEMBER

- 2-6 Sub-District Local Union Leadership Training (Michigan)**
TBD • Midland & 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 D2 Website.

Financial Officer and Trustee Training Classes to be Held in July

District 2 is pleased to announce Financial Officer and Trustee Training classes will be held:

<p>July 8 – 9, 2019</p> <p>Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley 333 West College Avenue Appleton, Wisconsin 54911</p>	<p>July 11 – 12, 2019</p> <p>Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center 5121 Bay City Road Midland, Michigan</p>
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Please be aware that these classes are a full two days in length, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending by 5:00 p.m. both days. Registration will be held at 8:00 a.m. on the first day of class.

The Financial Officer class will take place over a two-day period and will consist of training all financial officers on the duties and responsibilities of all officers pertaining to the finances of the Local Union, as well as the policies of the USW and the Department of Labor. Participants will go over the cashbook in detail, all federal tax forms with some detail, as well as year end forms that need to be processed. An open class discussion is welcomed with questions and scenarios that officers see in their Local.

The Trustee class will take place over a two-day period. The first day will consist of lecture and PowerPoint on the duties and responsibilities of all officers pertaining to Local Union finances as well as the policies of the USW and the Department of Labor. All federal tax forms as well as year-end forms that need to be processed will be reviewed. The second day will consist of a three-month mock audit. Participants will go over vouchers, bank statements, and other supporting documentation month by month with the auditor, then on their own; and will be looking for errors, and learning to reconcile. Once the numbers are confirmed for each month, participants will complete the quarterly audit report. An open class discussion is welcomed with questions and scenarios that participants see in their Local.

Notices were sent to all District 2 Local Union Presidents and Recording Secretaries on April 26. Please contact your Staff Representative if you never received your copy or if it was simply misplaced.

USW D2 Offices' Summer Hours

Please note there will be modified summer hours for some District 2 offices. These new hours will begin on Monday, June 3, 2019, and will continue through Friday, August 30, 2019. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, September 3, 2019.

Menasha, Wisconsin	7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Monday – Thursday) 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Friday)
West Allis, Wisconsin	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Friday)
Taylor, Michigan	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Monday – Thursday) 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Friday)
Bay City, Michigan	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Monday – Friday)

Please share this information with your membership. Feel free to contact the District 2 office with any questions. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

This Month in History: June 14, 1877 • Congress Adopts the Stars and Stripes - The History Channel

The American flag is flown in battle for the first time, during a Revolutionary War skirmish at Cooch's Bridge, Maryland. Patriot General William Maxwell ordered the stars and strips banner raised as a detachment of his infantry and cavalry met an advance guard of British and Hessian troops. The rebels were defeated and forced to retreat to General George Washington's main force near Brandywine Creek in Pennsylvania.



Three months before, on June 14, the Continental Congress adopted a resolution stating that "the flag of the United States be thirteen alternate stripes red and white" and that "the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

The national flag, which became known as the "Stars and Stripes," was based on the "Grand Union" flag, a banner carried by the Continental Army in 1776 that also consisted of 13 red and white stripes.

According to legend, Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross designed the new canton for the Stars and Stripes, which consisted of a circle of 13 stars and a blue background, at the request of General George Washington. Historians have been unable to conclusively prove or disprove this legend.

With the entrance of new states into the United States after independence, new stripes and stars were added to represent new additions to the Union. In 1818, however, Congress enacted a law stipulating that the 13 original stripes be restored and that only stars be added to represent new states.

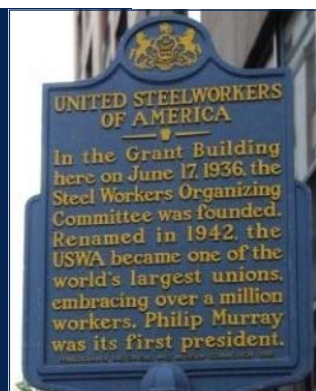
On June 14, 1877, the first Flag Day observance was held on the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes. As instructed by Congress, the U.S. flag was flown from all public buildings across the country. In the years after the first Flag Day, several states continued to observe the anniversary, and in 1949 Congress officially designated June 14 as Flag Day, a national day of observance.

This Month in Labor History: SWOC Sets up Headquarters • U.S. Supreme Court Rules Against President Truman



On June 17, 1936: The Steelworkers Organizing Committee (SWOC) sets up its headquarters in downtown Pittsburgh with the goal to organize steelworkers.

"Our first problem was to banish fear from the steelworkers' minds," recalled Philip Murray, SWOC Chairman. On March 2, 1937, U.S. Steel signs its first collective bargaining agreement with SWOC.

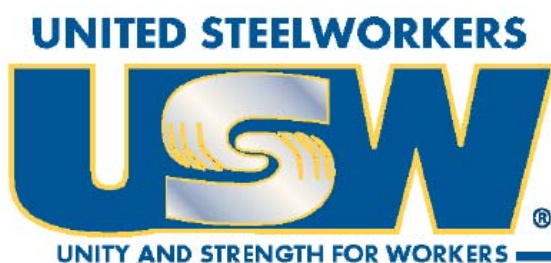


On June 2, 1952, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that President Harry S. Truman had no authority when he seized control of the nation's steel mills on April 8 – the day before a nationwide steelworkers' strike was set to begin – to keep them in production for the Korean War effort. There were 600,000 steelworkers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



"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

Letter to the Members from Leo W. Gerard, USW International President



Leo W. Gerard
International President

June 3, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As many of you have heard by now, I've announced my decision to retire as USW International President, effective July 15, 2019. Fighting alongside all of you has been my privilege for more than 50 years. Our shared mission to improve the lives of all working people will always be my guiding light, as well as the enduring purpose of our union.

But now it's time for other activists to take up the mantle of leadership.

In my decades as a local union activist, union staff, District Director, National Director of Canada, Secretary-Treasurer and finally International President, our union has grown and changed.

Our great union has welcomed new members in new sectors. We've weathered difficult negotiations, and we've taken our fights on many issues important to our members to our nations' capitals.

We developed key partnerships with international allies, including forming the first global union, Workers Uniting. And our union was one of the founders of the Blue Green Alliance (BGA) and the Centre for Research in Occupational Health and Safety (CROSH).

We took on big, multinational corporations, we beat back unfair trade deals, and we made our workplaces safer.

My work with the union is not ending. Over the course of my career I was deeply touched to be awarded honorary degrees from three Canadian universities in recognition of our union's important work: Laurentian University, Brock University and the University of Guelph. Now, I intend to remain active in the labor community, and I'll always fight on the side of workers' rights.

However, I also intend to step back, to enjoy my retirement and spend more time with my wife and family.

As union brothers and sisters, we've stood together through good and bad. I now ask you to join me in supporting the next step in our union's future.

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

60 Boulevard of the Allies, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 • 412-562-2400 • www.usw.org

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— Continued on Page 7 —

"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

Letter to the Members from Leo W. Gerard, USW International President - continued from page 6

In addition to my announcement, Secretary-Treasurer Stan Johnson, Vice President At Large Carol Landry, and Vice President Jon Geenen have also stated that they will all be stepping down on July 15.

Each of these individuals has done immeasurable work on behalf of the union, and we owe them our thanks.

Stan began his union career at a URW tire plant in 1975 as a tire builder. He has held many union positions throughout his career, including as Secretary-Treasurer since 2009. As the union's CFO, Stan brought stability, strength and confidence to the union's finances. He oversaw the union's crucial Rapid Response program and chaired the union's Rubber and Plastics Industry Conference, leading negotiations with some of the nation's largest tire makers as well as chairing bargaining within the paper industry.

Carol joined the USW executive board in 2008 as the first woman to ever serve on the board, bringing with her years of experience as an activist and negotiator. She began her career in 1986 and held many union positions. She has been responsible for the union's nuclear and chemical sectors and served as co-chair of the USW's Next Generation Program. She also served as Vice President of the IndustriALL Global Union and spearheaded programs encouraging women to take leadership roles in the union.

Jon joined the USW Board in 2008 and has overseen bargaining, trade issues and public policy related to the domestic paper industry. He began his career in 1977 as a journeyman maintenance tech in the pulp and paper industry. Since then, Jon has worked tirelessly to guide USW paper workers through a maze of mergers and acquisitions, to develop a coordinated pattern of labor agreements within the industry and to improve contract language and a stronger voice for members.

Stan, Carol, and Jon's announcements, along with mine, have paved the way for a new leadership team, and the decision to announce these changes together will ensure that a capable and experienced group of trade union leaders will hit the ground running together.

The International Executive Board met May 28-30 and passed a resolution approving a plan to transition the union leadership. The result was unanimous support for the following candidates, who will now join Vice President Fred Redmond and Canadian National Director Ken Neumann in leading our union:

- Thomas M. Conway, International President
- John Shinn, International Secretary-Treasurer
- David R. McCall, International Vice President/Administration
- Roxanne Brown, International Vice President At Large
- Leeann Foster, International Vice President

Steelworkers Organizer Comes Up with Great Anti-New NAFTA Line - by Mark Gruenberg

June 20, 2019, 10:40 AM CDT

Photo on right: AFL-CIO screenshot photo via PAI Photo Service: Maria Somma, the Steelworkers Organizing Director, told AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka at a trade forum in Pittsburgh that she needed an anti-NAFTA soundbite to get her in the door to talk with workers about the pact's problems. He offered "If it isn't enforceable, it's useless." Her better line: "If ya can't enforce it, why are ya gonna pass it?"

PITTSBURGH—Steelworkers organizer Maria Somma came up with a great line for unionists to use when urging lawmakers to defeat GOP President Donald Trump's "new NAFTA."

"If ya can't enforce it, why are ya gonna pass it?" she asks.

Somma's summary for workers to tell their lawmakers revised the answer she got from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka at a June 17 town hall meeting in Pittsburgh on the "new NAFTA," formally called the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Trumka hosted two other town halls on the "free trade" pact, one in Cleveland and the other just outside Detroit, in the following two days.

Somma, the union's Organizing Director, told Trumka that as an organizer, she needs a quick and simple soundbite "to get me in the door" so she can sit down with workers and their families to explain the multitude of problems with the proposed pact. "Put on your organizing hat," she urged.

"If it isn't enforceable, it's useless," Trumka replied after thought. Somma did better.

Enforceability, or lack of it, is a big problem with the USMCA, Trumka, a southwestern Pennsylvanian and former coal miner and Mine Workers president, told the standing-room-only crowd. He seriously doubts Mexico can meet the USMCA's targets for total revision of Mexico's pro-corporate anti-worker structure in the pact's 4-year time frame for that achievement.

The requirements range over everything from hiring thousands of new worker rights inspectors to getting rid of company unions and the 700,000 pro-corporate contracts they negotiated. Other problems with the pact include its goal of enforcing higher North American content on new cars and trucks, and that those cars and trucks must be made by workers averaging at least \$16 an hour.

"If you've got a U.S. worker making \$29 and a Mexican worker making \$3.50" for chunks of the same car, that car qualifies under the USMCA, Trumka said. And the requirement still leaves Mexico's low-pay no-standards regime in place, he explained.

The USMCA could also hurt consumers in all three countries, said Trumka, by giving Big Pharma a big bonanza: 10-year exclusive rights to new drugs, while barring development of competing cheaper generics. Exclusivity would drive up drug prices in all three nations, Trumka told Service Employees Local 668 retiree Linda Andrews. Many drugs are already sky high here, he said.

The town halls are part of organized labor's push to get the USMCA's enabling legislation rewritten to include strong pro-worker and pro-consumer language before Trump sends the measure to Congress. Lawmakers can take up or down votes on Trump's bill – not the USMCA itself – but they can't change it. And solons can't change the pact after it takes effect, Trumka told one questioner.

That's just as bad as the 25-year-old current NAFTA, which GOP President George H.W. Bush negotiated and Democratic President Bill Clinton pushed through a Democratic-run Congress, narrowly, over enormous labor opposition. Unions forecast, correctly, NAFTA would cost hundreds of thousands of U.S. factory jobs. Current calculations range from 770,000-1 million. And that doesn't include white-collar jobs, such as in call centers, which companies also moved to Mexico.

At least Trump's U.S. Trade Representative, Robert Lighthizer, listens to workers' complaints about the new NAFTA, and considers its 137 pages of proposed changes, Trumka told the crowd. Trumka speaks with Lighthizer at least weekly, and the two often meet. And Lighthizer has inserted some provisions to protect workers. By contrast, Democratic President Barack Obama's trade rep gave labor the cold shoulder on trade talks, for the new NAFTA and other pacts, Trumka said.

But the changes haven't been enough, yet, to let organized labor get on board the new NAFTA. Business is strongly pushing the extremely pro-corporate Trump administration to enact the pact's legislation by the end of July, before the congressional recess – and the 2020 campaign.



— Continued on Page 9 —

"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

Steelworkers Organizer Comes Up with Great Anti-New NAFTA Line - by Mark Gruenberg, continued from page 8

As might be expected, those politics entered the discussion, too. Some pro-worker analysts contend workers' long memories of Bill Clinton's role in pushing the current NAFTA through led unionists in the key Great Lakes states that narrowly went for Trump – Ohio, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Michigan – to distrust Hillary Clinton and vote for the GOPer. Those states' electoral votes gave Trump the Oval Office.

"If you don't talk about kitchen table issues they (workers) are going to tune out," Trumka told SEIU Pennsylvania member Gabe Kramer. That includes strongly backing the new pro-worker labor law rewrite the federation and its Democratic allies have introduced on Capitol Hill and lawmakers' stand on the new NAFTA, too.

"Look 'em in the eyes and see where they stand," he urged the workers in confronting lawmakers. "You know when they're giving you malarkey, or when they mean it in their heart."

"And then, after that, we have to be issue-oriented," he advised. "Here's our issue. If you stand with us, we'll support you. If not, have a good rest of your life."

And the new NAFTA is a big one in that issue basket, including slowing it down, which Trumka says House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., plans to do.

"What's the rush?" Trumka asked. Since the new NAFTA/USMCA would be in place for at least as long as the old one, "Don't get it done fast. Get it done right."

District 2 WOS Grand Rapids Area Council Meeting – by Linda Lucas

Peter Fimbinger, Community Service Trooper of the Michigan State Police (MSP) Rockford Post, joined the Grand Rapids Women of Steel Area Council Meeting. He educated the women on human trafficking and how social media is playing a big part. District 2 WOS Coordinator Tonya DeVore gave a presentation on Government 101 and then helped with filling purses and tote bags with socks, toothbrushes, combs, shampoo, soap, etc., to give to the needy.



Far right picture above, left to right are: Jackie Ruff and Jodi Moore (LU 2-2000), Becky Sallie (LU 49L), Jennifer Meiler and Denna Smith (LU 5965) and MSP Trooper Peter Fimbinger.

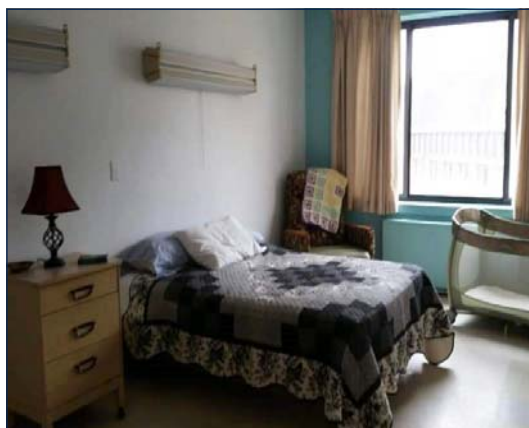
Local 7237 WOS Volunteer 245 Hours of Community Service – by Maria Marks

I would like to give a huge shout out to our USW LU 7237 Women of Steel group. This group put in over 245 hours of community service time rehabbing 4 rooms for a soon to be opened Women and Children's Shelter. They also gathered donations such as socks, underwear, pajamas, diapers and other baby/child care items as well as \$700. The generosity of all

our Union Brothers and Sisters was overwhelming to say the least.

Not everyone who helped could be in the picture but they were essential in helping the future residents get a fresh start in life.

Far left Photo, left to right are: Emily Chrisman, Elizabeth Shultz, Maria Marks, and Deb Robey all from LU 7237.



MI Governor Gretchen Whitmer Visits Leaders from USW Locals 12075 and 12934 – by Kent Holsing

On Monday, June 10th, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer visited with leaders from Locals 12075 and 12934 at the Local 12075 Union Hall in Midland, Michigan.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss her position on supporting organized labor's role at Dow in Midland and Michigan abroad. "Dow's recent lock out of USW Local 13-1 members in Deer Park, TX, provides a glaring example of Dow's recent lack of focus on the ability to relate to labor. We feel that this lack of focus would not be conducive to business or community success in the Great Lake Bay Region or for the State of Michigan," said Kent Holsing, President of Local 12075. "The Governor was clear in her support for our position and we believe that it would be very helpful in getting Dow to refocus their efforts and reinforcing the importance of that relationship between labor and the corporation."

Mike Orvosh, President of Local 12934, stated, "I was very pleased and encouraged with her visit. It highlighted the fact that she supports organized labor in this area and that we are key to the success of not only Dow but also the community."



From left to right: Mike Bilodeau, Unit President Local 12075-24 (DuPont); Mike Orvosh, President Local 12934 (Dow); Kent Holsing, President Local 12075 (Dow); MI Governor Gretchen Whitmer; Dick Govitz, Unit President Local 12075-25 (Corteva Agriscience) and Dan Nadolski, USW Sub-District Director.

District 2 WOS Detroit Area Lobby Days • June 18, 2019 – by Linda Lucas



From left to right: Linda Lucas (LU 13702); Senator Erika Geiss; Echo Carlsen (LU 690L); Tabria McKay (LU 690L); Marge Walls (LU 1900); Theresa Dinoto (LU 1900); and Cora Gelormino (LU 1299) retiree.

The Detroit Area WOS Council recently held their meeting in Lansing in order to do some lobbying. For most, it was their first time speaking to their Senator and Representative. The day began at the MI AFL-CIO to get some lobbying training and info on a few current issues: multi-employer pensions, workplace safety and Michigan's mining future.

Then it was off to the Capitol Building to pull Senators out of session. They all came out to see who the "Women of Steel" were. The women jumped right in to express their concerns and share their relevant stories. After, everyone headed to the House Building where we had appointments.

USW Local 690L member, Echo Carson, said about her first time lobbying: "Senator Erika Geiss came out of session to hear from us about our issues and took the time for a photo. She's a very nice, caring person. If she was my senator I'd be thrilled. My senator, Ken Horn, did take the time but never engaged in our conversation. We met with a few other senators in addition to some representatives who made time to have one on one meetings.



Senator Ken Horn and Echo Carson



Senator Jim Ananich; Theresa Dinoto (LU 1900); and Tabria McKay (LU 690L).



Representative Hank Vaupel; Linda Lucas; and Marge Walls (LU 1900).

It was a great experience. It was great to feel like my voice and our issues matter. Thanks to the Women of Steel, especially Linda Lucas, for making it happen and for organizing our Lobby Day and thanks to our Local, USW 690L, for sending Tabria McKay and me."

"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

District 2 Rapid Response • Local 12075 Gathers for Training - June 18, 2019 — Sue Browne, USW D2 RR Coordinator

USW Local 12075, based out of Midland, Michigan, recently came together for an in-depth training to strengthen the Rapid Response program at their local, which is amalgamated with multiple units ranging from chemical manufacturing to healthcare, in both the public and private sectors. While the local has always been active participating in various Rapid Response actions, Local Union President Kent Holsing wanted to expand upon that and strengthen the program. He believes, "The Rapid Response program needs to be an intricate part of our members' knowledge in order to build a more effective union."



Sitting (left to right): Kent Holsing, President (LU 12075) and Unit Pres.; Lisa Sheredy, Dept. Steward (12075-25); Lisa Haney, Dept. Steward (12075-02); Christie Gillette, Unit Griever, (12075-17); Kendra Aldrich, Unit Pres., (12075-17) Standing (left to right): Demetrius Humes, Unit Griever (12075-24); Matt Bentley, Unit Griever (12075); David Arndt, Dept. Steward (12075-24); Mike Bilodeau, Unit Pres. (12075-24); Jim Varnum, Dept. Steward (12075-24); Robert Todd, Unit Pres. (12075-02); Nathan LaFollette, Dept. Steward (12075-24); Joel Noyes, Unit Pres. (12075-08); Shane Wright, Unit Griever (12075-8); Ben Fergin, Unit Sec. (12075-25); Dick Govitz Jr, Unit Pres. (12075-25) and Mikal Shanks, Unit Griever (12075-25).

The in-depth Rapid Response training gives an overview of the program as well as helps to make the connection between legislation, government decisions and what we get at the bargaining table. Significant time is spent discussing effective communication techniques and provides a forum to explore different ideas to overcome obstacles that arise when trying to build an effective program. Members from each unit were able to map out their workplaces and strategize a path moving forward to build an effective communication and action network at each of their workplaces.



Michigan Women of Steel • June 11, 2019 - by Linda Lucas

This year Michigan WOS is trying something different. Instead of a single WOS Sponsored Lobby Day, the council meetings are being held in Lansing. This way WOS be will be represented at the Michigan Capitol more often. Their first meeting was on June 11, 2019, and the turn out was great. This was the first time lobbying for most of the attendees. They all jump right in and spoke with their elected representatives.

They all were a little nervous at first, but soon after speaking to their Senators, their fears faded away and then they wondered why hadn't they done this sooner! They even had a chance to meet with Garlin Gilchrist, Michigan's lieutenant governor.



"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

USW Rapid Response Action Call • SAFE JOBS NOW



Safe Jobs Now

A national postcard action to address workplace violence in health care and social services is underway.

"There is an incident nearly every week at my hospital that ranges from slapping to punching to broken bones. I am a big guy, but one time I was trying to change the wet bed of a male patient when he became agitated and broke my arm. I was out of work for weeks."

"My daughter was hurt by a patient. She was hit and punched while trying to keep him from hurting other patients. She had to have a disc in her neck replaced because of it."

"I was stabbed at work by a patient."

These stories happen too often for the tens of thousands of nurses, support staff, home care workers, behavioral health staff, emergency medical technicians, and others in our union who work in health care and social services. While workplace violence is a serious and growing problem for all workers, incidents in these industries have far outpaced any other. A lack of preventative measures combined with the increasingly profit-driven nature of health care is resulting in problems like unsafe staffing levels that contribute to the trend.

This foreseeable and preventable problem impacts anyone who works directly in health care or social services, anyone who is a patient, and anyone who visits or accompanies a patient. Given that workplace violence compromises quality of care, everyone is ultimately impacted.

This is why we are launching a nationwide action to push for the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1309/S. 851). This bill would direct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to ensure these workplaces develop and implement violence prevention plans.

Resources for the Postcard Action

Packages of postcards directed to U.S. Senators and the Secretary of Labor were mailed to all Local Union Presidents along with instructions.* Please circulate the postcards in your workplace, then return them to Rapid Response (instructions in the link below). This is a solvable problem, but it will take action like this to get it done.

- Action [Instructions & Quick Facts](http://usw.to/Instructions) (usw.to/Instructions)
- Sample [Postcard](#) (Note: If your local needs more postcards, contact your District Rapid Response Coordinator or call 412-562-2291) (usw.to/Card)
- AFL-CIO [Fact Sheet](#) (usw.to/WVFact)
- Links to the bill: [H.R. 1309/S. 851](#) (usw.to/HR1309)
- Report: [Death on the Job: A Toll of Neglect](#), April 2019 (includes health care information) (usw.to/DOTJ2019)

*Packets for locals in District 10 (Pennsylvania) will be hand delivered within the next few weeks.

USW Rapid Response • (412) 562-2291 • <http://www.uswrr.org> • www.facebook.com/USWRapidResponse



Letter to the Members from Leo W. Gerard, USW International President - continued from page 7

I've personally known Tom Conway, our current Vice President for Administration for more than 25 years. In this time, he's earned my admiration, demonstrating a special toughness and a willingness to take on the most difficult jobs and negotiations. He has a strong vision and unique perspective about the future direction of the union.

Tom has my complete support as our new President.

Tom has served as USW Vice President since 2005. He began his career as a millwright at Bethlehem Steel in 1978, and then worked as a staff representative and as the secretary of the USW's Basic Steel Conference. He has also chaired many of the union's major sector negotiations in steel, mining, aluminum, tire and rubber, oil, and other metals and manufacturing operations.

He led the charge on trade issues affecting these sectors, including the union's efforts in trade enforcement. He stood shoulder to shoulder with me and hundreds of our members during the Battle in Seattle. Tom's also spearheaded the USW's efforts in fighting to bring change to the nation's trade and manufacturing policies.

In addition to serving on the governing board of the Institute for Career Development and the board for the Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM), Tom has been instrumental in building and guiding the USW staff training program and in helping to develop the union's leadership development program.

You may also already know the other new board members, all of whom are also dedicated activists and negotiators.

John Shinn is our union's Director of District 4. John joined the USW executive board in 2012 and has aggressively promoted job creation within his district. He chairs the Inter-Union Gas Conference and various committees within the union's paper conference. John joined the labor movement in 1974 as a member of the United Glass and Ceramic Workers International Union (UGCWIU), which later merged to become the Aluminum, Brick and Glass Workers (ABG). He served as a staff representative in the ABG and as a sub-director in the USW before becoming director.

David R. McCall is our union's Director of District 1. He first joined the union's international executive board in 1998. Beginning his career as a millwright, he has held many union positions, including serving as a staff representative, assistant director and director. Dave has more than 40 years of bargaining experience across the union and chairs major negotiations in steel, paper and other sectors.

Roxanne Brown is our Legislative Director in the union's Washington, D.C., office. She will continue to oversee legislative, public policy and political matters while remaining based in the capital. Roxy has a broad base of experience working for legislation that supports USW members and all working people. She also works with the various companies and associations that are impacted by regulations and laws under consideration in the nation's agencies and Congress.

Letter to the Members from Leo W. Gerard, USW International President - continued from page 13

Leeann Foster is an Assistant to the International President and has served as Associate General Counsel since the 2005 USW/PACE merger. Leeann works as a lead bargainer within the paper sector, as well as leading the union's Women of Steel leadership program. She also serves as the Co-Chair of the IndustriALL Global Union working group for the pulp and paper sector. Leeann has been instrumental in leading the USW paper industry through difficult bargaining and has worked to develop a safety strategy within the sector.

Our union is changing and becoming more diverse, and our board is changing to reflect that growth. The USW is committed to bringing forward the next generation of labor leaders and to providing the tools, training, and opportunity they will need to succeed.

These changes in leadership do not mean we are shrinking from any of our longstanding commitments, and there are still fights we must take on. The new team brings vast experience and knowledge of our industries and issues and will continue the proud traditions the union has always stood for.

All of us – Stan, Carol, Jon and myself – stand humbled to have had the opportunity to represent you and all our members. I look forward to the next few months as we enact this transition in leadership, and I hope I can count on all of you to support our new board members.

It's truly been an honor working with all of you. I can say in all honesty that I leave our union in good hands.

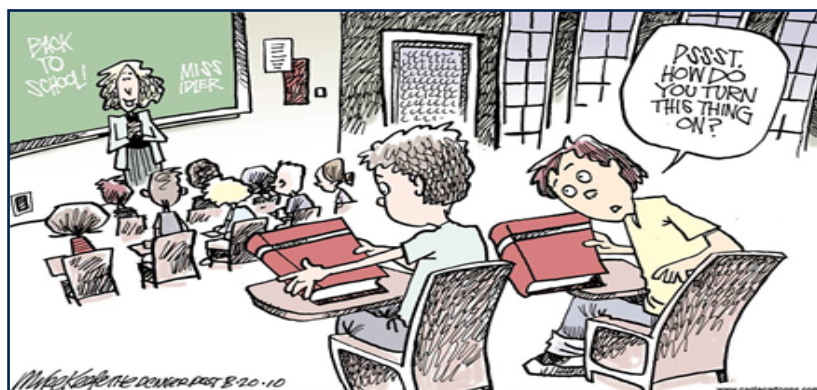
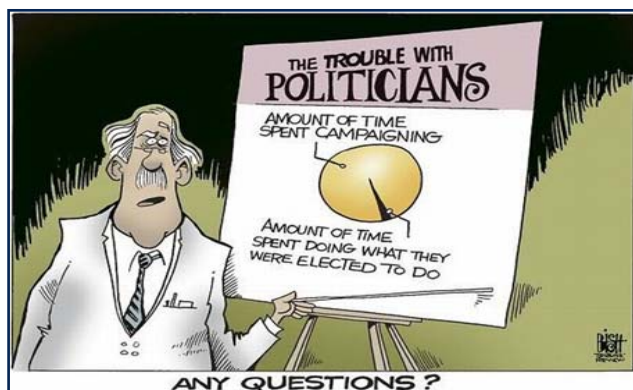
In solidarity,



Leo W. Gerard
International President

CC Local Union Presidents
Local Union Recording Secretaries
Staff Representatives
International Executive Board

Not So Funny Political Cartoons



"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

USW Free College Benefit for Union Members!

HIGHER EDUCATION IN JUST 4 STEPS



1 APPLY TO EASTERN GATEWAY

Go to unionplusfreecollege.org, select the "Get Started" button and complete the request information form with your contact and union information (for membership verification).



2 COMPLETE THE FREE FAFSA

Complete the form online: FAFSA.ed.gov
Eastern Gateway Community College school code: **007275** The FAFSA application is a requirement. If it's determined that you are not eligible for federal grants, a "last-dollar" scholarship will be applied to your remaining balance for tuition, fees and e-books.

Your FAFSA may be chosen for additional verification by the Dept. of Education. Your enrollment advisor can help you with the process as compliance is required.



3 SUBMIT PROOF OF GRADUATION OR GED COMPLETION

Acceptable proof includes official or unofficial High School/GED transcripts, or a copy of your diploma or official college transcript showing Associate Degree or higher. Send to:

Email: transcripts@egcc.edu (Subject: Union Plus)

Mail: EGCC Admissions
Attn: UnionPlus
101 Federal Plaza East
Youngstown, OH 44503

Fax: 330-480-0817 (Attn: Union Plus)

If you have completed any college coursework, have the transcript sent to EGCC. Applicable college credits will be transferred to the new program.



4 ENROLL IN CLASSES

Work with an enrollment advisor to register for classes.

1-888-590-9009
unionplusfreecollege.org



The Free College benefit covers the cost of tuition, fees and books after any PELL or other federal grant, or employer reimbursement is applied. The remaining amount will be cleared with the Free College scholarship. As long as your financial aid file is complete, there is no cost to the student and students are never asked to take out any loans.

"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"