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March 2011 Edition

Local 1440



Financial Secretary's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have all seen on the news what has happened in Wisconsin. Our Union brothers and sisters are fighting for their rights and OURS. Gov. Walker was successful in breaking the Public Employees Union's right to collective bargaining. Look for a negative action like this to spread..



Wisconsin Workers' Rally in Sacramento 2/22/11

"Stand with

We sit out here with all of our workers rights; meal breaks, rest breaks, overtime after 8 hours and 40 hours, safe working conditions, jury duty pay, paid funeral leave, defined pension plan, holiday paid, vacations, scheduled pay raises, Sunday premium pay, bidding procedure for job advancement, seniority rights, recall rights if laid off, paid healthcare, paid dental, paid life insurance, lunch rooms, change rooms, lockers and many more. These rights that are afforded us are often taken for granted. Everything we have as workers we have because of Unions. Either they were negotiated in a contract or became State Law because of Labor demanding worker protection laws. These are workers rights that were made possible by Unions. California is one (1) of only 22 states that have a

state law that guarantees a lunch break and 1 of only 7 states that require a rest break to workers. I hope that we in California don't become complacent with our Brothers' fight in Wisconsin. It is ours fight too. What is happening in Wisconsin and Ohio is because there are Republican legislators and Republican Governors exercising the "tea baggers" will. Thank god that Meg Whitman didn't get voted in as Governor, or who know what she might have done to weaken workers rights.



"Stand with Wisconsin Workers" Rally in Sacramento 2/22/11

If you would like to become involved or would like to get more information on upcoming rallies (April 4th, We are One, march across the Crockett Bridge) email me at financial_secretary@usw1440.com or you can visit these sites:

www.Usw.org, www.callaborfed.org,
www.americanrightsatwork.org,

AN INJURY TO ONE IS A INJURY TO ALL

Fraternally yours,

Linda Doppe

P.S. - to the "chalk board tough guy" the next Union meeting is on April 14th @ 5:30 pm.

NOTICE

Nomination and Election for delegates
to attend the USW Constitutional
Convention will be held at the regular
Union Meeting on April 14th @ 5:30 pm



(Pittsburgh) – This statement was released by the United Steelworkers (USW) on actions taken by Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker and Republican Senators.

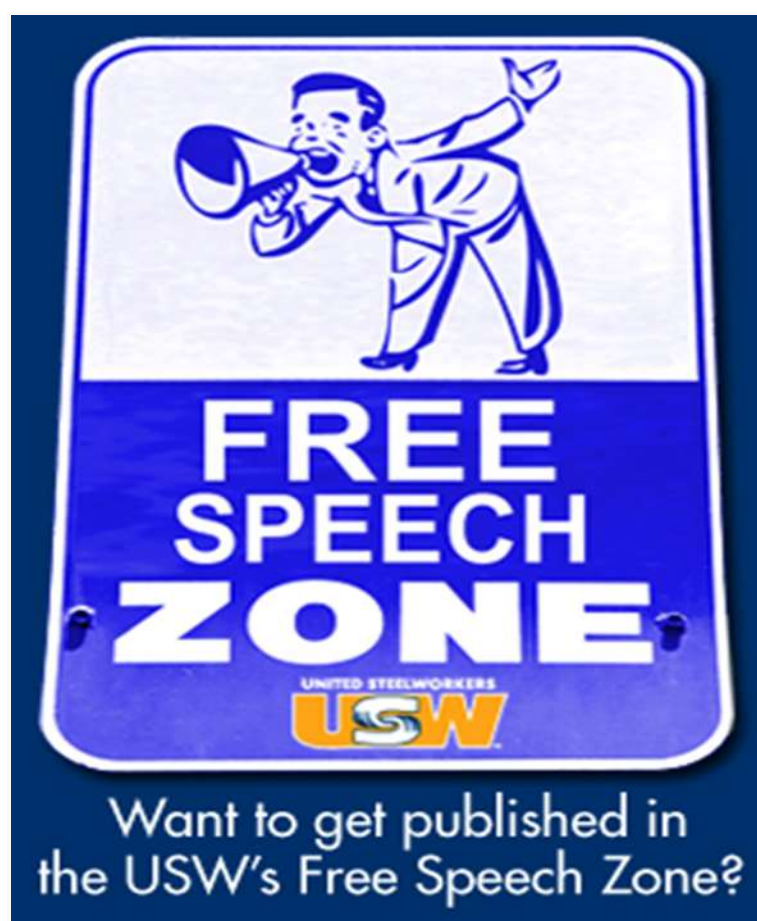
In a clear violation of Wisconsin’s open meeting law, Wisconsin conservative senators voted without a quorum to strip the state’s public sector workers – teachers, nurses, and librarians – of collective bargaining rights that the people of Wisconsin granted them a half century ago.

United Steelworkers International President **Leo W. Gerard** said this attack on the rights of Wisconsin’s public sector workers is an attack on all working people. “Although Wisconsin law requires a quorum when Senators vote to spend the people’s money, these conservatives exploited a loophole to vote without a quorum on legislation to steal workers’ rights. This is not democracy,” Gerard said.

“As illustrated by the surging crowd of protesters who filled the capitol building in Wisconsin after the undemocratic sneak-vote Wednesday the 9th, workers everywhere, whether public sector or private sector, union or unrepresented, will unite to win back their rights with their feet at protests and their votes at ballot boxes,” said Gerard, who leads North America’s largest industrial union, with 850,000 members, including steelworkers, paper workers, oil workers, rubber workers and public sector workers in the U.S. and Canada.

The conservative attack on workers in Wisconsin is far from isolated, Gerard said: “This is a nation-wide campaign by billionaires and country-club conservatives, to terminate workers’ rights, giving unfettered power to corporations.” So far in Wisconsin, conservatives have granted only government workers the right to freeload – the ability to benefit from collective bargaining without paying union dues. In nine other states, from Maine to Missouri, conservatives are pushing right to freeload legislation to cripple all unions.

“All this legislation is an attack on the middle class, which blossomed in this country as a result of collective bargaining victories during the middle of the last century. Middle class workers, whether Republican or Democrat, know they must repel this assault on their right to collectively bargain or be reduced to insecurity and poverty,” Gerard said.



WRITE A BRIEF BLOG FOR THE RANK AND FILER (250 WORDS OR FEWER) AND SEND IT TO USW LOCAL 1440 PITTSBURG, CA. 94565
financial_secretary@usw1440.com
677 Cumberland Street
Pittsburg, CA. 94565

In Memoriam

Larry Redman

Brother Redman, 69, passed away on February 25, 2011. He retired from as a Janitor in 2004 with 30 years of service.



United Steelworkers

Founded	May 22, 1942
Members	Over 850,000
Country	United States, Canada
Affiliation	AFL-CIO, CLC
Key people	Leo Gerard, president
Office location	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Website	http://www.usw.org , http://www.usw.ca/



Have You Been Sworn In Yet?

**Our Union Meetings are held every
2nd Thursday of the month
Our Next Meeting will be on
April 14th
5:30 PM at the Union Hall
677 Cumberland Street
Pittsburg, CA**

Your Wage Safety Representative's

Bill Halgas	439-6388
Bob Bedoya	430-6486
Tim Lear	439-6535
John Passur	439-6144

RETIREMENTS

February

Pam Almondovar – 34 years service, worked as a Finisher on the CC Lines.

March

Rudy Garcia – 36 years service, worked as a Tractor Operator in the Tin Warehouse.

**Congratulations and good luck
to our Sister and Brother
on their retirement.**

The Drug & Alcohol Committee of Local 1440 wishes to share the 12 Steps of Recovery

*3rd Step- Made a decision to turn OUR will and
OUR lives over to God as we understood Him*

*Decided to trust that help, the best way I could,
In the light of that decision.*

*Our total being – body, mind and spirit was
dominated by dependency. “Decision” implies
action. This decision is based on faith. The
relief of Letting go and letting God” help us
develop a life worth living.*

*Some of society feels gods are work, sex,
money, property, prestige, golf, chew, drugs,
alcohol and others. We simply realize there is
a force for spiritual growth that can help us
become more tolerant, patient and useful in
helping others.*

Contacts:

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Work ext. – 439-6146

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**“In the End, we will remember not the
words of our enemies, but the silence of our
friends.”**

Dr. Marin Luther King, Jr.

Michael's Universe...

Attrition & Deceit in the Machine Shop

The attrition: This article is in response to apparent misgivings and happenings being dealt to the workforce in the USS/POSCO Machine Shop and possible answer, as to why the Machine Shop cannot satisfy the needs of **supporting** the Mill with **low cost machined products**.

First, it is not the *fault* of the machinists that we can no longer give **proper, low cost machined products**, in supporting the Mill.

Over the course of many years, our shop has **lost**: 3 Planer/Shapers; a double-head King Mill; a 25x144 Monarch Engine Lathe; a 16x96 Polish Engine Lathe; a 16x72 Monarch Hydraulic Engine Lathe; a 16x72 Monarch Engine Lathe; a Landis Cylindrical Grinder; a Milwaukee Horizontal Mill; a #5 Cincinnati Horizontal Mill; a #5 Kearney & Trecker Horizontal Mill; a Bridgeport #2 Mill; a #2 Bridgeport 2nd Series CNC Mill; a Hill Surface Grinder; a 36x300 Monarch Engine Lathe; a Gisholt 36" Turret Lathe.

The Machine Shop has acquired: a #2 Sharp sm. table Mill; a Summit 16x80 Engine Lathe; a Chevalier CNC Lathe; a GNesh 16x60 Engine Lathe and most recently, a Chevalier CNC-VMC.

The machines that our shop has lost were heavy-duty industrial machines; that are needed for the tough and or heavy-duty machining needs, in our support for the Mill. These machines have paid for themselves many, many times over in the amount of heavy industrial parts, they have been used to machine; affording **low cost support** to keeping the Steel Mill running.

Over the years the machinists have been asked what is needed to improve the machine shop's ability, to keep providing our needed service to the Mill. We have voiced our concerns over & over on **deaf ears**. The main problem is that we have not had management personnel who actually understand what it takes to run the heavy-duty & sometimes, emergency support type of machining needed to keep the Mill producing steel. The company seems to think that engineers, made managers, has been the way to go; but this mindset is exactly what has been deteriorating the machine shop's ability to keep supporting the Mill with, **low cost machined products and is now cramping our ability to perform Emergency Machining**.

There appears to be two different agendas being forced together and these agendas actually are oppositions, because they have not been introduced in a manner that is continually conducive to the type of support we need to provide.

One agenda is truly the only one that should be, which is, **we are an Emergency- Breakdown and Maintenance Machining Facility for the Mill**.

The other agenda appears to be some type of production manufacturing, thus the acquisition of the CNC type machines. In this agenda it is thought that we can bring in machine work from the outside; making the machine shop a cost center, instead of an area of overhead. The problem is that this machine shop has always been overhead in needs of the Mill, we are an extension of the maintenance needed in keeping the steel rolling machines running with the parts we make; to refurbish the parts that wear out.

The deceit: Managing the machine shop, is when there are too many people deciding what to keep in the shop as far as machinery & manpower and none of these people have the needed understanding of repair/maintenance machining.

There has always been an understood reality that if machinery and/or manpower are shown to be needed in this company, the company is somewhat obligated to acquire either instead of contracting out, either. It is commonly known that outside contracting costs much more than our wage costs, to keep the work in-house. Now the management of the shop has taken out another of our large heavy duty engine lathes and we can no longer give needed support for; extra-long (drawbar) or extra-large (roll) repairs. The lathe that was just taken out was a working lathe, it needed some minor repair but we still used it.

This is not supposed to be done in this manner; as now this type of repair work is contracted out and we can no longer do any, emergency drawbar repair and mandrel repair for certain reels.

We no longer have the 2 very strong #5 Horizontal Mills and right after they were gotten rid of, we got an emergency job for large cleavaces for the PLTCM, and it was shown this job could not be done properly, on the new CNC VMC. These 2 Mills were also working machines and needed no repairing to use them. We voiced our concerns that the VMC, was not a replacement for the #5 Horizontal Mills and we had space to setup these mills in the small mill machine area of our shop, but again on **deaf ears!**

Our question, what is the rationality behind these types of decisions/agendas and why aren't we being offered our properly due overtime, due to this contracting out?

By Michael Cothran

Signed contributions are invited by Members of Local 1440. Other contributions may be accepted. All material is subject to general interest to the membership and space availability, and may not be returned. Articles, opinions expressed, and statements made are not necessarily the opinion or the policy of the Union. The union does not endorse any advertisers

The C.A.A. Office Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	7:00 to 11:00 am.
Thursday	12:30 to 4:30 pm.
Friday	12:30 to 4:30 pm.

Grievance Committee

Buzz Enea Jr.	Chairman -Reliability
Mike Orlando	Rolling
Joe Perez	Sheet
Steve Berendsen	Tin
Stephanie De La Rosa	M&I

Contracting Out

Andy Angelo. -	Chairman
Jim Gillespie -	Assistant

UNITED STEELWORKERS

The USW represents 850,000 workers in the U.S. and Canada employed in the industries of metals, rubber, chemicals, paper, oil refining and the service sector. For more information: www.usw.org/.

LOCAL'S WEBSITE



www.usw1440.com

ICD

Learning Advocates

Andy Angelo	Hamid Heydari
Milt Lea	Tim Lear
Jeanne Millecam	Bill Swenson
Bill Soltis	David Hall
Fernando Blanco	

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