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Financial Secretary

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May 2010 Edition

Local 1440

MADE IN THE USA **USW MADE**

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Sylvania Super Saver halogen light bulbs are made by our Union Brothers and Sisters at USW Local 1001 in Wellsboro, PA. The Wellsboro plant manufactures the glass bulb and it is assembled at the Osram-Sylvania plant in Saint Mary's, PA.



A 2007 Federal regulation aimed at increasing energy efficiency is bringing an end to the incandescent light bulb. This was the main product produced at the Wellsboro plant. This new light bulbs is breathing new life into a plant that thought its days were numbered.

These new bulbs, unlike CFL's that are produced in China, do not have any mercury in them. You can throw them in the trash when broken.

You can find these bulbs at Lowes stores.

RETIREMENTS

April

Kay Wolfe – 20 years of service, worked in the Tin Division on the CA Line.

May

Jack Smethers – 36 years of service, worked in the Roll Shop as a Roll Grinder.

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

**Our Union Meetings are held every
2nd Thursday of the month.**

**Our Next Meeting will be on
June 10th
5:30 PM at the Union Hall
677 Cumberland St.
Pittsburg**

LOCAL'S WEBSITE



www.usw1440.com

Grievance Committee

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

Call Hall at 432-7396 for Grievance Person Phone No.

Contracting Out

Andy Angelo. - Chairman
Jim Gillespie - Assistant

Recommendations for June Primary

Governor	Jerry Brown
Lt. Gov.	Janice Hahn or Gavin Newsom
Secty of State	Debra Bowen
Treasurer	Bill Lockyer
Controller	John Chang
Super of Instruction	- Tom Torlakson
Insurance Comm.	Hector DeLaTorre
US Senator	Barbara Boxer
US Congress	-George Miller (Dist. 7) John Garamendi (Dist. 10) Jerry McNerney (Dist. 11)
State Assembly	Susan Bonilla (Dist. 11)
County Assessor	Bob Brooks, Ross Butler or Gus Krammer
County DA	Mark Petersen
County Sheriff	Brian Kalinowski or Dave Livingston
Prop 13	YES
Prop 14	NO
Prop 15	YES
Prop 16	NO
Prop 17	NO

Financial Secretary's Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

If you are thinking of retiring this year, I would like to let you know that after July 1st the new 2010 medical rates will be:

Pre Medicare eligible

<u>Kaiser- No.CA</u>	<u>per month cost</u>
Single	\$171.39
Couple	\$385.62
Family	\$420.82

Kaiser- Northwest

Single	\$68.10
Couple	\$136.21
Family	\$204.31

Blue Cross

Single	\$335.80
Couple	\$613.29
Family	\$892.80

Medicare eligible

<u>Kaiser- No. CA</u>	<u>per month cost</u>
Single	\$36.01
Couple (both Medicare -MM/MM)	\$72.01
Couple (MM/Non Medicare- NM)	\$158.57

Kaiser- Northwest

Single	\$23.39
Couple (MM/MM)	\$46.78
Couple (MM/NM)	\$158.57

Blue Cross

Single	\$513.54
Couple (MM/MM)	\$950.47
Couple (MM/NM)	\$748.20

Hartford - must be over 65

Single	\$68.77
Couple	\$162.08

There is a Federal Subsidy to off-set the cost for early retirees (ages 55 - 64). The company hasn't committed to going after these funds. This subsidy would help lower the monthly cost for the Pre Medicare retirees.

Linda Doppe

RAPID RESPONSE **REPORT**

During the week of May 3 through the 7th, Linda Doppe and I were in Washington D.C. for the Rapid Response and Good Jobs Green Jobs Conference. During the conference, we received a massive amount of information on renewable energy, how we can reduce the flow of dollars overseas, create new jobs and clean jobs at home in the U.S. Some of the new areas of energy would be in wind farms that consist of wind mills, and solar fields with solar panels. It could affect us at USS POSCO in a positive way. We found that there is over 300 tons of steel in each wind mill and solar panels use a lot of tin plate. Both might possibly be made here at USS POSCO.

During the Rapid Response part of the conference, we were informed about some very important bills that need to be passed through Congress. One bill is the Protecting America's Workers Act (H.R. 2067), the OSHA bill. This bill will update the OSHA laws and make it stricter on companies for safety. The original OSHA law has worked great since it was put into place but has not been updated since 1970. This new bill will raise OSHA's Civil and Criminal penalties for safety violations. It gives victims of job injuries and illnesses, and family members the right to be heard during the investigation. As of right now, there is on average 1 explosion per week and 16 people are killed everyday in the work place. "We need to make the company more responsible for their actions." states USW President Leo Gerard. "If you were to go out, drink and drive, and you kill someone, you will face manslaughter charges. But if a manager knowingly puts their workers in harms' way and they have an accident, all they get is a slap on the wrist. That is not right and it needs to STOP now!" Gerard tells the crowd.



The other bill is the SEMA ACT and that will help give advanced tax credits to facilities manufacturing goods and components in the U.S. like wind turbines and wind blades that are used in alternative energy projects.

On May 6th, the Steelworkers arrived at Capital Hill to lobby for these 2 bills. Linda, Mike Hall (Local 5) and I went to the office of Congressman Garamendi who was 100% behind the Steelworkers efforts and is a co-sponsor on both bills. During our meeting with Congressman Garamendi, he mentioned that the windmills across the river from our plant are made in Korea. Garamendi asked the owner why they weren't manufactured at UPI, and the owner had no response. After, we were invited to take part in a rally to thank the Congress members on Capitol Hill that helped pass the Health care bill. There were approximately 300 USW members that showed up to show their support and to listen to a list of congressmen and women, along with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

If you have any questions about the Rapid Response Good Jobs Green Jobs Conference, any of the upcoming bills, or who USW is supporting in the upcoming election, please contact me or Linda.

Local 1440 Rapid Response Coordinator
Ben Salazar

WAGE AND RATE

A settlement had been reached for the following incentives PCM, CSA, Dock Terminal, Roll Shop and FS Mtce. An error was caused when the program that calculates the incentive for the PCM could not recognize partial turns, when (2) crews were scheduled (10) hour turns at the PCM during early 2009 through January 2010. The adjustments are based on the hours worked during each week the errors occurred. All individual affected should have received the adjustment on May 18, 2010.

I would like to thank the employee's at the PCM for noticing that an error was occurring on the incentive. I also would like to thank Paul Brandon Rolling Assistant grievance man for assisting me.

Also another Lamination settlement has been reach for ETL #1 and ETL #3 and an agreement to adjust all future lamination's monthly starting in June. I would extend my thanks to Steve Brendensen Tin Grievance man for his assistance over this issue at the ETL's.

cont. next page.

A word to the wise don't ever assume the company is paying you correctly whether it's your hourly rate or incentive, errors can and have accrued.

Marty Perez
Wage & Rate Chairperson

NEW HEALTH CARE LAW ALLOWS DEPENDENTS UNDER 26 YEARS OLD TO STAY ON THEIR PARENT'S MEDICAL INSURANCE. THIS COVERAGE IS ONLY FOR MEDICAL INSURANCE, NOT DENTAL OR VISION, UNLESS THE CHILD IS A FULL TIME STUDENT. **YOU MUST RE-ENROLL YOUR DENPENDENT DURING THE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD.**

Employee Relief Association

You should be receiving a letter in the mail concerning the Employee Relief Assoc. This is a fund to assist its members when they are on disability in the amount of \$50 per week, for a total of 13 weeks. The monthly dues are \$3 per month. This fund has been around since the 1930's and the \$3 dollars used to be deducted from your payroll check, but the company has chosen not to give us this convenience any longer.

Fran Confetti and I will be at the Main Gate on June 11th from 2 – 4 pm to sign you up and to answer any questions. Please bring a check Payable to Employee Relief Assoc. in the amount of \$21 dollars (June – Dec)

Linda Doppe

**PRIMARY ELECTION
JUNE 8th**

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!!!

USW MEMBERS AT ALCOA PLANT APPROVE STRIKE VOTE

United Steelworkers Local 450 voted by 97% in favor to walk out if Alcoa does not make a better offer on health care benefits before the contract expires on May 31st. "There were so many people concerned about what they've read and heard about the contract," said USW Local 450 President Richard Orton. "This says that what the company has on the table right now is unacceptable to them."

The major obstacle is Alcoa wants to switch union members to a different health plan.

Alcoa has 11 plants across the US, and is the country's largest aluminum manufacturer.

Some of the other USW Locals that are represented under this contract have passed a "strike vote". Contract negotiations will continue throughout the Memorial Day weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Deregulating Wall Street was like leaving a 3 year old in a candy store unsupervised for a day. When you come back the kid is stuffed full of candy, candy falling out of the pockets -- but when you are driving home the kid pukes on your shoes. It's time to stop Wall Street from puking on our shoes."

*Leo W. Gerard
October 2009*



"Well, here's one glacier that's not melting."

June is National Safety Month

Established by the United States Congress

This is an annual program designed to help eliminate accidents
and injuries

Each week of June is designated a different Safety Theme,

- Workplace Safety
- Driving Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Home Safety
- Community Safety

We celebrate June Safety Day