



Local 8183 - District 10

# “The Union Works”

## Local 8183 launches new website and newsletter

Bernie Hall



### Inside this issue:

<b>New Website</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Union Picnic</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rapid Response</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Safety Report</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>EFCA Update</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Weingarten Rights</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Workers Comp</b>	<b>4</b>

Local 8183 has launched a new website [uswlocal8183.org](http://uswlocal8183.org). The site is part of an ongoing effort to better keep the membership informed.

This site has been in development for many months. It was made possible by the work of many individuals. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved.

In addition to the website the Local has also reestablished this quarterly newsletter. Every quarter we will be posting the latest edition of the newsletter to the website. We encourage everyone to print the latest edition and feel free to distribute it to your fellow co-workers.

We will do our best to keep the

information in the newsletter and on the website as current as possible. These are Local endeavors so they will include stories and information pertaining to all of our units.

As we move forward we will be including articles written by many different individuals on a wide range of issues. We ask all members to be active with these projects. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or if you would be interested in writing an article please let us know.

### Contributors to this edition

- Bernie Hall
- Dennis Powell
- Ed Robinson

### Special points of interest:

- Local launches new web site!
- Annual Picnic
- EFCA Update
- 8183 tackles Chinese tire imports

## Local 8183 Annual Picnic

Recreation Committee

All active members and retirees are welcome to come and enjoy good food, beverages, and great prizes at our annual picnic. The format has changed a bit this year. There will be no pre-registration. To be eligible to win prizes, you must register in

person at the picnic. No one else may register for you. You need not be present at the six o'clock drawing to receive a prize if your name is drawn. There will be committee members at the shelter starting at six am for those who wish to sign

up early. If you have any questions please call Ed Robinson at 724-544-6144

Where - Alair Park Monaca  
When - August 22, 2009  
Noon till six





# USW and Rapid Response take action

Bernie Hall



**Action Alert**  
>>>>>>

Earlier this year the United Steelworkers filed a complaint with the International Trade Commission (ITC) concerning a surge of tire imports from China. Last month, a majority vote of the ITC found that tariff relief was needed to urgently reduce tire imports. Evidence shows that by the end of the year more than 8,000 domestic tire production jobs will have been lost. USW President Leo Gerard said, "The consequences of lost tire production

jobs have extended to many thousands of other jobs in supporting industries and suppliers." One of the suppliers to the major domestic tire producers is Horsehead Corporation. If this trend of flooding our markets with Chinese tires continues it could have a negative impact on Horsehead's business. We all have something at stake here. To many workers have lost their jobs to Chinese imports. This is a case that could very well effect us per-

sonally. Our Rapid Response team has already begun to work on this. The President has until September 17 to make a decision whether or not relief will be granted. Locals thought the country are flooding the White House with letters concerning this. Now its time to do our part. Contact the Union Hall and **write a letter** to the President and ask him to support a strong remedy in the section 421 case on passenger and light truck tires.

## Announcements

**Retiree's**  
**Horsehead**  
Jim Craig  
Lee Corfield  
**Standard Steel**  
Donald Pflugh



*"Our financial projections for next year look excellent. Handford, misinform the union immediately."*

If you have any announcement you would like to have printed please contact the hall to have it included in our next edition. These may include retirements, deaths, births, events, ect.



**"All that harms labor is treason. If any man tells you that he loves America but he hates labor, he is a liar"**

**Abraham Lincoln**

## Upcoming Events

Local Picnic  
August 22 2009  
12pm-6pm Alair park—Monaca  
Local Meeting  
August 24 2009  
6pm Union Hall



USW Gun Raffle  
September 12 2009  
1pm-4pm Hermitage Pa  
Local Meeting  
September 28 2009  
6 pm Union Hall



## Local Safety Report

Ed Robinson

If you have any questions or concerns regarding safety at your workplace you can call Ed at 724-544-6144

Safety is often the most overlooked aspect of a job. Most employers want to impose safety standards for two reasons. One is that they are mandated by OSHA. Failure to impose OSHA regulations could lead to fines should someone file a formal complaint. The fines get even worse if someone is injured or killed. The second reason, and usually the most concerning to the employer is cost. For every injury that requires medical attention, the

employer will incur higher worker's compensation (insurance) premiums. Once an employee is injured, someone else must fill their position. Again, costing the employer money. Most safety movies, will usually start out telling you how much injuries cost per year. From the Union's position, the employee's health is not a money issue. The impact of an injury reaches deeper. The family is affected and the injured individual suffers pain. Both

physical and mental. In some of the more severe injuries, it will be a permanent loss of life, fingers, arms, eyes and hearing. These are things money, no matter how much, you can not recover from. Be the one to look at your job and ask yourself, what can I do to keep myself or a fellow worker safer. The employer will pay your time, but they will not be able to undo accidents that happen to you!



Local 8183 Safety

## Employee Free Choice Act Update

USW website

The Employee Free Choice Act is at a critical point. A majority of lawmakers in the House and Senate are supportive. The President is willing to sign it into law. But, in the Senate, a process exists to talk a bill to death – “the filibuster” – and a Republican-led effort to kill the bill through this process is planned. To

stop a filibuster, 60 votes are needed. We are just short of that goal. As disappointed as we are with the Senators who have not stepped up in this fight, we are not letting up for a minute. While we're working on the ground, there is a group of Senators meeting to look at alternatives to the bill. We don't know what the out-

come of these talks will produce, but we remain committed to passing real labor law reform. A vote could occur this summer, possibly within weeks. As this situation continues to play out, we will keep you posted on any major developments. Thank you to everyone for being so diligent over the years on this issue.



**"If there is no struggle, there can be no progress**

**Frederick Douglas**

## Weingarten Rights

The United States Supreme Court in 1975 ruled that the National Labor Relations Act gives workers the right to request Union representation during investigatory interviews by supervisors, security personnel, and other managerial staff. These are called Weingarten

Rights. If an employee has a reasonable belief that discipline or other adverse consequences may result from what he or she says, the employee has the right to request Union representation. Management is not required to inform the employee of his/her Weingarten Rights; it is the

employees responsibility to know and request.

If you have any doubt as to whether or not you need representation ask for it. You cannot be reprimanded for asking for Union representation





## UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 8183

1445 Market Street  
Beaver Pa 15009

Phone: 724-728-6455  
Fax: 724-728-1911  
E-mail: [president@uswlocal8183.org](mailto:president@uswlocal8183.org)

Chartered November 27th 1973, United Steelworkers Local 8183 has been in existence for close to 36 years. Founded originally by the workers at the St. Joe plant in Potter Pa it has grown to include many other facilities. Today the Local represents fourteen different units with close to one thousand members and hundreds of retirees. Included are workers in health care, emergency medical services, police officers, energy, steel, and the zinc industries.

---

**We're on the web!**

[Uswlocal8183.org](http://Uswlocal8183.org)

---



---

## Workers Compensation

[RudbergLaw.com](http://RudbergLaw.com)



Workers' compensation is a benefit provided to employees by state law. The benefit covers primarily wage loss and medical benefits. Workers' Compensation covers any injury that occurs in the course and scope of employment and it is not necessary to prove that there was any safety violation or fault in regard to how the accident occurred. It is very important that if an employee thinks that their injury is caused by the activities of their job, notice must be given to the employer within 120 days of the

injury and the employee would then have three years to file a claim if their claim is not documented or accepted by the employer.

The employer has 21 days to let the employee know whether the claim has been accepted or denied. If the claim is accepted then the employee must treat with the panel physician for 90 days. If the claim is denied then there is no requirement that the employee treat with the panel physician.

Many valid workers' compensation claims are denied by insurance carriers or employers without a valid reason. So if you are denied a claim, please call us for a consultation as to whether the denial can be taken to a Workers' Compensation Judge for a decision.