



Discover 2007

United Steelworkers

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<http://uswlocal2071.org>

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



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JANUARY

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Front left to right: Ron Coldren, financial secretary, Ron Rettig, vice president Rodney Nelson, president, Kevin Welch, recording secretary, Billy Nelson, treasurer, James Gutierrez, guard, Tim Thompson, guard. Back row, left to right: Jim Desgranges, trustee, Bob Brubaker, trustee, Tim Smith, executive board member, Clifton Baxter, executive board member, Rob Greer, guide, Bob Brumbaugh, executive board member and Terri Thompson, trustee.

Habitat for Humanity

The Women of Steel would like to thank everyone who helped with our candy bar sales to benefit Habitat for Humanity. We will have candy available for as long as you keep buying it, all month. This is just the beginning of our 9 month project to help with this years build.

This years home build will be sponsored by a different church for each day of the construction beginning in August. Our local along with the Women of Steel and the AFL-CIO will be providing assistance with fund-raising, securing donations from local suppliers and recruiting volunteers for the actual construction of the home which will be located on Breckenridge Road.

We plan on being the major sponsor for this years first major fund-raising event which is "Dueling Pianos" to be held at Wooley Bully's at the end of February. We will be selling tickets for this event soon. The cost is \$20.00/person for general admission and VIP seating with complimentary horsdeuvers will be \$50.00/person. Please plan to attend. All proceeds will be used to help pay for the home. This is for a good cause and will be fun.

The potential home owner's will be picked this month. They go through a strict interview process, must attend home owner classes and commit to putting in 400 hours "sweat equity" in the home built. They also have to make a set mortgage payment so this isn't a "free-bee" for them. They will be given the opportunity that many of us take for granted because we are lucky enough to have a good job.

Anyone with special skills i.e. electricians, heating and cooling specialists, plumbers etc... that would be willing to donate your time and expertise should contact Terri Thompson at terrihompson@uswlocal207l.org.



As for us novices, it will be a fun and fulfilling experience to be a part of building a home for the less than fortunate and I am a firm believer in what goes around comes around so let's commit to making 2007 a year to make good things come around.

We appreciate all your support.

In Solidarity,

Terri Thompson

The History of Habitat for Humanity

The concept that grew into Habitat for Humanity International was born at [Koinonia Farm](#), a small, interracial, Christian farming community founded in 1942 outside of Americus, Ga., by farmer and biblical scholar Clarence Jordan. The Fullers first visited Koinonia in 1965, having recently left a successful business in Montgomery, Ala., and all the trappings of an affluent lifestyle to begin a new life of Christian service. At Koinonia, Jordan and Fuller developed the concept of "partnership housing" -- where those in need of adequate shelter would work side by side with volunteers to build simple, decent houses.

The houses would be built with no profit added and no interest charged. Building would be financed by a revolving Fund for Humanity. The fund's money would come from the new homeowners' house payments, donations and no-interest loans provided by supporters and money earned by fund-raising activities. The monies in the Fund for Humanity would be used to build more houses

USW Local207L College Scholarship Rules

Awards

Five (5) \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded annually.

Application

Application will be available at the Union Hall.

The application will be a two (2) part application with matching application numbers printed on them.

One part of the application will contain the applicants name, address & phone number and the name, address and phone number & employee number of the Local207L member. This will be kept on file at the Union Hall.

The other part of the application will only contain a matching application number. This part will be placed in a locked ballot box, at the Union Hall, by an elected Union official & witnessed by the applicant/ applicant's Local207L member.

Eligibility

Any eligible dependant* of a member, in good standing, of USW Local207L, enrolling full time in an accredited college or university, is eligible for this award.

Anyone receiving full academic/athletic scholarship is not eligible for this award.

Winners for this award cannot re-apply.

This scholarship is not restricted by any sex, race, religion or political affiliation.

*As defined by the Employee Pension and Insurance Program

Drawing

Applications will be accepted between February 1st and April 30th

The drawing will be held at the May monthly union meeting.

A Trustee will pull the winning ballot from the ballot box during the meeting.

Disbursement of Funds

All scholarship money will be sent directly to the college/university that the winners will be attending.

Scholarship money can be used for tuition, room & board and general fees, and may be applied to the students balance before any money from student loans.

Scholarship money will be divided between semesters/quarters for the school year awarded.

Excess funding will be returned to Local207L.

CELL PHONES

All cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls.

.....You Will Be Charged For These Calls.....

To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222. It is the national Do Not Call

list. It will only take a minute of your time. It blocks your number for 5 years.

You must call from the cell phone you want to have blocked. You cannot call from a different phone number.

Help others by passing this on to all of your friends or go to <http://www.donotcall.gov>

Executive Broad Member
Cliff Baxter



Public Health Care

I find it very strange that all three auto company: Daimler Chrysler, Ford and General Motors of Canada are 100% in favor of Canada's publicly funded Health care. All three companies sign joint company/union statements in support of Canada's Public Health Care.

"The public health care system significantly reduces total labor cost for manufacturing firms, compared to the cost of equivalent private insurance services purchased by US based manufacturers. These health insurance savings can amount to several dollars per hour of labor worked. Publicly funded health care thus accounts for a significant portion of Canada's overall labor cost advantage in auto assembly, versus the US, which in turn has been a significant factor in maintaining and attracting new auto investment to Canada."



Senator Edward Kennedy says the federal government version of Universal Health Care should look like Medicare. Sen. Kennedy will be holding hearings on how to make health care more affordable. High health care cost is affecting job creation and hurt our ability to compete in global markets.

Karen Davis of the Commonwealth Fund, which conducts health research, told lawmakers to look at Denmark as a model for the US. She said that nation's government pays doctors a capped rate for each of their patients; they can handle walk-ins and same-day appointments. And Denmark residents love their health care system, she said.

In Ohio we have **Single-Payer Action Network Ohio or SAPN for short**. The Ohio Association of Health Underwriters, like our Health Design Plus have budgeted \$50,000 to fight SPAN Ohio. If SPAN Ohio wins there will be no Underwriters therefore Universal Health Care is do or die for these Underwriters.

To contact SPAN OHIO or get information from them go to www.spanohio.org
They need petitions circulated and signed.

Recording Secretary
Kevin Welch

Advice

Your **vacation slip** needs to be turned in to your department by January 31, 2007. No exceptions, if you want your vacation week get your slip in on time. Note: Vacations are by seniority.

Please make sure HR has your correct address and phone number so the company can contact you for overtime and to mail your W-2

Please make sure you are locking up your vehicles in the parking lot. The security cameras can only spot so much and there has been a few reports of vehicles being entered into while employees are working. The security guards are not monitoring the Root Beer Stand so if you park there you are doing it at your own risk.

For Union Stewards all lost time sheets need to be filled out weekly and be as descriptive as possible on reasons for lost time. If you continually have excessive lost time for same reasons or people contact your Department Representative for help with these issues.

It's a new year so it's time to take a fresh look at your pay stub. When you receive your 2007 pay stub, take a minute to review and make sure that your basic information is correct, including:



- Your name
- Your Address
- Your withholding allowances
- Your marital status
- Your additional withholding (if applicable)
- Your school district code (if applicable)

If any of this information is inaccurate or if you want to make any changes (such as your withholding) please contact your local payroll department soon to ensure that your adjustments can be made before the next payroll is processed.

If your address is incorrect, please notify your local HR department by 1/17/07 to ensure accurate mailing of your W-2

Financial Secretary
From Ron Coldren:

Women of Steel

Hello Brothers and Sisters

We have had our first Women of Steel meeting. A summary of topics that were discussed are as follows:

- Meetings held so that all 4 shifts may attend.
- Meetings held every 3 or 4 months.
- How we would like to be presented.
- As a Local207L we would like to have some positive publicity.
- A logo will be chosen.



Women of Steel logo



Rosie the Riveter

New Ideas

Volunteer groups to help the needy.

Habitat for Humanity

Our Retirees

Any other ideas

Do not pass up the Candy Sale for Habitat for Humanity. The flavor for the next couple of months will be chocolate. \$1.00 a bar. We can meet this challenge with your help. For more details about the candy sale contact AFL-CIO.

Respectfully Yours
Christina De La Rosa

Donations

I would like to thank all of you for the donations. Before the holidays, Local207L went to some of the Goodyear workers who were on strike. We gave them food and gifts certificates from our membership. They were every thankful and said it could not have come at a better time.



Treasurer

Bill R. Nelson

Student Medical Coverage

Full Time Student Status Updates

In an effort to unify and better regulate the enrollment of a Student for Medical Coverage the following information **MUST** be submitted in the Fall (Fall Semester) each year for college dependents:

- Signed and dated letter on official school letterhead
- Name of School
- Address and Phone number
- Student Name
- Student status (note: student must be full time at the institution to be considered for coverage.)
- Semester and/or dates of dates of enrollment.

If at anytime there is a change in your child's college status, you Must notify HR immediately. Failure to do so could result in medical coverage overpayments that will need to be repaid by you. Please return requested documentation to me and I will forward it to the Corporate Benefits Administration department for approval.

Thanks, Kathy Busch, HR Administrator

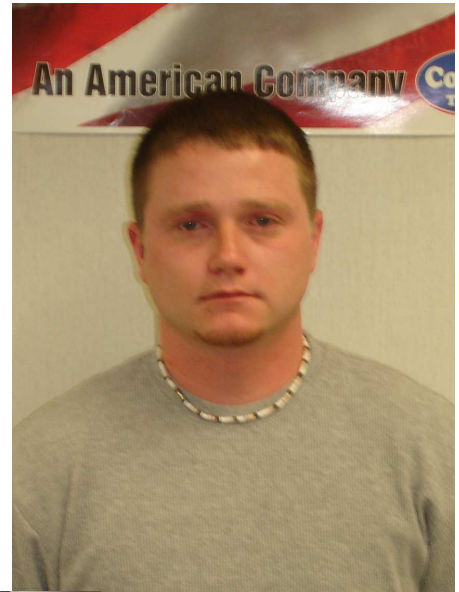
New Employees



Chad Bursby



Dave Thomas



Drew Walter



Marsha Moon



Van Rissel

Health and Safety

Slips, Trips and Falls

Did you know that slips, trips, and falls are second only to automobile accidents in causing personal injury? On stairways alone, falls result in almost two million disabling injuries yearly. There are thousands more minor injuries caused by slips, trips, and falls each year. Most alarming of all is the fact that industrial falls cause over 1000 deaths each year. In 1999, over one million people suffered a slip, trip or falling injury, and over 17,000 Americans died as a result. Of the estimated 3.8 million disabling injuries each year in the work force, 15 percent are due to slips, trips, or falls, which account for 12 to 15 percent of all Workers' Compensation costs. About 5,100 workers died from a fall in 1999.

Types of Falls

- Same-Level Falls: high frequency--low severity
- Elevated Falls: lower frequency--high severity

Behaviors that Lead to Falls

- Walking too fast or running
- Rapid change in direction
- Distractions
- Not watching where one is going
- Carrying materials that obstruct view
- Wearing sunglasses in low-light areas
- Failure to use handrails



These and other behaviors, caused by lack of knowledge, impatience, or bad habits developed from past experiences, can lead to falls, injuries, or even death.

Conditions That Create Fall Hazards:

- Unsafe stairs: loose treads, poor design, no handrails
- Storing materials on stairways
- Unsafe or improper use of ladders
- Obstacles in the walkways: electrical cords, boxes and other materials
- Improper footwear/worn soles
- Poor lighting
- Slippery floors/liquid spills
- Running in the workplace
- Carrying loads without a proper field of vision
- Not looking at your path of travel
- Wet outside walkways
- Uneven surfaces

Preventing Slips, Trips and Falls

- Learn to recognize potential "slip and trip" hazards – **Name a few common at your site**
- Take steps to eliminate the hazards – Those that can't be eliminated should be brought to the attention of your supervisor, union steward, or the safety committee.
- Stay alert, and think about your actions-remember to "look before you leap"!
- Keep all work areas free of clutter that could cause a trip
- Always use the 3-point technique for mounting and dismounting equipment
- Be extra careful working around equipment when footing is poor
- Clean up all spills and other slippery materials immediately
- Inspect your work area regularly
- Never use a chair or table in place of a step ladder

- Identify change in elevation walking surfaces with highly visible material

Warnings and Signage

- Provide warnings whenever a slip and fall hazard has been identified until appropriate correction can be made.
- Provide barricades and warning signs to isolate processes in hazardous areas

Floor Mats

- Secure mats against movement.
- Install mats so they do not create a tripping hazard. Surface mats and runners should have a beveled edge, flat edge, or other treatment to help reduce the possibility of tripping on the edge.
- Routinely inspect and adequately maintain mats. Replace damaged mats promptly.

Floors and Floor Treatments

- Determine whether current floor surface materials offer sufficient slip-resistant qualities for the environment. If not, consider replacement.

Footwear

Soles should have a raised tread pattern on heel and sole with a leading edge in many directions. In other words, a cross-hatch, or similar, design.

- Tread pattern should extend over whole sole and heel area.
- Sole should have a flat, flexible bottom construction. Consider a low-density midsole that conforms to the ground and maximizes contact area.
- Selection of slip-resistant footwear materials should consider the floor material and surface conditions expected in the job.

In short:

We are all responsible in the prevention of slip, trip, and fall accidents. Basic responsibilities include:
Take the time to look around your worksite for these hazards and work to prevent them. Slips, trips, and falls cause numerous injuries every day. But they are among the easiest hazards to correct.
Take care not to cause any slip, trip, or fall hazards as you go about your daily activities.

Retiree

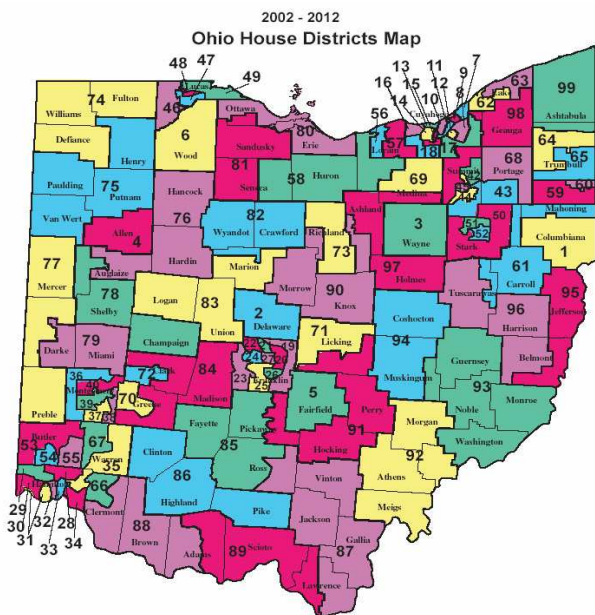


Local207L wishes Larry E. Ickes the best of luck in his retirement. Larry retired January 1st, 2007 with 37 years of service at Cooper Tire. He hired in on August the 24th, 1969.

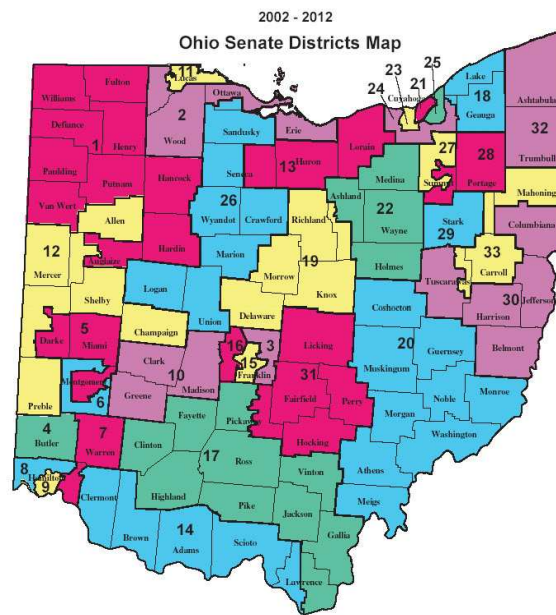
Larry E. Ickes

These people work for you!

you pay their wages! you pay their benefits!



Ohio House Districts Map



Ohio Senate Districts Map

District 06

Bob Latta

Phone: 614-466-8104

E-mail: district06@ohr.state.oh.us

District 75

Lynn Watchman

Phone: 614-466-3760

E-mail: district75@ohr.state.oh.us

District 04

Matt Huffman

Phone: 614-466-9624

E-mail: district04@ohr.state.oh.us

District 82

Steve Reinhard

Phone: 614-466-6265

E-mail: district82@ohr.state.oh.us

District 81

Jeff Wagner

Phone: 614-466-1374

E-mail: district81@ohr.state.oh.us

District 76

Clifford Hite

Phone: 614-466-3819

E-mail: district76@ohr.state.oh.us

District 01

Stephen Buehrer

Phone: 614-466-8150

E-mail: SD01@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

District 02

Randy Gardner

Phone: 614-466-8060

E-mail: ragard@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

District 12

Keith Faber

Phone: 614-466-7584

E-mail: SD12@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

District 26

Larry Mumper

Phone: 614-466-8049

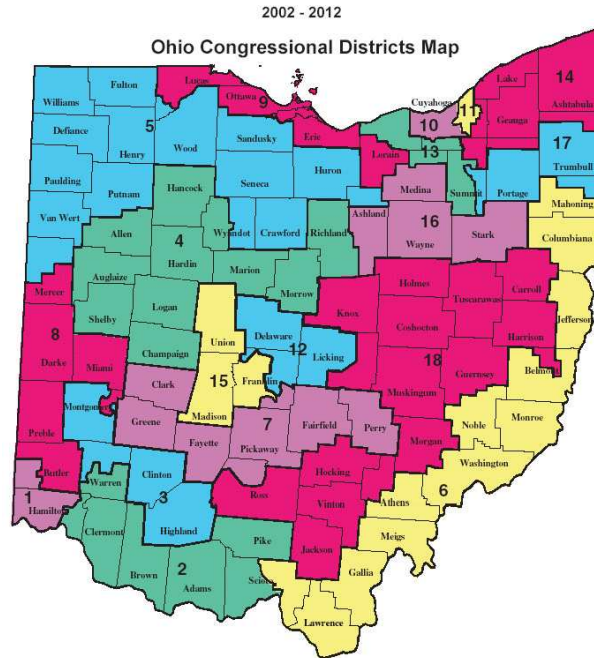
E-mail: SD26@mailr.sen.state.oh.us

Governor Ted Strickland
 Mail correspondence to:
 30th Floor
 77 S. High St.
 Columbus, OH 43215-6117
 Phone: 614-466-3555
 or to send an e-mail directly to the governor, go to:
<http://governor.ohio.gov/contactinfopage.asp>

These people work for YOU!

YOU pay their wages!

YOU pay their benefits!



Ohio Congressional Districts Map

Senator Sherrod Brown

Phone: 202-224-2315

E-mail: senator_brown@brown.senate

Senator George V. Voinovich

Phone: 202-224-3353

E-mail: senator_voinovich@voinovich.senate

President George W. Bush

Phone: 202-456-1414

E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

District 04

Jim Jordan

Phone: 202-225-2676

E-mail: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>

District 05

Paul E. Gillmor

Phone: 202-225-6405

E-mail: paul.gillmor@mail.house.gov

District 09

Marcy Kaptur

Phone: 202-225-4146

E-mail: rep.kaptur@mail.house.gov

Dear Friends,

I got a lot to talk about this month. I'll get started on the positive things and then touch on the issues that may be or may not be positive according to your views.

First I would like to tell you about our web site. It is getting easier to use with tons more information. Our Publicity Director, Jeff Fuhrer, has done a tremendous job adding links and sites for us to use. All of our officers, stewards, and committees have email addresses to pass information to or get questions answered. We have a classified section now for buy, sell or rent. I send out info almost daily that I get from the company, the international union, good and welfare or union events. If you would like to be on our data base and receive union updates, please send me your email address through the site and I will add you on our list.

Jeff has come a long way perfecting his computer skills since he showed me his tricks he could do on his Commodore 64 computer about 20 years ago. You could also give him some national recognition by voting for our web site in the contest that is going on now. Details are on the site.



We are involved in a couple of fund raisers and would like help and participation from our membership. One is the Habitat for Humanity project and the other is a 'Texas Hold' Em Tournament for the United Way. We will post information in this news letter and web site on the details and how to volunteer for these great causes.

We are in disagreement with the company concerning the non smoking law. Although the rules to the laws haven't been written up, we feel we can still be in compliance with the law. We have an open grievance with the company to provide smoke areas outside the plant. Texarkana has a hearing on their smoking grievance and we hope that decision will help our grievance out.

The company has recently taken \$.21 per hour out of our banked cola. This was also done back in 2002 when they took \$.09 out of it. There have been 3 arbitrations that were lost to keep companies from doing this. We need contract language to prevent this from happening again.

OSHA had recently visited the plant on a referral. A referral is not a complaint but is an investigation on an accident or possible violation of OSHA standards. I won't go into details but I can say I learned a lot about what the company can make us do. Expect enforcement on safety procedures.

Rodney

Don't forget to check our web site for updates! Our next membership meeting is February 13th and 14th. Remember if you have anything to sell, post them on our web site under classified. If you have any problems with the web site, let me know. You can contact me or any union officer on the web site.

Jeffrey A. Fuhrer