

District 11
REPORTER

Volume 4/Issue 2

Spring 2018

Official Publication of District 11 United Steelworkers. Published four times a year and inserted in **USW@Work**.

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Kaylen Sells Girl Scout Cookies at Iowa State Capitol

Kaylen sold cookies at the Iowa State Capitol, with the help of retired USW Staff Representative Jerry Kearns, in an effort to reach her goal of selling 500 boxes of cookies this year. Along with selling cookies at the State Capitol, Kaylen went door to door and also worked supermarket entries. It was a success, as around 75 boxes were sold at the Capitol helping her to a grand total of 625 boxes sold. Kaylen is the granddaughter of USW Staff Representative David Rizzuto.



Pictured are: Kaylen Joens, Iowa State Representative Jerry Kearns, Kalen's mother, Jennifer and grandmother, Cindy.

"Lucky Friday Strikers"



Several thousand attendees of the mining trade show in Minneapolis are now well aware of our struggle with Hecla. We passed out more than 1,000 leaflets and marched our rally into and through the heart of the convention center while the walls echoed with our chant of, "Hecla, Hecla you can't hide. We can see your greedy side." It brought the lunchtime crowd to a standstill.

Let's Hear from YOU!

USW@Work is published four times a year and we need the submissions for the Summer 2018 issue by July 9, 2018. Please submit them to D11news@usw.org.

Also include a telephone number or active e-mail address in case we need additional information. We will try to include all submissions and we reserve the right to edit information in order to fit the allocated space.

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USW REPORTER



USW, Iowa AFL-CIO Endorse Boulton in Democratic Gubernatorial Primary

Nate Boulton grew up in a Steelworker home and has been a strong advocate for Iowa's workers and their families for years. As an attorney, Boulton has spent his career fighting off attacks on workers and unions by standing up to powerful special interests, big corporations and elected officials who do their bidding.

He is a proud member of the American Federation of Teachers, Iowa Association for Justice and the AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee. Now a candidate in the state's Democratic Gubernatorial Primary, Boulton has earned the support of the USW as well as the Iowa AFL-CIO, which endorsed him in a unanimous vote.



Director Ramirez is Installed for Second Term

Emil, along with the International Officers and District Directors, took the Oath on March 1, 2018. Along with District 11 staff, Ericka Davis and Travis Swanson, who were attending their Leadership/Scholarship program in Pittsburgh and John Arbogast, the International Teller, were also able to attend. Emil will be our representative on the International Executive Board and leader of District 11 for the next four years.

DISTRICT 11



2018 UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ MINK: June 3-8
- ▶ District 11 Women's Conference: July 12-14
- ▶ District 11 Conference: July 15-18
- ▶ Ruttger's: September 16-21



THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Emil Ramirez, District 11 Director

Congratulations to all of the newly-elected USW local union officers and grievance committee members who were elected in local union elections in April. Our staff is looking forward to partnering with you on many important issues that face our union.

I believe that the most important issues our local unions face are maintaining safe workplaces with fair wages and benefits that our members deserve, along with defending each collective bargaining agreement by enforcing the grievance procedure and holding management accountable to its responsibilities under federal labor laws.

In Washington, D.C., and each of the state capitols within District 11, we continue to face anti-labor legislation, so electing labor-friendly candidates must be a priority in 2018.

We have an opportunity to make changes throughout District 11 by making our voices and votes count. In Iowa, for example, we will have a rare opportunity to elect a Steelworker as governor. Our members in Iowa are working each day to make this a success.

In Minnesota, we need to defend two labor-supported U.S. Senators who have stood with us on many important issues and elect the DFL candidate for governor that we have endorsed. Also in Minnesota, we must defend the 8th Congressional District and elect a candidate that understands the critical role mining continues to play in the regional economy.

Our local unions in Missouri are working within their respective workplaces to educate our members and their families about why working families must defeat "Proposition A," a so-called "Right-to-Work" initiative.

Large corporations and other special interests are pouring dark money into Missouri in hopes of padding their profits and lining the pockets by paying lower wages to workers.

Finally, I want to thank those officers and committee members who have finished their terms serving our local unions in a leadership capacity. I hope that you will continue to be active in your workplaces and local unions.

Let us go forward and make a difference in 2018!

The Next Generation of Steelworkers Meet

During the week of January 29 the Next Gen coordinators were in Pittsburgh at headquarters for a Coordinator meeting. The meeting was set up to allow Next Gen members from all over the United States and Canada a chance to collaborate on issues important to younger union members, and how to engage and develop a younger demographic that is growing rapidly across the union.

District 11 had three coordinators present for this meeting: Emily Bombich from local 6115 Brandon Greve from Local 105, and J.J. Adams from Local 571.

The coordinators were addressed by members of the International Executive board throughout the week. Fred Redmond, Carol Landry, and Thomas Conway, all spoke to the group about their perspectives on how unions are

changing, and challenged the coordinators to come up with solutions to grow the Next Gen program. Break out groups were formed, with specific groups addressing certain issues that had been identified earlier in the week through the group discussions. On February 1, the groups did a presentation to members of the International Executive Board on their findings and recommendations. The coordinators also traveled to The Center for Hope in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. The center is a food pantry in the area. They also do after school programs and mentoring for young kids in the area. The group spent the afternoon cleaning,

sorting, and moving stuff in the shelter. The administrators of the center were pleased with all the work the Next Gen coordinators completed on the community service project.

Fred Redmond stressed the necessity for the Next Gen program to grow. He said that studies have shown that last year the majority of workers joining unions were young workers under the age of 35. This hasn't been the trend in quite some time. There was also a larger portion of woman joining unions in the previous year. Fred and the International Executive Board understand that the union has to evolve with its membership in order to be successful. They will be reviewing the recommendations of the coordinators, and looking for new opportunities to strengthen the union.



Local 10 Getting Ready for Oil Bargaining

Members of USW Local 10 at the Andeavor (formerly Tesoro) Mandan refinery in North Dakota participated in campaign kick-off sessions on April 11-12 to get ready for the upcoming round of contract negotiations with the oil industry.

During the sessions, Local 10 educated newer members about the National Oil Bargaining process. Staff from the USW Strategic Campaigns Department shared the National Oil Bargaining Program action plan for the coming months. Members brainstormed ideas for solidarity actions that will bring together oil workers and show our strength in numbers.

Local 10 is working toward a fair contract as a part of the Andeavor Union Council as well as the National Oil Bargaining Program, and plans to send delegates to the National Oil Bargaining Conference in September to meet with hundreds of other USW members, discuss proposals and develop a bargaining agenda.



A Day on the Hill for Mining

David Foster, Retired District Director; Emil Ramirez, Director; Anna Fendley, USW Legislative Representative and John Rebrovich discuss legislative issues that affect the mining sector in District 11 with Representative Rick Nolan at his office in Washington, D.C.

Conference Provides Tools for Contract Bargaining

A typical Minnesota winter storm made travel quite difficult for many, but it did not stop 75 delegates from attending the District 11 Collective Bargaining Conference that was held in Bloomington, Minn., January 23-25.

At the conference, delegates were provided with the tools necessary to conduct local contract bargaining in the upcoming year.

The curriculum included courses in collective bargaining law and bargaining committee team training as well as workshops on pensions and health insurance. Delegates learned about membership

mobilization, media relations and contract costing. The conference concluded with delegates participating in a mock negotiation.

There was a reception with the guest speaker, Attorney Brendan Cummins from Cummins & Cummins Law, addressing current issues affecting labor at the NLRB and other agencies.

Gerry Parzino, Sub-Director and Co-Education Coordinator, is to be commended for his continued



USW Local 470, Phillips 66 refinery, Billings, Mont. Left to right: Staff Representative Cameron Redd, Gary Schwalbe, Neil Oltrogge, Pete Rein, and Troy Brown.

commitment to making educational opportunities a priority. He retired on March 1, and his contributions will be missed.



Attorney Brendan Cummins was the guest speaker.



USW Local 560 from Gwinner, N.D. with Director Emil Ramirez and Retired Staff Representative Gerry Parzino.