

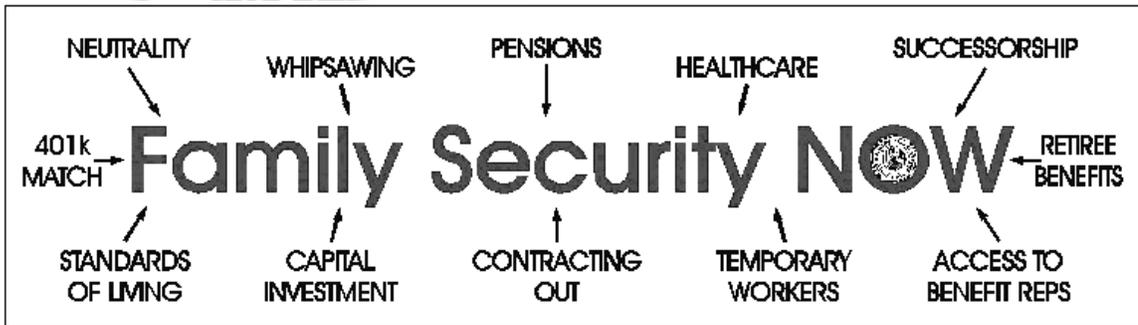
CONTRACT EXPIRATION

April 19, 2003 - Goodyear, Dunlop
July 5, 2003 - Kelly

Strike Vote	
March 20-21, 2003	
Yes	No
1,579	40

Strike Checklist	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Signs Prepared
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Picket Roster Complete
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Media Contact
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USWA Authorization
If Provoked We Will Strike!	

Target Company Selected
April 7, 2003
GOODYEAR



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Things you need to know before a strike!

ORDERLY SHUTDOWN

If the USWA were to strike Goodyear, we need to remember that Goodyear is the primary source of income to our members. If you are working and a walkout is called for, you should stop your machine in a safe and timely manner and exit the plant. Picket captains or officers will be at the gate to inform you of any issues and to guide you in what action to take at this time. The reason we mention "Goodyear is the primary source of income to members" is to make sure we do nothing to damage equipment or anything that could be detrimental to our membership. Remember Goodyear's eyes will be upon you!

WALKING PICKET

When the time arrives for you to walk picket duty, you should report on time and listen to the picket captain for instructions and picket duty guidelines. Walking picket is a duty of all members. If for some reason you cannot serve at your time slot, please notify the union hall early enough to find a replacement.

WHO CALLS THE STRIKE?

Membership gave our negotiators the authority to call a strike in the event they cannot reach an agreement or progress cannot be made. In the past, as the contract deadline approached, our officers enter the plant and wait for a phone call from our President, Danny Barber or Policy Member Benny Toller in Cincinnati while management waits on a phone call from Human Resources Manager, Vince Williams, also in Cincinnati. If they call and notify our officers to shut it down, our officers and representatives will go to the floor as instruct members what to do. A strike is only called if our negotiators feel Goodyear shows no signs of reaching an agreement.

THE LAST BIG STRIKE.....

The last strike of any great length occurred in 1976. It was at this time we struck for and achieved our current COLA provision. The first COLA raise was \$.06 in 1977 and is currently \$12.45 on April 2003. That accounts for an average of \$.48 per year.

The First Mother's Day

The first Mother's Day proclamation on a state level was issued by the governor of West Virginia in 1910. And by 1911, other states followed. But it took a couple of years still to obtain the Presidential proclamation.

The House of Representatives in May 1913 unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the President, his cabinet, the members of both Houses and all officials of the federal government to wear a white carnation on Mother's Day. On May 7, 1914, a resolution providing that the second Sunday in May be designated Mother's Day was introduced by Representative James T. Heflin of Alabama and Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas. It passed both Houses and on May 9 President Woodrow Wilson issued his Mother's Day Proclamation:

"...Now, Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the said Joint Resolution, do hereby direct the government buildings and do invite the people of the United States to display the flag at their homes or other suitable places on the second Sunday in May as a public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country."

And this has since then been a convention. For, each year a similar proclamation is issued by the President.

Family Security Shirt Update

With the exception of a few shirts, most have been distributed. We had to reorder a few sizes, they are due here anytime. If you haven't received your shirt, please contact your CAT Organizer or the CAT shift Coordinators:

"A" Shift	Jimmy Newcomb	#7 Tuber
"B" Shift	Barry Bridgen	Banbury Maintenance
"C" Shift	Sandra Hairston	1052 Team C
"D" Shift	Barry Austin	RTS Tireroom
1st Shift	Linwood Saunders	Banners
2nd Shift	Linwood or Willie	
3rd Shift	Willie Futch	U-2 Service

Or see Dana Dixon "A" Shift NG's your Division Chairman or call the union hall and leave your name, cc#, and dept.



Local 831 Supports Our Troops Serving in Iraq and Pray for Their Safe Return Home!

(Local 831 has 7 members serving)

GOD BLESS AMERICA





April 9, 2003

President Jack Dodson called the meeting to order. All officers were present.

Opening prayer was by Earl Guill followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jack reported on a letter sent to members regarding dues from International. Dues are to be paid when due on notice sent from International and paid to local treasurer Earl Guill.

Minutes of the March meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Contract negotiations - George Stewart will attend meetings in Cincinnati on April 14 and 15 to represent Soar members.

George Stewart made a motion that the June meeting be on June 18 and attend the Braves ballgame. Picnic will be furnished for members from 4:30 until game starts. Motion seconded and passed.

Drawings: Oil and lube change given by Gold Adkins of the Goodyear Service Store won by Pete Ramano and Jimmy Gross. Fifty-fifty won by James Burnett.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Guill, Secretary



All names have been updated in barrel thanks to Scott Davis.

PAF Check-off Exceeds Expectations!

In January USWA PAC Coordinator Mike Scarver, gave a presentation on reasons to be open minded on political candidates. After his eye opening talk to membership, Scarver presented the USWA Political Action Fund (PAF) drive to those attending. The PAF is a fund established by the USWA to financially help candidates that support working men and women issues. These monies do not go to national political committees but directly to the candidates. Our local can request assistance for state and/or local political candidates.

In addition to Scarver, membership has been addressed by our own Ronnie Watson, who is the District 8 Rapid Response Coordinator on the importance of this effort. Approximately 85 people signed up the first day the drive started. That number grew to about 239 by strike vote day but that soon changed. While many people were instrumental in the PAF drive none were more passionate for it than COPE Committee member Ted Fitz. Ted demonstrated this passion at the table that was set up during the strike vote days at the Union Hall by educating members on the importance of PAF. Ted was assisted by Beverly Hedrick, Linwood Saunders, Delta Williams, and Brenda Miles. After the dust had settled and the cards had been counted, Local 831 had 927 union members to step to the plate for political action. "I've yet to see a single time that Local 831 failed to respond when called upon. These numbers are the best in the state and perhaps the district," stated Communication Coordinator, Dana Dixon. Thanks to everyone that signed up for helping in the fight in keeping jobs in our country, protecting health care, pension benefits, and care for the retirees and elderly. As far as the strike vote count it was 1579 yes and 40 no. Local 831 extends their thanks to membership for the turnout for the strike vote and reminds everyone that voting "no" is like telling the company that we will take whatever Goodyear wants. During the two day strike vote not only were there a tremendous support for PAF, but over \$1,400 of union merchandise was sold at the hall. Solidarity Rocks!

Ways To Get Rid of Telemarketers

Three Little Words That Work!

(1) The three little words are: "Hold On, Please..." Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt.

Then when you eventually hear the phone company's "beep-beep-beep!" tone, you know its time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task.

These three little words will help eliminate telephone soliciting.

(2) Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end? This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone. This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a "real" sales person to call back and get someone at home.

What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialed the call and it kicks your number out of their system.

(3) Another Good Idea:

When you get "ads" enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these "ads" with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away.

When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope.

Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 37 cents postage "IF" and when they receive them back.

It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was around 50 cents before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.



Editor's Column

Workers Memorial Day

On April 28, the USWA and other unions of the AFL-CIO observe Workers Memorial Day in the United States. On this day, workers around the world remember our sisters and brothers who were killed or injured by their jobs. But April 28 is much more. April 28 is also the day on which we recommit ourselves to stopping these tragedies. Thirty-one USWA members were killed on the job in 2002. We have received reports of three fatalities so far this year. Many more of our members have perished from the long-term effects of work-related disease. And thousands are injured every month.

This April 28, we call upon all members, families and friends of the USWA, as well as elected officials, to join the fight to protect workers.

Providing a safe work ethic and safe work environment will save lives. In the Danville plant, Team A has gone 60 days without an OSHA reportable and Team B has gone over 30 days. Other improvements include plant-wide.

	2002 1st QTR.	2003 1st QTR.
OSHA's	48	26
Lost time	9	1
Hospital Visits	126	81
OSHA Incident Rate	8.3	4.25

Team C cut their OSHA's from 15 in 2002, to 13 in 2003 while Team D went from 20 to 8.

Good improvements but not safe enough.

Are we on the right path?

A lot has happened over the past several months. Goodyear just posted a \$1.1 billion loss for 2002, many workers have been laid off at various plants and Goodyear stock price after hitting rock bottom has finally started an upward trend, though it may be slow. As I stated in a previous column, it may be too late, but things are starting to happen that should have took place 2 or 3 years ago.

Laying off or dismissing hundreds of Research & Development employees most likely will not affect Goodyear at all. While we may lose some talented people, I really haven't seen any new products other than Danville's new steer tire lately. If we retain the right people, R&D cuts will go unnoticed. The problem as I see it with the cuts is--the people we need to take a few hacks at are the ones cutting everybody else. We have way to many VP's. One would think with so many people in charge, we would at least be able to get tires to the customer. At a time where we have probably the lowest backorders ever, we have customers screaming for tires. One of Goodyear's biggest failures has been distribution. In today's market, if the tire is not at the store, customers will go somewhere else and most customers don't really care about brand name. That is evident with Firestone's huge recall, they are still gaining market share on us. Although price is somewhat a factor, the main factor is availability and Goodyear's move to cut inventories to new low levels is biting back.

If we are too succeed and come out of this rut we are in, several things must happen. Locally, we must focus on the real issues. One example, on numerous occasions lately, union representatives have been asked to show their union pass to management, I guess to keep track of where they are and who their seeing. If we want to succeed, management needs to be resolving the issues that put the representative on pass. Stop worrying about, "do you have a pass" and focus on "let me help straighten out the overtime errors or yes, I'll stop the area managers from doing bargaining unit work."

If we are to succeed, we need to fill salary jobs from people with experience and determination that is required. We have management people on the floor that have been disqualified from numerous jobs and then placed to manage over jobs they couldn't do themselves. While we do have some very skilled and qualified people in Danville management, just filling a position to fill a position is digging us into a deeper rut. As we have lost tire knowledgeable people in Akron and Danville our (Goodyear's) position continues to sink. If we are to succeed, let's quit trying to push out the people that know the business, intead let's utilize their skills. We have "Production specialist" in areas they know nothing about. Any time I've went to specialist, they were the tops of the field, and they knew the latest and the greatest about their specialty. This just isn't so at Goodyear.

If Goodyear is sincere about getting back to the place we once were, we need to cut the paperwork side and focus on the floor side. We focus too much on pretty charts and not the real everyday issues. Let's roll up our sleeves, be willing to listen and lead not manage.

Dana Dixon, Managing Editor

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Danny Barber
President and Editor

Dana Dixon
Managing Editor

Gloria Gravely & Danny Travis
Associate Editors



Questions & Answers

If anyone has a question for *The Informer*, please submit it to Dana Dixon, Gloria Gravely, Danny Travis or your Division Chairman.

If we were to go on strike, what benefits will the union provide?

The USWA International union provides benefits for serving picket duty. The benefit is based upon need. The benefit does not start immediately. There have been situations where the USWA has helped beyond these guidelines.

If we were to go on strike, how long does our medical benefits last?

Medical benefits continue for a period of 90 days. Anything beyond that period may or may not be covered under the agreement depending on if everything is made retroactive.

How would I know when to walk picket duty?

A list is in the process of being made that will show where each member will be assigned and what time period they will serve. Members will be located at the plant main entrance, the railroad entrance on the back road and as an informational picket at the Goodyear Service Store. You can stop by the Union Hall to view this roster.

What means will the union use to notify members not working if we are on strike?

The Danville Register-Bee is the main newspaper source and WAKG/WBTM, WILA & WDVA radios stations will be utilized. Channel 13 WSET is our television connection. If you are unsure, drive by the plant, if pickets are in place-we are on strike and members will be notified by the above sources of when to return to work.

USWA and American Flint Glass Workers Merger Announced

I am very pleased to announce that the USWA and the American Flint Glass Workers Union (AFGWU) have reached a tentative merger agreement after months of discussions. The addition of the AFGWU's 12,000 members will made us one of the largest unions representing workers in the glass industry in the United States. In recognition of this, we will be establishing a Flint/Glass Industry Conference similar to our steel, tire and rubber, aluminum, health care and other industry groups that will have as one of its primary mandates the expansion of our organizing efforts in glass.

Tim Tuttle, AFGWU's National President, and the other AFGWU's leaders are in the process of obtaining membership approval of the merger, which they anticipate happening in the next few months. Please join me in giving them a warm Steelworkers welcome. They will be a great addition to our union.

President Leo W. Gerard

Rules for Investing

in Today's Stock Market

Edward Jones

Hershel Stone - 836-4717

Chris Eastwood - 791-2595



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April Membership Meeting Minutes

USWA Local 831 held its' regular membership meeting on April 10, 2003 with Vice President Terry Trull presiding. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

■ Prayer by Barry Bridgen (am meeting) and Willie Osborne (pm meeting) followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

■ Roll Call of Officers-All were present except David Payne (funeral leave) and Danny Barber (negotiations).

■ Recording Secretary, Brenda Miles read the minutes from the March 13, 2003 meeting and they were approved as read.

■ Executive board action from April 7, 2003 meeting was approved as read and the following items were agreed to:

o Donate \$500 to the Providence Fire Department for sponsorship in their Spring Fling.

o Upgrade Union Hall computers, some are over five years old with little memory.

o Donate the old lobby furniture to the SOAR Chapter.

o Donate the remaining old and unused office furniture and water fountains to DAV.

o Donate the old stove to the DOVES Organization.

o Donate \$75.00 to the Little Life Golf Tourney.

o Allow the CUB Scouts to use the union hall grounds for their annual outing.

o (From the Home Association) Raise the building rental to \$400.00 because of recent

renovations and continued increased cost to heat and cool.

■ Financial Secretary, William "Stick" McLaughlin presented the financial report for March and it was approved as read. Brother McLaughlin made a motion to accept 10 rejoining members with no members exiting. Motion carried.

■ Gloria Gravely, Alternate Pension & Insurance Representative reported on work still ongoing to handle the reasonable and customary charges incurred by United Healthcare. Also, if you are admitted to the hospital, make sure you have been pre-certified.

■ Mark Powers gave an update on the legislative bills from the 2003 Virginia General Assembly. Mark also thanked membership for their overwhelming participation in the recent USWA PAF drive. Our local had 927 members join to battle to support legislators that support us (workers).

■ Vice President Terry Trull expressed his appreciation to the membership for their turnout for the strike vote, to the COPE Committee and others that helped with the PAF drive, the election committee for the smoothly ran strike vote and to the CAT team who helped with the tee-shirt distribution. Terry also went through a list of items that Goodyear has presented to the negotiation committee. Some of them are as follows:

o Explanation of Goodyear's financial

troubles. Union had a firm to check Goodyear's books and they have reported that Goodyear is truly in bad financial shape.

o Discussed a pie chart they presented that illustrated over \$300 million of concessions to which the union told them to take back to Akron.

o Union needs to take a role in the financial issues and managing plants with Goodyear.

o Goodyear needs to cut approximately 30% of their multi-tier management system.

o Goodyear is over \$10 billion in debt.

o Plants must operate at lower cost and more efficiently for Goodyear to survive.

o And in closing, Terry stated that the picket rosters have been made out and will be posted as soon as they are approved.

■ Anthony Tunstall and Ed Caviness won the 50/50 drawings.

■ R.V. Turner, cc# 1936, dept. 1052 was drawn for the attendance prize of \$ 600.00; the member was not present so the May prize will be \$625.00.

■ A drawing was held for the split rail fencing at the hall. Fuzzy Melton was the winner.

■ A drawing was held for three prizes for the Jack Hall Fund raffle. First prize, \$100 per month for one year was won by Mark Gunn. Vanessa Gunn won second prize for \$50 gift certificate to Holiday Travel and Marvin Moore won third prize for 5 appetizers from Outback.

■ Motion to adjourn, motion carried.

Hoffman Chiropractic
799-4000

RETIREES

Congratulations to the following retirees. We wish them much success in their future endeavor's and hope they can fully enjoy their union negotiated retirement benefits.

Secel Tucker (4040)
 Tom Worley (2541)
 Richard Richardson (2541)
 Harold Snead (1110)
 Cleve Waller (2541)
 Archie Salmons (1110)
 Jimmy Vipperman (1110)
 Tom Wgner (2541)
 Henry Motley (2421)

*We Send Our
 Sincere Condolences To*

Eddie Anderson Jr., P.O. Belcher,
 Ulyess Cannon, Ernest Ferguson, C.J. Hubbard, Curtis Hyatt,
 Donald Newman, David Payne

U.S.W.A. Local 831
 285 Shady Grove Road
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Just A Note...



*The Informer
 recieved a note from
 "Joe the Welder"
 Richardson. Joe
 says HI to all the guys and
 gals of Goodyear.*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MAY 2003 CALENDAR						
April BD 27	AC 28	AC 29	BD 30	May BD 1	AC 2	AC 3
AC 4	BD Executive Board Meeting 7:30 AM 5	BD 6	AC 7	AC Union Meeting 7:30 AM/PM 8	BD 9	BD 10
BD <i>Mother's Day</i> (Don't Forget) 11	AC 12	AC 13	BD SOAR (Retirees) Meeting 11:00 am 14	BD 15	AC 16	AC Armed Forces Day 17
AC 18	BD 19	BD 20	AC 21	AC 22	BD 23	BD 24
BD 25	AC Memorial Day  26	AC 27	BD 28	BD 29	AC  Begins 7:00 p.m. 30	AC  Ends 7:00 p.m. 31
June AC 1	BD 2	BD 3	AC 4	AC 5	BD 6	BD 7