

Relay for Life Successful!



Though the grounds were soggy due to all the rain it did not dampen the spirits of the walking participants in this years Relay for Life! The event, which is sponsored by The American Cancer Society, was for the memory of cancer patients and survivors of this dreaded disease. Monies raised goes to research in finding a cure for cancer. The event was held at John M. Langston Jr. High School. There were 45 teams participating in this year's event. Local 831 had 18 teams with more than 140 participants for the largest turnout of any other organization. Opening ceremonies began at 7:00 pm Friday on May 30, 2003 with the survivor lap-taking place on the Langston track. When the survivor lap ended balloons were released honoring cancer survivors. After the start of the official laps, all walking ceased with team captains and members assembling on the track for the luminary ceremony. At 9:00pm these luminaries adorned the track honoring cancer victims.

Local 831 contributed \$1,000.00 and a two-day gate collection netted approximately \$3,4000.00 for this event. "I was extremely



pleased at Local 831's participation and contributions. Cancer is an illness that touches most every family, finding a cure and providing funds for research is of the utmost importance," stated Communications Coordinator, Dana Dixon.

The event, which was supposed to run through Saturday and end at 7:00 pm, was cut short and ended around 10:00 am due to the large amount of rain. Local 831 would like to thank all participants and people who contributed for their time and generosity for this years successful Relay for Life!!

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Halliburton Less Patriotic than Chicks

Who's less patriotic, the Dixie Chicks or Dick Cheney's long-term meal ticket—The Halliburton Co? The Dixie Chicks were excoriated for simply exercising their constitutional right to speak out. The group issued a humiliating public apology for the disrespectful anti-Bush remarks made by its lead singer, Natalie Maines.

The Chicks have learned how dangerous it can be to criticize the chief of a grand imperial power. Halliburton, on the other hand, can do no wrong. Yes, it has a history of ripping off the U.S. government and has made zillions doing business in countries that sponsor terrorism, including members of the "axis of evil" that is so despised by the president. The White House has yet to come down on Halliburton for its actions. In a letter written by Representative Henry Waxman, points were raised about the propriety of rewarding Halliburton with lucrative contracts as part of the U.S. war on terror when the company has gone out of its way to do business in three countries that the United States has accused of supporting terror; Iraq, Iran and Libya.

Halliburton was fined \$3.8 million in 1995 for re-exporting U.S. goods through a foreign subsidiary to Libya in violation of U.S. sanctions. The fine was not enough to keep Halliburton from dancing with the devil. It still has dealings in Libya.

Now, with the U.S. takeover of Iraq, Halliburton has hit the jackpot. One of its subsidiaries has been given the contract to fight the oil well fires, manage oil operations and the oil distribution. Halliburton and its subsidiaries benefit from doing business with the enemy, from its relationship with the U.S. military when it's at war with the enemy and from its contracts to help rebuild the defeated enemy.

Meanwhile, the flag-waving yahoos are hyperventilating over the non-issues like the Dixie Chicks.

The True Meaning of July 4th

Perhaps this Independence Day we should pay less attention to the fireworks and more to the meaning of our country's founding and the values it holds. Below is a patriotic piece entitled "I am a Nation" by Otto Whittaker.

I was born on July 4, 1776, and the Declaration of Independence is my certificate. The bloodlines of the world run in my veins, because I offered freedom to the oppressed. I am many things and many people. I am the nation.

I am 250 million living souls and the ghost of millions who have lived and died for me. I am Nathan Hall and Paul Revere. I stood at Lexington and fired the shot heard around the world. I am Washington, Jefferson and Patrick Henry. I am John Paul Jones, the Green Mountain Boys and Davy Crockett. I am Lee and Grant and Abe Lincoln.

I remember the Alamo, the Maine and Pearl Harbor. When freedom called, I answered and stayed until it was over, over there. I left my heroic dead in Flanders Field, on the rock of Corregidor, on the bleak slopes of Korea and in the steaming jungles of Vietnam.

I am the Brooklyn Bridge, the wheat lands of Kansas and the granite hills of Vermont. I am the coalfields of the Virginias and Pennsylvania, the fertile lands of the west, the Golden Gate and the Grand Canyon. I am Independence Hall, the Monitor and the Merrimac.

I am big, I sprawl from the Atlantic to the Pacific my arms reach out to embrace Alaska and Hawaii. I am more than five million farms. I am forest, field, mountain and desert. I am quiet villages and cities that never sleep.

You can look at me and see Ben Franklin walking down the streets of Philadelphia with his bread loaf under his arm. You can see Betsy Ross with her needle. You can see the lights of Christmas and hear the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" as the calendar turns.

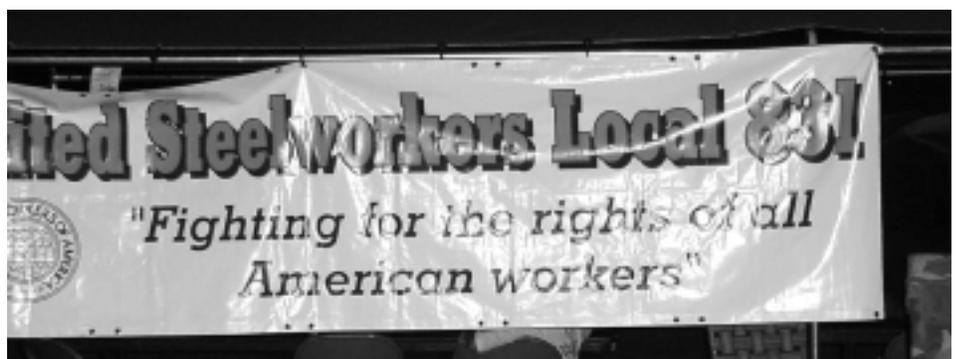
I am Babe Ruth and the World series. I am 110,000 schools and colleges and 330,000 churches where my people worship God as they think best. I am a ballot dropped into a box, the roar of a crowd in a stadium and the voice of a choir in a cathedral. I am an editorial in a newspaper and a letter to a congressman.

I am Eli Whitney and Stephen Foster. I am Tom Edison, Albert Einstein and Billy Graham. I am Horace Greeley, Will Rogers and the Wright Brothers. I am George Washington Carver, Jonas Salk and Martin Luther King Jr.

I am Longfellow, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Walt Whitman and Thomas Paine.

Yes, I am one nation, and these are the things that I am. I was conceived in freedom and God willing, in freedom I will spend the rest of my days.

May I possess always the integrity, the courage and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain a citadel of freedom and a beacon of hope to the world?





Business Meeting - June 2003

Instead of our regular meeting in June, we will have a picnic at Dan Daniel Park on Thursday, June 26 starting at 4:30, Oven # 17. Following the picnic, we will enjoy a Braves ballgame. Tickets will be issued to members after the picnic.

The District 8 meeting will be hosted by our local Chapter at the Union Hall on July 8. Members are encouraged to attend and meet the Soar International leaders.

The next Soar business meeting will be July 9 at the Union Hall, 11:00 a.m. Plan now to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Guill, Secretary

ATTENTION: NEW RETIREES Plan now to attend the July meeting and meet with your former co-workers. Meeting are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch. See you there.

District 8 Regional SOAR Meeting Set

USWA District 8 SOAR Organization will be holding a regional meeting of SOAR Chapters in Danville on July 8, 2003. The following people are scheduled to attend:

Jim Centner-SOAR Director, Jack Casparriello-SOAR Executive Board for District 8, Eddie Lowery-Sub-District Director, Ronnie Watson-Rapid Response, Melvin Watson-Staff Representative, Rick Pike-Staff Representative, Jack Dodson-President SOAR 8-UR-1, John Cornthwait-SOAR 8-UR-2 (Salem, VA), Lewis Wheeler-SOAR 8-UR-3 (Bedford, VA), Kenny Stevens-SOAR Coordinator for District 8, and Danny Barber-President of USWA Local 831.

The meeting will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and a luncheon will be furnished and served by the hosting SOAR Chapter, 8-UR-1. The attendance of all SOAR members is urged. There will be no registration fees.

Are Your Tires Union-Made?



The U.S. Department of transportation (DOT) requires that all tires sold in the United States carry a code, which identifies, among other things, the company and the plant that made each tire. It is molded into the sidewall of every tire. We can assume that tires we buy for our cars and trucks were made by rubber workers covered by the United Steelworkers union (USWA) contracts.

With rare exceptions the code found near each tire's wheel bead-looks like this:

DOT MK L9 ABC 036

The two letters immediately following "DOT" are the ones we are looking for. They will be either two letters or one letter and one number. In the example here, the letters "MK" designate a tire made at the Goodyear Tire plant in Union City, Tennessee.

In addition to company-name brands, many of the tire plants also produce "associate brand" or "private brand" tires. The codes on those tires will be the same as those on the company-name brands produced at each plant. The following list includes tire code letters for tires made at union facilities of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.

Code	Union Facility	Local #
DA	Dunlop—Buffalo, New York	USWA 135L
DB	Dunlop-Huntsville, Alabama	USWA 915L
JE,MC,PT	Goodyear-Danville, Virginia	USWA 831L
JF,MM,PJ	Kelly-Fayetteville, N.C.	USWA 959L
JH,MN,PK	Kelly-Freeport, Illinois	USWA 745L
JJ,MD,PU	Goodyear-Gadsden, Alabama	USWA 12L
JN,MJ,PY	Goodyear-Topeka, Kansas	USWA 307L
JP,MP,PL	Kelly-Tyler, Texas	USWA 746L
JT,MK,TA	Goodyear-Union City, TN	USWA 878L
JU,PC,UK	Goodyear-Medicine Hat, Canada	USWA 628L

In addition to name brands, Kelly also produces tires sold as: Lee, Monarch, Douglas, Hallmark and Star. Dunlop produces tires that are also sold as: Centennial and Remington.

The other manufacturers use the private brands as well. Bridgestone produces and sells tires by: Firestone, Dayton, Triumph, Road King and Roadhandler. Uniroyal/Goodrich produces tires using the names of Uniroyal, B.F. Goodrich and Cavalier. General tire uses the names of Continental and Hoosier in addition to General. Titan Tire (farm tires) also produces tires by the name of Servisfleet and Titan. Cooper manufacturers under the name of Falls Mastercraft and Cooper.

A union member informed the hall that he had looked at the Jeep Liberty and it had tires (Goodyear) on it that were made in China. After that discussion, Terry Trull and Dana Dixon went to the parking lot at the hall to see exactly what locations were making the tires we are buying in the United States. We found tires (all Goodyear's) made in a variety of locations including: the United States, Canada and South Africa. By utilizing the tire code system, it can also be identified if the U.S. plant was union or non-union. It is more important now than ever that you support our unionized plants in North America. For more on this topic, see the Editors column.

Why do We Need to Step Up As Union Members?

Here it is plain and simple

There are no managers and doers anymore. We are all managers. If we are to survive, we all have to manage ourselves and our jobs. If we don't, we won't survive. Our plant is far too important to us to allow 300-400 managers to make all the decisions about it. We can all see where that has gotten us.

TOP TEN REASONS WE NEED TO STEP UP

10. Sometimes it's hard to believe that management has any idea what quality is.

9. They can't schedule and when production drops, they automatically assume "the people" must have an attitude problem.

8. They move managers from a job that they know and are doing well to a job they have no idea what they are doing.

7. They don't train managers at all.

6. They get so consumed with 10 minute breaks and 20 minute lunches they never recognize people who do a great job day in and day out. It's called the "catch people doing something wrong" mentality.

5. They have all the time in the world for you if you have an absentee problem, but don't know your name if you have perfect attendance.

USWA Local 831 CREDENTIALS

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Danny Barber
President and Editor

Dana Dixon
Managing Editor

Gloria Gravely & Danny Travis
Associate Editors



Editor's Column

Are we supporting ourselves?

My column could easily be a closing paragraph for the story "Are your tires union-made?" which is also included in this issue of the Informer. After hearing that tires made in China were showing up in the stores in the United States, it hit me. Every region of Goodyear, with the exception of North America seems to be doing well even under adverse conditions of the economy. How can that be? After checking out several sets of Goodyear tires, I find that we (North America) are helping to make the other regions profitable while letting ourselves bear the brunt of the criticism that North America isn't profitable any more.

It appears that we (United States) are being force-fed tires from everywhere including Mexico, Canada, Brazil, China, South Africa and the list goes on. What we must do is utilize the union-made tire list and demand only tires made by our brothers and sisters of the USWA in the United States (the plants covered by our contract). You see, every time we purchase tires from another region we are helping them be successful and we are helping Goodyear with their statements on how bad North America Region is doing. You don't hear about concessions being sought at these other plants (because they are profitable). What we need to do is support ourselves for a change. Goodyear makes a superior product and none are any more superior than those made in the United States by USWA labor. Every time you purchase tires, ask to see the DOT codes. Every time you talk to a friend or family member, ask them to look at the DOT codes. Purchases made by union members are part of the solution, continuing to purchase other brands and our brands made elsewhere is part of the problem. Let's get North America back on track by "purchase power" not concessions. Let the other regions sell their tires in their regions. We can take care of our own needs!

4. I can promise you that your boss is FAR more concerned about what his/her boss thinks than what you think, your family thinks, your internal customer thinks or what the end user thinks.

3. Managing is arranging and telling, so ... they arrange and tell. Don't ask any of them what leadership is, you will NOT get an answer. You would think you had just asked them for a cure for SARS or something.

2. Upper and middle managers treat business team personnel, area managers, staff personnel, etc. like crap. (Probably because they are treated like crap, but hey ... that's the Goodyear "management style").

1. They hire some "arrogant know-it-all" as a business center manager because some corporate vice president. tells them to and then as soon as the vice president is gone ... they fire him. (Well OK, I'll give them a 50-50 on that one).



Questions & Answers

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

Can I withdraw funds from my 401(k) savings account during a strike?

If you are under age 59-1/2 you may not withdraw amounts attributable to Matching Employer Contributions or attributable to Tax Deferred Contributions.

If you are age 59-1/2 or older, you may withdraw all or any portion of your vested interest in the value of the balance of your sub-account attributable to Matching Employer Contributions as of the most recent valuation date.

If you are age 59-1/2 or older, you may withdraw all or any portion of the value of the balance of your sub-account attributable to Tax-Deferred Contributions as of the most recent valuation date.

Regardless of your age, you may withdraw all or any portion of the value of the balance of your sub-account attributable to your After-Tax Contributions as of the most recent valuation date.

Make This the Year of Financial Independence

URW 831 Members FCU, has special offers to help you celebrate your financial freedom.

- **Freedom from multiple bills.**

Take advantage of low-rates on home equity loans and consolidate debt.

- **Freedom from high interest rates.**

Drive a cool set of new wheels at great low rates.

- **Freedom to save time and money.**

Enjoy the convenience of on-line banking and bill payer service at urwfcu.org.

URW 831 Members FCU would like to thank everyone who attended our annual meeting and to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday!



URW 831 MEMBERS
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Flint Glass Workers Convention Approves Merger With Steelworkers

PITTSBURGH - Convention delegates representing the 12,000 members of the American Flint Glass Workers Union (AFGWU) this afternoon voted by an overwhelming 80% to merge with the United Steelworkers of America (USWA), the presidents of the two unions announced here today.

"Our membership is very excited about this opportunity to strengthen our bargaining position in the glass industry and enhance our ability to organize," said AFGWU president Tim Tuttle.

"With this merger," he said, "nearly 30,000 glass workers are now united in the same organization."

"This merger of two activist unions will strengthen the membership of both organizations," added USWA international President Leo W. Gerard, "and it will strengthen the labor movement as a whole."

"Consolidation of these glass workers in one major union," he said, "will increase our leverage in bargaining with the industry, improve collective agreements and enhance services to the membership."

Gerard and Tuttle added that the merger will provide additional resources and training for leadership and activists in AFGWU local unions, which will also improve collective bargaining agreements.

The two leaders noted that both unions had their beginnings in Pittsburgh. AFGWU was organized in Pittsburgh on July 1, 1878,

Continued on page 8

TIRES & WHEELS *On Sale!*

**All tires and wheels are on sale!
Wheel rep's will be on site all week.
June 23-27, 2003**

During this sale only, Goodyear Plant Employees will be given an "instant rebate" using their current 2003 coupons. The rebate is as described on these coupons, except the rebate will be instant (no need to mail it in).

Payroll deductions allowed for this sale.



Come in and register for a free set of tires.
Hot dogs and drinks, free all week!

Visit our store at
450 Mt. Cross Road • Danville, VA
434-792-1022

Member Chatter

The month's question:

What is your opinion of communications concerning negotiations thus far?



"Personally I think communications has been a little slow."

Curtis Wilkes
(Banners, 3rd shift)



"Communications has been much better than in the past. I'm confident that our local is sharing information as quickly as they get it."

Becky Inman
(NG Operator, A shift)



"Very good! Communications from our local has been on a regular basis. I depend on consistency."

Greg Glass
(1524, C shift)



"Communications has been good. I like the email network Local 831 has established, the handouts are quick and easy to do and the Contract Action Team concept works great."

Greg Gammon
(Press operator, A Shift)

June Membership Meeting Minutes

USWA Local 831 held its' regular membership meeting on June 12, 2003 with Vice President Terry Trull presiding. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

■ Prayer led by Ronald Williams followed by the Pledge of allegiance

■ Roll call of Officers - All were present except Danny Barber (negotiations) and Gloria Gravely (vacation).

■ Recording Secretary, Brenda Miles read the minutes from May 8, 2003 meeting and they were approved as read

■ Reading of Executive Board report was approved as read. The following items were agreed to

- Motion to send two COPE members to the 16th AFL-CIO Biennial Convention to be held in Vienna, Va. from Aug. 14-16, 2003 on the condition there is no strike.

- Motion to send the Safety Committee to the Joint Health & Safety Symposium to be held Aug. 2-7, 2003 in New Orleans, Louisiana on the condition there is no strike.

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

■ Women of Steel member Brenda Miles thanked everyone who helped with "Relay for Life." Monies raised was approximately \$5,400.00

■ COPE committee member, Mark Powers gave a report on "Stopping NAFTA and encouraged members to participate by signing cards

■ Education & Publicity Chairman Dana Dixon, urged members to view the Relay for Life slide show and to sign up for USWA Local 831's e-mail network. He also explained several items that were presented during the strike preparation meeting

■ David Payne gave the Trustee report. Trustees audited the books on May 29, 2003 and all of the books balanced

■ Safety Committee Chairman Mike Baker, reported on an incident in

the presses on May 24,2003 and discussed availability of MSD sheets

■ Vice President Terry Trull gave these points of information:

- Read letter of thanks from Little Life Golf Tournament for our local's participation

- Reported on President's meeting which was on June 5, 2003

- Oct. 5-8 District Conference in Maryland

- Civil Right Conference Sept. 4-7, 2003 Detroit, Michigan

- Reviewed strike duties

■ Bobby Rutherford and Jeff Dixon won the 50/50 drawing

■ Robert Andrews cc#6341 name was drawn for the attendance prize of \$650.00; the member was not present so the July prize will be \$675.00

■ Names were drawn for reserved seating for tickets to see the Danville Braves play on Solidarity Day's

■ Drawing was also held for various items that were left over after construction

■ Motion to adjourn, motion carried

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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.

Gloria Adams, Robert Blackwell,
Earnest Luck, Tom Powers,
Ronnie Wood

Flint Glass Merger

Continued from page 6

at the union's first convention. On June 17, 1936, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) was established in Pittsburgh "as a permanent organization for collective bargaining in the steel industry. Six years after its formation, SWOC became the USWA. For more information on the history of the two unions, see the AFGWU website at www.afgwu.org, and the USWA site at www.uswa.org.

Locally, this means we have new locals at Corning Glass and Brockway Glass. If you see anyone from these plants, welcome them aboard the USWA.

We Send Our Sincere Condolences To

Michael Bayden, Clifton Blair, Kenneth Brooks, David Crane, Harold Davis, Joe Davis, Toby Davis, Ida Fuller, Bryan Gee, Calvin Glass, Charlie Glass, Julie Irby, Earnest Jones, Thomas Loney, Detrick Moorman, Leon Rigney, Nicole Rucker, Jeff Shaffer, Joe Shaffer, Samuel Slade, Jackie Wilson,
The Family of Harry Lewis

U.S.W.A. Local 831

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY 2003 CALENDAR						
June AC 29	BD 30	July BD 1	AC 2	AC 3	BD 4 Independence Day Plant Holiday	BD 5
BD 6	AC Executive Board Meeting 7:30 AM Birthday Holiday for Traditional	AC 8 SOAR Meeting District 8 10AM- 3PM	BD 9 Regular SOAR Meeting 11AM	BD 10 Union Meeting 7:30 AM/PM	AC 11	AC 12
AC 13	BD 14	BD 15	AC 16	AC 17	BD 18	BD 19
BD 20	AC 21 Solidarity Days with the Danville Braves - Tickets \$1.00	AC 22	BD 23	BD 24	AC 25	AC 26
AC 27	BD 28	BD 29	AC 30	AC 31	August BD 1	BD 2
BD 3	AC 4	AC 5	BD 6	BD 7	AC 8	AC 9