

STEEL VOICE



UNITED STEELWORKERS LOCAL 1999

Volume 5. Issue President's Meeting

Indianapolis, IN

February 23, 2012

RIGHT TO WORK

Bruce Reed, Local Union Representative



Brothers and Sisters:

Welcome to the 2012 President's

meeting. Chuck and the Local Executive Board have determined that with the "Right to Work" legislation being rammed down our throats we should focus on the effect it will have in our shops. As you can imagine the freeloaders will be a problem and could escalate into physical problems in a short time. The law is an offense to all Union workers in Indiana; it allows a freeloader to steal from their co-workers and gives protection to the thief. We will discuss some expectations and strategies so we can deal with having, in my opinion, scabs in our shops.

Our theme this year is the same as the International Constitutional Convention last year "STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK". We will have a few short videos and some guest speakers that will hopefully inspire

us to support the fight we are looking at in the near future. We MUST prepare to take back the Statehouse and reverse the law the republicans rammed through the last session. It will not be a quick fix, let's let today be the beginning for Local 1999 to collectively "stand up and fight back". Let's let this meeting start the fire in our hearts to show we will not go without a fight; we can and will make sure from this point forward, no legislator will get our vote if they are not a direct supporter of the working class and we will do everything in our power to defeat any candidate that does not support our position.

In Solidarity,
Bruce Reed

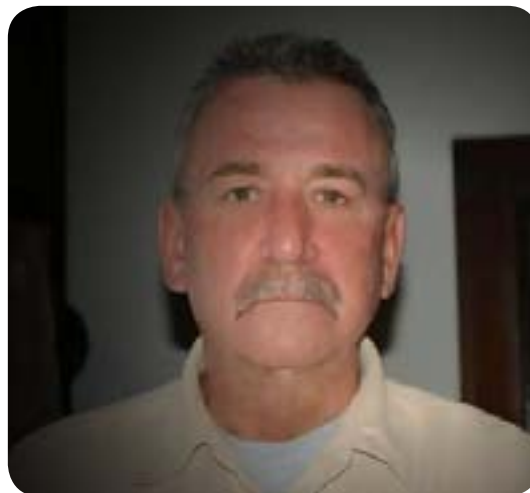
Chuck Jones, President

Brothers and Sisters:

I have been the Local 1999 President since the amalgamation in 1998. We have experienced some bad times in the past but we have always found solutions to the problems. With the new Right to Work law being implemented, this will be the biggest change ever for Labor in Indiana.

We do not intend to sit back and take this; we will Stand Up and Fight Back! We have never shied away from a fight in the past. Weather it was with a Company CEO or a scab on the picket line. All Labor Unions were established because the people believed that they weren't being treated fairly. They fought hard to have a voice, many people lost their lives in the strug-

gle to form a Union and now a few elected officials have decided that they can basically take that away from us, without even caring. This



is just politics to them. But this is our lives.

We rallied at the State House on a daily basis to let the Representatives know how much we were against

this Bill. Some Democrats stood with us for a while, but in the long run they gave up. I want to tell you now; we do not intend to give up. Many of our members, Unit Presidents, and E Board members participated in these rallies. I want to tell them and all of you how much your time and effort meant to me. I appreciate all of Unit Presidents and E Board members. The International Union has referred to this Local Union 1999, as the model Local, because it is. Our officers do a great job, these jobs are not as glorious as everyone thinks but you all work hard and have pride in what you're doing. I just want to thank you; we need to stay strong and united as we move forward.

Fraternally,
Chuck Jones

Robert James, Vice President

Brothers and Sisters:

I am Vice President of Local 1999. As the Vice President I have had the opportunity to be involved in more Union activity outside of the plant I work in. I have learned the negative impact that state and national politics can have on the lives of working people.

Indiana as you know has just passed "right to work" legislation, I hope to gain a better understanding of this law so I can better serve our membership. I clearly understand that right to work is not right for Indi-

ana; this is a law that is designed to bust Unions and divide the members. We as Union members have



to come together and continue to fight; we know that this legislation is so very wrong on so many levels. I wonder what these people

were thinking when they voted for this, it defies common sense, right to work will not bring jobs, look at the other 22 states that have right to work laws they are the states that have the highest unemployment; right to work will reduce our wages and make our workplaces less safe.

The Republican Party in Indiana, like those in Washington, chose to support the Chamber of Commerce and Corporations over the working people, we must remember in November. Do not let the politicians destroy our Union's, remember, **STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK.**

Yours in Labor,
Robert James

Peggy Scotten, Recording Secretary

Education is one of the most valuable tools that we have today! I remember 3 years ago I had been a member of United Steelworker's Union for 17 years and had rarely gone to union meetings or attended any events held by our local. Fast forward three years and I am here today as Recording Secretary of our Local to share what I have learned in the three years' time, which I might add seems like longer time period.

RTW has given me personal motivation to speak to as many people as I can and **STAND UP** for my union!! It wasn't until I became involved with union activity that I became educated as to the workings of our union and what our union **STANDS** for. The same members who elected me to this office, elected me as a delegate to represent them in Las Vegas August of 2011. That was my first International Constitutional Convention and I was in total awe of

the power I felt there!! I wanted to come home and share the **POWER**. I felt while I was there, no wonder the Republicans want to disable our



Union! United Steelworkers **WE HAVE POWER!!** I ask that you please remember this as you speak to others about RTW and what it's going to do to our union. Members need to be educated not ridiculed for not wanting to pay dues...think about what the politician's want to accomplish with RTW, it is to destroy the middle class, the working class of America. Don't help them do this!!! Remember at all times

YOU are representing a **STRONG UNITED UNION** and helping its membership is your responsibility!! Take the Godly response; when a member of a church drifts from the church a group of members will go and talk with the troubled member to find out how differences can be resolved. It's up to us to take the time and talk to one another and help each other through. Don't let RTW make you lose the focus on **SOLIDARITY!!!! UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL!!**

Members have elected you as their voice!! You would not be here today without their support. Take time to speak with your weakest link and help them through by educating them on what you have learned by being involved and encourage them to become involved. We need to unite to **STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!!**

Thank You!!
Peggy Scotten

House Reps who voted against "Right to Work"

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Terri Austin (D. Anderson) | Earl Harris (D. East Chicago) | Candelaria Reardon (D. Munster) |
| Ron Bacon (R. Chandler) | Mike Karickhoff (R. Kokomo) | Scott Reske (D. Pendleton) |
| Jeb Bardon (D. Indianapolis) | Clyde Kersey (D. Terre Haute) | Gail Riecken (D. Evansville) |
| John Bartlett (D. Indianapolis) | Sheila Klinker (D. Lafayette) | Thomas Saunders (R. Lewisville) |
| Kreg Battles (D. Vincennes) | Linda Lawson (D. Hammond) | Vernon Smith (D. Gary) |
| Pat Bauer (D. South Bend) | Charles Moseley (D. Portage) | Ed Soliday (R. Valparaiso) |
| Charlie Brown (D. Gary) | Win Moses (D. Fort Wayne) | Steve Stemler (D. Jeffersonville) |
| David Cheatham (D. North Vernon) | David Niezgodski (D. South Bend) | Dan Stevenson (D. Highland) |
| Bill Crawford (D. Indianapolis) | Scott Pelath (D. Michigan City) | Mary Ann Sullivan (D. Indianapolis) |
| John Day (D. Indianapolis) | Phillip Pflum (D. Milton) | Vanessa Summers (D. Indianapolis) |
| Ed DeLaney (D. Indianapolis) | Matt Pierce (D. Bloomington) | Shelli VanDenburgh (D. Crown Point) |
| Nancy Dembowski (D. Knox) | George Porter (D. Indianapolis) | Peggy Welch (D. Bloomington) |
| Tom Dermody (R. LaPorte) | Cherish Pryor (D. Indianapolis) | Mike White (D. Muncie) |
| Chet Dobis (D. Merrellville) | | |
| Craig Fry (D. Mishawaka) | | |
| Phil GiaQuinta (D. Fort Wayne) | | |
| Terry Goodin (D. Austin) | | |
| Dale Grubb (D. Covington) | | |

Senators who voted against "Right to Work"

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jim Arnold (D. LaPorte) | Lindel Hume (D. Princeton) | Tim Skinner (D. Terre Haute) |
| Vaneta Becker (R. Evansville) | Tim Lanane (D. Anderson) | Brent Steele (R. Bedford) |
| Richard Bray (R. Martinsville) | Sue Landske (R. Cedar Lake) | Karen Tallian (D. Portage) |
| Jean Breaux (D. Indianapolis) | Frank Mrvan (D. Hammond) | Greg Taylor (D. Indianapolis) |
| John Broden (D. South Bend) | Johnny Nugent (R. Lawrenceburg) | Jim Tomes (R. Wadesville) |
| Ed Charbonneau (R. Valparaiso) | Lonnie Randolph (D. East Chicago) | Brent Waltz (R. Greenwood) |
| | Earline Rogers (D. Gary) | John Waterman (R. Shelburn) |
| | Vi Simpson (D. Ellettsville) | Richard Young, (D. Milltown) |

Allen Johnson, Financial Secretary

Brothers and Sisters:

WELL, WELL, WELL, Once again the anti-middle class republicans have shown their true colors and given us a “right to work” law.

But we as voters can return the favor this November. This year as you know is an election year and we must do everything in our power to oust as many of these anti-worker,



anti-middle class republicans as possible.

We must Stand Up and Fight Back!
Please get all of your family mem-

bers, friends and neighbors registered to vote and make sure they get to the polls (take them if need be) and make sure they understand the issues and they vote right.

We have the voting power to elect worker friendly legislators if we get out and vote!

We owe them for what they have done to the workers of Indiana, now lets PAY THEM BACK at the polls!

Allen Johnson,

Vickie Burrus, Treasurer

My Name is Vickie Burrus, I am currently the Unit Vice President at Carrier and the Treasurer for the Local Union.

Right to Work has only begun...we will be feeling its effects for years! Just as our forefathers, we must focus on the future that we will be leaving for our children. None of us know at this time what the outcome of this new legislation will be but



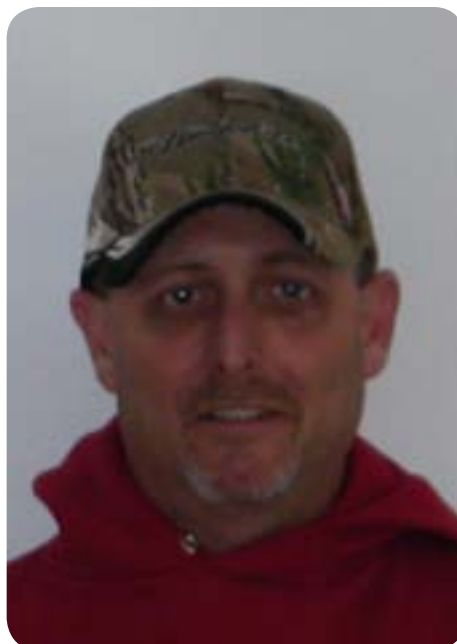
we do know it will be critical for the working class. Brothers and Sisters

we need to Unite in Solidarity, not only for the betterment of our Union but for the working class people everywhere! I stand beside you and will work with you, we need to come together and take the greatness we share together and plan our new future. Now is the time to make our plans and show the republicans they may try to stop us but they can never control us!! When cornered we will STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!!!

Mike Hensley, Guide

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is official! Indiana has become the 23rd state to become a “right to work for less” state. It is also the first in the Midwestern rust-belt. It happened in 1958, and was repealed by 1965. It will take every one of us to make sure we hit the polls this November and get those anti-union haters out of office. We cannot sit idly by and let them take our rights away! We as respected Union representatives must take it



upon ourselves to educate our members about the long term effects of the heinous bill. I guarantee the companies we work for will be doing the same hoping for an opposite effect. The time is now to Stand Up And Fight Back!!

Mike Hensley
Unit President
United Steelworkers
Local 1999-13

RIGHT TO WORK!



J. Hamilton
D.L.H.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
INDIANA OPPORTUNISTS FUND

... FOR LESS PAY

Bennie Porter, Trustee



Brothers and Sisters:

On behalf of the Union, I would like to formally thank all of those who participated in the food drives that took place back in November and December. Due to your tremendous support and generosity the food drives were a great success!

The food and monetary donations helped over 200 laid off members and their families.

A special thanks goes to Chuck Jones, Allen Johnson, Vicki Burris, Peggy Scotten, and Pam Presley for their assistance in organizing and

facilitating the events. I am confident with your continued support we can help even more families if the need arises. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Community Service Chairman,
Bennie Porter



Kelly Ray Hugunin, Trustee

I am currently a Trustee for the local and also Unit President at Quemetco Inc. Unit 09. I am the local's newsletter editor and webmaster as well.

Despite all of our efforts "Right to Work" has become law in Indiana. Mitch Daniels, Brian Bosma, and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce have successfully undermined the unions in this state, with the false promise that "Right to Work" will bring more jobs to Indiana.

I was privileged to be a part of the fight against "Right to Work." Myself along with several other Steelworkers were grouped into teams that worked in targeted statehouse districts where we felt the republican representative could be swayed to vote against "Right to Work." Our

goal was to get voters in those districts to contact their state representatives and voice opposition to this



anti worker legislation. We worked daily going door to door and speaking with voters both union and non union. Unfortunately none of the targeted reps voted against the bill. Instead they chose to ignore their constituents voted in favor of their corporate interests.

We must remember in November to vote against those who voted against us. We need to make sure that our family and friends are registered to vote and that they are informed about whether or not their representatives stood for working hoosier families. We have the power to vote out those representatives who are not working in our best interests. If they are working for the corporations then they are not working for us.

We may have lost this battle but we will fight on. We must remain united and strong as we continue to fight for our rights. We must all **STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!**

In Solidarity,
Kelly Ray Hugunin

STEEL VOICE

Kelly Ray Hugunin
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STEEL VOICE is an official
publication of the United
Steelworkers, Local 1999,
AFL-CIO, CLC.



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