

USW LOCAL 5429 HANDOUT JUNE 2005

We were hoping that by the time this handout was distributed that the sales were going to be on the upswing. But as everyone is probably already aware of the sales are still around twenty percent below last year. The sales have increased some, but they are definitely not where they were hoping they would be. With the summer season underway we have a lot of people being transferred to shipping and other areas as needed. We have had one person reach the transferred days limit and exercising their right to bump. This process went quick; the person that got bumped is off from work and won't exercise their seniority until they return to work. If anyone has questions as to how many days they have been transferred contact your steward and we can find out the exact number the company has and then we can settle any disagreements.

As some may be aware at the International Convention which three of us attended in April. The PACE International Union merged with us that makes us the largest Industrial Union in North America and the second largest in the world with 850,000 members. We are no longer the United Steel Workers of America we are the United Steel Workers. This should give us more political power which as the times are showing we strongly need all of the help we can get. There are two major concerns on the political agenda the push to privatize Social Security, everyone really needs to look at this thoroughly. There is a lot of information on this on the AFL-CIO home page which there is a link to off our website USWALocal5429.com. As far as our representatives Congressman Randy Kuhl in New York is undecided and Senator Hillary

Clinton hasn't given her support to labor either. Senator Santorum in Pennsylvania has committed to privatizing Social Security. The other concern is CAFTA which is the Central America Free Trade Agreement; this agreement will be more devastating to what Industry we have left in the United States than NAFTA because of the closeness of the six Central America Countries to us geographically. Congressman Kuhl has not committed either way Senator Clinton seems to be swinging in favor of CAFTA and Senator Santorum has committed in favor of CAFTA. We need to write, call, e-mail etc. and let these representatives know we are watching which way they vote. The AFL-CIO website has quick links to all of our Representatives. If you don't have internet and would like addresses etc. contact one of us and we will get the information to you.

We will be having a Clambake / Chicken Barbecue this year on Saturday August 13 noon to five at the Allegany fireman's park in Allegany. Tickets will be available to all members working or on lay off during lunch time (11:30 am to 12:30 pm and 8:30 to 9:00 pm) Monday July 11 thru Friday July 15th. The cost for guest tickets are \$15 which each member is only entitled to one and for the members working there is as before a \$5 show-up fee which will be refunded the week after. **YOU HAVE TO GET YOUR TICKETS THIS WEEK SO WE HAVE A ACCURATE COUNT.** Hope to see you all there.

IN SOLIDARITY
ROGER, JJ, LOU, PHIL, LEO JR.