

UNITED STEELWORKERS
SOAR
STEELWORKERS ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVE RETIREES

CONNECTION

WE'RE STRONGER TOGETHER



Seasons Greetings from the SOAR Office!

Tis the Season to Shop and Compare



As most of us on Medicare know, this is the time of the year when we receive those annoying phone calls and mailings trying to get us to join a Medicare Advantage program (Medicare Part C) that will “give us the BEST benefits at little or no cost to us.”

Is there anyone who really believes that an insurance company that exists to make a profit for the owners/shareholders of the company wants to provide you with excellent coverage for little to no cost? Why would these companies hire people to call us, spend money mailing us literature, or hire actors and former athletes to make commercials to influence us to purchase their product?

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF), the gross profit margin per enrollee in the Medicare Advantage market for 2023 was \$1,982. This report highlights that older adults represent the largest group of healthcare consumers, generating significant revenue for insurance companies. The top five health insurance companies offering Medicare Advantage products in 2023 reported a combined profit of \$44.5 billion!

Additionally, AARP states that people with Medicare will have access to an average of 15 Part D plans and 34 Medicare Advantage plans that include prescription drug coverage next year. With so many choices, along with confusing terminology and high-pressure sales tactics, it's no wonder that navigating the best plan can be frustrating.

In September, President-elect Trump mentioned that he has a "concept of a plan" for improving medical care. Hopefully, this concept addresses the findings from a study published in 2023 in JAMA Network Open, a monthly open-access medical journal published by the American Medical Association, revealing that 20 percent of older adults do not take their medications as prescribed due to cost. This plan should prevent seniors from falling into bankruptcy while trying to cover their medical expenses. It should ensure that seniors receive the prescriptions their doctors recommend rather than being limited to those that their insurance will cover. Furthermore, it should allow seniors to seek treatment at facilities of their choice rather than restricting them to those within the insurance carrier's network.

With one party poised to gain control of the government's Executive and Legislative branches, it will be evident how committed they are to addressing these critical and often life-threatening issues, as well as their proposed solutions. In the meantime, you may be able to save money or find better coverage by shopping around and comparing different Medicare Advantage or supplemental programs to cover the costs not paid by traditional Medicare.

Note: Your SOAR Executive Board does not endorse any product or claim any plan superior to another. However, we will continue to provide information on these types of plans to the best of our ability so that our members can decide what kind of plan best suits their needs.

Please stay safe and enjoy this holiday season! And thank you for all that you do to promote and support SOAR.

Bill Pienta, SOAR President

Retirees Have Reason to Celebrate: A Deeper Look at USW & SOAR Members' Impact on the 2024 Election



Throughout 2024, mainly since Labor Day, USW and SOAR members worked tirelessly to ensure our core values were on voter's minds as they prepared to cast their ballots.

In our conversations with fellow union members, our families and the community, we spoke passionately about collective bargaining, workplace safety and health, job security, domestic economic issues, health care, and retirement security.

We also did everything in our power to remind union voters of the following:

- Our union's endorsements are a recognition of shared values. As with any election, the USW only endorsed candidates who clearly demonstrated their support for protecting and strengthening unions. If a candidate was anti-union, they didn't get our support. It's that simple.
- Who you vote for is a personal decision, and the central role of our member-to-member voter mobilization effort is to ensure union members and our families know which candidates share our values and those who don't.

By midnight on November 5, it was clear that our union's endorsed candidate for President, Kamala Harris, would not be victorious.

However, we've been thankful for the number of USW-backed candidates who have prevailed as votes continue to be counted in the battleground states, including:

- **Arizona:** Voters elected Ruben Gallego to the United States Senate;
- **Michigan:** Voters opted to secure a labor-friendly majority in the state supreme court with the election of Kyra Harris Boulden and Kimberly Ann Thomas. Additionally, our friend Elissa Slotkin prevailed in her campaign for the U.S. Senate, along with labor-friendly candidates in competitive Congressional Districts, including Hillary Scholten (MI-3), Kristen McDonald Rivet (MI-8), Haley Stevens (MI-11), and Shri Thanedar (MI-13);
- **North Carolina:** Union ally Josh Stein was elected Governor;
- **Ohio:** Voters reelected incumbent labor allies, including Greg Landsman (OH-1), Joyce Beatty (OH-3), Shontel Brown (OH-11) and Emilia Sykes (OH-13). We are still awaiting the outcome in Ohio's 9th Congressional District, where our longtime friend, Marcy Kaptur, is currently leading;
- **Nevada:** Our efforts were key in securing reelection for U.S. Senator Jacky Rosen while also assuring victories for Dina Titus (CD-1), Susie Lee (CD-2) and Steven Horsford (CD-4);

- **Pennsylvania:** Voters opted to keep a labor-friendly majority in the state house while also delivering victories for union-endorsed candidates, including Chrissy Houlihan (CD-6), Chris Deluzio (CD-17), Nick Pisciotto (SD-45), Rob Matzie (HD-16) and Arvind Venkat (HD-30); and
- **Wisconsin:** One of our closest allies in the U.S. Senate, Tammy Baldwin, prevailed in her reelection campaign while labor-friendly allies made inroads in the newly redistricted state legislature.

Outside of these battleground states, our union is celebrating a growing list of victories for pro-labor candidates in local, state and federal elections, including those who won in competitive elections for the U.S. House of Representatives, including Frank Mrvan (IN-1), Nikki Budzinski (IL-13), and Eric Sorenson (IL-17).

This is far from a complete list of all the victories our efforts helped secure in the 2024 elections. But, we wanted to highlight these wins because we are proud of the tireless work of our USW and SOAR members who, against all odds, helped ensure an election outcome that will mean retired and working people will continue to be well-represented in local, state and federal government.

Rest up during the holidays! And get ready for our ongoing efforts to continue this vital work in 2025.

Julie Stein, SOAR Director



Season's Greetings from the SOAR Office

During the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who help us build SOAR. On behalf of the SOAR organization, we wish you a bright holiday season and a new year filled with hope, good health and retirement security. May it also bring plenty of opportunities to stay active and involved with SOAR.

Notice: The SOAR office will be closed to observe the USW's Headquarters holiday shutdown beginning Friday, December 20, 2024 and reopening Thursday, January 2, 2025.

**In solidarity and in the spirit of the season,
Cheryl Omlor and Julie Stein**

SOAR's 40th Anniversary Charter Photo Project

In celebration of SOAR's upcoming 40th anniversary next May, we are thrilled to announce a special project to capture the official charters of our SOAR chapters. We will use these photos to promote future SOAR activities and commemorate this significant milestone.

** Our Request **



We want to gather as many photos of our SOAR chapters' official charters as possible. Our request has two parts:

1. Please take a clear close-up photo of your chapter's framed charter for our archives.
2. Take a group photo that includes members holding your framed charter. We plan to use these images for future promotional SOAR activities, such as our SOAR Facebook page posts, SOAR in Action magazine publications, and more.



Kindly send these photos via email to jstein@usw.org or text them to 920-475-4288. Please identify the individuals in the images so we can add this information where needed.

Feel free to call the SOAR office at our toll-free number 866-208-4420, if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

In solidarity,

Julie Stein, SOAR Director



USW's Official Statement Regarding the 2024 Election Outcomes

November 5, 2024



Pittsburgh – United Steelworkers (USW) International President David McCall issued the following statement in response to the November 5 election:

The American people have spoken, and the USW will respect and honor the electoral process and the Constitution of the United States.

Unfortunately, one of the great tragedies of this grueling election season has been the way in which key figures sought to divide working

Americans against each other, be it along the lines of gender, race, occupation or country of origin. Now more than ever, Americans must come together for the benefit of our representative democracy.

Thanks to the Biden-Harris administration we have made huge strides on behalf of workers, standing up for retirement security, making health care more affordable, overseeing historic investments in our critical infrastructure and instituting a long-needed industrial policy to build out our manufacturing base.

We must defend these historic victories, and will not rest until they reach their full potential. We will work tirelessly until all workers have fair wages and strong benefits, until everyone can come home safely from their jobs, until our supply chains are robust and resilient enough that we can withstand the next global disruption.

Our union is intent on moving forward in a way that heals our divides rather than inflames them, and the USW will do its best to work with the Trump administration in the best interests of our members and their families.

But we will not allow the billionaire class to run roughshod over workers' rights, outsource jobs and call it fair trade or institute tax policies that mortgage our collective future for the benefit of the already wealthy few.

Our mission remains the same regardless of who occupies the White House or the halls of Congress: to fight for working people.

The USW represents 850,000 workers in metals, mining, pulp and paper, rubber, chemicals, glass, auto supply and the energy-producing industries, along with a growing number of workers in health care, public sector, higher education, tech and service occupations.



The SOAR Office Has T-shirts and Ball Caps Available for Purchase

Now Available!

\$15



\$15 each + the cost of shipping. Contact the SOAR Office.

866-208-4420

Now Available!



SOAR ball caps for purchase!

\$20 each + the cost of shipping.

Contact the SOAR Office.

866-208-4420

\$20



SOAR Chapter Connection

A bi-monthly publication of SOAR

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Articles and Photos Requested

The next deadline for the SOAR in Action magazine will be January 14, 2025 and articles should be emailed to the SOAR Director Julie Stein at jstein@usw.org



The deadline to submit material for the next issue of the SOAR Connection newsletter is January 17, 2025. Email your article to soar3@icloud.com.

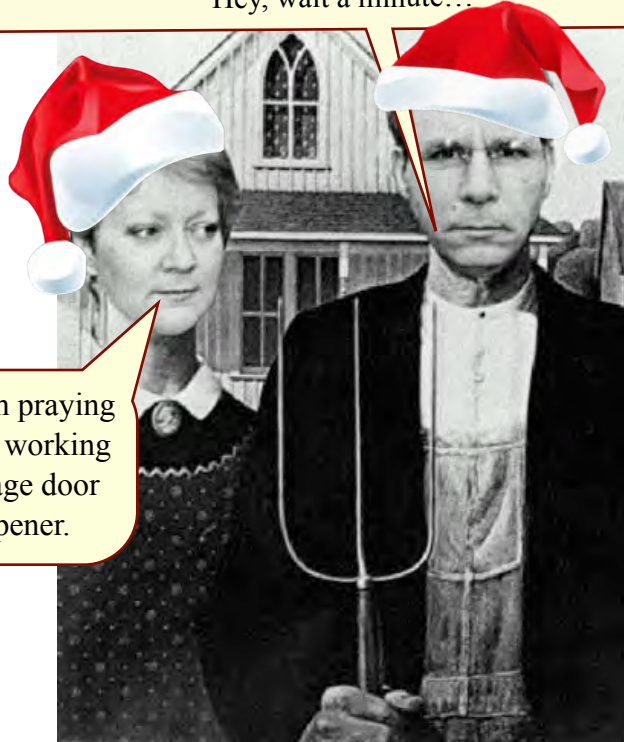


See next page.



Old Charlie & Elaine Say:

Let's see now, what should I get Elaine for Christmas? I've already given her a meat grinder (to make ham salad like my Mother made), a heating pad, a new plunger, energy efficient light bulbs, a loud bell to ring when I need another glass of (inexpensive but drinkable) wine... I've run out of ideas. OMG, I've got it! A first class ticket to a remote tropical island six thousand miles away. Hey, wait a minute...





Tis the Season to Shop Made in the USA!

The holiday season is upon us and for the 11th straight year the Alliance for American Manufacturing (AAM) is here to help you with your search for American-made gifts.

The 2024 Made in America Holiday Gift Guide will be released on Wednesday, Nov. 20 with suggestions

for giftable products from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The annual AAM Gift Guide is a great resource for those looking to support local companies and workers this holiday season.

Many Americans, especially workers and retirees of manufacturing industries, are increasingly taking notice of products that are made in the United States. Not only is the excellent quality of these goods and potential holiday gifts catching the eyes of those who have spent careers manufacturing products here in the U.S., but the impact of American-made on the lives and careers of manufacturing workers have factored into the thinking of American consumers.

“Choosing American-made gifts this holiday season not only shows our friends and families that we care, but also provides an important opportunity to invest in our workers and communities,” said United Steelworkers International President David McCall. “Our members take great pride in their contributions to domestic manufacturing, and we’re delighted to see their hard work reflected in the AAM’s annual gift guide.”

The eclectic list of holiday gift suggestions includes everything from inexpensive stocking stuffers to apparel, cookware and even bicycles.

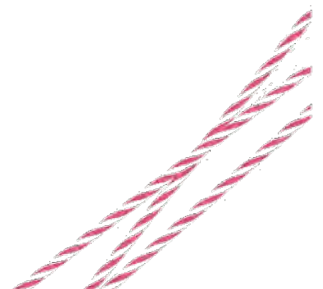
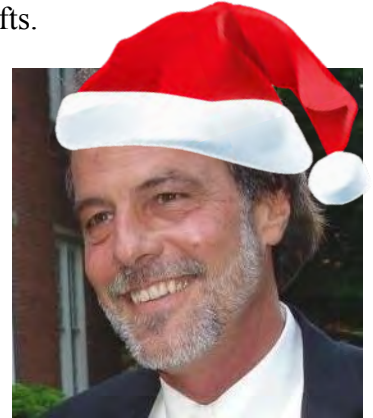
An AAM commissioned survey indicates that 81 percent of American adults prefer to purchase holiday gifts made in the U.S. Poorly made Chinese products attract many holiday shoppers but the quality of American-made often offsets the extra cost of domestic products. A toy or sweater made in the U.S. will surely outlast a product of fast fashion from China.

Beginning on November 20, you can access the AAM Made in America Holiday Gift Guide by visiting the AAM homepage at www.americanmanufacturing.org

And if you are looking for a more extensive list of American manufacturers, please access our Made in America Directory at <https://www.americanmanufacturing.org/made-in-america/>

Happy shopping and happy holidays, everyone!

Jeff Bonior is a staff writer at the Alliance for American Manufacturing



Looking Ahead to 2025: Defending the Benefits We Earned

by Robert Roach, Jr.



With the 2024 elections now behind us, it is time to think about where we go from here. And that includes continuing to work with our allies on Capitol Hill to defend against all attacks on Social Security and Medicare, allow Medicare to negotiate lower prices for more drugs, and keep the cap on insulin prices at \$35 per month for Medicare beneficiaries.

An analysis published by the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget warns that the impact of Donald Trump’s campaign plan to eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits, tips and overtime, as well as enact mass deportations and steep tariffs, would have a devastating effect on Social Security. The Committee’s research found that it will shave up to three years off the Social Security program’s projected solvency – advancing the insolvency date from 2034 to as early as 2031.

We must not let that happen.

In addition, the Heritage Foundation published a 900-page policy blueprint entitled “Mandate for Leadership, the Conservative Promise, Project 2025,” that was designed to be the roadmap for a second Trump Administration.

If implemented, the changes would include dramatic cuts to Medicare. The plan would make Medicare Advantage the default enrollment option for people who are newly eligible for Medicare; when Medicare Advantage was created, insurance corporations argued that they could deliver more benefits to consumers at a lower cost to the government, but this has not happened.

The blueprint is especially troubling because there have also been other signals that seniors’ earned benefits are in danger with a second Trump term. The Republican Study Committee, a group of more than 170 House GOP lawmakers – including many allies of Trump – released a budget plan in March that calls for over \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Social Security, including an increase in the retirement age to 69 and cutting disability benefits.

Please continue to help us in our efforts in 2025 as we defend our hard earned benefits. These benefits are worth defending, and we will call on you when they are at risk.

By working together, I am confident we can enjoy a Happy New Year!

Robert Roach, Jr. is president of the Alliance for Retired Americans. He was previously General Secretary–Treasurer of the IAMAW. For more information, visit www.retiredamericans.org.





Retirees Applaud House of Representatives' Passage of Social Security Fairness Act

November 12, 2024

The following statement was issued by Richard Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance for Retired Americans, regarding House passage of the Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82

Tonight the U.S. House of Representatives voted to correct a serious injustice involving Social Security benefits that has been a problem for decades. Retirees congratulate lawmakers on taking this much needed action.

The Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) unfairly reduce Social Security benefits for public sector retirees who receive a public pension – or the spouse or survivor of a Social Security beneficiary – who worked in a job not covered by the Social Security program.

By passing H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, the House voted to fix two unfair provisions that are currently being used to calculate benefits.

The GPO and WEP cause an unnecessary hardship for 2.8 million retired and disabled Americans. It is fundamentally unjust that public employees who earned Social Security credits and benefits through non-government employment cannot receive the full benefits from their work.

Many Alliance members and other retirees are seeing their Social Security benefits reduced by hundreds of dollars a month. The economic harm to their quality of life cannot be overstated.

The House took the first step in fixing these unreasonable provisions. Now we need the U.S. Senate to follow suit and pass the Social Security Fairness Act as soon as possible.



Play It Safe! Order Your COVID Tests

Beginning September 26, 2024, every U.S. household can order another free round of COVID-19 tests – shipped straight to your door. Head to www.COVIDTests.gov to order yours.

Be aware that you can receive a COVID booster and a flu shot at the same time, per the CDC Centers for Disease Control.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/coadministration.htm>.

A Special Place in Heaven

I believe there is a special place in heaven for the wives/husbands/partners (WHP) of active and retired union members. You know who you are. You are the ones who have supported, and encouraged, your WHP for many years. Through thick and thin.

You are the ones who sat at the back of union halls through endless meetings and conferences. You are the one who waited in parking lots, hotel hallways and lobbies to join your loved one. You are the ones who gladly, without complaint, attended rallies, picket lines, and many tasteless dinners (although those meals were a treat for me as I didn't have to prepare them.)

You are the ones who cheered your WHP when a political bill they were supporting passed. Or a contract ratified. Or a grievance won. And, we were proud. And, we cheered when our loved one was recognized for their sacrifice and service.

You are the ones who gladly went to parent-teacher night, little league games, and high school events because our WHP had a union meeting or important event.

When he gave a speech, I admired Leo Gerard for thanking his wife and family for their love, support, and sacrifice through the years he was USW president. Nice!

Take care, be safe, stay healthy! And wear your mask!! (This is still a good idea in 2024)

Source: From the Elaine Says column of the May/June 2020 edition of the *SOAR Chapter Connection* newsletter by Elaine Averill.



How To Prevent Falls and Their Sometimes Horrific Consequences

According to the [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#), [more than one in four people over 65 fall each year](#), and around [three million end up in the emergency room or as a hospital inpatient](#). Falls are increasing, even though they are preventable. Falls are also costly. In the period between 2016 and 2018, the [average annual cost of falls](#) among older adults was [\\$80 billion](#).

For older adults, the consequences of a fall can be particularly horrific, restricting people's activities, if not robbing them of their independence. According to the CDC, [falls are the leading cause of injury and injury death](#) among people 65 and older.

How to prevent falls?

1. Talk to your doctor about the side effects of the medications you're taking, both prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Some medicines can make you dizzy and more prone to falls.
2. Make your home safer. Remove any loose rugs or tack them to the floor. Install grab bars in the bathroom. Use night lights.
3. Stand up slowly after sitting to avoid light-headedness.
4. Have your eyesight and hearing checked each year.
5. Use a cane or walker for stability.
6. Do balance and strength exercises.

Here are five exercises to improve balance that the [NIH recommends](#):

1. **Standing on one foot.** Place a chair in front of you and hold on to it with one hand. Then raise one leg and hold it up for 10 seconds. Then do it again with the other leg. Repeat this exercise three times on each leg.
2. **Walking heel to toe.** Place the heel of one foot in front of the toe of the other. Now take a step with your back foot and move it so that the heel is just touching the toe of your other foot. Repeat 18 more times. Focus your gaze on a spot in front of you to steady yourself. You can also hold your arms out on either side of you for balance.
3. **Back leg raises.** Place a chair in front of you and hold on to it with one hand. Breathe in. Lift one leg back as you breathe out. Keep the leg you stand on slightly bent. Repeat 10-15 times on each leg.
4. **Side leg raises.** Place a chair in front of you and hold on to it with one hand. Breathe in. Lift one leg to the side as you breathe out. Keep the leg you stand on slightly bent. Repeat 10-15 times on each leg.
5. **Balance walk.** Walk in a straight line for 20 steps lifting one knee up and then the other. You can hold your arms out on either side of you for balance. You can also focus your gaze on a spot in front of you.

Written by Diane Archer

Source: justcareusa.org – the buzz for boomers and carers



The Medicare & You Handbook

The "Medicare & You" handbook is your official guide to Medicare. An updated printed handbook was mailed to all Medicare households in late September, just in time for Medicare's annual enrollment period, which runs from October 15 – December 7. You can also download a copy anytime, or access it electronically for the most updated information available at Medicare.gov

Keep your handbook as a reference. It has important information about:

- Medicare benefits, costs, rights and protections
- Health and drug plans
- Answers to common questions.

Check out what's new in Medicare to help manage your overall health and wellness. Some changes to Medicare starting January 1, 2025 include:

- The maximum out-of-pocket cost for prescription medications will be capped at \$2,000 for the calendar year.
- A new option of spreading out-of-pocket drug costs across monthly payments throughout the year instead of when they happen.
- Better mental health care
- More resources for caregivers
- Changes to telehealth coverage

Link to Medicare & You Handbook: <https://www.medicare.gov/publications/10050-medicare-and-you.pdf>

Additionally, beneficiaries can contact their State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to get free, unbiased information about Medicare options in their state.

Find your local SHIP office at <https://www.shiphelp.org/>



Navigating Medicare



In a world where you can be anything, always choose to be kind.

~Author Unknown

Allocation of Delegates for the Fourteenth International SOAR Conference

The 2025 International SOAR Conference is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 4-5, 2025, at the Caesars Forum Conference Center in Las Vegas, NV. Delegates will be arriving on April 3 and departing on August 6.

Chapters with over 200 dues-paying members according to our records as of September 1, 2024, are allocated the following number of delegates: (Elections to be held in November.)

- One delegate for each Chapter of 201 – 500 members
- Two delegates for each Chapter of 501 – 700 members
- Three delegates for each Chapter of 701 – 900 members
- Delegates shall increase at the above rate for Chapters of larger size

Chapters with less than 201 members are eligible to attend the Conference in one of the allocated “at-large” slots. The number of at-large delegates to each District shall be one for every 300 dues-paying members or a majority fraction thereof, after subtracting the membership numbers of the larger (201 or greater) chapters.

As outlined in our Rules of Procedure for the Nomination and Election of SOAR Conference Delegates (Appendix A), the process for electing “at-large” delegates can either be by an election at a district conference, or other method, determined by the SOAR Board Member and USW Director, for that geographical area and approved by the SOAR Executive Board. (See page 17 – Appendix A, Article III Section 2.)

In order to be elected a delegate to this conference, the member must be a member in good standing at the time of the election. As in the past, hotel, travel and a stipend will be provided for all approved delegates out of the District SOAR fund. All delegates will be sent an official call letter that outlines the procedure to make their air and hotel reservations well in advance of the conference.

Please contact your SOAR Executive Board Member to obtain information as to how your District will complete its at-large delegate election process. Their contact information is listed below.

SOAR CONTACT INFORMATION			
District	Executive Board Member	Contact	Email Address
1	Ronnie “Pup” Wardrup	513-518-3336	rwardrup60@outlook.com
4	Al Polk	508-942-8319	alpolk138@gmail.com
7	Dorine Godinez	574-971-4215	uswsoar222@gmail.com
8	Ronnie Watson	34-770-7519	ronaldwsr1949@yahoo.com
9	Claude Karr	205-531-2744	mkarr777@gmail.com
10	Dave Harvey	724-272-1098	dlharvey@zoominternet.net
11	Bonnie Carey	309-721-7908	bonnie.carey@gmail.com
12	Joel Buchanan	719-821-1486	joelbuck99@yahoo.com
13	Ruben Garza	615-585-0983	rgarza4247@aol.com

APPENDIX A**SOAR CONFERENCE DELEGATES - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:****RULES OF PROCEDURE**

As approved by the USW International Executive Board on December 13, 2022:

ARTICLE I INTRODUCTION

Section 1. The SOAR By-laws, Article IX, provide that the current SOAR Officers and Executive Board members hold office until the International SOAR Conference, to be held in conjunction with the USW International Convention. The delegates to the SOAR Conference are to elect the new Officers and Executive Board members for a term of (3) years.

Section 2. The following procedures shall govern the nomination and election process for the delegates to the SOAR Conference.

Article VII, Section 2 of the SOAR By-laws as amended reads as follows:

“The District SOAR organizations shall consist of representatives from the geographic area covered by the corresponding District of the USW. The District Representatives shall be selected from the membership in each District. The District Representatives will constitute the delegates to the SOAR Conference. The number of District Representatives will be based upon the membership in each District in accordance with the procedures established by the SOAR Executive Board with the approval of the Executive Board of the USW.”

ARTICLE II AUTOMATIC DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

Section 1. SOAR Officers, Executive Board members and Coordinators (one (1) Coordinator, who is a SOAR member and not on the USW staff, per District selected by the USW District Director) shall be considered automatic delegates to the SOAR Conference. SOAR Coordinators who are not automatic delegates or who are not elected as District Representatives and SOAR Coordinators who are employed by the USW may attend the SOAR Conference as observers.

ARTICLE III ELECTION OF SOAR CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Section 1. SOAR Chapters with more than 200 dues paying members. These SOAR Chapters shall elect their allotted delegate(s) at their regularly scheduled chapter meeting six (6) months prior to the date the International Conference is to be held. If a SOAR Chapter does not have a regularly scheduled meeting in that month the election may be held in either the month before or the month after, upon notification of such variance to the District Executive Board Member. The SOAR in Action magazine shall contain information alerting the membership to the upcoming election of delegates in an issue to be published no later than seven (7) months prior to the date the International SOAR Conference is to be held.

Section 2. At-Large Delegates. The remaining allotted delegates from each district will be known as “At-Large Delegates” and will be elected at a District Conference or several geographic Conferences within the District. To be considered a candidate for At-Large Delegate, any member in good standing must attend the District Conference in their geographic area or submit a letter to the District Executive Board Member at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the Conference indicating they would like their name submitted for nomination and will accept if nominated. Only the delegates to the District or Geographic Conference who are from a Chapter of 200 or less members shall be eligible to vote for the At-large delegates from that District or geographic area. Procedures for conducting this election may vary from District to District, but the election must be by secret ballot, unless no contest exists. This section may be amended to better serve the situation in the Districts as needed as long as such amendment is approved by the SOAR Executive Board and serves to allow for fair representation of the members from the smaller SOAR Chapters.

Section 3. Allocation of Delegates.

(a) The number of delegates allotted to each District shall be one per every 300 dues paying members or a majority fraction thereof; provided that each District shall have at least one representative.

(b) The number of delegates allotted to each SOAR Chapter of more than 200 members shall be as follows:

One delegate for each Chapter of 201 to 500 members

Two delegates for each Chapter of 501 to 700 members

Three delegates for each Chapter of 701 to 900 members

Delegates shall increase at the above rate for Chapters of larger size

The Director of SOAR shall furnish each SOAR Chapter with a report on their current membership and the number of delegate(s) they are eligible to elect at their SOAR Chapter meeting no later than seven (7) months prior to the date the International Conference is to be held.

Section 4. Eligibility. To be eligible to be elected as a SOAR Conference Delegate from a SOAR Chapter or as an At-large delegate a person must be a member in good standing.



Director's Note: The SOAR office sent updated membership lists to the SOAR chapter presidents and recording secretaries to confirm the number of dues-paying members (members in good standing) their chapter had as of September 1, 2024.

Per the rules of procedure outlined in Appendix A, the chapter's membership size on September 1, 2024, determined the chapter's allotment of delegates to the International SOAR Conference.

This is an example of the format and content for drafting resolutions:

Please use for reference, as needed

Resolution for Consideration at the 2025 SOAR International Conference

Resolution calling for: (Give the resolution a title or description of what it is about. State the issue/problem.)

Whereas, (Explanation – list as many “whereas(s)” or reason(s) to support why the “resolve(s)” would be the remedy or solution of the issue or concern.)

Whereas,

Whereas,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, (Include as many “resolve(s)” as needed to support or remedy the issue or concern.)

~ SAMPLE RESOLUTION~

Resolution for Consideration at the 2025 International SOAR Conference

Resolution calling for: Expanding SOAR Membership Eligibility

Whereas, many chapters of SOAR no longer have active local unions due to shutdowns, moving to other localities, bankruptcies, and other reasons.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, we follow the lead of the Alliance for Retired Americans, which provides, “Retirees who are not former union members, and who support the goals of the Alliance, will be eligible to join.”

Respectfully submitted by, Chapter XX-XX

President’s Signature Required

Recording Secretary’s Signature Required

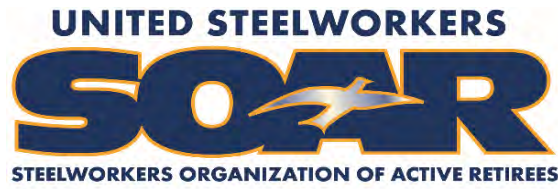
Name, President

Date: _____

Name, Recording Secretary

Date: _____

2025



January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			