



OUR MISSION

To better the lives of each and every member by being the strongest, most powerful voice in the industries we represent.

ONE UNION

Our strength is forged through unity by every member within our union working together, regardless of our individual trades, throughout North America. We stand united as one, transcending individual differences and creating collective power.

ONE FAMILY

We stand together as one. We support, care for, and respect each other in our union halls, on and off the job, each and every day. We leave no members behind.

ONE FIGHT

We fight together for stronger contracts - that means safer job sites, industry leading pay, and democracy at work. When we win stronger collective bargaining agreements for IUPAT members we win higher standards of living for every worker in our crafts.



HIT THE BRICKS! (OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION)

- **April 5 - BUFFALO UNITED MARCH** - 11am @ Niagara Square, Downtown Buffalo. <https://www.facebook.com/events/625006036943635/>
- **April 5 - Hands Off! Rallies Targeting Elon Musk and Billionaires.** Multiple locations/times.
https://www.mobilize.us/handsoff/?tag_ids=26053&fbclid=IwY2xjawJTjWxl eHRuA2FlbQIxMQABHR0evyXhZxvnUa4laieiP6NC4ahOqd88SA-Yj2CgqrSZkaP2ElN2J6tyVg aem EH69EBHMchTj1hm6utQM5A
- **April 26 - AFGE: Fight for Federal Employees in Canandaigua:**
<https://www.mobilize.us/aflcio/event/765161/>
- **WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY:**
 - **Buffalo:** April 29, 6pm @ Chestnut Ridge Park.
 - **Binghamton:** Saturday, April 26 @ American Legion Post 1645, 177 Robinson St, 1pm-4pm. Music, light food, cash bar.**Workers' Memorial Day remembrances are held throughout the state. If you are interested in attending one in your area, reach out to jguza@dc4.org.**
- **SAVE THE DATE - May 1 - UNITE & FIGHT! - May Day 2025 - Rochester, NY**
<https://www.facebook.com/events/989898986539187>
- **SAVE THE DATE - May 6 - WNY ALF Rally - Buffalo, NY**
- Check out the **FREE** original edition of "A Troublemaker's Handbook: How to Fight Back Where You Work - and Win!" [here](#).
- If you're interested in becoming a central labor council delegate, call, text or email Joe Guza at (716) 458-5844 or jguza@dc4.org.
- **Labor Notes Zoom Events:**
 - March 15, 22 and 29 - **Race and Labor.** Learn more and register [here](#).
 - March 18 - **Organizing to Protect Immigrant Rights and Public Education.** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **Other Opportunities:**
 - <https://www.standing4democracy.org>
 - <https://generalstrikeus.com/>
 - <https://thepeoplesunionusa.com>

- o <https://50501movement.carrrd.co/>

VOC MEETING

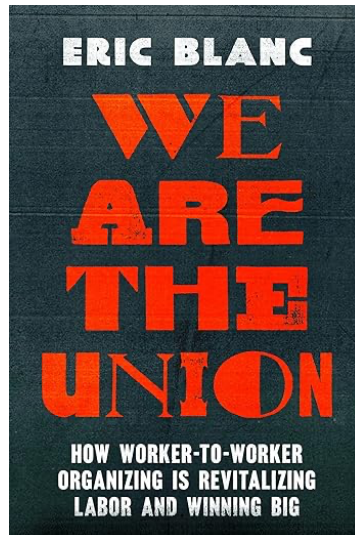
After much discussion we have decided to return to Zoom-only VOC Meetings. While many of our Pre-Game Meetings were successful, attendance is too low to continue them going forward. Our next VOC Meeting will be held

Thursday, April 17, 2025 @ 5:30pm. Look out for the link!

PHOTO CONTEST

Submit your photos [here](#)! Photos from the field help promote our union trades and display our impact in our local communities. Plus, you could win a gas card!

EDUCATE, AGITATE, ORGANIZE!



[Check out or purchase here.](#)

WHAT MAKES A UNION? **(LABOR HISTORY)**

- **April 1:**
 - o **1898** - United Mine Workers of America win 8-hour day.
 - o **1972** - Major league baseball players begin what is to become a 13-day strike, ending when owners agree to increase pension fund payments and to add salary arbitration to the collective bargaining agreement.
 - o **1992** - Players begin the first strike in the 75-year history of the National Hockey League. They win improvements in the free agency system and other areas of conflict and end the walkout after 10 days.

- **April 2:**
 - **1909** - The Union Label Trades Department is chartered by the American Federation of Labor.
 - **1923** - The Supreme Court declares a 1918 Washington DC law establishing a minimum wage for women to be unconstitutional.
 - **1995** - Major league baseball players end a 232-day strike, which began the prior August and led to the cancellation of the 1994 post-season and the World Series.
- **April 3:**
 - **1968** - Martin Luther King, Jr returns to Memphis to stand with striking AFSCME-represented sanitation workers. This evening, he delivers his famous "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech in a church packed with union members and others. He is assassinated the following day.



- **April 4:**
 - **1907** - The first issue of *The Labor Review*, a "weekly magazine for organized workers," was published in Minneapolis.
 - **1968** - Martin Luther King, Jr is assassinated in Memphis, where he had been supporting a sanitation workers' strike.
 - **1989** - Some 1,700 United Mine Workers members in Virginia and West Virginia beat back concessions demanded by Pittston Coal Co.
- **April 5:**
 - **2001** - 14,000 teachers strike Hawaii schools, colleges.
 - **2010** - A huge underground explosion at the Upper Big Branch Mine in Montcoal, W. Va., kills 29 miners. It was the worst U.S. mine disaster in 40 years. The Massey Energy Co. mine had been cited for two safety infractions the day before the blast; 57 the month before, and 1,342 in the previous five years. Six years later Massey's CEO at the time of the disaster, Don Blankenship, was sentenced to one year in jail.
- **April 6:**

- **1712** - The first slave revolt in the U.S. occurs at a slave market in New York City's Wall Street area. 21 Blacks were executed for killing nine Whites. The city responded by strengthening its slave codes.
- **April 7:**
 - **1947** - NLRB attorney tells ILWU members to "lie down like good dogs.," in Juneau, Alaska.
 - **2000** - 15,000 janitors strike in Los Angeles, CA.
- **April 8:**
 - **1918** - President Wilson establishes the War Labor Board, composed of representatives from business and Labor, to arbitrate disputes between workers and employers during World War I.
 - **1935** - The Works Progress Administration (WPA) is approved by Congress. President Roosevelt proposed the WPA during the Great Depression of the 1930's when almost 25% of Americans were unemployed. It created low-paying federal jobs providing immediate relief, putting 8.5 million jobless to work on projects ranging from the construction of bridges, highways and public buildings to arts programs like the Federal Writers' Project.
- **April 9:**
 - **1930** - IWW organizes the 1,700-member crew of the USS Leviathan, then the world's largest sea vessel.
- **April 10:**
 - **1880** - Birth date of Frances Perkins, named Secretary of Labor under President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, becoming the first woman to hold a cabinet-level office.
 - **2006** - Tens of thousands of immigrants demonstrate in 100 U.S. cities in a national day of action billed as a campaign for immigrants' dignity.
- **April 11:**
 - **1941** - Ford Motor Company signs first contract with United Auto Workers.
 - **1974** - United Mine Workers President W.A. "Tony" Boyle is found guilty of first-degree murder, for ordering the 1969 assassination of union reformer Joseph A. "Jock" Yablonski.
 - **1980** - 34,000+ New York City Transit Authority workers, 11 days into a strike for higher wages, end their walkout with agreement on a 9% increase in the first year and 8% in the second, along with cost-of-living adjustments.
 - **1980** - The EEOC issues regulations prohibiting sexual harassment of workers by supervisors in the workplace.
 - **1986** - Police in Austin, Minnesota, tear-gas striking Hormel meatpacking workers. 17 strikers are arrested on felony riot charges.
- **April 13:**

- **1930** - A 17-year-old Jimmy Hoffa leads his co-workers at a Kroger warehouse in Clinton, IN, in a successful job action: by refusing to unload a shipment of perishable strawberries, they forced the company to give in to their demands. Among other things, the "strawberry boys" had to report to work at 4:30am, stay on the job for 12 hours, and were paid 32 cents an hour - only if growers arrived with berries to unload. Plus, they were required to spend three-fourths of any earnings buying good from Kroger.

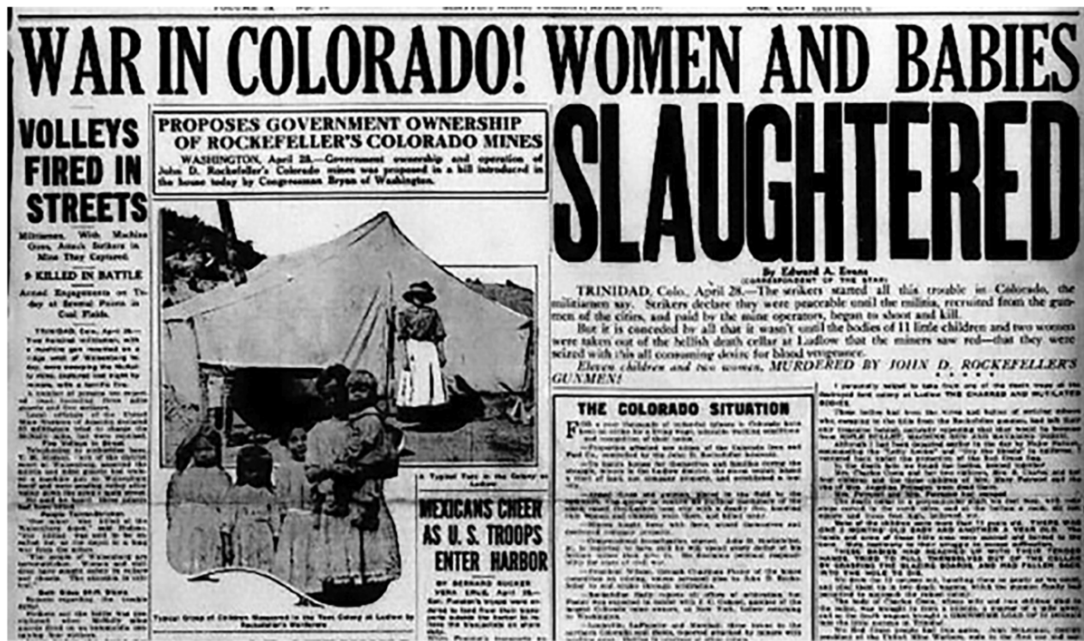


Eugene V. Debs is imprisoned for opposing American entry into World War I. While in jail he ran for president, receiving over 1 million votes.

- **April 14:**
 - **1939** - John Steinbeck's "The Grapes of Wrath" published.
- **April 15:**
 - **1912** - 8 members of the Musicians union die in the sinking of the Titanic. According to survivors, they played their instruments until nearly the end.
 - **1915** - IWW union Agricultural Workers Organization formed in Kansas City, MO.
 - **1916** - Teacher unionists gather at the City Club on Plymouth Court in Chicago to form a new national union: the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).
- **April 16:**
 - **1916** - Employers lock out 25,000 NYC garment workers in a dispute over hiring practices. The Int'l Ladies' Garment Workers Union calls a general strike; after 14 weeks, 60,000 strikers win union recognition and the contractual right to strike.
- **April 17:**
 - **1905** - The Supreme Court holds that a maximum-hours law for New York bakery workers is unconstitutional under the due process clause of the 14th Amendment.
- **April 18:**
 - **1912** - West Virginia coal miners strike, defend themselves against the National Guard.
- **April 19:**
 - **1995** - Ted Kaczynski's (the "Unabomber") bomb destroys the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people, 99 of whom were government employees. He had sent a 35,000-word manifesto, "Industrial Society and Its Future," to

newspapers, demanding its publication in exchange for stopping future bombings, which led to its publication and ultimately his capture in 1996.

- **April 20:**
 - **1914 - Ludlow Massacre:** Colorado State Militia, using machine guns and fire, kill about 20-people - including 11 children - at a tent city set up by striking coal miners.



- **1948** - An unknown assailant shoots through a window at United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther as he is eating dinner at his kitchen table, permanently impairing his right arm. It was one of at least two assassination attempts on Reuther.

- **April 21:**
 - **1967** - New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller signs the Taylor Law, permitting union organization and bargaining by public employees, but outlawing their right to strike.
 - **1997** - Some 12,500 Goodyear Tire workers strike nine plants in what was to become a three-week walkout over job security, wage and benefit issues.

- **April 23:**
 - **1956** - The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) is founded through a merger of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada (TLC) and the Canadian Congress of Labour (CCL), the two major union congresses in Canada at the time. The CLC represents the interests of more than 3 million affiliated workers.
 - **1993** - United Farm Workers of America founder Cesar Chavez dies in San Luis, Arizona, at age 66.

- **April 25:**
 - **1886** - The *New York Times* declares the struggle for an 8-hour workday to be "un-American" and calls public demonstrations for the shorter hours "Labor disturbances brought about by

foreigners.” Other publications declare that an 8-hour workday would bring about “loafing and gambling, rioting, debauchery and drunkenness.”

- o **1978** – The Supreme Court rules that employers may not require female employees to make larger contributions to pension plans in order to obtain the same monthly benefits as men.

- **April 26:**

- o **1924** – The U.S. House of Representatives passes House Joint Resolution No. 184, a constitutional amendment to prohibit the labor of persons under 18 years of age. The Senate approved the measure a few weeks later, but it was never ratified by the states and is still technically pending.
- o **1944** – On the orders of President Roosevelt, the U.S. Army seizes the Chicago headquarters of the unionized Montgomery Ward & Co. after management defies the NLRB.

- **April 27:**

- o **1825** – First strike for 10-hour day, by Boston carpenters.
- o **1978** – A cooling tower for a power plant under construction in Willow Island, W. Va. collapses, killing 51 construction workers in what is thought to be the largest construction accident in U.S. history. OSHA cited contractors for 20 violations, including failures to field test concrete. The cases were settled for \$85,000 – about \$1,700 per worker killed.

- **April 28:**

- o **1971** – Congress creates OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The AFL-CIO sets April 28 as “Workers Memorial Day” to honor all workers killed or injured on the job every year.
- o **1993** – First “Take Our Daughters to Work Day,” promoted by the Ms. Foundation, to boost self-esteem of girls with invitations to a parent’s workplace.

- **April 29:**

- o **1899** – An estimated 1,000 silver miners, angry over low wages, the firing of union members and the planting of spies in their ranks by mine owners, seize a train, load it with 3,000 pounds of dynamite, and blow up the mill at the Bunker Hill mine in Wardner, Idaho.

- **April 30:**

- o **2012** – The Obama administration’s NLRB implements new rules to speed up unionization elections. The new rules are largely seen as a counter to employer manipulation of the law to prevent workers from unionizing.

YOU GOTTA FIGHT!...FOR YOUR RIGHTS!
(MILITANT LABOR IN AN ANTI-LABOR AGE)

- [IUPAT General President on Executive Order: Biggest Attack on the Labor Movement in US History](#)

- [Hamilton Nolan: They Are Going to Take Everything If We Don't Stop Them](#)
- [Appeals Court Clears Way for President to Fire Members of Labor and Workforce Protection Boards](#)
- [Administration Moves to Eliminate Bureau of Prisons Union](#)

FOR THE GOOD OF THE UNION

- The DC4 Women's Committee is getting off the ground and running! Thanks to all the members and staff that stepped up to make this happen. We know that our Women's Committee will shine as a bright light in the strange, dark months ahead.



If you have questions or suggestions for The Organizer, please email jguza@dc4.org.