



## INFORMATION UPDATE #24

July 18, 2011

### **Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre Joins Us to Celebrate 65th Anniversary of Local 1005!**

*Information Update* is pleased to inform you that Hamilton's Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre (WAHC) enthusiastically agreed to join the work to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the founding of USW Local 1005 and will be putting together a display for the July 23 all-day event at Gage Park. The Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre has extensive archives on the history of Local 1005 and the labour movement in Hamilton and is preparing an exhibition under the theme "The Spirit of '46." The display which will be featured on July 23 is part of an exciting collaboration between the Centre and Local 1005 which will include producing an educational historical exhibit that will tour Steeltown in the fall.

The WAHC envisions a Canadian society that recognizes, remembers and values the experiences and continued contribution of all workers, their unions, organizations, and communities to the quality of life we enjoy. The Centre is mandated to preserve, honour, and promote the culture and history of all working people. The contributions of working people — not only to Canada's history but worldwide — are showcased in art and other exhibits and performances. Canada exists thanks to the labour of our working people. It is impossible to conceive of this history without taking into account the contribution made by the strikes and other struggles of the labour movement to raise the quality of life for everyone. These struggles have played an important role in raising the standard of living for all Canadians.



The Centre was conceived in the late 1980s by a dynamic group of labour historians, artists, union and community activists who came together to discuss the need for a place where workers' history could be celebrated. In 1996, after intense work by a volunteer board of directors, the Centre opened the doors of its permanent home, the historic Custom House in Hamilton's north end. The Custom House stood deserted until 1995 when the Centre

was able to purchase it. Over a million and a half dollars went into the restoration of this historic building which provides the backdrop for the pursuit of the Centre's ideals in a number of ways: through research and development; educational programs; by helping union locals and community groups document their histories and by staging cultural events. All activities are collaborative and community-based.

Join us on July 23 to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of USW Local 1005 and look for the Workers' Arts and Heritage Centre exhibit! We call on our pensioners to take a seat near the exhibit to speak with the families and younger generation about their contribution and that of Local 1005 to Hamilton. Labour historians also welcome! Teachers are encouraged to meet the folks from the Arts and Heritage Centre to book a tour of the exhibit and speakers for the fall.

Everyone is welcome to our picnic to celebrate our proud history and support us in opposing the phoney lockout by U.S. Steel.

### **The Spirit of '46: 65 Years and Still Fighting!**



*The historic strike of 1946.*

### **Mayor Bratina Visits Picket Line**

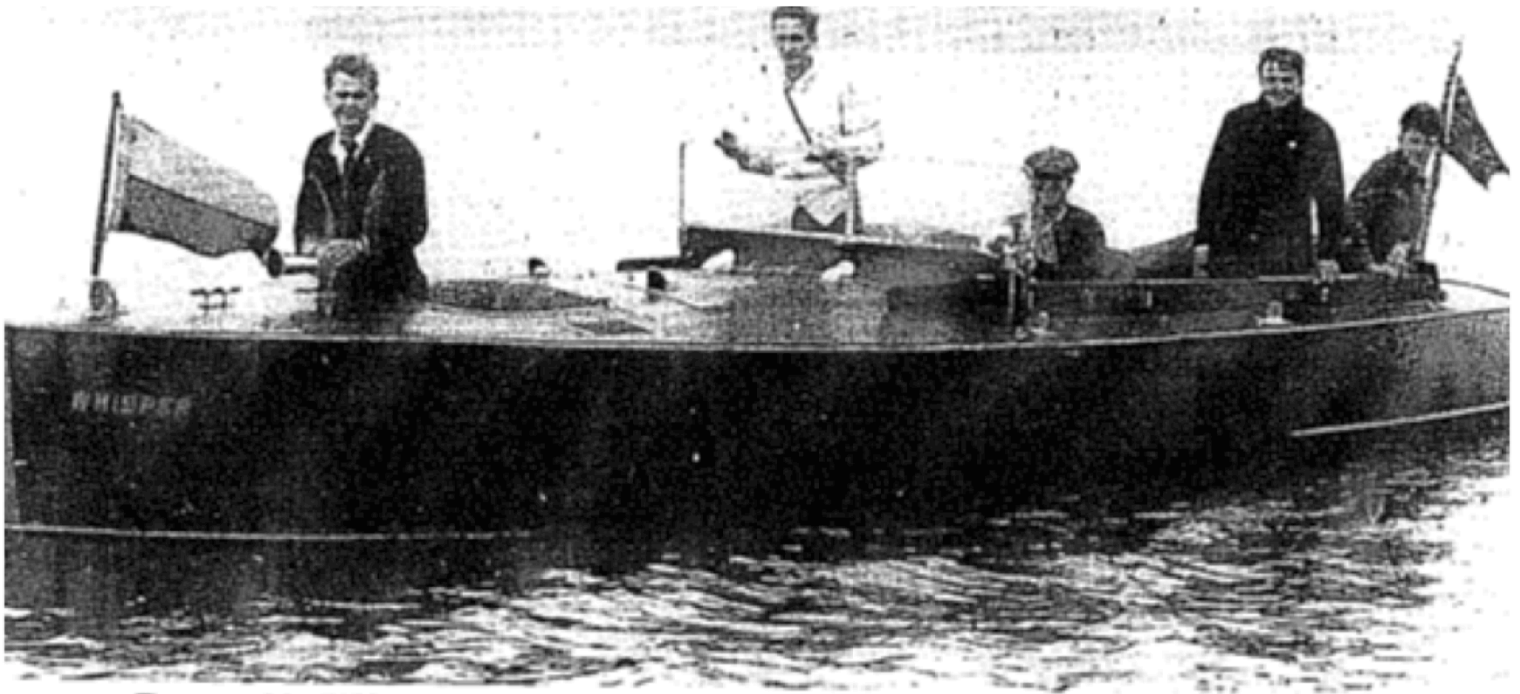


*On July 16, Mayor Bob Bratina once again visited the picket line at Wilcox Gate to say hello to the workers and express his concern over the lockout. Workers informed the Mayor about the problems they face and inquired about the concerns at City Hall.*



**Local 1005 USW 65th Anniversary**  
**July 1946 - July 2011**

# **The People vs U.S. Steel**



*The crew of the "Whisper". Photo courtesy of the William Ready Division of Archives and Research Collections, McMaster University.*

**Community-Sponsored PICNIC**  
**Saturday, July 23, 2011**  
**GAGE PARK, Noon – 11:00 p.m.**

*Free food, Kids rides, Music by various Bands.*

*No Pets or Coolers*

**All People Invited! Join Us!**

To contact USW Local 1005: Call 905-547-1417 or e-mail [info@uswa1005.ca](mailto:info@uswa1005.ca).  
Visit the website: [www.uswa1005.ca](http://www.uswa1005.ca)