REPORTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF USW LOCAL 2-232

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JUNE 2008

President's Report by Scott Godshaw

Strattec in Negotiations

At Strattec, we have entered into negotiations. Ernie Dex, our International Rep is not doing the Strattec negotiations as he has 4 other contracts expiring at the same time. Those other companies are in the paper industry, which Ernie is more familiar with and that is why Bill Breihan from the Steelworkers is doing the Strattec negotiations. He is more familiar with manufacturing. Here is a little background about Bill Breihan.

Bill has been a staff rep with the Steelworkers since 2000. He works out of the District 2 office in West Allis as does Ernie. He services local unions at 20 manufacturing companies in southeast Wisconsin, mostly in metals and machinery: For example; Vilter, Bucyrus, Nordco, Motor Castings, International Truck and Waukesha Foundry are a few of the companies where he represents the Steelworkers. He is the former President of Steelworkers Local 1343 at Bucyrus International, 1994-2000. He also served as Local 1343 Financial Secretary during 1980s. He was employed at Bucyrus 1978-2000 as a machinist working primarily on Large CNC Vertical Boring Mills. He worked in the steel industry in IL and WI for 32 years, starting in 1968, right after high school. Although Ernie will certainly be missed, Bill is a very knowledgeable substitute and will certainly add his expertise to the table. Just a side note, if time permits, Ernie still may be present at some of the negotiations with Strattec.

I was asked recently about the potential of a survey at Strattec. I explained that the committee certainly has a very good feel for what membership wants. They are out there on the floor everyday. We always look to make improvements in all facets, including working conditions, benefits and wages.

This committee is very diverse as far as seniority having 30 years, 13 years and 7 years respectively. And also they are diverse in job classification as well. We have a Die Cast set up man, a pieceworker and a tool and die maker. So again, I believe the committee knows the best interest of the whole membership.

The goal is certainly to get the proposal to membership before the ratification, if possible. Issues are constantly changing at the table. And to insure every last detail is worked out and every last carrot is received, sometimes it is just impossible to get the proposal printed up and mailed out to members before ratification. The other goal, which of course should be attainable, is to vote prior to June 23rd.

Briggs

At Briggs, the company informed us that they want to go to the 12 hour shifts in the testhouse. The bargaining committee did meet with the company and then we met with the members from the testhouse as well. They want to implement this beginning July 14th. Contractually they need to give a 30 day notice for implementation. The difference between this area and the heat treat area that has been on the 12 hour shift for over 2 years is there are still going to be some jobs that are going to continue on a regular 8 hour shift.

This year there have been many questions regarding the 1000 hours for retirement. The one biggest question I have heard about the 1000 hours is regarding vacation days. Vacation days do count toward the 1000 hours if you were paid for these vacation days. The contract and the master pension plan are clear, it states you must be compensated for these days in order to have them count towards the

Continued on page 4

August Membership Meeting

Sunday August 3, 2008 9:30 a.m.

Frank Monreal's El Matador 9155 W. Bluemound Rd. IMPORTANT BUSINESS

- Reports of Officers, Grievance
- Representatives and Committees

 Discussion and action on any other
- Discussion and action on any other proper business for this meeting.

United Steelworkers Endorse Senator Barack Obama

Pittsburgh – The United Steelworkers issued the following statement of endorsement of Senator Barack Obama for President:

"When the presidential primary contests began last year, our Union felt strongly that because of Senator John Edwards's deep commitment to working people and because of our shared beliefs, he deserved our strong endorsement. His belief that unfair trade policies must be changed, his commit-

ment to pass the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) to restore workers' rights to freely choose workplace representation. and his proposal for universal health care were widely shared by our members.

"Today, by virtue of a unanimous vote of our International Executive Board, we find ourselves once again in agreement with Senator Edwards, this time with his decision last evening to endorse Senator Barack Obama. And thus today, the United Steelworkers enthusiastically

endorses Senator Barack Obama to be the next President of the United States.

"Senator Obama's call for a significant change of direction amounts to far more than a compelling rallying cry. It is buttressed by his record of consistent support for workers, by his call for sweeping changes to our health care system, by his unflinching support for Employee Free Choice, and by his insistence that America's trade policies must, first and foremost, serve the interests of America's working families.

"Senator Obama has shown his commitment to working families by proposing significant investments in the future of American manufacturing, in the revitalization of our nation's infrastructure, and in 21st century clean energy technologies that will lead to significant growth in domestic jobs. He is clearly the candidate who can best lead our nation out of the dark period of economic decline created by the Bush administration's allegiance to Wall Street profiteering at the expense of worker prosperity.

"We share Senator Obama's call for significant changes to these bankrupt policies, just as we earlier shared Senator Edwards'. And all of us including, we hope, Senator Clinton for whom we have the utmost respect, must now do everything we can to ensure that Barack Obama is the next President of the United States. Now is the time for contention and division to cease, and for us all to unite behind the changes for which Senator Obama and our members

"America's workers cannot afford another four years of rehashed Bush administration policies. another four years in which the National Labor Relations Board shills for corporate misconduct, or another four years of a Secretary of the Treasury who considers it his "job" to bail out Wall Street speculators at the expense of hard working families losing their homes.

> "Nor can those of us who are committed to changing the direction of the country afford any more racial profiling of an election, when either Democratic candidate would be far superior to Senator McCain's lock-step commitment to four more years of the broken Bush economy and the broken Bush foreign policies.

"We are proud and honored to join Senator Edwards in endorsing Senator Barack Obama to be the next President

of the United States. We commit ourselves to working tirelessly for his election and for a new age of cooperation among Democrats, Independents and thoughtful Republicans alike in which working Americans are restored to a place of dignity in society and in the American economy."

LOCAL 2-232 REPORTER

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Volume 29, Issue #3

LOCAL 2-232 UNITED STEEL, PAPER AND FORESTRY, RUBBER, MANUFACTURING, ENERGY, ALLIED INDUSTRIAL

AND SERVICE WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION

Representing employees of Briggs & Stratton Corp. and Strattec Security Corp.

Office 8500 W. Capitol Dr.

Phone 414-463-7425 Fax 414-463-7638

e-mail -office@pace7232.org

Website- www.pace7232.org

Hours 7:00a.m.- 4:00p.m.

Monday through Friday

The information contained herein is of informal nature and is not intended to be final and authoritative.

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Officers: President: Scott Godshaw Vice President: A Evseichik, Secretary-Treasurer: Ralph Schwieger Recording Secretary: Karen Clark, Trustees: Chuck Porter Vicky Gorecki, Betty Burmester Guide: Debbie

Curro, Sergeant at Arms: Stanley Quezaire

Briggs Bargaining Committee: Scott Godshaw, Jess Edwards, Jackie Goodwin, Karen Clark, Dean Wegner Strattec Bargaining Committee: Scott Godshaw, Milton Dawson, Dennis Nowak, Al Olivares

News from Governor Doyle's Office

Governor Doyle Announces Nearly One Million Job Openings Projected in Wisconsin by 2016

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle today announced nearly one million job openings are projected in Wisconsin between 2006 and 2016, according to long-term employment figures recently released by the Department of Workforce Development (DWD).

"We are continuing to grow our economy in the face of national economic challenges, creating good-paying job opportunities for hard-working Wisconsin families," Governor Doyle said. "As many students are graduating, and some workers are upgrading their skills, or learning new skills, it's important for them to know that the demand for skilled workers is high in many areas of our economy."

"With the Governor's Grow Wisconsin – The Next Steps plan and his UW Growth Agenda, we are

already working hard to train our current and future workforce to meet the needs of employers, and connect skilled workers to demand occupations," DWD Secretary



Roberta Gassman said.

Occupations with above average wages that have numerous openings include: registered nurses (21,800 openings), elementary school teachers (9,600 openings), carpenters (7,000 openings), and welders (3,600 openings), according to the projections.

The long-term Wisconsin projections data shows anticipated trends in industry and occupational employment between 2006 and 2016. It includes information for 90 industries and almost 800 occupations. Occupational employment projections also include wage information and typical education and training requirements for each occupation.

The projections show nearly one million job openings between 2006 and 2016. Of these job openings, 680,200 positions will be available due to replacement needs as people permanently leave on account of retiring or illness, or for another career.

Employment projections are funded through grants from the U.S. Department of Labor. Wisconsin has produced long-term projections since 1970.

The 2006 - 2016 long-term Wisconsin projections data is now available at the Department of Workforce Development.

Strattec Corner

by Al Olivares

Sisters and Brothers, I'm back! I am sure the company is just as thrilled as you are!! Well things are kind of slow right now, but that is no fault of our own. Car sales are slow and gas is insanely high. That's enough about our sad state of economy. We have begun negotiations with the company and continue to do so at the time of this writing. Your committee will bargain, as always, with the best interest of membership in mind.

In the plant, we have noticed many changes. In Die Cast, the company has had the ceilings repainted which actually looks quite nice. It really brightens the place up. I think maybe some plants and artwork would really set it off. The company has also been removing older unused machines and remodeling and setting up the remaining machines. The machines that are being removed are being stripped down for good parts and then scrapped. The company has also purchased some larger Die Cast equipment based on capacity issues and new business. This, of course, is a very positive thing for the Milwaukee facility. These machines will be set up with ingot feeding machines as opposed to our traditional method of pouring from the buggy.

Layoffs continue on the voluntary and involuntary basis at Strattec de Milwaukee. Unfortunately, the future shows the trend will continue at the level it currently is. Slumping car sales and low orders have put us in this position. We just have to keep our heads up high and ride out this storm. I have an idea. You all know about how the government gave us an economic stimulus check. Well maybe Strattec can work with our customers to get us Automotive Sales Stimulus vouchers so we can all go out and get new cars and drum up some business. What do you guys think? Pretty good idea - huh?

Finally, as you probably know, Strattec has made an acquisition of a former Delphi facility. The bottom line for us is quite minimal. The company, of course, will benefit on many different levels from their purchase. And I am quite confident they will share their rewards with us! With that being said, an acquisition is still viewed as a positive for all concerned.

Till next time everyone.

Oh yeah, one last thing...

GET RID OF THE PIG!! You know who I am talking to. It's unprofessional and an immature approach to the goal you seek.

President's Report continued from page 1

1000 hours. Personal leaves of absense or Family Medical Leave- caretaking does not count.

Change of Status

If at any time your marital status changes, you need to inform the company immediately of these changes. Not only is it important at any time, it is even more important at time of retirement. If you submit your letter of intent to retire documentation and your listed status does not coincide with your current status, you may need to supply updated documentation. If you were married and then divorced but did not inform the company, you will need to acquire and send in your divorce decree.

Retiree's Hearing Loss

You must be out of the employment for 7 consecutive days before you obtain a hearing test.

At Briggs, there is no charge for the test if you schedule it at Quad Med at Briggs. (414-778-6200) If you choose to have a hearing test at the facility of your choice, the charges will be your responsibility.

For consideration of hearing loss benefits, you must submit the audiogram to the following address:

> Briggs & Stratton Corporation Workers Compensation Dept.

P.O. Box 702 Milwaukee, WI 53201

As soon as all information is received, your claim will be reviewed and you will be notified whether or not you have a compensable loss of hearing based on the State of Wisconsin, Workers Compensation Statutes.

If a hearing aid is recommended or if you have any questions regarding hearing loss claims or procedures, please contact the Workers Compensation Dept.at 414-259-5378 for further information.

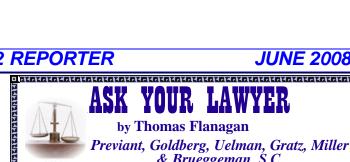
At Strattec, if you have hearing tests on file, it will be helpful to your audiologist and/or physician to review these and therefore you should obtain copies. You will need to sign an Associate Request to Release Records form to obtain those copies.

The cost of the examination for the hearing test or the charge incurred by your physician is your responsibility. Workers Compensation is not liable.

For consideration of hearing loss benefits you must submit the audiogram to this Department:

> STRATTEC Security Corp. Medical Services/Safety Dept 3333 W. Good Hope Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53209

As soon as all information is received, your claim will be reviewed by the Worker's Compensation carrier. You will be notified if you have a compensable loss of hearing based on the State of Wisconsin, Worker's Compensation Statutes.



Previant, Goldberg, Uelman, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman, S.C.

OCCUPATIONAL HEARING LOSS

Noisy working conditions can cause hearing loss after years of exposure to such noise. Most people are aware of some type of work-related hearing loss years before they plan to retire. Is a work-related hearing loss considered a work-related injury? Yes. The date of injury, however, in most cases does not coincide with the realization of hearing loss.

In hearing loss cases, the date of injury is either retirement, layoff (if complete and continuous for 6 months), or termination of the employer/employee relationship. Choosing which event as a date of injury is up to the employee.

If a worker has to get a hearing aid before technically suffering an "injury," he or she can be repaid for the purchase of the hearing aid when the case is filed if a doctor links the loss to work noise.

Future hearing aids, batteries and other supplies are also compensable under Wisconsin's worker's compensation law.

It is also necessary to try to obtain all hearing tests when making a hearing loss claim.

There is no specific statute of limitations for making a hearing loss claim so that someone who has been retired for many years may still have a claim.

From the Desk of Ralph Schwieger

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Happy summer! This was the longest winter in my memory and it's good to feel the heat of the sun again.

I attended a gathering of good people opposed to Senator McSame's run for the Presidency. McSame held a town hall meeting May 29th, at Martin Luther High School on S. 76th St. While standing alongside the road holding up a sign that said, *In America*, no one should go without Healthcare, I noticed a handful of people driving by and giving the 1 fingered salute. Out of the 5 people, I noticed giving the salute, 3 were in brand new vehicles. The Lexus SUV was probably the most expensive of the 3 and I assume the person driving this luxury SUV has health insurance. What puzzled me, was getting the salute from a guy driving a short yellow bus and another driving a 90's era Buick. I wondered, just how bad does it have to get for Americans to wake up! Close to 50 million people with no health insurance, \$4.00 per gallon (and rising) gas, oil companies record profits (Exxon Mobil profits in 2000 \$7.9 billion: Exxon

Continued on page 6

Membership Meeting Recap

by Karen Clark

The membership meeting was held on Sunday May 18, 2008. The meeting started at 9:30 a.m. sharp and was held at Frank Monreal's El Matador 9155 W. Bluemound Road in Milwaukee.

Our meeting started out with Ernie Dex, our USW International Rep. He asked all of us for our support in backing Senator Obama. Ernie stated Obama is our best choice. He spoke of how John McCain is not trying to help this country out with healthcare. He stated between 2000 and 2006, 83,000 people in Wisconsin lost their health insurance. Also 7000 Milwaukee children and 8.5 million people nation-wide lost their health insurance as well. McCain would like to see companies stop paying for healthcare and make it completely our responsibility.

We also had a guest speaker, Greg Hinds, a USW political activist. He gave his reasons why should the Union be involved in politics. The answer is so all employees are treated fairly. He also stated we need to stop trade laws. He went on to say health-care is a big issue for all and it is very important for all of us to get involved.

Ralph Schwieger read the names of the 8 new members that were accepted into our Union.

Vicky Gorecki gave the trustee report for the months of January, February and March.

Ralph Schwieger in his Financial Secretary report gave the membership totals. In January, there were 442 dues paying members at Briggs and 224 at Strattec for a total of 666. In February, there were 444 at Briggs and 225 at Strattec for a total of 669. And in March there were 454 at Briggs and 219 at Strattec for a total of 673 dues paying members.

Communications

We received a thank you card from the family of John Boyer, who recently passed away.

We received a thank you from Local 7-8052 for our donation for their strike fund.

We have a new District 2 Rapid Response Coordinator. She is Sue Brown, a 20 year member of USW Local 5965 in Hastings, Michigan.

The following recommended Executive Board motions passed:

- \$50 donation for the Memorial Fund of Dean Effa, a member from USW Local 2-995, who lost his life while on the job.
- Send 3 delegates to the USW Constitutional Convention in Las Vegas. Note: The 2 automatic delegate's (President and Financial Secretary/Treasurer) room, flight and per diem are paid by the USW.

Briggs Retiree Club

It's picnic time again and over 100 club members will enjoy good food and drink at the Schwabenhof Restaurant. After a long tough winter, we are more than ready for nice weather and outdoor activities.

At the June picnic, we will eat inside the hall and enjoy card playing and other activities after lunch.

Our July picnic will also be held at the Schwabenhof restaurant on the grounds with all the summer food available.

New members are always welcome. If you want to join the club, contact Erma Gorecki at 262-781-8951 to get information on how to join. We are also looking for new forms of entertainment, so any ideas will be appreciated.

Come on out and join some old friends and meet some new ones as well.

Fraternally,
Doris Reinke, Recording Secretary
Bob Johnson, President

Join the Briggs Retiree Club

Call Erma Gorecki at 262-781-8951

Reports of Officers

President Scott Godshaw reported on the USW endorsing Obama, Briggs WARN notice, Testhouse going on 12 hour shifts, voluntary layoffs at Briggs and the start of negotiations at Strattec.

Jesse Edwards started his report by thanking membership for their continued support. He also reported on the 2 discharge grievances he took to 3rd stage, Productivity Reward and layoffs.

Milt Dawson reported on the layoffs at Strattec due to the American Axle strike, the negotiations, Briggs unused vacation days at time of spinoff and thanked the stewards that were present.

Dean Wegner reported on the Testhouse evacuation on April 28th at 9:30p.m.

Ralph Schwieger reported on activist cards for the upcoming elections, the need for members to get involved and to support Obama for President. And he also reported on global warming.

Allen Evseichik reported on Rapid Response.

An election was held for 1 delegate for the convention. Jesse Edwards beat out Dennis Nowak and Allen Evseichik.

A motion passed to hold the next membership meeting on Sunday August 3rd at Frank Monreal's El Matador, 9155 W. Bluemound Road.

Schwieger continued from page 6

Mobil profits in 2006, \$36.1 billion), food (lack of) riots, fighting 2 wars (Iraq alone cost \$517 billion through May 2008), housing foreclosures, secret prisons, torture, global warming causing severe drought among other things) and the list goes on. Today is June 4, 2008 and there was a bright ray of hope! Last night Senator Barack Obama, clinched the Democratic Presidential nomination and maybe, just maybe, Americans have woken up.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14- Flag Day



June 15- Father's Day



June 27-July 13-Briggs Shutdown July 4- Independence Day



August 3- Membership Meeting August 3- Briggs 100th

Anniversary Celebration

September 1- Labor Day Laborfest at the

Summerfest Grounds



News from Your Local 2-232 Rapid Response Coordinator

by Allen Evseichik

As you well know, Rapid Response is critical to our future. In just the last few years, our jobs have gone overseas and jobs have been lost due to our nation's flawed trade policies. Our health care has gone down the drain and millions of citizens no longer have health insurance, and those who do are paying more for it than ever before.

Our union has a history of fighting for justice for our members and all workers. In the years since Rapid Response was established, we have been able to impact the legislative process on many issues at all levels of government. Without Rapid Response, our Union and the labor movement would be much worse off. With the Congress dominated by anti-union, anti-worker legislators, it is imperative that we make our voice heard on issues crucial to our Union and all workers.

In a message from Leo Gerard, International President of the United Steel Workers, we are reminded of the importance of a united Democratic Party under the leadership of Senator Barack Obama. With the endorsement of Senator Obama, the United Steel Workers are confident in a victory over Senator John McCain.

The next order of business for the Rapid Response is the Employee Free Choice Act. The middle class of today is bearing the brunt of a struggling economy. We are feeling the pressure of rising costs, loss of jobs, insecurity in retirement and out-of-reach health care. We need strong unions more than ever.

The more people in unions, the more power we have to rebuild the middle class and raise the standard of living for America's working families.

In Solidarity, Allen Evseichik Local 2-232 Vice-President Rapid Response Coordinator

Membership Information

<u>May 2008</u>

752 Members in Good Standing 518 in Briggs & Stratton Unit 234 in Strattec Unit May Dues Payments

449 Dues Paying Members at Briggs
223 Dues Paying members at Strattec
672 Total Dues Paying Members
(Difference reflects members off work for layoff, illness or other reasons)

Grievance Rep Reports

Strattec Security

by Milt Dawson

Lavoffs

The good news is that the strike affected us has ended at American Axle. This means that orders from GM that slowed during the strike should hopefully start picking up and bring back some normal mode of work for us. Although at this writing, the company has posted for a one week layoff, effective June 2, 2008.

Business Front

Strattec Security Corporation and 2 of its joint venture partners are buying a power sliding door and truck latch business from the bankrupt Delphi Corporation. Strattec's annual sales would get a big boost in its product line, about 35 % based on a contract with a Korean based automaker. The deal would also give the company sales beyond the Detroit based auto industry. But, for us here, it does not mean more jobs.

Grievances

I recently settled three grievances in the union's favor, all loss of wages grievances, two in dept. 71 and one in dept.55. We seem to be having problems with the company changing the timing on machines in dept.71 without proper notification to the union or the workers.

Retirements

If you have any questions about retirement or pension, please get those questions to me as soon as possible. I am preparing this list to give to the company.

I would just like to say to all of our Union Brothers and Sisters who will be retiring in the months ahead, I wish you all the best to you and your families.

> In Solidarity, Milt Dawson

Briggs & Stratton First & Third Shift

by Dean Wegner

On April 28, 2008, in the emission lab located in the south testhouse, an alarm went off at 9:30p.m. The alarm was for nox gas (a very deadly gas). The nox gas is stored in the bottle tanks. The building was closed and all employees were evacuated.

The fire department was called. They didn't have the proper equipment to test for the gas leak, however, Briggs did have the proper meter to check for the nox gas.

There were no leaks. It was a default alarm. The fire department disconnected and turned off the nox gas until the alarm was fixed.

In Solidarity, Dean Wegner

Briggs & Stratton Second Shift

by Jesse Edwards

Production

The Bargaining Committee was told production is down about 32%. They expect production to be slow for the next 3 months. At that time they will take another look at it. A voluntary layoff was posted.

Voluntary Layoff

Employees on voluntary layoff following the first scheduled work day after the July shutdown will have their status changed from voluntary layoff to involuntary layoff and within six weeks be bumped back into their department job and shift seniority permitting. If you wish to remain on voluntary layoff you should notify the company prior to July 1st. If you are out on layoff, June 27th is considered a vacation day.

Productivity Reward / Vacation Checks

Employees eligible to receive a productivity reward check, it is due on Wednesday June 11, 2008. The employees who receive the lump sum vacation check, your check is due on Wednesday June 18, 2008.

Discharge Grievances

I currently have 2 members who were discharged. The Bargaining Committee took these grievances to 3rd stage and the company said no to both grievances. One is for attendance and the other is for working outside their restrictions. If you have an industrial injury, it's very important that you don't work outside your restrictions.

Congratulations Retirees

I would like to congratulate my Mom, Virgie Clark, on her retirement. She worked for Briggs & Stratton for over 30 years. During her career at Briggs she raised two sons, Kenneth and myself. We love you Mom and we are very glad you are able to retire. God bless you. I would also like to congratulate all of the retirees. You made it and "GOOD LUCK".

In Solidarity Jesse Edwards

MERCER RETIREMENT MEETINGS

There will be retirement meetings conducted by Mercer. The meeting dates are Thursday July 31st at Burleigh; 1:30 for 2nd shift and 2:45 for 1st shift and Thursday August 7th at the Falls; 2:30 for 2nd shift and 3:30 for 1st shift.

The purpose for these meetings are for people that are intending to retire at the end of 2008. At this meeting, letter of intent to retire forms will be available and you will be able to fill out this form and turn it in on the spot to Mercer. If you have any questions call Mercer. The phone number is **1-866-417-5663**.

Wellness Corner "You can't live without it"

Sunburn Season - Be Cautious

by Jennifer Hellwig, MS, RD

Definition:

Sunburn is the term for red, sometimes swollen and painful skin, caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun. Sunburn can vary from mild to severe, depending on skin type and amount of exposure to the sun. Sunburn is a serious risk factor for skin cancer and for sun damage such as wrinkles.

Causes

Sunburn is caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun.

Risk Factors

A risk factor is something that increases your chance of getting a disease or condition. Your risk of sunburn increases with:

- Exposure to the sun
- Light skin color
- Certain medications that may increase your sensitivity to the sun, such as antibiotics or oral contraceptives
- Geographical location: highest incidence in southern United States

Symptoms

The symptoms of sunburn vary from person to person. You may not notice redness of the skin for several hours after the burn has begun. Peak redness will take 12 to 24 hours.

Symptoms include:

- Redness
- Swelling
- Warmth
- Pain
- Blisters
- Fever
- Chills
- Weakness
- Nausea and vomiting in severe cases

Symptoms of shock, including:

- Low blood pressure
- Fainting
- Extreme weakness (in rare and serious cases)

Diagnosis

A mild sunburn does not usually require a visit to the doctor. However, if you have any of the above symptoms, seek medical attention. The doctor will ask about your symptoms and medical history, and perform a physical exam. For more severe cases of sun damage, you may be referred to a doctor who specializes in skin disorders (dermatologist).

Treatment

Treatment will vary depending on the severity of the sunburn. The first and most important step in treatment involves getting out of the sun at the first

sign of redness or tingling and staying out of the sun until the skin is fully healed, which may take several weeks.

In addition, you can do the following:

- Apply a cool water compress to soothe raw, hot skin.
 - Take over-the-counter anti-inflammatories.
- Take oral corticosteroids to shorten the course of pain and inflammation, recommended or prescribed by your doctor.
- Take prescription antibiotics if an infection develops.
- Be extra careful to protect skin after it peels. The skin is very sensitive after peeling.

Prevention

To prevent sunburn, you must shield your skin from the sun's rays.

- Avoid strong, direct sunlight.
- Plan outdoor activities early or late in the day to avoid peak sunlight hours between 10a.m.to 4
- Choose a sunscreen, sunblock, or special sunblock clothes with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 that filters out both UVA and UVB rays.
- Apply sunscreen liberally, thoroughly, and frequently to all exposed skin, including the lips.
- Wear protective, tightly woven clothing, as well as a broad-rimmed hat and sunglasses.
- Keep in mind that water is not a good filter and you can become sunburned while swimming or snorkeling. You can also become sunburned during the winter and on cloudy or foggy days.

Mealthy Corner

Here are some important numbers for Briggs employees regarding your health:

Health-Link -Access to immediate, confidential, healthcare expertise.
1-888-228-7672

Patient Care-Helping you through the healthcare maze. 1-877-344-7474

www.patientcare4u.com

Here is an important number for Strattec employees regarding your health:

United Health Care
Health care problems or questions, call
toll-free 1-866-827-9025
www.myuhc.com