

THE POWER OF

What is unusual about your hometown, place of

work or job?

"It's an old plant, and Granite City is a community that was built around the steel mill. That's how the founders planned it. The mill is everything for this community."

What does this year's theme, "The Power of Unity," mean to you? How has your local benefited from putting unity into action?

"Our unity is our strength. Without that, politicians don't pay any attention to us. And for us, in Granite City, trade is everything, so we need politicians to work with us to update our outdated trade policies. Trade keeps us going, but it can also be our demise."

What issues will be important when your local's contract expires?

"Health insurance will be a big issue in the next contract. I think that is the same for everyone."

What's your favorite alternative fact?

"Fake news. The idea that CNN is fake news – we laugh about that all the time."



Dan Simmons

Name:

Local 1899, District 7

Local Number/USW District #:

U.S. Steel, Granite City, Ill., Maintenance Technician/Pipe Fitter

Employer, Job Title:

Years as USW Member:

38+

Fully integrated steel mill

What does your local do or make?

Marine, Ill

Hometown:

Who would you prefer to have dinner with: Sean Spicer, Betty White, Vladimir Putin, Drake, or Céline Dion? Why?

"Betty White. I think I'd get a kick out of that. She has a great perspective on life."

What's the best thing about the convention so far?

"It re-energizes you, gets you refocused on the work we need to do. I think we all need that."

What things do you hope to do while you're here?

"I'd like to get a little R&R when we're done. With everything that is going on during the convention, it's hard to find time to relax, so I'd like to get a little down time."

What in this convention will you put to work when you return home?

"I'd like to take some of the videos back and show them to our members. At our meetings, sometimes, there's a lot of gloom and doom, so I think that would help to keep people hopeful, and we need hope."