



# PROJECT LIFESAVER

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## **DAYS LEFT**

We can't believe it's already that time of year again; there's only 6 days left until the Project Lifesaver 2020 Hybrid Conference! Time has run out to register but we will see those that did there! Let's collaborate, learn, and grow at another great conference!

# LABOR DAY

The Ambassador's Column

Ron Yeaw

## I. INTRODUCTION

On September 7th, people in all 50 states and territories, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, will celebrate Labor Day. With picnics, barbecues, and fireworks displays, we will celebrate the holiday established to recognize the contributions that workers make to the strength, economic prosperity, and social well-being of the country. Although also celebrated on this day in Canada, most nations refer to the holiday as Labor Day, May Day, or International Workers' Day and observe it on May 1st.

There is a difference of opinion regarding who originally proposed the idea of Labor Day. Some records show that Matthew Maguire, a former secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Patterson, New Jersey, proposed the idea for a holiday while he was serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York in 1882. Most historians, however, credit the original idea to Peter J. McGuire, the founder and general secretary of The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of New York and co-founder of The American Federation of Labor. He wanted a day that would include a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations". Following the parade there would be a festival for the workers and their families. On May 8th, 1882, Peter McGuire proposed to the New York City Central Labor Union that the first Monday in September, because it fell midway between the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving, be set aside annually as Labor Day. On September 5th, 1882, 10,000 workers paraded from City Hall to Union Square in New York City and then attended a festival, both events having been organized by the Central Labor Union and the Knights of Labor.

In 1884, the Knights of Labor sponsored a second parade in New York City on the first Monday of September and designated that day as Labor Day. That initiative in New York City was soon followed by labor unions in other states, which staged vigorous campaigns in their state legislatures for the establishment of Labor Day as a state holiday. Their first victory came on February 21st, 1887 when the Oregon legislature declared that the first Monday in September of that year was to be observed as Labor Day, a state holiday. The next year, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York passed similar legislation also making the first Monday in September a state holiday; at the same time, the American Federation of Labor umbrella union passed a resolution for the adoption of the Labor Day holiday at its St. Louis convention. Thirty states had followed Oregon's lead by the time Congress made the first Monday in September a national holiday, with the bill signed into law by President Grover Cleveland on June 28th, 1894.



## **II. EARLY HISTORY OF ORGANIZED LABOR**

Trade unions have sometimes been viewed as successors to the guilds of medieval Europe. Associations of craftsmen, such as carpenters, masons, and glass-workers, medieval guilds existed to enhance their members' livelihoods through controlling the instructional capital of artisan-ship and the progression of their members from apprentice to craftsman, journeyman, and eventually to master and grandmaster of their craft. Guilds also facilitated mobility by providing accommodations for their members that traveled in search of work. Although guilds exhibited some aspects of the modern trade union, they also exhibited aspects of modern professional associations and corporations. However, unlike modern labor unions that seek to incorporate a broad array of laborers, guilds were highly selective and offered membership only to those artisans practicing a specific trade.

In the 18th century, much of Western society witnessed the Industrial Revolution and the abandonment of an agrarian culture with craft-based production. The young industrial environment provided much of the momentum for the establishment and advancement of labor unions. The Industrial Revolution sparked a rising fear amongst the people in the craft associations over their jobs, wage changes, and workforce restructuring. The rapid expansion of the industrial society quickly drew large numbers of women, children, rural workers, and immigrants into the work force who labored for meager wages in appalling conditions. These miserable working environments would later prove to be an important impetus for change.

Most countries deemed labor unions illegal and constructed severe penalties, including execution, for the attempt to organize such affiliations. Despite these measures, labor unions succeeded in being formed and acquired political powers resulting from the passage of legislation which legalized organizing efforts. Despite the awarding of legal stature, trade unions continued to face generations of opposition.

## **III. LABOR UNIONS**

The first attempts to form a union in the United States were made in the late 18th century, but efforts were very ineffective. One of the earliest attempts by workers to organize a strike occurred in Lowell, Massachusetts. The Lowell textile mill strikes of 1834 and 1836, while largely unsuccessful, involved upwards of 2,000 non-unionized workers and represented a substantial organizational effort. In 1845, the newly-established Lowell trade union sent representatives to the Massachusetts legislature to complain about working conditions in the mills. Their efforts led to the first governmental investigation into working conditions in American factories.

The union movements came into their own after the Civil War, when the National Labor Union (NLU) became the first umbrella (federation) of national unions in 1866. It was dissolved in 1872. The regional Order of the Knights of St. Crispin was founded in the northeast in 1867 and claimed 50,000 members by 1870. A closely associated union of



women, the Daughters of St. Crispin, was formed later that year. In 1879, the Knights formally admitted women who, by 1886, comprised 10% of the union's membership.

The first truly effective labor organization, that was more regional in membership and influence than the Knights of St. Crispin, was the Knights of Labor (KOL) umbrella union, which was organized in 1869. The KOL believed in the unity of the interests of all producing groups and sought to enlist in their ranks not only all laborers, but everyone who could truly be classified as a producer. This concept resulted in explosive union growth after 1880.

The umbrella union Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (FOTLU) was organized in 1881 under the leadership of Samuel Gompers. Like the NLU, it was a federation of different unions. Its original goals were to encourage the formation of trade unions and to obtain favorable legislation dealing with such issues as the prohibition of child labor, a national eight hour day, and the exclusion of foreign contract workers. The FOTLU made some gains in obtaining favorable legislation, but had little success in organizing or chartering new unions.

One of the earliest railroad strikes was also one of the most successful. In 1885, the KOL led railroad workers to victory against the Southwestern Railway system. However, many of their larger strikes failed and they collapsed in the wake of the Haymarket tragedy of 1886, where an unidentified person in a crowd threw a bomb into a group of police. The city and police department used the incident as an excuse to repress the labor movement and arrest eight influential labor leaders.

At its convention in 1886, the FOTLU was reorganized into the American Federation of Labor (AFL) umbrella union. The AFL was formed, in large part, because of the dissatisfaction of many of the member trade unions with the KOL. The AFL distinguished itself from the KOL by emphasizing the autonomy of each affiliated trade union and limiting membership only to workers and organizations made up of workers. The AFL grew steadily in the late 19th century while the KOL disappeared.

The Western Federation of Miners (WFM) was created in 1893. Frequently in competition with the AFL, the WFM spawned several new federations and, in 1916, became the International Union of Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers.

In 1894, the American Railway Union launched a boycott of all Pullman rail cars. The strike effectively shut down production at the Pullman factories and led to a lockout. Within 4 days of the strike, 125,000 workers on 29 railroads had quit work rather than handle Pullman cars. President Cleveland sent federal Marshals and some 2,000 Army troops to break the strike. 13 strikers were killed and 57 were wounded during the strike and 6,000 rail workers did \$340,000 worth of property damage.

The United Mine Workers staged a successful strike against the soft coal mines in the Midwest in 1900, but its strike against the hard coal mines of Pennsylvania turned into a

national political crisis in 1902. President Theodore Roosevelt brokered a compromise that kept the flow of coal going but it did not include recognition of the union as a bargaining agent.

The Women's Trade Union League was formed during the 1903 AFL convention in Boston. The League maintained a loose affiliation with the AFL and provided support to unionized women similar to that of other umbrella union organizations.

The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) was founded in 1905. Organized along the lines of industrial unionism rather than craft unionism, much of the IWW's organizing took place in the West with most of its early members being cannery and dock workers, miners, and lumbermen. In 1912, the IWW organized a strike of more than 20,000 textile workers. By 1917, the Agricultural Worker's Organization of the IWW claimed membership of 100,000 itinerant farm workers in the heartland of America. The IWW proved that unskilled workers could be organized and gave them a sense of dignity and self-worth. The IWW exists today with about 2,000 members.

The 1920's marked a period of decline for the labor movement. Union membership and activities fell sharply in the face of economic prosperity, a lack of leadership within the movement, and anti-union sentiments from both employers and the government.

The October 1929 stock market crash ushered in the Great Depression. Unions lost members during this time because laborers could not afford to pay their dues and numerous strikes against wage cuts left the unions impoverished. Communist and Socialist groups organized marches by frustrated relief applicants in the cities across the nation. These two groups started what would prove to be their prominent role in the formation and progress of trade unions during the next 20 years.

On March 23, 1932, President Hoover signed the Norris-LaGuardia Act, marking the first of many pro-union bills that Washington would pass in the 1930s. This Act signified a victory for the AFL and marked a major change in public policy towards unionization. In June 1933, Congress passed the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) which gave workers the right to organize into unions. It's most significant impact was a result of the statement: "Employees shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representation of their own choosing, and shall be free from the interference, restraint, or coercion of employers." Although the Act was ultimately declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in 1935, and replaced by the National Labor Relations (Wagner) Act two months later, it fueled workers' resolve to join unions and strengthened those organizations.

U.S. labor unions were granted legalization under the Wagner Act. In addition to including workers' rights of participation in strikes, collective bargaining and self-organization, the Act established the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), which continues today. The two basic functions of the NLRB are oversight of the process by which employees decide whether or not to be represented by a labor organization and the

prosecution of contract violations by employers. The NLRB also looks into such other issues as better training and the development of procedural standardization.

The Sit-Down Strike at the Flint, Michigan General Motors plant in 1936 was the decisive event in the formation of the United Auto Workers Union (UAW). During the war, Walter Reuther took control of the UAW and led major successful strikes in 1946 that resulted in higher pay and benefits for UAW members.

Traditionally, the AFL organized unions by individual crafts, such as electricians and engineers, rather than by industry, such as automobile production. Clashes amongst the AFL's leaders over this issue led to the 1938 creation of a second umbrella union: the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO). John L. Lewis was president of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) from 1920-1960 and was the driving force behind the founding of the CIO. Using UMWA organizers, the CIO established the United Steel Workers of America (USWA) and organized millions of other industrial workers in the 1930's. The first major industrial union to be chartered by the CIO was the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America on November 16, 1938.

Both the AFL and the CIO supported President Roosevelt during the 1940s. In 1943, during the middle of World War II, when the rest of labor was observing a policy against strikes, Lewis led the UMWA on a 12-day strike for higher wages. Subsequent public and Congressional hatred for Lewis was immense and resulted in Congress passing the anti-union Taft-Hartley Act in 1947.

Officially known as the Labor-Management Relations Act, the Taft-Hartley Act revised the Wagner Act to include restrictions on unions and a list of prohibited union actions, such as jurisdictional strikes and boycotts. The Act also outlawed closed shops, which were contractual agreements that required an employer to hire only union members. In addition, the Act authorized individual states to outlaw union security clauses by passing 'right-to-work' laws. (Currently, all of the states in the Deep South {to include Florida} and a number of states in the Midwest, Plains, and Rocky Mountain regions have right-to-work laws). Union membership and effectiveness during the remainder of the 1940s, and extending into the 1960s, were seriously restricted due to the continually reported links between labor unions and organized crime.

In 1955, after years of estrangement, and with the majority of differences that once separated the two organizations having faded, the AFL and CIO merged to form the AFL-CIO. From 1955-2005, the AFL-CIO represented nearly all unionized workers in America. In 2005, several large unions (such as the Service Employees International) split away from the AFL-CIO and, in 2007, formed the Change To Win Federation of unions. Today, the AFL-CIO national umbrella organization is a federation of 65 trade unions in the United States and Canada, with a membership in excess of 10 million workers.




#### IV. SUMMARY

From 1973-2008, union membership steadily declined in the private sector, while it increased in the public sector. In 2008, the Labor Department reported the first increase in union membership in 25 years. Most of the gains were realized in the service sector in the West Coast states. Overall union density (the percentage of workers belonging to unions) has been declining since the late 1940s. Almost 36% of American workers were represented by unions in 1945. Today, that figure is close to 12%.

American unions remain an important political factor, with their main agenda items being collective bargaining rights, wages, benefits, immigration rights, trade policies, working conditions, health care, and representing their members in violations of contract provisions by management.

# HAPPY LABOR DAY

PROJECT LIFESAVER  
WISHES EVERYONE A  
HAPPY LABOR DAY!



LET'S CELEBRATE THE GREAT  
CONTRIBUTIONS SO MANY  
WORKERS HAVE MADE TO THE  
WELL-BEING, STRENGTH, AND  
PROSPERITY OF OUR NATION. IT  
IS ONLY THROUGH COURAGE  
AND EFFORT THAT WE CAN  
MOVE ON TO BETTER THINGS.



# WE VALUE INSIGHT

At Project Lifesaver, we value the insight that our member agencies can provide. With feet on the ground, we can gain a better understanding of the difference we all make and what we can do to continue the work we do. Captain Stan French of the BAYSAR Air Search and Rescue in North Bay, Ontario provided us with the following insight regarding Project Lifesaver and mental health. We thank him for his words and look forward to growing with everyone. Check out what he said below!

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"Thanks, also, for using Captain in your salutation. With 25 years in the Canadian Primary Reserve and a tour in Afghanistan, once I retired I retained entitlement to be addressed by my rank; but that is seldom done in Canada. I appreciate that practice that is more common in the US.

This brings me to an interesting segway regarding my perspective of the additional benefits of Project Lifesaver from my past, professional point of view. Your use of my rank made me think of my past experience treating many US military members at the Role 3 hospital in Kandahar. That also led me to think of my experience treating veterans and serving police officers. I was a mental health nurse clinician in the military and in private practice after I retired. I also conducted research into rates of Operational Stress Injuries (PTSD etc) of police in Ontario. (I am still an Adjunct Professor.) When I look at the Project Lifesaver website and I see the number of rescues I see more than 3711 lives being saved and thousands of families receiving peace of mind. I see the prevention of 3711 potentially traumatic events that could have affected at least that many law enforcement officers or other first responders. The preventable death of a child is often cited by first responders as one of the most impactful events that can become a moral injury leading to PTSD. By being proactive, Project Lifesaver does more than just accomplishing the primary purpose of streamlining search and rescue operations and saving lives. It has the secondary purpose of reducing the mental health risks associated with being involved in a long and unsuccessful search. This may not be a new concept for you and others in the PLI staff team but if it is, you may want to consider adding that benefit in instructional material. If you think that is worth consideration I would be happy to discuss with Trisha and others. Law enforcement is risky enough with regards to physical and mental health. Anything that mitigates the risks should be recognized.

I look forward to working with PLI in our new role as an agency."

-Captain Stan French

## Project Lifesaver's Role as a Thought Leader for US Army Medical Drone Programs

By Ron Yeaw Jr.

*Ron Yeaw Jr. serves as Deputy Director for the US Army's Digital Health Innovation Center under the Army Futures Command's Telemedicine & Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC). TATRC is engaged in essential medical research focused on advanced medical technologies and is dedicated to bringing innovative telehealth solutions to the Warfighter and the Military Health System.*

After 20 years and over 3,700 rescues<sup>[1]</sup>, Project Lifesaver International (PLI) remains laser focused on serving its ever expanding clientele and executing its mission of bringing the next loved one home. However, as PLI is always looking ahead for ways to decrease rescue times and increase community outreach, it would be easy for the organization to overlook all that it has already accomplished. PLI has set a standard of medical innovation and effectiveness that reaches far beyond its headquarters in Port St Lucie, Florida.

While big Army primarily uses drones as WiFi extenders, for surveillance, and to occasionally put hot lead on target; within the Army Medical Command (AMC), medical drones fill different capability gaps. The ability to use drones to provide medical payloads (blood products, medical equipment, tele-monitoring devices) in areas where US troops have limited freedom of movement (both in the air and on the ground), as well as the drones' speed, maneuverability, endurance, small Landing Zones and ease of application without further putting medical troops in harm's way make them a core aspect of the AMC battlefield portfolio.<sup>[2]</sup>

Speaking at the 2018 US Army Special Operations Command Medical Symposium Conference, AMC's Medical Robotics and Autonomous Systems Capability Manager, Dr Gary Gilbert, outlined the battle



**Image 1:** 2018 US Army Special Operations Command Medical Symposium Concept Art for the ARES CASEVAC Drone <sup>[2]</sup>

concept constraints affecting far-future US medical drone (see image 1) resources; "In the civilian space, 80% of drone technology is controlled by Dà-Jiāng Innovations (DJI), a Chinese-based tech company headquartered in Shenzhen, Guangdong. This obvious security red flag for US military interests requires us to primarily seek out and partner with small US-based medical drone companies that use only American parts and partners. Furthermore, it is these same small businesses that are making the biggest strides in the development of medical drone capabilities and their application within the United

States' FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) constrained airspace."<sup>[2]</sup>

It is in this capacity that PLI's rich portfolio of drone based capabilities has drawn the attention of military partners. Per TATRC's Medical Unmanned System's Manager, Nate Fisher, "understanding the balance of medical payload and power, application of next generation obstacle avoidance software, while also maximizing drone range (distance), all while doing this in the field with live end-users is not something that can be easily replicated in a military SIM-Lab (Simulation Lab)."<sup>[3]</sup>



Mr. Fisher went on to say, “technology aside, understanding the human element in this is a core blind spot in military medical drone development: logistical ground support workflow lessons learned, nuanced FAA airspace policies, and especially the predictive human behavior analytics these boots-on-the-ground programs can develop over decades of work is unrivaled.” The United States’ Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) outlined the importance of such data in a recently published research study *Replication and Reliability in Behavior Science and Behavior Analysis* stating that the lack of quality, raw data negatively affects “behavior science and behavior analysis research and many of the most well-known applications of behavior analysis such as addictions, autism, and leadership.” [4]

While TATRC’s vertical-lift medical drone program has flourished in recent years (see **image 2**)<sup>[5]</sup>, and is currently supporting blood product drone delivery in the United States Africa Command, it has been hamstrung by the dense patchwork of FAA Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) flight regulations,<sup>[6]</sup> even when performing military medical research on their own grounds in Fort Detrick, Maryland. Per Nate Fisher, “this is why you see most UAS research being performed in Canada and Australia, due to their more relaxed drone regulations. Look at *Zipline*, the world’s largest medical blood-delivery drone program. While headquartered in San Francisco, its operations are limited to Rwanda and Ghana.”<sup>[7]</sup>



**Image 2:** US Army TATRC’s DP-14; Fast, Agile Aerial Resupply, 430 lb. payload Vertical Takeoff CASEVAC UAV<sup>[5]</sup>

When asked how PLI had managed to be so successful operating in the United States, PLI’s Assistant Chief for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Gary Reynolds pointed to the community based partnerships that PLI has worked so hard to develop. “All of our pilots are FAA Part 107 certified to operate in Class G (400 feet and below) air space, and through our partnerships with local police units and other first responders, we have been granted unrestricted rights to operate in this space while performing rescue missions. Even when we need to get above 400 feet, and have to reach out to the FAA, we’ve never been denied.” [8]

PLI’s key success has been its ability to see beyond the simple technical requirements of UAV medical rescues. Per Mr. Reynolds, “PLI can locate a client within 2 to 3 inches, but it is our continuous refinement of ground support logistics and our understanding of the eloped patient’s mind that is the difference maker.”<sup>[8]</sup> Recovery times for Project Lifesaver International agencies average 95% faster<sup>[1]</sup> than standard operations without Project Lifesaver International. It is this award-winning (see **image 3**) human touch that is the x factor in PLI’s success, and is a key area of interest for military medical research labs looking to replicate their own success stories.



**Image 3:** PLI awarded the Humanitarian Xcellence Award by the Association for Unmanned Vehicles Systems International

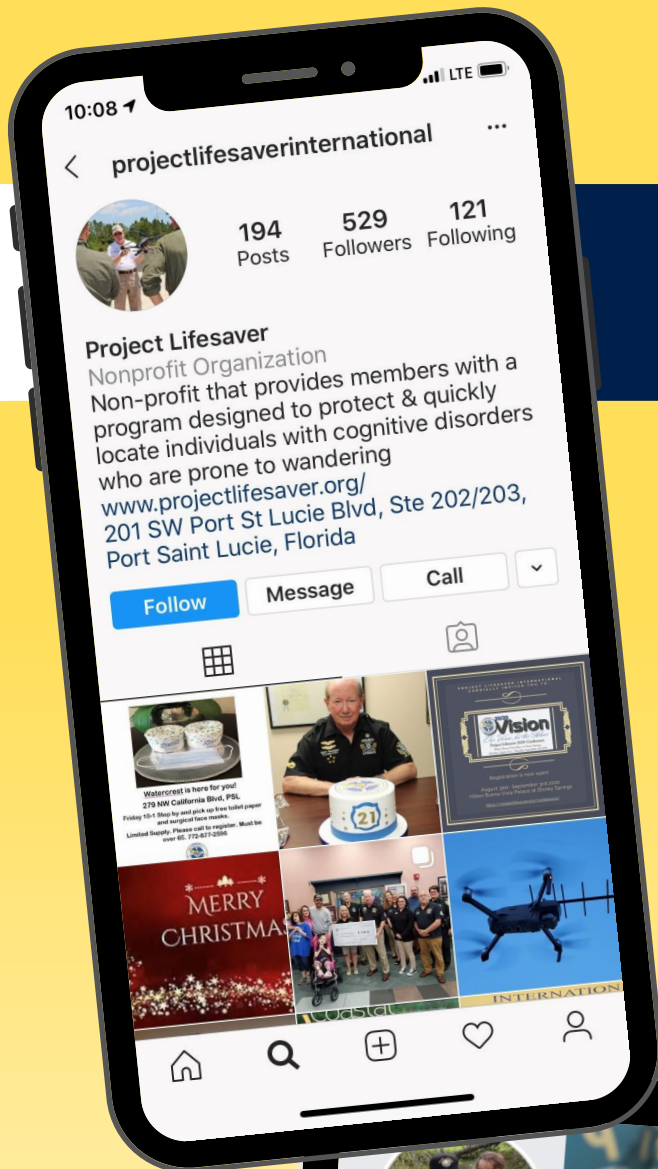
on emerging drone platform technology, and self-powered payloads that can simultaneously carry antennas, high definition infrared cameras, as well as audio systems (to communicate with the rescued client) are the holy grail within our industry.” [8]

TATRC is grateful to PLI for all it has done blazing trails in the medical drone industry, as well as its commitment to only employing US-made hardware & software; and is looking forward to this emerging partnership. After all, the Army Medical Command and Project Lifesaver International have the same mission... *Bringing Loved Ones Home*.

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To this end, US Army Futures Command-TATRC has invited Gary Reynolds and PLI to visit the 2021 TATRC Industry Day<sup>[9]</sup> being held next Spring in Fort Detrick, MD. This event, typically reserved for military only, offers senior Army leadership the opportunity to look at emerging research and technology related to vertical lift drones, medical simulation, and telehealth. Mr. Reynolds was excited about this opportunity. “PLI is a huge proponent of our military and police forces, and we look forward to future engagements. Plus I can’t wait to see what the Army has been up to in regards to range, power, and payload sensors. We always have our eye



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