

## YOUR SOAR EXECUTIVE BOARD



**George Edwards**  
*Emeritus Board Member*

George Edwards was born March 24, 1918 in Philip, South Dakota. His first award in life was the 201st birth certificate in the county. George lived in a log and sod house in preschool years. During WWII, George was stationed in Ft. Benning, Georgia where he attended Officers Candidate School.

George received his BA in psychology from the University of Tennessee before entering Oberlin Seminary where he took two years of theology with the intention of becoming a minister. He subsequently studied two years of law at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

In 1942, George joined Local 1104 of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) in Lorain, Ohio, and later that same year, attended the founding convention of the USWA as a guest.

George was founding editor of the union newspaper, the *Lorain Labor Leader*, which at one time was the largest labor publication in Ohio. George held various positions in

his local including Trustee and Vice President. He served as President of the Lorain County CIO Council, but lost all leadership positions during the McCarthy era. He was also co-chair of the National Steelworkers Rank and File Committee in the '70s. In 1981, he retired from his Machinist Apprentice Instructor position at U.S. Steel after 39 years.

George is a founding member of SOAR, becoming a charter member in 1985. He organized SOAR Chapter 20-15 where he's been the chapter president since 1993. He became a SOAR Coordinator, and later the District 10 SOAR Executive Board member. George was appointed SOAR Board Member Emeritus by USW International President Leo W. Gerard. He has worked as a volunteer in the SOAR office in Pittsburgh since 1989, and is currently the associate editor of *SOAR in Action*.

George's wife Denise is a member of the Wilksburg (Pa.) Borough Council and the Recording Secretary of her SOAR chapter.



**Willie Moore**  
*District 1 Board Member*

Willie, who is 77 years young, lives in Canton, Ohio. In 2002, he became the SOAR Executive Board member for District 1.

Willie hired in to Republic Steel in 1948 at which time he joined the United Steelworkers of America. One year later, he joined the United States Navy Reserve and served as an Engineman for 15 years until 1964.

After working 42 years in the same plant as a Steel Inspector (Finishing), Willie retired from LTV Steel in March of 1990, and joined SOAR that same year.

Willie is a widower after being married for 43 years, and has been blessed with six children, 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



**Milio "Mimi" Rinna**  
*District 2 Board Member*

Mimi was 18 years old when he hired in as a Laborer at the Great Lakes Steel Plant of National Steel Corporation.

He was drafted into the Army in 1951 and was discharged in 1953 after spending a year in Korea. Upon return to his millwright job, he got involved with the union, serving as a steward for six years, in-plant grievance committee person for ten years, and fulltime grievance committee person for seven years.

In 1977 Mimi was appointed to the USWA International staff by then President I.W. Abel, a position he held for 18 years until his retirement in 1994.

Mimi has been a member of SOAR since its inception and, "...will continue to support our Union in whatever way I can since I owe everything I've achieved in life to the Steelworkers, my family and those I've had the privilege to represent."

Mimi is 75 year old and lives with his wife of 53 years, Viola, in Allen Park, Mich. They have two children.