

## LABOR DAY

**HANDCLAPS**  
(Triangle)

**THIGH PATS**  
(Hand Drum)

**STOMACH PATS**  
(Guiro)

**FINGER SNAPS**  
(Shaker)

**STOMPS**  
(Claves)

La - bor Day!

Work - ing peo - ple's hol - i - day.

Pe - ter J. Mc - Gui - re.

Pa - rades, pic - nics,

Last day of sum - mer.

2

La - bor Day!

Work - ing peo - ple's hol - i - day.

Pe - ter J. Mc - Gui - re.

bar - be - cues.

That's a bum - mer!

## LABOR DAY

### *Did You Know?*

- ◆ The U.S. Department of Labor website describes Labor Day as a “yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.” It is observed on the first Monday of September.
- ◆ The holiday was first observed on September 5, 1882 after being pushed through Congress by President Grover Cleveland. He was actually a staunch opponent of organized labor groups, but he supported the establishment of Labor Day in order to stop riots that were breaking out across the country.
- ◆ These riots were the result of poor working conditions and extremely long work days (over 16 hours in some cases) for American workers. For example, workers in Detroit were demanding that their days be shortened to ten hours and their pay be raised to two dollars an hour.
- ◆ There is some doubt about who originally proposed the holiday. Some believe it was Peter McGuire, the general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, while others contend that it was in fact Matthew McGuire, a machinist.
- ◆ The first Labor Day parade was held in New York City. 10,000 workers took an unpaid holiday to march together.
- ◆ Today Labor Day is celebrated in Canada as well as the United States.

