



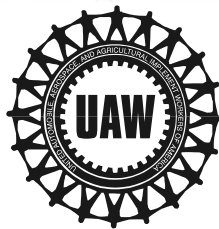
AUTOMOBILE • AEROSPACE • AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS of AMERICA (UAW)

LOCAL 974 NEWS

REPRESENTING WORKERS AT – CATERPILLAR, TAZEWEILL MACHINE, CITY OF DELAVAN, MASON CITY
PUBLIC WORKERS & POLICE DEPARTMENT & VILLAGE OF SOUTH PEKIN PUBLIC WORKS

VOL 102 • AUGUST 2024

LABOR DAY PARADE



"The Union Difference"
Security, Family, Community

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2024

The Parade starts at 10:00 a.m.

**The Local 974 Unit can begin assembling
At 8:30 a.m. at the City Parking lot near the
Riverfront where buses will take you to the
Civic Center where the parade begins.**

**If you are a member of Local 974, Active or Retired,
please come march with our unit in the parade.
All participants receive a free shirt to march in.**

**If you would like to march, please contact the hall for more
information at (309) 694-3151.**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT - AUGUST 2024

RANDY DIEHL, President _____

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,



Daulton Todd Simmers, 28, lost his life in a tragic, unnecessary, horrible accident at our Mapleton Foundry on June 6, 2024. He left behind his heartbroken fiancé and 2 children whose lives will never be the same.

This tragedy was 100% avoidable and largely due to improper, inadequate training in my opinion. We have so many new members that have been hired in the last few years and a lot of them have been rushed through training and are also being trained by other new members. A lot of these people are still supplemental members who are probably afraid to say they feel unsafe or don't feel properly trained. We need to protect our new people who may be too intimidated to speak up for themselves. If you see someone struggling to do their job due to not being properly trained on how to do their job safely, please speak up for them. Ask them if they feel unsafe doing their jobs and if they need more training. If their answer is yes, please make sure it happens so we never lose another brother or sister.

God bless Daulton Simmers and his family.

In Solidarity,

Randy Diehl



"UNION MEETINGS"

Aug. 11th & Sept. 8th

Executive Board Meeting – 12:00 P.M.

General Council Meeting – 1:00 P.M.

Aug. 15th & Sept. 19th

Safety Meetings – 8:00 A.M.; 12:00 P.M.; 4:00 P.M.

Aug. 22nd & Sept. 26th

Steward Meetings – 8:00 A.M.; 1:00 P.M.; 3:00 P.M.; 4:00 P.M.

UAW LOCAL 974 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Randy Diehl

Executive Vice-President

Matthew Diebel

Second Vice-President

Tony Newton

Chair. of Insurance & Benefits

John Arnold

Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Matthew Butler

Recording Secretary

Douglas Byrne

Sergeant-At-Arms

Kim Baker

Guide

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Trustee

Mike Rohde

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Bruce Bartlett

Trustee

Scott Kindilien

M-A-L EP Prime Products

Caleb Kelly

M-A-L EP Transmissions

Ken Gregory

M-A-L EP Undercarriage

Rob Hawkins

Mapleton CMO Member-At-Large

Steven Kovach

M-A-L Mapleton Seals

Thomas Johnson

Morton GDC Member-At-Large

Angie Speer

TSD Member-At-Large

(Open)

Skilled Trades Member-At-Large

Tony Reed

SPBU Member-At-Large

(Open)

Plantwide Safety Chairman

Loren Meyers

Retiree's Chapter President

Velma Walton

C.A.P. Chairman

Stan Valentine

Bargaining Chair. – Unit 1 Caterpillar

Bobby Koller

Bargaining Chair. – Unit 4 TMW

Justin Hall

Bargaining Chair. – City of Delavan

Michael Evans

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PW

Ben McCormick

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PD

James D. Otey

Bargain. Chair. – Unit 12 South Pekin

Andrea Cantrall

INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT – AUGUST 2024

JOHN ARNOLD _____

Hello Brothers and Sisters! I hope all of you have had a wonderful Summer so far. But as usual I'm looking forward to the nice cool Autumn weather.

When this newsletter comes out there will only be one more before the Annual Enrollment starts. As I write this article, I unfortunately don't have the information as to what the premiums will be for 2025. But I have been told by one of the independent insurance agents I deal with, that there are some changes coming to Medicare next year. So, as you will see in this newsletter, there is an ad for an informational seminar to discuss those changes to Medicare. The date of the seminar will be October 4th at 9:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 3:00 p.m. This seminar is open to all UAW retirees and their spouses. As well as any active member that will be subject to these changes when they stop working. There will be no sales pitch at this seminar. This will only be for informational purpose.

Active and Retired members, please don't forget to turn in your application form for the scholarship drawing. You only have until August 23rd to submit them.

If anyone has questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 309-694-3151.

In Solidarity,

John Arnold, Insurance & Benefits Chairman

RETIREES - Medicare Reimbursement

From time to time, I remind our retirees about the Medicare Part B reimbursement portion of our plan. If you or your spouse are Medicare age, 65, and enrolled in Medicare Part A & B, you are eligible for reimbursement of the Part B Premium. **The Plan will reimburse your Medicare premium up to \$99.50 per month every January and July.** This only pertains to members and spouses that opted out of the management/executive plan and retired prior to March 26, 2017. **You must contact Alight Solutions (Hewitt) at 1-877-228-4010 to enroll for the reimbursement. Once you're signed up, you won't have to sign-up again.**



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FIND ANY QUESTIONS RELATED TO MEDICARE? PLEASE CALL
309-247-1905

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

FINANCIAL SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

MATTHEW BUTLER _____ FINANCIAL REPORT AUGUST 2024

MAY 2024	
Income	244,508.77
Expenditures	306,297.48
Excess of Expense over Income	(61,788.71)
Regular Dues received on:	3,143.
Initiation Fees received on:	45
PER CAPITA TAXES:	
International Union UAW	173,246.60
CAP Council	9,279.92
CAT Council	6,927.79
Retirees Dues PCT	125.75
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
Ag Imp Council	124.72
IPS Council Pooled Arb Fund	6.70
TOTAL:	189,896.48

JUNE 2024	
Income	222,957.21
Expenditures	206,741.46
Excess of Income over Expense	16,215.75
Regular Dues received on:	3,103
Initiation Fees received on:	14
PER CAPITA TAXES:	
International Union UAW	121,886.71
CAP Council	6,528.65
CAT Council	4,879.68
Retirees Dues PCT	157.95
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
Ag Imp Council	125.08
IPS Council Pooled Arb Fund	5.00
TOTAL:	133,767.07

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, I hope everyone is enjoying their summer season with lots of outdoor activities with friends and family.

The new tri-blend shirts from our supplier are selling quickly and I have received good reviews and feedback from the membership that they are much more breathable than the traditional bayside shirts. Large, XL, and 2XL are nearly empty and I will be reordering more ASAP.

I placed the order for this year's Labor Day shirts. Navy blue is the color, and the design has Lady Liberty present. They should be in by July 19th. I ordered more smaller sizes this year as the kid count was higher than expected last year.

Once we are past the Labor Day shirt order, I will begin ordering new everyday shirts with fresh new designs. The next round of designs are getting a lot of love and I can't wait to get them made up and ready for the membership.

Hats! I think I may have finally found a hat solution. I am working with Image Pointe and one other supplier on these but so far currently it's Image Pointe that has the winner in hat head happiness with their flex fit hat. It can be ordered in sizes S/M, L/XL and 2X to help accommodate those that have to wear a hard hat under their normal hats.

In closing, enjoy every last minute of this summer season outside doing the things you love because before we know it, old man winter will be here.

In Solidarity,
Matthew Butler
UAW Local 974
Financial Secretary/Treasurer





AMALGAMATED UAW LOCAL 974



NOTICE OF ELECTION

LISTED BELOW ARE THE CANDIDATES FOR THE ELECTIONS TO BE HELD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024:

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

1. Douglas G. Byrne
2. Matthew R. Harrison

ELECTION WILL BE HELD
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024,
FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.
AT THE LOCAL 974 UNION HALL,
3025 SPRINGFIELD ROAD, EAST PEORIA, IL

AMALGAMATED UAW LOCAL 974 ELECTION COMMITTEE

BILL SMITH, CHAIRMAN
TROY HOFFERT, CO-CHAIRMAN
SHIRLEY HARRIS, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
MICHAEL CIACCIO, RECORDING SECRETARY



AMALGAMATED UAW LOCAL 974



ELECTION NOTICE

Nominations will open **Monday, August 19, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.** and close **Friday, August 23, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.** with drawing for position on the ballot on September 8, 2024 immediately following the General Council Meeting.

COMMITTEEMAN

EAST PEORIA PRIME PRODUCTS BLD LL - 2ND SHIFT
MAPLETON CMO - 3RD SHIFT
MORTON - ALL SHIFTS

All nomination forms must be notarized unless personally handed to an Election Committee Officer. Printed names on the form should reflect how the candidates wish their names to appear on the ballot.

Last withdrawal date will be **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**

Nominations and withdrawals will be accepted during Local 974
normal business hours ONLY.

ELECTION WILL BE HELD:

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 FROM 6:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

RUN-OFF ELECTION (if necessary) WILL BE HELD:

Tuesday, November 5, 2024 FROM 6:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

**Elections will be held at Amalgamated Local 974 UAW Union Hall,
3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria IL 61611**

BILL SMITH, CHAIRMAN
ELECTION COMMITTEE
UAW LOCAL 974

WHO'S NEXT?

Loren Meyers, Plantwide Safety Chairman

At Caterpillar's Mapleton foundry, Brother Daulton T. Simmers, 28, suffered severe thermal burns throughout his body and was pronounced dead at around 5 p.m. Thursday June 6, 2024. Sheriff Chris Watkins said that Simmers had been trying to transfer molten metal from a large furnace into a smaller pot. However, the molten iron estimated about 45,000 pounds and at a temperature of 2500 degrees spilled out, engulfing Simmers in fire and molten metal. Brother Simmers was loved by his Family and friends and will be greatly missed. Brother Daulton was your average hardworking young man trying to support his family. Daulton was excited when he was hired by Caterpillar because after a couple of failed employment opportunities, he finally felt he was achieving the American dream and able to marry his long-time fiancé Lindsey Downing and start a life with their two children. Daulton and Lindsey were planning to get married few days after the accident occurred.

Almost two years to the day On Thursday, June 2, 2022 Steven Matthew Dierkes, 39, of Peoria, IL, passed away at 9:23 a.m. after falling into a molten iron crucible at the Caterpillar company's Mapleton, Illinois foundry. Steven was on his 6th day of furnace operator training performing temperature and thermal sampling, at a temperature of over 2,600 degrees. Steven was the second fatality at the Mapleton facility in the last 7 months leading up to his death.

What is it going to take for Management to change its incompetent strategies to minimize hazards and safety for higher production. THIS HAS TO STOP. It doesn't matter which business unit you work in, Management is consistent in creating no accountability for themselves. Management has created such a toxic work environment that our members are given no choice but to comply or be a target. Brother Simmons and Brother Dierkes where new employees (supplemental) that where both given little training and proper supervision in an hazardous environment, and because of their supplemental status they wanted to do a good job and not complain so they can get hired for full time. As Plantwide safety chair for East Peoria and safety committeeman for KK and H I hear new supplementals say this all the time. April of this year I was called to H because for several weeks there was a 2nd shift employee that was working several different work stations and was contaminating the areas with blood from an undisclosed condition. Dayshift employees went to their dayshift section manager to do something about the contamination. Dayshift section manager had dayshift assembly workers clean up the blood without proper training and PPE. Building H has a cleaning service (4M) that is available for that reason but the 4M cleaning crew would have to shut down the effective areas to clean them properly. 1st shift section manager was more concerned about production then health and welfare of his employee's. Two full time UAW members called for a UAW safety representative because the majority of the dayshift employees where supplementals and too afraid to complain but were concerned for their safety. Management minimizing the hazard is a collective effort considering that when I brought this to management's attention, they did everything possible to protect the dayshift section manager incompetents and gaslighting the bloodborne pathogens standard minimizing the hazard of dried blood. Dried blood is infectious up to a week with the hepatitis B virus and four days with hepatitis C. Management also invited me and my alternate safety rep. to attend a Bloodborne pathogen presentation given by our Nurse who tried to gaslight the issue too. The experts say all forms of blood should be treated the same. Divide and conquer is Managements favorite weapon. Management rewards team leads to break every rule with no accountability and now they are a huge part of workers production support because Manufacturing engineer created the ultimate toxic work environment by stripping workers of all production computer access and giving it to only team leads. So if your team lead is slow and incompetent it reflects on you not them.

To all my UAW brothers and sisters, we need to come together and honor our fallen by not allowing fear to keep us quiet. If you feel unsafe or see a hidden hazard, tell your supervisor if he blows you off and tells you to fill out a C.I card ask for your UAW safety Representative.





HEATHER HENNINGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND 2024 – 2025

The General Council, Executive Board and Retirees' Chapter of Local 974 have elected to award ten (10) \$500 scholarships from the Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund for the 2024 through 2025 college school year.

There is one (1) additional \$500 scholarship that will be given in the Memory of Thomas Klein for the 2024 through 2025 college school year.

The following guidelines have been established for qualified entrants:

1. Entrant must be the child, grandchild, stepchild or step grandchild of an active retired or deceased Local 974 Member in good standing.
2. Entrant must be enrolled as a full-time college student (minimum 12 hours) for the 2024 – 2025 college school year.
3. Entrants must submit the Scholarship Fund Application by Friday, August 23, 2024.

A drawing will be held on Sunday, September 8th at the General Council Meeting.

Please complete and return the application to the Dues Office.
It must be received by 4:00 pm on Friday, August 23, 2024.

UAW Local 974

Not receiving the text messages or emails?
Moved or got a new phone?

Call us at 309-694-3151 to make sure we have
your correct information on file.



**Congrats
Grad!**

**UAW LOCAL 974
HEATHER HENNINGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
APPLICATION
2024 - 2025**

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Male _____ Female _____

College Name: _____

Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ Other _____

Class Hours: _____

UAW Local 974 Family Member: _____

Badge: _____ Applicant's Relationship to 974 Member: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Only one entry per student, with a minimum of 12 hours.

It must be received by 4:00 pm on Friday, August 23, 2024.



Return to:

Dues Office
UAW Local 974
3025 Springfield Road
East Peoria IL 61611

UAW MEMBERS

SAVE HUNDREDS ON CEMETERY MONUMENTS

CURRENT AND RETIRED UAW MEMBERS SHOW US YOUR UAW MEMBERSHIP CARD AND RECEIVE A 5% TO 10%
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(CORNER OF
SHERIDAN & WAR MEMORIAL)

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3302 COURT STREET
PEKIN, IL
309.346.0866

MON. - FRI. 9:00A.M. - 5:00P.M. & SAT, 9:00A.M. - 12:00 NOON

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST 2024

Sunday, August 11th	Executive Board Mtg – 12:00 PM General Council Mtg – 1:00 PM
Thursday, August 15th	Safety Mtgs – 8:00 AM; 12:00 PM; 4:00 PM
Wednesday, August 21st	Retiree Meetings – 11:30 AM
Thursday, August 22nd	Steward Mtgs - 8:00 AM; 1:00 PM; 4:00 PM
Tuesday, August 27th	Bally's Quad Cities Casino Bus Trip – 8:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 2024

Monday, September 2nd	Labor Day – Union Hall Closed
Tuesday, September 3rd	Local 974 News Article Deadline (October Newsletter)
Sunday, September 14th	Executive Board Mtg – 12:00 PM General Council Mtg – 1:00 PM
Wednesday, September 18th	Retiree Dinner – 11:30 AM
Thursday, September 19th	Safety Mtgs – 8:00 AM; 12:00 PM; 4:00 PM
Wednesday, September 25th	Catfish Bend Bus Trip – 8:00 AM
Thursday, September 26th	Steward Mtgs - 8:00 AM; 1:00 PM; 3:00 PM 4:00 PM



In Solidarity,
Bobby Koller, Bargaining Chairman

Remembering Our Brothers and Sisters

May

Richard L. Johnson	TBU	R	05/01/24
James E. Mitchell	TSD	R	05/01/24
Larry W. Widdows	TTTD	R	05/01/24
Arnold R. Burger	Moss	R	05/04/24
James W. Arnett	TTTD	R	05/04/24
Richard I. Hazlett	TTTD	R	05/06/24
Anna Marie Erxleben	Morton	R	05/07/24
Timothy J. Gee	Moss	D	05/07/24
Patrick J. Cofield	TSD	R	05/09/24
Deborah J. Ritchie	TTTD	R	05/13/24
Lawrence E. Levertton	TTTD	R	05/13/24
Terry R. Berkley	Mapltn	R	05/16/24
Daniel L. Arnold	Morton	R	05/25/24
Levi L. Hall	TTTD	R	05/31/24

June

Daulton T. Simmers	Mapltn	A	06/06/24
Robert J. Gardner	Morton	R	06/14/24
Gene A. Churchill	TTTD	R	06/16/24
Robert L. Birdsell	TTTD	R	06/21/24
James B. Dement	TTTD	R	06/21/24
Ray A. Herman	TTTD	R	06/29/24

*Forever
Remembered*



Please notify us when one of our active or retired members passes away. We do not receive this information from the company.

On behalf of the Officers, Members and Retirees of Local 974, may we offer our deepest condolences to the families of our brothers and sisters who have recently passed away. May God comfort all of you in your loss.

Have you heard about the Medicare changes for
2025?

They will be some of the biggest changes since
the ACA in 2010.

Want to know more? Join us this October for an
informational update on Medicare and what the
changes will mean for you!

StAK Insurance Solutions LLC

Friday October 4th

8 am

Noon

3 pm

At the Local UAW 974 Hall

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

RETIREES CHAPTER UAW LOCAL 974

WEDNESDAY POTLUCKS (*Dinner begins at 11:30 a.m.*)

AUGUST 21ST & SEPTEMBER 18TH

We invite and encourage all the new Retirees to join us for dinner and bingo after the meeting.
(Please bring your own table service.)

We also encourage the spouses of deceased members of Local 974 to join us. Surviving spouses are Associate Members of our Retiree Chapter and we invite you to participate in our activities.

BUS TRIPS (*Bus Trips leave at 8:00 a.m.*)

Tuesday, August 27 – Bally's Quad Cities Bus Trip 

Wednesday, September 25 – Catfish Bend Bus Trip

For questions concerning the trip call Velma Walton at 694-3151.

HOW CAN I JOIN THE RETIREE CLUB?

Upon retirement Local 974 members in good standing are encouraged to register at the Dues Office to become Chapter members. Retirees and their spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend the Retiree Chapter Meetings and activities.

We have a Potluck the third Wednesday of every month – meat, coffee and doughnuts are furnished. A variety of other activities are planned at various times throughout the year.

To assist in financing these activities a \$3.00 per month voluntary membership dues can be established at the Dues Office. The largest portion of the dues dollars goes to the International Retired Workers Advisory Council which is concerned with retired-workers programs and policies and other matters that affect the welfare of retired workers.

Contact Retirees' Officers at 309/694-3151

Velma Walton, President • James W. Tabor, First Vice President • (Open), Second Vice President
Sandra Haasis, Recording Secretary • Gary E. Hall, Sergeant-At-Arms • Thomas J. Bencher, Financial Secretary
Raymond "Dale" Cassel, Guide • Mark Haasis, Trustee • Steven C. Adams, Trustee • Garry Rendleman, Trustee

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AMALGAMATED
LOCAL 974**

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EAST PEORIA, IL 61611

**MONDAY
THROUGH
FRIDAY**

**7:30 A.M.
TO
4:30 P.M.**

(Closed Holidays)

MISCELLANEOUS

40 year old John Deere 4100
lawn tractor needs repair. Best
offer. 309-694-3151

WANTED

House keeper. Dependable.
References. Bi-monthly. Will
pay reasonable rates. 309-
346-2390. 2430 Maywood
Ave. Pekin, Illinois.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NAME: _____ BADGE # _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

Phone (Home) _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Please check: Active _____ Retired _____ Disability – Laid off (date) _____

Please check: Supplemental _____ Competitive Wage _____ Full Time _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO LOCAL 974, UAW, 3025 SPRINGFIELD RD., EAST PEORIA, IL 61611

Local 974 News – Classified Ads

LIMIT 16 WORDS PER AD – ONE (1) AD PER ISSUE – DEADLINE: 1ST OF THE MONTH

Ads should be submitted to UAW Local 974,
3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, IL 61611-4801. No ads will be accepted on the telephone.
Ads will be accepted **ONLY** when they are submitted on this form.

Name _____ Badge No. _____

Address _____ City _____

Phone Number with Area Code (_____) _____

PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF AD:

Automotive Clothing Household Goods Lost and Found Miscellaneous Pets
Opportunity Real Estate Rentals Services Sporting Goods Wanted

ONE WORD PER SPACE ONLY!!

NEED A WORK SHIRT?

**THE UNION HALL HAS
UAW SHIRTS & VETERAN SHIRTS
FOR SALE**

\$16.00 for UAW Shirts

\$19.00 for Veterans' Shirts





AUTOMOBILE • AEROSPACE • AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS
of AMERICA (UAW), LOCAL UNION 974

LOCAL 974 NEWS

REPRESENTING WORKERS AT
CATERPILLAR, TAZEWEILL MACHINE,
CITY OF DELAVAN, MASON CITY PUBLIC WORKERS & POLICE DEPT. &
VILLAGE OF SOUTH PEKIN PUBLIC WORKS

3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, Illinois 61611

(309) 694-3151 www.uawlocal974.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/uawlocal974/>

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