



LOCAL 974 NEWS

REPRESENTING WORKERS AT – CATERPILLAR, LTD INDUSTRIES, TAZEWEILL MACHINE, NORFORGE, DELAVAN CITY AND MASON CITY WORKERS, AND HENDERSON ADVERTISING

62

VOL 63.1 • FEBRUARY 2015



UAW LOCAL 974










9-PIN NO TAP TEAM TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by: Local 974 Heather Henninger Scholarship Committee

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2015

**SUNSET LANES
3000 Court St.
Pekin, IL 61554**

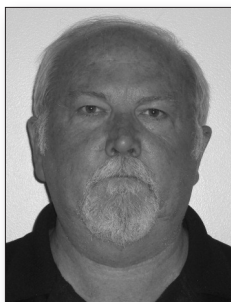
-  5 person teams consisting of **ANY COMBINATION** (Male & Female Bowlers).
-  There will be One (1) squad at 1:00 p.m.
-  Teams should check in one-half hour before their squad starts.
-  The number of teams that qualify for the Round Robin Tournament based on a 3 game series will be 8 teams.
-  The teams in the Round Robin will be seeded after the scores are turned in and the Round Robin will start immediately following.
-  Squads will be filled on a **First Paid/First Served Basis**.
-  Cost: \$100.00 for 5 person team.

FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS

**50/50'S
DOOR PRIZES**

To Enter:

Call Kevin Peterson (309) 251-3825 or UAW Local 974 (309) 694-3151



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RANDY SMITH, President

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Be careful what you put on social media when you're talking about things that happened at work. It is being watched and we have had some people get into trouble.

It's never too early to be prepared for the 2017 negotiations. It's just 2 short years away.

Things are slow in East Peoria with no sign of things turning around. Hopefully this changes this year.

It's going to be a busy year for the UAW with Mitsubishi, Ford, GM, Chrysler & John Deere contracts due this year.

Dates to remember: 9-Pin No Tap Team Tournament is January 31st. Please plan on attending to support our scholarship.

In closing, Rest in Peace Brother Woodmancy. We will miss you.

Remember, we're stronger when we're together.

Randy Smith, UAW Local 974 President

**If you have any questions,
please feel free to call!**

DATES TO REMEMBER • 2015

ISLE OF CAPRI BUS TRIP • TUE. FEB. 24

NEWS ARTICLE DEADLINE (APR.) • MON. MARCH 2

UAW RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE • MON. MARCH 23

EASTER EGG HUNT • SAT. MARCH 21

RHYTHM CITY CASINO BUS TRIP • TUES. MARCH 24

2015-2016 Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund

As all of you know, Local 974 is very proud of the Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund. Because of you and your participation raising funds, we have been able to give thousands of dollars to our children and grandchildren. Continuing education benefits all of us and our communities.

We encourage everyone to participate. One way to help continue the scholarship is to consider leaving a gift to the Heather Henninger Scholarship in our wills. As active and retired members of UAW Local 974, we take pride in supporting our children and grandchildren with continuing education.

Thank you.

UAW LOCAL 974

President
Randy Smith

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Chair. of Insurance & Benefits
Jim Arrowood

Chair. of Bargaining Committee
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Financial Secretary-Treasurer
John Shallenberger

Recording Secretary
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J. C. Zimmerman

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Mossville BB Member-At-Large
Marcia McCann

Skilled Trades Member-At-Large
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(Open)

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David Mugrage

Bargaining Chairman – Norforge
(Open)

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Daniel Rainville

Bargaining Chair. – City of Delavan
Jerry A. Littlefield

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PW
Michele Whitehead

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PD
Russell Willis

Bargain. Chair. – Henderson Adv.
Frank Ehlert



BARGAINING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

TERRY FISCHER, Bargaining Chairman

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season. Spending the time with family and friends is always refreshing and entertaining during the Holidays at the end of the year.

Ring in the New Year means making New Year's Resolutions. I have to write mine down because I forget what it was before the first week of the year is over. So, we have 12 months to see if these resolutions are attainable. Good Luck!

This is going to be a very busy start of the New Year with arbitration dates on the calendar. On January 13 & 14, issue cases will be arbitrated. Arbitrator Phyllis Florman will be presiding over the issue cases. These arbitration dates are for issue grievances on the docket for all of the Caterpillar Local Unions. Then on January 27, 28 & 29 there are arbitration dates for just cause grievances for East Peoria & Morton. Also, on February 17 & 18, our Local has just cause arbitration set up. So the International Reps. have been busy preparing for these dates and will be here going over all of the information.

There was arbitration held for East Peoria back on November 12 & 13 this last year. As of the end of December, we have not received notification from Arbitrator M. Glazer on his decision regarding the two cases that were presented by the Union.

Decatur UAW Local 751 also had cases arbitrated back in November before Arbitrator M. Glazer. They did get notification from the arbitrator in December and one grievance was denied and the other grievance arbitrated was awarded on behalf of the grievant.

As I reported in my last article, things were slowing in some divisions within our Local. From information this office received prior to the holidays, next year's forecast looks about the same if not worse. The Membership has the right to question the fairness of the company's decisions regarding TLO's and if the member does not get a satisfactory response, call for your Union Representative to investigate.

Because of the business downturn in these areas, we are seeing an increase from management enforcing policies and guidelines that are not normally addressed when business is good. The Membership needs to be aware and follow the normal duties of his/her job responsibilities to avoid any issue that could lead to any type of disciplinary action. Should anyone encounter problems on their daily

job routine, be sure to request your Union Representative to either witness or assist in resolving issues that arise.

I want to remind the Membership about the Company's AWOL policy. Three days no call, no show – **must** contact the company by the 3rd day or be discharged on the 4th day. The company is enforcing this policy. Please take notice, *Anyone taking unapproved time off, be sure to follow the call-in process on the absentee hot line and call the supervisor; and bring in verification for the absences ASAP.* One more thing, absences regarding health issues require the physician's note stating "unable to work" on all the dates on the absence.

The company announced in December the competitive wage rate increases. If you did not receive this notification, contact your supervisor.

Next Steward Council Meeting

Our next steward council meeting is **January 22, 2015**. The times are 8:00 am, 12:00 pm & 4:00 pm. The steward's handbook is available for new Stewards and those Stewards who have not gotten one. Please take one copy only and sign out the handbook. Our goal is to get it in the hands of all the Stewards, but they need to attend the meeting to get one. If you are going to be absent you need to call the office to let us know.

Promote *SOLIDARITY* – WEAR UNION APPAREL IN THE WORK PLACE and IN THE COMMUNITY TO SHOW SUPPORT OF OUR UNION!

All Members and their families are invited to attend Union meetings, organize gatherings, communicated with your co-workers; all part of the Solidarity theme the Local Leadership needs from the Membership. 2017 is not that far away!

Stop by my office if you have any questions or ideas. I will be glad to assist in any way.

In Solidarity,

Terry

(There was an announcement today, January 7th, of pending indefinite layoffs in TTTD. No other specifics.)



FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN SHALLENBERGER, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

I read an email that a union brother sent me the other day and the comparison it laid out was frightening. It compared the percentage of the Middle Class and

Unions in the 1920's to today.

In the 1920's less than 10% of U.S. workers were unionized. There was NO Middle Class. Today less than 10% of U.S. workers are unionized. The bottom line was "Connect the Dots" what each one of us needs to do is get involved with our union. If there are things that you don't like about "Our Union" then the only way to change it is for you to get involved.

Speak highly of your Union because you are speaking highly of yourself.

SOLDIERS BIBLE

Bill Brandon, a brother from Local 2488, has pocket-sized Bibles for our members that have served or are still active. Feel free to contact me and drop by and pick up your copy. These bibles were donated but we are asking for a freewill donation to help maintain an adequate supply for the membership.

PLEASE CONTACT DUES OFFICE

If you are on Medical, Worker's Compensation, Family Leave, or Military Duty, or if you have recently retired or separated, please contact the Dues Office with this information. This will be of great assistance to the Local in order to keep our records accurate and current. It will also help keep records for you if needed.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

As always, please keep all the soldiers and families in your thoughts and prayers.

If there is anything I can help you with feel free to give a call or stop by.

In Solidarity, John R. Shallenberger
Financial Secretary – Treasurer

JS:sdl/opeiu#9/afl-cio-clc

RECAPITULATION as of November, 2014

Income	\$ 162,429.18
Expenditures	156,198.36
Excess of Income over Expense	\$ 6,230.82

Regular Dues received on	3,515
Sub Dues received on	0
Bonus Dues received on	0
Initiation Fees received on	11

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 70,096.81
CAP Council	5,638.20
CAT Council	4,168.50
Retirees Dues PCT	249.60
Ag Council	138.84
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	11.06
Total	\$ 80,487.01

RECAPITULATION as of December, 2014

Income	\$ 244,661.07
Expenditures	219,815.84
Excess of Expense over Income	\$ 24,845.23

Regular Dues received on	3,417
Sub Dues received on	0
Bonus Dues received on	3,573
Initiation Fees received on	14

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 104,558.30
CAP Council	5,604.12
CAT Council	4,128.98
Retirees Dues PCT	249.60
Ag Council	138.32
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
Competitive Shop IPS Annual Dues	50.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	12.79
Total	\$ 114,926.11

***“There is a direct
relationship between
the bread box and the
ballot box.***

***What the Union
fights for and wins
at the bargaining
table can be
taken away
in the
legislative halls”***

Walter Reuther



INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT

JIM ARROWOOD, Chairman Insurance and Benefits

We hope everyone enjoyed some time off with family and friends during the holiday season.

January started with insurance cards arriving late in some cases.

We need to keep the focus on Caterpillar throughout the year. I have addressed the poor performance from administrators that Caterpillar hires. It is obvious that we get insurance companies that are the lowest bidders for Caterpillar's coverage needs.

The administrator they continue to use for all enrollment and eligibility has actually gotten worse. Hewitt, supposedly located in Lincolnshire, IL, has somehow managed to replace the representatives who had reasonable knowledge of our plan and the systems they were using have disappeared. We are now left with poor call quality, getting transferred, or waiting for a callback which often doesn't happen. Issues that were simple and resolved quickly now require a "work ticket". These problems have been documented and we have notified Caterpillar.

To date I have not received information on how and when we can expect these to be corrected.

On the political front, the Local supported Governor Quinn in the 2014 election. If you chose to support Rauner expect to see his office begin an assault on Unions and the middle class. We told you about his plan before you voted for him. No surprises.

January started off very busy here in the office. Our phone system went down in late December. We continue to do the best we can and appreciate your patience and support.

**PLEASE CALL FOR AN
APPOINTMENT IF YOU NEED TO
DISCUSS OUR BENEFIT LANGUAGE.
THANKS!**

In Solidarity,
Jim Arrowood, Chairman

Benefit Vendor Information

CONTACT INFORMATION

Caterpillar Benefits Center—Aon Hewitt
(Health & Welfare Eligibility,
Pension, Investments)

1-877-228-4010
Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Central time)
resources.hewitt.com/cat

- Benefits eligibility
- Qualified status changes
- Dependent coverage (add/drop)
- FSA enrollment
- Pension
- Investments
- Retirement
- Retiree address changes
- Summary Plan Description

UnitedHealthcare (UHC)
(Medical, FSA)

1-866-228-4215
Mon-Fri 7 a.m.-5 p.m. (Central time)
myuhc.com

- Medical claims for Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)
- Year-to-date deductible/out-of-pocket information
- Benefit questions
- Explanation of Benefits (EOB)
- Provider search for UHC Network and Caterpillar NetWork providers
- Download claim and appeal forms

Behavioral Health Services – Optum
(available in the UHC Network only)
www.liveandworkwell

1-866-374-6060 24-hour assistance

Flexible Spending Account
(FSA Group #100300)
1-866-228-4215
1-915-231-1709 (fax)

Cigna Dental

1-800-244-6224
Mon-Sun 24 hour coverage
mycigna.com

Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)
(Medical)

1-844-228-2227 or 1-844-CAT-BCBS
Mon-Fri 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Central time)
www.bcbsil.com/caterpillar

- Medical claims for Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO)
- Year-to-date deductible/out-of-pocket information
- Benefit questions
- Explanation of Benefits (EOB)
- Provider search for network providers

Towers Watson's OneExchange

1-866-766-6087
Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. (Central time)
medicare.OneExchange.com/Caterpillar

- Health Reimbursement Arrangement for select retirees

Catamaran
(Prescription Drugs)

1-877-228-7909
Mon-Sun 24 hour coverage
CatHealthBenefits.cat.com/drugbenefits
OR
mycatamaranrx.com

- Prescription drug formulary
- Co-pay and co-insurance information
- Prescription drug prior authorization

ICORE
(Specialty Pharmacy)

1-866-554-2673
Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Eastern time)

Walgreens Mail Service
(Prescription Drug Mail Service)

1-866-840-1222
TTY 1-800-573-1833
Mon-Sun 24 hour coverage, 7 days a week
walgreens.com/MailService

MetLife
(Life Insurance)

1-888-228-1811
Mon-Fri 7 a.m.-4 p.m. (Central time)
metlife.com/mybenefits

- Life insurance products, coverage amounts, beneficiary designation and death reporting

Mercer Voluntary Benefits

1-877-294-8948
Mon-Fri 7:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. (Central time)
YourChoiceVoluntaryBenefitsAndDiscounts.com

HR Services Center-Americas

1-800-447-6434 or 1-309-494-2363
Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. (Central time)
HR_Service_Center@cat.com

ActiveHealth

1-888-227-6539
myactivehealth.com/caterpillar

- Online Health Risk Assessment
- Informed care program
- Lifestyle program
- Online tools

Employee Assistance Program

1-866-228-0565
24 hour assistance available—
confidential and free of charge
CatHealthBenefits.com >
Employee Assistance Program

Caterpillar Issue Resolution Team*

1-866-494-4562

* If you have an issue or question about your benefits, always call UnitedHealthcare (UHC), Aon Hewitt, Catamaran, MetLife, Cigna or Blue Cross Blue Shield EPO. Employees should use this number only to help resolve active, unresolved issues with the vendor that have not been resolved through previous, direct contact with the vendor. Contacting the Issue Resolution Team is completely voluntary and is not required as part of the benefit plans formal appeal process.

CATERPILLAR®

In the event that the content of this document or any representations made by any person regarding the plan conflict with or are inconsistent with the provisions of the plan document, the provisions of the plan document are controlling. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Caterpillar reserves the right to amend, modify, suspend, replace or terminate any of its plans, policies or programs, in whole or in part, at any time and for any reason, by appropriate company action.

NEW YEAR, NEW CHALLENGE

STEVE MITCHELL, Plantwide Safety Chairman

Well, the first news about work in 2015 is not good news. Layoffs announced by Caterpillar are causing worry and uncertainty among our members once again. It's really unfortunate because those laid off workers had nothing to do with the decisions made or market conditions that were used to justify these decisions, but we've faced times like these before. Hopefully, the world mining business will pick up soon and our brothers and sisters will be returned to work.

Those of us fortunate enough to still be working will continue to face the same old hazards we always have – this has to change. Just because times are slow, doesn't mean we can allow hazards to continue to exist without being addressed. The people we work for (no not your employer, but the people we really work for, those who love and depend on us) deserve to know we work in a safe and healthy environment. So, even though there are layoffs in the news, there is no excuse for working in areas where unsafe conditions go unabated. As I heard at a conference this fall, "The absence of injuries does not indicate the presence of safety".

Late last year I heard one of our members from the logistics facility ended up suspended from a shock absorbing lanyard attached to an order picker after a fall. Luckily, this individual was high enough at the time of the fall he didn't hit the ground. Another employee reportedly helped rescue the dangling worker.

According to a major fall protection manufacturer, only self-retracting lifelines should be used when heights are 18 ½ feet or below. Above 18 ½ feet, shock absorbing lanyards or self-retracting lifelines are appropriate (<https://www.millerfallprotection.com/fall-protection-products/product-literature/product-literature-miller-fall-protection-2?tab=english> Gravity Kills...Defy It).

After surviving a fall, one can be seriously injured or killed if left suspended, even for short periods of time. That is the reason our CAT Logistics union representatives have been asking management to purchase shorter self-retracting devices to limit the distance one can fall, giving one a greater opportunity for self-rescue. Apparently, those requests have fallen on deaf ears.

If you use an order picker to perform your job, and it is not equipped with a self-retracting device and you work at heights below 18 ½ feet, you are at risk. Ask your supervisor for the proper equipment. If it is not provided, I challenge you to ask for your union safety representatives and file a safety complaint as per 8.3 in the collective bargaining agreement.

If you work in the big tan building right next to the river in East Peoria there may be some changes for you coming in 2015. It appears that we are finally going to get lockout/tagout (LOTO) protection for those who have to work on large crawler type tractors. Prior to this, someone working under a tractor would have to rely on someone else walking around the equipment to determine if anyone was underneath before starting it up and/or moving it. I don't know about you, but that person is not as invested in the potential outcome as the person underneath the tractor.

LOTO requirements for equipment have been in effect for years in other Peoria area facilities, but this concept seems to be a revelation to some managers in the Richland Bottoms. If you work on equipment that could be started or moved without your knowledge while performing your job and you have not received this training, tell your supervisor. If your supervisor is not able to help you, again, I challenge you to ask for your union safety representative. If you are given LOTO training, follow the procedures to protect yourself, for nothing will protect you better than your lock and your key.

Before the holidays I was involved in discussions related to air quality and ventilation in Mapleville. From what I was told there are ventilation systems in that facility that are plugged completely, rotted through, blanked off and/or are totally inadequate. In addition, it was said there are insufficient personnel to inspect and maintain said equipment and systems.

Air quality in the work environment has long been recognized as a potential health issue. OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard states, *In the control of those occupational diseases caused by breathing air contaminated with harmful dusts, fogs, fumes, mists, gases, smokes, sprays, or vapors, the primary objective shall be to prevent atmospheric contamination. Furthermore the Standard says, This shall be accomplished as far as feasible by accepted engineering control measures (for example, enclosure or confinement of the operation, general and local ventilation, and substitution of less toxic materials).* https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=standards&p_id=12716

OSHA says respirators are not to be used as a substitute for engineering controls unless such controls are not feasible, or while they are being instituted. "Not feasible" does not mean, "The systems cost too much to maintain..." or "we don't have the money in the budget or the people available to repair the system", it means if you have a system that is broken – fix it.

I know there has been a lot of money put into the machine shop side of the foundry in recent years, but it appears the foundry side has been largely neglected. In contrast the condition of our foundry, the Deere & Co. foundry in Waterloo Iowa recently completed a three year, \$150 million modernization of a reportedly well-maintained 40 year-old facility (there are some nice pictures of the Deere foundry in the article) http://wcfcourier.com/business/progress2014/manufacturing/fired-up-john-deere-completes-million-modernization-of-foundry/article_ce1c2ec3-630e-5aa9-b140-931ee246a9d8.html

The manager of the Deere Foundry, Josh Wittenburg says in the article, "A big part of everything we invest in is about our employees and providing a better environment to work in," bucking the stereotypical perception of a foundry environment, Wittenburg said. "We are the safest foundry in the industry here and we have a great place for our employees to work.

"We remove them (the employees) from the hazards and work them smarter, not harder" Wittenburg said, through automation and improved technology. "And that helps us attract employees to the foundry and retain them here. There are employees who have been here a long time, and they love it here and have no desire to leave. We continue to invest in making it a safe place, a better place to work."

Foundry work has long been considered hazardous to workers health and safety. In fact, foundry employees used to get six years of seniority for every five years they worked at the foundry. Contrast the philosophy of a competitor to that of an employer that would outsource dangerous jobs like chipping, finning and the liner blast work. The work wasn't made better, it was given to people the employer was no longer accountable for.

We can no longer accept substandard working conditions, a lack of proper safety equipment, unsafe practices, procedures or improperly maintained equipment and systems. If we have knowledge of deficiencies that place our health and safety or that of others at risk, we are obligated to act to address those problems. We have a collective bargaining agreement with a safety complaint procedure and we have a grievance procedure. We have union representatives who will help, if only we allow them to by asking for them. That means that we all have to raise our hand when something is not right, even though it may be uncomfortable. The people who depend on us expect no less – are you up to the challenge?

Steve Mitchell



Thought for today –

**Remember, your union representative is
your only advocate,**

there to help you, if only you call.



Die Cast and Toy Sale

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015

LOCAL 974 UAW UNION HALL
3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, Illinois

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

ADMISSION -- \$1.00

DOOR PRIZES

Event sponsored by:
The UAW Local 974 Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund Committee

All proceeds go to the  **Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund**

For more information:
Randy Smith – (309) 694-3151



sdl,opei#9/afl-cio/clc

UAW LOCAL 974 CALENDAR



FEBRUARY 2015

Sun 8 **Executive Board Meeting** 11:00am
General Council Meeting 1:00pm

Sun 15 **Retirees' Membership Dance** 7:00pm

Wed 18 **Retirees' Chapter Mtng & Dinner** 11:30 am

Thu 19 **Safety Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm

Tue 24 **Isle of Capri Casino Bus Trip** 8:00am

Thu 26 **Steward Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm

MARCH 2015

Tue 2 **Local 974 News Article Deadline** (April Newsletter)

Sun 8 **Executive Board Meeting** 11:00am
General Council Meeting 1:00pm

Wed 18 **Retirees' Chapter Meeting & Dinner** 11:30am

Thu 19 **Safety Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm

Mon 23 **U.A.W. Red Cross Blood Drive** 11:00am - 5:00pm

Tue 24 **Rhythm City Casino Bus Trip** 8:00am

Thu 26 **Steward Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm

RETIRES CHAPTER UAW LOCAL 974

WED POTLUCKS – FEBRUARY 18 & MARCH 18

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

Tuesday, February 24 – Isle of Capri

Tuesday, March 24 – Rhythm City

For questions concerning the trips call Velma Walton at 694-3151 or Chet Bishop at 676-5409.

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 throughout the year.

We have a **Riverboat Casino Bus Trip every 4th Tuesday!**

- **Bring Friends and Meet Old Friends for Lunch!**
- **Enjoy an Inexpensive 1 Day Trip to a Casino!**

To assist in financing these activities a \$2 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

Jane Evans, Chairman	James W. Tabor, Co-Chairman
Velma Walton, 2nd Co-Chairman	Steve Adams, Recording Secretary
W.D. "Bill" Corum, Financial Secretary	Dale Cassel, Guide
Dave Blumenstock, Trustee	Tom Bencher, Trustee
Jack "Honey" Evans, Trustee	Ted Hoak, Sergeant-at-Arms

SHORT TERM LOAN OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Retirees have the following items that can be loaned out to our membership for their use on a short-term basis. Items can be checked out at the Dues Office.

Wheelchairs • Walkers • Cane Walkers • Canes
Crutches • Hospital Beds • IV Stands • Porta-Potties



WANTED – Donations of used medical equipment, the equipment will be used for lending to our Retired and Active membership.

MAPLEVILLE

BY: PAUL JACKSON

LOOKING BACK

2014 overall was a fairly good year, over my 61 years bird's eye view, in comparison to other years. We reached the half way mark of the current contract and by in large the contract has had more positives than negatives. Working out of the Bargaining Chairman's Office we saw the grievance backlog at a 40 year low, with settlements at an all-time high. We went green and brought the grievance system into the 21st century, thousands of hard earned dues dollars were saved and real time grievance tracking for members became a reality. We elected a new International President and Staff, one who came up the hard way through the ranks and has dedicated his life to the revival of the Union worker and the middle class. On the negative side, Mossville drew its last diesel breath, but out of the ashes rose Mapleville.

LOOKING FORWARD

2015 has started a bit shaky, but has some promising aspects, at least for Mapleville. Of course gas prices being at an unprecedented low in the last 8 years is a double edge sword. On one hand it cost less to get to work, shipping and production costs, but when the product you sell relies on high petroleum prices and extraction you are in a no win scenario and your job is as volatile as the prices. Future, if management is being square with us, and so far at least in my brief experience they have, is bright. We are in line to produce several new products and a realignment of product from other facilities will bring work to our cost-effective operations.

LOOKING OUT

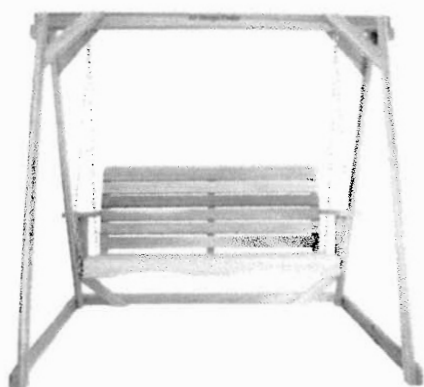
Earlier this year the warning went out to not let our guard down and let the Republicans take key offices in government. We failed in several areas, including Governor and Congress, so look out. Rauner is already saying he can't keep his election promises (except the ones to big business and putting the middle class and seniors in jeopardy). Republican-controlled Congress has also set its carnivorous eyes on the poor and working class. Be forewarned, they will put on the sheep's clothing to try to secure the big prize, 2016 Presidency. If we fail in 2016 they will get the two-class system they have craved since the Great Depression.

LOOKING IN

Looking inside is probably the hardest look of all. This is due to the fact it is not easy looking at one's self, doing the analysis, and making the necessary adjustments. The gains and losses you will make in the future will depend on how you react inside to the inevitable onslaught coming from the Right. We must learn from our mistakes and those of others. Failure is not from falling down, it is the failure to get back up, make adjustments and continuing on. Look inside, look to the brother and sister to your left and right, there is Solidarity, we will overcome and succeed.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY...

*20 years from now you will be more
disappointed by the things you didn't do
than by the ones you did do!*



Congratulations to Mike Byrd the winner of the Veteran's Committee 40" HD TV. The Veteran's Committee has tickets on sale for a 4 foot porch swing with stand on sale until April 12, 2015. Tickets are \$1.00 per ticket or 6 for \$5.00. The drawing for the swing will be Sunday, April 12, 2015.

UAW 974
Veteran's Committee

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Phone _____

UAW Local 974 Veteran's Committee

Proceeds will benefit the Veteran's Committee

Four Foot Porch Swing with Stand

Drawing to be held during General Council Meeting

Sunday, April 12, 2015

UAW Local 974 Union Hall

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The Editor's Desk

By Rick Corbin

Now that all the handshaking and backslapping is done and we have a new governor, let's look at what we got.

Incoming Governor Bruce Rauner has made it clear the man he wants to emulate is former Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. Really?? The Mitch Daniels that used an executive order to strip state workers of their power to collectively bargain?

Daniels admits – “We did a lot of things first by Executive order, then, when we could, converted to statute.” Forgive me for saying so, but isn't this exactly what the Republicans are bashing President Obama for? I guess it's okay if Republicans do it.

We are going to have to watch this character very closely if Mitch Daniels is his hero.



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The Heart of Illinois 2-1-1, a partnership between the Heart of Illinois United Way and Advanced Medical Transport of Central Illinois, connects callers in Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Marshall, Stark and Putnam Counties to vital health and human care programs by calling a single, confidential phone number. Heart of Illinois 2-1-1 can be contacted by dialing 211 from landline and cell phones. If a caller has trouble connecting, 2-1-1 can also be reached by dialing 309-999-4029 or visiting 211hoi.org.

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DESIGNER FRAMES (frames with retail price over \$100)	30% OFF RETAIL	FULL PRICE	TRANSITION LENSES (darken and lighten)	\$80.00	\$100.00
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BASIC	\$110.00	\$160.00	CONTACT LENS PACKAGE	\$99.00	\$153.00
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Remembering Our Brothers and Sisters

November

Chester Neff		08/17/14
J.C. Peters	R	11/01/14
Lowell E. Ewins	R	11/02/14
Raymond H. Nauman	R	11/04/14
Ruth R. Brown	R	11/04/14
James R. Losey	R	11/06/14
George J. Harper	R	11/06/14
Joseph Jiskra Jr.	R	11/06/14
James H. Murrell	R	11/08/14
Franklyn C. Smith	R	11/08/14
Bobby E. Polston	R	11/12/14
Charles D. Bennett	R	11/12/14
Robert R. Test	R	11/13/14
Harry L. Wegner	R	11/13/14
Richard D. Stalter	R	11/16/14
Eugene W. Jording	R	11/20/14
Lowell G. Aldridge	R	11/20/14
Alfred Burnett Jr.	R	11/20/14
Melvin D. Yarbrough	R	11/26/14
JohnTusek	R	11/27/14
Luis V. Gonzalez	R	11/30/14

December

Lois Richrath	R	12/01/14
Larry K. Brackett	R	12/04/14
Larry G. Hulet	R	12/04/14
Ronald E. Curtis	R	12/06/14
Willis J. Tyler	R	12/08/14
James W. Strauch	R	12/11/14
Reginald R. Williams	A	12/11/14
Richard L. Robinson	R	12/16/14
James F. Schmidt	R	12/16/14
William E. Cassiday	R	12/17/14
Ray L. Poston	R	12/18/14
Floyd A. Mercer	R	12/21/14
Rita J. Shew	R	12/21/14
Gerald D. Harris	R	12/23/14
Jose H. Huerta	R	12/24/14
Keith G. Kessler	R	12/24/14
Thomas C. Moore	R	12/25/14
Joe E. Morgan	R	12/26/14
Orvil L. Davis	R	12/30/14
Stanley Dalton	R	12/31/14

*Please notify us when one of our present or past members passes away.
We no longer receive the deceased list from the company.*

In Loving Memory

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.



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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		11507	11345
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		118	205
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		11625	11550
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Please check: Supplemental_____Competitive Wage_____Full Time_____

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