



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

LOCAL 974 NEWS

Representing Workers at Caterpillar, LTD Industries,
Tazewell Machine, Norforge, and Delavan City Workers



VOLUME 57 ISSUE 4

62

AUGUST 2009

AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974 UAW

11TH ANNUAL LABOR DAY FAMILY PICNIC

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 5, 2009**



Local 974 Union Hall
3025 Springfield Road
East Peoria IL 61611

Picnic: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 pm

*** EVERYONE IS INVITED ***
(New Members thru Retirees)

- ❖ Please bring a covered dish AND a dessert
- ❖ UAW to provide Hot Dogs & Brats
- ❖ Donations will be accepted for food
- ❖ Soft drinks and water available for 50 cents each

bs,opeiu#9/afl-cio/clc

UAW LOCAL 974 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Rick Doty

Executive Vice-President

Danny R. Miller

Second Vice-President

Dave Chapman

Chair. of Insurance & Benefits

Jim Arrowood

Chair. of Bargaining Committee

Wes Hogsett

Financial Secretary-Treasurer

John Shallenberger

Recording Secretary

John Arnold

Sergeant-At-Arms

Shane Hillard

Guide

Rochelle Torres

Trustee

Terry Freeman

Trustee

Donnie Barker

Trustee

Greg Larson

TTT Member-At-Large

Harry Thompson, Jr.

TBU Member-At-Large

Terry Fischer

Mapleton Member-At-Large

Kevin Gibb

Morton Member-At-Large

Melissa Bugg

Tech Center Member-At-Large

Jim "Huey" Pardieck

Mossville BB Member-At-Large

James Lawson

Mossville DD Member-At-Large

Loren Benson

Skilled Trades Member-At-Large

Rick Corbin

SPBU (CPM) Member-At-Large

Joseph Mattingly

Plantwide Safety Chairman

Stephen Mitchell

Retiree's Chapter President

Jane Evans

Admin. (Peo) Member-At-Large

(Open)

Bargaining Chairman - LTD

Rod Malott

Bargaining Chairman - PMP

(Open)

Bargaining Chairman - Norforge

Pamela Smith

Bargaining Chair. - Taz. Machine

Terry Beebe

Bargaining Chair. - City of Delavan

Jeff Larimore



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RICK DOTY, President

The summer has gone by fast and with the end of summer comes the **Annual Labor Day Picnic**. This year's picnic will be held at the **Union Hall on**

September 5, 2009 from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. Bring your family and enjoy the food, fun and festivities!

This year's **Labor Day Parade** will be held in downtown Peoria. I would like to personally invite all members to become a part of celebrating Labor by walking or riding your bike in the parade. The theme for this year's parade is **"The Union Difference."** What better way to make a difference than to show the number of union members living and working within Central Illinois. Let's make this the biggest showing ever for Local 974...it will be a great sign of solidarity and put into motion our "Rising Tide" as we move into preparing for the next round of bargaining. To participate contact me at 309-694-3151.

The Ag/Imp Conference was held in San Francisco, California the last week of June. The Cat Council met during this time as well. Wes Hogsett was elected to replace Gary Koch as the Resolution Chairman as well as Dave Stanley to Co-Chair and Mark Patton to Trustee of the Cat Council. Discussion centered around preparing membership for next years bargaining. As you know we are continuing to experience indefinite and temporary layoffs and we will keep you updated as we receive more information.

Sincere congratulations and thank you go out to Jim Clingan and Danny Boren for their years of service and solidarity to our local as they both entered into retirement on July 1, 2009.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the sons and daughters of our members serving in the armed forces that have been injured recently and in the past months.

Lastly, *thank you* to the overwhelming response to last issue's article featuring a story about my wife's grandmother...your kind words and prayers were of great comfort to our family. Beatty died peacefully June 17 surrounded by her family after 92 years of laboring on this earth. She is now at rest.

In Solidarity,
Rick Doty, President

UAW AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974 ELECTION NOTICE

The following nomination will open Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 8:00 am and close Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 3:30 pm, with drawing for position on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 12:00 noon.

MOSSVILLE BB EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE 1 POSITION

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 is
Monday, September 14, 2009 at 4:30 pm.

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

**ELECTION WILL BE HELD
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009
6:00 AM until 7:00 PM**

**RUNOFF (if needed) WILL BE HELD
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009
6:00 AM UNTIL 7:00 PM**

Election will be held at Amalgamated
Local 974 UAW Union Hall

"The Union Difference" *Security, Family, Community*

LABOR DAY PARADE & EVENT MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

Parade starts at 2:00 pm
Local 974 Unit assembles at 1:00 pm
Monroe & Hancock Streets

After our parade
Community Event on the Riverfront
Food, Drink & Musical Entertainment

If you are a member of Local 974,
active or retired, please come
march with our unit in the parade.
Contact Rick Doty for information.



BARGAINING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

WES HOGSETT, Bargaining Chairman

Welcome Brothers and Sisters, summer is here and it got here with some heat. I hope that everyone has an enjoyable summer and please be safe in whatever you are doing. Most business units have returned to recognizing the traditional shutdown. I

think all business units with the exception of Morton and TSD will be on vacation the last two full weeks of July, starting July 13th.

As of June 18, there were 3,323 grievances in the arbitration backlog. Of these, there were 132 discharges and separations. We have gotten Arbitration Awards back from the Permanent Arbitrator, Alan Cook. On June 1, 2009, we received the awards for Richard and Bobbi Fornoff (Mossville). They were suspended on June 2, 2008 and later converted to discharge for insubordination over the smoking policy.

Arbitrator Cook sustained the grievance in part. He gave both a 14 day suspension for violating the smoking policy and a 30 day suspension for insubordination for a total of 44 days. Caterpillar is to make them whole for the period between July 16, 2008 and February 22, 2009, at which time both would have went to layoff. Bobbie will be receiving approximately \$20,000 before taxes and Richard \$8,000, also before taxes.

On June 9th, we received the award on Charles Varnes (Mapleton). He was suspended on June 27, 2008 and converted to discharge on July 16, 2008 for insubordination over the smoking policy. Arbitrator Cook again sustained the grievance in part. He gave Charles 14 days for violating the smoking policy and 21 days for insubordination for a total of 35 days. Charles will be made whole for the time period between August 1, 2008 thru April 13, 2009, when he would have went to layoff. We are pleased in part with the outcome. The smoking policy was not the case in front of Arbitrator Cook, only insubordination grievances were put in front of him yet he gave a 14 day suspension for violating the smoking policy. The next arbitration date is set for July 22 and 23, 2009. Morton has one of these.

Total Employees in Unit 1 – Caterpillar Inc. 5,622
(manufacturing & parts)

Supplemental Employees (TBU & TTTD)	69 – TBU
Competitive Rate Employees (Parts only)	655
Total & Permanent Disability Employees	136

Indefinite layoffs slowed for the time being. Caterpillar has delayed their announced June layoffs in TTT. TLO's are currently being done in most buildings in the Local. Mapleton has announced a hard shutdown for the whole months of November & December. If they follow through it will be the first time that they have ever shut the melting furnaces down since they opened the building.

My office is seeking all of your help in reporting problems getting paid. I need names and badge numbers of all who are not getting paid on time or being shorted. Please have anyone you hear of having problems contact me. The Illinois Dept. of Labor regulates this. The law is listed on the Illinois State web as Employment (820ILCS115/), Illinois Wage Payment and Collection Act.

Business continues to remain slow as of 6/10/09. Cat is building seven tractors per day; 100 – 110 engines per day. This shutdown is due to Lafayette, Indiana shutting down during the same time period.

Rick Doty, Rick DeGroot, Dale Swanson and myself attended a UAW Transnational – Ag-Imp. meeting in San Francisco, California. These meetings were held on June 23-26. UAW, Local 2244 hosted these meetings. Local 2244 represents the workers at the NUMMI Plant in Fremont, California. The NUMMI Plant produces the Toyota Corolla, Pontiac Vibe and Toyota Tacoma Truck. We were able to take a tour of the plant. We all enjoyed it very much and it was truly refreshing to see how well the Company and Union works together. This was also observed in the Harley Davidson Plant in York, PA. I sincerely wish that we could have that kind of relationship with Cat.

Finally, Jim Clingan retired July 1, 2009. Jim was a long-time Chairman of Bldg. J-X, then President of this Local before going on the International Staff in 2000. Jim has done a wonderful job for this Local and will be greatly missed. I wish Jim the best of all things in his retirement. May he enjoy it for many years.



HEARTLAND VISION

HEARTLAND VISION – PEORIA'S UNION SHOP OPTICAL PROVIDER

Call Heartland Vision to set an appointment and have them verify your eligibility

2524 W. Farrelly Avenue, Peoria (Next to Avanti's)
309-681-4679 www.heartlandvision.com



Your vision benefits through your United Health Vision Plan provides members and dependents with a \$150 benefit to be used for eye exam and materials. This benefit is available every two calendar years.

HEARTLAND VISION WILL EXTEND A 20% UNION ENDORSEMENT DISCOUNT ON MOST PURCHASES, apply your benefits, and the difference is your out-of-pocket expense.

Heartland Vision also accepts your old insurance plan for members who retired before 1992.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

JOHN SHALLENBERGER, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

NEW RETIREES

To all the new retirees "Congratulations" and good luck on your retirement, but stay involved

with your union! Remember you retired from the company, not your union. The union will continue to represent you not only through your benefit plan, but on the political end to. Trying to elect representatives that are labor friendly. Representatives that will help pass legislation that benefits our retirees and active workers.

LAYOFFS

The Brothers and Sisters that went on lay off keep in touch with your local. Sooner or later things always turn around. Recent retirements may present a need to recall some of our members sooner. Never give up.

RECAPITULATION as of May 31, 2009

Income	\$ 250,403.87
Expenditures	247,980.27
Excess of Income over Expense	\$ 2,423.60

Regular Dues received on	4,238
Sub Dues received on	251
Bonus Dues received on	0
Initiation Fees received on	1

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 124,798.51
CAP Council	8,052.92
CAT Council	5,972.09
Retirees Dues PCT	521.30
PALM	300.00
Ag Council	197.04
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	13.27
Total	\$ 140,039.13

RECAPITULATION as of June 30, 2009

Income	\$ 278,924.77
Expenditures	314,956.82
Excess of Expense over Income	\$ (36,032.05)

Regular Dues received on	4,133
Sub Dues received on	256
Initiation Fees received on	2
Bonus dues received on	29

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 111,386.63
CAP Council	7,187.29
CAT Council	5,327.85
Retirees Dues PCT	422.50
Ag Council	176.68
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	8.44
Total	\$ 124,693.39

SHUT DOWNS & LAYOFFS

If you are on a shutdown or layoff for the complete month and did not work forty (40) hours in that month, you do not owe your regular two (2) hours of union dues for the month.

However, according to UAW guidelines (Administrative Letter No. 4):

- If a member receives Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (S.U.B.) (or any equivalent type of layoff benefit) equal to or greater than fifty percent (50%) of his/her gross pay for a forty (40) hour week less statutory deductions, then the member's dues shall be one (1) hour straight-time pay per month.
- A member who receives Unemployment Compensation Benefits but does not receive S.U.B. (or any equivalent type layoff benefit), will not have Unemployment Compensation Benefits alone computed in determining whether or not the member owes dues.
- However, if a member receives both Unemployment Compensation Benefits and S.U.B. (or any equivalent type layoff benefit), the Unemployment Compensation Benefits will be included in the computation in determining whether or not the member received the equivalent of fifty percent (50%) of her/his gross pay for a forty (40) hour week during a calendar month."

Unemployment Compensation Benefit + S.U.B.
= **One (1) hour dues**

Unemployment Compensation Benefit + \$100 payment from Caterpillar
= **One (1) hour dues**

Unemployment Compensation Benefit ONLY
= **0 (NO DUES OWED)**

If you work forty (40) hours in a month, you owe two (2) hours of pay dues for that month.

So, if you work forty (40) hours and then go to layoff for a week, or even the rest of the month, the original two (2) hours dues you paid is all that you owe.

To all the members going to layoff, always keep your chin up. One thing about working at Caterpillar, there is going to be a lot of ups and downs. You

probably have heard over and over from Retirees and Co-workers, "I have been there," but to walk in those shoes is an experience you will never forget. It is one you never want anyone to have to go through, but never let a Company like this get you down!

V-CAP CHECK OFF

You can sign up to get V-CAP check off deducted right out of your check. As little as \$2.00 a month gets you a chance for your name to be put in the drawing.

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.

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.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Please keep all the service men and women in your thoughts and prayers.

FREE FUN NIGHT!

Saturday, September 5 7:30 pm
Fondulac Park Building, East Peoria

An exercise of sensation that covers the nation
Fitness that is fun – A workout without work

SQUARE-ERCISE

Walking movements intermixed with words of songs – you can sing along!

LESSONS

Sunday 3:00-5:00 Fondulac Park Bldg

Casual dress is the oncoming trend

Contact Bill (309) 263-6081

Unable to make those lessons, there are other lessons in Morton, Pekin and Bloomington

SQUARE-ERCISE

Modern Square and Line Dancing



INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT

JIM ARROWOOD, Chairman Insurance and Benefits

I have a short report for this newsletter. An overview of the items listed in our plan design supplement are as follows:

1. The Group Insurance Plan
2. The Non-contributory Pension Plan
3. The Tax Deferred Retirement Plan
4. The Tax Deferred Savings Plan
5. The Supplemental Unemployment Benefits Plan
6. The Legal Services Plan

As you can imagine, this document is substantial. The majority of the issues related to this language requires work primarily as it impacts some 9000 retirees and their families. Our active workforce is impacted by how the administrators handle this plan as well. Everyday my office addresses a variety of questions and situations that are governed by the language included in the supplement plan. We do our best to answer questions and at times challenge the company when we identify violations of our language.

Don't forget to ride in our Annual Laura Valentine Benefit Ride. The date is August 22, 2009. Check in is from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon at the Silver Bullet in East Peoria. Cost per person is \$10. Last card will be drawn at 6:00 pm.

Also, please be sure and encourage all retired and active members to enter all children, grandchildren, step-children or step-grandchildren who are enrolled as full-time college students with at least a 12-hour class schedule for the 2009/2010 college school year. The application is on page six in this newsletter.

I have tentatively scheduled another informational meeting with the Health Alliance Group to be held here at Local 974 immediately following our 1:00 pm General Council Meeting on August 9, 2009. All interested in the Health Alliance H.M.O. offer should plan to attend. Be sure and write down questions and concerns to share with the H.M.O. Representatives.

As your Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity to represent you full time as I was elected to do.

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

if you need to come to the office to discuss our benefit language. Thanks.

This is an update for members and friends. **John and Debbie Shallenberger's** son was seriously injured by an improvised explosive device while serving his Country in Afghanistan. He is currently undergoing treatment for his many injuries at Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. As we go about our busy days, let us stop and pray for the Shallenberger family. John and Deb Shallenberger and their family would like to thank everyone who has been praying for his recovery. Please continue to keep all our troops in your thoughts and prayers. Once again, on behalf of the Shallenberger family, thank you.

Jim Arrowood, Insurance & Benefit Chairman

UAW is now on FACEBOOK

Keep up to date on events and meetings. This is a forum setting to be able to talk about any Union issues. Stay in touch with other Union Brothers and Sisters,

Join Facebook Now!!

- Sign up at facebook.com (It's free)
- Search for UAW Local 974 and click on the one that has our wheel
- Once you are on the page, click the "Become a Fan" link

Once you do this, you can post comments or questions. You can also get updates on upcoming events.

Sponsored by UAW Retirees
Put on by the Illinois Secretary of State's Office
Open to the public

2009 Drivers' Training Seminar

Thursday, October 8 1:30 – 3:30
Local 974 Union Hall
For reservations – Call 694-3151

Helpful for people needing license renewal and learning new laws

CATERPILLAR BENEFITS CONTACT INFORMATION

HR SERVICES CENTER-AMERICAS/PANAMA

Toll-free: 1-800-447-6434 OR 1-309-494-2363

E-mail: HR_Service_Center@cat.com

CAT ESCALATED ISSUE RESOLUTION TEAM*

Toll-free: 1-866-494-4562

*If you have an issue or question about your benefits, always call UnitedHealthcare (UHC), Hewitt, RESTAT, MetLife or the HMO first. 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 Escalated Issue Resolution Team is completely voluntary and is not required as part of the benefit plans formal appeal process.

DENTAL BENEFITS

UnitedHealthcare Dental

Customer Service: 1-866-228-4215

Web: myuhcdental.com

UHC Dental Claims Mailing Address:

United Healthcare Dental, Attn: Claims Unit
PO Box 30567, Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0567

MEDICAL BENEFITS

Cat Healthcare Plan (UnitedHealthcare PPO)

Customer Service: 1-866-228-4215

Web: myuhc.com

UHC PPO Claims Mailing Address:

United Healthcare, PO Box 740800
Atlanta, GA 30374-0800

PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS – RESTAT

Customer Service: 1-877-228-7909

Claims Mailing Address:

RESTAT, PO Box 758
West Bend, WI 53095-0758

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS (FSA)

Healthcare and Dependent Care FSAs

Claims Administrator: UnitedHealthcare

Customer Service: 1-866-228-4215

Claims Mailing Address:

UnitedHealthcare, PO Box 981178
El Paso, TX 79998-1178

LIFE INSURANCE & VOLUNTARY BENEFITS

Claims Administrator: MetLife

Customer Service: 1-888-228-1811

Web: metlife.com/mybenefits

ELIGIBILITY, PENSION, INVESTMENTS

Plan Administrator: Hewitt

Caterpillar Benefits Center: 1-877-228-4010

Web: resources.hewitt.com/cat/

HEALTHY BALANCE

Healthy Balance: 1-888-228-9494

Web: CatHealthBenefits.com>Healthy Balance

WORK.LIFE.SOLUTIONS

(Cat Employee Assist. Program) 1-866-228-0565

Web: CatHealthBenefits.com>Work.Life.Solutions

CatHealthBenefits.com

Claim forms, provider directories and links to other Caterpillar vendor websites.

Mossville BB Grievance Committee Report

PAUL JACKSON, Grievance Committee Chairman

Dateline: July 1, 2009 – this is the date this article goes to the Editor. This gives you the reader a reference date for the facts and statements contained in the following article.

FAQ's

When we were laid off we were told we were laid off by seniority and would be called back in reverse order. Is there any way to track the callbacks?
Currently, I am working on a callback list. The list will give laid off members an idea where they are on that list. The Company has a spreadsheet with all the information on it, but refuses my request to provide the Committee with it. It should be complete by mid-August. There will be a copy in the committee office. Around August 15th you can call the office and leave a message and Mark, Buford or myself will get back with you. I will give the Hall a copy and if it is more convenient to stop down there (like when you are paying your dues) it will be down there.

What criteria will the company use for the callbacks? By contract it should be seniority first, classification second, then qualifications.

Is the sub-fund fully funded? Yes, when I last checked last month it was at 127% funded. Which means if you are laid off and qualify your pay would be approximately 95% of your take home pay.

I want to show my Solidarity at work and wear the color of the day. Is there a list of those shirt colors? Monday / Black
Tuesday / Tan Wednesday / Blue
Thursday / Red Friday / Green

United We Bargain, Divided We Beg!

F.Y.I.

Rolling temporary layoffs continue in East Peoria, rather than indefinite.

Mapleton is going to have a hard shutdown the whole month of November and December.

August/September shutdown for Mossville is set in stone. The Company cannot force you but could ask for volunteers if business conditions warrant.

October TLO of one week is still on the books for Mossville.

Massive indefinite layoffs have been scheduled for Greenville.

Thanks to the efforts of all the Committeemen working together, we have reduced the grievance backlog from a high of 560 grievances to as of last week, 12 grievances. When I was first elected Committeeman, it took 12 to 16 months to get a grievance from first step to final step. Now, we can get results in about two weeks for an issue grievance, seven days or less for a discipline.

I have started to inquire of the company and the International to get some clarifications on **"What Ifs"...**

"What If" the facility sells before the end of the contract or after?

"What If" the number of jobs falls below the number of employees we have to fill them?

"What If" I do not have enough time to retire at the end of the contract?

"What If" a new product comes to Mossville and I cannot perform the new work?

Thought for the Day

A nation trying to tax itself to prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket of water and trying to lift himself out!

Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund

The General Council, Executive Board and Retirees' Chapter of Local 974 have elected to award eight (8) \$1,000 and twelve (12) \$500 scholarships from the Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund for the 2009 through 2010 college school year.

The following guidelines have been established for qualified entrants:

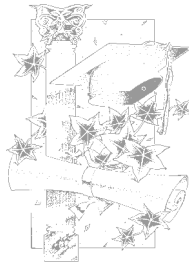
1. Entrant must be the child, grandchild, stepchild or step grandchild of an active or retired Local 974 member in good standing.
2. Entrant must be enrolled as a full-time college student (minimum 12 hours) for the 2009-2010 college school year.
3. Entrants must submit the Scholarship Fund Application by Friday, August 28, 2009.

A drawing will be held on Sunday, September 13th at the General Council Meeting.

Four male and four female students will be awarded a \$1,000 each and six males and six females will be awarded \$500 each in cash scholarships for a total of \$14,000 in scholarship awards.

Please complete and return application to the Insurance and Benefits Office, Local 974, 3025 Springfield Rd., E. Peoria, IL 61611. It must be received by 4:00 pm on Friday, August 28, 2009

Co-Chairmen Donnie Barker and Jim Arrowood



Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund 2009-2010 Application

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Date of Birth _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

College Name _____

☐ Frosh ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior Other _____ Class Hours _____

UAW Local 974 Family Member _____

Badge _____ Relationship to 974 Member _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

UAW CALENDAR

AUGUST

Sun 9 **Exec Board Mtg @ 11:00am**
General Council Meeting 1:00pm
 (Grievance Chariman Meeting follows immediately)

Sat 15 **Computer Club 4:00pm – 6:00pm**

Sun 16 **Member / Retiree Dance 7:00 – 10:00pm**

Wed 19 **Retirees' Potluck and Mtg 11:30am**

Thu 20 **Safety Council Mtgs 8:00 / 10:00 / 4:00pm**

Sun 22 **6th Annual Laura Valentine Memorial Benefit Ride** Check in 10:00 – 12:00

Tue 25 **Isle of Capri Bus Trip 8:00am**

Thu 27 **Steward Council Meeting 9:30am / 4:00pm**

SEPTEMBER

Wed 1 **Local 974 Newsletter Article Deadline**

Mon 7 **Labor Day (Union Hall Closed)**

Sun 13 **Exec Board Mtg @ 11:00am**
General Council Meeting 1:00pm
 (Grievance Chariman Meeting follows immediately)

Wed 16 **Retirees' Potluck and Mtg 11:30am**

Thu 17 **Safety Council Mtgs 8:00 / 10:00 / 4:00pm**

Sat 19 **10th Annual Flighted 4-Player Scramble**

Sat 19 **Computer Club 4:00pm**

Tue 28 **Jumer's Rock Island Bus Trip 8:00am**

Thu 24 **Steward Council Meeting 9:30am / 4:00pm**

Mon 28 **Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00am – 5:00pm**

Remembering Our Brothers and Sisters

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.

May 2009

Sanders L. Griffin Jr.	R	05/02/2009
Lester W. Merriman	R	05/04/2009
William L. Nutter	R	05/06/2009
Earl D. Dudley	R	05/07/2009
Orville E. Gregory	R	05/07/2009
Joseph B. Eaton	R	05/09/2009
William Hengstberger	R	05/09/2009
Fred E. Beadles	R	05/12/2009
Isaac I. Young	R	05/12/2009
Thomas D. Chambers	R	05/13/2009
Russell Hancock Sr.,	R	05/14/2009
Jerry F. Foster	R	05/15/2009
Thomas J. White	R	05/15/2009
George D. Crumrine	R	05/19/2009
Berneta M. Pinkerton	R	05/19/2009
Jack R. Weaver	R	05/19/2009
Jean E. Rowland	R	05/23/2009
Harley L. Lancaster	R	05/24/2009
Robert A. Wilson	R	05/25/2009
Elmo C. Wilson	R	05/26/2009
Denzil Smith	R	05/27/2009
Wallace V. Lathrom	R	05/31/2009

June 2009

Ralph F. Mc Neeley	R	06/01/2009
Vernon C. Winkel	R	06/04/2009
Lawrence F. Robinson	R	06/05/2009
Eugene F. Pumphrey	R	06/06/2009
Charles M. Hoffman	R	06/07/2009
Delores M. Copple	R	06/10/2009
Larry W. Belcher	R	06/11/2009
Roland Hinrichs	R	06/18/2009
Estella P. Johnson	R	06/18/2009
Laurence Davis	R	06/19/2009
Lyle Hasty	R	06/20/2009
Henry Reginald	R	06/22/2009
Roy Bennett	R	06/23/2009
Leslie Brown	R	06/23/2009
Ray Barnhart	R	06/24/2009

U. S. SENATE

Roland Burris
 (202) 224-2854 • rolandburris@burris.senate.gov

Dick Durbin
 (202) 224-2152 • durbin.senate.gov/contact.cfm

U.S. HOUSE OF REP.

Aaron Schock
 (202) 225-6201

ILLINOIS SENATE

Dave Koehler, 46 District
 Pekin (309)346-4646 • Springfield (217) 782-8250

Dale Risinger, 37 District
 Peoria (309) 693-4921 • Springfield (217) 782-1942

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REP.

Jehan Gordon, (D) 92 District
 (309) 681-1992

Don Moffitt, (R) 74 District
 Galesburg (309)343-8000 • Springfield (217)782-8032

Mike Smith, (D) 91 District
 Pekin (309) 353-6276 • Springfield (217) 782-8152

David Leitch, (R) 73 District
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The Editor's Desk...

Rick Corbin

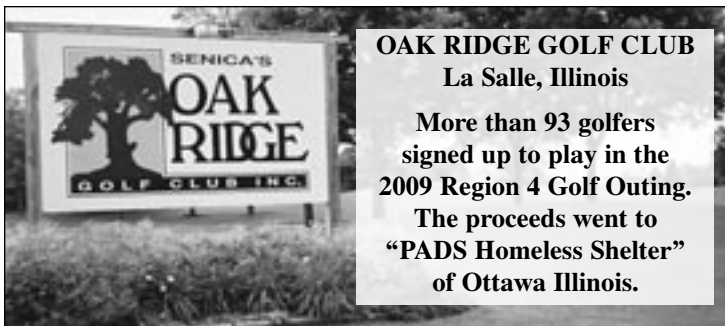


Earlier this summer, Karl Rove snuck into town to attempt to assassinate the “Employee Free Choice Act” by confusing a group of local worthies at the Peré Marquette Hotel. A large contingent of Trade Unionists stopped by to offer an alternate opinion but were not allowed in. We never saw Mr. Rove. We assume they slid him down the coal chute.

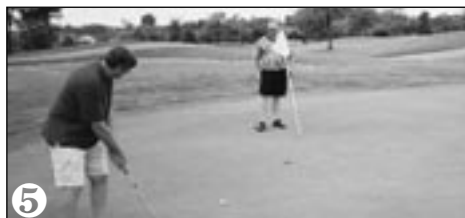
Photo Far Left
State Representative Jehan Gordon speaks to CAP Chair Randy Smith

Photo Left
State Senator Dave Koehler speaks with President Rick Doty





- 1 – The beater doffs his cap to an adoring crowd
- 2 – Found wandering aimlessly around course
- 3 – Assistant Director Ron McInroy belts one
- 4 – Education Rep. Amy Loaching attempts a putt
- 5 – Our Safety Chairman attempts to sink one
- 6 – A very dangerous foursome
- 7 – A foursome show their colors
- 8 – Jim Duffy and his three caddies



RETIREES CHAPTER

UAW LOCAL 974

POTLUCKS WEDNESDAY AUG 17 & SEPT 16

We invite and encourage all the new Retirees to come and 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. The surviving spouses are Associate Members of our Retiree Chapter and we invite you to participate in our activities.

MEMBERSHIP & RETIREES DANCE

Sunday, August 16 7:00 – 10:00 pm

Kenny Williams and the Country All Stars

Come one, come all! You don't have to dance – come and listen to the music and socialize. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

COMPUTER CLUB FOR BEGINNERS

COMPUTER CLUB meets every third Saturday at the Hall from 4:00 to 6:00pm. It is open to the public and you can join any time. Learn about basic computer hardware and software programs. Disks are available.

COMPUTER CLASS is run by retirees and is open to all active and retired members. A new beginner's class is now forming; registrations can be made at the Union Hall or by calling Joe Covington at 382-2504 or 694-3151. Classes are \$5.00 per 2-hour session from entry level to personalized software training.

Monday / Tuesday / Thursday

10:00 am – 12:00 noon & 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm



**Retired Caterpillar
Truck Drivers & Wives**

Annual Dinner

**Wed, August 12, 2009
Eat at 11:00 a.m.**

**Grand Village Buffet 206 W. Camp St. East Peoria
Mechanics & Crib personnel are welcome**

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 two dollar (\$2.00) per month voluntary membership dues is available and can be established at the Dues Office. The largest portion of the dues dollars goes to the International Retired Workers Advisory Council who is concerned with retired workers programs and policies and such other matters as affect the welfare of retired workers.

Contact any of the Retirees' Officers at 309/694-3151

Jane Evans, Chairman

David J. LaHood, Co-Chairman

Velma Walton, 2nd Co-Chairman

Bill Corum, Recording Sec.

J.F. "Jack" Hidden, Fin. Sec.

Joe Covington, Sergeant-at-Arms

Dale Cassel, Guide

Dave Blumenstock, Trustee

Jim Tabor, Trustee

Jack "Honey" Evans, Trustee

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

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



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www.chiropractorpeoria.com

Mention this ad for FREE Exam & X-Rays

6TH ANNUAL

Laura Valentine Memorial Benefit Ride

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Sponsored by the Heather Henninger Scholarship Committee
Local 974 and Peoria Area CAP Council

All proceeds go to the Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund
and St. Jude Midwest Affiliate

CHECK IN TIME 10:00 am until 12:00 noon

Starts at the Silver Bullet on Main Street in East Peoria
Last card must be drawn by 6:00 pm at the Silver Bullet

Benefit Ride will be Blind Draw

Any motorized vehicle can be used

\$10 PER PERSON RAIN OR SHINE



GRIEVANCE COMMITTEEMEN

TRACK TYPE TRACTORS 673-3280

CHMN Sheldon Miesner (SS, 1st)

Bill Scott (LL, 1st)

Dave Neulinger (HH, 1st)

Steve Popkins (LL, 3rd)

Andrew "Tiny" Brazee (HH, 2nd)

KK TBU 673-0931

CHMN Craig Miller (2nd)

Larry Morgan (1st)

Mike Rohde

MAPLETON 697-6051

CHMN Dale Swanson (1st)

Ken Woodmancy (3rd)

Mike Culbertson (1st)

MORTON 266-6631

CHMN Roger Routt (2nd)

Kevin Peterson (1st)

Matt Butler (3rd)

TECH CENTER 579-2924

CHMN Rick DeGroot (1st)

Steve Mitchell (1st)

MOSSVILLE BB 579-2202

CHMN Paul Jackson (1st)

Mark Donnelly (1st)

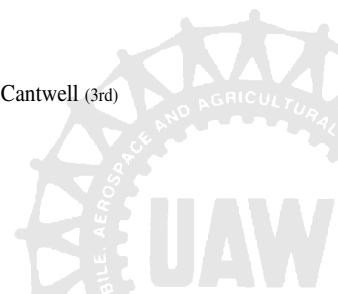
Brett Cantwell (3rd)

MOSSVILLE DD 579-3488

CHMN Terry DeFrates (1st)

SPBU 579-3336 RPF 675-6544

CHMN Joe Maxwell (1st)



UNITED NETWORKS OF AMERICA



This offer of discount is NOT related to our benefit plan. We have it in the newsletter primarily for any one who does not have prescription drug coverage. You do not have to be a UAW member to use this card. Any questions about this offer should be directed to the numbers shown on the card.

If you have prescription drug coverage, our Restat coverage is primary over any other coverage offer or discount.

Jim Arrowood.... Chairman

Rx Prescription Drug Card

Name: _____

Subscriber ID: Type (30) Digit Phone Number

Refill: 10/10/10

Refill: 6/30/10

Refill: 7/7/7

PROGRAM: UAW RX CARD - UNITED NETWORKS OF AMERICA

NOTE: This card is being provided to you at NO COST. There are no fees to fill out. Simply take this card to a participating pharmacy (see back) with your Rx to qualify for discounts on medications. You also have access to other value added programs listed on back. Each family member must have their own card. This card has been pre-activated for immediate use! To obtain information and to print additional cards visit www.uawrx.org

Customer Service (CSR): 877.321.6755 • Pharmacy Helpline: 800.248.1062

THIS PROGRAM IS A POINT OF SALE DISCOUNT PLAN

ADDITIONAL SAVINGS PLANS

ProSmile Teeth Whitening-Save up to 70% www.prosmileusa.com	Diabetic Diabetic Supplies-Save up to 50% www.diabeticsavingsplan.com
QualSight Lasik Surgery-Save 40-50% Call 1-888-733-6695	Hearing Aids -Save up to 50% www.ushearingplan.com

PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES:

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Fall
Diecast and Toy Show

Saturday, October 17, 2009
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Admission – \$1.00

Local 974 UAW Union Hall
Door Prizes • Food Available

Event sponsored by and all proceeds go to the
Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund
For more information contact Rick Doty (309) 694-3151




Mark your calendars...

2009 Local 974
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Sept 28 • Nov 23

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10th ANNUAL LOCAL 974

FLIGHTED FOUR-PLAYER SCRAMBLE

Saturday, September 19, 2009

Sunset Hills Golf Course, Pekin, Illinois Shotgun Start at Noon (Check in by 11:30 am)

Entry fee for all golfers is \$60

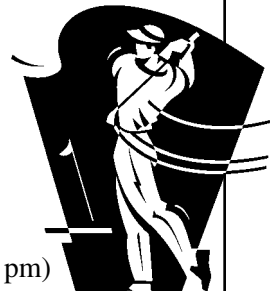
Entry fee includes golf, cart, prize money for 3 flights, skins game, dinner after golf, and your donation to the scholarship fund

All foursomes will qualify for prize monies

Outing will be limited to the first 22 paid foursomes

Your local union, business, committee, or group can sponsor a hole on the course for \$100

To schedule your foursome or for more information contact: Don Barker at 309-694-7605 (after 5:00 pm)



Sponsored by the Heather Henninger Scholarship Committee

I GOT A PEEK

STEVE MITCHELL, Plantwide Safety Chairman

It's not too often you get to look into the future, but I had a glimpse a couple of weeks ago and it was good! I heard of a young steward who did something we all wish we could do every time we get an opportunity – speak truth to power. C'mon, I've done it and you have too. We've wished we would have said (fill in the blank) to that foreman, superintendent or manager. You know what I mean. You told them the way it really was, that catchy comeback that you share with your friends at break that you really wish you would have said.

It appears that in some not-so-remote location in our local, management has been content for years to allow workers to crawl into dangerous machinery that is not locked out and lie underneath heavy, heavy loads suspended by a forklift in order to perform maintenance and set-ups. When the steward spoke up and said he didn't think it was safe to be under a load on a forklift, the supervisor disagreed and climbed under the load to do the job himself. As he was under the load, completely defenseless in the event of any type of mechanical failure, the supervisor's boss walked by and observed him underneath the forklift, inside the machine that was not locked out. The boss immediately directed the supervisor to come out from underneath the forklift and machinery because it was too dangerous for him to be there.

It must have been a sudden moment of clarity that overcame the boss, because this had been the standard practice, or should I say standard work, for hourly workers to perform for over twenty years. Maybe it was the first time a superintendent-level manager had ever seen this task done. Maybe it was the first time a superintendent-level manager had ever seen a supervisor inside the machine under a load on a forklift. Maybe it was overlooked on all of the behavioral-based observations this business unit brags about. Maybe it was a lot of things, but it was damn sure not the first time members of management had seen UAW-represented workers performing similar tasks – they had been done this way thousands of times. What was the difference? I'll leave the answer to that question for you to decide.

Over the weekend, the steward got on his computer and looked up health and safety standards on the OSHA website (www.osha.gov). He found three standards that applied to this situation, and since his printer was not working, he copied by hand, word for word, the exact language from the three standards. He then took it with him to work the next week. I cannot begin to tell you how impressed I was by the amount of dedication and initiative shown to not only find this information, but also to copy it verbatim, by hand. (You readers also need to know that this steward was given a written warning because the supervisor did not like the way the steward asked for his union health and safety representative).

Upon returning to work the next week, the steward had the opportunity to address both the supervisor and superintendent regarding the apparent violations of OSHA standards. He was determined to get his point across and read the exact language from the standards to both members of management. For his efforts, the steward was threatened with indefinite suspension by the supervisor, a really brave act from someone who should have been fired for assigning and/or allowing workers under his direction to be blatantly placed at such risk.

What other choices could have been made? Could everyone have remained silent and continued climbing into the machine that was not locked out, under the heavy load suspended on the forklift? Sure they could, it had been done that way for years, but does that make it right or safe? How many different scenarios can you imagine that could end up with someone killed or maimed?

Could someone have filled out a CI card? Sure, but how has that been working for you? Probably pretty good as long as it's a simple problem, doesn't affect production and doesn't cost much. Even then there's no guarantee it'll be addressed. I doubt you've ever heard of cards that disappear or issues that drag out months or even years, have you?

No, there was no easy solution to this problem. This young man wasn't elected to be a Health and Safety representative, he was elected to be a steward, there on the front lines of the labor/management relationship, handling grievances in the first step and keeping track of overtime.

Right is always right and wrong is always wrong, but it often takes considerable effort to correct even the most obvious health and safety issues. This young man took the initiative to become educated regarding the requirements of the safety standards that applied to this particular situation. These laws were put into place because countless workers had been killed or maimed doing the job the way it had “always been done.” He took the responsibility of being a steward seriously and did what had to be done.

First, he looked at the job and determined there was a hazard. Second, he identified the hazard to his supervisor. Third, he asked for his UAW Health and Safety representative when the hazard was not adequately addressed. Finally, he educated himself on safety rules that had been violated and he spoke the truth to people who were responsible for the welfare of those who worked for them but had put his life and the lives of his co-workers in danger.

So what does the future hold? This steward and his peers are just like a lot of us were at one time. They are the future. Their eyes can see the difference between what's always been done and what can be done. Experience cannot be discounted, but neither can a fresh set of eyes that can see things differently and ask the question, why? Past UAW Local 974 Bargaining Chairman Jerry Baker once said, ***“Very few people are born union, it takes a company like Caterpillar to make them union.”*** The little peek I had into future showed me that Caterpillar is doing a good job of making people union once again.

“Caterpillar is doing a good job of making people union once again”

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If you have problems managing finances, paying utility,
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If you are having family, marital, stress, substance abuse,
emotional, or legal problems...

If you just need someone to talk to...

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Mike Ihben, Rochelle Torres, Maxine Wilson-Jones

TTT: Chris Dickerson, (SS), Shane Hillard, (LL), Tim Nelson, (LL)

MOSSVILLE BB: Darleen Spencer, Marcia McCann

MAPLETON: Cindy Miller

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2002 Mitsubishi Eclipse, 115,000 miles, air, stereo, Ipod hook-up, power locks, power windows, runs great, blue, \$6,000, 382-3759

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18" Poulan Chainsaw and Carrying Case \$100; Several Stepladders, choice, \$25; Ladder Rack Brackets for truck \$50, 925-3770

15.5 HP Briggs OHV Electric Starter, fits Snapper, others complete with pulleys, \$150 OBO, trade, 597-2555

Potted Evergreen Trees, 4' tall, \$30 each, discount to members and seniors, 699-5396

Wheelchair Heavy Duty, 450 pounds with XXL seat and large wheels, like new \$170, 243-9459

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OPPORTUNITY

Free Kart Racing Slicks, Bridgestone and MG, 4.5/10-5 and 7.1/11-5, 699-0213

WANTED

Good used Pistol 38 or 357 Revolver, prefer stainless steel will consider blue steel, reasonable or cheap price, 346-8890



Saturday, Nov. 28 & Sunday, Nov. 29
9:00AM – 4:00PM Local 974 Union Hall

Free Admission – Includes Door Prize Ticket

Sponsored by the Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund Committee
Information Joe Covington at 382-2504 or UAW Union Hall at 694-3151

Local 974 News – Classified Ads

LIMIT 15 WORDS PER AD – ONE (1) AD PER ISSUE – DEADLINE: 1ST OF THE MONTH

Ads should be submitted to Insurance and Benefits Office, Jim Arrowood, 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!!



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, LOCAL 974 NEWS (USPS 443170)

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POSTMASTER: Send change of address notices on Form 3579 to Local 974, UAW, 3025 Springfield Rd., East Peoria, Illinois 61611

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