



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 3



JUNE 2009

6TH ANNUAL



Laura Valentine Memorial Benefit Ride

Saturday, August 22, 2009

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

Starts at The Silver Bullet on Main Street in East Peoria

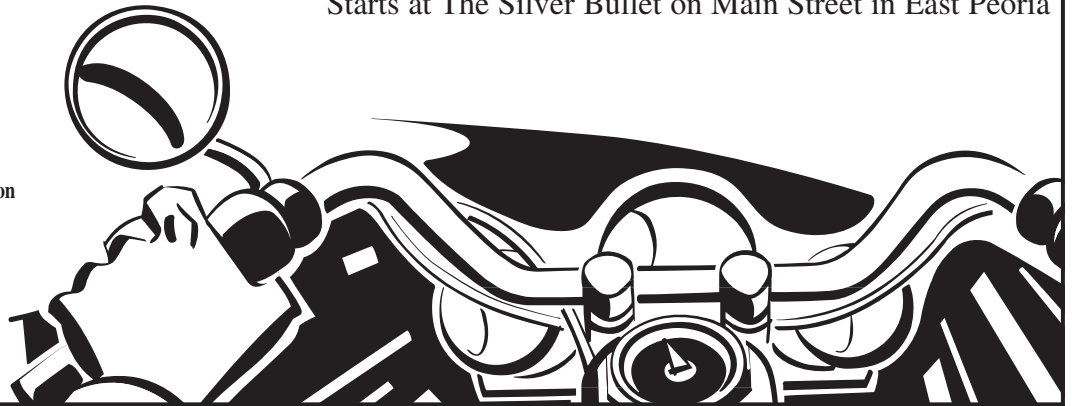
CHECK IN TIME 10:00 am until 12:00 noon

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



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

UAW LOCAL 974 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Stephen Mitchell

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Jane Evans

Admin. (Peo) Member-At-Large

(Open)

Bargaining Chairman - LTD

Rod Malott

Bargaining Chairman - PMP

(Open)

Bargaining Chairman - Norforge

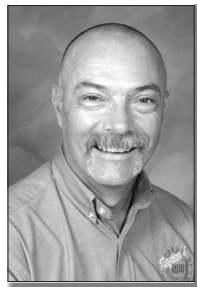
Pamela Smith

Bargaining Chair. - Taz. Machine

Terry Beebe

Bargaining Chair. - City of Delavan

Jeff Larimore



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RICK DOTY, President

Summer is upon us and as we move in to June those layoffs will begin. AFL-CIO is offering a "Retraining Program" for all those workers indefinitely laid

off. These sessions will be held at the Union Hall and we will be announcing those dates and times. Watch for the leaflets that will be handed out at the gates with all the information.

I have spent the first weeks of May in Roanoke, Virginia with my wife Lisa and her beloved grandmother Beatty. Beatty is 92 years old and has terminal cancer. My wife and I have spent some of our time recording her stories. She still has such insight and clarity of mind. Beatty has lived by herself until a few weeks ago in the home she and her husband Ed owned. She worked her entire life and was a card carrying union member for 25+ years when she worked at Yates Lock Company. Some of you may have an old Yates lock that could very well have been made in part by Beatty. At the time she was in the union, it was not common for women to be members and as some of you know unions are not plentiful in Virginia. Beatty as my wife has always said, "is a pioneering woman that would not shy away from hard work, back down from anyone or anything," which was rare for women in the south. She was telling us the story of when they went on strike the first time and how she stood out in the cold on the picket line around a burn bin. The matter was pay and to show the strides that we have made in fair pay not only as a country but as unions the final outcome of the strike was a ten cent a day increase for the men and one cent increase for the women. By the time she retired she had endured more strikes and every time the conditions were improved for the workers ... she said, "you have to stand out in the cold sometimes to get what is right for the people who work hard to make the company money." In retirement she worked with her husband for many years in the Roanoke School District and was an exceptional employee ... she said, "you can always tell a lot about a person by the way they work, love their families and serve the Lord."

Beatty against the odds forged on for what she felt was her right as an American to work to make a home and a life for her family along with Ed. The lesson that I have taken away from this is that no matter the state of the country - be it layoffs from economics, gender pay

discrimination or poor working conditions - what we have today has been built by the early union members that stood in the cold for what they believed in and slowly but surely improved greatly the conditions and pay of today's workers.

It was an honor to spend time with Beatty and hear so many stories about her life and her love of family. I am forever changed by this experience. She will leave us soon and will be so missed.

Continue on the tradition of the many members that came before you and move for change, better work environments and fair pay. Come to meetings, get involved and make a difference with solidarity.

In Solidarity,
Rick Doty, President

ELECTION RESULTS

TTT GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

The following candidates ran for TTT Grievance Committeeperson:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. David A. Neulinger | HH 1st shift * |
| 2. Bobby Koller | HH 1st shift |
| | |
| 1. Joe Janovetz | HH 2nd shift |
| 2. Andrew "Tiny" Brazee | HH 2nd shift * |

* denotes winner

MOSSVILLE BB GRIEVANCE COMMITTEEMEN

The following candidates were elected by acclamation:

1. Mark Donnelly (day shift)
2. Brett Cantwell (any other shift)

The following candidates ran for Chairman of the Mossville BB Grievance Committee:

1. Paul Jackson *
2. Mark Donnelly

* denotes winner

A. J. Milloy, Chairman Election Committee



BARGAINING CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

WES HOGSETT, Bargaining Chairman

Nice weather is just about here. We have had one of the wettest springs on record. The weather is not the only thing that is gloomy, the economy is still in a free fall. After 60 years of progress for the middle class, we are losing ground fast – all under

the umbrella of “global economy.” Instead of working at bringing the rest of the world up, those in power of the economic strategies would have us, the middle class, backbone of this great nation, lower our standards to the rest of the worlds. We should stand strong together in order to maintain our way of life.

We are waiting decisions on eight grievances that have been heard in arbitration, five from Mossville, one each from TBU, SPBU and Mapleton. Arbitration is scheduled for May 27 and 28 for the Track Type Tractors Division.

We have a lot of members on indefinite layoff at this time, with more to come. If the Company carries through with their announced layoffs, our Membership will fall to around 3,800 by mid June. This is down from 7,100+ at the end of 2008. As of May 1st the only business unit that still has supplementals working is TBU. It looks to me that there is a good chance that anyone who has not accrued by-name job security will be on indefinite layoff in the near future.

A Cat Council Meeting was held in York, Pennsylvania on April 23. Rick Doty, Craig Miller and myself attended. The next meeting will be in conjunction with an Ag-Imp meeting. This meeting is scheduled to be held in San Francisco, California on June 24 and 25.

John Bainbridge and I have started to attend final step grievance meetings at the different divisions in this Local. We are trying to learn how the Company is trying to address the problems on the shop floor. Both of us have offered any assistance that we have available to each and every Grievance Committee.

This Local and its members have lost some of their experienced grievance handlers due to retirement. Track Type Tractors had Greg Goodyear and George Cooley retire. SPBU had Joe Mattingly and Mossville BB had Bob Barnard and their Chairman, Jack Trone retire. Jack and Bob worked hard to represent the members at Mossville BB. In my opinion they probably had one of the best, if not the best, working relationships with the Company, of all the committees. Mossville BB will truly miss both Bob and Jack. I know that my office will miss them dearly, especially “Fat Jack.” I wish all of them the best in their retirement. Each and every one of them earned it.

Local 974 had the privilege of hosting two sessions for OSHA 30 hour training. The International put this training on for all the Locals in the Cat. Chain. I hope that all the Locals that sent members here learned and retained the things that were presented. We need our safety reps. trained to help protect our members’ rights pertaining to health and safety.

Fraternally,
Wes Hogsett, Bargaining Chairman

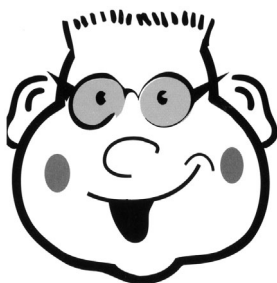


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309-681-4679 www.heartlandvision.com



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.

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FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

JOHN SHALLENBERGER, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

With all the layoffs and members retiring my office has been busy trying to keep up with all the moves. Along with all this brings a huge drop in income for the local. When your income drops, you look for ways to possibly cut cost but still represent the membership to the fullest.

We have experienced hard times at the local before, having to climb our way out of debt to where we are today. I want to thank everyone for all their help in doing this. The Executive Board, OPEIU Staff (Secretaries and Janitor), Retirees, General Council and Membership. We did this by working together and this is what its going to take to get and keep us fiscally responsible to the membership.

So I ask you again anytime you can do something for the local to help keep cost down, please let me know – I am always open to ideas.

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 by 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 layoff 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.

SHUT DOWNS AND 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 Remember you can sign up to get V-CAP check off deducted right out of your check. As little as \$2 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, 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 As always, please keep all the service men and women in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely, John R. Shallenberger

RECAPITULATION as of March 31, 2009	
Income	\$ 334,574.91
Expenditures	<u>305,143.25</u>
Excess of Income over Expense	\$ 29,431.66
Regular Dues received on	5,991
Sub Dues received on	24
Bonus Dues received on	4
Initiation Fees received on	3
PER CAPITA TAXES:	
International Union UAW	\$ 151,146.67
CAP Council	9,752.35
CAT Council	7,218.37
Retirees Dues PCT	504.40
Ag Council	243.92
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	<u>15.98</u>
Total	\$ 169,065.69

RECAPITULATION as of April 30, 2009	
Income	\$ 259,072.29
Expenditures	<u>282,892.04</u>
Excess of Expense over Income	\$ (23,819.75)
Regular Dues received on	4,951
Sub Dues received on	60
Initiation Fees received on	0
PER CAPITA TAXES:	
International Union UAW	\$ 146,425.47
CAP Council	9,448.01
CAT Council	7,002.95
Retirees Dues PCT	435.50
Ag Council	236.72
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	<u>13.85</u>
Total	\$ 163,746.50



INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT

JIM ARROWOOD, Chairman Insurance and Benefits

As of April, 2009, retirements for 2009 are as follows:

January	17
February	9
March	45
April	251

The retirees along with recent layoffs brought our Membership number to 4,977 as of April 20, 2009. News continues to be relatively grim on the job front. Keep in mind how the company has responded so far. Announcement: December, 2008 – Caterpillar to build \$170 million dollar engine manufacturing facility in Seguin, Texas. To employ more than 1,400. (10 year, 100% tax abatement. Also, Texas enterprise fund gives Cat. \$10 million to sweeten the deal.)

Same time frame – December, 2008 – Announcement: Caterpillar announces 814 production employees to be indefinitely laid off at Mossville Engine Center.

I could go on to include our numbers for East Peoria, Morton, Mapleton, or the Tech Center, but you get the idea.

You might wonder what this has to do with the Insurance and Benefits Office. Any time our employer responds to conditions, it impacts your Local Union as well as all Members – active or retired. Many of our Members call or stop at the Local for advice or assistance with issues contained in our Benefit Supplement. As the Membership decreases for any reason it effects Local Unions.

We are being told that due to March and April retirement volume, processing of pension payments and the incentive supplement will be delayed in some cases. We hope your issues have been addressed and are timely by the June 1, 2009 date.

In Solidarity,
Jim Arrowood, Chairman

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT if you need to come to the office to discuss our benefit language. Thanks.

PS – Once again, hello to my dear friends Doffless and Wilene Harris near South Fork, Missouri. See you in November.

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.

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



The Editor's Desk...

Rick Corbin

For those of you with strong enough stomachs to watch the Congressional Hearings on loans to U.S. Automakers, I think you should have what Paul Harvey called "The Rest of the Story."

Many of us watched with disgust as both House and Senate members pilloried domestic Auto CEO's and treated UAW President Ron Gettelfinger with undisguised contempt. Remember these are the same people who lavished taxpayer money on Citigroup, Bank of America, J. P. Morgan, Chase and others whose pyramid schemes caused the U.S. economy to tank in the first place. Keep in mind the money freely handed over to bankers was not a loan. It was a bailout gift to a number of financial institutions deemed "too big to fail." Oh, and the bankers flew into D.C. on private jets and gave absolutely no business plan to show how taxpayer money would be used to save their businesses and restore America's financial stability. None was given because none was demanded by either Congress or the White House. They simply dispatched their hand-picked shill, U.S. Treasury Secretary Hank Paulsen, with a three page ransom note.

Congress caved in and handed over \$700 billion or 30 times what domestic auto companies asked for as a loan. No demands for a business plan. No scolding about private jets. Nothing at all.

When the Automakers turn came, four Republican Senators were suddenly filled with indignation about requests for taxpayers' "hard-earned money." A sudden insistence on a business plan was demanded and dismay shown about the use of corporate jets.

The four who showed the most contempt for the Automakers' loan requests were:

- Alabama Senator Richard Shelby
- Tennessee Senator Bob Corker
- Arizona Senator John Kyl
- South Carolina Senator Jim DeMint

I thought a list of foreign automakers feeding from the taxpayers trough might be helpful.

See if you can find the states represented by these four yardbirds.

"As elected officials debate aid for the Big 3, taxpayers have the right to know the full extent of government involvement in America's auto industry," said Greg LeRoy, GJF's executive director. "And while proposed federal aid to the Big 3 would take the form of a loan, **the vast majority of subsidies to foreign auto plants were taxpayer gifts** such as property and sales tax exemptions, income tax credits, infrastructure aid, land discounts, and training grants," he said.

Honda	Marysville, OH	1980	\$ 27 million
Toyota	Georgetown, KY	1985	\$147 million
Honda	Anna, OH	1985	\$ 27 million
Subaru	LaFayette, IN	1986	\$ 94 million
Honda	East Liberty, OH	1987	\$ 27 million
BMW	Spartanburg, SC	1992	\$150 million
Mercedes-Benz	Vance, AL	1993	\$258 million
Toyota	Princeton, IN	1995	\$ 30 million
Nissan	Decherd, TN	1995	\$200 million
Toyota	Buffalo, WV	1996	\$15+ million
Honda	Lincoln, AL	1999	\$258 million
Nissan	Canton, MS	2000	\$295 million
Toyota	Huntsville, AL	2001	\$ 30 million
Hyundai	Montgomery, AL	2002	\$252 million
Toyota	San Antonio, TX	2003	\$133 million
Kia	West Point, GA	2006	\$400 million
Honda	Greensburg, IN	2006	\$141 million
Toyota	Blue Springs, MS	2007	\$300 million
Volkswagon	Chattanooga, TN	2008	\$577 million

Incidentally, these taxpayers' subsidies to foreign Automakers total over \$3,361 billion.

It's a good thing you have a strong stomach!

Rick Corbin, Editor

(Some facts and figures from the Hightower Lowdown and Good Jobs First Committee.)

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UAW CALENDAR

JUNE

- Mon 1 **Red Cross Blood Drive** 11:00am – 5:00pm
 Thu 11 **Driver's Training Seminar** 1:30pm – 3:30pm
 Sun 14 **Exec Board Mtg @ 11:00am**
General Council Meeting 1:00pm
 Wed 17 **Retirees' Potluck and Mtg** 11:30am
 Thu 18 **Safety Council Mtgs** 8:00 / 10:00 / 4:00pm
 Sat 20 **Computer Club** 4:00pm – 6:00pm
 Sun 21 **Father's Day**
 Sun 21 **Member / Retiree Dance** 7:00 – 10:00pm
 Tue 23 **Jumer's Rock Island Bus Trip** 8:00am
 Thu 25 **Steward Council Meeting** 9:30am / 4:00pm

JULY

- Wed 1 **Local 974 Newsletter Article Deadline**
 Sat 4 **Independence Day**
 Sun 12 **Exec Board Mtg @ 11:00am**
General Council Meeting 1:00pm
 Mon 13 **Vacation Shutdown**
Union Hall Closed July 13-24
 Sat 18 **Computer Club** 4:00pm
 Mon 27 **Red Cross Blood Drive** 11:00am – 5:00pm
 Tue 28 **Rhythm City Bus Trip** 8:00am

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.

March 2009

Frankie L. Burkhalter A 03/01/2009
 Robert R. Curtis R 03/01/2009
 Robert E. Hagemann R 03/01/2009
 Hurbert D. Eilers R 03/02/2009
 Helen Bell R 03/04/2009
 Harold C. Lewis R 03/06/2009
 Grant D. Johnson R 03/10/2009
 Dencil D. Moore R 03/13/2009
 Herman W. Darr R 03/14/2009
 Garry J. Newton R 03/14/2009
 Clarence Capps R 03/17/2009
 Robert A. Matson R 03/20/2009
 Donald E. Wagner R 03/20/2009
 Chester H. Smiley, III R 03/24/2009
 Hugh L. Griffin R 03/25/2009

April 2009

Melvin G. Green R 04/02/2009
 David G. Johnson R 04/02/2009
 John S. Miller, Sr. R 04/02/2009
 David A. Troyer R 04/02/2009
 Timothy P. Weiland R 04/02/2009
 William D. Hills, Sr. R 04/07/2009
 Earl G. Gudeman R 04/07/2009
 Newman D. Jenkins R 04/08/2009
 Harry W. Jenkins R 04/09/2009
 Charles L. Gale R 04/13/2009
 Stanley J. Miller R 04/13/2009
 Kenneth L. Carter R 04/16/2009
 George R. Fetcho R 04/16/2009
 Fred R. Burgess R 04/22/2009
 Billy F. Cox R 04/26/2009
 Roger L. Haney R 04/26/2009
 Paul J. Babcock R 04/28/2009
 Kenneth H. Runyon R 04/30/2009



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NO JOB TOO SMALL

Asphalt MD Construction 309-229-3269
 PA Atherton Construction 309-822-8575
 Pro-Image Sealcoating & Asphalt Repair, Inc. 309-382-1020
 Tazewell County Asphalt 309-698-8404



WORDS FROM THE PAST

STEVE MITCHELL, Plantwide Safety Chairman

If you have stopped by the union hall in the past several months, you may or may not have noticed a number of quotes taped to the door of the Plantwide Safety Chairman's office. I'd like to share some of them with you in this article.

I. F. Stone once said, *"The only kinds of fights worth fighting are those you are going to lose, because somebody has to fight them and lose and lose and lose until someday, somebody who believes as you do wins. In order for somebody to win an important, major fight 100 years hence, a lot of other people have got to be willing – for the sheer fun and joy of it – to go right ahead and fight, knowing you're going to lose. You mustn't feel like a martyr. You've got to enjoy it."*

I have that quote posted because I feel this is the type of dogged determination and the willingness to fight that we as union brothers and sisters have to display when we insist on our right to a safe workplace. The hazards we face today are not new nor are the economic hard times we find ourselves in. That being said, the only good job is a safe job and no matter how tough things are, we have to insist that we work in conditions that allow us to go home healthy and safe every day.

If you have ever seen the code of federal regulations document that covers the OSHA Standards I'm sure you're impressed by the physical size of the book and the apparent level of detail each standard contains. Before OSHA came to be in 1970, there was no uniform set of health and safety regulations. The resulting standard only reflected the minimum level of health and safety an employer had to provide to be in compliance with the law. Change and improvement in the standards has been difficult due to the onerous process that has to be followed, but make no mistake about it, every word on every page of that OSHA Standard is written in the blood of workers who were killed or injured on the job.

Understanding now, the sacrifices made by workers who came before us, I find it hard to believe that some have a hard time insisting that our jobs be made as safe as possible. I realize that the possibility of confrontation with manage-

ment regarding workplace safety is not something many workers are comfortable initiating, but this issue is in my opinion is one on which we cannot be silent.

We have a right to a safe and healthful workplace and unless we defend that right, we allow management to provide less than we deserve. In the words of Abraham Lincoln, *"The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just."*

This year as in years past, the Workers Memorial Day Observance was held outside the Civic Center with workers from around the Peoria area who gathered to remember our fallen brothers and sisters. If you've not taken advantage of this opportunity, it happens every year on April 28th and is a fantastic way to gain an understanding of the old union saying, *"An injury to one is an injury to all."* The Business Agent for the Steamfitters Union spoke about one of their members, Kevin Fay, who died of injuries sustained at the Technical Center in Mossville. A number of our members knew Kevin and responded when he was injured. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

As workers, we have an obligation to speak up when there are problems in the workplace. If our machine is not running correctly or if the parts we are supplied with are not built to the proper specifications, we report it to our supervisor. It is difficult if not impossible to perform our job tasks with substandard equipment or parts. It only makes sense that the same line of thought must be used for health and safety issues on the job, but often that is not the case.

Why are workers afraid to point out health or safety issues to management? To hear the company tell their side of the story, they are eager to be informed of hazards identified by workers. Management has made the reporting of any and all workplace injuries a condition of employment. But we know what happens to workers who report hazards and injuries. Workers who do report often face threats, intimidation, disciplinary action and other illegal consequences, but why? What is Caterpillar afraid of? They certainly employ enough former OSHA officials and high-priced lawyers to know the difference between right and wrong, as far as health and safety is concerned. Confucius said, *"To know what is right and not do it is the worse cowardice"* – so if the shoe fits...

When we as workers and/or union representatives take a stand to protect ourselves or others from hazards in the workplace we occupy the moral high ground. Even if the end result of our stand is an adverse action, we cannot shy away from the fight. It is not natural to seek out confrontation, but if it comes, we must be strong. Alfred Lord Tennyson said, *"My strength is as the strength of ten, because my heart is pure."* When you're on the right side of the argument, stick to it. Call for your union representative, because together we will work to help you gain a safe and healthful workplace.

Sincerely, Steve Mitchell

“My strength is as the
strength of ten
because my heart is pure.”

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEEMEN

OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS



**TRACK TYPE 673-3280
TRACTORS**

CHMN Sheldon Miesner (SS, 1st)
Bill Scott (LL, 1st)
Steve Popkins (LL, 3rd)
Dave Neulinger (HH, 1st)
Andrew "Tiny" Brazee (HH, 2nd)

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)

KK TBU 673-0931

CHMN Craig Miller (2nd)
Larry Morgan (1st)
Mike Rohde

MOSSVILLE DD 579-3488

CHMN Terry DeFrates (1st)

MAPLETON 697-6051

CHMN Dale Swanson (1st)
Ken Woodmancy (3rd)
Mike Culbertson (1st)

SPBU 579-3336

RPF 675-6544

CHMN Joe Maxwell (1st)

MORTON 266-6631

CHMN Roger Routt (2nd)
Kevin Peterson (1st)
Matt Butler (3rd)



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If you or a family member are considering buying or refinancing, you owe it to yourself to find out how the Union Plus Mortgage Program can benefit you. Please contact me today to meet with you or answer any questions you may have.



JARROD DOTY

Phone: 309.258.5815
Email: Jarrod.W.Doty@Chase.com
124 S.W. Adams St, Peoria, IL 61602
<http://homeloan.chase.com/jarrold.w.doty>

Union Plus is a registered trademark of Union Privilege. This program is only available to union members, their parents, and children. Eligibility for mortgage assistance begins one year after closing on a Union Plus Mortgage through Chase. For information regarding mortgage assistance, speak to a Chase loan officer. For down payments of less than 20%, mortgage insurance (MI) is required and MI charges apply. All loans are subject to credit and property approval. Program terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Not all products are available in all states or for all loan amounts. Other restrictions and limitations apply. 2006 JPMorgan Chase & Co. All Rights Reserved



Mark your calendars...

2009 Local 974

**RED CROSS
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Mondays 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

June 1 • July 27 • Sept 28 • Nov 23

W. D. "Bill" Corum Blood Drive Coordinator

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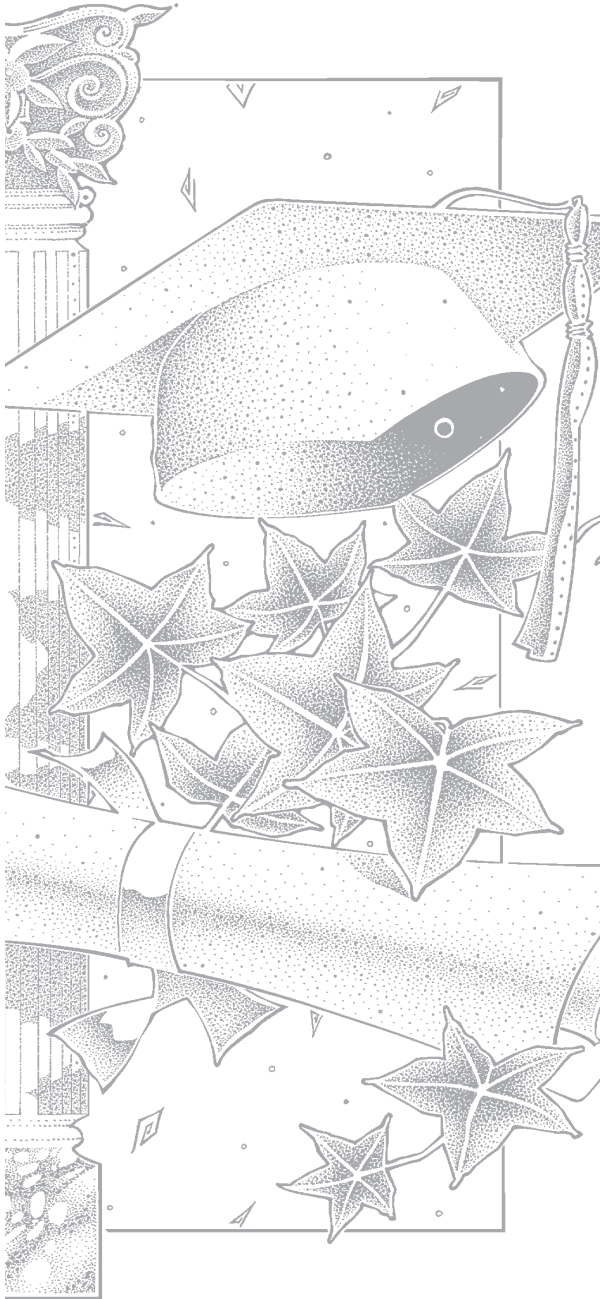
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2009 – 2010 Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund



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 (____) _____

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
Peoria (309) 690-7373 • Springfield (217) 782-8108

Keith Sommer, (R) 106 District
Morton (309) 263-9242 • Springfield (217) 782-0221

Let Your Elected Officials Hear Your Voice!

Mossville BB Grievance Committee Report

PAUL JACKSON, Grievance Committee Chairman

Dateline: May 4, 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.

MUCH THANKS

Once again, **Thank You** so much for putting your trust in me and allowing me to represent you as Chairman. I will make a commitment to the membership to represent you in Local Bargaining and in Final Step with the Company in a professional and business-like manner. In addition I will make a commitment to work with the Local Leadership and the International UAW to find common advantages, for management to keep Mossville Plant a world class engine manufacture and core parts producer for the Company.

UPDATES

I attended my first Chairman's meeting on April 27th. These are regular monthly meetings held by Bargaining Chairman Wes Hogsett to keep the Grievance Committee Chairman up to date on Local and Chain-wide issues. I considered the meeting very productive and informative. The Local newsletter is produced every other month, so in between I will try to keep you informed through your Stewards and the other Committeeman. Here is a summary of what we discussed.

Focus Groups – The International UAW has hired an independent firm to do a study and a survey of the members. So if you receive a call from a survey company to take a survey it is legit. The survey will be offsite from work and you will be compensated to participate. The Local nor the International have control over who the independent firm chooses to interview. If the results are shared with me, I in turn will share them with you.

Challenges in Bargaining – We all know what the automakers are going through, by-in-large because of mismanagement of product lines, planning and development. Caterpillar on the other hand is financially strong and have a secure market share in our product lines. In addition, Caterpillar received a landmark concessionary contract from the workers in 2005. The question is now can Caterpillar be trusted to keep its word to its loyal workforce and provide jobs in Illinois, and in particular Mossville the largest workforce in 2005, as promised during bargaining.

HORSES

When I hear management cry "*more concessions*" from a Mossville workforce that is already producing, by Company standards, the highest quality, highest productivity and highest safety ever recorded at Mossville, I remember a quote from my ole friend John Hadsell. Johnny would always say, "Ya know, Paul they always whip the horse that does the pulling!!!" How true Johnny, how true.

REAL OR RUMOR

Management has been very tight lipped about releasing any information pertinent to our future or even week-to-week or daily concerns. Hence the rumors have been flying.

- **10 Hour Days – RUMOR** for Mossville. Pontiac and East Peoria have begun a ten hour day schedules. Management says *no* for now, but is still being considered as a future cost cutting measure.
- **15,000 Engines – REAL** although not from a single order as the rumor was being spread. That number is closer to the projected number of engines left to produce in the on going "Going Out of Business Sale."
- **Mapleton TPA's – RUMOR** We know we need more people to run the lines, but in talking to the Mapleton Chairman, Dale Swanson, they have not been approached about any TPA's.
- **Recalls from Layoff – REAL** Management states if we keep building them they will come. We are producing between 115 and 125 per day. The magic figure for recall is approximately 160 per day.
- **Shutdowns – REAL** Officially we have been notified of a Mossville vacation period the week of July the 13th, but rolling shutdowns or layoffs have not been scheduled. We were cautioned though, depending on the economic recovery, the second half of 2009 could contain some TLO's.
- **Additional Buyouts – RUMOR** I can tell you all the Chairman at the meeting were on the same page in addressing this to the Company as a way to get "Seniority eligible" employees retired while they still have their health and provide jobs and recalls for the younger workforce. It's the right thing to do.
- **Reduce or Eliminate Contract Workers – REAL** Mossville is the only facility with a significant numbers of contract workers in the shop. Those contract jobs, as per management, are being "held back" in the event engine builds drop to unexpected lows, then fulltime employees who fall under the protection of the secure jobs program, will take those jobs back.
- **New Work for Mossville – REAL** We have been painting some transmissions and doing some work on a new "electronic" Marine. Management has said the rumor of a Nava-Cat truck and cabs being built at Mossville to date is not going to happen. In addition they are adamant at the highest level about Mossville not closing. However, due to cost cutting measures in effect, the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off!!!

THE RIGHT STUFF

Last article I wrote about true values in action. Remembering it is not *who* is right, but *what* is right as being the guiding light of true values. The notion it HAS to be them against us – Union vs. Company – is archaic at best. A union workforce provides much needed organization and structure for the Company. The driving force behind the Union workforce is pride in Skill, Quality and Safety of one's work. When a Union man or women builds an engine or a product, we think of the customer and maybe the Company thinks of that as misplaced loyalty. My opinion it should be "Team Customer" instead of "Team Caterpillar" or "Team Union." The end user is and always has been the Union workers concern. It is about choices, it is about getting the best quality and value for your money. If you had only one choice to make every day for your children's school bus, which one would you choose? Two bridges, side-by-side, crossing the same river, both built by the same Company, let's say for argument sake the company is CataBridge. CataBridge used a Union workforce comprised of local men and women to build the bridge on the right. Because it was built by Union workforce you had to pay a \$1 to cross it. The bridge on the left the company CataBridge hired an out-of-state, transient workforce to build the bridge at half the cost and half the price, heck they even give you a dollar rebate every time you use the bridge to buy neat CataBridge hats and shirts at the CataBridge Depot. Of course the choice is yours, the customer, the end user, which bridge are you and your family going to use??

*In the race for Quality
there is no Finish Line.*

Sponsored by UAW Retirees

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

2009 Drivers' Training Seminars

Thursday, June 11 1:30 – 3:30

Thursday, October 8 1:30 – 3:30

Local 974 Union Hall

*Helpful for people needing license
renewal and learning new laws*

RETIREES CHAPTER

UAW LOCAL 974

POTLUCKS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

NO POTLUCK IN JULY

We invite and encourage all the new Retirees to come and join us for dinner and Bingo after the meeting.

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.

SCHEDULED BOAT TRIPS

JUMER'S ROCK ISLAND – Tuesday, June 23

RHYTHM CITY – Tuesday, July 28

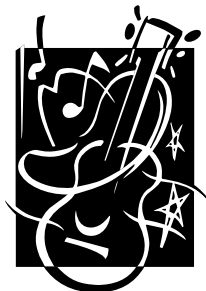
Cost is \$10.00 per person in advance, \$12.00 day of trip – no refunds. The cost includes doughnuts and coffee at the Union Hall, a meal and bus fare. Contact Jack Hidden at 673-4904 or Dale Cassel at 347-6406 to make reservations. You may also call the Retiree's Office at the Union Hall at 694-3151 and leave your name and phone number.



MEMBERSHIP & RETIREES DANCE

Sunday, June 21

7:00 – 10:00 pm



Richard Bellamy
(Midnight Wind)

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. NO SMOKING.

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

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

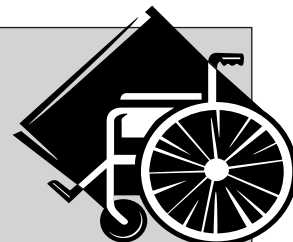
Jane Evans, Chairman
David J. LaHood, Co-Chairman
Velma Walton, 2nd Co-Chairman
Bill Corum, Recording Sec.
J.F. "Jack" Hidden, Fin. Sec.

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
Cane Walker • IV Stands • Crutches • Hospital Bed



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

2009 UAW Local 974 Retirees' Bus Trips



June 23	Jumer's Rock Island
July 28	Rhythm City
August 25	Isle of Capri
September 22	Jumer's Rock Island
October 27	Catfish Bend
November 24	Rhythm City
December 22	Isle of Capri

\$10 per person in advance OR \$12 the day of trip
Includes doughnuts & coffee at Union Hall, meal and bus fare

Reservations "First Come – First Served" **Sorry No Refunds**

Contact Jack Hidden 339-6220 Dale Cassel 347-6406

Join us for a day of fun!

Retired Caterpillar Truck Drivers and Wives Annual Dinner

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Eat at 11:00 a.m.

NEW
LOCATION

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



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Injury Claims
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WILLIAM C. LOEFFEL
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UAW LOCAL 974 LEGAL BENEFITS PLAN LISTED LAW FIRM

DICK L. WILLIAMS has concentrated his practice in Probate, Wills, Trusts and Powers of Attorney for over forty-five years.

DICK B. (RICH) WILLIAMS has concentrated his practice in Bankruptcy Law and Driver's License Reinstatement for twelve years.

WILLIAM C. LOEFFEL has concentrated his practice in criminal law (both federal and state), expungements and DUI for twenty years.

WILLIAMS, WILLIAMS & LOEFFEL, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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WHAT'S GOING ON?

Have you ever wondered what in the world is going on in our world? The Christian should know exactly what is going on. God is simply getting the world ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Let's look at five things that are going on today that tell us it may be very near, even at the door:

- 1. Israel** – There is more hatred for Israel today than ever. The Iranian president wants to put Israel into the sea. More nations are seeing Israel as the problem. The temple is supposed to be rebuilt in the end. There is an Israeli who wants to run for prime minister and if he wins he says that he will rebuild the temple.
- 2. Violence on the rise.** (See *Genesis 6*) We Americans are leading the industrialized world in violence. Radical Islam is creating violence wherever they go. That has been their modus operandi since the get-go. To them, it has to be sharia law for the whole world.
- 3. The rise of the demonic.** (See *1Tim.4:1 with Revelation 12:9; 13:3,4*) From Harry Potter, to all the occult activity, to sci-fi films, to the reading of your astrological sign in the paper, to communicating with the dead, to channeling – Satan is starting to be accepted more and more.
- 4. The rise of homosexuality.** (See *Luke 17:28,29 with Genesis 19*) This is a touchy one because of the well-oiled political machine that runs this movement and influences our world – just ask the Boy Scouts. State after state here in American is falling prey. Spain has officially recognized homosexuality.
- 5. Hatred for and persecution of Christians.** The last century was the bloodiest ever for Christian martyrs. The twenty-first century is picking up the pace. There is a growing hatred for Christians here in America. What is your attitude toward Christians? The case loads of Christian law associations are growing each year.

I don't have the room to write about the fall of America, the false Church (failure of professed Christianity), the economy, other sexual immoralities, and rise of atheism. The question you have to ask yourself is this, "How do I fit in? Will I be on God's side and receive Christ as Saviour and Lord? Or, will I be against Him?"

Write, call or email me at:
13575 Glenmar Drive, Pekin, IL 61554
309-202-8647
conrus@comcast.net

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Russ

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1998 Chevy Suburban 350, like new, leather interior, four wheel drive, auto, 23,700 miles, 309-696-2852

1991 GM 1500 Pickup Doors, silver, GC, no rust, pair \$250, 309-694-2327

Izusu Pickup, Buick 4.1 litre, V6, 4BBL headers, Cam rebuilt, Turbo 350, auto, 250 HP, white, \$750, 309-597-2555

1946 Ford, 3/4 ton Stake Bed Pickup Truck, runs, w/extra engine, \$1,500 firm, 309-745-3269

1984 Honda, V45 Magna, less than 9,000 miles, recent service, new battery, tires, runs great \$2125, 309-698-3078

Ranch Fiberglass Topper for Longbed Pickups; Front and Side Sliders and Screens, silver, EC, Canton, \$300, 309-649-1028 or 309-338-4676

2006 Dakota V6 AT, 11,000 miles, \$12,500, 309-243-7455

1976 Chevy Short Bed Truck AT, New hood, front fenders, V8, \$8000, 309-243-7455

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Dining Set, table with 2 leaves, 6 padded chairs, lighted hutch, beautifully carved design, asking \$900, 309-692-4136

SPORTING GOODS

Gun Pistol, 38-special, 3" barrell, Taurus, made in Brazil, approximately made in 1971, best offer, 309-469-4141

2001 Cougar 5th Wheel Travel Trailer, 28', large slide, good condition, new tires, \$10,500 OBO, 309-673-8796

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Free to good homes only, Pit Bull puppies, be ready May 24, 309-453-0795

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Bedside Toilet with arms, adjustable legs, \$20; XL Pneumatic boot for fracture/ankle sprain, \$75, 309-925-3770

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Lawn Mower, 22" cut \$65; Tables 6'-8' \$25 each; Foldup Wheelchair, \$100; AB Works with video, \$15; 309-925-3770

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REAL ESTATE

Home, Rogers Arkansas, 1685 sq. ft., 7.7 acres on Beaver Lake, want to move back to Pekin, 479-925-3787

Sunnyland, 2 story house, 4 bedrooms, all remodeled, new siding, most windows, have to see, 309-699-2623

SERVICES

Heating and Air Conditioning Services, Repairs and Installation, over 20 years experience, union brother, 309-745-9202

Termite and Pest Control Services, Termites, Ladybugs, Spiders, Ants, etc., union discounts, 309-267-7378

Pam's Paper and Painting, est. 1990, free estimates, Pam Hrdlicka, 309-699-0057

Haul away for \$10 appliances, water heaters, furnaces, air conditioners, cars, trucks, anything metal, 309-369-8014

Harris Carpet Cleaning, specializing in low moisture carpet cleaning, union member, owned and operated, 309-494-9465

WANTED

Metal Caterpillar Badge, #12011 or information on how I can get one made, 309-347-3857

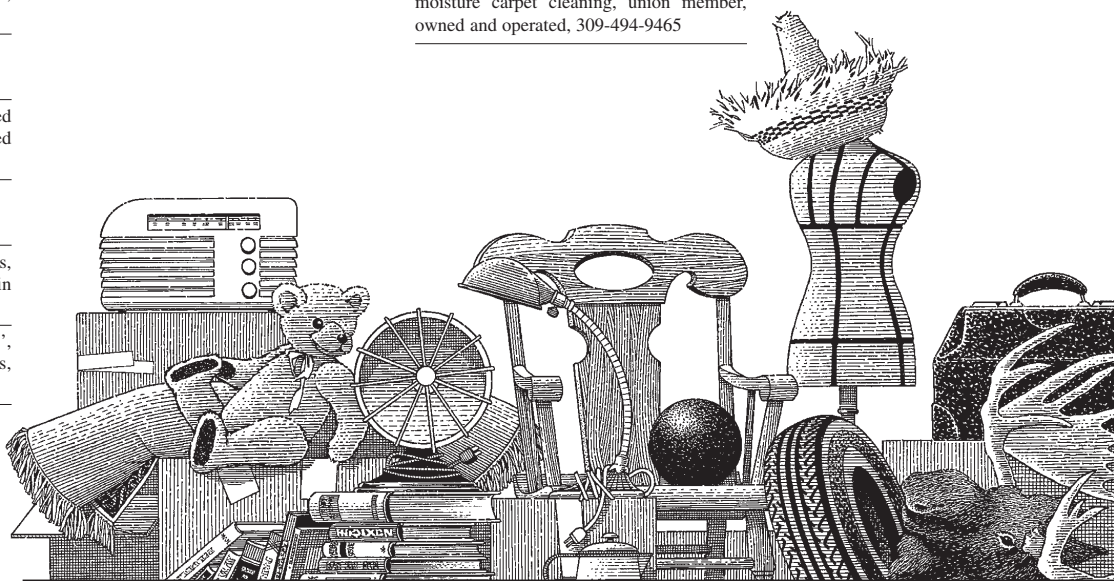
Wanted Revolver must be in working shape; also 1/2 ton Pickup, automatic for under \$1,500, 309-224-6663

Wanted old Motorcycles, running or not, any condition, all makes and models considered, cash paid, 309-351-9994

Good Used Pistol, 38 or 357 Revolver prefers stainless steel, will consider blue steel, reasonable or cheap price, 309-346-8890

OPPORTUNITY

Say good bye to downsizing, put yourself in charge, start part-time with Primerica, earn what you are really worth, contact Gary Carroll, 309-256-5196



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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(309) 694-3151
www.uawlocal974.org

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Local 974 News is published bi-monthly by United Auto Workers, Local 974, 3025 Springfield Rd., East Peoria, IL 61611. The Membership on January 13, 1952, authorized a special fund that provides 15 cents of each member's dues dollar per month to be used for funding this publication. Periodical postage paid at Peoria, Illinois.

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

Stephens, Fiddes, McGill & Associates, P.C.

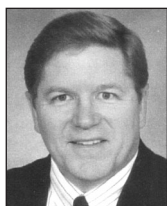
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**REDUCED FEES FOR ALL UAW
MEMBERS, SPOUSES, DEPENDENTS AND
RETIREES ON ALL PERSONAL INJURY AND
AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT CLAIMS!**

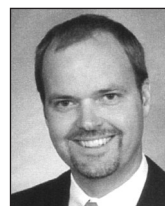
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