

Grievance Procedure



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Bargaining Chairman – Norforge Pamela Smith

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Bargaining Chair. – City of Delavan Jerry A. Littlefield



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RICK DOTY, President

Caterpillar is busy putting "the plan" in place for contract talks.

They are arrogant enough to think that a call to a Retiree would produce a replacement worker in the event of a strike. Do they seriously think that a Retiree would cross the very picket line they stood on as active members and go back to work after having lost so much in the last negotiations? I can't imagine one Retiree or a laid-off member being part of "the plan" to help Caterpillar take even more from them. I am sure that the memories have not faded for any of our members both active

and retired...the memory of how we got to the two-tiered wage, reduced benefits, premium share, co-pays, the loss of a defined pension and by name job security. Do not forget how we came to where we are today. Over the next few articles I am going to take you on a walk back in time. Let's start in 1973... I was hired in September...

In Solidarity, Rick Doty

WHAT SOLIDARITY GETS YOU 1973-1976

INCREASED WAGES
GAINS FOR PAST RETIREES
IMPROVED COST-OF- LIVING
IMPROVED MEDICAL
NEW HOLIDAYS EXTENDED CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN
INCREASED NIGHT SHIFT BONUS
ADDED VACATION

Major improvements from the 1973 agreements because of each member looking out for his brother and sister. This is called

COST-OF-LIVING ADD INTO BASE PAY

SOLIDARITY and it starts with you.

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 Peoria (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!

BARGAINING CHAIRMAN



WES HOGSETT, Bargaining Chairman

Greetings **Brothers** and Sisters

Hopefully

winter is done by the time you get this. We have had plenty of snow and cold weather. I'm ready to get the bike out.

We currently have a total of 3,520 active grievances in the arbitration backlog.

Local 974 had three arbitration dates with the new arbitrator Steve Briggs. On January 26, 09-HH-13, Doug Waller was heard and on January 27, 08-LL-338, Jason Balcom and on February 18, 06-MOR-185, Joseph Bonnette. We have received decisions on Jason Balcom and Doug Waller. Both were lost. We have several dates scheduled in March and April.

Discipline remains high and the Company seems to be taking more of an intimidation approach than usual. Terry Banks, SS, was indefinitely suspended for refusing to use his personal car to go to ICC to attend some training classes. Bret Lightner, SS, was indefinitely suspended for leaving work without permission when he was in First Aid and told the nurse and the nurse called the foreman. Earl Allsup, HH, was indefinitely suspended because the foreman thought he smelled smoke in the restroom. Foreman admits that he never saw smoke or anyone smoking or butts or ashes. There were three other employees in the stalls at the same time.

Mossville engine build is up thus causing a need for more employees. The company is refusing to recall any of their 800 plus laid off employees. They requested employees from other business units and 20 Mapleton TPA employees who were in the CJSP pool.

The company has also asked the Union if we would have a problem with (Cat) calling laid off employees back to supplemental status. The language doesn't support this and no full-time employee should have to give up contractual rights in order to get back to work.

TTT has told their employees they are predicting that build on D10's and D11's will be back at full capacity by July of 2010, but the market for D6 through D9 will remain soft thru the summer. The company states that they want their dealers to have 3.5 months of inventory. The dealers are at that level with D10 and D11 but currently have 7.5 months inventory of D6 thru D7. The company has been given a large contract from the U.S. Military for D7's. The production scheduled has been pushed back to early 2011. This contract is for 2000 D7's elevated track type tractors. The military is the only customer that Cat will sell the elevated track type tractors to. All other customers have to order the new E-drive D7. Mapleton has members in the CJSP pool. We are having a number of disagreements with the company on how they are moving job classifications and representation issues of these members. I called Mike Schramm the week of February 8, 2010 and asked about the National CJSP committee. Mike is working on my request and we are waiting to hear from the International on this subject.

TTT has only one TLO scheduled the week of March 1, 2010. The company laid off Wes Hogsett, Bargaining Chairman, for one day February 3, 2010. Corporate told TTT Labor Reps. not to do this any more because I qualified for a short work week benefits that day. From this point forward

they are taking the position that they will give me proper notice if I am going to be on TLO and it will be for the entire week. We don't believe the company has the right to layoff the Office of Bargaining Chairman. On February 26, 2010, the company called me to inform me that I would be laid off the week of March 1st.

We had an outsourcing meeting over the announced decision to source the process maintenance jobs in TTT. The meeting was held in East Peoria Bldg. CV on February 12. Bill Scott, John Bainbridge, Al Weigand, Rick Doty and myself attended. The company told us that there was nothing that we could do to keep these jobs in-house.

A Cat Council Meeting was held on February 25, 2010 in Decatur. Rick Doty, Roger Routt, Craig Miller and myself attended. We are exploring ways to get Members involved. I would appreciate any feedback on this matter or on any of the flyers that we are handing out. You can reach me at 694-6138 or email me at bargainchair@uawlocal974.org.

The Cat Council has been meeting more and will continue to do so in preparation for the upcoming bargaining. Caterpillar has already started their games with the minds and emotions of their employees, active, laid off, and retired leading up to the expiration of the "04" agreement. They started in December by telling employees that they were beginning to work on a contingency plan on the shop floor. During the last week of February the company implied that they would like to recall laid off employees back to supplemental status instead of to full time. This may all be just mind games but we all know how ruthless this company can be so every member - active, laid off and retired, should be standing strong and preparing for whatever the company plans to throw at us.

The Leadership is committed to good faith bargaining in order to reach a new agreement without a work stoppage. We are only as strong as our Membership and the company knows this. The company will leave no stone unturned to create dissension by dividing us any way possible.

Let's show Caterpillar that they don't know as much about us as they think. Circle the wagons and stand shoulder to shoulder. Together we will prevail.

In Solidarity, Wes Hogsett



FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

JOHN SHALLENBERGER, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

RECALLS

Members being recalled, please call the Dues Office and let us know when, where and what

classification you have returned to. This will help keep the local's records current along with helping hold the company accountable on properly deducting union dues in a timely fashion. Most importantly it will keep you current on your dues and in good standing.

T-SHIRT ROOM

Jim "Huey" Pardieck came to me with some good ideas on the T-shirt room. We are in the process of putting these ideas in place along with restocking it. So when you get time, drop by and see the changes.

Keep your eye on the union bulletin board in your area for a flyer on Union American made products available through the T-shirt room.

"OUT-OF-WORK" CREDITS

Once you are out of work six (6) months and have only been drawing unemployment, with no S.U.B. pay you need to call into the dues office within the last ten (10) days of the month, starting with the sixth (6th) month and each month there after. This will keep you in good standing for voting in future elections.

If we do not hear from you at the conclusion of said six (6) month period, then you shall automatically be noted on the unions records as having been issued an honorable withdrawal transfer card with no voting rights, until such time as you are recalled to employment.

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.

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

WALTER REUTTER

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 for \$15,000 in October.

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

As always, please keep all the service men and women in your thoughts and prayers.

In Solidarity, John R. Shallenberger

RECAPITULATION as of January	31	1, 2010
Income	\$	214,838.41
Expenditures		211,286.64
Excess of Income over Expense	\$	3,551.77
Regular Dues received on 3,860)	
Sub Dues received on 296	6	
Bonus Dues received on)	
Initiation fees received on)	
PER CAPITA TAXES:		
International Union UAW	\$	117,542.24
CAP Council		6,025.44
CAT Council		5,585.27
Retirees Dues PCT		257.40
Ag Council		144.64
Labor Council of West Central IL		184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund		17.19
Total	\$	129,756.18

RECAPITULATION as of February 28, 2010				
Income	\$	206,292.09		
Expenditures		203,647.62		
Excess of Income over Expense	\$	2,644.47		
Regular Dues received on 3,888	8			
Sub Dues received on 1'	7			
Bonus Dues received on	5			
Initiation fees received on	2			
PER CAPITA TAXES:				
International Union UAW	\$	103,266.00		
CAP Council		6,663.45		
CAT Council		4,930.57		
Retirees Dues PCT		618.15		
Ag Council		163.36		
Labor Council of West Central IL		184.00		
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund		11.17		
Total	\$	115,836.70		



INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT

IIM ARROWOOD, Chairman Insurance and Benefits

As the health care reform debate continues, we must

keep in mind who pays the cost for delay. Quite frankly I'm tired of hearing about "philosophical differences."

We as Union members are quite aware of the condition our nation is in. When health care consumes 17% of our G.D.P. it is past time for posturing and high time for action. Take a close look at the lawmakers opposing action to address this crisis. Lately, I have heard, "Let's scrap the reform bill and start over." Are you kidding me?

Starting over means we have already begun. Do not be fooled by these tactics to derail the desperate need for health care coverage for all Americans. While these so-called debates continue, the facts do not change.

Forty plus million Americans have no health care insurance. If you happen to have coverage, you are paying much higher premiums, deductibles and co-pays due to millions of uninsured Americans who currently use our health care system with no ability to pay. Hidden medical taxes drive our costs upward every year.

Please contact your representatives. The only way we will arrive at needed reforms is by convincing our lawmakers that we are not part of their claims when they tell the media that the American people are against the health care reform bill.

Once again I am reminding our members – if you or your spouse are Medicare eligible and are enrolled for Part A & B, you are entitled to be reimbursed for your Medicare Part B premium. This agreement capped the monthly premium reimbursement at

\$99.50. The 2010 premium amount is \$110.50. You must call Hewitt to enroll 1-877-228-4010. In closing, I would like to remind all active members to be careful not to get caught up in the rumor mill. Caterpillar has decided quite early to begin posturing as if we are at some sort of impasse. The fact is, we have not even begun to negotiate with the company. We will communicate with our members throughout the year. Support your Bargaining Committee. The Company would welcome the opportunity to cut a deal with us, one on one.

Always speak highly of your brothers and sisters. Together, as one united Membership, we empower our Bargaining Committee.

In Solidarity, Jim Arrowood

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

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

MEETING NOTICE

CONGRESSMAN PHIL HARE

has been invited to address our Membership at the

General Council Meeting on May 16, 2010 at 1:00 pm.

The Congressman has taken time from his busy schedule to speak with us on a variety of topics. Please plan to attend this important meeting for an update directly from our Congressman.

In Solidarity, Jim Arrowood, Chairman Insurance & Benefits

CATERPILLAR BENEFITS **CONTACT INFORMATION**

HYATT LEGAL SERVICES

Toll-free: 1-800-821-6400

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

CIGNA Dental

Customer Service: 1-800-244-6224 Web: cigna.com OR myClGNA.com CIGNA Dental Claims Mailing Address: CIGNA Dental

PO Box 188037, Chattanooga, TN 37422-8037

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:

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: March 3, 2010 – This is the date this article goes to the Editor. It gives you, the reader, a reference date for the facts and statements contained in the following article.

(SOLID) arity

Webster defines solidarity as: not interrupted by a break or opening, uniformly closed and coherent, made firmly and well. Serious in purpose or character, Unity based on a community of interest, objectives and standards, combination or agreement of all elements. Individuals, as a group, complete Unity as of opinion, purpose, interest or feeling.

Lech Walesa said, "He who once became aware

of the power of Solidarity... will not be crushed!"

Ralph Chapin wrote in his famous anthem Solidarity Forever, "When the Union inspiration, through the workers blood shall run, there can be no greater power beneath the sun... They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn (sound like any Company you know?) But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel would turn... In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold, greater than the might of armies magnified a thousand fold..."

These are some of the definitions and thoughts of several men and women of what generally the idea

of Solidarity means, but again those are just words. Solidarity to us, Cat workers, must become, if we are to survive, our Core Beliefs, our "Values in Action," our "Code of Conduct" the way we live our lives as Union People. If you remember how we lived Solidarity in the 70's, you remember what we accomplished, and we must pass that legacy to the next generation of Union workers. The brutal fact is we slipped in that commitment to Solidarity in the 90's and it is quite obvious what we have lost because of it. Let's make a commitment to take small steps and rebuild that which made us strong in the past. Start by wearing your Solidarity Colors of the Day. Let's see...

A Blast of Black MON TUES A Ton of Tan An Ocean of Blue WED THUR A Sea of Red A Gaggle of Green **FRI**

I heard it through the grapevine

I heard Labor Relations say "We are ramping up to ramp down." (Exactly how does that work?)

I heard them say we have no intention of bargaining in good faith! We are going to call retirees and laid off employees to a "work stoppage pool."

I heard laid off and retirees say, by in large, "stick it where the sun doesn't shine!!" Not now... Not ever!!

I heard them say "200 a day by May."

I heard them say "We Care!!" (We just don't share)

I heard the Mapleton employees say "Where did my contractual rights go when I came to Mossville??"

Finally,

I heard Kenny Leasure say in February 2009, "Welcome to the Rock (a.k.a. The Nuke)... you will never get out alive!! (Kenny, don't tell the Warden I'm alive and doing fine, send my mail to 4310)

You're going to feel a little pressure...

We all sat through the last All Employees Meeting, where management finally and honestly laid the cards out on the table dealing with the end result of our prime product going south.

A slide presentation was given so all could see the build rate decrease exponentially from 200 engines a day late Spring of 2010 to 27 a day in December of 2010. The news and visual was uncomfortable at best, but reminded me of a true story. A friend of mine was in the delivery room experiencing the birth of his first child, his wife's second. In the middle of delivery, after hearing who I assumed was the doctor saying calmly something to the effect "you're going to feel a little pressure" The next thing he heard was his wife getting rather vocal, in what he assumed at the time was "a little pressure." He took her hand gently and said "Babe, does it really hurt that bad?" A silence fell over the delivery room, like the silence of seeping water through a basement wall. She said "Stan, if you could please take your lower lip and stretch it over your forehead and now please tell me do you think that would really #@%&*+\$ hurt?"

So yes, the visual slide of how this ramp up to ramp down is going to play out will hurt – big time – but then again the truth always does.

Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in! THOUGHT FOR TODAY

CUSACK, FLEMING, GILFILLAN & O'DAY, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

415 Hamilton Blvd • Peoria, IL 61602 • 309/637-5282

U.A.W. Pre-Paid Legal Plan - Panel Attorneys U.A.W. Local 974 Legal Benefits Plan - Listed Law Firm Specializing in Personal Injury and Workmen's Compensation

Reduced Fees for

✓ Members

✓ Spouses ✓ Dependents

✓ Retirees

NOTHING TO HIDE

STEVE MITCHELL, Plantwide Safety Chairman

After the last issue of the Local 974 News was delivered, I received a call from someone at the East Peoria plant regarding the content of my article. It appears a member of management was surprised to learn that there were no Safe Job Procedures (SJP's) for a number of jobs in the building he manages. Reportedly, he called a meeting of his direct reports and chewed some serious butt. Not only was he upset about the non-existent SJP's, he was livid because he had to learn of it from Local 974 News. Why wasn't this manager told by his subordinates of the safety shortcomings in the building for which he is ultimately responsible? What was there to hide?

I'm not suggesting anyone in management wants to see a worker get hurt, but as long as iron is going out the door, a lot of things are allowed to slide on by. Day in and day out "standard work" and SJP's are ignored and nobody cares – until someone gets hurt. At that point, the SJP becomes almost biblical and discipline is handed down from on high based on the normally ignored details.

Maybe some of the managers were embarrassed that the lack of SJP's would mean that there would be no document to comb through to help assign blame to an injured worker. Assigning blame based on the words of theses "bibles" has become standard practice. I'll bet the managers and personnel responsible for this lapse have not been disciplined, but if an injured worker failed to follow the SJP to the letter, you can bet that he or she would have been disciplined.

I'm aware of a worker who was disciplined for not inspecting a common fixture component, a bar knob. For a moment, ignore the fact that bar knobs were cutting edge technology in the 1940's and 1950's and that today there are many better, faster and more efficient ways of holding parts in a fixture. This worker had performed his job the same way as the other shifts for months and there were no complaints. One day his pry bar slips on the nearly pre-historic bar knob and he is injured. He reports the injury and the next morning is suspended for not inspecting the bar knob. Not

a word was spoken to anyone else doing the same job in the same way. Did he get disciplined for not following the procedure... or was it because he was injured you be the judge.

If the managers really wanted to know about safety or health issues in their buildings, they'd ask the UAW Safety Representatives and I'll tell you why – we have nothing to hide. When workers or their representatives bring health and/or safety concerns, complaints and/or grievances to management, we're already on the moral high ground. Can the same be said for anyone working against us as we seek improved worker health and safety? Are the priorities of some individuals in positions of responsibility in the wrong order? Additionally, anyone taking actions to discourage workers from reporting injuries (rewards or discipline) or playing games with the OSHA Recordkeeping Standards apparently has something to hide.

I assume you've heard the saying, "If you do the same thing over and over and expect a different

result, that is a sign of insanity" Do you agree? When injuries go unreported or unrecorded, for whatever reason, hazards are left unabated and more workers will fall victim. That's doing the same thing and expecting a different result, right?

Recently, as the result of an OSHA Citation being contested by CAT, there was an "entry on land" at one of the facilities represented by our Local Union. Entry on land is a legal term meaning that OSHA and the union got to go into the facility where an injury occurred to gather information, such as pictures and videotape, in anticipation of an upcoming hearing in front of a judge. Prior to entering the plant, workers on the line being visited were told not to speak with OSHA or the UAW Representatives under any circumstances. OSHA and the UAW Representatives were told that they could not "impede production" by speaking with the workers in the plant. What was there to hide?

In this particular case, the penalty issued to CAT by OSHA was a Continued on page 14



GATE DRIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010 **EAST PEORIA & MORTON MOSSVILLE & MAPLETON**

If you wish to make a donation, make your checks payable to The American Cancer Society for The Relay For Life and mail to: Relay For Life, c/o UAW Local 974, 3025 Springfield Rd., East Peoria, IL 61611

American Cancer Society – Relay for Life

			
Address			
City/State/Zip		Phone ()	
Number of	Luminaries purchased	at \$5 each = \$	enclosed
In Honor of:			



JUST A BRIEF NOTE...

We can see on national news any day we choose, the financial straits almost every state in the Union is in. I believe there are only two states that currently have a balanced budget. One of them is Indiana and the other one isn't.

Watch your local news. How are your local municipalities doing? How are your local school districts getting along right now? Local school districts count on state funding to operate, state governments require federal funding to distribute to local school districts. Both are broke. How is that working out for ya?

The United States Government is broke – in case you haven't noticed. We've spent the last year bailing out multi-billion dollar banks while middle class people are losing their homes. Why? Because they've already lost their job, their home was all they had left.

We in organized labor have said for years that dismantling our manufacturing base and shipping it overseas would destroy our Nation's economy. No one wanted to listen and now it is too late for many of our citizens.

Why so maudlin, you say? We're not broke, you say, we can still borrow money. Oh good, for a minute I was worried. Who from – if I might ask? Why from our friends, the Chinese, great! China, otherwise known as the Wal-mart supply depot, will be more than happy to extend credit. Remember, we need money because we're at war right now. Oh yeah, I forgot. We're borrowing money from communist China so we can give it to the Arab States for oil to fuel our planes so we can bomb their cousins. We're broke. We're spending billions on a war nobody wants and seems to have no end. Our economy is in tatters and our Congress postures and blames the other guy.

The chickens have come home to roost. We said this would happen and it gives us no pleasure to be proven right. This is going to take serious work to set right.

Our leaders must remember who they are answerable to and get busy doing <u>all</u> the people's business. The time for games is over.

Free HEALTH EVENT

Thursday, May 13 4:00-6:00pm Local 974 Community Room



Methodist Wellmobile 7:30-9:00am

Free blood glucose/cholesterol screening (Fast 12 hrs prior to screening)

Methodist Wellmobile 4:00-6:00pm

Free blood pressure and spirometry screening

OSF 4:00-6:00pm

Performing bone density screening \$12 fee - results while you wait

Doctors and health professionals on sight to deliver health information

Diabetes – Dr. Rebecca Knight presenting

Osteoporosis - Barb Campbell from IPMR

Sleeping Disorders – Illinois Neurological Institute

Chiropractor - Dr Tom Elselt with Allied Health

Cancer Center for Healthy Living

Other health professionals on hand with valuable and helpful information

A Beautiful You – helping cancer patients find wigs and other helpful tips IPMR

Care Solutions

DMS – Doubek Medical Supply & Pharmacy

RETIREES CHAPTER

UAW LOCAL 974

POTLUCKS ON WEDNESDAYS APRIL 21 & MAY 19

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, April 18 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.

Tues, April 27 – Rhythm City • Tues, May 25 – Isle of Capri

COMPUTER CLUB FOR BEGINNERS 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 per two hour session from entry level to personalized software training.

Mon/Tue/Thu 10:00am-12:00noon & 1:00pm-3:00pm

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) 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 Retirees' Officers at 309/694-3151

Jane Evans, Chairman Velma Walton, 2nd Co-Chairman J.F. "Jack" Hidden, Financial Secretary Dale Cassel, Guide Jim Tabor, Trustee

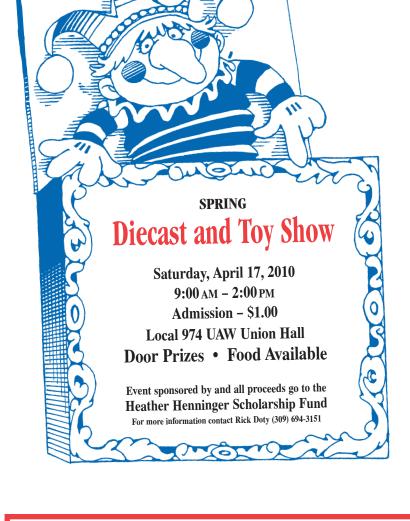
David J. LaHood, Co-Chairman Bill Corum, Recording Secretary Joe Covington, Sergeant-at-Arms Dave Blumenstock, Trustee Jack "Honey" Evans, Trustee

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

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



RETIREE ALERT!!!

Many of us are aware that the current contract between UAW, Local 974 and Caterpillar Inc. expires in 2011. Some of our Retirees have recently received phone calls from Cat inviting them to enter the plant and work if a strike occurs. Your Retiree Board considers this an insult to our retired members' integrity. Some of you may find this offer very tempting. This is what the Company would love. With the insurance premiums we now pay that we were told would be free for the rest of or lives, some extra money would come in handy.

Anyone who goes in and helps the Company during a strike is harming Union Negotiations as well as harming their own future and the future of generations to come.

Retirees who would help the Company during a strike are no better than the scabs that crossed the picket lines in the 90's and will be considered as such.

UAW Local 974 Retiree Board

UAW AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974 ELECTION NOTICE



NOMINATIONS

OPEN

Monday, April 19, 2010 8:00am

CLOSE

Wednesday, April 21, 2010 3:00pm

DRAWING FOR POSITION

Sunday, April 25, 2010 12:00noon

2 POSITIONS

TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION GENERAL COUNCIL

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

Monday, April 26, 2010 3:30pm

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

ELECTION

Sunday, May 2, 2010 11:00am - 5:00pm

RUNOFF (IF NEEDED)

Sunday, May 16, 2010 11:00am - 5:00pm

ELECTION WILL BE HELD AT

Amalgamated Local 974 UAW Union Hall.



A. J. Milloy, Chairman Election Committee Amalgamated Local 974, UAW

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.

January	February

Stanley List	R	01/03/2010	Dorothy R. Maple	R	02/02/2010
Charles E. Underwood	R	01/04/2010	James J. Kelly, Jr.	R	02/07/2010
Carolee Bellemey	R	01/05/2010	Norman J. Sydnor	R	02/09/2010
Lela E. Herring	R	01/05/2010	Robert L. Armstrong	R	02/10/2010
A.Z. Hendon	R	01/07/2010	Clarence Brunenmeyer	R	02/10/2010
Lyle H. Wofford	R	01/07/2010	Richard J. Korth	R	02/10/2010
James A. Gilbert	R	01/11/2010	Curtis O. Rahn	R	02/10/2010
Sylvester Drockelman	R	01/16/2010	Allana S. Thomas	R	02/10/2010
Clyde E. Edwards	R	01/16/2010	J. D. Floyd	R	02/12/2010
Albert A. White	R	01/18/2010	Walter W. Berchtold	R	02/13/2010
William S. Moore	R	01/21/2010	Charles F. Kaiser	R	02/13/2010
Glen A. Seelye	R	01/21/2010	Jerry D. Snider	R	02/14/2010
J.D. Winstead	R	01/22/2010	Gene E. Solomon	R	02/16/2010
William J. Taylor	R	01/23/2010	Albert K. Phipps	R	02/18/2010
Robert M. Parlier	A	01/26/2010	Elwood L. Bradley	R	02/20/2010
Horace L. Lee	R	01/28/2010	Roy C. Newberry	R	02/20/2010
			Joseph N. Hoerr	R	02/21/2010
			Norman E. Birkner	R	02/22/2010
			Gary Osmundson	R	02/23/2010
			Clyde H. Mulvaney	R	02/24/2010
			Richard T. Barrett	R	02/25/2010
			John R. Eppelheimer	R	02/27/2010
			Elmer J. Warden	R	02/27/2010

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2010 LOCAL 974 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES



MONDAYS 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

May 24 September 27

July 26 November 22

The above dates have been selected by Laura Gray, Donor Recruitment Representative, American Red Cross, and are subject to change if the Hall is unavailable. For more information contact Laura Gray 636-4326, cell 370-3851 W. D. "Bill" Corum, Blood Drive Coordinator



Good Friday - Union Hall Closed Fri Easter Egg Hunt 10:00am Sat Sun 4 Easter Sunday Sun **11 Executive Board Meeting 11:00am** General Council Meeting 1:00pm Safety Council Mtgs 8:00 / 10:00 / 4:00 pm Thu **15** Spring Die Cast & Toy Sale 9:00 - 2:00pm Sat **17** Sat **17** Computer Club 4:00pm Membership & Retiree Dance 7:00 - 10:00pm Sun **18** Retirees' Chapter Mtg & Dinner 11:30am Wed **21** Thu **22** Steward Council Meetings 9:30am / 4:00pm Rhythm City Bus Trip 8:00 am Tue **27 Local 974 Newsletter Article Deadline** Mon 3 Mother's Day Sun 9 Computer Club 4:00pm Sat **15 Executive Board Meeting** 11:00am Sun **16** General Council Meeting 1:00pm Wed **19** Retirees' Chapter Mtg & Dinner 11:30am Thu 20 **Safety Council Mtgs** 8:00 / 10:00 / 4:00pm Mon 24 UAW Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00 - 5:00 pm Tue **25** Isle of Capri Bus Trip 8:00am Thu 27 Steward Council Meetings 9:30am / 4:00pm Mon **31** Memorial Day - Union Hall Closed

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



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WILLIAM C. LOEFFEL Criminal DUI Federal

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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.

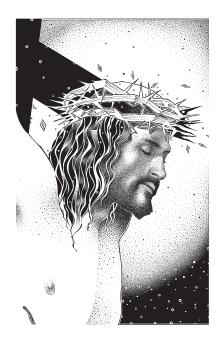
WILLIAM C. LOEFFEL has concentrated his practice in criminal law (both federal and state), expungements and DUI for twenty years.

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EASTER is the Resurrection

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if Christ had not risen from the dead literally and physically? After reading 1 Corinthians 15, I came up with a few reasons why life would be pretty gloomy. If Christ did not rise then...



- 1 His body would have been found and all the verses in the Old Testament that predicted His resurrection would be a lie (starting at Genesis 3:15)
- 2 Christianity is vain (useless).
- 3 I am a prisoner to my sins.
 There is no new life in Christ.
 My testimony of how Jesus
 delivered me from drugs and
 alcohol is not right (but I was
 delivered).
- 4 Death is the Victor. There is no life after death. No one is "looking down on us." Death is the end of everything. I have no hope of ever seeing my loved ones (who were Christians) again.
- 5 There will be no true justice of any kind ever. If you don't get punished for your crimes in this life, you get by with it. If you did good in this life and was passed by, you never get rewarded.

 That is, if there is no resurrection.

But, *Christ is risen*. I will see my loved ones (who were Christians) again. This is why Christians with a deep faith handle death better than the unsaved and those who have a shallow faith. There will be perfect justice. All wrongs will be punished fairly by a Judge who has all the facts. The good will all be rewarded (I am not saying that we will get to heaven by our good deeds. That is foreign to the Bible.) Death will not be the victor. Christ is the Victory! The Grim Reaper will be totally defeated forever! I am set free. My shackles have been broken and I am free, free from my sins and free from the law of sin and death! Christianity is true. Where is Christ's body? He is seated with the Heavenly Father at His right hand interceding for all believers. It was impossible for death to keep Him. What about you? New life in Christ can begin for you today if you will but trust His sacrificial death, burial and resurrection as payment for your sins. What will you do with him who is called the Christ?

Happy Easter in Jesus, Russ Lindahl

Write, call or email me at 13575 Glenmar Dr., Pekin, 61554 309/202-4749 conrus@comcast.net

12 UAW LOCAL 974 NEWS



Saturday, November 27 Sunday, November 28

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM 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

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Nothing To Hide cont. from page 7

whopping \$900. That entire penalty would not cover one hour of the fees charged by the attorneys CAT had onsite. One expert estimates CAT will spend 100 times the penalty in defense of the citation. You'd think the workers in this area would appreciate getting a number of battery-powered hand trucks to replace the archaic manual pallet jacks instead of lining the pockets of the rich lawyers, wouldn't you? Do you suppose CAT had the attorneys there because they were trying to make that particular job safer or to make sure that we did not find something? What was there to hide?

In a similar situation in another CAT Local Union, workers in an area to be visited by OSHA and the OSHA Machine Guarding specialist were scheduled for mandatory training a half an hour before OSHA arrived. Therefore, no workers were available to speak with OSHA or their specialist. What was there to hide?

My guess is CAT is hiding their failure to provide a workplace free of recognized hazards for their employees. Another way to hide the responsibility is to blame us for injuries that occur from worker exposure to hazards on the job.

I reported in the last Local 974 News that the SafeStart behavioral based safety program is being kicked off at the Tech Center. The intent of this "blame the worker" program is obvious considering recent "investigations" of two recordable injuries. One person was hurt while working with another employee removing a 125 pound pin from a piece of equipment. They were assigned this task by their supervisor. The "investigation" using SafeStart criteria indicated that complacency; eyes not on task, being in the line of fire and mind not on the job were the root causes of the injury. At no point did anyone look at the 125 pound pin, other

than to say the workers could have used a truck with a crane to assist with the lift. The lifting limit for that facility is 50 pounds and coincidently, the root causes were also the corrective actions. In other words, there was nothing done to prevent this incident from happening again other than the workers were essentially told, "It's your fault and be more careful next time." Who assigned the task? Did they look at the job to assess the likelihood of the need for a crane? How in the world is 50 pounds an acceptable lifting limit when according to CAT's Corporate Ergonomic SIP, all jobs with lifts over 18 pounds are supposed to be evaluated? Were the required evaluations completed? Why not? How could the workers be blamed if management cannot even follow their own requirements? "Be careful next time," is not a corrective action, it is a way to shift blame.

Another individual suffered a serious head injury while working in a very confined location below the floor inside the cab of a piece of equipment. While working in this cramped space, the worker raised up out of the space and struck his head on the bottom of the pedals, which by design are located right above this space. Once again, the SafeStart principals were used to blame the worker in the investigation. True to form, eyes not on task, being in the line of fire and mind not on the job were the root causes of the injury rather than the space where work was to be performed or the design that placed the pedals directly over anyone working in the space. The corrective actions involved the possible application of padding (something the worker would have to remember to do), PPE, possibly in the form of a hard hat or bump cap, complete with chin strap, and of course blaming the worker for the injury and imploring that they be more careful next time. When asked if the pedals could be

moved out of the way, the answer was, "yes, but that would take nearly a half an hour." There you have it. Instead of requiring workers take the time to remove hazards or designing the hazard out of the job, it is more expedient to have them use PPE, some silly pad, or be told to be careful.

What is any different with the scenarios mentioned above than if you were asked to walk barefoot across the floor of a room littered with broken glass? As long as you keep your mind on your task, your eyes on task path and you are constantly aware of your body position while keeping out of the line of fire, you should be okay, right? Now, once you make it all the way across the room, turn around and walk back across the room, only this time in addition to walking across the room, you simultaneously have to complete the same task only this time while juggling one of your regular daily tasks. Does this sound like a good idea it will work? Do you think you might end up with cuts on your feet?

Is this a good idea? Supposedly, if you follow the SafeStart principals, it should work... really, trust me.

As I have said many times, injuries happen because workers are exposed to hazards. This is not just me speaking. OSHA, NIOSH, the National Safety Council and anyone else serious about health and safety promote removing the hazards. You cannot get hurt or sick if there is no exposure to a hazard, it's impossible. According to OSHA, our employer is legally responsible for providing a workplace free of recognized hazards. To believe that workers can be exposed to hazards and the "new improved protection" from the hazards is to be told to "be careful" would be hilarious if it were not so irresponsible. If you get hurt or sick because of your job, it is because your employer did not protect you from exposure to hazards period, end of story. See, we have nothing to hide!

Steve Mitchell

Need Help?

If you have problems managing finances,
paying your utilities, mortgage, and credit card bills...
If you are having family, marital, stress, substance abuse, emotional, or legal problems...

If you just need someone to talk to...

CONTACT YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPS

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

MOSSVILLE BB: Marcia McCann MAPLETON: Cindy Miller

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Bed-side spring-loaded pop-out steps for 2009 F150 Ford pickup, \$100, 309-965-2283

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MISCELLANEOUS

Corvettes Die Cast, 19 models, most Y18 scale, \$217, 309-243-7455

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The Big Train, L.G.B. Cattle Car, new in box, paid \$40 asking \$30, 309-699-0014

Two Lots, Two Vaults, One Marker in Glendale Memory Gardens, Pekin, Ill., 731-352-9181

Nascar Scanners, 100 channel, new, ready for race season, 2 sets, \$40 each, 309-353-5393

1973 Holiday Trailer, \$2500, Seven Lakes membership, secluded, electric, shed, septic, Gamber cover, details call Wally, 309-367-2883

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Wanted issues of Early American Life magazine, 217-482-3520

Bass Tracker Pan Fish, 16 foot, stick steering, 309-648-1364

Outdoor Utility Cart, with gas engine in good condition, 309-243-9459

RENTALS

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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.

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- Sign up at facebook.com (It's free)
- Search for UAW Local 974 and click on the one with 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.



LOCAL 974 NEWS – CLASSIFIED ADS

LIMIT 15 WORDS PER AD - ONE (1) AD PER ISSUE - DEADLINE IS THE 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.

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LOCAL 974 NEWS

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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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