



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

LOCAL 974 NEWS

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

62

VOL 61.5 • OCTOBER 2013



U.S. SENATOR DICK DURBIN



U.S. Senator Dick Durbin confers with U.S. Representative Cherie Bustos at Local 974 Hall.

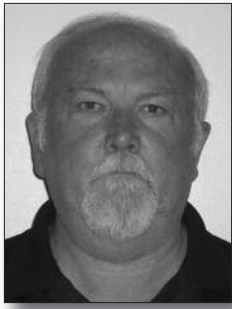


U.S. Senator Dick Durbin discusses issues with Illinois State Representative Jehan Gordon Booth.

2013 Retirees Potluck



*2013 Retirees Potluck
A good time of fellowship for our retirees.*



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RANDY SMITH, President

Hope everyone had a safe and happy Labor Day. We had a great turnout for the picnic and parade. Thanks to all who attended. It was great to see Senator Dick Durbin and Congress- woman Cheri Bustos, as well as State Senator Dave Koehler and State Rep Jehan Gordon at our picnic. They all asked questions to our members on how they could help us.

To put this rumor to rest – No, this Union has not had any discussions with the Company on extending TLO weeks.

We are still trying to get a contract with Mason City. They have been working on an extension since April. We have meetings scheduled to get this contract done.

We had some people file for unemployment when they were on vacation. Cat protested this and now people are repaying the state. The position of the Union Hall is if you are being paid vacation pay, don't file for unemployment. If you don't have any money in your vacation pay fund you can file.

If you are going on layoff or a TLO you must file for unemployment the first week you are off.

If the Company calls you into H.R. or L.R. to ask you questions, make sure you take a Union Rep with you. If they are talking to you they are collecting info to use against you or someone else so please remember this and take a Rep with you.

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

Randy Smith, UAW Local 974 President

DATES TO REMEMBER • 2013

FALL DIE CAST & TOY SALE • SAT., OCT. 19

DOUG BROOKS BENEFIT • SAT. OCT. 26

NEWS ARTICLE DEADLINE (DEC.) • FRI., NOV. 1

VETERAN'S DAY • MON., NOV. 11

ARTS & CRAFTS SALE • SAT. & SUN., NOV. 23 & 24

UAW RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE • MON., NOV. 25

THANKSGIVING DAY • THUR., NOV. 28

2013 - 2014 Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund

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

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

Thank you.

UAW LOCAL 974

President
Randy Smith

Executive Vice-President
(Open)

Second Vice-President
Kevin Peterson

Chair. of Insurance & Benefits
Jim Arrowood

Chair. of Bargaining Committee
Rick DeGroot

Financial Secretary-Treasurer
John Shallenberger

Recording Secretary
John Arnold

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Sergeant-At-Arms
Shane Hillard

Guide
(Open)

Trustee
Terry Freeman

Trustee
Donnie Barker

Trustee
Greg Larson

TTT Member-At-Large
Gene Mabec

TBU Member-At-Large
Barry Parrott

Mapleton Member-At-Large
Dick Woodmancy

Morton Member-At-Large
Melissa Bugg

Tech Center Member-At-Large
Rick Corbin

Mossville BB Member-At-Large
Randy Diehl

Mossville DD Member-At-Large
Michael Hamilton

Skilled Trades Member-At-Large
Harry Thompson, Jr.

SPBU (CPM) Member-At-Large
(Open)

Plantwide Safety Chairman
Stephen Mitchell

Retiree's Chapter President
Jane Evans

Bargaining Chairman – LTD
Curt Malott

Bargaining Chairman – Norforge
Jon C. Anderson

Bargaining Chair. – Taz. Machine
Nickolas Kneip

Bargaining Chair. – City of Delavan
Jerry A. Littlefield

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PW
Michele Whitehead

Bargain. Chair. – Mason City PD
Russell Willis

Bargain. Chair. – Henderson Adv.
Jesse Behymer



BARGAINING CHAIRMAN

RICK DeGROOT,
Bargaining Chairman
Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

August 20, 2013 I had reconstructive surgery on my knee.

Both knees had been done some time ago, one of them failed and had to be replaced. I am on medical and will be for several months. The good news it is healing at a better than expected rate. During my absence I have named Paul Jackson to be my alternate.

DOCKETING

Discharges – We have a total of 12 discharges. We have 3 in East Peoria, 5 in Morton, 3 in Mapleton, 1 in Mossville and 0 in Tech Center & Specialty Products.

ARBITRATION

Arbitrator Kenis – On July 9, 2013 Arbitrator Kenis heard William Bly from KK. We are waiting on a ruling to come back and on September 17, 18 & 19, 2013 we will arbitrate Mossville issue cases.

Arbitrator Robert Cohen – We have hired Arbitrator Robert Cohen for just cause grievances and first on the docket will be Building KK on 10/2/13. We have open dates on 10/7 and 10/8. (Open dates will be determined by necessity in the Caterpillar Chain, i.e., Peoria, Decatur, Aurora, etc.) We also have dates for November and December-- Mossville on November 7 & 8, Mapleton on December 5 and KK TBU on December 18.

REWARDS

June 30th was the end of the second accounting quarter for Caterpillar's Rewards Program. Payout is expected August 23rd. Everyone has the right to get an explanation from their supervisor explaining the metrics they use to determine your rewards.

STEWARDS COUNCIL MEETINGS

We have a steward council meeting the 4th Thursday of each month. You do not have to be a steward to attend. Everybody is welcome. The times are 8:00 am; 12:00 pm; 4:00 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month. We will dedicate part of the meeting for steward training. Then each month we will cover different articles in the contract.

TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WEAR A UNION SHIRT TO WORK

In Solidarity, Rick DeGroot

UAW AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974 NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS FOR TRIENNIAL ELECTION

NOMINATIONS WILL OPEN ON NOVEMBER 4, 2013 AT 8:00 A.M. AND CLOSE ON NOVEMBER 8, 2013 AT 4:30 P.M. FOR THE FOLLOWING AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974 OFFICES:

PRESIDENT
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
RECORDING SECRETARY
FINANCIAL SECRETARY TREASURER
PLANT WIDE SAFETY CHAIRMAN

THREE (3) TRUSTEES
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
GUIDE
CHAIRMAN OF INSURANCE & BENEFITS
UNIT BARGAINING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Elected Unit Bargaining Committee Chairmen are automatic Members-at-Large to the Executive Board. Nominations will also open for the following Executive Board Member-at-Large positions, (1) from each Grievance Division as follows, including (1) Member-at-Large from Skilled Trades:

Track Type Tractor Division
Cast Metals Organization (Mapleton)
Technical Services Division
Specialty Products Business Unit
Skilled Trades – (1 Plant wide)
Global Distribution Center (Morton)

Transmission Business Unit (Bldg. KK)
Performance Engine Products Division
(Mossville BB)
Performance Engine Products Division
(Mossville DD)

Nominations will be open for 16 Cap Delegates, and for Unit and Divisional Grievance Committeemen.

GRIEVANCE DIVISION COMMITTEEMEN:

Five (5) to be elected: Track Type Tractors (East Peoria) – 1 - 1st from Building SS
1 - 1st from Building HH/BB
1 - 1st from Building LL/NN
1 - Other than 1st shift Building HH/BB
1 - Other than 1st shift Building LL/NN

Three (3) to be elected: Cast Metals Organization (Mapleton) 1 - 1st shift, 1 - 3rd shift, 1 - Any shift
Global Distribution Center (Morton) 1 - 1st shift, 1 - Other than 1st, 1 - Any shift
Mossville (Building BB/DD) 1 - 1st shift BB, 1 - Other than 1st, 1 - Building DD, 1 - Any building
Transmission Business Unit (Bldg. KK) 1 - 1st shift, 1 - Other than 1st, 1 - Any shift

Two (2) to be elected from EACH:

Technical Services Division (Tech Center & Proving Grounds) - 2 - Any shift
Specialty Products Business Unit (Mossville & Peoria) - 2 - Any shift

All Unit 1 Grievance Committeemen will automatically be entered in the Grievance Committee Chairman's election unless a withdrawal slip for Chairman is received. In the event all Committeemen withdraw from a Chairman's race, all withdrawal slips will be invalid and all members entered.

UNIT GRIEVANCE COMMITTEEMEN:

Unit 2, LTD Industries

Three (3) openings:

(1) Bargaining Committee Chairman
(2) Committee Members

Unit 3, Norforge

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

Unit 4, Tazewell Machine

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

Unit 6, City of Delavan

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

Unit 7, Henderson Advertising

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

Unit 9, Mason City Public Works

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

Unit 10, Mason City Police

One (1) opening: (1) Bargaining Committee Chairman

ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE NOTARIZED UNLESS PERSONALLY HANDED TO AN ELECTION COMMITTEE OFFICER. PRINTED NAMES ON THE NOMINATION FORM SHOULD REFLECT HOW THE CANDIDATES WISH THEIR NAMES TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AT THE AMALGAMATED UAW LOCAL 974 UNION HALL (8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.), EXCEPT FOR MONDAY NOVEMBER 4TH AND TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5TH, WHEN NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 6:00 P.M. A MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2013 AT 1:00 P.M. TO DRAW FOR POSITION AND REVIEW ELECTION RULES.

RULES: In order to qualify for candidacy in the coming election, the following rules must be complied with:

1. Candidates must be able to comply with eligibility requirements of the International Constitution and the Local bylaws.
2. Candidates for all offices must work in their respective Divisions at time of acceptance and shall so indicate on their acceptance form.
3. Candidates or their designated representatives, who must be a member in good standing, will be permitted to draw for position if they so desire.
4. No member will be permitted to accept nominations for more than one (1) Executive Office.
5. Withdrawal of nominations will be limited to three (3) working days following close of nominations.

LAST WITHDRAWAL DATE: NOVEMBER 13TH AT 4:30 P.M.

A NOTICE OF TIMES AND PLACES OF ELECTION WILL BE POSTED AT A LATER DATE.

Chris Dickerson, Chairman / Election Committee



FINANCIAL SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN SHALLENBERGER, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

LABOR DAY PICNIC

What a great day it was to have U.S. House of Representative Cheri Bustos, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin, State Senator Dave Koehler and State

Representative Jehan Gordon all attend our picnic. They made themselves available to sit and talk with the membership and their families. If you look back over the years at the different picnics, our local has always been fortunate to have a good mix of politicians.

LABOR DAY PARADE

We had a perfect weather day for the parade, along with the time being moved up to 10:00 a.m. this brought a great turn out of members and families to walk in the parade. I want to personally thank each and every member for taking the time out of their weekend to come out and support their union, by coming to the picnic and parade.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP)

In this issue of the paper there is an article written by Jim Hightower on the Trans-Pacific Partnership. If you have not heard of these so called trade agreements, please take the time to read this one. Everything I have seen on it makes N.A.F.T.A North American Free Trade Agreement look minor league. The word on TPP is that it's like N.A.F.T.A on steroids!

We all must start calling our U.S. Senators and House of Representatives and let them know that we're still bleeding from N.A.F.T.A., along with World Trade Organizations (WTO). These two agreements have cost us over 60,000 American Manufacturing Facilities. Nearly five million manufacturing jobs (one out of four jobs) have been lost since N.A.F.T.A. and WTO. The TPP would replicate and expand on the N.A.F.T.A. model.

The N.A.F.T.A. Agreement even provided special benefits to companies that move to the low wage countries. Now keep in mind that N.A.F.T.A. is only North America. The TPP Agreement includes over (9) countries and looks to be (12) countries before they're done. Despite major gains

in American productivity, real median wages hover at 1979 levels. Government data shows that two out of every five displaced manufacturing workers were rehired in 2012, experienced wage reductions of more than 20%, when you have the loss of all manufacturing jobs. Tax revenue that could have funded Social Services or local infrastructure projects has declined, while displaced workers have turned to shrinking welfare programs. This has resulted in the collapse of some local governments in the hardest hit areas.

Please see pages 12 & 13 for complete article on this important issue!!

DUES

On dues, if you owe dues from drawing S.U.B. pay = 1 hour of your wages a month, or when you hired in and did not come to the union hall and join in your first month. It's a good possibility that you could have fell behind on your union dues. My office has been going through our records and if you are behind we will be sending out letters letting you know. If you are in question feel free to call the dues office so we can check for you.

SOLDIERS BIBLE

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

PLEASE CONTACT DUES OFFICE

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

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

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

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

In Solidarity, John R. Shallenberger
Financial Secretary – Treasurer



Six Flags Great America Tickets for UAW Local 974

Any-Day Tickets valid May 4th - October 27th
only **\$40.00** + \$7.99 processing fee **per order**

To purchase tickets online

Logon to: sixflags.com/partnerlogin

RECAPITULATION as of July, 2013

Income	\$ 194,154.86
Expenditures	<u>192,388.94</u>
Excess of Income over Expense	\$ 1,765.92

Regular Dues received on	4,330
Sub Dues received on	1
Bonus Dues received on	2
Initiation Fees received on	1

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 73,382.80
CAP Council	5,892.42
CAT Council	4,362.11
Retirees Dues PCT	390.00
Ag Council	144.56
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	<u>12.04</u>
Total	\$ 84,367.93

RECAPITULATION as of August, 2013

Income	\$ 174,770.52
Expenditures	<u>208,549.14</u>
Excess of Expense over Income	\$ (33,778.62)

Regular Dues received on	3,873
Sub Dues received on	0
Initiation Fees received on	1
Bonus Dues received on	61

PER CAPITA TAXES:

International Union UAW	\$ 85,889.62
CAP Council	6,902.02
CAT Council	5,100.77
Retirees Dues PCT	288.50
Ag Council	169.60
Labor Council of West Central IL	184.00
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	<u>14.95</u>
Total	\$ 98,549.56



INSURANCE & BENEFITS REPORT

JIM ARROWOOD, Chairman Insurance and Benefits

Our Labor Day Picnic was well attended. United States Senator Dick Durbin came to our picnic. Just imagine what that means. Of all the demands and requests he must have had to attend events in Illinois for Labor Day, he chose to come to the UAW Local 974 picnic. What an honor. We also had United States Congresswoman Cheri Bustos, along with State Senator Dave Koehler and our Congresswoman Jehan Gordon. If you aren't proud to be a member of UAW Local 974, you should be.

The Labor Day Parade was also a huge success. When we participate in the parade every year it confirms our commitment to the support of middle class workers and families in our community.

On September 11 we hosted the third annual Patriot's Day Veteran's Appreciation Dinner. Speakers started

at 5:00 pm and dinner was served at 6:00 pm. All Veterans and spouses were welcome as usual. Senator Koehler also spoke to our Veterans and gave the invocation.

As always the insurance and benefits office remains a busy place. The annual enrollment period will open in November for active and retired members. This two week window gives members an opportunity to enroll for the 2014 plan year. If you do not need to change plans or add dependents, you will not need to do anything. You will automatically continue coverage in the plan you are currently covered with. You will receive notice by mail prior to the enrollment window.

In solidarity, Jim Arrowood, Chairman

P.S. – Hello again to my dear friends southwest of West Plains, MO. Hope to see you all again in



Die Cast & Toy Sale

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013

LOCAL 974 UAW UNION HALL

3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, Illinois

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ADMISSION \$1.00

All proceeds go to the
Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund

RETIREES Medicare Reimbursement

From time to time, I remind our retirees about the Medicare Part B reimbursement portion of our plan. If you or your spouse are medicare age, 65, and enrolled for Medicare Part A & B, you are also eligible for reimbursement of the Part B Premium. The **Plan will reimburse your premium up to \$99.50**. You must contact Hewitt at 1-877-228-4010 to enroll for the reimbursement, both the member and spouse are eligible.



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 CIGNA Dental

Customer Service: 1-800-244-6224

Web: cigna.com OR myCIGNA.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:

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.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

STEVE MITCHELL, Plantwide Safety Chairman

Even in these trying economic times, few things cause Caterpillar workers more concern than reporting an on-the-job injury or illness. As if being hurt is not bad enough, the consequences of Caterpillar's perfect 20/20 hindsight investigations have had the desired effect. The mindset that discipline will make you safer has in large part, led workers to not report injuries. I have spoken with many people who told me, "The first thing I thought after being hurt was I could lose my job over this".

In 1970, OSHA was directed to gather information regarding workplace injury and illness data in order to further the purposes of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The data is used to identify injury and illness trends so that OSHA can develop future health and safety standards. For OSHA to develop useful standards they need accurate data on all work-related injuries and illnesses, so if workers are not reporting injuries or illnesses or if employers are taking actions which suppresses employee reporting, the hazards will not be addressed and workers will continue to suffer.

The purpose of the OSHA Recordkeeping Standard 29CFR 1904 is as follows, The purpose of this rule (Part 1904) is to require employers to record and report work-related fatalities, injuries and illnesses. After the purpose, there is a note that states, recording or reporting a work-related injury, illness, or fatality does not mean that the employer or employee was at fault, that an OSHA rule has been violated, or that the employee is eligible for workers' compensation or other benefits. In other words, the authors of this standard intended for the reporting and recording of injuries to be done on a fault-free, blame-free basis.

In 2002, the Recordkeeping Standard was amended so that the act of an employee reporting an injury to his or her employer is considered a "protected activity". Specifically, 29CFR 1904.36 says, Section 11(c) of the Act prohibits you from discriminating against an employee for reporting a work-related fatality, injury or illness. That provision of the Act also protects the employee who files a safety and health complaint, asks for access to the Part 1904 records, or otherwise exercises any rights afforded by the OSH Act. This change was made to reinforce the idea that when workers report workplace injuries and illnesses, they should be able to do so without fear of retribution.

In addition to being rightfully fearful of being disciplined for reporting injuries or illnesses, there have been numerous cases when workers do report, our benevolent employer has taken disciplinary action based on what was allegedly said or written in a statement given while they were in First Aid. If you are ever asked to give a written statement, invoke your Weingarten Rights. Ask if anything you write could potentially lead to

you being disciplined. If the answer is "no", ask for that assurance in writing. If the answer is "yes", ask for a union representative before writing anything down.

I know of a case recently where a worker suffered a pretty severe laceration and reported the injury. He was pretty confident that he would not get in trouble. He was wearing the required personal protective equipment and felt he had done nothing wrong. When he sat down at First Aid, the first thing they did was to give him a form and asked him to write out what exactly had happened. As he sat there with a blood-soaked shop towel wrapped around the cut, he started to fill out the form and realized that the personnel in First Aid had not even bothered to look at his wound. Once examined, he was immediately sent to the Emergency Room where he received a number of stitches. Why was filling out that form more important than assessing the injury?

Why do we go to First Aid? We go there to report injuries and illnesses as we are required to do. We go because we need the health care professionals to examine us and if necessary or desired, to treat you. We don't go to First Aid and give our account of the incident to provide Caterpillar with the ammunition they need to discipline us. We don't go to First Aid to fill out forms and then have the information twisted and turned in such a manner as to put us at risk of disciplinary action. We don't go to First Aid to have the people we trust to treat us turn against us after the fact.

How have we gotten to this point? Doesn't Caterpillar publically say they want you to report any and all symptoms of every illness or injury? If we don't report, aren't we subject to discipline? Isn't retaliation forbidden in the Code of Conduct? If retaliation is not tolerated, why are workers so afraid that reporting an injury could lead to discipline or the loss of a job?

According to an article in the Wall Street Journal on July 22, 2013, a Florida jury awarded a former Caterpillar Logistics worker \$617,126 for allegedly being harassed and humiliated after reporting a work-related injury (<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323993804578611743983277744.html>). Rudolf Amaya hurt his back while moving a box five years ago at a Caterpillar warehouse near Miami. Caterpillar wanted Mr. Amaya to sign a statement saying that the accident was his fault – he refused. Amaya was then allegedly given harsher performance reviews, prevented him from talking to colleagues, restricted his restroom breaks and made him sweep dusty shelves. Caterpillar denied mistreating him.

Roderick Hannah, Amaya's attorney, stated that one of the problems at the facility was Caterpillar's Vision Zero policy, aimed at eliminating

workplace injuries. Hannah stated, "The head of the facility on his performance evaluation gets a bad review...and members of management get bad reviews if the facility doesn't perform up to snuff on safety," according to the article. What do you think happens if the head of the facility gets a bad review on their safety performance? Could a bad review cost the head of a facility some pay or reduce the amount of a raise? Caterpillar denied any economic incentives were tied to safety metrics.

Despite the corporate denials, Amaya's supervisor said in a sworn deposition that management performance reviews and pay depended in part on injury rates and that employees also receive monetary compensation if the plant met its safety goals. That sounds to me like there are economic incentives to drive down the reporting or recording of injuries. In addition, the Florida jury apparently felt that Caterpillar retaliated against Rudolf Amaya, so in this one case, based on the evidence, the jury felt there were incentives that tied money to safety performance and the jury awarded more than \$600,000 for retaliation as a result – amazing!

If Caterpillar ever wants to be a world leader in health and safety and not just a world leader in reducing the number of injuries and illnesses reported, there will have to be a number of changes made. First, any incident that occurs is a symptom of a failure in the safety system. When something goes wrong and a worker is hurt, failures in the system will not be identified unless there is a thorough investigation conducted, preferably by a trained joint labor/management investigation team. Currently, Caterpillar does not allow the union to participate in investigations, therefore the so-called "investigations" are usually an exercise in blaming the victim for failures in Caterpillar's system of safety. The responsibility to correct safety problems on the job rests squarely with the employer, but if you want a joint investigation, you will need to file a safety complaint to get your representative involved.

Second, nobody who reports an injury or illness should be disciplined for anything to do with the conditions or events that led to the incident. In addition, there should be no discipline issued to anyone who reports a near miss. Near misses are some of the biggest bargains in Health and Safety. Where else can you have an incident and learn of serious hazards without someone getting hurt?

Third, if management wants to incentivize something, incentivize reporting exposure to hazards. I can't believe how much time is wasted doing the foolish "safety observations" that focus on remedial topics like PPE and allow more serious exposures to hazards to continue. High-priced canned behavior-based safety programs that mindlessly

repeat the mantra, "Eyes on path", "Mind on task" and Stay out of the line of fire" are wastes of time and resources that do nothing to identify hazards or prevent injuries and illnesses; they are used to assign blame to workers when injured on the job. Identifying, prioritizing and controlling exposure to hazards is the most effective way to prevent injuries and illnesses. If Caterpillar incentivized reporting hazards, reporting near misses and reporting all injuries and illnesses, they would be surprised at how many hazards are there in plain sight that people are reluctant to say anything about.

Lastly, we the workers are not the problem; we are the solution to Caterpillar's health and safety problems. We are the experts on our jobs and the way they are done. We don't design the workplace, parts, processes or tools we work with, but we certainly suffer the injuries and illnesses attributed to them. We need to get our respective workplaces in order. If you feel that you are exposed to a safety or health hazard on your job, notify your supervisor. If he/she can't or won't deal with it in a satisfactory manner, ask for your union health and safety representative. If you are hurt at work or suffer from a work-related illness, report it. If you are asked for a written statement, invoke your Weingarten Rights if anything you provide might be used against you.

Thought for today –
Remember, your union representative is
your only advocate,
there to help you, if only you call.



UAW LOCAL 974 CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2013

Sun 13 **Executive Board Meeting** 11:00am
General Council Meeting 1:00pm

Wed 16 **Retirees' Chapter Mtng & Dinner** 11:30 am

Thu 17 **Safety Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm

Sat 19 **Fall Die Cast & Toy Sale** 7:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sun 20 **Membership & Retirees' Dance** 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Tue 22 **Rhythm City Bus Trip** 8:00am

Thu 24 **Steward Council Meetings** 8:00 / 12:00 / 4:00pm



NOVEMBER 2013

Fri 1 **Local 974 News Article Deadline** (Dec. Newsletter)

Sun 10 **Executive Board Meeting** 11:00am
General Council Meeting 1:00pm

Mon 11 **Veteran's Day**

Wed 20 **Retirees' Chapter Meeting & Dinner** 11:30am

Sat 23 **Arts & Crafts Sale** 9:00am - 4:00pm

Sun 24 **Arts & Crafts Sale** 9:00am - 4:00pm

Mon 25 **UAW Red Cross Blood Drive** 11:00am - 5:00pm

Tue 26 **Jumer's Rock Island Bus Trip** 8:00am

Thu 28 **Thanksgiving Day - Union Hall Closed**

Fri 29 **Friday After Thanksgiving - Union Hall Closed**

AMALGAMATED LOCAL 974, UAW RETIREES ELECTION NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES WERE ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION:

Chairman	Jane R. Evans
First Vice-Chairman	James W. Tabor
Second Vice-Chairman	Velma E. Walton
Financial Secretary	W. D. "Bill" Corum
Recording Secretary	Steven C. Adams
Sergeant-At-Arms	Ted Hoak
Trustees (3)	Thomas Bencher, David Blumenstock, Jack "Honey" Evans
Guide	Dale Cassel

DELEGATES FOR REGION 4 RETIREES:

1. Jane R. Evans	9. Geneva "Ginny" Nailing
2. Dale Cassel	10. Ted Hoak
3. Steve "Bubba" Adams	
4. David Blumenstock	
5. Jack "Honey" Evans	
6. Thomas Bencher	
7. Velma E. Walton	
8. James W. Tabor	

(10 positions filled)

Retirees Election Committee:

Gary E. Hall, Chairman
 Jack Hidden
 Chet Bishop

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139 E. Washington St, East Peoria, Illinois 61611 • 309-694-3196 • 309-353-5898



DICK L. WILLIAMS

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

Auto Claims
 Wills & Probate
 Real Estate
 Elder Law
 Injury Claims
 Workers Compensation



DICK B. (RICH) WILLIAMS

has concentrated his practice in Bankruptcy Law and Driver's License Reinstatement for twelve years.

Bankruptcy
 Social Security Disability
 Drivers' License Reinstatement



WILLIAM C. LOEFFEL

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

Criminal
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RETIREES CHAPTER UAW LOCAL 974

WED POTLUCKS – OCTOBER 16 & NOVEMBER 20

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

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

MEMBERSHIP & RETIREES DANCE

Sunday, October 20th • 7:00 – 10:00 pm

Featuring “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.

BUS TRIPS

Tuesday, October 22 – Rhythm City

Tuesday, November 26 – Jumer's Rock Island

The new officers in charge of the bus trips are Velma Walton and Chet Bishop.

HOW CAN I JOIN THE RETIREE CLUB?

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

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

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

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

To assist in financing these activities a \$2 per month voluntary membership dues can be established at the Dues Office. The largest portion of the dues dollars goes to the International Retired Workers Advisory Council which is concerned with retired workers programs and policies and other matters that affect the welfare of retired workers.

Contact Retirees' Officers at 309/694-3151

Jane Evans, Chairman	Jim Tabor, Co-Chairman
Velma Walton, 2nd Co-Chairman	Steven C. Adams, Recording Secretary
W.D. “Bill” Corum, Financial Secretary	Dale Cassel, Guide
Dave Blumenstock, Trustee	Tom Bencher, Trustee

Jack “Honey” Evans, Trustee

Ted Hoak, Sergeant at Arms



Saturday, November 23, 2013
&
Sunday, November 24, 2013

Local 974 UAW Union Hall
3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, Illinois

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

FREE Admission & Door Prize Ticket

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

For more information:
Call Dave Blumenstock at (309) 369-7822
or at the Union Hall (309) 694-3151



**IF WE DON'T HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS,
PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 694-3151
AND GIVE A SECRETARY THE
ADDRESS SO THAT YOU CAN
KEEP CURRENT ON EVERYTHING GOING ON.**

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.





2013 LABOR DAY PARADE

JULY 27TH BAGS TOURNAMENT AT LOCAL 974 HALL



(Upper Left Hand Corner)

The President Inspires His Team!



50th Anniversary of Freedom March in Detroit

In 1963, prior to the historic March on Washington, Martin Luther King Jr. marched down Woodward Avenue to rally for jobs, justice, and peace. The Detroit Branch of the NAACP and UAW- Ford along with thousands of others commemorated the Walk to Freedom/Freedom Walk's 50th anniversary on Saturday, June 22, 2013.

*By Evonne Fleming,
Reprinted with permission from the Traveler Weekly*

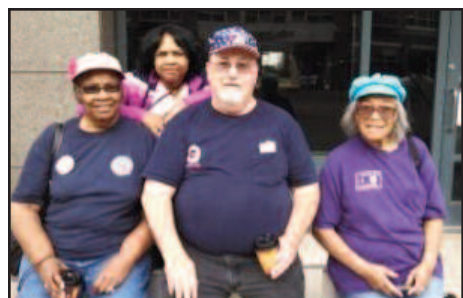
When the march happened in 1963, I was barely a year old and hundreds of miles away. Thanks to my retired UAW brother and sisters I was able to attend the 50th Anniversary Freedom March in Detroit, Mi.

It was an adventure of a lifetime.

There were so many people and it was extremely hot. The 2 miles seemed liked ten. Our clothes were drenched with sweat and every step I took I landed on someone's heel, as did the person behind me. A young girl with her little sister on her back walked beside me.



I saw fathers who marched in 1963 walk that day with their sons beside them. I listened as a grandmother talked about being there



50 years ago with her grandmother when she was 14 years old. This day her 15-year-old granddaughter walked beside her. I heard women talk about how during the march in 1963 they couldn't speak, but this day they talked about freedom and

sang songs. I watched as Rev. Jesse Jackson, Al Sharpton, Martin Luther King III and Mayor Dave Bing stood behind the banner that read 50 years later we shall not DEFAULT on our freedom. I was told that in 1963 they marched in silence because they didn't know if they would be greeted by police with dogs or by fire hoses spraying water on them. This day we were led by the Wayne County Sheriff Department. There were no dogs -- no water hoses.

What a difference 50 years make. Although we have made



RAFFLE!

4 CASH PRIZES!

\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE

1ST PRIZE - \$3,000

2ND PRIZE - \$2,000

3RD PRIZE - \$1,000




COST: \$2.00 per ticket

DRAWING: October 5, 2013

WHERE: UAW Region 4 Fall Conference

Doug Brooks Benefit



October 26th, 2013 4-9pm

UAW Local 974 Union Hall

3025 Springfield Rd. East Peoria

Doug Brooks, a resident of East Peoria, and a member of Local 974 and Freedom Valley ABATE, has been diagnosed with Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy. He is an eleven year cancer survivor, a five year brain tumor survivor, and now has to undergo open heart surgery. The open heart surgery will take place at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. All proceeds will assist the family during this time.

Adult dinner tickets will be \$8.00

(BBQ Beef or Italian Beef Sandwich with two sides and drink)

Kid's dinner tickets will be \$4.00

(Sub sandwich or hot dog, chips, fruit snack and drink)

Live Music will be performed by the band Misfitz

Also to be included in the festivities will be a Bake Sale,

50/50 drawing, Silent Auction and Raffles.

For questions, donations or ticket information please call:

Melinda Gerhardt (East Peoria) 309-694-2934 Bob Brooks (Delavan) 309-712-8905

Tammy Hartter (Washington) 309-256-1361 Dezi Rudd (Creve Coeur) 309-472-5646



The Editor's Desk

By Rick Corbin

I will forego writing an article this month so that I can use this space to strongly suggest all members read fully and understand the article written by Financial Secretary John Shallenberger.

This article sheds light on a "Nafta-like" trade deal that very few of our citizens have ever heard of, yet it could have serious effects on such things as food safety, jobs, fracking for natural gas exploration, drug prices, banking, internet freedom, and public services to name a few.

Those pushing this "deal" will try to get a "fast-track" vote possibly this fall.

As this "trans-pacific partnership" unfolds, you will see this whole thing looks very bad for our citizens.

John and I have agreed to make this a multi-issue article to get the real story out.

READ AND TAKE NOTE!

Both Bush & Obama have kept negotiations secret about this nuclearized NAFTA

**The Trans-Pacific Partnership is not about free trade.
It's a corporate coup d'etat--against us!**

Written by Jim Hightower • Publisher, Phillip Frazer

STOP MAKING SENSE

Imagine the uproar if President Obama and Congress tried to pass a bill to outlaw such "preferential procurement" policies, summarily cancelling our democratic right to decide where to make public purchases. I'd get pretty PO'd, wouldn't you? And what if they also proposed that foreign corporations in Brunei, New Zealand, Vietnam, and other nations must be given the right to make the sale on any and all products purchased with our tax dollars? That'd set my hair on fire!

The American people would never stand for this brazen affront to our sovereignty, so I can assure you that Obama and Congress will definitely NOT be proposing any such thing. Not directly, that is.

Instead, their hope is to tiptoe it around us. The nullification of our people's right to direct expenditures of our own tax dollars is but one of the horror stories being quietly packed into a political-and-economic bombshell benignly labeled TPP -- the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

This thing is a supersized and nuclearized NAFTA, the 1994 trade scam rammed through Congress by Bill Clinton, Wall Street's Robert Rubin, and the entire corporate establishment. They promised that the "glories of globalization" would shower prosperity across our land. They lied. Corporations got the gold. We got the shaft--thousands of factories closed, millions of middle-class jobs went south, and the economies of hundreds of towns and cities (including Detroit) were hollowed out. (Most Mexicans got the NAFTA shaft, too. US grain traders like ADM dumped corn into Mexico, wiping out millions of peasant farmers' livelihoods, and thousands of local businesses were crushed when Walmart invaded with its Chinese-made wares.) Twenty years later, the corporate gang that stuck us with NAFTA is back, hoping to fool us with an even more destructive multinational deal. (This calls for another immortal quote from George W: "Fool me once, shame on--shame on you. Fool me--you can't get fooled again." Well, you know what he meant).

This time we really must pay attention, because TPP is not just another trade deal. First, it is massive and open-ended. It would hitch us immediately to 11 Pacific Rim nations (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam), and its door would remain wide open to lure China, Indonesia, Russia, and other nations to come in. Second, note that many of those countries already have trade agreements with the US. Hence, **THIS AMAZING FACT:** *TPP is a "trade deal" that mostly does not deal with trade.* In fact, of the 29 chapters in this document, only five cover traditional trade matters!

The other two dozen chapters amount to a devilish "partnership" for corporate protectionism. They create sweeping new "rights" and escape hatches to protect multinational corporations from accountability to our governments... and to us. Here are a few of TPP's provisos that would make our daily lives riskier, poorer, and less free:

• **FOOD SAFETY.** Any of our government's food safety regulations (on pesticide levels, bacterial contamination, fecal exposure, toxic additives, GMOs, non-edible fillers, etc.) that are stricter than "international standards," as most are, could be ruled as "illegal trade barriers." Then our government would have to revise our consumer protections to comply with the weaker global standards. Also, our government could no longer ban meat imports that don't meet our safe-to-eat laws, as long as the exporting nation simply claims that its inspection system is "equivalent" to ours. In addition, food labeling laws we rely on (organic, country-of-origin, animal-welfare approved, GMO-free, etc.) would also be subject to challenge as trade barriers.

• **FRACKING.** Our Department of Energy would lose its authority to regulate exports of natural gas to any TPP nation. This would create an explosion of the destructive fracking process across our land, for both foreign and US corporations could export fracked gas from America to member nations without any DOE review of the environmental and economic impacts on local communities--or on our national interests. It also means that most of the gas produced by this violently polluting process will not go to us, but to foreign users, which will raise our consumer prices and cut manufacturing growth.

• **JOBS.** US corporations would get special foreign-investor protections to limit the cost and risk of relocating their factories to low-wage nations that sign onto this agreement. For example, an American corporation thinking about moving a factory would know it is guaranteed a sweetheart deal if it exports to a TPP nation like Vietnam. The corporation could skirt Vietnam's laws and demand compensation at an international tribunal for any government policy or action (such as a hike in the minimum wage) that undermined its "expected" profits. These guarantees would be strong incentives for corporate chieftains to export even more of our middle-class jobs.

• **DRUG PRICES.** Big Pharma would be given more years of monopoly pricing on each of their patents and be empowered to block distribution of cheaper generic drugs. Besides artificially keeping everyone's prices high, this would be a death sentence to many people suffering from cancer, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and other treatable diseases in impoverished lands. The deal would also restrict the rights of our government to negotiate with drug giants to get lower consumer prices with bulk purchases, as Medicare and Medicaid do in the US.



• **BANKERS.** Wall Street and the financial giants in other TPP countries would make out like bandits: The deal explicitly prohibits transaction taxes (such as the proposed Robin Hood Tax here) that would shut down super-rich speculators who have repeatedly triggered financial crises and economic crashes around the world; it restricts "firewall" reforms that separate consumer banking from risky investment banking (thus prohibiting Congress from reinstating the much needed Glass-Steagall firewall in our country); it could roll back reforms that governments adopted to fix the extreme bank-deregulation regimen that caused Wall Street's 2007 crash; and it provides a backdoor escape from national rules that would limit the size of "too-big-to-fail" behemoths. These extreme provisions would be enforceable by the banks themselves--TPP empowers them to force governments either to repeal reform laws or to compensate banks with taxpayer money for "losses" they say are caused by reforms.

• **INTERNET FREEDOM.** Thanks to public rebellion, corporations hoping to lock up and monopolize the internet failed in Congress last year to pass their repressive "Stop Online Piracy Act." However, they've slipped SOPA's most pernicious provisions into TPP. Corporate-created content, for example, would be given copyright protection for a stunning 120 years! The deal would also transform internet service providers into a private, Big Brother police force, empowered to monitor our "user activity," arbitrarily take down our content, and cut off our access to the internet. To top that off, consumers could be assessed mandatory fines for non-commercial, small-scale copying--like sending your mom a recipe you got off of a paid site.

• **PUBLIC SERVICES.** TPP rules would limit how governments regulate such public services as utilities, transportation, and education, including restricting policies meant to ensure broad or universal access to those essential needs. One especially insidious rule says that member countries must open their service sectors to private competitors, which would allow the corporate provider to cherry pick the profitable customers and sink the public service. Also, corporations from any TPP nation must be allowed to bid on contracts to provide public services in the

US on the same terms as American corporations.

A CORPORATOCRACY

Lori Wallach, director of Public Citizen's superb research and activist group, Global Trade Watch, correctly calls the Trans-Pacific Partnership "a corporate coup d'etat." Indeed, nations that join must conform their laws and rules to TPP's strictures, effectively supplanting US sovereignty and cancelling our people's right to be self-governing. Worse, it creates virtually permanent corporate rule over us--there's no expiration date on the agreement, and no provision in it can be altered unless all countries agree. Thus, even if Americans voted in an election to make changes, any other TPP country could overrule us by not agreeing.

Well, you might think, we'll still have our courts to redress corporate misuse of TPP's provisions. Uh... no. One of the deal's chapters creates a monstrous monkey wrench called the "Investor-State Dispute Resolution" system. In this private, supra-legal "court," corporations are empowered to sue TPP governments over environmental, health, consumer, zoning, or any other public policies that the corporations claim are either undermining their TPP "rights" or diminishing--get this--their "expected future profits."

This elevates thousands of private, profit-seeking entities to the legal status of sovereign nations. Under the investor-state system, a smaller version of which was included in NAFTA and other free-trade schemes, the deck is stacked for corporate interests. Cases are decided behind closed doors by three-person international tribunals of private attorneys who often have a glaring corporate bias. The same lawyers who represent corporations in these cases routinely switch over in other cases to serve as "judges." Holy revolving door!

These "tribunalists" are not accountable to any electorate, and their decisions are final--there's no appeal to a real court. If a corporation wins a case, taxpayers of the government being sued lose, for they must pony up cash to compensate the corporation for its "loss" of profit.

At present, even before the elephantine TPP is imposed on us, corporations are demanding a total of nearly \$14 billion just in cases brought under free trade arrangements that include the US. Among the current corporate giants suing governments in investor-state tribunals are (1) Philip Morris (Altria), attacking Australia's and Uruguay's cigarette labeling policies; (2) Chevron, trying to avoid its liability for the gross toxic contamination of people and nature in the Ecuadorian Amazon; (3) Eli Lilly, demanding that Canada rewrite its patent law to give its drugs extended monopoly protection; and (4) several European investment firms, assaulting Egypt's minimum wage law.

Shhhhhh!

Why isn't this a screaming, bold-type, take-to-the-streets, call-out-the-dogs, roll-out-the-guillotine news story and political issue? Because the corporate and political powers (apologies again for redundancy) definitely don't want us to kick up a fuss that could squirrel their little surprise, so they've thrown a suffocating blanket of secrecy over the whole process.

TPP negotiations were initiated back in 2008 by none other than President Can't-Be-Fooled-Again. (Okay, one more Bushism: "I think--tide turning. See, as I remember--I was raised in the desert, but tides kind of--it's easy to see a tide turn.") The incurious mass media, however, didn't see the story then and have since devoted zero investigative energy to it. They've accepted the official cover story that the deal is just another yawner of a trade agreement, so pay no mind--even as 17 rounds of closed-door negotiations have zipped under their radar.

Obama--who pledged in 2008 to avoid sneaky, NAFTA-style, corporate sell-outs--promptly surrendered to the global schemers once in office. Team Obama goosed up the TPP negotiating process and has gone to extremes to make it more furtive than Bush did. In 2010, all nations involved even signed a formal pledge to keep details of their deliberations from the public--and to keep documents related to the deal under cover until four years after the process is completed.

WARNING--BUCKLE UP BEFORE READING THIS: Last year, Obama's top trade rep, Ron Kirk, declared that locking out the people is necessary, because the deal's details would outrage Americans and spook Congress from rubber stamping it. In short, to win public approval of TPP, the Obamacans say they must keep it hidden from the public.

Where, you might ask, is Congress? In the dark.

Even though the Constitution says Congress has exclusive authority "to regulate commerce with foreign nations," the White House has repeatedly rejected pretty-please requests by lawmakers merely to attend negotiations as observers, and congressional leaders have not been allowed to review, much less have any meaningful input on, the draft texts of TPP's 29 chapters. (Update: In June, our progressive friend, Rep. Alan Grayson, who has been a tenacious critic of the shady process, was finally granted a peek at the full draft--though not allowed to take a copy. "It's easy to understand why [it's] been kept secret," Grayson says, confirming that "It puts corporate interests ahead of American interests.")

THE CORPORATE TEAM

There are, however, 600 or so "outsiders" who've been welcomed inside to help write TPP. They are handpicked members of the 16 Industry Trade Advisory Committees--practically all of them corporate executives. From AT&T to Zippo Manufacturing, and from the Koch boys' empire to Walmart's billionaires, corporate powers are cheek to jowl with the government negotiators to make sure the final document serves their very special interests.

In addition, Obama has now named one of their own to replace Kirk: Michael Froman, an Obama classmate in law school and a protege of Robert Rubin in the Clinton administration. Post-Clinton, Froman traipsed along with Rubin to Citigroup, which made him a Wall Street multi-millionaire. From there, he went back to Obama in 2004 as a senate campaign advisor and money-bagger (including introducing the rising political star to Rubin). Now he's been brought in to wire all these connections to the TPP sovereignty bomb.

Will the new trade representative finally apply Obama's 2009 pledge of "transparency, public participation, and collaboration" to these momentous negotiations? Sen. Elizabeth Warren asked Froman this very question in June, offering three specific suggestions for shining a little of democracy's beneficial light on the process. "Mr. Froman's response was clear," Sen. Warren later reported: "No, no, no."

Obama & Co. can shut us out of the room, but they can't consummate the deal there. While he wants to wrap up formal negotiations by October, he then has to get Congress's okay. This means imploring the same members he's been stiffing to sign America's name (i.e., yours and mine) to the document.

How will he get them to do that? As Clinton and Bush did in previous free trade hustles, he'll try to use a rush-rush legislative procedure called "fast track," while TPP's boosters simultaneously envelop the public debate in a disorienting fog of corporate PR.

The White House and its corporate allies will also mount a heavy-handed lobbying campaign to shove their package into law. Yet, even with all of the above, by no means is passage assured--or likely.

Start with fast track. The very term suggests a railroad job, which is apt, for it's a little-used, anti-democratic maneuver to choo-choo a bill right over Congress. Under this procedure, Obama is allowed to sign TPP before Congress votes. Then he writes an "implementing bill" to make US laws conform to the hundreds of pages of TPP dictates. That's what he sends to Congress, where no amendments will be allowed and debate will be strictly limited.

The idea is to force members to swallow the whole deal in one, hurried, up-or-down vote. However, Congress first has to authorize the White House's use of the fast track ploy--and that's very iffy. Republican leaders have shown they're unwilling to give anything to Obama. Meanwhile, congressional Democrats are not likely to grease the skids for this stinker of a deal.

THE PEOPLE'S TEAM

But the fundamental problem for the deal's boosters is not procedure, it's content: TPP stinks. If Americans get a whiff of it, they'll gag. Yes, corporations will put a ton of money behind TPP's passage, but even they might not have enough PR perfume to make Congress hug it.

There is also a broad, well-organized, knowledgeable, and politically experienced coalition of grassroots groups already at work to prevent this perversion of America's fundamental governing principles. Still, many pundits will tell us that it's impossible to stop them, because the public can't understand these complex deals.

Baloney. First, this one is not at all complex; it's a plain old power grab by the world's moneyed elites, and people today have no interest in giving more money and power to the world's 1-percenters. Second, populist forces now opposing TPP have won many of these brawls in the past, including:

Stopping Clinton's demand for fast track authority in 1998.

Sidetracking the Multilateral Agreement on Investment in 1998.

Derailing an expansion of the World Trade Organization in 1999 and again in 2010.

Defeating the Free Trade Area of the Americas (a 14-nation expansion of NAFTA) in 1999.

Halting such multi-nation trade deals as AFTA (Andean countries) and NAFTA-style deals with APEC (an earlier attempt at the TPP with 18 Pacific Rim Countries), SACU (Southern Africa), Malaysia, and Thailand.

My message: We can do this. We The People can protect our democratic rights from this latest threat of corporate usurpation. The only way the Powers That Be can win is to keep the public in the dark about what TPP is. So now is the time for Lowdowners to sound the alarm, spread the news about the Trans-Pacific Partnership (start by sharing this article with your social net-

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MOSSVILLE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

PAUL JACKSON, MOSSVILLE GRIEVANCE CHAIRMAN

Dateline: September 3, 2013 - 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 this article.

MOSSVILLE

Labor Relations has announced an intended reduction in force for late September or early October. Lines affected will be 4309 Block line, 4309 CNC line and the Crank line. After the reduction in force, with the exception of some isolated classifications, it is going to take North of 40 years to work at Mossville.

The classifications left in the building will be 1RI1, 2A20, 1H28, 4M25, 4M22, 2MI1, 5MI2.

Still no announced information on how long we will be producing cranks, some estimates takes us through 2014.

Morton Logistics is ever growing presence in Building DD; however those employees are currently not part of the Mossville facility.

MAPLEVILLE

The 2MI1's on the liner line have not been given a final date for complete transfer to Mapleton. There is work being performed on a limited basis in building DD and BB.

The reduction in force in the fall at Mossville will undoubtedly adversely affect Mapleton, but due to attrition from retirements, will be less than first anticipated.

Labor Relations has been reluctant at best to share the upcoming reduction in force process with either the Mossville or Mapleton committees, so if you feel your move in the reduction in force was improper, you will need to request Union representation, so we can investigate.

PUT ME IN COACH!

Since the 2011 negotiations the Local 974 Bargaining Chairman's Office, under Rick DeGroot's leadership, has undergone drastic changes to bring the system into the 21st century. He has streamlined the grievance procedure and "gone green" and updated many of the antiquated forms and files. The process he has adopted requires diligence and attention to detail.

During 2011 bargaining Rick asked me and I accepted the position of Co-Chairman, alternate if you will, to step in and see the process through in case something unforeseen happened. Fortunately he had plenty of time to bring me up to speed on the skill set needed to see that new process through.

On August 20th, 2013 Rick went in for a total re-replacement of his knee. The recovery is going well. During this recovery process, because of his foresight, we will be able to meet all the deadlines for adapting and consolidating the old process with the new and not lose any of the scheduled arbitration dates. In addition to me, Rick increased the depth charts by training J.C. Zimmerman and Steve Mitchell in the process to keep the office serving the membership, in cases where the necessity to complete the duties of the Bargaining Chairman's Offices takes me out of town. We all wish Rick a speedy recovery and a big THANKS to the membership for their patience during his absence.

CAN YOU BELIEVE MY DAMNED UNION?

The following Letter to the Editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer by Chemical Workers Local 747 member Ken Spring was in response to Nordstrom Dept. store employees who voted to decertify the United Food and Commercial Workers in an intense anti-union campaign that many employees believe was initiated and financed by the company. Said a leader of the Nordstrom employees opposed to the union: "Unions want to take our money and we have said, 'No.'"

"I must agree with the leader mentioned above," he wrote, "as I belong to a union and I must also give my union \$39 per month. And all that I get for my monthly dues are:

- I must accept only \$18.33 per hour.
- If I am called in early on my shift or on weekends, I must accept three hours pay for call-time, plus time-and-a-half pay for all hours worked on a weekend.
- I must accept good medical and dental coverage plans that my employer pays for.
- I must take seven weeks vacation after 20 years with the company, fully paid.
- I must be protected by seniority rights that move me up the progression ladder in a fair and just manner.
- I am forced to have a good grievance procedure so that I am treated fairly by management.
- I am forced by my damned union to work in a safe and healthy environment.
- I also cannot believe how that pushy union is going to force on me a good, company paid pension when I retire.
- My union also is very democratic and regularly asks for my input. What is wrong with our union leaders, anyway, running a union like that? My union leaders tell me that I am the union. Some nerve, huh?

Unions are really terrible, that's for sure. I think that I will contact the National Labor Relations Board and see if I can get my union decertified.

I am sick and tired of the union doing all of these things for me. Just think, when all of my benefits are gone and I am working for \$4.25 per hour, at least I will not have to pay any more lousy union dues!

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO GET SOMETHING DONE.
DO IT YOURSELF, HIRE IT DONE, OR,
FORBID YOUR KIDS TO DO IT!!!**



UAW MEMBERS

SAVE HUNDREDS ON CEMETERY MONUMENTS

CURRENT AND RETIRED UAW MEMBERS SHOW US YOUR
UAW MEMBERSHIP CARD AND RECEIVE A 5% TO 10%
DISCOUNT ON THE PURCHASE OF A MONUMENT

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

VISIT EITHER LOCATION

PEORIA MONUMENT CO.

3701-A N. SHERIDAN • PEORIA, IL 309.682.9858
(CORNER OF SHERIDAN & WAR MEMORIAL)

OR VISIT

MCAVOY MONUMENT CO.

431 HENRIETTA • PEKIN, IL 309.346.0866
(CORNER OF FIFTH AND HENRIETTA)

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



Synergy Healthcare

Physical Medicine

Medical • Chiropractic • Rehab • Massage

1200 W. Loucks Ave. Peoria, IL
(309) 688-4484

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Remembering Our Brothers and Sisters

July

N. Paul Stewart	R	7/03/2013
Charles M. Maxwell	R	7/04/2013
Gerald H. Kobischka	R	7/12/2013
Darrell W. Deal Jr.	A	7/13/2013
Joseph J. Terrini	R	7/15/2013
George J. Calvin	R	7/16/2013
Paul W. Miller	D	7/18/2013
Marvin T. Everett	R	7/23/2013
Donald R. Mallicoat	R	7/24/2013

August

William Wells Jr.	R	8/01/2013
Leroy F. Leuthold	R	8/01/2013
Oakley T. Mitchell	R	8/03/2013
Ronald D. Simmons	R	8/04/2013
Girtha B. Montgomery	R	8/05/2013
Robert L. Walker Sr.	R	8/07/2013
Gerald Van Winkle	R	8/09/2013
Leon M. Bright	R	8/14/2013
Edward R. Simpson	R	8/17/2013
William E. Bottone	R	8/20/2013
Walter W. Walker	R	8/22/2013
Glenn M. Barnes	R	8/28/2013
James M. Chilton	R	8/30/2013

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.

**In Loving
Memory**

NEED HELP? CALL:
Heart of Illinois
2-1-1
Get Connected. Get Answers.

Advanced Medical Transport United Way

AVAILABLE 24/7 • FREE • CONFIDENTIAL • 211HOI.ORG

CALLING 211 CONNECTS YOU TO SERVICES INCLUDING:

- food, shelter, clothing & utility assistance
- physical & mental health services
- job training & transportation assistance
- home-delivered meals
- childcare & after school programs
- and more ...



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



*We would like to wish
everyone a
Happy Thanksgiving!*

UAW LOCAL 974

Certificate of Achievement

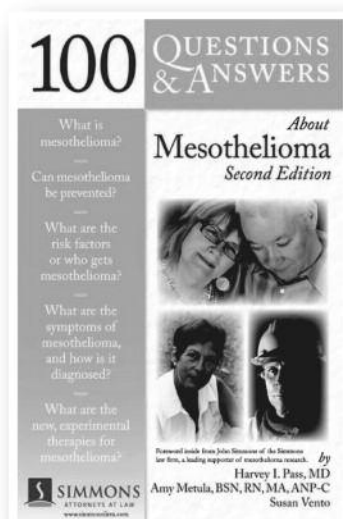
Heather Henninger Scholarship Fund Scholarship Drawing Winners September 8th, 2013



Winner	College Attending	Gift Awarded	974 Family Member
Ryan Baker	Sophomore, Bradley University	1,000.00	Grandson of Fred Butler
Bradley F Boeji	Senior, George Mason University	1,000.00	Grandson of Gary F Carey
Corbin Turnbull	Freshman, Black Hawk College - East	1,000.00	Grandson of Edward L Smith
Katelyn Dwyer	Senior, Bradley University	1,000.00	Granddaughter of David L Dwyer
Laura A Steubinger	Junior, Bradley University	1,000.00	Granddaughter of James M Smith
Heather Walter	Master Program, OSF College of Nursing	1,000.00	Daughter of Rick Capelle
Evan Armagast	Sophomore, Heartland Community College	500.00	Son of Donald D Armagast
Cody Ayres	Sophomore, Illinois Central College	500.00	Son of Walter Ayres
Zac Capelle	Sophomore, Illinois Central College	500.00	Son of Rick Capelle
Matthew D Conway	Senior, Univ of Illinois – Champaign/Urbana	500.00	Son of Brian T Conway
Cole S Hanna	Junior, Illinois State University	500.00	Step-Son of Dannie Powell
Christopher T Wood	Sophomore, Illinois Central College	500.00	Grandson of Jimmy D Jacobsen
Kaitlin Marie Backes	Senior, Missouri State University	500.00	Daughter of John Backes, Jr
Daryan Fangmeier	Freshman, Illinois State University	500.00	Granddaughter of Marvin Fangmeier
Cally Keefauver	Sophomore, Western Illinois University	500.00	Granddaughter of Cecil King
Lacy Monroe	Sophomore, Illinois Central College	500.00	Daughter of Marcia McCann
Jenise Rebholz	Sophomore, Bradley University	500.00	Daughter of Jerry Rebholz Jr
Jodi Rebholz	Senior, Eureka College	500.00	Daughter of Jerry Rebholz, Jr

Have you or someone you love been diagnosed with
MESOTHELIOMA or **LUNG CANCER**?

Call 1-877-859-6576 or visit www.simmonsfirm.com/Illinois
for a **FREE** consultation and book.



The Simmons law firm has represented hundreds of union tradesmen and their families throughout Peoria and Illinois, including Auto Workers, Plumbers and Pipefitters, Carpenters, Laborers and many more. We have recovered millions of dollars on their behalf, affording them the medical care and security they deserve.

If you have mesothelioma or lung cancer due to asbestos exposure, contact us today for more information at 1-877-859-6576.



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MISCELLANEOUS

Acoustic Guitar Squire SA100 Gig Bag
Grover Tuners good condition \$80.
(309) 241-8164

Plow Sub Soil one shank for 20 to 30 HP
Tractor Ford 3 point hitch \$175.
(217) 482-3520

Handicapped Ramp 1/2 aluminum 1/2
treated wood. \$450. Also Minivator Bath
Lift \$350. 309-347-4627 or 202-8163

Entertainment Center solid oak glass doors,
excellent condition. 74” long, 48” high, 22”
deep. 309-692-4301

Debbie Macomber paperback books. .50¢
each - have over 45 books. 309-347-1846

Step 2 Wagon \$3. Metal RV steps \$25.
Men’s bicycle \$75. 4 Tires LT215/85/R16
\$50. 309-925-3770

REAL ESTATE

Farm hunting land - Brown county 156
acres. Shed electricity \$3350 per acre. Tom:
309-264-4958

35 Acres, water, electric, septic \$72,900.
Taxes: \$65 annually. visit:
www.wolfcreekrealty.com 870-856-5263
Att: Jeff Long

Snowbird 2 BR Trailer. Clean - fully fur-
nished Estero Lee County, Florida \$30,000
941-889-8956

AUTOMOTIVE

Ford Van with wheelchair lift \$7,900. 69,
MI Hoyerlift and slings \$250. Baby or
sickroom monitor \$10. 309-340-0754

2007 Sunnybrook-Brookside 27’ 5th wheel
rear - kitchen, slide, not pets/smokers -
snowbird ready. \$17,900 / 309-338-0229

2004 Wilderness 5th wheel 30 ft. Non-
smoker, many extras - includes slider-hitch
used 8 days. \$14,000 selling due to health.
309-267-5084

2005 Ford #350 KUV white, 5.4 engine
112,000 miles. Excellent condition.
\$14,000. 309-369-3350 / 630-999-5774
(local)

SPORTING GOODS

Winchester shotguns, guns model 37 .41- -
16 gauge \$700 for both. J.C. Stevens 12 ga
single shot \$200. 309-697-1451

SERVICES

Autobody and painting. Lowest prices,
honest, reliable, experienced. 8:00am-
9:00pm seven days a week. Call Doug at
309-645-4606

WANTED

Old metal caterpillar badge #12011.
309-347-3587

HOUSEHOLD

Crosley stacked washer / dryer (gas) excel-
lent condition, large capacity. New - \$1600
asking \$850. 309-647-4310



CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NAME: _____ BADGE # _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

Phone (Home) _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

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

Please check: Supplemental _____ Competitive Wage _____ Full Time _____

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

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 Local 974, 3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, IL 61611-4801 - Attn: Becky.
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 Miscellaneous	Sporting Goods Real Estate	Household Goods Rentals	Pets Services	Clothing Wanted
ONE WORD PER SPACE				



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

LOCAL 974 NEWS

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**Caterpillar • LTD Industries • Tazewell Machine • Norforge
Delavan City Workers and Mason City Workers • Henderson Advertising**

3025 Springfield Road, East Peoria, Illinois 61611
(309) 694-3151 www.uawlocal974.org

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

ATTENTION

THE LAW OFFICE OF **STEPHENS FIDDES MCGILL & ASSOCIATES, P.C.** IS NOW REPRESENTING CLIENTS FOR:

- **Asbestos Exposure**
- **Mesothelioma/ Cancer**
- **Stryker Hip Implants**
- **Pradaxa Drug cases**



G. Douglas Stephens



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Our firm has successfully represented **thousands** of UAW members and their dependants in their personal injury, wrongful death, and/or worker's compensation cases, and has recovered **millions** of dollars for injuries and lost wages. **No fees/costs until you win!**

Our firm has attorneys on staff who concentrate in:

- Bankruptcy
- Estate Administration and Probate
- Wills and Trusts
- DUI and Driver's License Reinstatement
- Criminal Law: Felonies and Misdemeanors

**ALL AT REDUCED FEES FOR UAW MEMBERS
AND THEIR DEPENDENTS!**

PRE-PAID LEGAL PLANS ACCEPTED

Denied Social Security Disability? Don't Give Up! Our attorneys can analyze your case **free of charge**. There is never a fee unless you win.

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Attorneys for the Injured

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