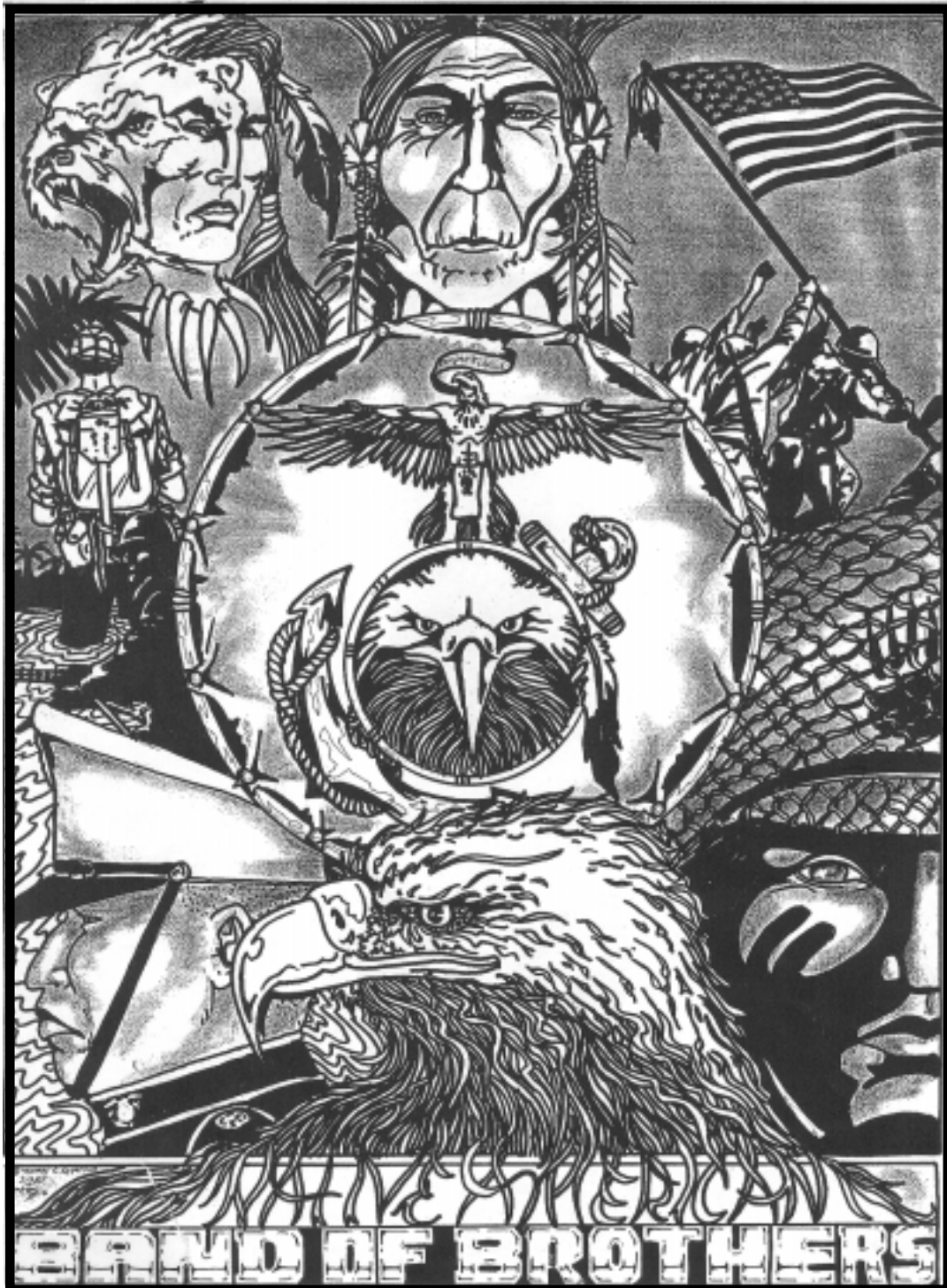




the LOCAL 879 UAW  
**AUTOWORKER**

*"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"*

*may - july 2008*



# CHAIRPERSON'S



# REPORT

Our hourly rolls are 922.

The elections are over. Thanks to all the members that ran for office and congratulations to those in our membership that were elected to carry out the local's business.

### Let's roll!

A lot is going on in Ford's world at the present time. Kentucky Truck is going to one shift, LAP is going to one shift, Chicago is going to one shift and Michigan Truck is seeing some mega downtime due to lack of sales in big trucks.

Our scheduled hours are 5 days, 10 hrs until change over in August. The Company wanted to work all remaining Saturdays for the year, based on Customer Demand. The Bargaining Committee met with plant management to secure a plan to Tentatively work 10 Saturdays, starting August 23<sup>rd</sup>. (As of now there will be no Saturdays during our short summer, unless we have a large breakdown or lose to many units.). These Saturdays will be mandatory work days.

Our next holiday will be the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We will be working 8 hrs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. This is contractual. You need to work the last scheduled day (Thursday, 3 July) in order to be paid for the holiday. Then we will be down for two weeks vacation shut down, returning to work on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July.

The Company has hired some 22 new Long-Term Supplementary workers, with testing taking place for more new members sometime in June 2008.

We have not heard any new information on transfers or extending the life of the plant past the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2009.

In other news, the members of UAW local 879 have once again proven themselves as the best in class autoworkers by building the Number 1 Quality product in North America, the Ranger. Congratulations! It was your sweat, tears and just plain hard work that made us Number 1.

GREAT JOB!



*In Solidarity,*

*Jim Eagle  
Chairperson  
UAW Local 879*

## ON THE COVER

In honor of Memorial Day, Brother Thomas Epperson has offered us his artistic interpretation of those who have served - with a Native American theme.

Thank you,  
Brother Epperson.

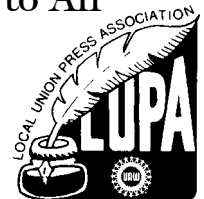
The Local 879 UAW

# AUTOWORKER

"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"



Official Publication of  
UAW Local 879  
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651-699-4246



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This paper is the property of the membership of UAW Local 879 and its pages are open to all members.

### OUR EDITORIAL POLICY

#### To our readers:

This newsletter is the voice of your local and international union. This is our only vehicle for bringing to you, on a regular basis, the views and actions of the leaders you elected, so you may evaluate them. Through the publication, we explain union politics and show how your dues are spent. The publication also is the voice of membership. We welcome articles from UAW members and stories about members. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of this union and its members. We will accept no personal attacks on any union leader or member. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letters column. We reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the union and its policies.

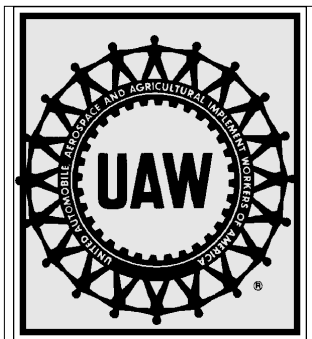
Thanks for your support,  
and we look forward to hearing from you.



RECYCLED PAPER  
PRINTED WITH SOY INK

# PRESIDENT'S

# REPORT



I think spring is finally here! This past winter was a crazy one and on most mornings I didn't know what to expect. Speaking to some of the retirees who went south for the winter - they agreed they left for Minnesota way too early. Oh, to think what a decision to make!

The beginning of 2008 seems to have been hectic also. First a mad rush to file your taxes on time and hoping you were eligible for that extra stimulus money. Then the national politics got into high gear. The phone calls and door knocks, permission to put a yard sign up, wear a button or put on a car sticker, it never ends. Yet it's better to be able to voice and vote your opinion than not.

## Locally

We have been busy with nominations for the Election Committee and then held the election for them. In April, there were nominations for the Executive Board and District Committee positions. Then the campaigning began. May 6<sup>th</sup> brought to you, the Executive Board, with some old and some new members. Also, at the time of this writing, we will be getting the results for the run-off for Vice-President and Financial Secretary. I'd like to thank all those who ran for various positions. It's not about winning or losing, it's about believing that you can make a difference to the membership and retirees.

## Upcoming Events

We will be sponsoring the "55 Alive" refresher driving courses. These classes will be available in the Training Center to those 55 or over at no cost to the members or spouses. The next classes are June 5<sup>th</sup> and July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 from 8 am till noon. Call Tracy Ausen at 651-695-3502 to reserve a

spot. First come, first serve.

Our Local 879 UAW Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 am - 3 pm at Minnehaha Park. Make sure to sign up if interested. See more details on page 15 There is no cost to you to attend. The menu includes chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad and cole slaw with soft drinks and water. There will be games for the kids and adults.

For you retirees, look for your picnic date and times in this paper as well as the Garrison Pig Roast. Nothing beats being outdoors with friends, family and good food!

Also, a reminder to all of you. The Skills Enhancement Center is still available to anyone and we have instructors Monday through Thursday from 11:30 am - 6 pm. You can go to our web site at [www.uaw879.org](http://www.uaw879.org) and at the bottom left side, click on SEC calendar and you will be able to see all the classes offered to you at no cost.

With that, I'd like to leave you with these thoughts. "May we, in our dealings

with all the people of the earth, ever speak the truth and serve justice."

*In solidarity and peace,  
Roger Terveen*

To the membership of Local 879 and the retirees who supported me in the past election, I am truly humbled for your vote of confidence. I will continue to strive to serve and represent all of you and hold myself accountable at all times to you, the membership.



*Roger Terveen*



©MATSUN ROLL CALL [caglecartoons.com](http://caglecartoons.com)

# Unions urge Coleman, Senate to approve unemployment benefits

WASHINGTON - Saying "America's workers are hurting," the national AFL-CIO is urging the U.S. Senate to follow the House of Representatives and approve extended unemployment benefits for the long-term unemployed.

"America's workers are hurting, and Congress must take immediate action," the AFL-CIO said in an e-mail alert to union members Tuesday. The labor federation is asking members to phone U.S. Senator Norm Coleman, R-Minn., to support the domestic spending amendment to H.R. 2642. The call is toll free: 1-866-338-5720.

The proposed amendment to H.R. 2642 would provide up to 13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits for workers exhausting the 26 weeks of regular unemployment benefits. In states with higher levels of joblessness, an additional 13 weeks would be available, for a total of 26 weeks of extended benefits.

More than 200,000 workers are exhausting their state unemployment benefits every month and an estimated 3.5 million workers will exhaust their state benefits over the next year. In Minnesota, nearly 70,000 workers slated to run out of benefits would be helped by the extension, according to the National Employment Law Project.

The long-term unemployment rate is already much higher than it was at the beginning of the 2001 and 1990-1991 recessions, and it is the same as when Congress extended benefits during the past two recessions, the AFL-CIO said.

In addition to helping workers who need help the most, economists agree that extending unemployment benefits is a proven way to stimulate the economy. Unemployed workers are likely to spend these benefits quickly to make ends meet, which quickly pumps money into the economy.

Mark Zandi of Economy.com has said: "If someone who is literally living paycheck to paycheck gets an extra dollar, it's very likely that they will spend that dollar immediately on whatever they need - groceries, to pay the telephone bill, to pay the electric bill."

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the extension of unemployment benefits with bipartisan support. But two Republicans from Minnesota - 2nd District Congressman John Kline and 6th

District Congresswoman Michele Bachmann - voted against the extension.

Jeremy Funk, spokesman for the advocacy group Americans United for Change, said Bachmann and Kline are out of step with the values of most Minnesotans.

"Representatives Bachmann and Kline think that more Bush tax cuts for millionaires is the only prescription for the ailing economy - tax cuts that never manage to 'trickle-down' to the people who really need it," Funk said.



## FINANCIAL REPORT UAW Local 879

JUNE, 2008

Robert (Bob) Killeen, Jr. , Financial Secretary



### BALANCE ALL FUNDS

Balance on hand, March 31, 2008 .....	\$690,136.78
Income, April, 2008 .....	65,574.96
Expenditures, April, 2008 .....	65,505.13
Balance, April 30, 2008 .....	\$690,206.61

### DEATH BENEFIT FUND

Balance on hand, March 31, 2008 .....	\$883,507.79
Income, April, 2008 .....	2,604.00
Expenditures, April, 2008 .....	1,000.00
Balance, April 30, 2008 .....	\$885,111.79

Note: If your beneficiary for the Death Benefit Fund has changed since the last time you filled out your beneficiary card, please contact Bob Killeen Jr. at the Union Hall for an update. This is your \$1,000.00 life insurance plan through the Union.

### INTERNATIONAL STRIKE FUND REPORT - JANUARY

The following is a summary of Strike Fund Income and Expenditures for the month of January 2008.

NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 2007 .....	\$871,554,127.04
INCOME FOR JANUARY 2008	
Dues Per Capita Tax .....	5,093,941.60
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR .....	\$876,648,068.64
DISBURSEMENTS FOR JANUARY 2008 .....	\$4,211,097.04
NET WORTH, JANUARY 31, 2008 .....	\$872,436,971.60

There are 14 strikes in effect at the present time, involving 3,541 members.

# CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF STATEHOOD

2008 marks an exciting time in Minnesota history as our state begins its year-long celebration of 150 years of statehood, also known as the sesquicentennial. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, Minnesota officially commemorated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of joining the union.

Throughout the year, over 100 communities across Minnesota will honor this important milestone with celebrations, events and projects. The ways in which communities are marking our sesquicentennial are as rich and varied as our state's unique history. Ideas range from the compilation of oral histories from American Indian elders, to community book readings to historical enactments of important events in state history, to street dances and festivals.

The highlight of the year-long celebration was Statehood Week held May 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>. During this week, five Minnesota cities were chosen to represent each of the state's natural landscapes – Bemidji, Thief River Falls, Detroit Lakes, New Ulm and

Winona – served as "Capital for a Day". The week also included a Statehood Commemoration Ceremony in St. Paul and the Statehood Festival and Expo on May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> at the State Capitol grounds.

The Sesquicentennial Commission has also organized several other ways to commemorate this important anniversary. A new state song, "Shines for All to See" has been commissioned and will be sung and performed at events throughout the year. Minnesota singer/songwriter Ann Reed will spend the year traveling the state commemorating the state's history through song and skits. A musical documenting Minnesota's early history, called "Old Minnesota: Song of the North Star State", will also be touring the state. They've also arranged "Greetings from Minnesota" a large public artwork that includes participation from Minnesotans, a wagon train from Cannon Falls to St. Paul, and an ox cart trek along the old Red River Trail.

The commission has organized a petition in support of a commemorative Minnesota Sesquicentennial license plate. Cities, counties and individual citizens can purchase sesquicentennial street banners and flags. Sesquicentennial medallions and shirts are also available for purchase online. Further details about all of these events and opportunities can be found at [www.mn150years.org](http://www.mn150years.org).

The sesquicentennial celebration is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn about Minnesota's history, so you are encouraged to take part in as many events as possible. During this landmark year, we should not only reflect on the great accomplishments of our state in our first 150 years, but consider how our generation will leave our legacy upon the state's history. Like our forefathers before us, we need to make the long-term investments that will allow our state to continue to prosper for generations to come.

## Ford Site Task Force Update

The Ford Site Task Force met in March to review where we are in the process and where we are going. The task force deadlines have been extended due to Ford's plan to close this plant later than expected.

**Hydro Plant:** The City of Saint Paul was notified by Ford Motor Company that the sale of the hydro plant was to be completed on April 1, 2008.

**AUAR: Alternative Urban Areawide Review:** Last fall the Task Force came up with possible scenarios for what types of development could go on the Ford site when it is made available. The scenarios were from retail, housing, corporate campus, to manufacturing. The task force was asked to come up with five scenarios for this property. These possible scenarios were different. Some had a heavy mix of one property development to a variety of mixes for this property. When the final scenarios were selected, some were chosen to see what the AUAR would say.

The AUAR is seeking to see what impact a certain development may have on an area. This would take into account traffic to environmental effects of the area. After the professionals put together a report for the task force, we will review the report, and

use it to make recommendations.

The city is now in the process of hiring the consultants and they will begin reviewing the scenarios. The Task Force will be meeting to review the findings.

**Master Developer:** The Master Developer is the person who is expected to de-

velop the Ford site. Ford has not found or announced who this may be. When Ford chooses them, they will play a part on the Task Force in exchanging ideas on what should go on this site.

**Pollution on this site:** Ford has voluntarily entered a program with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to report pollution.

The Ford Field remediation was completed and was fully expected to reopen this spring. The samples taken after the remediation were fully compliant with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agencies (MPCA) standards for residential areas.

Testing was done on the exterior grounds of the building. The majority of the testing of the grounds was compliant with the MPCA's standards for an industrial site. In short, this site currently would be approved for an industrial use as is. There is a hotspot that needs more testing. The MPCA, I believe, can and has asked for more testing of certain areas of the property.

There currently are no plans yet to test below the cement in the interior parts of the building. The testing will be done when the plant closes. If the testing were to go on during the plant's operation, we would be operating with holes in the cement.

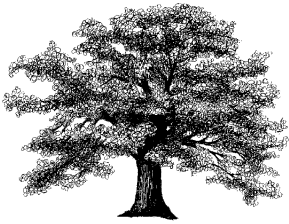


*"Maybe Congress will declare it a National Historic Site and we can work as tour guides."*

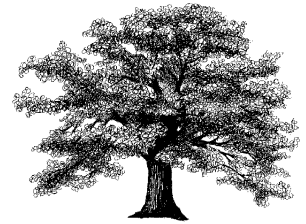
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**Pollution on this site:** Ford has voluntarily entered a program with the Minnesota

*Submitted by,  
Jim Reintz*



# CONSERVATION NEWS



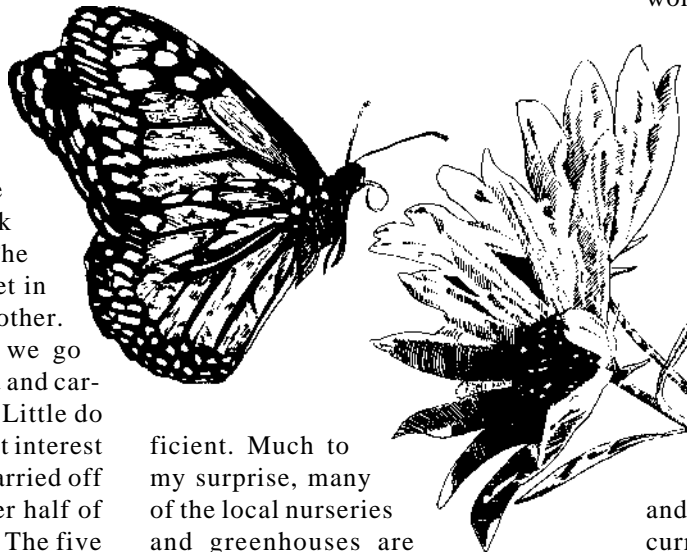
**DOWN ON THE FARM:** Trusting my night vision to the light of a star-studded sky, I attend to my evening chores much later than usual these days. Having lost my fear of the dark many moons ago - my nocturnal instincts kick in as I take in the sounds of the night. A chorus of frogs and crickets fill my surroundings as I tend to the horses, then tuck the chickens and geese in for the night. The lone goose that I adopted last year at this time has two new companions - thanks to a friend who incubated a batch of ducks and geese this Spring. The youngsters follow the gander's every move and obey all instructions firmly sent their way.

Following my lead is another story - and coaxing the three into the coop after dark has become a regular ritual. The chase takes place with fish net in one hand and flashlight in the other. Around and around the pen we go until they are cornered, netted and carried to the safety of the coop. Little do they know that it's in their best interest and much kinder than being carried off by the owl that wiped out over half of my chickens earlier this year. The five hens that remain have finally settled down after witnessing their buddies being picked off one by one. Speaking of chickies, the first batch of Thanksgiving turkey chicks arrived last week. Six months from now they will be the 30-40 pounders that I raise for my faithful friends and family year after year.

The gardens will hopefully be in by the first of June as the temperatures here have just reached what might be considered normal. Everything seems a bit later this year, which could be an indication of what's in store for the growing season. The trees in my neck of the woods appear to be a week or more behind those I have seen on my recent trips to the union hall. Many

there have already created an impressive canopy over the neighborhood streets. Must be all that concrete holding in the heat.

I am looking forward to a productive garden this year and the opportunity for some serious digging in the dirt. Carbs or no carbs, my potato patch has always been my pride and joy. If all else fails, I plan to eat potatoes - and lots of them! There is a definite trend these days toward folks growing their own food and becoming more self-suf-



ficient. Much to my surprise, many of the local nurseries and greenhouses are already sold out of tomatoes and other popular veggies. If you don't have the time or space to grow your own, consider buying locally grown produce at area farmer's markets which should be opening in early June. Buying locally eliminates transportation costs and supports local farmers and growers. Plus, it doesn't get any fresher than that.

Much of my time since April has been spent horsing around - between caring for my own and working at my seasonal job at Running Aces harness race track near Forest Lake. I landed a job with the Minnesota Racing Commission for the race season, which runs until early July. My title is Detention

Barn Technician, which is a fancy name for "pee catcher." You know...kind of like those Sanitation Engineers who pick up your garbage. Anyway, after each race the 2 top horses are required to come to our State Test Barn where we collect urine and blood samples to check for drugs in their systems. We also record any injuries or abuse that may have occurred during the race. Contrary to what you may think, it's serious business and we work closely with veterinarians licensed by the state to make sure everything is on the up and up. It's right up my alley and I love working up close and personal with the racehorses and their trainers. One thing is for sure - it sheds a whole new light on the expression "gotta pee like a racehorse."

## IN THE COMPANY OF

**WOLVES:** The big news at the Wildlife Science Center where I regularly volunteer can be summed up in 2 words - wolf puppies. Macy, daughter of a wolf from Yellowstone National Park gave birth to 6 puppies on April 27th. You may have seen coverage of them on the news and in the papers. Two of the pups are currently living at the International Wolf Center, two are being hand-raised and the other two remain with their proud momma, Macy. Four more pups were transported in from the wilds of Canada and another litter was delivered at the center by cesarean section. I have been given the opportunity to interact with the hand-raised group by sitting in their pen for long periods of time and assisting with bottle-feeding. What an incredible experience to literally be IN THE COMPANY OF WOLVES! The public will have a chance to see the pups and follow their progress throughout the summer and beyond. The Center is open every Saturday for public tours and is located 6 miles west of Forest Lake on Broadway. For more information on this and

upcoming events visit their website at [www.wildlifesciencecenter.org](http://www.wildlifesciencecenter.org) or call 651-464-3993.

### **THINK GLOBALLY :**

**ACT LOCALLY:** With the threat of global warming and the evidence of climate change throughout the world, conservation of our natural and energy resources is still the best way that we as individuals can make a difference. Continue to do the small things by making the necessary changes around your home and in your life-style. You've heard it all before - but these are some of the simple ways to help curb global warming. Make your home more energy efficient. Switch to energy star appliances. Turn off the lights

when you leave the room. Fix that leaky faucet. Turn down the hot water heater. Use a clothesline instead of the dryer. Buy less stuff. Share what you have. Reuse before you recycle. Then recycle, recycle, recycle. Support local businesses. Eat locally grown food or grow your own. Eat less meat. Drive the speed limit. Drive less than the speed limit. Don't drive unless you really have to. Plant a tree. Buy green energy. Simplify. Take pride in being resourceful and pass it on to others. Visualize the Earth from space. Know that it's fragile. Educate yourself. Educate others. Find your voice.

*In Solidarity,  
Marilyn Bobick Johnson  
Conservation Committee retiree*



"We're not polluting, son. Can't you see that smoke is green?"

## **ENVIRONMENTALLY SPEAKING . . .**

### **Opportunity ripe for clean, green energy at Rock Tenn**

By Bernie Hesse

ST. PAUL - People often ask me how it is going, and I respond that in the labor movement there is nothing but opportunity.

I am 50 and have seen some pretty wild things happen to working people over the years. Lately, I have said that the 1980s look good to me in regards to bargaining and protecting workers' rights, and that was the time that President Reagan took on the air-traffic controllers.

My focus now is the opportunity to use a crisis to rebuild the labor movement, particularly the industrial side of labor, by confronting global warming and growing jobs in St. Paul. Regardless of what you hear on KSTP, global warming is real. We keep burning fossil fuels, emitting all sorts of long-chained stuff I knew in chemistry but can't remember now.

We also keep shipping jobs overseas. We have bled so many jobs out of Minnesota because of failed trade agreements that it is a rarity to meet an actual union manufacturing worker. The electro-plating plant I once worked in had most of its business head to Mexico. The foundry I had a cup of coffee in is now offshore. And the fur warehouse I worked at took off when China became the home of mink coats. (I hate to disappoint all my PETA friends, but I had to earn a living.) Many of our blue-collar jobs

have split because of globalization, and they aren't coming back.

What, then, is the opportunity? St. Paul is blessed with a number of resources: good workers, the largest recycler in the state and potential for sustainable development with a regional transportation vision. To review, paper recycler Rock Tenn lost its power source when the High Bridge coal plant was replaced by a natural gas facility.

That was good for the planet, good for construction trades and bad for Rock Tenn, which needed the steam. Rock Tenn has engaged the St. Paul Port Authority in finding a new energy source. The solution might be a biomass power plant located at Rock Tenn that would not only power the plant, but other industries in the Midway. And maybe, just maybe, the plant would heat homes, schools and churches in the area.

I am a member of the Rock Tenn Community Advisory Panel, set up by the Legislature around the idea of reducing carbon dioxide emissions and our dependence on fossil fuels by using renewable energy sources. I figured I'd give up the next two years of my life to be part of some cutting-edge stuff that will retain and grow jobs while making the planet better - if we dare to be bold and build a power plant.

What about Central Corridor? Hopefully, we will hit the bonding home run in 2008, and University Avenue will become the street of dreams. So why not run a steam line up and down to serve existing businesses, schools, homes and churches? I stole that idea from John Wilking, Pipe Fitter and energy visionary. This is a chance to expand district energy, fuel jobs and realize clean, green energy.

We need to organize now to capitalize on these opportunities. We are being out-hustled in some neighborhoods by a group named NAB. Neighbors Against the Burner is opposed to building any power plant in its members' neighborhood. They have aligned themselves with Xcel energy - a weird sight. NAB members clapped, hollered and fawned after Xcel presented a natural gas solution for Rock Tenn. Rather than waste time with theatrics, fear mongering and misinformation, we should be looking at things we can work together on and finding a solution not only for the workers but for emerging "green-collar" jobs - and for the planet.

*Bernie Hesse is director of special projects for UFCW Local 789. Call him at 651-216-3827 to get involved in the fight to save Rock Tenn. He wrote this column for The St. Paul Union Advocate, official publication of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly.*

First of all I want to thank each and everyone who voted in this last election. There are no words that can convey how I feel. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Second I want to ask for forgiveness from every person who I did not speak with personally, although I endeavored to speak with each and every one of you. A good friend pointed out I did not and for that I ask your pardon. My opponent graciously congratulated me and I wish him the best.

Sometimes you don't get who you want in the election, but at the end of the day, we are all brothers and sisters. This is our union, our family, our plant. We are all in this together and my hope is that we all believe that, no matter who you voted for. I trust everyone feels free to come to me with whatever issue they may have.

Please everyone join me in congratulating all of the newly elected officials and the people who have retained their positions. I do believe we now have a fine, strong, diverse board that has a combination of both experience and fresh blood driving it.

I need to remind everyone of some of the things the Peer Support committee is doing. We have the date set as Tuesday July

1st for the Fare for All program to come to the plant. It is the last Tuesday we work before the July shutdown. The Fare for All program will be set up in the plant lobby. The program will be at first on a one time basis, but we are hoping to have it come monthly. It is a win, win situation where you can receive groceries at a reasonable rate and thereby give Fare for All more purchasing power to stock their food shelves. Please read the flier in this issue of the autoworker for more information. Huge thanks go out to John Fox and Kirk Wurtzel for approving this to come to our plant. I also want to thank Lynne Larken-Wright for bringing the program to our attention, the Peer Support committee members, for helping with this project and finally a huge thank you to Sophia Lenarz-Coy for bringing this to our plant. Everyone is welcome to participate - current members, past members, the community. We will be giving away two baskets one at the regular union meeting, and one at the retirees meeting.

The Peer Support has also set the first of the classes for someone interested in getting an entrepreneurship degree, or just someone just interested in what it takes to start your own business. The first class is the business plan class. There should be financ-

ing available through either Ford ETAP or the Dislocated Workers funds. Please sign up early and contact Tracy Ausen in the LLC for more information. They have also set up some quality classes available in the fall ASQ Certified quality Auditor Program and ASQ Certified Manager of Quality/Organization Excellence CMQ/OE. If you are staying in manufacturing these are fabulous classes given right here in the plant. Tracy Ausen and Nancy White, who are both on the Peer Support committee, have worked tirelessly in getting these and other classes to this plant, along with assisting many members past and present in obtaining their rightful benefits. I want to sincerely thank them for they are doing a vast amount of work for everyone, and doing an extraordinary job at it.

I leave you with one of my favorite quotes "You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do." Henry Ford

*Until next month,  
In solidarity,  
Marsha Anderson-Shearen  
UAW Local 879 Secretary Treasurer*

## **VETS REPORT**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Another great conference in Ottawa Illinois with all my brother and sister veterans, that served this great country.

I would not be telling the whole story about our conference, if I didn't discuss my fellow marine veteran Tom Epperson. Tom is a very talented and giving person. Excellent singer, in our karaoke get-together, with our D. J. Wally Gator. Also Tom drew caricatures, for all those that wanted one.

Also during our conference Saturday we got to meet an active duty marine vet that served in Iraq. He suffered a great deal of trauma and serious after-effects of the war.

The UAW veterans, not our government have provided this injured marine a guide dog, for as long as he may need it. This program is called VETDOG.com

I could go on and on about this conference.

In closing, it's not what our government is not doing, it's what our UAW veterans are doing every month of every year for families and wounded warriors.

*In Solidarity,  
Ron Calari*

There will be a follow up article to this one by Tom Epperson who along with Ron Calari would like to thank the membership for sending them to the conference.

# Tuition Assistance Benefits

## Make an Investment in your Future

While it seems like spring is barely here, fall will be here sooner than you know. If you are thinking of getting a jump start on your education before the plant closes, the time to act is now as classes are forming and registration is underway. Some programs/majors at local schools or technical colleges only offer a fall start. If you miss out on getting registered this year, you must wait until next fall to begin taking classes. Other programs/majors are more flexible, but either way you need to start the application and class registration process now. Good paying jobs are getting harder and harder to find. To see proof of this, look around you. The plant is hiring temporary employees for \$14.20 an hour with limited health insurance benefits. Hundreds of people are jumping at the chance to land these jobs. These are temporary jobs where you bust your butt for \$14.20 an hour! Times are tough. Increase your odds of finding good employment with a solid education. Programs are in place here at Ford to help you with the cost of tuition and books, while you are still working.

For long term temporary employees the Dislocated Worker Program may be able to help you with your educational goals. Depending on your situation, they may be able to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books and tools. This is while you are still working! You do not need to be in school full time to qualify for this benefit. Taking just one class a semester will set the wheels in motion. In order to take advantage of this you would need to be enrolled in the Dislocated Worker Program prior to starting class/classes for the semester. New hire employees are eligible to enroll in the program after being at Ford for six calendar months. Flow back employees are eligible right away. **The next Dislocated Worker Program sign up session is Monday, June 23 at 4:30 pm in the training center auditorium.** Due to shutdown, there will be no sign up session in July so it's important to attend the June sign up if you want to attend school in the fall and are not signed up with the Dislocated Worker Program.

For original Ford employees who have not taken a buyout, you can use your ETAP benefits to cover the cost of tuition, fees and books. ETAP (Education and Training Assistance Plan) provides up to \$5000 per calendar year for tuition and approved fees for college credit classes (this is up from \$4600 as a result of the 2007 UAW/Ford contract negotiations). Of this \$5000 per calendar year, \$200 (up from \$150) may be used for books. As a result of the 2007 contract, PDA (Personal Development Assistance) money is available again. This provides for the prepayment of tuition and approved fees up to \$2200 per calendar year for non-credit courses for career related education and training. Examples of this would include certifications or licenses required for certain occupations. It's important to note that the PDA courses must be preapproved and Ford must provide payment directly to the school, no reimbursements are covered if you pay for the course out of your own pocket. This \$2200 will be deducted from the \$5000 available under ETAP. The Dislocated Worker Program may be able to cover the additional cost of books, fees and tools that Ford doesn't. Again, you need to be enrolled in the Dislocated Worker Program to take advantage of having these additional costs covered.

For information on how to take advantage of these benefits, call Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 or 53502 in plant. An education is a thing of value. Take advantage of the benefits available to you while you can; jump start your educational goals now! Make an investment in yourself and your future.

## Dislocated Worker Program Sign Up

### Monday, June 23 @ 4:30 pm

## Training Center Auditorium

**Due to shutdown, there will be no sign up in July. If you are interested in attending school in the fall and plan on using Dislocated Worker Program funds to cover the cost of tuition or expenses, you need to be signed up with the program and have your educational plan approved prior to school starting for the semester. If you have any questions about the Dislocated Worker Program or the sign up session call**

**Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 or 53502 in plant.**

New hires are eligible to sign up with the program after being at Ford for six calendar months. Flow backs are eligible right away.

## APPLE JUICE: AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE?

In 1986 consumers won a court case requiring that companies that only add water to a concentrate product must label the country of origin for the concentrate. But, that label is often buried in fine print. Motts' apple juice, for instance, proclaims that it uses "our apples" that are "hand picked...putting little between the orchards and you, the way you trust us to." In smaller print elsewhere, you'll find: "concentrate from China."

Many store brands and companies such as Motts, Tree Top, Welch's and Tropicana simply add water and packaging to the Chinese concentrate.

China is the top supplier of concentrate used for apple juice in the U.S. According to the *Dallas Morning News*, more than 40% of the apple juice consumed in the U.S. comes from concentrate imported from China. Only 22% of U.S. apple juice comes from domestically-produced apples.

In 1996, the U.S. imported 4.5 million gallons of apple juice concentrate from China. In 2006 that figure had soared to 225.5 million gallons. Not surprisingly, the price of domestically-produced apples plummeted at that same time.

## WILL AMERICAN CONSUMERS FINALLY GET COOL THIS YEAR?

Time is running out for the U.S. Department of Agriculture to issue regulations to implement a law passed over five years ago to require companies to list the country of origin for ingredients on processed foods and drugs.

Consumer groups and Democratic lawmakers are pushing to impose country-of-origin labeling (COOL) on all packaged food in October 2008. This measure, first approved in farm legislation in 2002, faced opposition from meat packers and food-marketing companies who say it complicates their packaging and confuses consumers.

The food industry got the regulations delayed twice before, but critics and proponents alike expect the deadline to hold as the public has grown impatient and concerned over adulterated and dangerous products.

The Grocery Manufacturers Association, an initial opponent of COOL, is now supporting it. "We believe the 2008 date is appropriate," said Brian Kennedy, a spokesman for the GMA.

"Everyone has had an eye-opening experience about our lax regulations," said Tom Buis, president of the National Farmers Union, which supports the labeling law. Any vote on the measure in the House of Representatives would now secure more than 300 votes in favor of labeling, he predicted.

## PICKING OUR LEADERS

Forget what the talking heads and the "experts" say about the elections in 2008. I'm getting that when union people go to the polls in their state primaries, and again in November, the deciding factor for every vote they cast – for county commissioners and sheriffs, mayors, state legislators, governors, members of Congress and the Senate, and for president – will be for someone who can make government work for ordinary people.

When a politician stands up and says he (or she) wants to keep us secure, we're going to ask, "secure from what?" Will you work to protect homeowners from abusive business practices? Our jobs when they are threatened by runaway trade policies? Our lives and safety on the job? Our right to organize unions free of fear of retribution? Our wages? Our pensions? Our food? Our children from dangerous toys? Will you protect the integrity of our government agencies, keep them free of domination by the wealthy and powerful?

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## 'Bye America: A Globalization Tale for Kids

Inspired by the fate of Maytag workers in Davenport, Iowa, IBEW Business Manager Lance Biglin has published a children's book to help parents explain globalization to children, and why it's important to Buy American.

Brightly illustrated by Biglin's wife, Kristi, the book relates what happens when a fictitious vacuum cleaner company shuts its U.S. factory to move it to China, and young Brady's father loses his job.

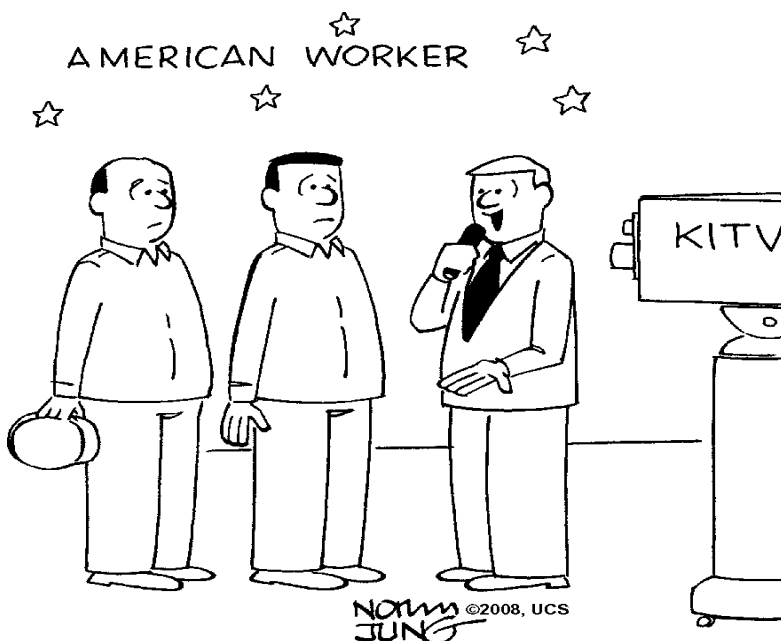
The family takes a shopping trip to the local big box store where they survey aisles filled with cheap foreign-made goods as they discuss what happens when companies take good jobs out of the U.S.

In the author's note, Biglin explains the implications that follow as corporations scramble to shift jobs from the U.S. to China. Despite the complexity of the topic, even youngsters still learning to read will understand the story.

For more information, see:

[www.byeamerica.com](http://www.byeamerica.com). You can contact Biglin via e-mail at:

[lancebiglin@embarqmail.com](mailto:lancebiglin@embarqmail.com).



**"One of you is safe... the other will see his job outsourced to China!"**

# LETTERS OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve you as Guide for the last two terms. I really enjoyed working for your interests. I would like to thank all those that came out to vote and support me in my quest to become financial secretary in the last election.

*Thanks again,  
Jim Reinitz*

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to serve as your union representative these last 6 years. It has been an honor and a privilege. I would also like to thank Marsha for the lesson in humility and wish her good luck in her new job along with all the other elected union officials. I am very proud of and fond of this local union and its members. I have no ill feelings about the election and look forward to going back to the line and working with you all.

*Thank you, John Killeen.*

I want to extend my deepest thanks to the membership for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as your Bargainer.

It was an honor to serve Trim/Pre-delivery as their District Committee person for the past 3 years.

I have and will continue to do my very best to represent everyone here at TCAP. I truly appreciate all of the support and kind words of encouragement during my campaigning and election period. I am very grateful for being elected as one of the Bargainers for our local UAW 879.

*Thank You,  
In Solidarity  
Shawn Milliron*

## Thank you to the Membership

Thank you for the support you have shown me by voting me into the Sergeant-at-Arms position of the UAW Local 879. It is an honor to represent you on the Executive Board.

*In Solidarity,  
Kari Altema*



I would like to say Thank You to the membership for your support in the recent election. I consider it an honor to continue serving as your committeeperson. I look forward to working with the newly elected union officers and will do anything I can to help them serve the membership.

Once again thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*In Solidarity,  
Kelly Michalec*

Thank you to all who supported me in the Chassis election.

Congratulations to Lynn Teague on his victory as our new Chassis committeeperson. Lynn will find as I have that Chassis has a great bunch of workers and friends. I believe that my year as Chassis committeeperson has given me many new friends that I will still try to visit (only to say Hi). Thank you so much for the chance to represent you this past year.

*Friends in Solidarity  
Gerald "Turtle" Ziskovsky*

I want to take this time to thank the membership for voting for me in this election. I am honored to serve you in the capacity of Vice-President.

*Ronda Danielson  
Vice-President Local 879*

## To all my Brothers and Sisters of Local 879,

Thanks for your participation in the voting process of the last election. I am honored to have been elected to the position of Trustee and to once again be a voice for you on the Executive Board. I look forward to serving the membership.

*In Solidarity,  
Jody Greer,  
Trustee Local 879*

## Sisters and Brothers,

As I enter into my fourth consecutive term as Recording Secretary of Local 879, I reflect on all that I have learned and experienced during the past nine years serving this union. The labor movement has always been a part of my life -including my formative years being raised in a household of union laborers. My heartfelt gratitude to you for allowing me to continue the work that I love.

*In Solidarity always,  
Marilyn Bobick Johnson  
Recording Secretary, Local 879*

I want to take this opportunity to thank the active and retired members of local 879 who have honored me with their support during my 23 years of service to Local 879. There is no greater honor than to be elected by one's peer to represent them.

Working for local 879 has been a very rewarding career and having worked with some of Minnesota's most progressive labor leaders has truly made me a wiser person. The friendships I have made with many of members and leadership I will cherish forever.

For those that don't know, I have been offered an employment opportunity with a Twin Cities based company and have accepted that offer.

I wish all of you truly the best of luck in the future and God bless the UAW. It's a great organization.

**SOLIDARITY FOREVER  
BOB KILLEEN JR.  
SECRETARY-TREASURER, UAW LOCAL 879**

# HONORABLE MENTION

## DEDICATED VOLUNTEER

Wally Sibell was familiar with Nokomis Healthy Seniors, as he would periodically come to get his blood pressure checked at the Thursday morning clinic. In May 2004, Wally was encouraged by another volunteer, whom he knew through AARP, to become a volunteer driver. "It's one of the best things I ever did; the seniors are so grateful, and I'm a people person and I enjoy the visiting," says Wally.

close to his work at the Ford Plant in St. Paul, where he was employed for over 30 years. He has always had an interest in cars. "Nobody had a better car than I did", he commented. Wally and June have four children and 15 grandchildren.



He has done other volunteering in the past – serving on a church board, helped to plan a community center and for 12 years he served on the Minneapolis Police Reserves. His past experience with seniors was mainly with family members, especially an aunt who needed help. With her, he got his children involved so they would learn about service to others.

Wally was born and raised on a farm near Osakis, Minnesota, but Minneapolis has been his home for most of his adult life. He and his wife June have lived in the Nokomis area for more than 43 years. They moved to this neighborhood so Wally would be

Both Wally and June are collectors (started with Avon and going to garage sales) and they travel all over the country going to collector shows. They have made many friends from all parts of the United States because of this hobby, and they have enjoyed seeing the country. Wally does not care for sports, but June is a great baseball fan and has season tickets for the Twins (Wally drives her to the games!).

When asked about Nokomis Healthy Seniors, Wally commented that the organization is a real asset to the community. He also encourages people to become drivers. "It is just a blessing to do this work."

*Reprinted from  
"Sharing the Health"  
Nokomis Healthy Seniors Newsletter.*

*Brother Wally came to work at Ford Motor Company in 1959. After spending 30 years there, he retired in April 1989 and has been able to enjoy retirement for over 19 years.*





# RESULTS OF ELECTION

## May 6, 2008

**PRESIDENT**

Roger Terveen	415 elected
Michael Carpenter	170

**VICEPRESIDENT**

Butch Brownell	30
Brian Huseby	136
Ronda Danielson	161 run-off
Tony Quevedo	190 run-off
Lawrence O'Neal	47

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

M Anderson-Shearen	196 run-off
Cindy Roberts	62
Jim Reinitz	148
John Killeen	178 run-off

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Marilyn Bobick Johnson	453 elected
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**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Kari Altema	300 elected
Patrick J Wiles	262

**GUIDE**

Tracy Frazier	367 elected
Ray Nelson	161

**TRUSTEES**

Jack Flis	223
Jody Greer	272 elected
Ben Gross	275 elected
Rori Green	352 elected
Darius Shannon	156

**BUILDING CHAIRMAN**

Jim Eagle	365 elected
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**UNIT COMMITTEE**

Tom Reis	241 elected
Roger Hill, Jr	109
Ron Caliri	141
Marcus Carpenter	119
Shawn Milliron	215 elected

**BODY/PAINT**

Brandon Acey	4
Kelly Michalec	62 elected
Sylvia Rutledge	52

**TRIM**

Kevin Blaha	26
Johnnie Rudolph	92 elected
Joel Gobats	15

**CHASSIS**

Gerald (Turtle) Ziskovsky	28
Damon Canaday	29
Scott Campbell	12
Lynn Teague	49 elected
Kathy Kubes	10

**NURSE'S UNIT**

Katherine Kennedy	elected
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**JCI****CHAIRPERSON**

Drew Peterson	37 elected
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**VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Mary Ellen Corey	13
Tim Rundle	25 elected

**RECORDING SECRETARY**

Cherrie Peterson	20 elected
Lylah Peterson	18

**TCHVC****CHAIR**

Robert Morris	19 elected
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**UNIT COMMITTEE**

Eric Joergens	11 elected
Robert Morris, Jr	4
Christopher Bartley	5

Twin Cities total ballots cast	555 (12 void)
JCI total ballots cast	38 (1 void)
TCHVC total ballots cast	21 (0 void)
Total	614

### Run-off Election - May 20, 2008

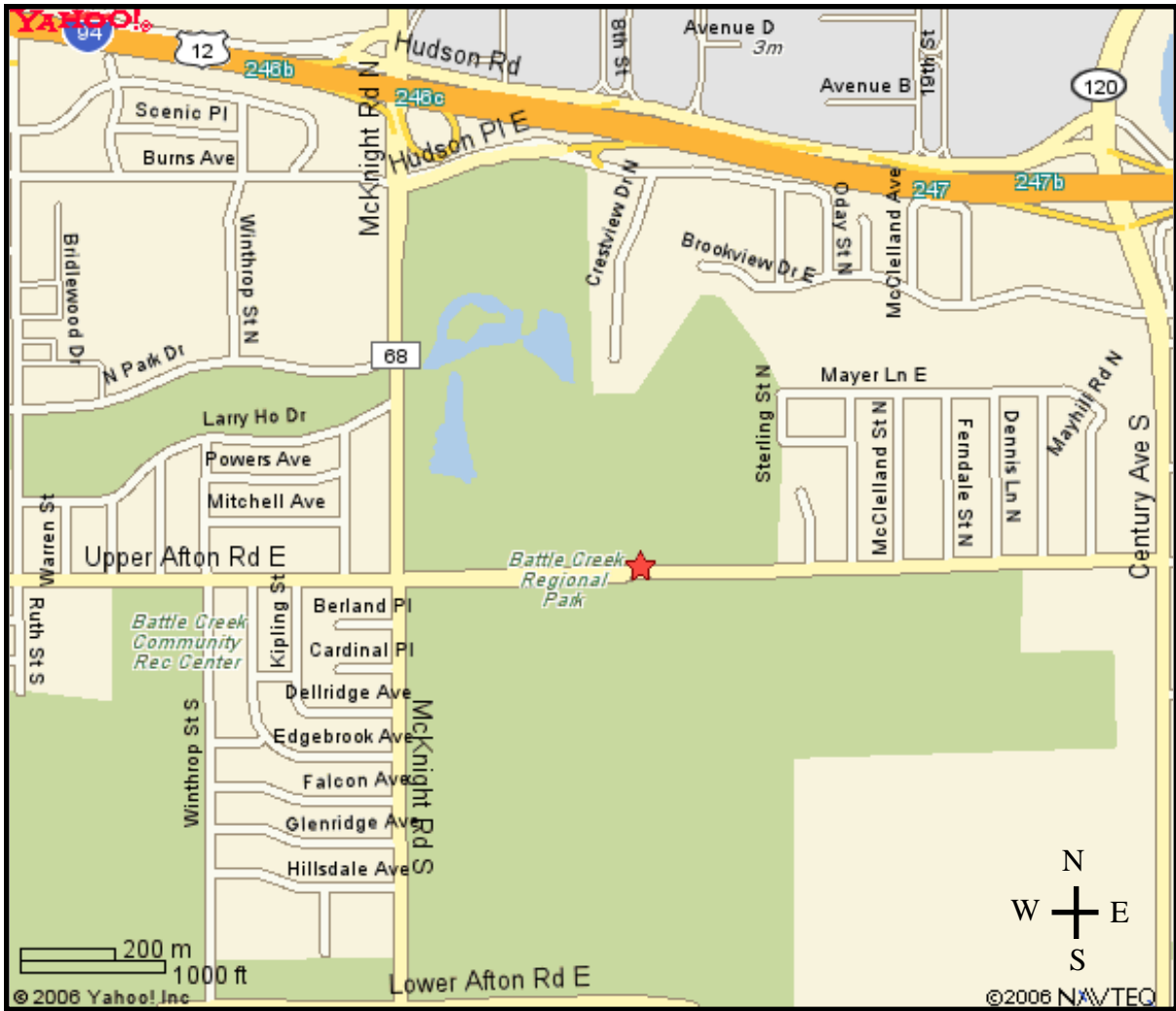
**VICEPRESIDENT**

Tony Quevedo	209
Ronda Danielson	234 elected

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURER**

John Killeen	175
Marsha Anderson-Shearen	275 elected

<b>Total votes cast</b>	453 (2 void)
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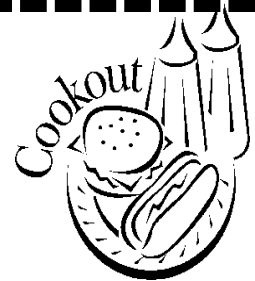
**Directions:** Take I-94 to McKnight road south exit. Tavel south on McKnight to Upper Afton Road. Take left on Upper Afton. Take first left into the park

# RETIREES' PICNIC

Monday, August 18, 2008

12:00 Noon

Battle Creek Park  
Maplewood, MN



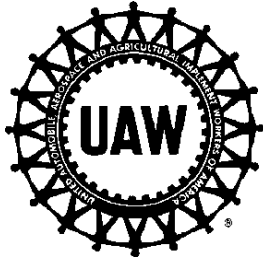
Reservations are necessary. Please mail your response or call the Union Office at 651-699-4246.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_



If you have signed up for the Picnic and find you cannot make it, **please call** and notify us as we must pay for each dinner ordered.



# Local 879 UAW Picnic Sunday

June 29<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 to 3:00 PM  
Minnehaha Park



Food served from 11:30 AM to 12:45 PM  
Grilled Chicken, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs  
Potato Salad, Cole Slaw  
Soft drinks and water



## **GAMES for kids and adults - PRIZES!!**

\*\*\*Bring the family for a day of friendship and fun\*\*\*

Sign up boxes available at Paint, Security and Trim entrances beginning Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GARRISON RETIREE PIG ROAST**

Tuesday, August 5, 2007  
VFW in Garrison, MN

**ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED TO 300 THIS YEAR, SO SIGN UP EARLY**

First come – First served

**NO WALK-UPS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

\$10.50 per person (payable in advance)

Coffee and donuts will be served at 10 AM. Pig roast starts at 12:30 PM.

Please fill out the form below and mail with your check to

**Local 879 UAW  
2191 Ford Parkway, St Paul MN 55116  
NO LATER THAN July 27<sup>th</sup>**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# of People \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **ATTENTION RETIREE GOLFERS**

If anyone is interested in playing golf the day before the Retirees' Pig Roast in Garrison, it will be held on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. This year it will take place at Eagle's Landing Golf Course at Fort Ripley, which is located on Highway 371, 15 miles south of the Baxter/Brainerd area.

Tee times are set to being at 10:00 AM. Spouses are welcome to play.

If you wish to participate, contact Woody Bolander at 651-681-2094 NO LATER than Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>.

# Offered this fall in the Training Center

Thursdays, 9/18/08 – 11/13/08, 5 - 9 pm

## Create a Business Plan that gets Results

### Business Plan Development Class

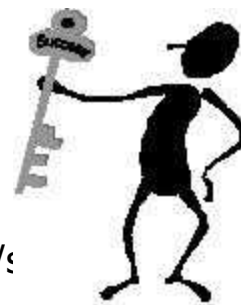
Starting a business? Thinking about it? Trying to grow an existing business?

A business plan is the major key to success for a small business.

This college credit course, offered through Dakota County Technical College, will take you through the entire process of creating your actual business plan. This plan is a must for securing financing from a lending institution for your business.

#### In this class you will:

- Create a vision for your company
- Clearly define your product/service
- Understand the entire sales process of your product/s
- Define your target demographic (customers)
- Create a marketing plan for your company
- Create a sales plan for your company
- Understand the financial concepts of running a business
- Prepare Financials on your company
- Learn how to protect the assets of your company



Most people can have the tuition for this course paid for by RETAP (Retiree Education, Training and Assistance Plan), ETAP, or the Dislocated Worker Program. Call Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 to find out how to get the cost of this course covered and how to apply.

Instructor Bob Voss has been teaching Business Entrepreneur classes at Dakota County Technical College for 5 years. He is also a counselor at the Small Business Development Center, which offers free professional consulting to small business owners and entrepreneurs. Bob, who hosts the "Be Your Own Boss" workshops in the training center, is an energetic and engaging instructor who has won national and local teaching awards and has extensive experience owning and managing small businesses.



# LIFE AFTER FORD

*Notes from the Outside*



On behalf of the Autoworker staff and concerned retirees, we send our very best wishes to Brother Cubby Johnson for a speedy and complete recovery. We miss your wonderful contributions to the paper. Hoping to hear from you soon..



## AARP Driver Safety Program Auto Insurance Discount

UAW Local 879 is sponsoring the AARP Driver Safety Program Refresher Class.

Minnesota law mandates a 10% reduction in car insurance premiums for persons 55 years and older who complete a defensive driving course like the AARP Driver Safety Program. Your initial class needs to be an eight-hour session. Then, every three years you will need to take the four-hour refresher class to maintain your 10% insurance reduction. Courses consist of an overview of safe driving; there are no written or driving tests required.

4 Hour Refresher Class: Thursday, June 5, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

or

Tuesday, July 22, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

UAW/Ford MnSCU Training Center, RM 240B.

Call Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 to sign up. Class size is limited.

UAW Local 879 will pay the \$10.00 class fee for its members/retirees.

## RETIREES' CHAPTER MEETING

JUNE 16, 2008 1:30 PM

JULY 21, 2008 1:30 PM

AUGUST 18, 2008

12:00 Noon Picnic

There is a short business meeting followed by the Local President's report on in-plant activities. Coffee and donuts are served and there is time to socialize with your fellow workers.



## Hunt and Strom Financial

will be attending the June 16th Retirees Meeting.  
"Come and talk!"

Dear Cubby,

This is in regard to your article in "Life After Ford" in the February/March Autoworker.

I think I can help you solve your memory loss. The guy who worked the sewing machine was Wally Amundson. I called him "The Seamstress". We were neighbors in St. Paul. I worked in the Stock Department and stocked paint barrels in the Oil House. I retired in 1986.

Wally was living in Wisconsin when he passed away some years ago.

I'm living at my home place by Sunburg, MN. Moved out here in 1992. My wife and I had our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary last October.

I enjoy reading your articles.

**Jim Wick**  
**P.O. Box 111**  
**Sunburg, MN 56289**

## Retirees

Are you aware that your RETAP (Retiree Education and Training Assistance Plan) pays up to \$1750 a year for tuition for college credit classes taken at the plant in the UAW/Ford MnSCU Training Center? Call Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 to find out what classes are being offered by local colleges in the training center this fall and how to apply for these classes. You can also go online to [www.local879.org](http://www.local879.org) and click on the 'College Credit Classes in the Training Center' link on the left side of the page to see the list of classes.



"After 20 years, we offer a pension you can live on. Provided you work a part time job."

# RETIREES

March - MAY 1, 2008



Boguslawski, David T  
Seniority: 10-29-84  
Receiving Checker



Bosneag, John  
Seniority: 11-9-83  
Utility Inspector FAI



Crittenden, Thomas  
Seniority: 5-8-78  
Lift Truck Driver



**BEFORE**

Epling, David R  
Seniority: 2-13-84  
Block Sander



**AFTER**



Griffin, Freddy L  
Seniority: 10-29-84  
Lift Truck Driver



Johnston, Loren L  
Seniority: 5-25-70  
Plumber/Pipefitter/Welder



Kostelecky, Dean A  
Seniority: 5-2-88  
Electrician



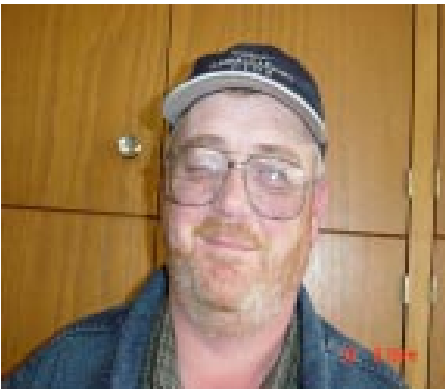
Root, Gregory A  
Seniority: 5-12-78  
Utility Group #3 – Chassis

# RETIREES

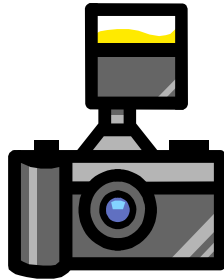
March - May 1, 2008



Smith, Ronald H  
Seniority: 10-29-84  
Dinger – Paint/Body



Toenjes, Edward W  
Seniority: 8-18-78  
SPC Specialist



No Picture Available

## March 1, 2008

Albrecht, Thomas L  
Seniority: 5-12-78

Millwright

Buchanan, James L  
Seniority: 5-22-78

Inspector – FAI

Frandsen, George E  
Seniority: 8-12-91

Fraska, Anthony J  
Seniority: 5-17-99

Hagel, Douglas A  
Seniority: 5-8-78

Receiving Inspector  
Hoven, Lynn G

Seniority: 1-14-85  
Electrician

Johnson, Thomas A  
Seniority: 5-1-78

Load and Unload

Klatt, David A  
Seniority: 8-8-78

Utility Group #3 – Chassis

Lasco, Stephen V  
Seniority: 5-8-78  
Receiving Checker

## April 1, 2008

Brown, Fletcher

Seniority: 10-29-84

Group Leader Coordinator

Hei, Jerome A

Seniority: 5-1-78

Utility Group #3 – Chassis

Jacobs, Randall M

Seniority: 10-29-84

Utility Group #3 – Chassis

Malone, Reginald

Seniority: 2-13-84

Utility Group #3 – Chassis

Wheeler, Lawrence R

Seniority: 10-29-84

Lift Truck Operator

## May 1, 2008

Cull, John M

Seniority: 9-5-78

General Repair

Harris, Steven J

Seniority: 2-13-84

Receiving Inspector

Jackson, Jeffrey L

Seniority: 2-13-84

Tow Truck Driver

Mulkey, Rickey

Seniority: 10-29-84

Utility Group #3 – Body

## ELECTION ALERT

This is a very important election year for everyone. As a voter you will have a chance to help set the direction of the country. Every candidate for office will be seeking your vote. Your vote may elect the next candidate that will continue the current course. You could also use your vote to elect someone that has new ideas on unions, healthcare and the economy. So you do have choices. However you can't help make these choices without registering to vote and voting. In the next issue of The Autoworker, we will provide the forms for you to fill out and send in. If you have moved since you last voted or don't know if you are registered to vote fill out the form and send it in. It is that simple. Then remember to vote. Please make copies if you need to register more of your family members to vote.

*Jim Reinitz,  
CAP Committee  
Page 19*

UAW/Ford MnSCU Training Center  
Fall Semester 2008  
Credit Courses

Dakota County Technical College

ENTR 1860 – **Business Plan Development**, 3 credits  
9/18/08 – 11/13/08, Thursdays, 5:00 – 9:00 PM (No class 10/16)

Metropolitan State University

ECON 202-03 – **Microeconomics**, 3 credits  
8/25/08 – 12/08/08, Mondays, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Saint Paul College

BUSN 1410-60 – **Introduction to Business**, 3 credits  
8/26/08 – 10/14/08, Tuesdays, 6:00 – 8:55 PM

BUSN 2450-60 – **Management Fundamentals**, 3 credits  
10/21/08 – 12/16/08, Tuesdays, 6:00 – 8:55 PM

SPCH 1720-90 – **Interpersonal Communication**, 3 credits  
9/6/08 – 10/25/08, Saturdays, 9:00 – 11:55 AM

ECON 1730-90 – **Microeconomics**, 3 credits  
11/1/08 – 12/20/08, Saturdays, 9:00 – 11:55 AM

ANTH 1710-60 – **Introduction to Cultural Anthropology**, 4 credits  
8/26/08 – 12/23/08, Tuesdays, 5:00 – 8:55 PM

For more information on these classes contact Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502

Retirees: Because these are on-site credit courses you may use your RETAP (Retiree Education, Training and Assistance Plan) benefits to pay for them. Contact Tracy Ausen @ 651-695-3502 for info on how to apply.

# CHEAP EATS!

## FARE FOR ALL *Express*

Save up to 40% on groceries!

Fare for All Express is a non-profit mobile cooperative food buying program that buys food in bulk and passes the savings on to participants.

What's in it for them? The more they sell the more purchasing power they have to supply quality food to local food shelves.

What's in it for you? You save **Big** on your groceries, plus you are playing a major roll in giving back to your community.

Fare for All is open to anyone, and you can buy as many of the following packages as you want!

- Regular Pack \$17: Contains 4 or more frozen meats, 4 or more fresh vegetable items, and 2 or more fresh fruit items.
- Meat Only Pack \$12: Contains 4 or more frozen meat items which may include poultry, beef, pork and fish.
- Vegetarian Pack \$10: Contains a generous amount of fresh fruits and vegetables and often a starch item (rice, pasta, beans).

There is no pre-payment or pre-registration. **FARE FOR ALL** *Express* accepts cash, check, credit or debit cards and EBT.

The **FARE FOR ALL** *Express* will be here  
3:30 – 5:30 pm, on Tuesday July 1<sup>st</sup> in the Training Center Lobby, so  
stock up just before vacation shutdown.

We need 50 commitments to get them here. Please give your name to anyone from the peer support committee, or one of your union Representatives, or call the union hall Thank you.

*Sponsored by your Peer Support Committee*



## In Memory

**BROTHER RODERICK W. O'CONNOR**, died on February 17, 2008 at the age of 87 years. **BROTHER O'CONNOR** began working at Ford Motor Company in January of 1947. He worked at the plant for 30 years before retiring in 1977 and was able to enjoy over 30 years of retirement. Services were held in Graceville, MN.

**BROTHER RONALD MOUNTCASTLE** died on March 14, 2008 at the age of 67 years. The funeral was held on March 19<sup>th</sup> at Faith Alliance Church in St. Paul. **BROTHER MOUNTCASTLE** transferred to TCAP from New Jersey to complete his 30 years of service with Ford Motor Company. He retired in October of 1999.

**BROTHER RICHARD J. BREault** died on March 24, 2008 at the age of 73

years. A visitation was held on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Bradshaw Funeral Home in St. Paul. **BROTHER BREault** began his employment with Ford Motor Company in September of 1956. After working there for 30 years, he retired in May of 1986 and was able to enjoy retirement for over 20 years. **BROTHER ALTON J. JENSEN** died on March 26, 2008 at the age of 70 years. The memorial service was held on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, MN. **BROTHER JENSEN** began his employment at Ford Motor Company in May of 1962. After working there for 38 years, he retired in January of 2000.

**BROTHER PATRICK F. BRAZIL** died on April 16, 2008 at the age of 58 years. The funeral was held on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Cedar Valley Church, Bloomington, MN. **BROTHER BRAZIL** began his employment at Ford Motor Company in August of 1967. He worked there for 31 years before he retired in January of 1998.

Word was received of the death of **BROTHER WOODROW P. LINE**, who died on March 3, 2008 at the age of 90 years. **BROTHER LINE** came to work at Ford Motor Company in June of 1948. He worked there for 30 years before retiring in May of 1978 and was able to enjoy as many

years of retirement as he worked—30 years! **BROTHER STANLEY R. GREEN** died on May 7, 2008 at the age of 86 years. The funeral was held on May 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Crosby, MN. **BROTHER GREEN** came to work at Ford Motor in April of 1946. He worked there for 35 years before his retirement in December of 1981.

**BROTHER ROY M. DULLUM** died on May 18, 2008 at the age of 85 years. The funeral was held on May 21<sup>st</sup> at Morris Nilsen Funeral Chapel, Richfield, MN. **BROTHER DULLUM** began his employment at Twin Cities Assembly Plant in September of 1956. He worked there for 28 years before retiring in 1984

**BROTHER HARVEY GAMBLE** died on May 20, 2008 at the age of 58 years. A memorial service was held on May 27<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Hospital Chapel, St. Paul, MN. **BROTHER GAMBLE** began his employment at Ford Motor Company in 1974. After spending almost 32 years there, he retired in January of 2006. He worked in the Paint Department as a spraybooth cleaner.

## Our Condolences to the Families . . .

## Another View:

# Herbert Hoover Revisited

by Jim Hightower

The official story of the Great Depression is that it began with the stock market crash of 1929. Wrong.

Depressions don't instantaneously explode in a country, they creep up. The big financial crash was preceded by years of financial manipulation by Wall Street hucksters, wage declines for the majority of workers, a growing epidemic of farm losses, and malign neglect by President Herbert Hoover. Even when it came, Hoover continued to insist that the economy was fundamentally sound, that Washington should simply stay the course and let the market work its magic.

If this sounds familiar, that's because George W is the Hoover of 2008. In April, for the fourth month in a row, the

American economy lost jobs, but Bush insisted that strong action is unnecessary, noting that "only" 20,000 jobs were lost last month and boasting that the unemployment rate was still at five percent.

First of all, the unemployment rate misses the depth of the problem. For example, it does not count "discouraged workers," some 400,000 people who've been out of work for so long that they've given up looking. Also, if you worked even one day at a temporary job during the month, you're counted as "employed."

This raises the deeper flaw in job numbers, which is that they cover up the decline in people's income. Even during the Great Depression, the vast majority of folks had jobs. But today, just as then, the hours of those jobs have been cut

back, and millions of people who need full-time work are only able to find part-time jobs.

Meanwhile, as rank-and-file workers (who make up 80 percent of the workforce) see their incomes stagnate, they also see the cost of gasoline, food, health care, and other basics skyrocket. When the average pay for 8 out of 10 Americans is not even keeping up with the cost of living, look out.

—*Jim Hightower is a nationally syndicated radio commentator and the best-selling author of Swim Against the Current: Even a Dead Fish Can Go With the Flow. For more information visit [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com)*

# 2008 Local 879 Golf Tournament



will be held on August 24th at Oak Marsh Golf Course in Woodbury.

Tee Off at 1:00 - \$65.00 per player.

Open to all active and retired UAW members.

Deadline will be August 15th.

Sign -up will be available in the next issue of The Autoworker and in the plant.

Call the union hall at 651-699-4246 for more information.

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## **THIS EXPANSION BILL AFFECTS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU IN THIS PLANT**

### **Senate Bill 1848 and House Bill 3920**

Senator Max Baucus, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee authored a bill to expand TAA it has already passed the house and needs approval by the U.S. Senate. As it stands, the TAA provides worker retraining, job search assistance, relocation allowance, income support if workers are forced to take lower paying jobs, and health care credits while a worker remains unemployed. These services have lent a measure of relief to Ford workers, who have lost their jobs, or are still working at Ford and preparing for life after Ford. If you aren't currently using the service you will when this plant closes. Proposed is a One Stop Shop it would be a national system of centers—and a single help number such as 1-800-NEW-JOBS—that would bring all unemployment benefits together in one place and offer immediate assistance to workers who lose their jobs. In addition to the One Stop Shops, a comprehensive adjustment plan would include:

- Expanding TAA's wage insurance program to benefit all workers over 50 who lose their jobs.
- Creating a universal guarantee for health care between jobs until a broader system of universal healthcare is established.
- Adding mortgage insurance into the package of available benefits for the unemployed.
- Developing Community Adjustment Compacts, which offer business investment incentives and wage tax credits to those who bring business investment into communities identified as "at risk" of suffering dislocation due to trade.
- Implementing Flexible Education Accounts, which would broaden the current Life Time Learning Tax Credit and further empower workers to seek adult education and skills building courses in order to invest in themselves before as well as after job loss.

**Call your U.S. Senator now, it only took me 90 seconds, all they took was my zip code, and that I was in support of the TAA bill!** Amy Klobuchar (612) 727-5220, Norm Coleman (651) 645-0323; if you live in Wisconsin the Senators are Russel D. Feingold (202) 224-5323, and Herb Kohl (202) 224-5653. tell them you are in support of the Senator Baucus's bill that expands TAA. You can also contact them through these links [kohl.senate.gov/gen\\_contact.html](http://kohl.senate.gov/gen_contact.html), [feingold.senate.gov/contact\\_opinion.html](http://feingold.senate.gov/contact_opinion.html), [coleman.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Contact.ContactForm](http://coleman.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Contact.ContactForm), [klobuchar.senate.gov/emailamy.cfm](http://klobuchar.senate.gov/emailamy.cfm)

**If every person in this plant calls they are sure to listen. Together we can make a difference!**

*Cap Committee and Peer Support Committee*

# JUNE 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 E-BOARD MEETING	3	4	5 UNION MEETING	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 RETIREEES MEETING 1:30 PM	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**LUCKY YOU!**  
**Membership Meeting**  
**Door prize winners for**  
**MARCH / APRIL / MAY**

**MARCH**

Jody Greer  
 Mike Hanson  
 Kathy Kubes  
 DuWayne  
 Standberry

**APRIL**

Ron Caliri  
 Michael Carpenter  
 John Flis  
 Margie Rios

**MAY**

Brenda Dickhausen  
 Mike Hanson  
 Brian Huseby  
 Johnny Rudolph

Local No. 879 UAW  
 2191 Ford Parkway  
 St. Paul, MN, 55116



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