A representation vote was held on Feb. 10, 2006 to determine which union would represent the members of the newly-formed Durham Region Transit. I am proud to report that CAW Local 222 was successful in the campaign, as the employees of the new transit system voted by a margin of 180 to 88 to have the CAW represent them heading into the future.

Congratulations and thanks go out to John Johnson and his committee for their efforts and hours in which were dedicated to this process. I would also like to welcome all of the new members to the Canadian Auto Workers and look forward to representing all of you as President of Local 222.

On Jan. 23, 2006, Ford announced their restructuring plans, which were similar to what General Motors had announced back in November. Ford’s plan could result in the loss of up to 30,000 jobs and 14 plant closures throughout North America. Michelin Tire announced on Feb. 2, 2006 its plan to close a plant in Kitchener, putting 1,100 people out of work.

Brothers and Sisters: When will our government wake up and realize our auto industry and the manufacturing sectors of this country are in very real trouble that is not of their own making?

We are not only faced with the trade imbalance but our rising Canadian dollar continues to disadvantage us as the strong loonie resulted in 42,000 jobs lost in Canada’s manufacturing sector during January – 33,000 of those were out of Ontario. From January 2005 see GOOD – page 2
Good News From Transit; Tough Times For Auto

- continued from page 1

to January 2006 a total of 145,000 factory jobs disappeared across the country, according to Statistics Canada.

Now for those who enjoy cross-border shopping our rising Canadian dollar does make a difference, but it sure puts us at a disadvantage for corporations looking to invest, with the end result being working people losing their jobs and no good replacement jobs in sight.

With the federal election now behind us and a new government in place, we will continue to press for them to address the unfair trade policies we are forced to swallow and watch as it destroys our auto industry.

On Jan. 24, 2006 I sent the following letter to our MP Colin Carrie, but to date have not received a response. Colin took pride in the fact he was the chair of the Conservative auto caucus, so now that they have formed the new government and he is Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Industry, I would expect to see some results on behalf of the constituents who elected him.

Mr. Colin Carrie, MP
1 Mary St. N., Unit C
Oshawa, ON
L1G 7W8
Dear Colin:
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your re-election as MP for the Oshawa riding.

Should you continue as chair of the Conservative auto caucus, my membership (your constituents) need to know what your caucus and your government’s plan of attack will be in order to preserve our auto industry here in Oshawa and within the country as a whole.

Our industry’s decline and subsequent job losses are a direct result of the unfair federal trade policies when it comes to the flood of imported vehicles allowed to enter our market unchallenged. I believe you personally understand the auto industry is the backbone of our economy here in our Region, but to be honest it troubles me when I hear Stephen Harper’s position is that the market will dictate the future of such a retail industry.

Looking forward to your response in the near future,
Yours Truly,
Chris Buckley, President
CAW Local 222
Trustee National Executive Board

As I have stated on numerous occasions, our industry is under attack and the obstacles continue to mount before us. With the number of challenges we are faced with in order to secure our futures and weather this current storm, it is of the utmost importance that both the elected Leadership and the entire Membership stay united and take on the issues we are faced with.
Solidarity Since 1937
Still Needed Today

Brothers and Sisters, as you have heard over the last few weeks, we are facing some very difficult times within the GM Unit, and ultimately that will have a large impact on all the other units within our Local.

It has become clear that GM was serious in their announcement that the Oshawa Car Plant #2 will close no later than 2008 and possibly earlier due to lack of demand for the cars that it builds.

In addition to that very public announcement, GM officials held a meeting with Buzz Hargrove, Chris Buckley, myself and the other chairs to tell us that there is currently no product allocated for Car Plant #1. At the meeting, the Company representatives informed us that the UAW has been actively involved in discussions to become more competitive and reduce costs. Between the willingness of the UAW to work with the Company during these difficult times and the strength of the Canadian dollar, there is no longer any advantage to GM to do business in Canada. In fact, according to the Company, doing business in Canada has become a disadvantage even taking into account our quality and efficiency due to issues like plants not starting on time when there is snow, shipping costs, and what the Company calls our “non-competitive” practices.

At the meeting, the Company put the Union on notice that some of these practices would need to change in order for Oshawa to be considered for new product. The Company did not provide us with any specifics, and when they do, we will certainly keep you informed. In fact, these are not decisions that we as Union representatives will make unilaterally and we will present them to you the membership for ratification prior to any changes in your agreements.

There is no question that these are challenging times, creating a great deal of uncertainty for everyone. We have just enjoyed the longest period of full employment ever known in the automotive industry. We were rightfully able to share in those good times as we were able to see the hire of new workers, significant early retirement incentives, industry-leading wages and benefits, and an improved focus on working conditions. It would appear that we will all be called upon to make sacrifices in order to get through this downturn until we can return to more positive times.

It would appear that we will all be called upon to make sacrifices in order to get through this downturn until we can return to more positive times.

GM SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON AND FIRST VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

It has become clear that GM was serious in the other units within our Local.

The negative announcements about GM began in December, the Shop Committee and particularly myself personally have come under constant attack, with one cowardly individual even leaving voice mails for Steve Drinkwalter threatening physical violence to he and I.

I understand the uncertainty and fear that these difficult times bring, and I understand that unfortunately fear can bring out the worst in people.

I have 27 years of seniority and have been an elected Union representative, starting as an alternate committeeperson, for 21 years. I was here when we went through difficult times before, with plants being reduced to one shift and possibilities of plant closings. GM survived those downturns, and we survived as a Union because the adversity increased our solidarity. With the issues that continue to arise every day, while watching the Union weakening as a result of fear, self-interest, politics, and a desire by some to make the Union the scapegoat for all bad things, I must admit that my U.R. job in Plant #2 Trim looks appealing some days. However, you elected me to be the Oshawa-Wide Chair, and I will continue to fill that responsibility to the best of my ability and in the best interests of the membership during the bad times as well as the good. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in times of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at time of challenge and controversy.”

I hope that each of you personally will give a great deal of thought to the challenges that face us, and that when called upon, you will attend any information or ratification meetings to make your voice heard. I also hope that in these difficult times, you will remember that our Union was founded on the principle of standing together to form one strong voice, and that you should ignore the divisive politicians and pamphlets that try to weaken that position. My thanks to those of you who have remained supportive of your elected representatives and who have wisely chosen to ignore the rumours that circulate daily.

In solidarity.

INCOME TAX

All-Tax Services is pleased to announce that we have again been chosen to provide Income Tax Services to all Local 222 Members, active and retired, at the Union Hall.

We are open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We also offer services at our office at 5 Bond Street West, Phone 905-723-3113.
As of February 10, 2006, the good people within our transit units that we represent just got a whole lot bigger in number.

Thanks to the outstanding work of John Johnson and his committee, we won the responsibility to represent all of Durham Region Transit: Courtice, Oshawa, Whitby, Ajax-Pickering and Handi-Transit are all now represented by the CAW.

The total was 180 to 88 in favour of the CAW in a representation vote conducted by the Ontario Labour Relations Board, to amalgamate all transit under one governing body in the Durham Region.

Manufacturing Jobs

In the Toronto Star business section on Feb. 11, 2006, the headline read “What’s killing our manufacturing jobs.” Almost 42,000 factory jobs vanished in Canada last month, 33,000 in Ontario, for the biggest monthly drop in 15 years, as a stronger Canadian dollar and cheaper imports hit manufacturers.

Now you understand why we are promoting a “Buy Domestic” campaign. Most of Canada’s workforce is in manufacturing. So where are these people going to work, or young people to find new jobs?

It is interesting to see British Columbia hosting the next Olympics and asking for millions of dollars, yet the government won’t invest in people’s working future? Doesn’t make sense to me.

I have assumed a new responsibility, working for the National Union as CAW/GM Health and Wellness Coordinator.

The decision to accept this position was very difficult after serving our membership in various capacities over the past 18 years.

I would like to thank our Truck Plant membership for electing me as their Plant Chairperson and the total Local 222 membership for electing me as your Second Vice President. It has been an honour and privilege representing and protecting the rights of our members and being able to attend the past five sets of negotiations on your behalf. I will always cherish the memories and confidence you have had in me. I have met so many wonderful members over the years in the course of being a union representative and I have made a lot of long-lasting friendships as a result.

I look forward to the challenges and opportunities associated to my new position in improving the health and well-being of our members, dependents and retirees throughout the General Motors chain.

A person’s well being requires maintaining a good balance of physical and mental health, sustaining security and confidence in oneself, and focusing on a positive outlook on life during one’s working years and beyond. Happiness cannot be achieved from financial success alone. The Health & Wellness program is intended to assist our members establish healthy attainable goals and provide the information and encouragement to successfully reach these objectives in a supportive and realistic manner.

In closing, I could never have taken on the challenges and responsibilities of representing the membership without the unwavering support and understanding of my loving wife Sharon and my three wonderful children Jennifer, Tiffany and Courtney. They have been there for me through thick and thin and I take great comfort in knowing they shall be there for me in the future.
### CAW Local 222 Financial Report

**Covering The Month Of December, 2005**

Total Receipts .......................................................... $ 1,024,866.06
Total Expense ........................................................................ 972,756.12
Surplus (Deficit) ............................................................ $ 52,109.94

### Balance Sheet As At December 31, 2005

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**
- Cash ......................................................................... 385,706.25
- Bank ......................................................................... 672,936.12
- Total Bank ................................................................... 1,058,642.37
- Deposit – AWCU ..................................................... 37,640.17
- Due from Dental Centre ........................................... 45,517.14
- Dominion of Canada Bonds ..................................... 12,000.00
- Short Term Investments ........................................... 1,072,185.48
- **TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** .................................... 2,223,985.16

**Fixed Assets**
- Land .......................................................................... 615,195.00
- Buildings ...................................................................... 2,829,533.00
- Equipment ...................................................................... 92,627.61
- **Total: Fixed Assets** .................................................. 3,557,355.61
- **TOTAL ASSETS** ...................................................... 5,761,340.77

**LIABILITIES**

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**
- Accrued Liabilities ....................................................... 2,268,201.79
- UI Payable ................................................................. 459.49
- UI Payable – Lost Time .............................................. 545.23
- CPP Payable .............................................................. 678.00
- CPP Payable – Lost Time ............................................ 532.58
- Income Tax Payable .................................................... 0.00
- Income Tax Payable – Lost Time ............................... 1,537.42
- Receiver General Payable ........................................... 3,552.72
- EHT Payable .............................................................. 4,079.13
- Union Dues Payable ................................................... 1,707.76
- AWCU ......................................................................... 2,548.85
- Charitable Deductions .............................................. 2,245.79
- WCB Payable ............................................................. 2,530.75
- Retired Members Fund .............................................. 67,528.77
- Recreation Fund ........................................................ 5,811.10
- **TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES** .............................. 2,353,145.16
- **TOTAL LIABILITIES** ................................................. 2,353,145.16

**EQUITY**

**NET ASSETS**
- Net Assets .................................................................... 3,797,776.76
- Surplus ......................................................................... 389,581.15
- **TOTAL NET ASSETS** ............................................. 3,408,195.61
- **TOTAL EQUITY** ..................................................... 3,408,195.61
- **LIABILITIES AND EQUITY** ........................................ 5,761,340.77

### CAW Local 222: Income Statement

**December 1-31, 2005**

**REVENUE**

**INCOME**
- Membership Dues ..................................................... 973,444.91
- Initiations ...................................................................... 210.00
- S.U.B. Receipts ........................................................... 7,232.23
- Greenshield Recoveries .............................................. 2,358.55
- Hall Maintenance ....................................................... 2,533.25
- Lost Time and Wages Recoveries ............................... 10,345.22
- Staff Wage Recoveries .............................................. 1,649.40
- Miscellaneous Collections ........................................ 3,272.50
- Oshaworker ............................................................... 14,572.68
- Recreation ................................................................. 1,445.65
- Rent .............................................................................. 6,350.96
- Soft Drinks and Vending ............................................ 299.00
- Telephone Income ..................................................... 1,181.73
- **TOTAL REVENUE** ................................................. 1,024,866.06
- **TOTAL REVENUE** .................................................. 1,024,866.06

**EXPENSE**

**OFFICE AND BUILDING**
- Employee Salaries ..................................................... 79,351.99
- UI Expense ................................................................. 2,290.23
- CPP Expense ............................................................. 3,316.50
- WCB Expense .......................................................... 107.31
- EHT Expense ............................................................. 3,457.18
- Other Benefits ......................................................... 24,628.85
- **Employee Benefits and Insurance** ......................... 33,800.05
- Hall Expenses ........................................................... 858.36
- Insurance ...................................................................... 20,895.84
- Miscellaneous purchases .......................................... 42,660.44
- Building Maintenance .............................................. 10,897.24
- Soft drinks and vending ............................................ 247.58
- Telephone ................................................................. 11,718.96
- Office Supplies and General Expense ....................... 10,702.06
- Officers Expense ...................................................... 1,168.27
- Professional .............................................................. 5,034.73
- **Total Office and Building** ...................................... 217,355.52

**ORGANIZATIONAL**
- Per Capita – Durham Labour Council ......................... 2,704.80
- Per Capita – GM Intra Corp Council ......................... 5,103.00
- Per Capita – CAW Assessment ................................. 559,002.36
- Per Capita – CAW Council ........................................ 9,806.66
- **Total Per Capita** .................................................... 574,616.82
- Lost Time: Wages and Benefits ................................. 97,935.16
- Lost Time Expenses ME&EH ........................................ 6,925.42
- Lost Time Expenses – Hotels ..................................... 1,757.28
- **Lost Time Expenses** ............................................... 8,682.70
- Education ................................................................. 1,769.50
- Investors Grp Trust – Staff Pensions ......................... 29,824.60
- Oshaworker – Printing .............................................. 33,418.55
- Oshaworker – Postage .............................................. 10,908.77
- **Total Oshaworker** .................................................. 44,327.32
- Publicity ...................................................................... 40.00
- Welfare and donations ............................................. 1,800.00
- Skilled Trades .......................................................... 24.50
- **Total Organizational** ............................................... 755,420.60
- **TOTAL EXPENSE** .................................................. 972,756.12
- **NET INCOME** ......................................................... 52,109.94

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**March 2006 The Oshaworker ● 5**
**Fundamental Change?**

The Company requested a meeting on Friday, Feb. 10, 2006 with the National Union, our Local President, Oshawa-Wide Chair and Area Chairpersons of the Car Plants, Skilled Trades, Stamping and Tri-Link. The Company stated there have been dramatic issues arise since negotiations, such as the escalation of the Canadian dollar, the announcement that Plant #2 will close in 2008, the third shift in Plant #1 eliminated at the end of 2006, the de-rate of Plant #2, the Company's loss of $8.6 billion last year, the billions of dollars the UAW gave up in pension and health care costs, the huge issue at Delphi that could cost GM millions if not billions of dollars.

The Company made it very clear that some major changes have to be made as to the way they run the business in Oshawa or they will look elsewhere to do business, as Canada and the USA are the two most expensive countries in which to build vehicles.

We can decide to do nothing and watch our plants and jobs disappear or we can face the realities head on and have a future in Oshawa. We can decide to do nothing and watch our plants and jobs disappear or we can face the realities head on and have a future in Oshawa.

The next GM scheduling meeting is Monday, Feb. 20, 2006. These meetings are conducted by up to one hour. The plant is limited to advancing the lunch period three times per shift per department during each year, and management will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible.

We know with all of the issues out there, rumours will circulate. It serves no purpose to be part of this as it only adds to the confusion and unrest. We also appeal to the Membership to not write or pay attention to leaflets unless they are published and signed by the Union Leadership. If you have any concerns or questions, ask your Union reps.

**We can decide to do nothing and watch our plants and jobs disappear or we can face the realities head on and have a future in Oshawa.**

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**CAR PLANT AREA CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

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**AUTOSHOW**

Winners of the Oshaworker draw for tickets to the Canadian International AutoShow in Toronto are:

- Grand Prize winner of four tickets: Apurva Bhatt (GM);
- Runners-up recipients of two tickets each are: Dan Panchuck (GM), Branko Mihaljevic (GM), Willi Kolar (GM retired), Dan Brock (GM), Gerard Daigle (GM retired), Kevin Schram (GM), Mark McConnell (JCI), Brad Harfman (JCI), Jason Williams (GM), Roy Vaillancourt (GM retired).
International Women’s Day!

The CAW and women’s groups around the world celebrate International Women’s Day on March 8. What is International Women’s Day? This day is designated in many countries as a national holiday and is commemorated at the United Nations. There have been few causes promoted by the United Nations that has generated more intense and widespread support than the campaign to promote and protect the equal rights of women. The charter of the United Nations, signed in San Francisco in 1945, was the first international agreement to proclaim gender equality as a fundamental human right.

The United Nations actions for the advancements of women has taken four clear directions: promotion of legal measures; mobilization of public opinion and international action; training and research, including the compilation of gender desegregated statistics; and direct assistance to disadvantaged groups. The central organizing principle of the work of the United Nations is that no enduring solution to society’s most threatening social, economic and political problems can be found without the full participation, and the full empowerment, of the world’s women.

The idea of International Women’s Day first arose at the turn of the century, which in the industrialized world was a time of expansion and turbulence, radical ideologies and booming population growth. Following is a brief history I found of significant events in chronological order:

1909: In accordance with a declaration by the Socialist Party of America, the first National Woman’s Day was observed across the United States on February 28. Women continued to celebrate it on the last Sunday of that month through 1913.

1910: The Socialist International, meeting in Copenhagen, established a Women’s Day, international in character, to honour the movement for women’s rights and to assist in achieving universal suffrage for women. The proposal was greeted with unanimous approval by the conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, which included the first three women elected to the Finnish parliament. No fixed date was set for the observance.

1911: As a result of the decision made at Copenhagen the previous year, International Women’s Day was marked for the first time (March 19) in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland, where more than one million women and men attended rallies. In addition to the right to vote and to hold public office, they demanded the right to work, to vocational training and to an end to discrimination on the job.

Less than a week later, on March 25, the tragic Triangle Fire in New York City took the lives of more than 140 working girls, most of them Italian and Jewish immigrants. This event had a significant impact on labour legislation in the United States, and the working conditions leading up to the disaster were invoked during subsequent observances of International Women’s Day.

1913-1914: As part of the peace movement brewing on the eve of World War I, Russian women observed their first International Woman’s Day on the last Sunday in February 1913. Elsewhere in Europe, on or around March 8 of the following year, women held rallies either to protest the war or to express solidarity with their sisters.

1917: With two million Russian soldiers dead in the war, Russian women again chose the last Sunday in February to strike for “bread and peace.” Political leaders opposed the timing of the strike, but the women went on anyway. The rest is history: Four days later the Czar was forced to abdicate and the provisional government granted women the right to vote. That historic Sunday fell on February 23 on the Julian calendar then in use in Russia, but on March 8 on the Gregorian calendar in use everywhere.

2006: The Canadian theme for IWD 2006 is “Beyond Laws: The Right to be Me” which addresses women’s rights, women’s diversity and the need to put words into action. 2006 marks the anniversary of Canada’s ratification of comprehensive international treaty on women’s rights, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The law guarantees women and men equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities in all aspects of Canadian life. Much has been accomplished to put into place legal foundations such as the Canadian Human Rights Act, pay and employment equity laws, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and maternity and parental benefits.

Despite these legal foundations, a gap remains between laws and the reality of women’s lives. Many issues from the past, such as violence and poverty, have not been resolved. Today, as women join the labour force in record numbers, raise families and participate in their communities, barriers remain. These barriers keep women, whether they are aboriginal women, women with disabilities, lesbians, single women, lone parents or women living in poverty, from realizing their full potential. The removal of legal barriers is not enough. We need to close the gaps between the sexes in our daily lives.

I collected this information from the United Nations, and The Status of Women of Canada websites.

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me at angeladawnlegere@hotmail.com or phone me directly at 905-435-8725. If you have any interesting or fun facts about IWD for next year’s article please forward them to me.

In Solidarity.
Hang Together, Or Hang Separately

To the Editor:

I retired from General Motors in 1996 after approximately 30 years service; I still drive a General Motors product. I retired from public life having been given the privilege to serve the people on both the Clarington and Durham Region Governments. I also chaired some restructuring of both governments respectively. I was also given the opportunity by the CAW to attend Labour College at a time when few from Local 222 had. (Thank you John Sinclair) I also had the honour to write, perform and record a song for the 25th Anniversary of Labour College that went around the world.

During the last year I have spent a considerable amount of time in the United States. We might be surprised but most ordinary Canadians look at us as being like them. The truth is they are much more like us than different. They share most of our hopes, our dreams, our aspirations and our concerns.

It is not a pretty sight in the U.S. The flood of imports are taking their toll in the destruction of the original “Big Three.” Government policy in both Canada and the U.S. has resulted in the loss of tens upon tens of thousands of jobs for home-grown auto manufacturers. We give access to our markets to offshore producers, we are restricted in our markets.

Psychologically both Canadians and Americans have changed with little or no loyalty to the products produced in either country by the home auto manufacturers. America has a trade deficit with us in the billion dollar columns in our favour yet for the most part they tend not to look at us. An increasing number of Congressmen are getting very concerned about the huge trade deficit they have, caused by the erosion of the manufacturing sector of the economy. They tend to look at China, Japan and other Asian countries as the problem, not Canada. As their trade deficit continues to grow, America will increasingly look at protectionist policies. We have felt a bit of it of it in beef and forestry. Let’s not forget we export the bulk of our vehicles to the United States; we depend upon Americans to buy our vehicles. They rely upon us for energy.

Pierre Trudeau tried to change our dependency and reliance on the U.S. as our almost total trading partner. He introduced the metric system and used the argument of developing trade with Europe for its implementation. It didn’t work! In my opinion the metric system did accomplish one thing. It created a license for the gas companies to steal. 10 cents per litre increase sounds better than 45 cents per gallon! Some of our politicians like to play the anti U.S. card at election time but whether we like it or not we are joined at the hip with the U.S. It’s time our political leaders were honest with us!

Unless there is change in government policy on both sides of the border, the dissolution of most of the original “Big Three” in the future appears evident. I believe it is time for both the United Auto Workers and the Canadian Auto Workers Union to recognize that a joint approach by both are in our best interests in preserving and protecting Auto Workers jobs in the North American Market and developing a joint response as a whole. There is an old saying, “we either hang together, or we’ll hang separately.”

We sometimes think we in Canada are an island unto ourself. We truly are not! Global trade has changed everything. Workers in both Canada and the United States are very vulnerable, auto workers are no exception! I believe it is time for both the CAW and the UAW to sit down together and find some common ground in working together in developing and coordinating a joint strategy in securing jobs for their members in the North American market as a whole before it’s too late! Both American and Canadian governments have ignored the problem. It’s time for our unions to re-think their positions respectively. It’s time for action!

Larry Hannah

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Thank You

Bart MacNeill would like to thank everyone who came out and voted to re-elect him to the Oshawa-Ajax-Peterborough CAW Retirees Area Council. Also elected were Don Nicholls and Bill Clark.

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New Director Of CAW International Department

Congratulations to former CAW Local 222 President Mike Shields who was recently appointed as Director of the CAW International Department. Mike has spent the last two years heading up the National’s Organizing Department. Mike will be responsible for the ongoing relationships with like-minded unions and social-justice-seeking groups around the world. His new department also maintains links within Canada with other groups seeking to bring about more justice for workers and their families internationally. The CAW negotiates a Social Justice Fund through which they carry out International Development Projects.

Congratulations Mike!
The union representation vote for the workers of Durham Region Transit finally took place on Feb. 10, 2006. I am extremely happy to announce that our workers chose the CAW as their union with a resounding majority of the votes.

This vote was a long time coming and it was extremely stressful having to even consider the possibility (however remote) of not remaining a member of CAW Local 222. I am very proud to be a member of this great union, and I would like to thank all of the membership for the fantastic turnout for this very important vote. I owe a debt of gratitude to all of our elected reps, especially Brian Steeves, Ted Neuman and Nikki Henderson for all of their hard work and long hours put in to help ensure a victory for the CAW and ultimately the membership.

Throughout this whole process we enjoyed the full support of our Local President Chris Buckley, our Financial Secretary Charlie Peel and as always the staff at the hall were untiring in their work and support for us.

I would also like to thank our CAW National Rep Mike Reuter, our CAW legal counsel Barry Wadsworth and our organizing rep Dan MacPherson for all of the hard work that went into both attaining a union representation vote and helping in the campaign to ensure a victory.

On behalf of Local 222 of the CAW I would like to welcome the workers from the former Handi-Transit, the former Ajax-Pickering Transit and the office workers in Whitby to our fine union.

For a lot of the members in the Ajax/Pickering facility, it has been a long journey back to the CAW. The Ajax Transit workers joined CAW Local 222 in 1990. In 1993, the Town of Ajax took over the operations from the private operator and refusing to recognize the successor rights, did not hire a number of the workers. The CAW appealed this action throughout multiple court appearances over seven years, ending up at the Supreme Court of Canada. After the Supreme Court ruled that the workers did indeed have successor rights for their jobs, the Town of Ajax still refused to obey the law. After a number of CAW Local 222 members attended an Ajax Council meeting to pressure them into abiding by the Supreme Court ruling, the Town finally agreed to the redress sought for the workers by the CAW.

In September of 2001, Ajax and Pickering amalgamated to form Ajax/Pickering Transit, and a subsequent union representation vote took place between CUPE representing the Pickering workers and the CAW representing the Ajax Transit workers. CUPE won by the narrowest of margins. Now, through the amalgamation of all of the Transit systems in Durham Region, another representation vote takes place five years later between the same two unions. As a result, the CAW is not only representing the members they never gave up on, but all of the workers of Durham Region Transit.

The Legacy Of Oshawa Transit
By Nikki Henderson
DRT East Committeeperson

By now, most of you will have heard the results of Durham Region Transit’s certification vote. I must say that I am very proud of the show of solidarity by our members and the hard work and dedication of my fellow committee members.

The former Oshawa Transit is fortunate to be left a great legacy by workers, many of whom are now retirees. I would like to acknowledge them and thank them for the many years that they spent attaining benefits we are now fortunate to enjoy.

My thanks especially go to Gord Vickers (former Oshawa Transit Chair) who initially introduced me to the Union and taught me the true meaning of Union activism. I remember Gord being very worried about the fate of our unit after his retirement. I know, without asking, that he is proud today.

Thank you to all former bargaining unit members and retirees of Oshawa Transit for a wonderful legacy that we will cherish and strive to improve forever.

In Solidarity.

John Johnson
Durham Region Transit – East Unit Chairperson

Dedicated Unionists Rewarded At Durham Region Transit

For those in Lakeridge Health Oshawa only, anyone wishing a visit by the Retirees’ Sick & Visiting Committee should call the Union Hall at 905-723-1187.

This applies to both active and retired members of Local 222.

UNION VISITS

www.cawlocal.ca/222
CHECK IT OUT
Wide Range Of Lear Issues Covered In Meeting

As mentioned in the last Oshaworker, a meeting was held with internal management, Corporate and the negotiating committee. Our President of our Local, Chris Buckley, sat in on the meeting as well.

The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that the Company was living up to the Commitment Letter from our recent negotiations. Chris opened the meeting by indicating to the Company that the issues in our facility are not show stoppers. These issues can be rectified ahead of the competition. If the Company has a communication breakdown on their side getting notification to Rob’s supervisor in a timely fashion. It was made very clear to the Company that even in a worse case scenario, they need to call a double to cover any H&S rep to enable them to attend their meetings. These H&S Meetings are vital to the well being of our Membership and should be equally important to the Company as well.

We then started to review a list of items from our Health and Safety concerns. Jeff Brackett brought up the Company’s commitment of weekly H&S meetings. He went on to say that the Company was having a hard time freeing Rob Buntsma up for these meetings. The Company responded by saying that there was a communication breakdown on their side, getting notification to Rob’s supervisor in a timely fashion. It was made very clear to the Company that even in a worse case scenario, they need to call a double to cover any H&S rep to enable them to attend their meetings. These H&S Meetings are vital to the well being of our Membership and should be equally important to the Company as well.

The Company then indicated that they would meet monthly, Jeff made the point of Senior Management attending these meetings as well. Otherwise nothing seems to get done. The Company then indicated that they would ensure that this starts to happen.

There were a couple of issues that the Company hadn’t met their committed dates of completion. The Skilled Trades had concerns that were covered in Bargaining regarding a Lock Out procedure in both FGI systems while they were working on them. Plant One FGI has been done and Plant Two FGI needs to be completed. There needs to be an overall plant-wide review of the Lock Out Policy and Procedure. This has yet to be completed so an extended H&S meeting was scheduled for next issue.

Business Prospects Still Bleak At PPG

As you are all aware, we had a final step grievance meeting with the Company and Corporate PPG the week of Jan. 18. As part of that meeting we also discussed (or should I say, listened to) the state of our business for both the Oshawa and Hawkesbury plants.

As I expected there was no good news for either plant, as the Corporation provided us with a slide show detailing the state of the auto industry, the competition we face and our costs relating to the rising Canadian dollar, energy costs, legacy costs (our pensions) and our labour costs, which the Corporation put at about $45/hour loaded.

Even though we as a membership have made huge improvements in our quality and yields, we have implemented a new process on #9 furnace and we have had job combinations with much more additional work forced upon us.

They say: “Keep up the good work, but it’s not enough.” I made some comments during the meeting that if they were truly interested in reducing costs there was much more money to be saved on the management side with job combinations there. Of course those comments fell on deaf ears.

What was very disconcerting to me were the last two slides in the presentation that dealt specifically with Oshawa and Hawkesbury and changes they thought were necessary for us to be more competitive because, as the Corporation put it, parts would be manufactured at the lowest-cost plants.

We, as a committee, discussed with the Company that the sacrifices we made at our bargaining just seven months previous were to address these cost concerns and give us an opportunity for new business. To date, I don’t think we have been given the business we need to maintain the 150 or so brothers and sisters we have left.

These kinds of issues are also at issue in Hawkesbury, where two windshield parts are also slated to stop in June 2006 with no replacement parts lined up as of yet.

I know the brothers and sisters in Hawkesbury have also made many changes to improve costs and have not yet been rewarded for it.

We also had in attendance at our master meeting Brother Chris Buckley, who has recently been to many of these kinds of meetings lately – not only with suppliers, but also within his own plants.

I just felt it was appropriate that Chris see the kind of situations that we at PPG Oshawa and Hawkesbury are facing going into 2006. I thank Chris for his support.

On a final note about the master meeting here at Oshawa in January: We were also given notice from the Company that they would want to be meeting with us again in the very near future to discuss more of the cost-cutting issues. Although they gave us no official date, they said they would be getting back to us soon. We will keep you posted.

Until next issue.
Some Positive Signs At AGS

At the Oshaworker deadline the rumour on the floor was that we were to start four-day work weeks. When questioned by the Union on this issue, management stated that because the customer requirements after the layoff had gone down even further, that this threat might become reality. The Union has continually been pointing out that we are understaffed in all Departments and there is still some overtime being worked. Our position is that four-day work weeks don’t make sense. Time will tell how this unfolds but we will continue to fight this issue.

As for future work I’ve been told that the polish and plate trials for the Colorado/Canyon went well and with the recall of the polishers this work should be in our plant by the time you read this. The relocation of the Dodge Ram dies from Cambridge to Oshawa still had some bugs to be worked out but things were looking positive.

The Action Centre seems to be running well. It will only remain open if it is utilized so anyone who has not been in yet should pop in for a coffee and see what it is all about. They help with job searches, resumes etc. Please use it.

Heading into negotiations I ask all to stay focused on building quality products on time to ensure the 900 program, including the assembly portion, is awarded to our plant.

Again a reminder to anyone interested to come see me if they would like to attend a Port Elgin program. The complex has a great learning atmosphere and if you ask anyone who has been there they would say the experience is well worth the drive.

In Solidarity.

LARRY
JOHNSON WILLIAMS
JOHNSON CONTROLS INC. UNIT CHAIRPERSON

MARCH 2006

THE OSHAWORKER • 11

LARRY
JOHNSON WILLIAMS
JOHNSON CONTROLS INC. UNIT CHAIRPERSON

Wide Range of Lear Issues Covered In Meeting
– continued from page 10

The second week of February to ensure that these committed requirements are getting done.

It was identified that a Heat Plan has to be in effect prior to May 1, 2006.

Forklift battery maintenance and logging needs work and will be covered by the H&S Committee.

The WHMIS training plan needs to be implemented and ready to go prior to the students coming into the facility.

Washrooms: CFM to be increased in Plant 1, ducts to be cleaned as well. As for Plant 2, electrical short needs to be fixed to ensure the breaker doesn’t get tripped and shut down the exhaust.

First Aid Room: Now has a telephone located within the room.

Paint Booths: Both Main Repair stations have new paint booths and are working well. The Rear paint booths have had their Preventative Maintenance schedules increased. This has helped considerably, the filters are being maintained and Jeff claims they have not had any more complaints from the members in this area.

Defibrillator: Company has informed us that it has been purchased and the Company is now arranging the training.

In most other areas the Company seems to be making an honest attempt to live up to their obligations. Supervisors doing bargaining unit work has basically disappeared. There are more key issues to cover but I am at risk of being edited due to the length of this article. Therefore I will finish the Commitment Letter and other topics of this meeting in my next article. One thing I do want to mention is that there is another Corporate Meeting scheduled for June.

In Solidarity. ☪️
DID YOU KNOW?

Submitted by TED LAWRENCE
CAW Local 222
Education Committee

The 1955-56 GM Strike

- The strike began Sept. 18, 1955
- The strike ended 148 days later on Feb. 14, 1956

The main issue was GAW (guaranteed annual wage) subsequently known as SUB. Wage parity between GM Oshawa and other GM Canada plants was another issue.

The problem that workers had was work alternated between endless hours of overtime and working either short work week, or not working at all. As one worker put it, they were “rich by the hour and starved by the year.”

In the United States the international union made the struggle for GAW (SUB) the centrepiece of the 1955 negotiations and they made the breakthrough at Ford in the USA.

So when the five-month strike ended the achievements were:

- A Master Agreement for all Canadian GM workers
- SUB
- Full union shop (all GM employees had to be UAW members)
- For the first time Canadian workers got the same wage increase as UAW workers in the USA
- Double time for working on Sundays and the seven negotiated holidays
- Call in pay set at four hours
- Increase in vacation pay
- Preferential hiring in new plants

As you can see there were many gains achieved and a five-month strike must have been unbelievably difficult, to say the least. Most of all the gains that were made we still use and appreciate today. We need to remember the struggles it took to achieve these benefits.

Information: McMaster University Labour Studies / CAW No Power Greater
By John Redko, President

Membership meeting of Feb. 6, 2006, we had two guest speakers. Brother Dave Renaud showed a short video on the upcoming Run, Walk & Roll for Cancer Prevention, Ottawa May 27 & 28 2006. Buses available, sign up sheets at reception. Chris Conti from Friends of Second Marsh, showed slides on the beginning of the marsh concept and the different stages in its renewal, to its present state. Worth a trip down and have a walk around. We are supporters and have a membership, take advantage of the facilities.

By Bernie Heming, Secretary-Treasurer

Our Membership Meeting was held on Monday, Feb. 6, 2006 at the Union Hall. There were about 80 members present. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. All members of the Retiree Executive were present, except Ron Gay and Gord Lindsay, who were excused. John Redko welcomed one new member, Dave Hubbard, to the Chapter.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. There was no financial report available for January 2006. The Treasurer presented instead an overview of 2005 Incomes and Expenditures of the Chapter and highlighted items of interest. A detailed breakdown is available in the Retirees Lounge.

There were four recommendations to the General Membership:
• To elect eight delegates to the OFUR (Ontario Federation of Union Retirees) Convention held in London Ontario. M/S/C
• To renew our membership in the OHC (Ontario Health Coalition). M/S/C
• To purchase a table for eight at a Denise House fundraiser. M/S/C. Tickets were drawn at the end of the meeting and the winners were: Wendy Rolfe (2), John Redko (2), George Michelson (2) and Russ Rak (2).
• To sponsor our own Marika (Union Hall receptionist) ($500) in her effort in the Walk, Run and Roll for Cancer Prevention, which is held in Ottawa every year. M/S/C

The Committee reports were received discussed and approved. Some of the details are below.

John Sinclair, Member-at-Large reported that he had more discussions with Chris Buckley (President of Local 222) in regards to the $2,000 rebate on new car purchases. Chris was to raise the matter when he visited Detroit and met with the top brass of GM.

Don Nicholls (Resolutions) presented a resolution on our pension contributions being invested in the world’s leading arms manufacturers; in companies that have been prosecuted for criminal activities; in the tobacco industry and in companies complicit in human rights abuses overseas. M/S/C.

Bev McCloskey (Organizing) reported that the formation of the Camera Club is proceeding nicely. Any Local 222 retiree may join and learn from the best.

Joe Worona (Environment) expanded on the Friends of the Second Marsh presentation.

Sick & Visiting reported that 19 retirees and five active members are being visited. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit at Lake Ridge Health Oshawa on a regular basis, please call the Union Hall.

Gord Vickers (Municipal) reported that the refinancing of the OPUC has been finalized. He also reported that 400,000 Canadians are eligible but do not receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement because they do not file for it. If you know someone who earns less than $19,460 annually, ask them to call 1-800-277-9914 for more information.

Bert Grant (Elections) reported the results of the election for the Area Council (Elected: Don Nicholls, Bart MacNeill and Bill Clark) and asked for permission to destroy the ballots (granted).

At this time (2:40 p.m.) we had a draw for two tickets to the “Wetland Stomp Dinner,” which Tony Peleshok won and the Attendance Draw, which was won by yours truly, me.

Also, posted on the board are the minutes of previous Membership Meetings, a list of 2006 activities of the CAW Local 222 Retired Workers Chapter, names and phone numbers of all executives and chairpersons of the standing committees as well as a list of our incoming and outgoing correspondence.

We, the Retired Workers Chapter, are constantly trying to be more relevant to the needs and requirements of the about 7,500 retirees we represent. It would help greatly if one or the other would get in touch with me and let me know how you feel about what we are doing and how we are doing it. We have a great many activities going on right now but there is room for more. If you would like to do something that is not already on the list please call me.

I can be reached at 905-579-6802 or via e-mail at bheming@rogers.com.

We will be having elections for the Executive in March and the OFUR Convention. Following months we will be electing standing committees and other conventions as they come up.

Come to the membership meeting and participate in your chapter activities. Spouses are welcome.

We have now purchased two new computers and they are available to the members to use.

By John Redko, President

By Bernie Heming, Secretary-Treasurer

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A
n apology – In last month’s article I inadvertently mis-spelled one of the billiard player’s names. I have known brother Davis from our old home town days and school days but apparently spelling was one class I must have missed. Brother Davis’ name is “Donald or Donnie” not “Bonnie;” sorry about that brother Don. (Editor’s note: Not Chief’s mistake, it was a typo, profuse apologies from the staff.)

If you or your spouse have attended the CAW surfing seniors computer training program (sign up form on page 16) you can practice by browsing our website www.local222retirees.ca on the internet. If you can’t find the Union Hall or can’t get down to the retiree meetings or are out of town, stay linked up to the retirees meetings or read about the excellent things we have in store for you.

I had a phone call from brother Larry Kirtley (the Cecil B. DeMille of retirees), he has formed a photography club. First meeting approximately 18 camera buffs attended. The other dates of meetings are March 8, 15, 22, 2006 Room #1 at 4:00 p.m. at our CAW Local 222 Union Hall.

When the photography club is established the lens people will be working on computer and digital images at future dates to be decided later. This is a great hobby and all retirees should take advantage of this project.

Contact Larry Kirtley 905-579-3445. All CAW Local 222 retirees and spouses can apply. This program is funded by the Big Three Retired Workers Fund and only camera buffs who are interested, (no hidden cameras in shoes or cardboard shoe boxes need apply).

There was a pool tournament on Feb. 8, 2006 and a good number of players were present. Sister Jackie Finn of the CAW Family Auxiliary #27 laid out an excellent spread of goodies and all players were able to play on full stomachs.

“A” flight winners brother Jim Meikle, brother Dave Tullock. “A” flight runner-ups were brother Paul Chopik and brother Bill Taylor. “B” flight winners were brothers Ross Davis and Joe Marmara. “B” flight runner-ups were brothers Les MacDonald and Ben Locke.

Please note the last tourney will be April 12th for the spring season. Be on the lookout for May 17 and June 21 for the start of the horseshoe tournaments.

The Oshawa Fire Services is currently working to educate the citizens of Oshawa about a recent amendment to the Ontario Fire Code. The new regulations state that homes must have working smoke alarms on every level. This is in addition to the existing requirement of having smoke alarms outside all sleeping areas. The amendment applies to all dwelling units, whether owner-occupied or rented.

Statistics from the Office of the Fire Marshall indicate that in about 50 percent of fatal home fires in Ontario, the victims had no smoke alarm warning. For homeowners, tenants and individual landlords, non-compliance with the Fire Code smoke alarm requirements can result in a ticket of $235 or a fine of up to $25,000.

Beginning March 1, 2006 the Oshawa Fire Services will be actively enforcing this new requirement. For information about smoke alarm requirements, installation and maintenance, contact the Oshawa Fire Services at 905-433-1236.
61st Convention Report

We held our 61st Convention on Oct. 19, 20, 21, 22/05 at the Holiday Inn in Burlington, Ontario, which is 45 minutes from Pearson Airport in Toronto. The Convention was hosted by the Canadian Auto Workers National Office. We added an extra day to the convention and I think it went over well. It gave us extra time to debate resolutions and have extra speakers. We had a meet and greet hospitality on the Tuesday night in co-operation with the hotel, so there were food and refreshments enjoyed by all.

In the opening ceremonies the Town Crier was Jim Green who opened the Convention with a proclamation. We had a minute of silence for deceased members.

We had greetings from Cam Jackson, MPP from the riding of Burlington, from Royal Canadian Legion Vice President Judy Muzzi, President of the United Senior Citizens of Ontario and Gerda Kaegi, President of Canadian Pensioners Concerned.

Guest speakers for the week were Gerda Kaegi; Wendy Rodgers, Human Resources Canada re: New Horizon grants, Eric Fredrickson on fall prevention; Cathy Turner and Bonnie Morwill from Johnson Insurance; Brian Masse, MP from Windsor West who spoke on the Seniors Charter of Rights, his private members bill that will be put forward in the House of Commons; and Jeff Connell from the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association. The Honourable Tony Ianno, MP and Minister of States for Families and Caregivers was our banquet speaker and gave an interesting talk on what he and his government would like to do for seniors.

On Saturday Peggy Nash, Assistant to the President of CAW Canada gave an interesting speech on women’s issues and her role in the CAW Big Three contract talks.

We debated over 80 resolutions in the four days of the convention. The resolution committee was John Redko from Ontario who was chair, Nelson Muise from Cape Breton and Sylvia McLeay from B.C. so it was a committee from across our great country and different points of view.

At our banquet we were piped in by Piper Tom Bell and were served an excellent meal. We had entertainment from the Halton Regional Police Choir led by Joan McWilliams.

On Saturday the Federation of Senior Citizens of Nova Scotia gave an outline of next year’s convention which will be held in Truro, N.S. on Sept. 19, 20, 21, 22, 2006.

On Saturday afternoon and evening 25 delegates went on a tour of Niagara on the Lake, a chocolate factory, a winery, watched a ship go through the Welland Canal and watching the Niagara Falls light show from the Skylon at the top of one of the hotels in Niagara Falls. There was also a stop at the new casino for supper and to make a donation to the Ontario government. A good time was had by all.

In closing I want to thank the delegates at the convention for my acclamation as your president for a third term. I will work hard for the benefit of seniors in Canada.

Public Being Sold A Bill Of Goods

On Feb. 2, 2006 our committee met with Atul Mahajan, Chief Financial Officer of the OPUC concerning the cashing in of the OPUC note and that of the City. The ensuing financial impacts on Oshawa’s Taxpayers and Ratepayers are noted below. The City of Oshawa is the single shareholder of the OPUC.

The highlights of the deal:

- The mortgage is with TD Canada Trust and is for seven years and totals $30 million. Costs surrounding are at 4.88 percent on the $30 million and $35,000 legal. Total costs known thus far on the loan to the city total $10.5 million or 1.5 million per year and the loss of $1.6 million that was being paid by OPUC to the taxpayers to offset property taxes.

- The OPUC will pay interest only on the loan, not one penny of principle will be paid off after seven years and OPUC will still be owing the same $50 million!

- The total cost for the loan after seven years equals $40 million.

- The cost after seven years will be goodness knows how much with projected long term rising interest rates but the OPUC will give financial reports to the Bank every quarter.

- The OPUC’s borrowing ceiling is left with a maximum of $10 million which means that should a major storm go through Oshawa sometime over the next seven years and the costs exceed $10 million, the city will have to borrow again and that will lead directly to higher property/business taxes again.

- Oshawa Council’s big spenders have been trying to sell the public a bill of goods! Council is claiming the money from the OPUC is for needed core services like such items as the North End Fire Hall and renovation of City Hall etc. all of which is political hogwash!

- Make no mistake about it. The money from the OPUC is being used to pay for its Downtown Sports and Entertainment Centre. The City of Oshawa has maxed out its credit cards and the bills are piling up. The debt ceiling as set by Council has been overlooked by them, exceeding their own guidelines by shifting more and more debt load over on the OPUC by milking it for $50 million, $35 million from the Region of Durham which boosts Oshawa’s total current debt to over $140 million.

Conclusion

The City of Oshawa, by milking the OPUC of $30 million, turned Oshawa’s paper debt into a real debt for the banks. This is despite that in a poll 81 percent of taxpayers said “no” to mortgaging the OPUC!

Two reputable nationally known economists Dr. Murphy (the city’s own hired consultant) and Dr. Peters advised the city against the mortgaging the OPUC.

The Mayor and Council have gambled with our Property Taxes and rolled the dice against a natural disaster happening in Oshawa over the next seven years.

The OPUC is now nothing more than a shell of its former self.

The OPUC was once the pride of the city that served the ratepayers with first rate service and metered charges. It will no longer be able to dictate its own course of doing business as it has a new financial business partner i.e., the citizens of Oshawa no longer are the single shareholder and the banks hold one-half of the OPUC assets as loan collateral.

The OPUC is now vulnerable to being sold
Did you know that Oshawa Council’s boat is slowly sinking under its mountain of debt? The leaks are enormous and it has now floundered in our closed harbour to boot!

If nothing else remember this: Council has lost the OPUC interest revenue stream that was offsetting residential taxes to the tune of $1.6 million a year and now again just borrowed an additional $35 million to add to its debt load! Pass the buckets....more leaks to the boat!

Did you know that Sault Ste. Marie is currently building a 5,000 seat downtown arena for $25 million and ours is costing two times what theirs is! In the Sault they hired a consultant who got the taxpayers $7 million in other government grants. In Oshawa our consultant cost considerably more and got nothing towards any grants to help subsidize the $50 million downtown dome.

Who is the captain of the SS Oshawa down at the Oshawa Harbour and who is going to plug the $140 million tax burden leaks... the taxpayers or the next members of Council after the November 2006 municipal election?
Retiree Living Life Of Mountain Guide

As I sit in my kitchen looking out the window at my bare camper, and downed elm tree, I know it is not, I mean spring. I think March is the coldest month of the year, snow, rain, wind. Most ice fishing is finished for another year but local stream fishing in some creeks is very good. The male rainbow trout goes upstream first to prepare a nest site, in a gravel bed in the creek, and how those male trout can move stones with their nose and tail is a sight to see as you wander upstream to look for the nest sites. These trout migrate upstream many miles to the shallow waters to find that nest site. This all happens in our local streams, although the Harmony Creek has few or no gravel beds, so no spawning trout. But at the Oshawa Creek and the Toadhollow Creek where there are many gravel beds there are lots of spawning trout, wonderful.

Did you notice this winter large flocks of feeding starlings. I would say these birds came from farther north where food was scarce, so they came south where food is plentiful; corn left in the fields from the harvesters, scraps in people’s backyard. They never stop flying looking for food. Birds can eat and eat more when food is found.

The local geese will be preparing to mate and lay a nest that you must guard from those idiots who spray any nest they find. Some people think a little pooping from a goose is the end of the earth but the droppings from a dog because it’s a pet is just a little mistake the dog owner will pick up with his pooper scooper unless you forget to fetch a bag. Nesting geese have enough enemies like coyotes.

This winter if you venture to a small area of cedars and bush to look for rabbit tracks, there are none. Nor pheasants’ neither. The coyotes ate them up early in the fall.

It is so wonderful to be retired to do what you wished to do all your life. But you had to work, then you retired in good health.

Dave Kellett is one who used to work in Skilled Trades in the South Plant. Dave moved to Wetaskiwin, Alberta in the Rockies, off the big roads, on a ranch with many pack horses.

You will notice in the photo the packhorses all loaded and the magnificent mountains in the background. Snow, that was what I noticed the first time I saw the mountains, lovely green pastures then a little snow, then more snow, then the peaks all snow.

Dave decided to be a big game guide after trying his skills as a fur trader. He said after you follow and repair a production line you think trapping in the foothills of a mountain is fun or at least a rest.

As the price of wild furs dropped Dave decided to guide in the mountains with his pack horses working their way up the mountain with all the equipment for a couple of weeks’ stay. There are many dangers. As you make camp your horses and equipment must be protected so an electric fence does the job most of the time. A grizzly bear when hungry may attack you or your horses if you’re on a hunt for mountain sheep or wild evasive goats.

I have never had the pleasure of hunting these magnificent wild animals but have seen both when I used to drive though the mountains and scanned the peaks and valleys with my field glasses. To see these almost invisible big white animals is one of life’s wonders. What these animals survived on for food I often wondered.

They tell the stories of a bad winter, too much snow, food was scarce and many of these animals did not make it through winter. Grizzly bears are their worst enemy. We think of bears, so fat and round, how can they run and leap so fast? Ask anyone who has seen bears in the woods.

If I was 40 years or more younger, how I would like to try a hunt in the mountains. My hunting life was chasing a jackrabbit over a rail fence or waiting for the hound to chase a cottontail rabbit past you, or just poking around a brush pile for a swamp hare

We can dream, but retired brothers like Dave remind us of what we can do. After 37 years of retirement myself, a little fishing, trap shooting and walking looking for birds is good. I cannot say anymore, only I miss the trips with my old half-ton GMC truck. I always say visit our own country first, it is the best.

If you are a birder or a bird brain, the Christmas bird count is what you do, or have a bird feeder that is active and you clean it and keep it filled with good clean feed. You are asked to count the birds that visit you on Christmas Day. The bird count takes a spot or small area spread out and counts many birds that now I cannot see. The count changes every year depending on the amount of food and shelter. As houses move in and the trees are cut down and small shrubs disappear, so do the birds. The bird counters said they tallied 28,810 birds, 7,491 geese, 2,826 mallard ducks (where were these ducks when I used to duck hunt)? Greater scaup duck 2,690, common golden eye 885. I hope you noticed the large count of birds were on the open waters of Lake Ontario.

The hawk count was down, the wild turkey was down, the gull count was up. Blue jays, the same number. The American robins spotted were mostly along the local creek valleys. Starlings, more than most years. The owls were very scarce, not one of the great gray owls that visited us last year. Many of the grey owls that fly at night were killed by cars when they were looking for food. A wonderful day of looking for birds (I was not part of this count).

The last Durham Region Field Naturalists meeting I attended, Prof. Bill Andrews was the speaker, all about a trip into the deserts of the American Southwest. To see the land and how

see RETIREE – page 18
By the time you are reading this column we will have started the Pre-Retirement classes for the new year. Thanks for the response from all the brothers and sisters who have applied.

Big news! On Saturday, April 22, 2006, Marlene and myself with the help of the National, President Chris Buckley and Financial Secretary Charlie Peel have arranged for a one-day class for the Peterborough brothers and sisters and those in the surrounding area who are planning to enter the retirement way of living in the near future. All of the Peterborough brothers and sisters will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn.

This one-day session will be exactly like a two-day course here at the Union Hall. The pension rep will be in attendance along with reps from the legal service, the credit union plus a benefit rep and myself. A lunch will be provided.

Please contact Marlene at 905-723-1187 and tell her you are a Peterborough area member and let her know if your spouse/partner will attend.

As this is the March edition please try to call her by April 7th so we can get an exact number of attendees.

See you soon.

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69th Birthday Banquet April 22

Meetings still well attended and the participants great. Membership dues are due, please contact membership secretary sister Amanda Grant to bring her files up to date.

Donations have been made to the following: Denise House Fundraiser purchased a table of eight $400; Liver Foundation $100; Auxiliary #27 will continue to support St. Peter’s Anglican Church food bank with $200 per month.

Auxiliary #27 will be paying the way for 35 members to attend International Women’s Day Breakfast on Sunday, March 5th, great event.

Thank you to the volunteers who recently have gone to Hillsdale Gift Shop. They are sisters Marian Ross (convener), Elsie Werry, Helen Rotterman, Dorothy McCaucherm, Phyllis Munroe and Sharon Broadbent.

50/50 winners were sisters Shirley Hill and Phyllis Clarke and box of chocolate winners sisters Ilene Watts and Eleanor Vallaincourt.

Birthday congratulations to sister Jane Wilde who on Feb. 7th turned 65.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 21st, 7:00 p.m. your auxiliary member-only social night. Come out and join in the fun. The 69th birthday banquet is Sat. April 22, 2006.

Thank you to sister Marian Ross who delivered the items that you, the members, donated for Christmas and thank you to Sharon Broadbent who took the non-perishable food items to Simcoe Hall Settlement House.

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Peterborough One-Day Pre-Retirement Seminar In April

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This one-day session will be exactly like a two-day course here at the Union Hall. The pension rep will be in attendance along with reps from the legal service, the credit union plus a benefit rep and myself. A lunch will be provided.

Please contact Marlene at 905-723-1187 and tell her you are a Peterborough area member and let her know if your spouse/partner will attend.

As this is the March edition please try to call her by April 7th so we can get an exact number of attendees.

See you soon.

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Retiree Living Life Of Mountain Guide – continued from page 17

anything grows, plus the wonderful wild flowers that mostly grow on bushes or long stems, that only flower for a day. The cactus will grow for about 100 years, then wither and die. One of the speaker’s subjects was that there were no snakes, and a surprising number of singing birds. Many insects for the birds to feed on. He told us the Canadian Arctic has the largest desert, no rain, very little snow but it never stops blowing, one way then back again.

Your 2006 URGC $2 membership card is on sale. Buy a dozen for conservation! I have never won the matching set of motor, boat and trailer, have you? As the weather warms up, trap shooting on a Sunday morning, indoor target if you have paid the extra fee. Look forward to the Weed Drag on Lake Scugog in May.

See you at the Newcastle property if only to see some early spring flowers and weeds.
any of our members in Oshawa feel we are bulletproof when it comes to job losses in GM. Let’s look at the real facts regarding our current position in Oshawa. GM lost $8.3 billion in 2005 or $24 million per day, most of which was real dollar loss, not asset write-downs. Most companies could not sustain such a loss and survive. Now let’s look at what the UAW has done recently. They gave back $1 per hour for all working members and $350 to $700 per retiree to pay for health care. That is a total of $1.3 billion per year they return to GM’s pocket in the middle of a contract when we made gains in our collective agreement. GM has served notice that by the next UAW collective agreement in September 2007 they will be closing their job banks, saving another $700-800 million. That is $2 billion back in the pockets of GM.

Since 2002 the Canadian cost advantage has shrunk from over $15 per hour to less than $2 today because of the changes in the U.S. costs and our rocketing Canadian dollar. If our Canadian dollar continues to gain it could make building cars in Canada more expensive than in the U.S.. We continue to have great quality and productivity but the difference between plants grows tighter every day. GM has more plants than vehicles sales and it is going to change.

Many UAW GM locals have gutted their collective agreements to get or keep projects with 10 year grow-in to full rate, modular production, outsourced core work, endorsed GMS, and removed job ownership language. These are moves the CAW has never supported but we are all watching our industry under attack from offshore auto companies while our Governments stand idly by with no protection for jobs that pay their salaries.

Our world is changing fast and very tough decisions await our membership but let’s make those decisions on the facts we face today and not some false belief that we are in the same position we were in 1992 because we are not!

Skilled Trades Union Education Program

We didn’t get a full class for our Feb. 27 week and our members are missing out on a great opportunity. There are still a number of weeks open this year and you need to get your application forms from your committeepeople to get into these weeks. The weeks are April 3, May 8, June 19, Sept 18, Oct 16, Nov 20.

Skilled Trades Enhanced Incentives

We have a total of 192 Trades who have applied for this program. We are still working with the Company to confirm the numbers and dates for all Trades. IMM and electricians’ numbers are the hold up but we expect to have these firmed up in the near future and will report this out in the Tool Talk.

WFG

GM is squeezing every dime and all this has resulted in much of the WFG work in the complex being cancelled or put on hold. This shortage of work has caused some tin knockers, welders, carpenters, and painters to be on layoff. We have had to restart the weekend crew to find work for some bricklayers and painters. We are hoping that work will pick up in the spring but GM’s current state makes all predictions difficult.

Tooling

The canvass for the enhanced buy-out was able to attract 31 volunteers which will help us work through the threatened reductions in Tooling. We are working hard with the Company to provide Summer Vacation Replacements for tooling and constantly pressuring them for new work and retraining to get these members back to work. These combined efforts should keep any reduction in the tooling number well below the unsubstantiated predictions some of you may have read in the blue pamphlet that was in some Plants. Considerable effort is being put toward reducing the tooling layoffs by all the Skilled Trades Shop Committee.

I am disappointed by the dark message I am forced to convey to our membership but we have to give you the best information we have and lobby it all seems bad. Let’s stay focused on what we do best as we work toward the good times returning to our industry. If you need to contact me please call me at 905-644-3865 or page me at *97-3865 in plant or out of plant 1-800-361-6793 PIN 3865. My mike radio number is 3865 and my email is ron.svajlenko@gm.com. Thanks.

Facing A New Era Of Global Competition

“N

o one ever said this was going to be easy.” Whoever coined this phrase certainly wasn’t dealing with the issues we are dealing with in the North American auto market. We are all now entering a new arena where all the rules have changed, but the game is still selling vehicles.

We are being asked to compete with every country in the world for our jobs. It has always been about making money but the suits that run Wall Street have made it much more than that now. They dictate what corporations should make and if they don’t meet the numbers, the analysts go to work picking the companies apart, trying to show what they believe is the reason the targets they set are not met.

We have even seen it over the years where certain companies have tried to work the books to keep these people happy.

General Motors has been the target of Wall Street and many in the media over the past few years. There seems to be nothing GM can do right. As a result of this the company’s products are not getting a fair shake in the marketplace. Recent designs are encouraging but many new ones are needed if GM is to get this turned around.

We are doing the right things in the quality area but if the style isn’t there, the consumers will go elsewhere because they have so many
We have a new manager in Chassis line maintenance in the Car Plant who took it upon himself to get his supervisors to go to the floor and ask our IMM trades to sign up for a 40-hour welding course. He believes that by doing this he can get our line maintenance IMM to do his welding because his two welders retired.

A 40-hour apprenticeship for welding. What a slap in the face for every licensed welder in the CAW, working or retired.

The CAW and GM have high standards for our welders. They take great pride in their trade and their workmanship. We have many welders in the CAW that have numerous welding tickets in their pocket. You need a separate licence for many different applications in the welding trade.

This is a highly skilled trade that takes time to master. Just ask our tool & die trades that signed on to be welders instead of being laid off tool and die people. They did not just go from one trade to another with a 40-hour training course. They were trained in this trade for two years. This gave them the ability to write for their welding ticket after a two year apprenticeship.

To all our IMM trades we ask that you not weld when asked by the Company unless it is to write for their welding ticket after a two year apprenticeship.

We have been asking about the locker situation in West Paint since last August. At that time the Union knew and told the company there were not enough lockers for the membership. At that time we were telling the Company we needed two lockers for each member. One for our street clothes and shoes and one for our working clothes and boots. We stressed at that time that we needed two lockers because we did not want to contaminate our street clothes with our work clothes and boots and then bringing these contaminants home to our families. We also stressed we did not want to bring any residue off our street clothes unto our work clothes affecting the quality of our product.

Now the Company is kicking our WFG people out of the locker room into a outside trailer with no shower facility. As soon as we heard of this idea we went and talked to the Company and they have agreed to look into bringing more lockers into the men’s locker room and tagging them for our WFG people and also possible extending the men’s locker room by moving a wall. They are still going to bring in a trailer as a temporary measure.

Clifford Ole Johnsen

It is with regret that I report the passing of Clifford Ole Johnsen. Cliff, an electrician in the Car Plant, passed away on January 23, 2006. He will be missed by all of his co-workers here at GM. My deepest condolences goes out to his family.

Email keith.mott@gm.com, in-plant 644-7832, pager 7832 mike #7832.

Keep The Faith.

Facing A New Era Of Global Competition
– continued from page 19

more choices today. It is this way in almost every other market. So the GM we have dealt with forever is going to be even tougher to deal with because the continued lost of market share has shrunk to the point not as many assembly plants are needed. So we are again left asking ourselves, why should plants that have the best quality and productiveness in the corporation and in the North American auto industry still have to fight to get product for their plants.

There is but one simple word, “costs.”

We have always enjoyed a cost advantage over our brothers and sisters in the States. This has changed. We no longer have a 65 cent dollar and the gap has narrowed considerably. The American plants are offering everything under the sun to keep their plants open and we are left to compete with this.

None of us believe we put GM in its current financial crisis, but we are all going to be a part in one way or another in trying to dig them out of the hole they dug for themselves.

As a Union we must strive to hang on to all the things we have fought to achieve over the years, and to allow our members to retire with dignity and respect. We will do the responsible things to ensure we continue to build cars and trucks, but GM must also start listening to the Union because we have been in this business as long as they have.

We will make some tough decisions over the next few years, but they will be a lot tougher if we are not united when we have to make them. The time for politics is not now, it is time for Unity.
It's that time of year again to re-submit your AVOs. There could be quite a bit of movement with the special incentives being offered. If you are looking to move off shift or looking for another area, get them in soon. After speaking with Ron Svajlenko, we are trying to make it so that once an AVO is in place, it will remain and not need to be re-submitted. We will keep you posted.

Special Incentives
There were 192 applicants for the special incentives. The only trade in which we are not sure everyone will get the incentives are the Electricians. Our Chair and Districts are working hard to see if everyone can be accommodated. If the incentives work out, let's hope a lot of layoffs can be prevented, especially within our Tool and Die trades. Hopefully, by the time you read this article, we will know. I would like to congratulate those who got it and wish you all a very long retirement.

Car Plant Overtime
Most of you are aware that the Car Plant has gone to six-hour shifts on the weekends. I guess this is Detroit's way of saving money. We all know that if management knew how to organize their jobs, we would have a more effective workplace. The Union was not in agreement to these six-hour shifts but management does have the right to mismanage as they see fit. The Company is also refusing to pay the factor for the six hours overtime on the weekends. I have received calls on this and a group grievance will be filed. We must realize that these are lean and mean times and until General Motors is able to turn things around, we are going to be working in a totally different work environment than we did in the past.

Whatever their game plan is, I for one hope it works. A long and happy retirement is the final chapter we are all working towards.

Outside Contractors
The Company is challenging our Appendix R language. They continue to bring contractors in on weekends without full utilization. It's my opinion that we need more line repair sign-ups to supplement construction on weekends. Maybe through the grievance procedure, someone will realize that utilizing our people is really to the benefit of General Motors as well as being cost efficient.

Equalization Of Overtime
I constantly bring to management's attention the equalization of overtime between shifts. We are not trying to take overtime away from the other two shifts, only to fairly equalize so that third shift is treated the same as everyone else. With engineers and upper management not working third, they do not seem to want to take advantage of the perfect time to save the Company money and become more cost-efficient. Maybe some day they will realize it is in our best interest to keep General Motors profitable. The Union is more than willing to see this happen. As long as communication remains almost non-existent, I for one do not foresee this happening.

In Closing
Being busy as a third-shift union representative is an understatement. I apologize if I do not attend to your calls as quickly as you would like. Most of you have my radio number and phone number, but you still need to place an official call through your supervisor. We may not be timely, but we will get there.

Remember, if you have a problem, discuss it with your supervisor. If they are allowed to think for themselves, maybe you can come to resolve. If not, place a call to your committeeperson.

My radio number is 8730. My phone number is 905-644-7301, or in-plant 7301. My pager number is *97-0019; outside it is 1-800-361-6793, ID 0019.

Until next time, always work safe.
Be Part Of The Solution, Not The Problem

At the time of writing this article there has been two weeks of lay-off. We are waiting for the next scheduling meeting to see if or how many more weeks will be taken out of the system. The de-rate for Plant #2 chassis is now finished. Some of the jobs that had work added to them have been put in dispute and we will work through those issues as quickly as possible. The seniority rights of our members were protected throughout this process with very few hiccups.

We now have a new job posting agreement in effect since the beginning of February. We believe that it has expanded your seniority rights and will allow more movement and better job opportunities. It will take some of the clutter out of the process, such as AVOs and extended canvasses. There are also some changes to the absentee replacement job selection process. This process will first protect seniority rights yet allow for a fair solution to some of the ongoing problems. If there are any questions on any of these agreements please contact your supervisor or if he can’t answer your questions, call the committeeperson. Your supervisor has been informed by the superintendents on how it works and should take the responsibility of looking after their employees. Unfortunately some supervisors like to dump that onto the Union. My position is they need to be held accountable for doing their jobs.

The new transfer system is now up and running. This should also be an improved system to speed up the process to allow our members to move quicker to their new job assignments.

With all the bad news coming at our membership over the past few months, it is very important for you to have your Union to help. Unfortunately, as of late there have been some issues that have made the membership unsettled with its leadership. I can understand the frustration but we must draw closer to each other for support in these trying times. Sometimes some of our members think by writing pamphlets and yelling at people it will make things better. I say that we need everyone to be part of the solution not part of the problem. Instead of tearing the Union apart we must make it stronger. Over the next few years it will be stressful on our membership. As General Motors restructures, there will be no place to hide from their decisions.

I beg of you, our strong and proud membership, to stay strong and united. The Company will take advantage of any weaknesses.

So until next time, united we stand, divided we fall. I can be reached at 905-644-4694. Page in-plant #97-4694 or page from outside the plant 1-800-361-6793 PIN 4694.

GM’s New Transfer System In Place

Car Insurance

The new CAW group auto insurance program should be starting in the April/May timeframe. Further details will be distributed when they become available.

New Transfer System

As most of you should now know, there is a new transfer system in effect. This was put in place to help speed up the movement of our members when transfers are accepted.

The new rules for all non-trades is as follows. You cannot decline a transfer. You can now request a specific shift. New hires must have completed the new wage progression in order to put in a transfer. You must have 10 years seniority to put in a transfer to a service department (if the threshold to transfer to a service department becomes lower we will inform the members). You are limited to 20 active transfers on file. When you file a transfer, it’s in the system file for good unless you cancel it. Production employees wanting a shift change (in your department) you need to fill out a transfer request to your own department, listing the shift you want to transfer to. This will replace the old AVO system. Make sure you retain your copies for safekeeping.

Canada’s Auto Industry

The federal government is quick to cry foul trade practices when mad cow disease is found in Canadian beef. They’re also quick to criticize unfair trade policies over the soft lumber issue. However, the government allows import vehicles from abroad to come over upon our shores with open arms. The government forgets the auto industry is the number one industry in Canada.

More than 150,000 Canadians are directly employed in manufacturing vehicles and parts. Every job in a major auto facility supports a total of 7.5 jobs in the whole national economy.

On average, each Canadian autoworker generates thousands upon thousands of tax dollars to support programs in our economies.

Two of the companies that have traditionally invested the most in Canada, General Motors and Ford, are in deep financial trouble due to continued imports penetrating our North American markets. North America has the most open vehicle market in the world, importing over 4 million vehicles each year. Yet overseas markets are effectively closed to the products we make. In simple terms, we get all of the downside of globalization but none of the upside. For example last year Korea was allowed to sell 145,000 vehicles in Canada. Canada was only allowed to ship 400 vehicles to Korea.

Hopefully our new government will establish fair trade rules abroad. We cannot tolerate for long a situation where imports have totally free access to North American markets, but purchase very little, if any, of our products in return.

Sure we have high productivity, good paying jobs. But as taxpayers the Government should have a responsibility to make sure we keep a good percentage of these jobs.

Plant #2 Update

Sales are still soft for Plant #2 products, thus the Company will most probably continue to take weeks out of the schedule until the inventory of Plant #2 products stabilize. As the warmer weather comes hopefully the sales of see GM’s – page 23
A t the time of writing this article I, along with your committeepeople, have been meeting in regards to the model change for the GMT900. On a positive note, District #1 will be adding people in all three departments. In Department 27 there will be approximately 24 assemblers, four group leaders as well as one relief person per shift.

In the body shop the headcount will be increased by three workers per shift. The body shop however will undertake major changes due to new automation and the revamping of zones.

In material handling the headcount will see a gain of approximately three to four per shift.

These numbers in Department 25 and Department 50 could be a lot higher if the Company cannot install a conveyor system in the body shop by the start of the launch. The Company will be meeting and a decision should be made in regards to this matter by now.

In regards to the fact that most of your present job functions will have major changes and in some cases will not even be located in your present supervisor’s groups, the method in which these jobs are to be filled is still under decision with your respective committeepersons. At the end of the day we must ensure that the membership’s seniority is respected.

A lot of members believe that it’s only a scare tactic concerning the closure of Plant #2. I and many others feel Plant #2 is a long way off if any on future production of cars in this facility. General Motors doesn’t have the cash to pour into Plant #2 and there is not the demand for other high volume vehicles due to their lost market share.

Condolences

After a lengthy battle with cancer, Alana Leavitt of Plant #2 paint shop passed away on Feb. 2nd. Condolences go out to her family, friends and co-workers. A trust fund for her children has been set up. Kudos to the elected reps who took up collections in Alana’s name.

In closing, we have got management to agree to a free flow in the West Paint Shop between 7:00 a.m. and 7:05 a.m. for the non-trade employees who requested this. Anyone wanting to get in touch with me can call 905-644-4010.

Until later, have a great day.
Discipline Never Equals Communication

On Feb. 10, 2006 we had a meeting with WFG and higher-up Robinson management on major concerns that we had coming out of the Plant Manager’s meeting on Jan. 24.

One of my major concerns was the amount of discipline being handed out and who was handing it out. Steve McDonald and Ambrose Pilgram were taking the approach of putting people on notice and then telling them “now we want to talk to you about your job assignment.” Everybody knows that management has the right to talk to us, but these two individuals thought they would just put everybody on notice, trying to scare or intimidate everybody. We called these two individuals the Kings of Discipline.

They responded to our concerns raised at the Plant Manager’s meeting and agreed with us that the majority of the disciplines were not called for, and told us they were going to fix the communication problems created by these two individuals, McDonald and Pilgram. They also told us they want to get things back on track. I simply told them good luck and my door is always open, and they need to work on two key issues, communication and respect and for Department 43B membership.

In my opinion the train is off the tracks and it will only be back on track as soon as McDonald and Pilgram learn to treat people with respect and communicate with people. If they can’t do that they’re wasting their time and they should be moved to other responsibilities, Maybe McDonald’s the King of the Big Macs.

Zone 6 Election Results

In my last article I talked about the election that was called for Zone 6 that was held Jan. 25, 2006 for the positions of Committeeperson and Alternate Committeeperson.

The results were as follows: Bob Ambrose 92, Steve Blanchard 84, Bill Cassells 42. As a result of no candidate receiving 50 percent plus one, there was a run-off held on Jan. 27 and the results were Bob Ambrose 118 and Steve Blanchard 105. For the election of the alternate committeeperson results were Terry Small 116, Fred Chislett 86 and Jason Smith 16. I would like to congratulate Bob and Terry as well as the other candidates who ran in this election process.

Remain At Work Forms

In accordance with Paragraph 16(d) of the local seniority agreements, remain-at-work forms can be submitted through your supervisor. These forms must be renewed on or after April 1st of each year. In any event, applications must be on file no later than four working days prior to a layoff becoming effective.

It is important to note that if you change your mind and do not want work, your application must be cancelled no later than four working days prior to a layoff becoming effective.

Extra Vacation Requests

Please remember that if you are interested in taking additional vacation time other than the two-week designated shutdown, you must apply on forms supplied by your supervisor prior to April 1st. Always remember whether it’s extra vacation, remain-at-work or transfers, always request your copy and keep it in a safe place; it’s your only proof you applied.

Tuition Assistance For Dependent Children

The tuition assistance for dependent children has been increased to $1,500 per child, per year, for members who have children enrolled in college or university. GM employees with the same dependent can coordinate their benefits for a total coverage of up to $3,000 per child, per year. In order to qualify, applications with all receipts must be submitted to the GM Canada Benefit Centre by March 31, 2006. Also, your child must be a dependent covered on your health care coverage. Tuition refund forms are available through the GM Canada Benefit Centre (Hewitt and Associates) by calling 1-877-442-4625. You must have your PIN and personal ID number to use this service.

In Closing

If for any reason you need to contact me I can be reached at work 905-644-3172 orpager in-plant 97-1831 or at home at 905-433-4040, email kevin.w.gray@gm.com.

Until next time, have a great day.

CAW Members Deserve Better

It’s just like playing a game of Texas Hold ‘em. The Company has us bidding on future product allocation and asking us what we are willing to give up to secure such product. It is definitely not a good situation to be in and will take responsible leadership to ensure the right decision is made. The ultimate decision will go, as it should, to you the membership. At the time of writing this article the decision on this proposal has likely already been given as we were only given 12 days to put it together.

I believe our members will ultimately make the right decision if given all the information. I am not going to go through all the details of the proposal as I am sure that they have been presented to you by the time you read this article. I do believe that we have to respect whatever decision is finally made and only the future can tell whether it was a good one. Our members deserve better. You have delivered top quality and record productivity for this Company but are still whipsawed into the unknown.

One of our members has something at stake here and it is imperative that you become part of the debate. Listen to everyone’s arguments, but this opportunity should be used to unite us and not divide us. It is only with solidarity that we will survive.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank...
New Transfer And AVO Shift System

We now have new transfer forms that reflect the changes made during 2005 negotiations. The new transfer rules and shift changes are now in effect. All existing transfers were removed from the system. Employees wishing to transfer must resubmit their requests on the new forms. Transfer applications will now remain indefinitely on the system, unless your transfer has been honoured or cancelled. You will no longer have to renew transfers requests each April. It is important to remember that if you submit a transfer you cannot turn them down or cancel a transfer after it has been called out. With the new forms you have the option to specify a specific shift:

- Steady day shift only
- Steady afternoon shift only
- Steady third shift only
- Rotating shift #1 only
- Rotating shift #2 only
- Rotating shift
- Any shift at all

Members requesting to change shifts in their own department must do so on the new transfer forms. Departmental shift change requests will be honoured prior to a transfer being called out. It is important to remember that if you submit a transfer you cannot turn them down or cancel this transfer after it has been called out.

Tuition Assistance For Dependent Children

In order to qualify, applications with all receipts must be submitted to the GM Benefit Centre by March 31, 2006. The tuition assistance program for dependant children who are enrolled in an accredited college or university has been increased to $1,500 per year. GM employees with the same dependant will be allowed coordinated coverage of up to $3,000 per child for each year. The child must be a dependent covered on your Health Care Coverage. The Tuition Refund forms (must have your PIN and personal ID number) are available through the General Motors Benefit Centre (Hewitt and Associates) by calling 1-877-442-4625.

Extra Vacation Requests

Anyone requesting extra vacation time for the 2006 calendar year must apply on forms provided through your supervisor by March 31, 2006. When you receive your copy back, keep it in a safe place in case the Company misplaces theirs. The Company will notify you within 30 days, whether such extra vacation requests have been granted or denied.

Rumours

It seems that a day cannot go by without unconfirmed rumours circulating on the shop floor. We all know with the many issues that face us in the auto industry, that rumours will spring up from uncertainty, curiosity, and sometimes vindictiveness. We cannot totally eliminate them, but never knowing the whole story, past, present or future; consequently, we have members test the waters to learn what is good and what is polluted. Remember these are only rumours and are intended to get you going. Sometimes it’s tough to ignore them, as they seem to be true but do not make any decisions until you have all the facts. A great way to help eliminate false rumours is to discount them by refusing to pass a rumour on. If you have any concerns or questions, ask your committeeperson or call me.

In Closing

If you require my assistance, I can be reached in the office at 905-644-3310 or through pager *97-3310 (in plant). If you are outside the plant dial 1-800-361-6793 enter PIN 3310, followed by the number you are calling from. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me.

Until next time, in solidarity ☫

CAW Members Deserve Better

– continued from page 24

the members working in Department 43T Non-Trades Maintenance in the Truck Plant for the support they have shown me over the years. The recent Union restructuring has placed them in District #13. I now have the opportunity to represent the members working in Department 30 South Stamp-

The General Membership meeting is held at 3:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month except July & August.

The General Motors Unit meeting is held at 3:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month except July & August.

The Oshawa Skilled Trades Council meeting is held at 4:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month except June, July, August & December.

CAW Family Auxiliary meetings are held at 8:00 p.m. on the first & third Tuesday of every month except July & August.

The Retirees’ Chapter meeting is held at 1:00 p.m. on the first Monday of every month except July & August.

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE CAW LOCAL 222 HALL – 1425 PHILLIP MURRAY AVE.
Pensions At Stalemate
Until Hiring Allowed Or Jobs Lost

I’ll start by apologizing for missing last month’s issue. I guess it shows just how busy we’ve been. Winter months are usually pretty slow on the pension front, but lately December and January have been our busiest. In November, 2,097 letters went out to production employees to be returned by Dec. 23, 2005. In hindsight, you would wonder why the rush. Seems due to the manpower situation, no one can retire. Due to the November announcement about the third shift in the Car Plant and Plant #2 maybe with no product after 2008, the Company is not in a position to hire. This is what has thrown a wrench into the works.

At bargaining there was no mention of the loss of the third shift nor anything about Plant #2’s fate. Jim Hoy has been doing his best to get the Company to start hiring to allow you to retire, yet GM says Detroit “won’t allow” them to hire. This is the stalemate. Until we get past this, no packages will be offered.

However, if you don’t want to wait and are eligible to retire you may still go and get $25,000. This opens up the question, “what if” 100, 200, 500 put up their hands and say they’ll go now with $25,000. Would GM not have to put up their hands and say they’ll hire? Would we lose the third shift earlier than announced? Notice I said “what if.” There are a lot of “what ifs” out there, and it’s because of the “what ifs” GM cannot and will not offer any $50,000s or $70,000s until the manpower reductions warrant it. If your decision is to only retire with $50,000 or $70,000 you’ll have to wait until the Company taps you on the shoulder and says you can retire. I know that’s not what we bargained for, but we also didn’t bargain on the Company announcing they were shutting down our third shift in the Car Plant and we would have no product for Plant #2 after 2008.

Why the canvass? Originally the Company announced the third shift was coming off in the fall of 2006. “What if” this were true? They would have to start giving packages in late 2006. As each canvass covers a calendar year they needed to canvass to see if anyone was interested in retiring in 2006. “What if” the third shift stays longer? You’ll have to wait. The third shift staying longer should be good news, unfortunately if you were looking to retire with more than $25,000 it’s not good news.

No matter how hard we try, we are at the whim of the market and the Company. It’s unfortunate, but as I have been saying since bargaining, you can retire any time you want, once you are eligible, and receive $25,000. It seems some forget about this and may snub their nose at it, but it’s $25,000 more than we had before.

If you want to go and take the $25,000 we can, however, stick together through these uncertain times, and try to understand our situation. That’s what being part of a Union is all about. Market conditions change and like it or not, we have to change with them.

We have had many members, tired of waiting, go ahead and opt to go with the $25,000. To them I say good luck and all the best in your retirement and good for you!

Skilled Trades
You should be given a retirement date if you qualify for a package. Your Skilled Trades reps will handle any discrepancies as to dates. If you want us to pick up your paperwork, please have all photocopied documents ready before calling us. We need copies of your marriage licence or cohabitation agreement, both birth certificates (yours and your spouse’s), and your spouse’s Social Insurance Number. If you do not have a spouse we’ll just need your birth certificate.

Restoration Of Credited Service
There is a rumour circulating saying you see PENSIONS – page 27

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Unit And Department</th>
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<td>Harry G. Bonk</td>
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Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. It has been five months since I have had the pleasure of serving this membership on the SUB-E.I. job. During my SPA week Jan. 9-14, I came into the Car Plant on the day shift to hand out my new 2006 personal calendar cards to our Union sisters and brothers in Chassis and Hardware.

Since I was elected I have always paid for these cards out of my own pocket. It was nice to be on the floor again just to say hi and talk to the membership who elected me as alternate to serve this united membership. To all our new members, welcome. To the members in the Truck Plant who were on layoff that week and all the other areas I missed, I’m sorry, I will try to get around to see you.

I would like to thank our Car Plant Chairperson, Steve Drinkwalter, who always makes time out of his hectic schedule to call and keep me updated on all the Car Plant layoffs.

Due to the uncertainty of our car and truck sales I recommend you keep track of all your layoffs on a calendar and keep your four-digit E.I. access code in a safe place. Also remember, when reporting your layoff, it is a two-week period, so if you worked or had earnings in that two-week period you must report it.

Until my next report, keep your head up.

Wise To Keep Track Of Layoff Dates Throughout Year

If you were laid off from General Motors in 2005 and collected E.I. benefits while earning more than $48,750, the Federal Government will claw back 30 percent of your E.I. benefits when filing your 2005 tax return.

To protect our members from the Federal Government’s unjust tax grab, the CAW negotiated a clawback benefit for our members.

When you file your 2005 tax return and receive your notice of assessment back from Revenue Canada, if you have any amount of monies on line 422 (social benefit repayment) the federal government has clawed back your E.I. benefits and in turn you qualify for a CAW-negotiated clawback benefit.

To make application for the E.I. clawback reimbursement you will first have to file your 2005 tax return with Revenue Canada. When you receive your notice of assessment back from Revenue Canada, please photocopy your assessment plus all of your T-4, T-4A and T-4E tax slips and any WSIB T5007 tax statements you have. Then you will have to make application to the SUB office (applications are available from your SUB reps and at the Union Hall).

The amount of clawback monies available to you will be on line 422 (social benefit repayment) of your tax assessment, minus approximately 10 percent tax. The clawback reimbursement only applies to GM earnings. All income and or tax slips received from any other source (e.g. investment income (T5), other non-GM employment (T4), capital gains, etc) that may cause net income to exceed the repayment threshold, will not be considered in the reimbursement calculation.

In Plant Phone Numbers

Dale’s office number is 905-644-7839, inside plant pager *97-8099, out of the plant 1-800-361-6793, PIN 8099.

Dave’s office number is 905-644-1541, inside plant pager *97-8525, out of plant 1-800-361-6793, PIN 8525.

Until next time, take care.

Remember!

Retirees Picnic – Tuesday, June 13, 2006 At Lakeview Park
GM Dental Plan

Many calls are coming in regarding the increase in dental coverage. Our dental coverage through Sun Life (1-800-268-2893) is based on the previous year’s dental fee guide. What this means is our plan pays dental claims for 2006 based on the 2005 dental fee guide. You will find some dentists are charging our members using the 2006 fee guide which results in anywhere from pennies to dollars our members are being additionally billed.

If your dentist is billing under the 2005 dental fee guide there should be no cost to our members. Every procedure has a code the dentists uses when billing and there are hundreds of them. Ask or call your dentists to see what rates he or she is charging. Most are aware of our plan changes. Know in advance what you’ll have to pay your dentists. My dentist at the CAW Dental Centre (905-579-8730) is charging me under the 2005 dental fee guide for the 2006 billing year.

The GM Canada Benefit Centre (Hewitt and Associates) will be mailing out your annual Benefit Statements (better known as the Blue Books) some time in April. When you receive your Benefit Statement (Blue Book) make sure you look it over very carefully to make sure that all the information in it is correct.

If there are some errors or omissions call the GM Canada Benefit Centre immediately at 1-877-442-4625. Have your User ID and PIN handy when you call them. Tell them what is wrong in your Blue Book and ask them to correct it. You can also put a call in for the in-plant benefit representative, or give a call to the Union Hall so we can help you with your Blue Book errors or omissions.

Tuition Deadline

Dependent tuition application deadline for calendar year Jan. 1, 2005 to Dec. 31, 2005 is March 31, 2006, and they must be in by that date or they will be considered too late for processing and denied. Photocopy your claim and keep it on file. Make sure you follow up on your claim in a week’s time or so to make sure they received it.

Until next time.❤️

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT

Sanders At The Hall

Service Representatives look after all grievances that need filing at the Union Hall, E.I., SUB, insurance, Green Shield claims and also file S&A appeals. We look after the total membership including all retirees. We are paid a rate of pay set out in the local bylaws established 40 years ago.

Truck Plant Layoff

By now everybody should have received their SUB entitlement for the layoff of Jan. 8-14, 2006 or started a new E.I. claim in preparation for the April layoff. If you have not heard anything from E.I., call us so we can investigate your claim to see if there is a problem. It is very important you keep your access code safe, for it is like your Social Insurance Number and will be used for every future layoff.

Car Plant Layoff

For Plant #2’s layoff of Jan. 29 to Feb. 4, 2006, many of you who are reporting your claim, can keep your claim going, or if you stopped it, it will come on the tape when you file your new SUB application. Remember you must file a new SUB application every time you are laid off. If you have problems with your claim, please come forward immediately.

ACSYS

There are still problems with many claims, some have been corrected. Lawyer letters are still being sent out. Wayne Murphy (905-260-2172) is still your contact person to deal with.

I would like to thank Gord “Chief” Lindsay for bringing the one-touch diabetes monitor to my attention. Many people retired and active have thanked me because no more just drawing blood from the fingertips until tender, now anywhere to share the pain. Thanks.

Until next time I’m only a phone call away!❤️

Optional And Dependent Life Insurance

The open enrolment period for GM employees will be April 2006. Enrollment packages will be mailed at the end of March 2006.

During the open enrolment period employees actively at work will be permitted to increase their coverage, without evidence of insurability, as follows:

- By one schedule for Optional group life and
- By two schedules for Dependent group life insurance

Employees actively at work who have not previously enrolled will be permitted to enter the programs up to schedule V.

Dependent Group Life Premiums will be reduced by 10 percent effective Jan. 1, 2006. It is important to return the open enrollment package within the open enrollment period. Many of our members have asked if they do not return the open enrollment package, will they lose the coverage they presently have. If you choose not to return the open enrollment package your coverage will remain the same.

If you have any concerns, please call us and we will gladly assist you.❤️
Insurance Open Enrollment April 1-30 For GM Members

The opportunity to choose higher levels of Optional (OGLI) and Dependent Group Life Insurance (DGLI) without providing evidence of good health will be available to you through an Open Enrollment window which begins April 1 and runs until April 30, 2006.

During this time you will be allowed to increase your coverage as follows:

- Employees presently enrolled may increase the amount of insurance as follows: OGLI, increase by one schedule; DGLI, increase by up to two schedules.
- Employees not presently enrolled may enroll as follows: OGLI up to Schedule V ($50,000); DGLI up to Schedule V ($25,000/$10,000).

Following the open enrollment window, normal rules will resume and evidence of good health will again be required for new enrollments and coverage increases as applicable.

Since no new schedules have been added, packages are only being mailed to employees who have room to increase their coverage.

It is important to complete the form correctly, as forms with incomplete or incorrect information will be returned to the employee unprocessed.

Return forms early to avoid any delay and make sure they have an April postmark since April 30th is a Sunday.

Call the Benefits Centre early if you have any questions. Remember you need your user ID and password to call the Benefits Centre.

Employees need to be certain their correct address is on file with GM, as packages will be mailed to employees’ homes before the end of March to insure they have all of April to respond.

Employees newly-enrolling for OGLI must phone the Benefits Centre to start the beneficiary designation process.

I can be reached in-plant at #97-8049, out of plant pager 1-800-361-6793. PIN 8049, office 905-644-3278, fax 905-644-4608. and email dave.w.thompson@gm.com.

Tuition Assistance For Dependent Children

The tuition assistance for dependent children has been increased to $1,500 per child, per year for members who have children enrolled in accredited College or University courses. GM employees with the same dependent can coordinate their benefits for a total coverage of up to $3,000 per child, per year. In order to qualify, applications with all original receipts for the calendar year 2005 must be received by the GM Canada Benefit Centre by March 31, 2006. You and your child must sign the form.

In addition, your child must be a dependent covered on your Health Care Coverage. Eligible dependents of retirees are also eligible.

Tuition Refund forms are available through the General Motors Canada Benefit Centre (Hewitt and Associates) by calling 1-877-442-4625. You must have your PIN and personal ID number to use this service. If you need assistance, put a call in through your supervisor for a benefits representative.

Life Insurance Open Enrollment

As agreed upon in 2005 negotiations, new higher levels of Optional Group Life and Dependent Group Life Insurance are now available to eligible GM Canada hourly employees. An open enrollment window will be provided to allow employees to increase coverage. The open enrollment window is April 1, 2006 to April 30, 2006. Anyone who is currently enrolled in Optional Group Life may elect to have his or her coverage increased one schedule without evidence of insurability. Anyone who is currently enrolled in Dependent Life Insurance may elect to have his or her coverage increased two schedules without evidence of insurability.

If you are not currently enrolled in Optional Group Life Insurance, you may elect to enroll in coverage up to Schedule 5, which is $50,000. If you are not currently enrolled in Dependent Life Insurance, you may elect to enroll in coverage up to a Schedule 5, which is $25,000 on your spouse and $10,000 on each eligible child (listed on your health care benefits). Premiums will be deducted from your pay in May and coverage will take effect on June 1, 2006. All other options will require providing evidence of good health. Following the open enrollment window, normal enrollment rules will resume and evidence of good health will again be required, as applicable.

Until next issue I remain in solidarity...
Zone 6 Takes On Issues In Car & Stamping

There will no doubt be several new developments between the Oshawa worker deadline and when you get this report. If you have any inquiries, please let us know so we can help keep you informed. It seems that GM always likes to change plans in the middle of the month, so we’re not able to give you complete updates because the Oshawa worker deadline is in the middle of the month.

Departments 81 & 82
As was reported last month, management decided to shake up supervision, and from what we were told, Department 81 was going to be on the short end of the stick. As of the deadline more changes were in store and it looked like we were spared from an over supervision condition. Coupe build is scheduled to go down significantly in March, and it is not known how this will affect manpower levels. If you feel that you are being taken advantage of in regards to workload, please inform us. Saturday supplemental overtime shifts have been changed due to maintenance changes that require all maintenance to finish work at 6:30 p.m. on weekends. We therefore changed the shifts for supplemental OT only from 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 for dayshift, and 12:30 p.m. to 6:30.

Department 53
Department 53 will also be affected by the change in shift times for supplemental overtime. It will mirror production times. On the bright side we all get out earlier on weekends and if the same amount of service is needed as the 8 hour shifts, overtime will be spread around more. On B-dock, CAW Standards Rep Randy Kirk has pretty well completed the new time study for the three jobs and the containment job on dayshift. This was a monumental task and Randy’s input has already shown positive results. As of today, there is still a bit of tweaking to do because there are so many non-standard conditions such as late trucks, incomplete loads, improperly loaded trucks and I could go on all day. One thing Randy did tell us is that if we need to perform extra work, we will be compensated. This has been committed to in principle by the Company, but so far they want to nickel and dime the workers when it comes to paying up. This seems to be the only place where this happens. Hmm. Wonder why?

Department 30
Where to start! There are so many outstanding issues, it’s hard to prioritize them. There have been several resolved grievances brought to our attention that have not been paid out. We have pushed for a better accountable system to get these paid ASAP but so far ratting chains hasn’t worked. I don’t believe we should have to return to the source after an agreement has been made only to ask “when?” When we get instructions to supply parts or change dies or clean floors, we don’t need to be asked “when.” We do it, and we should be treated with the same respect when we have been hoodwinked. There have been several problems with the new job for Bays 6, 7, & 10. These were canvassed in seniority order through the classification for A shift. Great but the problems have been a lack of work brought on by TPTs and other shifts doing the work which then displaces our seniority members who took the job in good faith. We’ve had many reports about supervisors doing union work on overtime and we have let the Company know that this will not be tolerated in any form. We don’t schedule what is to be built. We don’t pay workers. We don’t manage. We work. That is our job and it must stay that way.

The laundry supplier has been changed and in turn some items are no longer available. One worker showed me how he needed to alter gloves to make them fit. This is not acceptable. The Company needs to provide you with protection that fits. And it is illegal to alter that protection from what it is meant to do. It is no different than giving you a gas mask that doesn’t fit. If it doesn’t do what it’s designed to do then you don’t work. It’s that simple. There are many other issues at hand right now, and we will update all involved as details evolve.

Rumours
Once again rumours have reared their ugly head. “I heard” or “someone said” are not facts. They are designed to divide the membership rather than unite us. Much time has been spent chasing ghosts only to confirm that the rumour is just that. We could spend our time helping you rather than listening to lies and speculation. It’s up to us how we deal with rumours. At this time, we could be in very delicate negotiations. We must let our leaders do their job without shop floor politics.

Thanks
We would like to extend our appreciation to the membership for giving us the privilege of representing you for the balance of this term. We consider it an honour and will do all in our power to make you proud. We have committed to working together for the benefit of all in Zone 6. We will not disappoint.

Retirements
Congratulations to Tim Walsh from Department 88 who retired last month. Also congratulations to Steve Gallenger from Department 82 who retired at the end of February. All the best and we wish you a happy, healthy and a lengthy retirement.

Until next time we can be reached at 644-3662 or pager *97-PIN in plant, or out of plant 1-800-361-6793 plus PIN. Bob's pager is 3662 and Terry's pager is 3767.

Employee Counselling Program
Located at
850 Wentworth Street West,
Union Counsellors work in confidence to assist you and your family to solve any type of problem. This program is also available to spouses and retirees.

Your Union Counsellors
Terry Wilson
905-644-4283
Sharron Kehler
905-644-4282
Women's Struggles For Equality Continue

By the time you read this article the Women’s Committee along with other CAW locals have wrapped up the postcard campaign that spoke to the issue of freedom and equality for women. The goal was to collect 60,000 postcards across Canada and present them to the Prime Minister. The postcards will be presented to the Prime Minister on March 8th, which is International Women’s Day.

We are looking for the government to create concrete initiatives to achieve social and economic equality for women, which we feel is a fundamental requirement to end violence against women. Some of the Women’s Committee met at the Zellers here in Oshawa on Feb. 4th and presented these postcards to customers of Zellers; we had a great response and were able to get many postcards signed. The Women’s Committee would like to thank those people who assisted us in getting these postcards signed throughout the plants and in the community.

Although the campaign has ended it does not mean that we do not continue the struggle to keep the issue of equality alive for women. We are fortunate being women in a union but there are many women out there who do not have the benefits of a union and must rely on government policy or labour laws. We must always challenge the government with our collective voices. I will have a report in the next Oshaworker to follow up this campaign.

The Women’s Committee has posted flyers in their departments for assistance in collecting new or gently used towels and facecloths and bedding for the Y’s Wish women’s shelter. You can contact your Women’s Committee rep or you can drop your donations at the Union Hall. Y’s Wish is a 15-bed shelter that provides safety, security and support to women and children, safety planning for women and children, access to community agencies including housing, social services, legal aid, and a 24 hour crisis line. They rely on community support to help make a difference in the lives of the women and children who reside at the shelter or use the shelter services. They are always in need of donations. If you would like to give a donation you can do so by calling 905-576-6743.

The Women’s Committee meets on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, you can contact us through our e-mail address at workingwomen05@hotmail.com or you can leave your name at the Union Hall and myself or co-chair Wendy Mahoney will get back to you.

Women’s Herstory – March
- March 4, 1982: Bertha Wilson is the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada,
- March 8: International Women’s Day, with celebrations across the world
- March 14, 1916: Saskatchewan women win provincial voting rights
- March 29, 1993: Catherine Callbeck, first woman elected provincial premier, PEI.

Until next issue.

Collaborative Family Law
A New Way to Resolve Family Disputes

At the heart of collaborative family law is a contract signed by both spouses and their lawyers. All four individuals commit themselves to work co-operatively to resolve the issues surrounding the separation.

In fact, both lawyers bind themselves contractually to withdraw from representing their clients if either side goes to court (if the collaborative process is not successful, both spouses would have to retain two more lawyers from different law offices).

Both lawyers will offer advice and encouragement to both spouses. Under this system, your own lawyer will not work to put forth a “position” on your behalf, but work to provide a solution that works for both of you. However, your lawyer is still obliged to provide independent legal advice to you and advise you of the current legal model and existing laws.

Where collaboration is used, the onus on lawyers is to provide good problem solving, in a private setting, by conducting a number of four-way meetings (averaging from four to eight, depending on the number of issues and their complexity). Ground rules are set at the first meeting, when the lawyers help to stabilize the situation.

Collaborative Family Law was first used in the United States, when a long-time family lawyer who was sick of the conflict and stress associated with traditional family law, decided that he was never going to court.
Local Health Integration Network

For the last decade we have heard that our healthcare system in Canada is no longer sustainable. A huge pressure on General Motors, mostly in the United States, is the health care cost of present and retired employees. The Ontario Government thinks that the new Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is the medicine that our Medicare system needs in Ontario.

As the Past President of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) I had the honour to appear before the Ontario Standing Committee on Social Policy at Queen’s Park on behalf of the board of directors. The alPHa membership represents Ontario’s Medical Officers of Health, Boards of Health and the affiliated organizations that represent the senior management in public health units. We never had huge concerns about the LHINs that are being created in Ontario by Bill 36, because the public health part of the Ontario care system was left out of the legislation, for now.

One observation we presented was the lack of reference to the Canadian values we have come to expect in our Medicare system as enshrined in the Canada Health Act. Namely the fundamental five principles: Universality, accessibility, comprehensiveness, portability, and public administration. Our Ontario government politicians would do well to have these principles clearly reflected in the preamble of the legislation. It would at the very least exemplify their intention to protect the healthcare system that governors of the past like Tommy Douglas helped to create.

Many readers will recall that I have been advocating the creation of a Community Health Centre in Brock Township. The reason I have been advocating this for the Brock CHC is simple. It offers a continuum of health and wellness services in a coordinated and integrated system that engages the community locally. Now if the Ontario government envisioned this level of community engagement in the LHIN then they have missed the mark. Unions and people involved in the administration of local health services are very wary of a group of people appointed to the LHIN board by the government really engaging them in the services that they have been delivering in our publicly-funded health care system.

One of the larger concerns is the ability of the LHIN board to close or amalgamate local community based agencies. The elected government has the right to introduce legislation with these powers but they have a great obligation to respect our local communities that have created local services. Coordination of services can happen under the guidance of a regional health governing body but should not be forced without any consideration of local needs. Unfortunately, under section 28 this legislation gives very broad and sweeping powers to the Minister of Health, the ability to force the mergers of local non-profit agencies, like municipal and charitable Long-Term Care homes. The government doesn’t feel they want to take on the private sector if the LHIN finds inefficiencies in their facilities, but have no regard to the elected representatives like Durham Regional Council that invest huge dollars in our LTC Homes. It makes me wonder if this isn’t just a back door way to reach into the property taxpayers’ pockets to fund a great level of local health care needs, like hospitals.

In closing, I think we must remain vigilant in reviewing decisions being made by all levels of government. It is also very important to ensure that we have a strong voice by the opposition in our parliaments to make sure that any legislation impacting our Canada Health Care system is going to make positive change and continue to reflect our local health care needs. While most of Canada’s provinces have gone to Regional Health Authorities, we need to make sure in Ontario we tell the government to take the time to do it right.

Collaborative Family Law – continued from page 31

again. Collaborative Family Law has its roots in interest-based, or principled negotiations, a process of negotiating agreements which was developed at Harvard University. The process has been widely adopted in many areas of business, government and international affairs.

The first group of about 11 lawyers from Durham Region joined with a number of their counterparts from Northumberland and Quinte in Belleville in February 2005 to undertake the first level of training. A second group of about 24 Durham lawyers followed suit in June of that year, in Ajax. The course was taught by experienced collaborative family law practitioners from Toronto and Rochester, New York.

Since then, many of these lawyers have now undergone the more intensive Level II Training, and have successfully completed a number of collaborative cases.

These lawyers have established their own Association. Information (including a list of lawyers, a sample contract and “ground rules”) can be found by checking the website at www.collaborativelawyersdurham.ca.

We think that this process would be helpful to some of our CAW members. It is not, however, the answer for every separation. Both parties must be prepared to compromise to arrive at a fair solution. Full disclosure of information must be made.

Sometimes creative non-traditional solutions are arrived at. The process will not necessarily be less costly. The process might be unsuccessful and then both parties will have to start again with new lawyers.

There is one lawyer with the CAW Legal Services Plan’s staff office in Oshawa, Donna Wormalton, who is a member of the local association and trained in Collaborative Family Law.

In addition, a number of the qualified lawyers are co-operating family law lawyers with the Legal Services Plan. If you would like more information (or to make an appointment to meet with Donna, or to retain a co-operating lawyer) call the Oshawa office of the Legal Services Plan at 905-433-4242. You can also drop by and pick up a brochure and list of qualified lawyers (at the Oshawa Centre, 6th floor of the Executive Tower – suite 601) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays.
March 21st Day To Look At Elimination Of Racial Discrimination

Having missed the last issue of the Oshaworker, I would like to extend a belated welcome back after the holiday season to the Executive and all Standing Committee members. I hope you all had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends.

The year 2006 started off as another challenging year for the Auto Industry. The recent announcements by General Motors and the Ford Motor Co. of their plant closures and layoff plans will definitely have a profound effect, not only on their immediate employees, but on parts suppliers and their employees through significant layoffs and plant closures.

These situations in turn create employee unrest which in turn creates an environment for some workers human rights to be violated. Human rights and equity committee tasks are becoming even more challenging, because of the inability of employers to enforce contract language to resolve complaints.

The Local 222 Human Rights Committee and Human Rights committees from Locals 1285, 1256, 1090, 707, 673, 303, 252, 124, 112, 80, 40 are presently planning an event on March 19, 2006 at CAW Local 112 in Toronto. The event will run from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. This event is being planned to commemorate the International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 21st). All are welcome.

We’ve lost Sister Sandy Beauchemin from our committee (congratulations Sandy on your new endeavours) and we have welcomed Sister Debbie Dillon from JCI.

The committee will be hosting our next charitable fundraiser in the fall.

In Solidarity.

Letter From Buzz Hargrove, CAW Canada President

March 21 – International Day For The Elimination Of Racial Discrimination

March 21st is a day for us all to remember and reflect on the fact that racism is still part of our society. Each of us has an important role and responsibility to build a society free from racism. As trade unionists and Canadians, we must lead by example.

The CAW is committed to work with all our members and locals to eliminate racism from workplaces, communities, and the Union. It is an opportunity for us to recognize workers of colour, aboriginal people and the many activists who have endured and struggled to eliminate racial discrimination. With the growth of our union, many new members have come from workers of colour and immigrant communities. New ideas, cultures, languages and our determination to fight to build a just society strengthen our Union.

March 21st was declared “International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination” in 1966 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. This day was chosen to commemorate 69 black South Africans who were shot on March 21, 1960, while peacefully demonstrating against the country’s apartheid system. In addition to the 69 people killed, 180 were wounded.

With the collective efforts of anti-apartheid activists and workers throughout the world, apartheid was finally buried in April 1994. However, its legacy of exploitation, segregation, poverty and illiteracy still continue to exist in South Africa and throughout the world.

What is Racism?

Racism is the belief that one group of people or race is inferior to others and they are not entitled to respect, recognition or fair treatment. Racism means people are targeted with discrimination, abuse or aggressive acts based on the colour of their skin or based on their cultural beliefs.

Despite the strong efforts of unions like the CAW, many activists groups, churches, educators and others in our increasingly diverse society, racism persists.

In some cases it’s quiet and subtle. In others it’s open and direct. In all cases it’s very destructive. That’s why we must speak out against racism whenever we see or hear it and act to stop it from damaging our ability to build a fair and just society. Racism divides us from one another and cuts short the opportunity to build a more powerful workers’ movement.

Racism, for example, enables some employers to implement discriminatory hiring and promotion policies and to benefit by paying lower wage rates to certain groups of workers. It’s important to recognize that people of colour are subject to discrimination in employment, education, accommodation and in the provision of goods and services.

In some organizations and institutions in our society, racism and discriminatory practices have become so ingrained that they are systemic. Systemic racism means that we must continue as a union to speak out and act locally, nationally and internationally on this issue.

The key to eliminating racism is education. Each of us should make a personal commitment to change in the direction of equality and be prepared to act.

Submitted by the CAW Local 222
Human Rights Committee:
Richard Davidson, Pat Hargrove, Roxanne Mackay, Christian Timmermans, Deb Dillon, Kellie Scanlan

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Community Outreach Part Of Youth Activities

The Youth Committee has kicked off the new year with a full schedule, organizing many events for the upcoming months outreaching to our membership as well to our surrounding communities.

WHMIS Training

The Youth Committee along with Cecil Mackesy, and Rob Kerr will be hosting WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System) training outreaching to the youth of our local communities. The Youth Committee spent several days targeting many of the available resource and outreach centres (Firehouse, St. Vincent’s Kitchen etc.) available in our communities stretching across Durham Region, in hopes of encouraging youth who are currently seeking employment to participate. This six-hour in-depth WHMIS training will provide a certificate to participants and create more employment opportunities in today’s competitive workforce. WHMIS training will be held at our CAW Local 222 Union Hall on Saturday April 1, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Transportation will be made available, and a lunch provided by our Family Auxiliary for course participants.

If you are interested in participating please contact us at our e-mail address: caw222youthcommittee@hotmail.com

Battle Of The Bands

With the interest of our membership the Youth Committee is pleased to be presenting the first Youth Battle of the Bands. It is being held on May 13, 2006 at our CAW Local 222 Union Hall. Tickets will be available at the Hall or by e-mail (caw222youthcommittee@hotmail.com). The tickets are $10 each. There is also a 50/50 draw, and door prizes to be won. Proceeds from both will be donated to War Child (www.warchild.ca). Our mission is to create community awareness around — and raise funds for — this very worthy cause.

The Youth Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who responded: It was with your show of interest to us that made this event possible. A special thanks to our Local Standing Committees for participating in this event by supplying educational material that will be displayed around the auditorium at the time of the event. These displays will provide our community and our membership with awareness on the issues our committees are working on.

Domestic Car Show

The Youth Committee is still seeking people interested in entering our Domestic Car Show this summer.

If you own a domestic vehicle, especially an Oshawa-built vehicle and wish to participate please contact us at caw222youthcommittee@hotmail.com. We will contact everyone who is interested with the final date once it is decided.

Super Bowl Was A Super Event

On Feb. 5th we held our annual Super Bowl Bash, and despite poor driving conditions about 160 true football fans showed up to cheer on their favourite team and have a good time.

The big draw prizes were a Budweiser Super Bowl XL chair which was picked from the Steelers raffle box, and a pair of Toronto Maple Leaf tickets picked from the Seahawks box. We hope everyone enjoyed the party and liked the retro NFL T-shirts.

I want to congratulate the Recreation Committee for another event well done, also thanks to Labatt/Budweiser for supplying all the decor and prizes, Charlie Peel for the support to run this type of function and to Jackie Finn, the meal was excellent.

Dates To Remember

The picnic dates are set: The Retirees’ date is Tuesday, June 13th and the main picnic will be held on Saturday, June 24th.

We will be holding our annual scramble skins Golf Tournament on Friday, May 19th.

I’ve had a lot of questions about the Texas Hold’em Tournament and yes, the CAW South Eastern Ontario Recreation Committee partnered with our Local 222 committee will be holding a qualifier at the Local 222 Union Hall but it will most likely not take place until the end of July or August. We need to set up and clarify tournament structure and rules nationally. Until next time.

Dennis Gibbs Jr., winner of the Budweiser Super Bowl XL chair, is congratulated by the CAW Local 222 Recreation Committee.
Stopping The Cracks
In Healthcare

On Feb. 12, 2006, Flying Squad members from several locals across Ontario met at our Union Hall to discuss current events and plan actions for a number of issues pertaining to the auto sector as well as the general population. Natalie Mehra, from the Ontario Health Coalition, was the guest speaker. She enlightened us on the real dangers of our government’s push for “P3” hospitals and LHINs (Local Health Integration Networks).

I wish we had the time to promote this meeting because it would have been nice to have had a full house for this one. It was a last-minute arrangement, and Chris Buckley was gracious enough to get us the hall at short notice. I would like to thank Charlie Peel for arranging coffee and Timbits for the weary travelers and Helen from the Family Auxiliary for coming out to set out the snacks.

The “P3” situation is alarming in itself, but when you add LHINs to the equation it scares the hell out of me. As we have all seen in the past, selling off public services to private companies is not the best route for the working class. You only have to look at auto insurance and the 407 toll highway to see that the taxpayer is getting screwed! It turns out that Ellis-Don, the construction company that built the Skydome (now Rogers Centre) is getting the contract for several future hospitals. Don Smith, the Don of Ellis-Don, also happens to be a past-president of the Provincial Liberal Party. This kind of stinks, don’t you think? Natalie also claims that government contracts rake in three times the profit that bids for private sector contracts do because everyone knows the government has deep pockets!

Why is the McGuinty government trying to convince taxpayers that private companies will be able to provide cheaper healthcare? The last time I checked, veterinarians make more per visit to see your pet than your doctor does to treat your children. Your credit card just might replace your health card in the not-too-distant future. That is, if McGuinty gets his way. Remember that we are paying a health premium (tax) at the same time that our services are getting cut. We have not only earned a certain standard of care, we have paid for it. It is quickly being eroded by a greedy, and in my opinion, incompetent government.

LHINs are going to further pillage our healthcare services. Through appointed CEOs, the provincial cabinet will control our healthcare at local hospitals, long term care facilities and even homecare providers such as Caring Partners, VON and Meals-on-Wheels, to name a few. Our hospitals are already being run as a business. Cutting services sometimes results in the death of a patient. The CEO of Lakeridge Health Oshawa (notice the absence of the word “hospital” in this?) gets paid over $300,000 a year to cut services and union jobs out of the very hospital our members donate to. And our retirees paid to build. I am sickened by all this. This man, Brian Lemon, recently defended LHINs in the Oshawa This Week as good for the people of Oshawa. He blew off union opposition as scare-mongering. If I was a betting man, I would put my money on Mr. Lemon as the appointee to CEO for our newly created regional LHIN. That position would most likely come with a salary increase too. This government is counting on Ontarians to sleep through this whole change... too busy to organize and rally large enough numbers to make the members at Queen’s Park take notice. I believe we can make the difference. We owe it to ourselves and we owe it to our children.

In Solidarity.

Case in point: Last Friday morning (Feb. 10) I took my eldest son in to the ER. He was up most of the night with bronchitis. Now that his younger brother is on chemo, we have to be extra careful to keep bacterial and viral infections at bay. At 5:50 a.m. we walked in to the waiting room and it was empty. In fact, we were sent directly into a cubicle to wait for the doctor. We ended up waiting for 3.5 hours. I would accept that if there were 10 or 20 patients ahead of us, but there wasn’t. If this is Mr. Lemon’s idea of responsible healthcare, then I am withdrawing the contribution from my paycheque. As far as I am concerned, LHO owes me for four hours lost wages for that little fiasco on Friday and I have a mind to send Mr. Lemon a bill for my time. I had thought about cancelling my donation when a neighbour lost his job at the hospital – I mean “Health Corporation.” I also thought about it when I heard the very touching story about a union brother from the GM unit who succumbed to a very treatable health issue. Like everyone else, I got busy and never followed through. I urge all of you on the floor to consider withdrawing your donations to Lakeridge Health Oshawa until we can get their attention and some of our services back. Fighting back is the only way we can preserve what we have.

There are several actions being planned to combat P3s and LHINs. I hope we can encourage our coworkers to jump on a bus and help stop these injustices to all the citizens of Ontario. I am sure Jim Freeman will be providing more details on this issue since he is more involved in it than I am. Since I am spending so much time in hospitals lately, I decided to start talking to other parents and our caregivers to find out what needs to be addressed so that the little people don’t fall through the cracks anymore. Many families are financially ruined while fighting to keep their loved ones alive here in Ontario. This is just wrong.

We also discussed issues concerning the auto sector such as our “Buy Domestic” campaign, assisting Delphi workers in the U.S. and utilizing the internet to spread the word, but more on that later...

In Solidarity. ☀️
Annual CAW Bursary Applications Available

The CAW National Union and CAW Council annually offer a total of 13 bursaries for $2,500 each.

If their applications are successful, these bursaries are awarded to sons/daughters of CAW members in good standing entering their first year of post secondary education (university, community college, technological institute, teachers’ college, nursing school, etc.). One bursary will be available for CAW members with at least one year seniority attending their first year of post secondary education. This is an entrance bursary and is not renewable for students entering subsequent years of study.

Submissions must include:
- An official application form fully completed and signed by a Local Union Officer
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher, principal or community activist
- Transcript/record of marks
- Proof of registration

Please note that, unlike many bursaries awarded by other institutions, grades are only one of several factors that will be considered.

Documents indicating definite acceptance at one of the institutions described above and proof of registration need to be submitted before the bursary can be awarded.

A committee appointed by the CAW Council Executive Board and/or CAW National Executive Board will make the selection of candidates. The decision of the committee is final.

Submit completed applications to: CAW Canada, 205 Placer Court Toronto, ON M2H 3H9 Attention: Education Department, Jenny Ahn. They must be postmarked no later than April 13th, 2006.

Those with disabilities, women, persons of colour and aboriginal Canadians are especially encouraged to apply.

Incomplete applications will not receive consideration.

Application forms are available at the CAW Local 222 Union Hall front desk, and can also be found on the CAW website at www.caw.ca/education and click on CAW Bursaries.

CAW-Canada Bursaries

- Jim Ashton Memorial Bursary
  In memory of Brother Jim Ashton’s passion for his principles and his loyalty to the labour movement and social justice, the CAW has instituted the “Jim Ashton Memorial Bursary.” Brother Jim Ashton, former CAW National Executive Board member and president of the London and District Labour Council, became involved in the labour movement in the Phillips Electronics organizing drive in London where he was first elected to the negotiating committee, then later plant chairperson. His activism led Jim to serve as President of CAW Local 27 from September 1985 until his appointment as CAW National Representative in October 1994. He passed suddenly shortly thereafter.

- Dan Benedict Memorial Bursary
  Dan was an outspoken advocate for greater social justice, workers’ rights and education, quality public health care, justice for seniors and a tireless campaigner for international solidarity. In 1977, after working for CARE in France and with Walter Reuther at the CIO. He moved to Canada to join the United Auto Workers (UAW-Canada) education department. In that capacity, he developed the union’s Paid Education Leave program, the largest single adult education program for working people in Canada. As a retired UAW staff representative he remained active as both president of the Organization of Senior Citizens of Ontario and co-chair of the Ontario Health Coalition. In 1998 he was awarded the Order of Canada. Dan Benedict died September 16, 2003 in Ottawa.

- Cesar Chavez Memorial Bursary
  Cesar Chavez struggled from a child to find justice for migrant farm workers. He was responsible for organizing farm workers in California in the 1960s. The struggle was not easy, but under the leadership of Cesar Chavez, the United Farm Workers Made historic achievements by appealing to the best in people from all walks of life, to help farm workers. While his childhood school education education was not the best, later in life, education was his passion. The walls of his office in La Paz (United Farm Worker Headquarters) are lined with hundreds of books ranging from philosophy, economics, cooperatives, and unions, to biographies on Gandhi and the Kennedy’s. He believed that, “the end of all education should surely be service to others,” a belief that he practiced until his death in 1993. Cesar Chavez, who insisted that those who labour in the earth were entitled to share in the rewards of their toil, will never be forgotten.

- Nelson Mandela Bursary
  After a lifetime of sacrifice in the struggle against the racist system of apartheid in South Africa, Nelson Mandela was elected President of South Africa in the country’s first non-racial elections in April, 1994. Throughout the 1950’s, Mandela was repeatedly harassed by the apartheid authorities because of his active role as President of the African National Congress (ANC) Youth League. He was banned from attending public gatherings and forced under the racist laws from holding elected positions in the ANC. Arrested at Rivonia in 1963, Mandela was tried for sabotage and sentenced to life imprisonment along with seven other liberation movement leaders. Held at the notorious Robben Island prison, the international community joined in a worldwide campaign to free the people’s leader. That campaign finally succeeded and Nelson Mandela was released without conditions on February 11, 1990. His vision of the new South Africa is captured in these words: “Let us reconstruct South Africa in the vision of the Freedom Charter, as a country that belongs to all its people, black and white.”

- Victor Reuther Memorial Bursary
  Victor and his brothers Walter and Ray played a pivotal role in building the UAW into a powerful voice for working people. But it was at the time of the CAW’s formation in 1985 that Victor’s support for the Canadian union and its progressive brand of social unionism was brought to the forefront. During UAW organizing campaigns he played a key role in establishing the right of workers to bargain with automakers. Retiring from the UAW in 1972 he received the union’s highest honour — its Social Justice Award, and in 2001 he received Sweden’s highest civilian award, the Knight of the Polar Star. Victor died on June 3, 2004.

- Dennis McDermott Memorial Bursary
  Dennis McDermott’s life in the trade union movement began in 1948 at the Massey Ferguson plant in Toronto. He joined Local 439 of the UAW and quickly became a union activist. McDermott organized what is thought to be the largest public demonstration in Canadian history, a rally of 100,000 people to protest Canadian economic policies on Nov. 21,1981 on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. He served as a national representative and Canadian Director of the UAW until his election as President of the Canadian Labour Congress in 1978. McDermott was later appointed Canadian Ambassador to Ireland. He died in Peterborough on February 13, 2003.

- Tommy Douglas Memorial Bursary
  Tommy Douglas made the move to politics in 1935 when he was elected as an MP of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). After nine years in the House of Commons Douglas was elected the leader of the provincial CCF in Saskatchewan. In 1944, Douglas found himself head of North America’s first-ever socialist government. Elected to five terms, he introduced Saskatchewan residents to social welfare, universal old age pensions and mothers’ allowances, public car insurance, labour reforms and his long-standing dream - universal Medicare. Under his leadership the CCF extended the vote to all Native peoples. He was also responsible for the 1946 Bill of Rights, which prohibited discrimination on grounds of race, color, or creed. Tommy died in 1986.

CAW Council Bursaries

- Terry Fox Memorial Bursary
  An active teenager involved in many sports, Terry was only 18 years old when he was diagnosed with cancer that spread through his body. In the two years that followed, Terry continued to run until he could not walk and became a symbol for all Canadians battling cancer. In 2005, Terry’s Mom, Betty Fox and the Terry Fox Foundation announced the establishment of the Terry Fox Memorial Bursary for the son or daughter of a Canadian union member. For more information go to www.caw.ca/education and click on CAW Bursaries.
Facts About Cocaine Abuse

Have you sniffed, smoked or injected cocaine or cared about someone who does, you more than likely have some unanswered questions about the nature and effects of this powerful drug.

Cocaine is a powerfully addictive stimulant that causes dramatic changes in the brain and behaviour. Once regarded as the status and power drug of the 1980s and early 1990s “me generation,” cocaine – in its various forms – continues to wreak havoc on the lives of millions of people and their families.

With the possible exception of sucking and chewing coca leaves, as do the natives of the high plains and mountainous regions of South and Central America, there is no safe way to use cocaine. It is proven to have a powerful effect on the brain and subsequent human behaviour, and has high addictive potential.

Cocaine, more than any other drug of abuse, has direct and immediate access to the brain’s pleasure centre. It causes disruption in the delicate chemistry that regulates mood, pleasure and survival drive.

Before the cocaine epidemic of the late 1980s and early 1990s, the drug was believed to be safe and not addicting. This was due, in part, to the belief that in order for a drug to be addictive, a user had to suffer withdrawal symptoms when it was withheld.

In other words, addiction was synonymous with withdrawal symptoms. Learning the truth about cocaine’s powerful addiction potential has been a costly and painful lesson to millions of users and their families, and the national economy as a whole.

How cocaine-induced brain changes result in obvious changes in a person’s way of thinking, attitudes, self-destructive behaviour and lifestyle has led neuroscientists to understand that addiction is a multifaceted brain disease which produces dramatic changes in one’s thinking, feeling, and behaviours.

If you decide you want help, call your CWA substance abuse representative:

Car Body/Hardware & South Stamping, Mike Hills: office 905-644-3724; pager 1-800-361-6793 PIN 3724, (then enter the number you want to be called at) home 905-885-6901.

Car Chassis/Paint & Tri-Link, Don Whalen: office 905-644-3723; pager 1-800-361-6793 PIN 3723, home 905-728-7329.


Annual CWA Bursary Applications Available

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nosed with bone cancer and forced to have his right leg amputated six inches above the knee in 1977. The night before his operation, Terry read an article about an amputee who had competed in the New York Marathon. Indirectly, that story along with Terry’s observations of the intense suffering of cancer patients, set the stage for what would ultimately become the most important decision in his young life. In 1980, Terry Fox inspired the nation by attempting to run across Canada on an artificial leg. He called this quest the Marathon of Hope. Its mission was to raise money and awareness for cancer research. It was a journey Canadians never forgot. Terry passed away on June 28, 1981. The heroic Canadian was gone, but his legacy was just beginning.

• Patrick Joseph McEvoy Memorial Bursary

While Pat was President of Local 174, International Moulders Union, he came to realize the only way workers could control their own destiny was through building a sovereign, democratic trade union movement in Canada. When Pat met with some of the workers of Griffin Steel on June 14, 1964 to found the Canadian Association of Industrial Mechanical and Allied Workers (CAIMAW), he knew it would be a daunting task to break away from the International Union. Pat McEvoy not only founded CAIMAW, he was instrumental in shaping its successful destiny. In 1991, he would tell the CAIMAW membership: “Because we have been a forward looking union, the merger with CWA is a natural extension of our own political and social values. There is no other union that meets the criteria we have set for ourselves. The CWA is a natural step in our evolution. Solidarity with this fine organization can only be beneficial for all our members.” On March 30, 1998 the CWA National Executive Board established a $2,500 bursary to recognize the fine, outstanding contribution Pat McEvoy made to establishing democratic, sovereign, Canadian trade unionism. He could not have wished for a finer tribute. He passed away March 27, 1998.

• Rosemary Brown Memorial Bursary

Jamaican-born, Rosemary Brown was a social worker before becoming the first black woman ever elected to a Canadian legislature. In 1972 Rosemary Brown was elected to the B.C. Legislature as an NDP candidate and served her Vancouver riding for 14 years. In 1986, Rosemary Brown left politics to become a professor of Women’s Studies at Simon Fraser University and in January 1997 accepted a position to the CWA Social Justice Fund Board. Her passion for justice and equality was unparalleled. Rosemary Brown died on April 26, 2003.

• Tom Pickford Memorial Bursary

Tom served as an RWDSU International Representative and Vice-President and later RW-USWA Key Staff from November 24,1980 to his untimely death on August 1, 1998. Most of his working life was spent trying to make life better for the working people of Nova Scotia where he resided and Atlantic Canada where he was Regional Director.

• Larry Bauer Memorial Bursary

As a tribute to Larry Bauer’s tireless dedication to improving the lives of working people, the CWA Council, at its April 1995 meeting, endorsed the establishment of the Larry Bauer Memorial Bursary. Brother Bauer actively served CWA Local 444 from 1967, when he became a shop steward, to his death on May 28, 1994, through the positions of committee person, plant chairperson, first vice-president and president, representing Chrysler active and retired members and Marine Division workers. He was Chair of the CWA Chrysler Council, Chair of the CWA Chrysler National Bargaining Committee, Trustee of the CWA Council and Member of the National Executive Board of the CWA.

• Bud Jimmerfield Memorial Bursary

Eight children lost their father, and our union an activist, when Ralph “Bud” Jimmerfield died of esophageal cancer caused by exposure to metalworking fluids on Jan. 31, 1998. Many others carry on the fight for healthy and safe workplaces and just and fair workers’ compensation. The path has been well paved by Brother Jimmerfield. A long-time member of CWA Local 89, Bud Jimmerfield worked for the same employer, an auto parts manufacturer, for 31 years. He spoke of his strong belief in training and the need to be proactive on health and safety matters. The sad irony is that someone who worked tirelessly to improve the health and safety of others lost his battle to a disease caused by the hazardous conditions he fought against.
Counsellors’ Corner

The Healing Benefits Of Laughter

Patients, doctors and healthcare professionals are all finding that laughter may indeed be the best medicine.

Laughing is found to lower blood pressure, reduce stress hormones, increase muscle flexion, and boost immune function by raising levels of infection-fighting T-cells, disease-fighting proteins called gamma-interferon and B-cells, which produce disease-destroying antibodies. Laughter also triggers the release of endorphins, the body’s natural painkillers, and produces a general sense of well-being.

Laughter is infectious. Hospitals around the country are incorporating formal and informal laughter therapy programs into their therapeutic regimens. In countries such as India, laughing clubs – in which participants gather in the early morning for the sole purpose of laughing – are becoming as popular as Rotary Clubs in the United States.

Your grandmother recognized long ago that humour and laughter are good for you. You’ve probably noticed yourself that you simply feel better after a good belly laugh. The problem, of course, is that your sense of humour generally abandons you right when you need it the most – on the tough days.

Laugh Your Way To Enlightenment!

Laughter is one of the easiest ways to free yourself from the mind’s constant thought process and find inner peace. It will make you more alive, more healthy, more creative, and more silent.

A Healthy Dose of Laughter

Laughter can help you physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Norman Cousins felt that laughter was the equivalent of “inner jogging.” It literally massages your internal organs. It can clear mucus from your lungs and lower blood pressure. It is an overall body tonic. Some research indicates that laughter can build your immune system, making you more immune to colds and the flu. Laughter also triggers the release of endorphins, the body’s painkiller. This helps reduce, not only pain, but stress. Endorphins also build up serotonin levels which help heal depression. You are obviously happier and feel better when you laugh.

Children laugh around 400 times a day. Children are always giggling. They can have fun doing anything. At some point in time we seem to lose this ability to laugh so easily. Adults only laugh an average of 15 times a day. There are many days I don’t laugh that often. Apparently, when adolescent children begin to laugh they simply cannot stop.

There is also a Laughter Meditation you can try. (It’s not really a meditation) Each morning as you wake up and stretch a little, begin to laugh. There doesn’t have to be a reason, just do it. Just laugh. Go for a couple of deep belly laughs. Try to keep it up for five minutes. You can do this when you go to bed at night, when you’re stuck in traffic, or anytime you feel stressed. You will be feeling great and eventually be healthier. Laughter may also increase creativity. It’s a win-win situation.

Feeling blue... pop in a CD, laugh some and feel better. Stressed in traffic... tune into a humorous talk show or listen to a CD of your favorite comedian.

If you or someone close to you is extremely ill, spend time together watching a funny TV show or movie. Keep in mind their sense of humour may differ dramatically from yours, so it’s best to ask first what makes them laugh. You could also make up movies with their favorite comedies to watch over and over.

Make a list of all the shows or comedians that make you laugh. We did a survey of what movies, TV shows and comedians made people laugh to add to your list of favorites as follows:

TV Shows: Saturday Night Live featuring Church Chat, Cheerleaders and Mary Catharine; Corner Gas; This Hour Has 22 Minutes; I Love Lucy; Rick Mercer Report; Candid Camera; Honeymooners; America’s Funniest Home Videos; Three Stooges; Roadrunner and Bugs Bunny.

Comedians: Rita Rudner; Jeff Foxworthy; Chris Farley; John Candy; Richard Prior; Steve Martin and George Carlin.

Show/Movies: Blue Collar Comedy Tour; Big; Home Alone; Sister Act; Miss Congeniality; Meet the Parents/Fockers; Monster-In-Law.

Humour is a universal language. It’s a contagious and a natural diversion. It brings other people in and breaks down barriers. Best of all it is free and has no known side reactions.

If you require assistance for counselling support in your immediate community, please call Sharron Kehler 905-644-4282 or Terry Wilson 905-644-4283.

Take Care.
Dr. Michael R. Bryant, B.Sc. Hon., O.D.

Dr. S.J. Klein and Associates would like to welcome Dr. Michael R. Bryant, a recent optometry graduate from Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry, to their practice. Born and raised in Oshawa, Dr. Bryant attended Eastdale Collegiate where he was awarded Ontario Scholar. He earned his B.Sc. in Honours Pre-Optometry/Pre-Health Sciences with a Biology Minor at the University of Waterloo prior to graduating from the College of Optometry at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

His first clinical rotation was in Pembroke Pines, Florida, at a private practice dealing heavily in sports vision and contact lenses. It was at this site Dr. Bryant had the privilege of providing vision screening services to the Miami Dolphins football team. He then completed an externship in ocular disease management at the Eye Centers of South Florida while working closely with ophthalmologists. Dr. Bryant also has experience in other specialties, including contact lenses, pediatrics, and low vision, making him a definite asset to our practice.

Dr. Bryant is now welcoming new patients for eye examination during the following office hours:

Mon–Wed: 9:00am – 6pm
Thurs: 9:00am – 8:00pm
Fri: 9:00am – 1:00pm

A Sincere Thank You for your Patronage and Referrals

375 Bond Street West (near Gibbons)
905-576-5444

Shift 2 Hockey In The Playoffs

By the time you read this our playoffs will have started. It’s the first place Bruins against the fourth place Capitals and the second place Sabres against the third place Penguins. Both best of three. Here are the January and last two regular season game results.

January 10
PENGUINS VS. CAPITALS:

Penguins 7 – Leo Mercier 4 goals 2 assists, Scott Wood 1 goal 3 assists, Glenn Harris 1 goal 2 assists, Brian Beauchemin 1 goal, Brandon Hall 2 assists, Randy Jones 1 assist, Ray Patterson 1 assist.

Capitals 3 – Tim Pearce 1 goal 1 assist, Cam Hinks 1 goal 1 assist, Ron Martin 1 goal, Dennis Jacobs 2 assists, Peter Lane 1 assist, Brian Cane 1 assist.

Leapin Leo goes wild for the Pens!

SABRES VS. BRUINS:

Sabres 8 – Dan Semenuk 2 goals 2 assists, Andy Bahor 2 goals 2 assists, Steve Wilson 2 goals 1 assist, Dale Millson 1 goal 2 assists, Dan Snell 1 goal, Ron Gallagher 3 assists, Carl Walker 3 assists, Chuck Bickle 2 assists.

Bruins 3 – Dan Beckett 2 goals, Geordie Oliver 1 goal, Scott Ward 2 assists, Dunc Humpham 1 assist, Bill Prentice 1 assist.

Dan had a breakout game with the four pointer.

January 12
BRUINS VS. CAPITALS:

Bruins 6 – Geordie Oliver 3 goals 2 assists, Scott Ward 1 goal 2 assists, Andre Martin 1 goal, Kevin Potter 1 goal, Bill Prentice 2 assists, Andy VanOlst 1 assist, Dan Beckett 1 assist, Dunc Humpham 1 assist.

Capitals 2 – Dennis Jacobs 2 goals, Butch Heroux 2 assists, Cam Hinks 1 assist, Peter Lane 1 assist.

Geordie’s hat trick lifted the Bruins to victory.

PENGUINS VS. SABRES:

Penguins 2 – Leo Mercier 1 goal 1 assist, Bill Mutimer 1 goal, Scott Wood 2 assists, Glenn Harris 1 assist.

Sabres 1 – Steve Wilson from Carl Walker and Dale Millson.

A real goaltenders clinic with Penguins’ Jones just outshining Sabres’ Wheeler.

January 17
PENGUINS VS. BRUINS:

Penguins 4 – Scott Wood 1 goal 2 assists, Brian Beauchemin 1 goal 1 assist, Ray Ryan 1 goal, Brandon Hall 1 goal, Glenn Harris 1 assist, Leo Mercier 1 assist.

Bruins 4 – Scott Ward 3 goals, Geordie Oliver 1 goal 2 assists, Dunc Humpham 2 assists, Kirk Sanders 1 assist, Dan Beckett 1 assist.

It was Wood against Ward with Ward coming out on top!

SABRES VS. CAPITALS:

Sabres 4 – Dale Millson 2 goals, Steve Wilson 1 goal 2 assists, Chuck Bickle 1 goal 1 assist, Carl Walker 2 assists, Dan Curwin 1 assist.

Capitals 3 – Cam Hinks 2 goals 1 assist, Tim Pearce 1 goal, Ron Martin 2 assists, Howie MacDonald 1 assist.

A real barn burner between these two teams.
Shift 2 Hockey In The Playoffs – continued from page 39

January 19
SABRES VS. BRUINS:
Sabres 6 – Larry Coady 1 goal 3 assists, Ron Gallagher 1 goal 2 assists, Chuck Bickle 1 goal 1 assist, Shawn McKenna 1 goal 1 assist, Steve Wilson 1 goal 1 assist, Carl Walker 1 goal, Dan Curwin 1 assist, Dan Semenuk 1 assist.

Bruins 6 – Geordie Oliver 4 goals, Dunc Dunham 1 goal 2 assists, Doug Hoogeboom 1 goal, Kevin Potter 2 assists, Kyle Hawes 2 assists, Dan Beckett 1 assist.

This was “last shot wins” and had the fans on the edge of their seats the whole game.

CAPITALS VS. PENGUINS:
Capitals 7 – Cam Hinks 3 goals 1 assist, Ron Martin 2 goals, Tim Pearce 1 goal 1 assist, Howie MacDonald 1 goal, Butch Heroux 5 assists, Brian Cane 2 assists, Dennis Jacobs 2 assists.

Penguins 4 – Leo Mercier 3 goals, Dave Foster 1 goal, Scott Wood 2 assists, Brian Beauchemin 1 assist, Glenn Harris 1 assist, Brandon Hall 1 assist.

Cam’s hat trick and Butch’s playmaking were the difference.

February 7
BRUINS VS. CAPITALS:
Bruins 6 – Bill Prentice 2 goals 2 assists, Kirk Sanders 1 goal 1 assist, Scott Ward 1 goal 1 assist, Dan Beckett 1 goal, Geordie Oliver 1 goal, Dunc Dunham 2 assists, Kevin Potter 1 assist.

Capitals 4 – Dennis Jacobs 2 goals 1 assist, Cam Hinks 1 goal 1 assist, Ron Martin 1 goal, Roly Felgemacher 1 assist, Brian Cane 1 assist, Morgan Lane 1 assist.

Bruins’ well rounded attack was enough to beat the Caps.

SABRES VS. PENGUINS:
Sabres 5 – Steve Wilson 2 goals, Dale Millson 1 goal 1 assist, Dan Semenuk 1 goal, Steve Ashby 1 goal, Shawn McKenna 1 assist, Dan Snell 1 assist, Ron Gallagher 1 assist, Carl Walker 1 assist, Cal Wheeler 1 assist.

Penguins 4 – Andy Devolin 1 goal 1 assist, Scott Wood 1 goal 1 assist, Brandon Hall 1 goal, Leo Mercier 1 goal, Bill Mutimer 2 assists, Jim Bradbury 1 assist.

Back and forth affair had that playoff feel to it!

February 9
PENGUINS VS. BRUINS:
Penguins 6 – Scott Wood 3 goals, Leo Mercier 2 goals, Jim Bradbury 1 goal, Ray Ryan 2 assists, Brian Beauchemin 2 assists, Brandon Hall 1 assist, Dave Foster 1 assist and in his first game ever, Brandon Smith 1 assist.

Bruins 4 – Dunc Dunham 1 goal 1 assist, Geordie Oliver 1 goal 1 assist, Dan Beckett 1 goal, Andre Martin 1 goal, Kyley Hawes 2 assists, Scott Ward 1 assist, Bill Prentice 1 assist.

They tell me Jonesy was the difference in the Penguin upset.

SABRES VS. CAPITALS:
Sabres 4 – Dale Millson 1 goal 2 assists, Steve Wilson 1 goal 2 assists, Dan Curwin 1 goal 1 assist, Carl Walker 1 goal.

Capitals 1 – Brian Feeney 1 unassisted goal that was helped in by one of the Sabre defenceman.

This was a one goal game until the third and then the superior conditioning kicked in.

Good luck to all in the playoffs and remember it’s just a game! Hello Spencer C.
More Players Wearing Visors

I have noticed that this year more players are wearing face visors, which is a great idea. We just had one of our players in the league get hit in the face with the puck, which could have been prevented if a visor had been worn.

When I played hockey they were just starting to come out and halfway through my hockey career I started wearing one and I know it saved me a lot of cuts and injuries. They don’t take long to get used to so I don’t like the cuts and bruises.

- Bond Optical 9, Renown Electric 0
  Bond Optical — Chris Michelson 2 goals, 3 assists, Tim Buttonshaw 1 goal 3 assists, Dwayne Philips 1 goal 4 assists, Allan Howe 2 goals 2 assists, Rob Rutherford 2 goals, George Oliver 1 goal, Captain Brian Cane 2 assists. Renown Electric — 0 0 = 0. This game was on the other pad so I cannot comment too much. I guess Brian Cane outcoached Renown. I find it hard to believe that one team can score 9 and the other team could score 0. Seadog’s player of the game Dwayne Philips. Maybe Bond Optical wore their glasses and Renown forgot to bring theirs.

- Tequila Willys 3, Durham Medical 2
  Tequila Willys — Ron Noble 1 goal 2 assists, Steve Reynolds 1 goal 1 assist, Andre Martin 1 goal, Steve Mullin and John Burke 1 assist each. Durham Medical — Dan Bertrand 1 goal, Dennis Jacobs 1 goal, Carl Walker 1 assist. This was a great game. A goaltenders duel between John Murray and John Perreault. It went right down to the wire, less than a minute to go when Ron Noble scored on a breakaway. First star Ron Noble.

- Oshawa Hearing Service 4, Phoenix Chiropractic 4
  Oshawa Hearing Service — Captain Chuck Bickel 1 goal 1 assist, Kevin Wilson 1 goal 1 assist, Gord Moore 2 assists, Morgan Lane 1 goal, Dave McArthur 1 goal, Larry Coady, Gerry Snowden 1 assist each. Phoenix Chiropractic — Steve Skene 3 goals, Tony Burghardt 1 goal 1 assist, Gary Beedham 2 assists, Oshawa Hearing scored all their goals in the first two periods and led 4 to 1. Phoenix kept digging away scoring one goal in the first, one in the second and tied the game with 2:36 left in the game. Phoenix player of the game Steve Skene, Chuck Bickel Oshawa Hearing player of the game (actually Chuck wasn’t player of the game). At Wing Night Chuck Bickel asked me to put his name in the paper more. I mentioned his name three times so this should do him for a while. The two goaltenders, Al Aylesworth and Carmen Rooneys were great between the pipes.

- Jack’s Fillin Station 8, Ontario Motor Sales 1
  Jack’s Fillin Station — Dave Gibbard 3 goals 1 assist. Bill Prentice 2 goals 2 assists, Kyle Mainguy 2 goals 2 assists, Myron Wijtowych 3 assists, Mike Zdanowski 1 goal, Dean Murray 2 assists, Al Collins 1 assist. Ontario Motor Sales — Joe Teatro 1 goal assisted by Steve Ashby and Steve Wilson. Roland Felgemacher was given a penalty for tripping, felt very bad, says he didn’t do it. Says I think I might quit the league after this year. I keep goofing up. Roland — there are a lot of players that goof up but they really don’t goof up they just get penalties. I know you enjoy the league and the players enjoy you. A tall person will probably get more penalties. They stand out on the ice because they are so tall and catch the referee’s eye more, so bite the bullet. Player of the game was Bill Prentice. Honourable mention to Tom Haraj.

- Oshawa Hearing 4, Renown Electric 2
  Oshawa Hearing — Kevin Beaton 1 goal 1 assist, Myron Wijtowych 1 goal, Kyle Mainguy 1 goal, Brent Barkwell, Kyle Mainguy, Dave Gibbard and Roland Felgemacher 1 assist and 1 penalty. Seadog’s

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**Point Leaders**

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<th>Player</th>
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<th>GP</th>
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**Goalie Standings**

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**TRUCK-CAR HOCKEY LEAGUE REPORT**

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**MARCH 2006**

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Mike Hills
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Res: 1-905-885-6901 • Medical Centre: 905-644-6093

Don Whalen
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CCC.A.

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Dany Pineault, M.Sc.

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More Players Wearing Visors – continued from page 41
assist, Kevin Wilson 1 goal 1 assist, Lany Coady and Peter Lane 1 marker each. Assisted by Gord Moore, Gerry Snowden. Renown Electric – Cam Hinks and Don Buldyke 1 goal each. Assisted by Cal Wheeler and John McLeod. Kevin Beaton was chosen first star by Seadog.

Durham Medical 5, Ontario Motor Sales 2
Durham Medical – Tim Ashbridge 2 goals 2 assists, Dennis Jacobs 1 goal 1 assist, Andy Bahor 1 goal 1 assist, Leo Mercier 1 goal, Carl Walker 2 assists, Ken Vaillancourt 1 assist, John Whiteman 1 assist and 1 penalty. Ontario Motor Sales – Steve Ashby 1 goal 1 assist, Joe Teatro 1 goal, Dan Formosa 1 assist. Captain Dan Bertrand has his team passing the puck around very well. As you can see there is only a couple of players without points. I must give an honourable mention to John Murray who played very well in net. Also Bruce Hawkshaw stopped a lot of rubber.

Bond Optical 4, Phoenix Chiropractic 1
Bond Optical – Tim Buttonshaw 1 goal 2 assists, Allan Howe 1 goal 1 assist, George Oliver 1 goal 1 assist, Dwayne Philips 1 goal 1 assist. Chris Michelson and Howard MacDonald 1 assist each. The lone marker for Phoenix Chiropractic was Tony Burghardt, assisted by Gary Beedham. This season Tim Buttonshaw is really chalking up the points. It must be the kangaroo food from down under. Bond Optical has scored 13 goals in one week with just one goal against them. When you are hot you are hot and when you are not you are not!

Due to the boat leaving early we were not able to put all the stats in this write up. Four games are missing for points and team standings. We will now be in the play-offs and gearing up for golf lessons. I hope you have enjoyed the season. It helps us get us through the winter.

Until next issue, See You On The Ice
# CAW Five Pin Bowling Results

**Dates to remember:**
**Playoffs are March 26 at 9 a.m.**
**Banquet is April 8.**

## 600 CLUB
- Cheryl Ward 606
- Bob Huff 634 621
- Dan McLean 664 670
- Dan Richard 603
- Dave Klein 658
- Dave Ricketts 671
- Debbie Lovely 620 609
- Todd Taylor 651
- Norma Harrison 654
- Harry Langbrae 624 612
- Henry Chyb 633 697
- Joanne Free 607
- Steve Parson 679
- Mark MacDonald 625
- Monty Campbell 610
- Noel Ricketts 685
- Mike McMartin 618 635 633
- Mike Phillips 653 662

## 700 CLUB
- Cheryl Ward 606
- Bob Huff 634 621
- Dan McLean 664 670
- Dan Richard 603
- Dave Klein 658
- Dave Ricketts 671
- Debbie Lovely 620 609
- Todd Taylor 651
- Norma Harrison 654
- Harry Langbrae 624 612
- Henry Chyb 633 697
- Joanne Free 607
- Steve Parson 679
- Mark MacDonald 625
- Monty Campbell 610
- Noel Ricketts 685
- Mike McMartin 618 635 633
- Mike Phillips 653 662

### Weekly Draws & special events

**Ultimate LINK**
- 21st of each month – 7:00PM Session

**NEW Verifier Package**
- 12:30PM / 7:00PM / 10:30PM

**Daily**
- 12:30PM / 7:00PM / 10:30PM
- 9:45AM Saturday
- Power Hour:
- 9:45AM Sunday thru Fri.
- Carnival Bingo: 5:45PM Nightly

**Info:** 905-436-9404
- **Trenton Rd:** 12:30PM / 7:00PM / 10:30PM
- **Link:** 21st of each month – 7:00PM Session

**Voucher Good for One**
- **Trenton Rd:** 12:30PM / 7:00PM / 10:30PM
- **Link:** 21st of each month – 7:00PM Session

**Monthly MINI MONSTER**
- 4 x $1000 ‘MUST GO’ Jackpots
- Details Available In Hall

**WIN BIG! WIN BIG! WIN BIG!**
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- At Rear of 5 POINTS Mall (Behind WINNERS)

**Details Available In Hall**

**Ultimate LINK**
- 21st of each month – 7:00PM Session

**NEW Verifier Package**
- 12:30PM / 7:00PM / 10:30PM

**Info:** 905-436-9404
- Large Non-Smoking Room
- Separately Vented
- Designated Smoking Room

**Weekly Draws & Special Events**
- Details Available In Hall

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- Hypnotherapy is the mind’s tool to a better way of life.
- Certified Hypnotherapist and member of the National Guild of Hypnotists, Lauren Lament was inspired to help others through her own experience.
- She used to be a heavy smoker who quit this difficult addiction with the help of hypnotherapy.
- “It changed my life in such a positive way, I wanted to share my experience with others,” she says.
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- Today, more and more people are turning to hypnosis to help them stop smoking, lose weight or reduce stress levels.
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**CHECK OUT OUR**
- **PLAYER REWARDS PROGRAM**
- **Details Available In Hall**

**MARCH 2006**
- **THE OSHAWORKER • 43**
Retirees Golf League Rules Reminders

I am watching Mike Weir battling it out with Oberholzer at the Pebble Beach Open. Mike was tied for the lead this morning but now he is five back with six holes to go. It is sunny and warm at Pebble Beach and sunny and cold (–10°) here in Oshawa.

This time around I want to talk a bit about the rules. We have to refresh the memories of our past members and introduce them to our new members. During the season we play nine special games and we pay $5 to participate in each of them. To make things easier to handle we collect nine times $5 at the beginning of the season ($45) and give you a refund every time you cannot make it and give us enough notice.

Four of the nine games are scrambles. In a scramble, at any given hole, each golfer takes a tee shot. All golfers in the foursome take the tee shot. All subsequent shots are taken in the same fashion until the ball is in the hole. Your ball will have one club length of the best ball but not closer to the hole. On the putting green the shots have to be taken from within 1 inch of the best shot. Each golfer has to have a minimum of three drives used for best ball play and it spans pretty well the whole season. It's an elimination type tournament where players are flighted (flight A, B or C) according to their handicaps from last year and they play each other until only one is left standing at the end of the season in each flight. If you choose to participate you have to pay $5 at the beginning of the season. New members will have a handicap of 15 strokes until they establish a handicap after four games played.

On Wednesday, June 7, 2006 we play what we call an out-of-town tournament. This one will be played at Pine Ridge Golf Club, which is near Warkworth, north of Brighton. We can always rely on a first class steak dinner at this club. The cost is $45 and includes green fees, cart and dinner. We will be collecting the $45 at the registration day because once the season starts there is little time to collect for anything.

So, there you are. If you plan to participate in the above activities, then you should have a cheque or cash ready for $125 ($30+$45+$5+$45) on Tuesday, April 11. This will take care of registration, nine special tournaments, match play and Pine Ridge.

By the way the Pine Ridge money is not refundable and match play money is not refundable after the first round.

Anyone who has special needs for food menus (vegetarian, diabetes etc.) should contact Gary Wannamaker at 905-433-0812 or at glwannamaker@rogers.com with details as soon as possible.

Please call me at 905-579-6802 or e-mail me at bheming@rogers.com if you have any questions at all.

The 2006 schedule is on display at www.222retireegolf.com.
### Classifieds

#### FOR SALE

- Hard blue tonneau cover for GM ext cab $500. Call: 905-579-0127
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- 1994 Ford F150, dark green, 6 cyl, 5-spd, 80,000 original km, box liner, new brakes & rotors, $5500 obo. Call: 905-668-7613
- Piano Mason & Rische ivory keys, good condition, recently tuned, perfect starter piano for children or adults, $800 bench included. Call: 416-439-5974
- Treadmill large track, digital read out, electric elevator, like new $400; X-Tang tonneau excellent condition for Sonoma or S10 6' box $75. Call: 905-728-6988
- 14' aluminum boat & trailer, 8 hp Mercury motor; asking $1500 complete; double Ski-do tilt trailer $450. Call: 905-809-6149 or 905-213-0009
- 1991 Suzuki JR50 dirt bike, 2 stroke oil injected, great starter bike, works perfect $750 obo. Call: 905-442-7082
- 2 door side-by-side fridge & stove, both almond colour black front panels; 2 yr old wheelchair like new $1250. Call: 905-439-0033
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- 2003 GMC 1/2 ton, rebuilt engine, new gas tank, new tires all around, too many parts to list $1800 as is. Call: 905-391-9616
- Roman Mega Max 3001 universal gym $300 obo; 3 drawer captains bed & night stand $75 obo; screen door 34” x 79” full glass $100 obo. Call: 705-340-5685
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- Fax machine $15; HP printer $10; 1979 Mercury $1000; 27” TV with stand $100; electric typewriter $15; table saw $45. Call: 905-668-8299
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- 1986 GMC 1/2 ton, rebuilt engine, new gas tank, new tires all around, too many parts to list $1800 as is. Call: 905-391-9616
- Wood lathe multi speed 33 1/2” between centres, swing over bed 12” for outside turning; Morse #2 both ends; starter tools $350. Call: 905-725-1979
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- 14’ aluminum boat & trailer, 8 hp Mercury motor; asking $1500 complete; double Ski-do tilt trailer $450. Call: 905-809-6149 or 905-213-0009
- 1991 Suzuki JR50 dirt bike, 2 stroke oil injected, great starter bike, works perfect $750 obo. Call: 905-442-7082
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- 2 door side-by-side fridge & stove, both almond colour black front panels; 2 yr old wheelchair like new $1250. Call: 905-439-0033
- 1994 Ford F150, dark green, 6 cyl, 5-spd, 80,000 original km, box liner, new brakes & rotors, $5500 obo. Call: 905-668-7613
- Piano Mason & Rische ivory keys, good condition, recently tuned, perfect starter piano for children or adults, $800 bench included. Call: 416-439-0000
- Treadmill large track, digital read out, electric elevator, like new $400; X-Tang tonneau excellent condition for Sonoma or S10 6' box $75. Call: 905-728-6988
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- Trailers 1991, separate bedroom with queen bed, 38’ deck, beautiful view of lake, excellent condition, before May sacrifice $9000. Call: 905-728-6988
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**The Oshaworker Deadline**

**FOR THE APRIL 2006 ISSUE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 17 AT 4:00 P.M.**

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