



Vol. 19, Issue 8
October / November 2008

UNION SPIRIT

Mitsubishi Unit Premier Unit Interlake Unit

VOTE to Make A Difference—It's Your Right!

By: Ralph Timan, President Local 2488 and Illinois State CAP Recording Secretary

Unions have been hit hard by a number of issues at the bargaining table that can be resolved through Legislation and Politics action. A large number of the issues we are confronting at the bargaining table can be directly attributed to the lack of forward thinking policy in Washington D.C. and its impact on the working class. Let me give you a few examples of these issues and their overall negative impact on our talks with Mitsubishi.

First is the lack of a National Healthcare program. The failure of President Bush and the Republican Party to address this issue has put the US worker at a competitive disadvantage with the rest of the "Global Economy" they want us to compete in. When Mitsubishi Management tells us in negotiations that we are competing for future product with the car plants owned by them in The Netherlands, Okazaki and Mizushima, Japan we must look deeper at those comparisons. First, both countries have a National Healthcare program which costs Mitsubishi almost 1/3rd less than in the United States. This high cost of Health Care benefits in the United States puts us at a major disadvantage. All of those countries have a National Healthcare program in place and the cost to employers is significantly less than here in the United States. This is because in these and many other countries their government has leveled the playing field when it comes to healthcare access and cost.

Do you know the average cost (2007 yr) of our current comprehensive healthcare plan provided through collective bargaining and paid for by Mitsubishi is on average costs approximately **\$19,000** per year for each employee of Mitsubishi. Further in 2007, employer health insurance premiums increased on aver-

age by 6.1 percent - two times the rate of inflation! According to the national Coalition on Health Care's web site WWW.NCHC.org. The United States pays more pre capita on healthcare than any other country in the world, an average of \$5,700 per person compare to the Netherlands \$2987 and Japan \$2244 this is both private and government funding this according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, www.kff.org on a world wide study completed in 2006 by the United Nations.

Two very different solutions have been presented to resolve this Healthcare crisis. The Republican Presidential Candidate John McCain's plan Tax it! In the last debate McCain stated he would tax "gold plated" healthcare plans; according to his definition our health care plans would be taxed. That's right A New Tax on Working Families and the middle class. Under the McCain plan if your employer provides health care the premiums paid by your employer would be part of taxable income. By offering a modest tax credit McCain wants to shift the burden from employers to individuals. Essentially creating a new tax for working families. That is not a solution to the United States health care problem and certainly not a viable solution for working class families.

Another solution to this problem is to reform the US healthcare system and drive these costs down responsibly; instead of letting an unregulated "free market" drive up costs and letting insurance companies decide our healthcare options. Democratic Presidential candidate Barack Obama Says He'll Improve Care, Lower Costs, his plan "includes tackling medical inflation and spiraling health care costs, developing new mechanisms to extend portable, affordable cov-

erage and reforming health care delivery so that it emphasizes prevention and efficiency." Obama's plan Establishes a National Health Insurance Exchange with a range of private insurance options as well as a new public plan based on benefits available to members of Congress that will allow individuals and small businesses to buy affordable health coverage in larger group pools.

Other challenge at the bargaining table are defined Pension benefits more and more employers are freezing or eliminating these type of plans all together. Union's across the country are working hard to fight off these changes by employers. Employers are now pushing 401k plans, which do not offer the same type of security that a defined pension benefit does. Many 401k plans and the various options within them are driven by the Stock Market conditions. We have all seen what those risks can do as we have watched the recent financial crisis on Wall Street unfold and impact many of our 401k plans. Could you imagine the devastation around our country right now if the Social Security system was tied to Wall Street through privatization as the Republican Party including John McCain have long advocated?

Unfortunately many companies are also running to Bankruptcy court to absolve themselves of their responsibility to retiree's and promises they made to the worker who built those companies. This wrong and we need political leadership that will stand up to corporate interests to change the laws and protect these hard earned retirement pensions. Barack Obama has offered solutions to reform Corporate Bankruptcy Laws to Protect Workers and Retirees before banks, Re-

(Continued on page 4)

Chairperson's Report

By Fred Morissette

Striving for Stability in an Unstable Economy

Our economy is extremely unstable. The auto industry, which was already hurting, felt the effects. Mitsubishi sales fell 39% in September, as compared to 2007. They were not alone... Toyota sales fell 32%, Ford sales fell 34% and Nissan sales fell 37%. Chrysler sales also fell over 30%. Overall, the industry witnessed a 26.6% slide from a year earlier and its biggest percentage drop in 17 years. Visits to auto dealerships in the last 10 days of September declined 51% compared with the same period last year... the largest slide in at least 22 years. Consumer credit, as well as credit available to the dealers has dried up.

This past month the stock markets worldwide have been on a crazy roller coaster ride. The government has been infusing billions of dollars into the banking industry trying to stabilize the market. However, we cannot expect these drastic measures to produce overnight, dramatic effects. Unfortunately, it will take a much longer period of time. One thing we can be sure of is that for the next four years, we will all have jobs. Our fellow UAW brothers and sisters at Chrysler may not be as fortunate. If a GM/Chrysler merger happens (which is predicted) there may be up to 30,000 jobs lost.

Throughout the entire summer the Bargaining Committee, along with members from the UAW International, worked diligently to bring you back a contract that reflected the wages and benefits that each of our members were worthy of. In early September, the company gave us their final and best offer. After detailed review, the Bargaining Committee unanimously rejected it and, along with the International, told the company we would not bring the proposal to the membership for a vote. When we resumed talks in late September, the company handed us a new proposal... the 5th proposal. Several positive changes had been made, but it still was not what you deserved. Unfortunately, the changes that

had occurred in our country's economy during the prior month made it difficult for the Bargaining Committee to refuse to bring the latest contract proposal to the membership for a vote. The entire Bargaining Committee felt if we went back to the table under the deplorable economic conditions, our contract would have gotten worse, not better. We negotiate on your behalf, but ultimately you make the decisions for this local union every time you cast your vote. This membership made a tough decision, and in time, when we all reflect back on it, I believe we will see it was the right decision to make.

VSP and Early Retirement

If you are interested in signing up for the Voluntary Separation Program remember the deadline is 4:30pm, November 26, 2008. If you are interested in applying for early retirement, the deadline is October 31, 2008. If you are considering either of these options you should consider consulting with an attorney to determine if this is in your best interest. Currently we have approximately 39% of the open positions signed up for.

With the current state of the economy, it is understandable, that there have not been large numbers signing up for the VSP. The early retirement, does give many associates the opportunity to retire with medical benefits and go seek more enjoyable employment elsewhere, while retaining medical benefits here.

We have had many calls regarding the order of the early retirement and Voluntary Separation packages. MMNA wanted to complete both programs as soon as possible, but because of a required 45 day wait for the VSP, this put the VSP behind the Early Retirement by almost a month. It is the Union's position that members should be separated by seniority order in both of these programs combined. It is MMNA's position that the Early Retirement will be separated by seniority order first, and then the VSP will be separated in seniority order. The companies interpretation could possibly have some senior associates disadvantaged if there was a large interest in Early Retirements, or VSP's and the numbers exceeded the 230 maximum. This issue apparently will not be tested, due to the lack of interest in these two programs. If you are taking either the early retirement

or the VSP, please keep in touch and let us know things are going well for you and your families.

Non-Production Days

The following dates have been confirmed as non-production days.

October 31, 2008

November 3, 2008

November 10, 2008

November 21, was tentative as a non-production, is now scheduled for regular production.

The following dates are tentatively non-production dates.

November 26, 2008

December 22, 2008

December 23, 2008

There were no grievances written during the month of September.

Sales on page 9

October Grievance Report	
Ha Wa	1
Compensation	1
Total	2

Manpower	
Production	1071 (-7)
Skilled Trades	185 (-1)
Apprentices	4
Supplemental	51 (-1)
Laid Off	602 (-18)

Veterans Week 2008

Veterans Week will be held from November 12th—November 14th in the Communications Center.

Please stop by and visit the Veterans' display.

President's Report

By Ralph Timan

The contract talks with Mitsubishi have finally concluded after months of bargaining and countless meetings. A faltering US economy, the US auto industry in economic turmoil as vehicle sale decline causing plants to close and Mitsubishi Financial situations hit us all at once. These were not good times to be at the negotiations table, the Bargaining Team worked long and hard on numerous issues to bring back the most we could from a very constricted Mitsubishi management team. In the end based on all the facts the membership had to weigh in to make a very difficult decision concerning your future and the continuing operation of the Mitsubishi Plant in Normal as well.

The closeness of the ratification vote again shows the angst of a divided membership over what we have been asked to sacrifice in return for job security. The membership has voted and the majority has spoken, we must now move forward and look towards the future. Our task is to continue to hold Mitsubishi Management responsible for putting us in this position.

One area outside of the Collective Bargaining Agreement where we will be pressing management is in Political assistance and legislation. This could be in the form of government loans, tax incentives or other legislative action that could provide our facility an incentive and enhance our chance to grow. Recently the Congress and the President authorized \$25 billion in low-interest loans for manufacturers that build advanced technology vehicles and their key components in the United States. This program is to promote Advance technology vehi-

cles manufacturing and expand the use of green technologies in vehicle manufacturing. The loans are available to automakers with assembly plant over 20 years old in the United States for development and retooling purposes. Will Mitsubishi take advantage of those? We don't know at this time but we must continue to ask the question of them why not? We have to look beyond the four years of this agreement and make sure management is as well for our long-term future.

In the end the burden to bring this facility back to its full capabilities is on Managements Shoulders. The position we have been put in is Mitsubishi Management responsibility. They have no excuses! Mitsubishi Management has intentionally tried to divide our membership, attempted to break our will and solidarity. We must not let that happen. The snub they have shown our laid-off brothers and sisters shows their true feeling of how much they regard each one of us as individuals. I will not forget it, as I know our membership will not as well. We will live to fight another day, just now that fire for justice burns brighter in each one of us now.

As of this writing we have begun contract talks with Premier management as the current agreement is set to expire on October 31. While the talks have been productive so far we should all remember that in 2006 these members were forced to take a substantial pay cut along with increases in the Healthcare premium they have to pay bi-weekly. As these talks progress we will keep you updated.

Work continues on the local's web site following the recent issues we were having with involving the software and ability to update remotely over the last few months. We are concentrating on getting all the content moved into the

new site design as of this writing. Among the new features the web site will be a better navigation system with each unit of our local having its own home page link on the main home page. This will allow you to look for information specific to your unit easier as it will be more centralized. We believe this will be enhance our site and make it more user friendly. The web site theme will also be focused more on our members than on the products we make. I hope that you will find the site useful as a part our communications links to you.

Finally as Americans we are always asked to vote our personal interests and convictions. As union members we must also understand our collective interests are at stake. Most working-class Americans spend more time at work regularly then any other activity they may do, besides sleeping. So if we go to the polls uninformed about how a candidate feels about issues that affect our workplace, healthcare and retirement. We only end up hurting ourselves and our fellow brother and sisters in workplaces all across our country. Make sure to take the time to study the issues; can we really afford more of the same? Make sure to get out and Vote on November 4th.

Interlake Members

The phone number for the Pontiac UAW Plant Office has been changed.

The new number is
(815) 844-3888.

This change is effective immediately.

Stand Up For Working Families

"There is a direct relationship between the bread box and the ballot box. What the Union fights for and wins at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls" **Walter Reuther**

VOTE Tuesday, November 4, 2008

(Continued from page 1)

quire Full Disclosure of Company Pension Investments and Expand Retirement Savings Incentives for Working Families.

Finally let be very honest with each other John McCain (R) is no friend of unions and has along record to prove it here are a few examples;

McCain Voted Against the Employee Free Choice Act but for a National 'Right to Work' for Less Law. McCain voted against the Employee Free Choice Act, which would level the playing field for workers trying to form unions. He voted for a national "right to work" for less law that would attempt to eliminate unions altogether. (H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07; S. 1788 Vote 188, 7/10/96)

McCain Crossed a Writers Guild Picket Line to Appear on 'The Tonight Show.' McCain crossed the picket line of the Writers Guild of America to appear on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." (Think Progress, accessed 2/27/08)

McCain Voted to Allow Employers to Hire Permanent Replacements During a Strike. McCain voted against ending debate on a bill that would bar employers from hiring permanent replacements for striking workers. (S. 55, Vote 189, 7/13/94)

Against Giving Firefighters and Police a Voice on the Job. Firefighters and police risk their lives every day to protect the public, yet McCain voted to deny them the right to discuss workplace issues with their employer in 2001 and skipped a vote on the issue in 2008. (H.R. 3061, Vote 323, 11/6/01; S. 2123, 10/1/07; H.R. 980, Vote 126,

5/13/08) **McCain Voted Against Collective Bargaining Rights for TSA Screeners.** McCain voted against a measure to grant Transportation Security Administration (TSA) airport screeners limited collective bargaining rights. The measure would not have allowed them to strike or negotiate for higher pay. (S. 4, Vote 64, 3/7/07)

On the Other hand Barack Obama (D) believes that "workers should have the freedom to choose whether to join a un-

ion without harassment or intimidation from their employers," Barack has consistently stood with Union members both in Legislative halls and on the line when workers have stood up for their rights. Here is a short list of Barack Obama's support for workers rights;

Obama Voted for Collective Bargaining Rights for Airport Screeners. Obama supported an amendment granting 43,000 airport screeners limited collective bargaining rights without the ability to strike or negotiate for higher pay. (S.Amdt. 316 to S.Amdt. 275 to S. 4, Vote 64, 3/7/07)

Obama Voted for Employee Free Choice Act. Obama co-sponsored and voted for the Employee Free Choice Act, which would restore workers' freedom to form unions and bargain for better wages, benefits and working conditions without employer harassment. (H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07)

Obama Rallied With Resurrection Health Care Employees Promoting Passage of Employee Free Choice Act. Obama attended a rally of 2,000 hospital employees, union members and supporters promoting passage of the Employee Free Choice Act. "Keep marching for justice," Obama told the Resurrection workers. "Where there is injustice anywhere, it suppresses justice everywhere. And organized labor has a history of bringing about justice." The rally brought attention to the Resurrection workers' campaign to form a union with AF-SCME. (AFSCME 31, 3/5/07)

Wouldn't it be nice to have a President who knew what a strike line was and what it meant to walk in solidarity for a cause? Being an educated membership on the issues that affect us at the bargaining table is important. Having friends in government who understand the working class is necessary when asked to compete in today's "Global Economy". Its your choice, vote on November 4th.



October 2008 Benefits Report

As we get ready to make one of the biggest decisions that we will make in our lifetime it is important to remember who we place in government to look out for the middle income working class citizens of this country. It is important that we understand what they do will have a direct impact on our lives. We only have to look back over the last eight years to see how much has changed. On issues such as health care for everyone, protecting our future social security benefits, protecting workers from being replaced if they have a dispute with their employer, dealing with a national debt that will impact us, our children and now our children's children, have only gotten worse.

Exercise your right on November 4th and elect representatives that will commit to addressing your issues as we enter a very difficult time in our country.

For the month of September, 24 medical and dental insurance claims were resolved through the UAW Benefits office resulting in additional payments of \$16,664.01. This brings the total for the year to 218 claims totaling payments of \$147,392.33.

Five work comp bills were handled by the UAW benefits reps for the month of September. This resulted in additional payments of \$618.55. The yearly total is 17 bills totaling payments of \$8,456.93.

Class Schedules for Spring 2009

It that time again to talk to our children who are 19 years of age or older (but younger than 25). Class schedules need to be turned in to avoid a lapse of coverage.

Tuition Assistance Program

Just as a reminder, all applications for this benefit must be submitted back in prior to the end of 2008 in order to take advantage of the 2008 tax year.

BC/BS of Illinois Website

This site proves to be very useful to our members. Not only can members use the site to check on providers who are in our network but they can also use the site to review claims as they are being processed. Check it out, www.bcbsil.com

As always we look forward to hearing from our members if you are having any problems that you may need help dealing with. Please contact us, Kathy Noble – 888-8008, John Powell – 888-8003 or Gary Nichols – 888-8015.

Manufacturing Jobs

Health Care

Veterans

Human & Civil Rights

VOTE **NO** ON CON CON

This Election Day, November 4, Illinois voters will be asked to vote on whether the state should hold a constitutional convention (CON CON) to rewrite Illinois' governing document. The last time voters were asked if a CON CON was needed, they rejected the notion by a three to one margin.



Your union is OPPOSED to a Constitutional Convention for these reasons:

- It is estimated that the Convention would cost tax payers as much as \$100 million. That cost is unacceptable at a time when our state is in a budget crisis, our pension systems are grossly underfunded and our roads and schools are crumbling.
- The Convention would most likely be administered by the current politicians that have created a virtual stalemate in Springfield. So, it is unlikely that a State Constitutional Convention would be very efficient or effective.
- All issues could be considered and changed including: Right To Work, defined benefit pension plans, education funding and tax rates for state and local governments. Changes to any of these current state policies could potentially be damaging for union workers in both the private and public sector.
- A CON CON could take years to complete and negatively affect the state's economy. A Convention would further delay legislative action on important issues like education funding, creating a Capital program and balancing the state budget.
- The state constitution can already be changed by the amendment process. In fact, Illinois voters have amended the current constitution ten times since 1970.

A CON CON would be costly and unwise. On November 4, vote NO on CON CON.

VOTE NO
By: Barbara Fisher, V-VCAP

The Illinois Constitution requires that we vote on having a state constitution convention every twenty years and must be approved by three-fifths of those voting on the question or by a majority of voters in the election. If we approve having a convention any and all articles in the constitution could be changed or deleted.

Issues that could be considered include:
(Sharon Z. Alter—League of Women Voters)

1. separation of church and state
2. death penalty
3. gun control
4. abortion
5. same-sex marriage
6. stem cell research
7. definition of person
8. term limits for elected officials
9. recall of elected officials
10. amendatory veto power of governor
11. merit selection of state judges
12. eminent domain graduated income tax

All of these issues are very important; however with our economy in its current position, it is more important for us to focus on the problems and issues that are directly affecting our families and friends. For example: health care, workers' rights, jobs, housing prices, credit, taxes, the stock market and gas prices rather than spending millions of dollars on a convention. On Election Day, vote to save money that needs to be spent on our families and their future.

Continued from Chairperson's Report

Domestic Sales September 2008	Units	2007
Galant	2,605	-2.9%
Eclipse	1,209	-15.3%
Spyder	182	- 51.2%
Endeavor	264	-70.8 %

Total domestic sales of locally produced vehicles were 4,260. Total domestic sales were 7,378 a decrease of 39% compared to September 2007.

Total Combined Domestic & Export Sales for September	Units
Galant	3,500
Eclipse	1,602
Spyder	260
Endeavor	462
Total sales of our vehicles	5,824

Export Sales August 2008	Country	Units
Galant	Mexico	130
	Kuwait	96
	Lebanon	11
	Bahrain	23
	Qatar	20
	Jebel Ali	140
	Oman	69
	Russia	131
	Ukraine	275
	Total	895
Eclipse	Mexico	28
	Columbia	1
	Canada	145
	Kuwait	35
	Bahrain	5
	Qatar	30
	Jebel Ali	110
Total	393	

Export Sales August 2008	Country	Units
Spyder	Mexico	10
	Canada	64
	Puerto Rico	4
Total	78	
Endeavor	Columbia	1
	Puerto Rico	37
Total	198	

Total export sales for the month of September 1,564.

Interlake Bargaining Chair Report by Eric Monical

By now everyone should be aware that Interlake laid off another 40 union associates on August 22nd. That was something we all knew was bound to happen and I wish there was some good news to tell. However, the truth is, until we have a leader in the White House who understands and is willing to stand up for the hardworking middle class families, the economy will keep going in the same direction it is going, down the toilet.

It's getting close to that time of year again when we start increasing our Toys for Tots campaign. I understand that times are difficult for everyone with the economy the way it is but we need to realize there are many people who are worse off than us and a lot of children are counting on the UAW to help more than ever. Its not just hard times for us, its hard times for everyone. So, I am asking everyone to please pull together for the sake of the children in this community and help out. I want to thank Sally Arnold for her efforts in selling 50/50 tickets, among other raffles. She has done a fantastic job - Thank You! If anyone has any other suggestions or ideas we can do with raffles or if you want to help out with any raffle you can contact Rosy Torrez or myself. We would welcome any ideas or volunteers.

I would like to commend Rosy Torrez on the professional job he has been doing on Safety in identifying and eliminating potential hazards in our work place. If you know of any potential hazards contact Rosy so he can eliminate the potential. I would also like to congratulate six associates: Mike Huling, Jake Roberts, Eloy Muraida, Todd Maher, Alfredo Cortez, and Matt Aaron on completing the First Responders course. They had to attend ten weeks of classroom training from July- September. In addition to the classroom training they had to complete ten hours of voluntary work in the emergency room of OSF Saint James Hospital. So, if you see these associates on the shop floor assure them that we appreciate the time and

efforts that were put into completing this course so that we have someone in the immediate work area with first aid knowledge. Again nice job to these six associates, way to go!

I want to thank Jerry Mabrey and his daughter, and the members from Mitsubishi who came to Pontiac to walk and pass out candy in the Thresherman Parade during the Labor Day weekend. In the future it would be nice if we could have more Interlake members join us to show solidarity not only in the UAW but also in the community.

One of our own UAW Local 2488 members Tom Shrier is running for State Representative in this years election. Let's show him our support in his quest for the position of State Representative. If anyone would like bumper stickers or yard signs contact Rosy Torrez or myself.

Since my last report we have lost a long time, loyal Union Brother James "Doc" Oneal who has been a part of Interlake for the past 37 years, serving the last 33 years in the Roll Form department. "Doc" will be missed by all his friends and co-workers. Thanks for the years of representation and union guidance.

I want to send out condolences to the family of Brother Steve Tjarks who lost his four year old boy in a drowning accident; Brother Justin Brooks who lost an infant son to S.I.D.S. and Brother Steven Brooks who lost his daughter Jennifer as she awaited a liver transplant. Our hearts go out to you and your family.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Sunday, December 7th at
Eastland Suites; Breakfast from
8:00am – 12:30pm
Eastland Drive in Bloomington**

TICKET SALES WILL BE HELD ON:

Thursday, November 13th and
Friday, November 14th during
lunch at the North & South
ends of the Cafeteria.
For 2nd and 3rd shift - tickets will be
sold in the UAW Plant Office

For Interlake Members

A sign in sheet will be available in
the UAW Plant Office.

***Tickets are \$5.00 each and
children 3 years and under get in
free! Last day to purchase tickets
will be on Monday, December 1st.
These tickets have been limited to
Local 2488 members and family!!***

BRING YOUR CAMERA TO TAKE PICTURES WITH SANTA

Please contact Barbara Fisher at
888-8099 or the Union Hall at
828-2880.

***Sponsored by UAW Local 2488
Conservation & Recreation
Committee***

Clare House Food Drive

November 18 through November 21, 2008

Please place your donation in a plastic bad and place
in a bin at your turnstile entry. Collection will end at
7:30am on Friday, November 21st.

**2008 General Election – UAW Region 4 Endorsement List
Illinois State CAP Council**

By: Denny Drnjevic, VCAP Delegate, UAW Local 2488

The % behind the individuals' names denotes their lifetime labor voting record, with 100% being a perfect record. As elections draw near I am always asked, "Why does the UAW tell me how to vote?" Answer: The UAW does not tell anyone how to vote.

My job as a CAP delegate is to merely present the facts to you (through monthly UNION SPIRIT articles, bulletin board postings, handouts, worker to worker conversations, etc) so that you can make an educated choice. That is why I have included the lifetime labor voting records of various candidates. This number reflects how that person voted on labor issues that can and have affected you and me in the past as well as the future--the higher the number the more loyal that person is to our position as working members of a union labor force. As a member of the Region 4 State CAP executive board we used the 70% rule as a measurement of endorsement, when a new candidate was entered into a particular political race and a voting record is not yet established or the other candidate has a voting record below 70% we use the interview, question and answer process to either give the UAW endorsement or simply offer NO ENDORSEMENT in that particular race. In this manner we eliminate the tendency to endorse one particular party over the other, and eliminate biased opinions of one candidate over the other. Remember these people are supposed to work for you and I--so HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE, and the process that we as Americans use for that purpose are elections. On November 4th please utilize your right to vote...after all isn't that what freedom is all about. THE CHOICE IS YOURS!!!

PERSONAL NOTE: You will notice that in the last posted race (106th Illinois House District) our own Tom Shrier is running against a person (Sommer) that currently has a 14% labor voting record. This means Sommer has voted against us 86% of the time. One example of Sommer voting wrong could have affected all of us during our last negotiations. If we would have been "locked out", according to State law we would have been eligible for unemployment compensation, Mr. Sommer's voted **against** the legislation that approved this benefit for working families. How's that for standing with us! I can go on and give many more examples of Mr. Sommer's lack of support for working families, but I think you get the point. Please make a concerted effort to contact your friends and relatives on Tom Shriers' behalf. I know he will stand with us!



U.S. President Barack Obama 91%
U.S. Vice President Joe Biden 87%
U.S. Senate Richard "Dick" Durbin 96%

U.S. House of Representatives

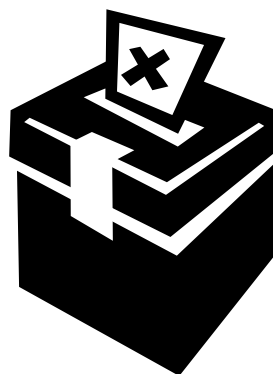
11th District Debbie Halverson 96%,
15th District Steve Cox,
17th District Phil Hare 100%,
18th District Colleen Callahan

Illinois Senate

38th District Steve Stout,
44th District No Endorsement,
50th District John Devine,
51st District Jeffery Hurst,
53rd District No Endorsement,
54th District Henry Kijonka

Illinois House of Representatives

75th District Careen Gordon,
76th District Frank Mautino 86%,
79th District Lisa Dugan 78%,
91st District Michael Smith 97%,
92nd District Jehan Gordon,
98th District Gary Hannig 92%,
101st District Robert Flider 82%,
102nd District No Endorsement,
103rd District Naomi Jakobsson 92%,
104th District Lori DeYoung,
105th District No Endorsement,
106th District Tom Shrier (UAW Local
2488 Member)



Vote
November
4th



I WANT YOU
To VOTE

UAW Local 2488 Union Spirit Policy

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of UAW Local 2488 or its Communications Committee. Articles and items submitted to the Communications Committee become the property of this committee. Submissions should be limited to 500 words or less and be computer ready. All submissions must be received by the Tuesday following the monthly membership meeting to be considered for publication in the next edition. All submissions must be signed, must contain your group name and a telephone extension where you may be reached. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject any material submitted. Any use of materials appearing in our publication is prohibited, except with the written consent of the Chairperson of the Communications Committee.

Replies

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Workers Compensation Attorneys

From Katz, Friedman, Eagle, Eisenstein, Johnson and Bareck will be at the Union Center on the following dates to answer Workers Compensation questions.

Richard Johnson

Wednesday, November 5 & 19, 2008
10:00am—5:00pm

Phil Bareck & Chris Mose

Call for an appointment

Downstate Injury Hotline:
1-800-444-1525

Recapitulation as of September 30, 2008

Income	86,069.52
Expenditure	<u>92,367.65</u>
Excess of Income over Expense	-6,298.13
Regular Dues received	1353
Per Capita Taxes	
International Union, UAW	45,558.29
IL State CAP Council—Region	2,939.24
Transnational Council	79.66
IPS Steel Council	21.50
IPS Council Pooled Arb. Fund	39.63
Retirees Council (Ret. Dues)	<u>23.40</u>
Total	48,661.72

Thomas Shrier, Financial Secretary
A more detailed financial report is available at the Membership Meetings.

Sign Up for Email Updates

The Local provides information via email updates. Currently we have over 800 members who have signed up for this great communication tool and we will continue to use this great tool. If you are not already on our mailing list, you can sign up very easily.

To sign up everyone must re-submit their email address to the Local. This can be done two ways:

- 1) go to the website www.uaw2488.org
- 2) click on the “**Sign Up**” link to fill out the information; or
- 3) contact the Union Center and give us your email information.