



UAW LOCAL 2488

Union Spirit

Mitsubishi Unit-Premier Unit– Interlake Unit

Volume 20, Issue 5

Newsletter Date: June/July 2009

Local Election Results

The following list is the result of the recent election held for all UAW 2488 Elected Offices. They will officially take office on June 17, 2009

Thank You!

Retirees Who
Worked The
Local Election:

Philip Beck

Dave Bevans

Barb Gardner

Frank Harrold

Gene LeGrand

Jon Meline

Brenda Morgan

Romeldie Rogers

Diana Ware

General Offices/Executive Board

President:	Ralph Timan
Vice President:	Don Shelby
Recording Secretary:	Mark Sherman
Financial Secretary:	Jerry Harcharik
Trustees:	Kevin Beard Kelli Harrison Kathy Noble
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Ron Dixon
Guide:	Scott Golden
CAP Delegates	Kelli Harrison Jerry Harcharik Marty Whitley Bob Thompson
ST Delegate(General)	Ken Hutchinson
ST Delegate(Tool/Die)	Denny Chenoweth

MMNA Bargaining Committee

Bargaining Chair:	Pat Renken
District "A":	Bob Thompson
District "B":	Ron Plesko
District "C":	Marty Whitley
Maintenance:	Mike Cappellin

Retirees Chapter

Chairperson	Sam James
Vice Chair.	Dave Bevan
Rec. Secretary	Russ Meinke
Treasurer	Joe Terry

Premier Bargaining Committee

Bargaining Chair:	Bill Raleigh
Committeeperson	Dee Dunkin
1st shift Steward	Jose Cabrera
2nd shift Steward	Rickie E. Virden

MMNA Coordinators

SB/Subs/Conv.	Mike Young
FE/Underbody	Gary R. Fern
St N&S	Piet Stoutenborough
BodyKD/DWeld	Matt Loete
TL/VTL	Mauri Jones
FasPaint/Seq	Mike Dulaney
Sealer/ED Sand	Gary Bougham
TCI/RC/Surfacers	Derek Bernadini
TC/BOSS	Jerry Arnold
C1,C3,C7	Kyle Young
C5,C6	Stephan Volz
F1,F2,F4	Ferd Gardner
F5,F6	Barry Evans
CC1,CC2	Bill Fallat
MHT,MHC,	
QC TP,PCL	Thomas McCormick
Pts. Rec.	Michael Carl
3rd/All Groups	J.D. Klunick
T1,T3	Roger Goodwin
T5	Ron Dixon
T6,T7	Scott Klaus
T9	Lorrie Wheat

MMNA Maintenance

1st Paint,Utilities,	
T/F,Tool Control	James E. Stubbs
2ndPaint,Utilities,	
T/F,Tool Control	Steve Hannel
3rd Paint,Utilities,	
T/F,Tool Control	Mark D. Painter
3rd DieMaint,Press/ Plastics/Body	Dave Laukhuf



Happy 4th

Of July!

Have a Safe

and Happy

Shutdown!



Chairman's Report by Fred Morissette

I would like to thank the entire membership for the opportunity of representing you as Bargaining Chairman for the past three years. As we all know, the past five years have been extremely difficult ones for MMNA. This in turn has caused us to endure hardship as well. Mitsubishi was hit by the economic crisis at a time when they were already suffering from their own financial problems. MMNA is in a grave dilemma. The reality is, we have only built 5,197 vehicles in the first half of 2009, in a plant that could have produced 122,000 vehi-

cles in that same time period. It is human nature and our faith to hope for the best. However we, as individuals and as a local, should certainly be preparing for what we might feel is the worst. We have all given MMNA years of quality service and our actions have shown our commitment to this company. I expect them to show us nothing less than the same respect and commitment.

I would also like to thank Jim Tarr for the invaluable assistance he has given to the local for the past 18 years as Maintenance Committeeman. Jim has such a vast amount of knowledge, due to his involvement

in the last seven contracts, and has proven to be an immeasurable benefit to this entire membership.

There will be a one-week transition before shutdown, after which I will be returning to my home group of outer panel. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know. My cell number will not change, however I may not be able to answer my phone during working hours.

Thanks again for giving me the opportunity to serve you, and I will see you on the floor.

Yours in Solidarity,
Fred Morissette

Chairman-Elect Report By: Pat Renken

I am sure many of you are glad elections are over. I would like to thank those that voted for me for their support and special thanks for those that helped me behind the scenes and at the gate. I am looking forward to working with the newly elected Bargaining Committee and the newly elected officials on the E-board. I am sure with the challenging times ahead, we will get through them and do what is right for this membership.

I would like to thank Fred Morissette for his past 6 years of service to this membership, John Martin and Dave Turner for their years of service, and Keith Durst for his years of service as a District Repre-

sentative and Bargaining Committee member. I would like to especially thank Jim Tarr, the Maintenance Bargaining Committeeman, for his years of service for Local 2488. He is the only elected Representative that has had the experience of working with five different Chairmen from this local. His work establishing the apprenticeship program, Toys for Tots, his bargaining skills, his time, dedication and patience are greatly appreciated and his experience will truly be missed.

In my future reports I will be addressing the issues as they arise. I will discuss production numbers, membership on-roll numbers, and give updates on the grievance procedure. As for the immediate goals, I plan on meeting with the Bargain-

ing Committee, appointed Reps and coordinators to see what I can do to help them and support them. I would like to find out what their ideas, suggestions and goals are for the future.

When you see me on the floor, if you have any questions or need to talk to me, call me over. If it is not convenient at that time, then we can set a time to meet and talk.

I have also established an email account and that is; uaw2488chairman@yahoo.com, if you would like to get a hold of me.

As for now, thank you once again for your support.

First, I want to thank all the members who supported my recent bid for re-election. It is a tremendous honor to serve as your President and I look forward to working with our newly elected local leadership. My number one goal is to continue working in a cooperative spirit to achieve the best for our members with all of our officers. There is much to do going forward as we have many new leaders in place and the local continues to adjust in an ever-changing environment of the auto industry.

I want to thank the outgoing officers for years of service, hard work and commitment to our membership: Keith Durst, Ken Hutchison, John Martin, Dave Mix, Tom Shrier, Jim Tarr and Dave Turner.

On a personal note I want to thank Chairman Fred Morissette for his hard work, dedication and friendship over the years we have worked together. Fred is always thinking about the membership and truly took the members best interests to heart. To retiring head trustee Kathy Brownfield, who has recently moved to be closer to family. "Thank you for your time, service and dedication to our members. I will miss your friendship, counsel and straightforward open honesty."

In the coming months we will be making some changes in the way the union center operates including adjusting the hours of operations and posting in advance the officer who will be responsible for keeping the hall open during those hours. This should make it easier for members to know when the hall is open and who is responsible for keeping the doors open during that time.

This change will not affect my availability to you at the union center but it will allow me to be a bit more flexible in where I spend my time, whether it is

President's Report By Ralph Timan

at the plant, at the hall or where needed. I expect these changes to take place by August, once the new officers get up to speed and we discuss what works best for all.

We are still dealing with a number of issues because of the fall-out from the Interlake bankruptcy. The latest is the loss of COBRA benefits for these mem-



Future Union Member with Grandpa participating in the democratic process.

bers. Because of the bankruptcy, Interlake was not bound to the federal law that requires the employer to make available the temporary continuation of health coverage at group rates for its employees for a period of 18 months. They have recently notified members that effective June 30th they would be terminating the plan. We are now searching to see what other options might be available for them.

Additionally, we are still awaiting word on a settlement of the outstanding issues from the collective bargaining agreement. An agreed upon settlement between the union and Interlake was filed in the courts earlier this month and we are now waiting for the court to approve

this deal on the next court date in July. If approved, this would resolve any outstanding issues as related to the CBA at Interlake.

Also, in Pontiac on June 20th we joined our brothers and sisters at UAW local 2096 for a Solidarity Rally for all the workers in the Pontiac area who have recently lost their jobs. Caterpillar has laid-off hundreds of its workers over the past few months and the Interlake bankruptcy has really hit this community. The event will include a representative from the AFL-CIO who will have information on helping dislocated workers along with food and drink. Join us in supporting these workers who have been affected by this economy.

The local bylaws ask us following the Election cycle to reappoint our Standing Committees. We are now in the process of taking applications for members who want to serve on local standing committees. Our standing committees do a lot of great work and we need your help to continue this tradition forward. As a reminder, all current Standing Committee members must re-apply to be placed on a standing committee.

Finally, I want thank the election committee for all of their hard work and efforts. Each election always seems to have its challenges to deal with and this one was no exception. I want to thank the leadership of Roosevelt Goff, Sylvia Cooper and Linda Hickey of the election committee for handling the elections with the proper oversight and conducting all aspects of the process with professionalism. Let's not forget the retirees who helped with this election and to thank them for their volunteerism as well. It was a job well done by all.

UAW LOCAL 2488

UAW Local 2488
10226 East 1400 North Road
Bloomington, Illinois 61705

Phone: 309-828-2880
Fax: 309-829-2128
E-mail: UAW2488Mail@A5.com

Contact Us

Editor: Linda Hickey

Postal Address

Union Spirit/
Attention Editor
10226 E. 1400 N. Road
Bloomington, IL 61705

E-mail

uaw2488spirit@yahoo.com

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Workers Compensation Attorneys

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

Richard Johnson

Wednesday July 15, 2009 10:00am—5:00pm

Phil Bareck & Chris Mose Call for an appointment

Downstate Injury Hotline: 1-800-444-1525

Recapitulation as of

April 30, 2009

Regular Dues received	1,194
Income	64,981.09
Expenditures	70,334.70
Excess of Income Over Expense	-5,353.61
Per Capita Taxes	
International Union, UAW	34,493.96
IL State CAP Council - Region 4	2,225.38
Transnational Council	68.53
Retiree Council	257.40
Total	37,045.27

Thomas Shrier, Financial Secretary

A more detailed financial report is available at the Membership meetings.

Monthly MMNA Benefits Report

Rate Changes For Those With Voluntary Term Life Policies. Prudential has notified MMNA that they are going to raise the rates on those of us who purchase voluntary term life. The rate changes will go into effect starting in July. The average change will be approximately 11.7%.

Members could be well served to contact their insurance companies where they purchase homeowners and car insurance policies or research many other companies who offer term life policies. If a member, spouse and their dependents are in pretty good health you may find that you can get much better rates than the current rates being offered by Prudential. You can also purchase policies that lock in rates for 10 years, 15 years and even 20 years and beyond. Under the current voluntary term life policy purchased through Prudential, their rates increase much more often. I would not suggest canceling your current policy until you have a new policy estab-

lished. Shop around. During these hard times it makes sense to look for the best place where we can get the most for ourselves and for our families. **Schedule Change For On-Site BC/BS Representative.** We have been notified of a schedule change for the BC/BS Representative who comes on site the second Tuesday of each month. The new schedule will have a BC/BS rep coming to the plant on June 10th, August 12th, October 14th and December 9th. This schedule will be reviewed. If it appears additional changes are needed, that will be discussed. For the month of April, 26 medical and dental insurance claims were resolved through the UAW Benefits office resulting in additional payments of \$18,878.83. This brings the total for the year to 139 claims totaling payments of \$110,473.16.

If you have any questions I can be reached at: **Gary Nichols 888- 8015.**