



# Local 592 Tribune

Dedicated to Working People Everywhere

Mike Bagley, Chair Education Committee  
Tim Mills & Manuel Guerra, Editors

www.uaw592.com

May 2006

## Jobs Campaigners Say “Mayor Morrissey, Please Help Stop The Clock On Hamilton Sundstrand Plant Closure.”



Photo by Dick Nash

L-R Mayor Larry Morrissey, Pat Hickey, and Tim Mills

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At a special meeting held in the Retirees' Room at the UAW Hall on May 9, Jobs Campaign activists delivered two proposals to Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey which called upon him to enlist the city's legal department:

File for an injunction to stop Hamilton Sundstrand from moving any more machinery and equipment from the Rockford plants;

Invoke the principle of eminent domain to find another employer for Hamilton-Sundstrand's Rockford-based operations.

The serious gathering entailed a lengthy discussion, during which time Jobs Campaign Chair Tim Mills empha-

sized the urgency of the situation to Mayor Morrissey. "Emptying of the Rockford manufacturing unit at Plant 1 has begun. Don't forget about the actuation assembly & test at Plant 6, which is also slated to be shipped to Singapore. We need decision makers in government to make a stand. There is no time to lose," he explained.

Mayor Morrissey stated that the city had insufficient legal grounds to pursue either of the two proposals. However, he committed to looking into any tax abatements currently enjoyed by Hamilton Sundstrand. Morrissey agreed to cooperate with action taken at the Federal level (i.e., the United States House of Representatives and the Senate), and would try to set up meetings for that purpose.

# President's Report

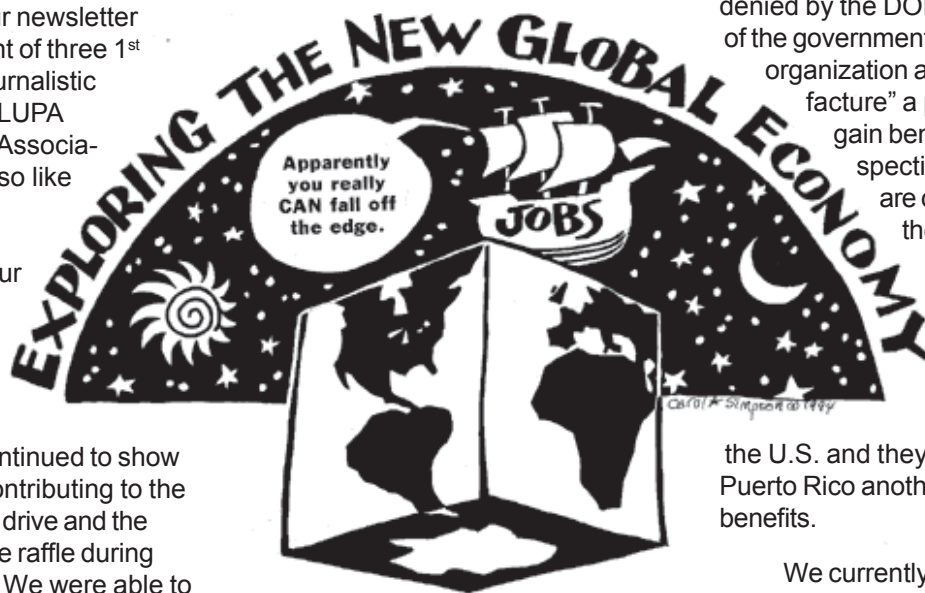
Hello, brothers and sisters. It has been a few months since we have printed a newsletter and this one is long overdue. I'd like to thank Bruce Bade for all the hard work and dedication that he has shown during his tenure as Local 592 Editor as well as Tim Mills and Manuel Guerra for stepping up and agreeing to take over as newsletter Editors in Bruce's absence. Under Bruce's leadership as Editor we saw our newsletter become the recipient of three 1<sup>st</sup> place awards for Journalistic Excellence through LUPA (Local Union Press Association) last year. I'd also like to congratulate Bob Collins and Denise Seaman as two of our most newly elected shop stewards.

Since our last newsletter our membership has continued to show its giving spirit by contributing to the Anchor-Harvey food drive and the Women's Committee raffle during the holiday season. We were able to deliver nearly a full pick-up truck full of food to the locked out employees at Anchor-Harvey with one Brother purchasing over \$100 of groceries to donate to the cause. The Women's Committee, during their raffle, collected over \$1400 with half of the money being paid out in the raffle and the other \$700 going towards food gift certificates to our own laid-off brothers and sisters. Each laid-off member whose benefits had expired was able to receive \$50 towards groceries during the holidays.

Unfortunately, the last few months have been both challenging and disappointing. We failed to gain Trade Adjustment Act (TAA) Benefits for our laid-off brothers and sisters in Overhaul and Rockford Electronics. We were unable to negotiate an

acceptable Impact Bargaining Agreement for the Rockford Manufacturing and Actuation Enterprise relocation.

We had to file Labor Board charges against the company for management's failure to allow your Vice President, Mike Roth, access to the plants while off of work on a Worker's Compensation-related injury. The Bargaining Committee feels



strongly that Mike Roth is being discriminated against by management because of his union involvement and we are confident the Labor Board charges will be upheld. This is clearly nothing more than a capricious and vindictive act by management in an attempt to hinder our ability to represent our membership. We will not stand for it.

Evidenced by its conduct during the recent impact bargaining talks, management has again failed to show our membership the respect that it deserves. The company made no effort to gain an agreement that would lessen the impact on our members who will be laid-off due to corporate greed and the relocation of work to Singapore. Impact Bargaining is supposed to lessen the impact of the affected employees, not

make it greater. Your Bargaining Committee made a commitment to not accept concessions during these negotiations. On the other hand, management so arrogantly sought takeaways, with little or no value offered in benefits for our members.

There were two reasons given to us by the Department of Labor for the denial of TAA benefits. Overhaul was denied by the DOL because in the eyes of the government Overhaul is a service organization and does not "manufacture" a product. We tried to gain benefits from the perspective that our products are overhauled and therefore are a "remanufactured" item but that argument did not hold up with the DOL. REL was denied because none of the work left the U.S. and they don't consider Puerto Rico another country for TAA benefits.

We currently have 79 brothers and sisters involuntarily laid-off and another 19 on inverse voluntary lay-off. Your Bargaining Committee will continue to work at bringing those brothers and sisters back through whatever means are available.

We also recently concluded arbitrating management's decision to implement "kitting" at their Supplier Logistics Center. We feel strongly that kitting was proposed and withdrawn by management during negotiations and that they are merely trying to gain through arbitration that which they could not gain through negotiations and a six-week lockout. We feel confident that the arbitrator will make the proper award and anxiously await his decision.

In Solidarity,  
Ted Dever

# Pension inquiries on the up tick

## Pension Report

With all of the areas being moved out and people losing their jobs, there have been a lot of pension questions. Hopefully, I'll be able to answer them.

There are 3 ways to retire:

- \* You have thirty years of service; or,
- \*\* your age and years of service add up to 85 points; or,
- \*\*\* you are 60 years old and have 10 years of service.

Those are your choices.

With thirty-and-out, you get the full pension \$2100, minus taxes and J&S (Joint and Survivor Benefits). J&S benefits are what your spouse would get, should you pass away.

The 85 points option is calculated like this: 85 = yrs. of service multiplier;

then there is an add-on depending on your age.

The 60 and 10 retirement option calculation is figured like this: You must be at least 60 years old and have 10 years of service. Yrs. of service times the multiplier, then there is an add-on.

Both the 85 points and the 60 & 10 are calculated using your age, but use different add-on values.

Confused? Don't be. I can figure it out for you. All I need is your start date, birthday, spouse's birthday and the date that you would like to retire. I can come within a few dollars.

Your health insurance is no longer

deducted from your pension check! You must send it in. The insurance plans offered to people retiring are ECOH if you are enrolled in this plan, or CIGNA plan, which is also known as the Sundstrand Plan.

Persons retiring are no longer being allowed to continue on with an HMO option if they are enrolled in one when they retire. If you plan on moving out of the ECOH coverage area, you must take the CIGNA Plan.

Any insurance questions can be fielded by our insurance chair – Mike Rourke.

Fraternally,  
Denise Seaman  
Pension Chair

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# Stinkers of the Month

We are reintroducing the "**STINKER OF THE MONTH**" because of the company's unwillingness to negotiate anything for our members in Impact Bargaining.

There were too many "**STINKERS**" to choose from, so we decided that this month it would be the company's Labor Relations Impact Bargaining team. (Mike Bogue, Renee Anthony, Amanda Shank, Darrel Utech, Doug Hartman, and Jennifer Sutherland). Their inability to work out any reasonable package to help our members, in their time of need, is "**JUST CAUSE**" for this award.

Congratulations

**YOU STINK!!!!!!!**



# Bargaining Committee Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The last few months have been a trying time for our Local. It is nice to see our members sticking together through the extremely rough time that the Company has imposed on us. The Company has continually tried to break this Local by NOT wanting to bargain for extra benefits for those impacted by their decision to move work out of Rockford. You have shown that we WILL stick together and NOT give up what our Local has worked so hard to keep over the last 60 years.

Currently we have five 3<sup>rd</sup> step grievances which were to be presented to management as of April 24<sup>th</sup>. The grievances are:

Unjust and too severe punishment.

Not following the recognition awards program.

Non-bargaining unit people doing bargaining unit work.

Not following the overtime list.

Excessive overtime during a period of reduction of the workforce.

These are just examples of the Company showing their arrogance of not wanting to follow our contract. We will do everything in our power to stop these blatant actions of the Company. It is everyone's responsibility to report any and all contract violations to your steward so we can protect our rights.

The Local has one grievance that we have slated for arbitration over "unjust and too severe" punishment of a fifty-year employee. We received a second list of arbitrators and are waiting to strike names with the Company so we can get a date set to arbitrate this case, and get this brother back to work.

During the REL (Rockford Electronics) relocation of work, the Company laid off some of our Electrical Test people out of line of seniority. Those people have applied for a Leveling

Week Benefit through the S.U.B. (Supplemental Unemployment Benefit) document. It is now in the appeals process to try and get those people the benefits they deserve under the S.U.B. plan. The Company contends that it did nothing wrong in that situation. The Bargaining Committee, past and present, has ALWAYS said that the Company must lay off in line of seniority. During the months ahead, we need to keep a close eye on how the Company decides to lay off our members. Let your Bargaining Committee know if there is a problem.

The Bargaining Committee would like to thank the Jobs Campaign Committee for the hard work and dedication to keep good-paying jobs in Rockford. If you have any ideas on how to help, please show up at the UAW Hall on Monday afternoons at 4:30, in the Retirees' Room.

In Solidarity,  
Mike Roth  
Vice President

## Note to 592 Retirees

As usual, you are invited to attend our get-together on the third Wednesday of each month at the UAW Hall. We have made some changes in the agenda:

12 Noon Pot Luck

12:45 PM Monthly Meeting

Please note that we are beginning our regular monthly meeting 15 minutes earlier.

Hope to see you there!

Fraternally yours,  
Dean Johnson  
Retirees' Chapter Chair

## Unit 2 Report

Sisters and Brothers,

Thanks to Bill Penn and the Committee, we now have a contract with Textron that includes back pay to all Bargaining Unit employees.

We will be meeting with a prospective buyer in the next few weeks. Maybe then we will know what our future holds for us. We will try to keep everyone posted.

Sincerely,  
Craig Rice  
Vice Chair

## UAW REGION 4 GOLF SCRAMBLE

HOSTED BY DENNIS WILLIAMS & UAW LOCAL 974  
AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>  
COYOTE CREEK GOLF COURSE  
8201 W. LANCASTER ROAD.  
BARTONVILLE, IL  
PROCEEDS GO TO REGION 4 VETERANS' COMMITTEE  
\$75 ENTRY FEE  
CHECK-IN FROM 8:30 – 9:45 SHOT-GUN START @ 10:00  
ENTRY FEE INCLUDES GOLF, CART, PRIZES, SKINS, DINNER, REFRESHMENTS  
GOLF RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JULY 7, 2006  
CONTACT LOCAL 592 UAW HALL FOR SIGN-UPSHEETS  
CALL 962-0600

# 2006 Elections

It was my privilege to attend the Region 4 UAW Illinois State CAP/PAC Conference in Springfield, IL April 3-5. The conference gave great insight as to what Union workers are facing in Illinois and across the country. We have an excellent opportunity this year to depose complacent politicians who are up for re-election in 2006. A grassroots effort is needed to elect pro-worker candidates. We are looking for people who are willing to have campaign signs placed in their yards and volunteers to work for the candidates who will work for us!

**Dan Lewandowski** (Dem candidate 34<sup>th</sup> Dist. IL Senate vs Dave Syverson) wants to bring back our fair share of state tax dollars for important projects that will create jobs and improve our quality of life. >Work with local companies to ensure they stay here and not move out of state or overseas. >>Foster a spirit of teamwork between Democratic and Republican officials. >>>Realizes the importance of quality education for all children and the need for affordable healthcare. (Endorsed by UAW)

**Greg Tuite** (Dem candidate 69<sup>th</sup> Dist. IL House vs Ron Wait) believes that elected officials should be available to listen to the concerns of residents and will hold regular meetings so he can bring the citizens' concern to Springfield. >That good government consists of people who are willing to work together for the benefit of the people. He believes that too much time is wasted in partisan battles instead of working together to find solutions to the issues facing our communities. >>That the key to economic growth is to provide our children with an education that prepares them to compete in a rapidly changing workplace. He believes in fighting for our fair share of educational funding. (Endorsed by UAW)

**Richard Auman** (Dem candidate 16<sup>th</sup> Dist. U.S. House of Representatives vs Don Manzullo) believes that the people

are not red or blue; they all want the best for their families and their country. Our country has been hijacked by ideologues and big money. >Is deeply concerned about the future of democracy in America, the security of our nation, and by the conditions in Iraq and here at home. >>Believes that the policy failure in Iraq has deprived Americans of the resources needed to improve education, to improve our transportation infrastructure, to improve access to health care and to improve our economic and our national security. (Endorsed by UAW)

**Dave Syverson** (Repub/Incumbent 34<sup>th</sup> Dist. IL Senate vs Dan Lewandowski) has a lifetime voting record of a paltry 38%. >Originally voted "NO" in March 2003 for SB1994 granting unemployment benefits for locked out workers. He did not vote at all on the bill when it passed in May 2005.

**Ron Wait** (Repub/Incumbent 69<sup>th</sup> Dist. IL House vs Greg Tuite) has a meager 53% lifetime UAW voting record. >Voted "NO" on granting unemployment benefits for locked out workers.

**Don Manzullo** (Repub/Incumbent 16<sup>th</sup> Dist. U.S. House of Representatives vs Richard Auman) voted with President 82% of the time. >Voted the GOP party line 94% of the time. >>Voted to weaken House ethics rules when DeLay proposed doing so as GOP Majority Leader. >>>Voted with Tom DeLay 91% of the time. >>>>Voted for several trade agreements including NAFTA and CAFTA. >>>>>Voted to grant China Permanent Normal Trade Relations.

If you would like to help out in the upcoming elections, please page me at Plant 6.

Julie Leindecker, Co-chair  
Community Action Program





**Local 592**  
Women's Committee

**Fund-Raise**

# MOONLIGHT BOWLING

## WHAT IS IT ?



The Inspiration for Hope Foundation is dedicated to providing women and children meeting the challenge of breast cancer or alopecia areata with the self-confidence and esteem-building prosthesis and wigs. Free of charge for those who qualify.

## WHEN ?

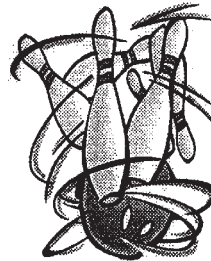
June 3rd, 2006  
6:30 check-in (7:00 p.m. start)

Prizes

50/50  
Drawing

## WHO ?

Anyone that wants to have FUN & help raise money for the Inspiration for Hope Foundation.



## WHERE ?

DON CARTER LANES  
4007 EAST STATE STREET,  
ROCKFORD, IL 61108

## HOW MUCH ?

\$ 30.00 / couple

**Includes Everything: Bowling, Shoe Rental & Prizes.**

For additional info and/or tickets contact:

Plant 6: Bonnie Cannegieter 226-6030 or 218-8450  
Plant 6: Kristie Bader 226-6913 or 978-3533  
Plant 1: Doreen Yates 966-8386

**All ticket \$\$\$ due by May 27th.**

**Why? On the 30th the Committee is required to let the bowling center know how many lanes to reserve for our group.**



**Local 592**  
**Tribune**

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