

# Amalgamated

Local 1524



Union Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each Month



600 Wabanaki Dr.  
Kitchener, ON  
N2C 2K4  
519-893-7484  
FAX - 519-893-8673

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF DANA CORPORATION**  
***WELCOME TO LOCAL 1524!***

**CAW DANA MOUNT FOREST BARGAINING COMMITTEE**



Back Row: Jerry Dias - Assistant to CAW President, Bill Littlechild, Doug McArthur, Jim Woods - CAW National Rep, Steve Farkas - CAW Kitchener Area Director  
Front Row: Tim Mitchell - Local 1524 President, Kent Reay, Michael Cooper, Randy Parsons

## DANA RATIFIES FIRST AGREEMENT



**TIM MITCHELL**  
**PRESIDENT**

I am very excited to announce that our newest unit Dana Manufacturing in Mount Forest ratified their first collective agreement by 67 percent on March 28th. This group of workers certified last fall under a neutrality agreement with the corporation. Over the last couple of years they saw no wage increases, the removal of paid holidays at Christmas and the company had intended to introduce a 10 percent premium on the benefit package. We were able to get an agreement that provided wage increases in all three years of the agreement as well as reinstating the paid time off over Christmas. The 10 percent premium will not be implemented and we were able to secure a work commitment letter that prohibits the Company from moving work to other facilities during the life of the agreement.

We also ratified two other agreements at the end of January. Ultra Metal, which manufactures hydraulic cylinders, ratified a two year agreement

that provided language improvements and wage increases in both years. Ventra Plastics, that provides injection molding for the auto industry agreed to a three year deal that saw wage and benefit improvements in all three years. We were also able to secure a letter that provided commitments on existing business, as well as commitments on future programs that will go into the Kitchener plant that also provides for a 20,000 square foot expansion to the facility. Next up this month is PJ Wallbank and Bauer in August.

I would like to thank all of you that gave your time to come to the aid of the Ledco workers during the occupation of the plant and also on the picket line. Without your efforts their plight would have been a foot note on the last page of the Local paper. Unfortunately sometimes when you take drastic action the results we are hoping for aren't immediately realized. The workers to date have received all outstanding wages and vaca-

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Supporters at Ledco.  
Approximately 200 in attendance!

## LEDCO FACTS

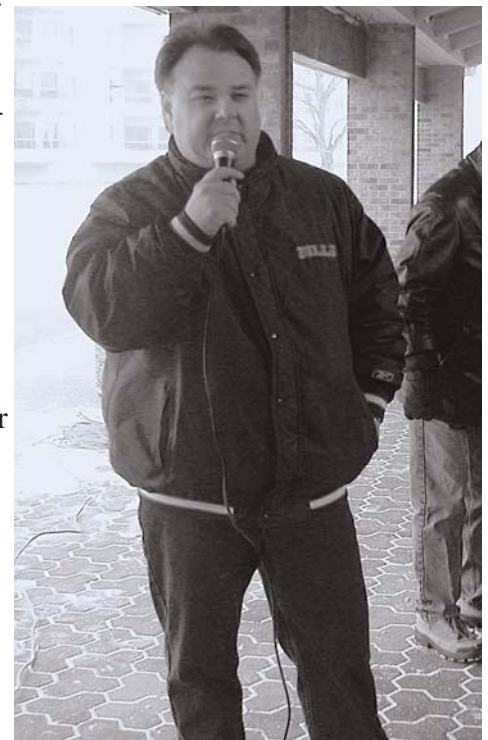
tion pay owed to them. However, it appears severance pay at this point would seem unlikely. The matter is currently before the courts where the CAW Legal Department is making representation on behalf of the workers.

I want to take this opportunity to walk through the events at Ledco as the reportings on the events were less than accurate. In early December 2007, we were approached by senior management of a company called Canadian Bank Note. Bank Note is also owned by Doug Ahrends who owned Ledco. They informed us that the long standing President of Ledco had resigned and that the company required a 25 percent wage cut to remain in operation. We requested asset and liability information. None was ever provided. They told us they required an immediate cash infusion of two million dollars as the bank was calling in their operating line of 1.5 million. Subsequent meetings resulted in escalating concessionary demands at which point we asked if they had applied for bankruptcy protection. They told us they hadn't put their mind to it. Application for protection would have allowed us to see the balance sheet as we have standing on behalf of the workers. We asked the company what the workers would get in return for the cuts and they told us they would remain in business for as long as they can on a week to week basis. Clearly that was unacceptable as the cuts amounted to about \$10,000 per week or half a million per year and that fell well short of their stated need. The workers were ultimately terminated via a notice posted ten minutes before the end of their shift on January 23/08 and the next day the company declared bankruptcy. We occupied the plant in effort to gain wages, vacation pay and severance

owed. The assets and liabilities were reported in bankruptcy court the following week. They owed 17.7 million with assets of 7 million. That is a huge debt for a small company. It should be noted that Ledco made money up until 2005. Doug Ahrends was a minority share holder in Canadian Bank Note which was a publicly traded company at that time. He came up with 23 million in 2005 to buy it and take it private. I'll let you draw your own conclusions as to where he got the money. This information can be verified via the internet for those of you so inclined. He is also the primary creditor under a numbered company.

The most appalling part about the events at Ledco is the silence of the Harper government. They have the power to change the bankruptcy laws so workers can get their severance when employers declare bankruptcy. They have the power to adopt an economic policy that benefits all sectors not just our natural resources. Harold Albrecht conservative MP has a constituency office less than a kilometer from Ledco and the Kitchener Frame plant (that has announced closure), yet he has made not one comment regarding his concern for the workers in his riding. Jim Flarety has stated that Ontario is soon to become a Province of have nots. Last time I checked Ontario was part of Canada and its manufacturing sector an economic driver. This from the leaders of our country, clearly we need an election.

Thanks  
to all those  
who  
contributed  
their time to  
support  
the  
Ledco  
workers!



Tim speaks at Ledco Rally outside MP Harold Albrecht's Office

**ACTION CENTRE IS RELOCATING**



**PAUL  
ROEDER**

**1ST VICE  
PRESIDENT**

Magnets that read

**OUT OF A JOB YET?  
KEEP BUYING FOREIGN**

are still available at the union office.

Display one on your vehicle.

Canadians should buy what we make to help

**SAVE OUR JOBS!**

It is hard to believe that spring is here with all this snow still on the ground. Bring on the warmer weather and let's see some green grass. I know that everyone over at MTD is cheering the record snowfall we received this winter, as I heard that all the stores were sold out of snow blowers. Let's hope this leads to some extra work at MTD this summer.

I want to thank everyone that came out to support the workers at Ledco during the plant take over. It is so unfortunate that corporations can do this to hard working families. There is legislation in the works to put workers at the top of the list of who gets paid when corporations go bankrupt. It would be nice if our politicians were willing to stand up for the working families in Ontario. We are continuing to fight for the workers at Ledco through the bankruptcy procedure.

The Action Center which is now located at the Union Hall, is in the process of being relocated to a larger facility. They have experienced several difficulties in trying to work out of the trailer and I give all the helpers a big thank you for their patience. Before you go, I suggest you call ahead to get directions to the new facility. The phone number for the Action Center is 519-893-1115. The Action Center is open to everyone at Lear and Ledco to offer support when you are laid off or you feel you might be getting laid off. People that are off work because of the axle strike can come down and use the services that are available. I would like to welcome Sherry Landry to her new position. She will be assisting Karen Quantz with her duties.

There are plans in the works for another Manufacturing Matters campaign this summer. There is a meeting in early May, and as information becomes available we will pass it along to everyone in the Local. Everyone needs to try to participate in this campaign. We may be asking for one or two hours of your time this summer, as this is about our jobs and our future. We need members to become more active and vocal in this campaign, numbers do make a difference.

This summer our Local will be riding the big bike for Heart and Stroke down by Zeke's Restaurant. If you are interested in helping to raise money, and want to have fun with your fellow co-workers sign up down at the hall. The bike ride is slated for June 2, 2008.

*Have a great summer!*



Paul stalling the trucks from entering the Ledco Plant

## MANUFACTURING MATTERS CAMPAIGN - PHASE 2

The next critical phase of our Manufacturing Matters Campaign will be launched with a series of campaign schools. The CAW Kitchener Area Office date is for May 3, 2008 starting at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. Carol Phillips - Assistant to the President and Dave Robertson from the Education Department will facilitate the day-long workshop which is designed for local leadership, activists and rank and file members who are interested in taking on this next phase of the campaign. The session will update participants on our successes to date, the challenges before us and the goals of our campaign from here. Afternoon workshops will focus on practical applications of campaigning, such as lobbying, working with the media, communications and creative activism.

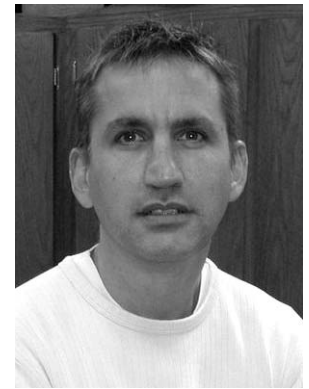
We had a tremendous amount of media coverage on our first phase of the Manufacturing Matters Campaign and National media attention with the closure of Ledco. We need to keep this campaign front and center in the media in order for our politicians to make changes. Changes that are long over due. I urge all of our active members to take part in the Campaign School on May 3, 2008. Phone the local union office to register, 519-893-7484 by April 18, 2008.

Members of CAW Local 414 working at the Sysco warehouse in Peterborough were locked out on Friday March 28/08. Scabs were bused into the warehouse and the Bargaining Committee refused to negotiate with the company while scabs were working in the plant. The main issue being seniority. A call for picket line support went out and like clockwork our Flying Squad

was there to support the Sysco workers. An emergency meeting was held in Woodstock on April 1 to discuss a plan of action. The CAW would shut down all of Sysco's operations by picketing their warehouses on Thursday April 3/08 for the unfair practice in bargaining. The company got wind of our action, withdrew the scabs from the plant, went back to the bargaining table, reached a tentative agreement and ratified that agreement by the afternoon on Wednesday, April 2/08. Talk about action! The new agreement includes a \$1.80 wage improvement over the three year term. Improvement to RRSP plan, benefits and the new stat holiday Family Day and a drastically improved seniority system.

I would like to thank the Flying Squad for their participation in the Sysco Lock out. Their members were fairly green when it came to picket duty. They got a crash course and were appreciative of the learning experience.

*Great job Flying Squad*



**ROB  
PYNE**

**FINANCIAL  
SECRETARY**



"I told you not to hire scabs but you wouldn't listen, Henderson!"

## REPAYMENT OF EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS AT INCOME TAX TIME



**JOHN  
WILLCOCKS**

**LEAR  
EAP/WSIB  
BENEFITS REP**

### When do Repayments Apply?

Whatever the type of benefits you receive, EI payments are taxable income, meaning federal and provincial taxes are deducted when you receive them.

At the time you file your income tax return, depending on your net income and if you were paid regular benefits, you may be required to repay some or all of the EI benefits you received. If your **2007 net income from all sources exceeds \$50,000**, you will be required repay **30% of the lesser** of:

- your net income in excess of \$50,000; or
- the total regular benefits, paid in the taxation year

### Exemption

You **do not** have to repay your EI benefits if:

- your 2007 net income is less than \$50,000; or
- you received less than 1 week of regular benefits in the preceding 10 taxation years or since June 30, 1996.
- you received special benefits, ie maternity, parental, sickness or compassionate care benefits. However, if you received a combination of regular and special benefits within the same tax year, you may still have to repay a percentage of the regular benefits you received.

If you received EI regular benefits that overlap 2 calendar years, you may qualify for the exemption in the 1st taxation year. However, in the following taxation year you would not qualify for the exemption as there would be more than 1 week of regular benefits paid in the preceding 10 years.

*In Solidarity.....John Willcocks*



**If you are a Lear laid-off employee please remember to submit your EI stubs within 60 days of issue to qualify for SUB payments. If you have direct deposit and require instructions on how to get your EI stubs off the computer, please call me at 519-895-1600 ext 3340 and I will send you an instruction sheet. The EI inquiry telephone numbers are 1-800-206-7218 then press "0" or 1-800-531-7555 then press "0".**

## AXLE STRIKE - MORE LAY-OFFS

Unfortunately, Jr #3, Accubilt G, and P-28 are finally on their way to Mexico. This along with the strike at American Axle has resulted in us seeing additional layoffs over what was expected.

The American Axle strike is a double edged sword for Lear Kitchener. We are supporting the cause of the striking members of UAW Local 235. This is a fight that all manufacturing facilities are going to face. The corporations need to realize that cutting wages and benefits is not the answer. They have allowed the government to let foreign car makers enter our country, sell vehicles and not supply jobs or let us sell in their market. The corporations have lost a portion of the market which they feel can be made up by cutting wages, benefits and pensions from workers. This is not the answer, if people are working for half of their income who is going to buy these vehicles. It is a vicious cycle that will only end with us all losing.

There is a new enemy on the horizon and it is coming out of India. Tata Manufacturing has bought Jaguar and Land Rover from Ford. This new auto manufacturing corporation is getting ready to flood the world with a new \$2,500 car. This car is a 2 cylinder, with 33 horsepower and seating for 4 passengers. The economists are predicting this car will eclipse the VW bug in sales. Corporations like GM, Ford and even Toyota had better start lobbying the government for legislation to provide fair market practices before it is too late.

On the home front, we have laid-off over 100 employees due to the strike. The management team at Kitchener has also reduced their staff. We are down to less than 200 employees and into the 1987 seniority group for lay-offs. The

corporation has approached some of our skilled trades and set up personnel from department 33 to go to Mexico. They are having problems with technical support and need our knowledge on the day to day adjustments and tweaking. We have not sent anyone down as of yet. There are plans in place to retool drive block E and F in the near future.

We had a visit from Barbara Boroughf and her team. She is the Corporations Health and Safety Representative. She came to see some of our processes. There has been a hold put on the training for crane and tow. The company is trying to keep all expenditures low due to the fact we are making less product on the floor. There have been on going conversations about the medical center being relocated to the floor. The company has finally agreed to move it down so injured workers don't have to climb 3 flights of stairs for assistance. We will be taking your grievances to arbitration on April 21, 2008.

This has always been a long stretch from Christmas to Easter because of the lack of holidays. This is usually a slow period which adds to the tension. This year has been extremely unforgiving with lay-offs before and after Christmas. The memberships' moral is at an all time low and for good reason. This seniority group has never experienced the population to get this low in numbers. It's hard to walk around the plant and see the wide open spaces which equate into laid-off workers. The strike can't last forever and when it ends some of our Brother and Sisters will be back. There is a continuing effort to find new work for our facility. Finding is only half the battle, making it fit and profitable is the other. I am optimistic we will get through this troubled time and reap the rewards down the road.



**TONY  
MOXEY**

**LEAR  
CHAIRPERSON**

**Continuing  
efforts  
being  
made for  
New  
Business!**

## THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT



**FRED  
STEIN**

**LED  
CO  
PLANT CHAIR**

Reflection is a wonderful thing. Having lived an emotional roller coaster for the past few months and the fact that I am now unemployed has given me the opportunity to reflect. I first would like to commend my brothers and sisters at Ledco for standing tall when all hope of keeping our jobs became impossible. I know there are some out there who will still argue to their last breath that concessions would have saved our jobs, but that just is not the case. These people were unwilling to look at the facts surrounding the closure and also did not understand what it means to be represented by a National Union like the CAW.

I hold no ill feelings toward my work-mates who felt they were doing what was best for them. I do however hope that now as more information becomes public, that they understand that we never had a chance. We had one of the top negotiators, Jerry Dias, Assistant to CAW President, working on our behalf and even he was unable to get the com-

pany representatives to sway from their demands. I would like to thank Jerry for the sacrifice and commitment he made for us.

I would also like to thank Tim Mitchell for the support he gave us during some very arduous times. I also need to thank all the brothers and sisters from locals 1524 and 1451 who gave their time to help in whatever capacity was necessary. And to all the people who came from all over Ontario to support us, I would also like to say thanks.

I was invited to attend CAW council in Port Elgin on March 28. The Ledco bankruptcy is still a very hot topic among the top executive of the union. In Buzz's speech on Friday, he pledged to make our severance pay an issue during collective bargaining this fall with the big three. We can only hope that something positive comes from this.

**Keep fighting the good fight!!**



Fred giving thanks for the continual support!



Buzz Hargrove, CAW President, addresses picketers.

# ITS TIME TO MOVE ON

I am pleased to see many of my co-workers from Ledco have moved on. Yes, some are still going through the grieving process but working at the action centre, I am pleased see to the number of people signing up for resume' writing, skills training, interviewing and job search workshops. I am also pleased to report that many of you are finding new jobs. I do stress, for the members fortunate to still have a job, look towards your future and never take your work place for granted. My suggestion is to keep an updated resume', and constantly update your skills. If you are given the opportunity to take a course of any kind, maybe through work or your union it would be in your best interest.

A smart man once told me to take at least one course for every year of your life and you are never too old to learn.

This statement came from a man who after retiring went back to college and prepared his skill and knowledge base to achieve his goal of reaching the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. He sent me pictures from the top.

My wish to everyone is never lose your focus on life. Change is growth, so it can only be a good thing. Remember we are here at the Focus Action Centre to assist you, it is up to you to reach out.



**CONNIE HAMMER**

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT**



Jerry Dias, Assistant to the CAW President at Ledco Rally



Tim Mitchell, President of Local 1524 and Buzz Hargrove, CAW President

## GREAT LAWNMOWER SEASON



**MIKE  
CAMBLIN**

**MTD  
CHAIRPERSON**

I would like to  
*WELCOME*  
the members of  
Dana  
in Mount forest  
who voted  
to join our union  
and are now  
members of  
*Local 1524*

As I write this we are in the middle of a lawnmower season that has turned out to be a pretty good one. Everyone has been working very hard and our daily production numbers show it. Line 1 and 2 continue to make over rate just about everyday and while there is still some issues on Line 3 this is not because of the workers on that line, it has more to do with machinery breakdowns and constant training of new operators on the line during changeovers. February and March we met our compliance numbers and while we have to continue to do this, it is the first time we have ever done it on lawnmowers for one month, never mind two. This shows once again what a great work force we have here and we are willing to do what it takes to show that MTD Canada is a viable operation.

On the snow front, still not much word yet on how much we will build in Canada, but we have an informational meeting coming up and are expecting some visitors from corporate to be here for that. Hopefully they will bring some good news and we will have a pretty decent snow season.

We recently had a visit from the ministry of labour and he did write a few orders for the company, nothing too major, but one that will affect some people. If your hair is around shoulder length or longer, then it will have to be confined completely under either a hat or hairnet. I personally don't think hair is that big an issue but when you get a ministry order, you really have no choice but to comply or risk being fined.

Zenon and I went to CAW council at the end of March where most of the talk centered around starting the next phase of the manufacturing matters campaign. We will keep you posted as to what is going to happen on that front.

Also, this year is bargaining for the big three. This is a major issue within the union right now, as what happens there generally sets the trend for the rest of us. Management from the big three have been told already to forget about any two tier system, that they somehow managed to get our Brothers and Sisters in the UAW to accept. We have all the papers and a copy of Buzz's speech in the union office, if anyone is interested in reading it.

Within our Local we have had one plant closure, which is Ledco, where some of us and members from other Locals, as well as some of the Ledco workers held a picket line and plant takeover in an effort to get the workers the severance pay they were entitled to under E.S.A. While the bankruptcy act says the worker is last in line of the creditors, this is a law that has to change. This was a case where bad management with other priorities let a really good company go down the drain. This place had state of the art machinery and then tried to blame the union for not taking 25% wage and benefit cuts which would have saved them \$10,000 per week. As more facts surfaced about the millions they were in debt and the millions more they needed to borrow to stay afloat, it became very clear there was no saving them. The attacks on this union by the media, before they were aware of all the facts, once again shows how our federal government does not care, and is able to sweep us under the covers, through the media. This country and province in particular is losing thousands of good manufacturing jobs every year, while stating they are creating jobs. What they fail to say is most of them are minimum wage jobs.

## MORE SCHEDULED SHUT DOWNS

The nice weather is just around the corner and we are still employed so all and all we should be grateful. Things are still slow at Ornamental Mouldings but we seem to be muttling through and are still in the black.

With today's economy I guess you could consider that a good thing. According to the Tenon quarterly report they are optimistic about the future of our company even with the slump in the present economy.

We have 5 weeks scheduled shut downs this year due to the slump in the economy. The Company has scheduled these weeks according to last years market when we were the slowest. They are sincerely hoping that they do not have to use the unscheduled 3 day shut downs that we were experiencing. Part of the shut down time is eligible for EI. If you have any questions please direct them to the Human Resource Manager for clarification. As a result of

the shut downs the company will NOT force employees to take their regular vacation if they choose not too. If you would like additional vacation the Company has stated that it could be arranged.

Presently we are still experiencing delays in reimbursement of our health coverage. If you submit a claim and it takes longer than 2 weeks to receive your payment please report it immediately to Human Resources and request to file a grievance. There is no need for the delay and the company has the authority to rectify this problem and insure that our benefits are handled in a prompt manner.

The Health and Safety Committee has been successful in getting the company to agree to pay 1/2 for Personal Hearing Protection if an employee wishes to purchase them.

*In Solidarity.....Brenda Moir*



**BRENDA  
MOIR**

**ORNAMENTAL  
MOULDING  
CHAIRPERSON**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS!



Back Row: Rob Pyne, Chris Wey, Tod Spiegelberg, Sharon Ogden  
Front Row: Karl Deforest, Kelly Sieling, Sherry Landry, Connie Hammer, John Murphy, Don Robins

## JOB LOSS - IMPACT ON WOMEN



**SHARON  
OGDEN**

**TRUSTEE  
AND  
WOMEN'S  
CHAIRPERSON**

### What Do Job Losses Mean To WOMEN?

Over the past five years, women have lost more than 55,000 good paying jobs in manufacturing. This includes jobs like food and fish processing, auto, auto parts, aerospace and general manufacturing. Over the last five years women have lost jobs at a greater rate of 9% compared to 7% of men. Compared to many jobs traditionally held by women, manufacturing jobs often provide good pay, benefits and access to a pension plan. For example the average hourly wage in manufacturing is \$20.94 compared to \$15.05 in retail. The loss of these jobs has had a severe impact on women and their families, especially on those who are single parents or are primary earners. This fight is not over. As women, we must take up this issue. We need to work with our union sisters and community allies to develop concrete solutions. Women need a strong manufacturing sector. Collectively, we need all politicians at all levels of government to take action to protect our jobs, our communities and our future.

- Lobby members in parliament and tell them to establish a fair trade policy, not free trade.
- Develop a National Action Plan that utilizes government policy tools to maintain a strong manufacturing sector.
- Support new investment in key manufacturing sectors - for new technology, equipment and skills training for workers.
- Ensure that workers are protected in job loss through improved bankruptcy laws, wage and pension protection, training and relocation programs and better Employment Insurance benefits.

### Trustees Report

The bi-annual audit was completed by Tod Spiegelberg, John Hawkins and myself, and everything is in order. I would like to thank Rob Pyne for his help and for maintaining an efficient system which makes it easier to do the audit.



*In Solidarity.....Sharon OGDEN*



### What you can do?

- Buy products that are union made in Canada, at least try to buy Canadian whenever possible.

### UPCOMING PRIDE EVENTS

International Day Against Homophobia.....Saturday, May 17, 2008

Tri-City Pride Day.....Sunday June 1, 2008 Victoria Park

Toronto Pride Parade.....Sunday June 29, 2008

## SOCIAL GATHERING AT THE MOOSE LODGE

I would like to take this opportunity to give everyone an update on upcoming events that the Recreation Club is promoting.

On Friday April 11, 2008, there will be a social gathering at the Moose Lodge on Wabanaki Drive starting at 2:00 pm.

These are very tough times for everyone and each of us are handling it in a different way. The purpose of this social gathering is to help lighten up the doom and gloom that seems to be everywhere. We all need a break! We need that afternoon to take a step back, unwind, mingle with some friends and have a few drinks. The gathering is being put on for all members of the CAW Local 1524. We really hope to see you there.

On Saturday May 10, 2008, there is a Wine Tour/Fallsview Casino Trip

taking place. There are flyers posted in the Lear plant and there will also be a few flyers posted at the Moose Lodge. If you have not joined us before for this event, then come on out because it's a blast! You can reserve your seat through Rob Pyne at the CAW Hall or through Sherry Landry at Lear on April 17th and April 18th. Cost is \$10 per person.

Since I want to keep the Recreation Club interesting and fun for everyone, I am always open to new suggestions for what upcoming events/trips people would like to see happen.

There are suggestion forms at Lear in Dept. 33 union office as well as at the CAW Hall. Please feel free to express any interests you may have and I will do my best to make it happen.



**SHERRY LANDRY**

**RECREATION CHAIRPERSON**

*TAKE CARE AND GOD BLESS*

### Best Wishes for a Happy Retirement Phil

**RETIREMENT LIST**

**LEAR EMPLOYEES**

**Roy Robertson**  
*February 1, 2008*

**Manual Avila**  
**Kaz Dziubek**  
**Phil Pyne**  
*March 1, 2008*

**James Seip**  
*April 1, 2008*

**Donald Baker**  
**Allan Francis**  
*May 1, 2008*

**Ernie Bothwell**  
*July 1, 2008*



## VERY IMPORTANT NEWS



**JANIS  
TURENNE**

**RECORDING  
SECRETARY  
RETIRED  
WORKERS**

**C**on artists are everywhere and specifically target seniors. Some scammers are using people's fear of being labeled "deadbeats" to extort money from honest, creditworthy consumers. Posing as a collection agency representative, the con artist will contact a victim by mail, e-mail or telephone, claiming the person owes a specific dollar amount to a particular company.

**T**o convince victims to wire money to pay the "delinquent accounts", scammers will threaten to report "overdue bills" to credit bureaus, take some form of legal action or even drain money from victims' bank accounts without their consent.

**R**eal "deadbeats" wouldn't fall for this scam, since they have no intention of repaying their creditors. But upright citizens may doubt themselves, thinking they've forgotten to pay a bill.

**A**nd, because the sums involved tend to be fairly small, some people may be tempted to just pay the "bill" and get it over with.

### **DO NOT "PAY OFF" THESE SCAMMERS?**

Instead, contact the actual creditor to learn if someone opened an account in your name. This is important because you could be a victim of identity theft and not know it.

**A**pril 28th was declared by the government a National Day of Mourning for workers injured, maimed or sick many years ago. This day was clearly marked on calendars. Over the past few years more and more calendars are omitting it. Why? It is still a National Day of Mourning and should be recognized as such. Why do they mark Ground Hog Day but refuse the tribute to injured workers. This is not right. We should go on record and lobby for recognition again.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Please RSVP for the summer barbecue held the last Wednesday in June at the Union Hall - 893-7484.

Mark Labour Day on your calendars for our bus trip to Port Elgin. A wonderful opportunity to tour the Family Education Centre.

*Have a great summer.....Janis Turenne*

#### **1524 Retired Workers Chapter Meeting**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 30, 2008  
**New:** CAW Regional Office  
 5 Executive Place, Kitchener  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

**Guest Speaker:** Tamara Heller, National Representative (Organizer)

**Directions:** Coming from Kitchener, turn right on New Dundee Rd. Go around the bends and turn right on Executive Place right across from Princess Auto.

This is a great opportunity to tour the Regional Offices and enjoy a social hour after the meeting. Spouses are welcome to attend.



## NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Observed annually on April 28th, is Canada's National Day of Mourning. This day commemorates workers who have been injured, died or suffered illness as a result of occupational accidents or hazards. Various events are organized by unions and labour organizations across the country to mourn for all families, friends and work colleagues that have suffered as a result of some sort of unsafe work place condition. The Canadian flag on Parliament Hill will fly at half-mast, workers will light candles, don ribbons and black arm bands and observe moments of silence.

In Canada, an average of 2 deaths happen every day. Hundreds of thousands per year are injured or become ill. Since the first National Day of Mourning, there have been many improvements made to occupational health and safety legislation. However, there is still work to be done.

Currently, the CAW is campaigning to ban asbestos. An estimate of 100,000 workers died last year from occupational cancer caused by asbestos. The Canadian federal government is doing nothing about it, in fact they are actually promoting the use of Canadian

chrysotile asbestos, which is a less harmful carcinogen. But major health organizations classify all forms of asbestos, including chrysotile as human carcinogens and have determined that these can be cancer causing. 95% of Canadian asbestos is exported and this is laying the groundwork for an ongoing epidemic of cancer. We need to call upon the Federal Government to ban the export of asbestos and the Provincial government to remove all forms of asbestos from our workplaces. For more information about this campaign, visit the CAW website at [www.caw.ca](http://www.caw.ca).

On April 28th, not only should we "mourn for the dead" but we should also "fight for the living".

Below is information about the Waterloo Regional Labour Council Day of Mourning Ceremonies if anyone is wishing to attend.

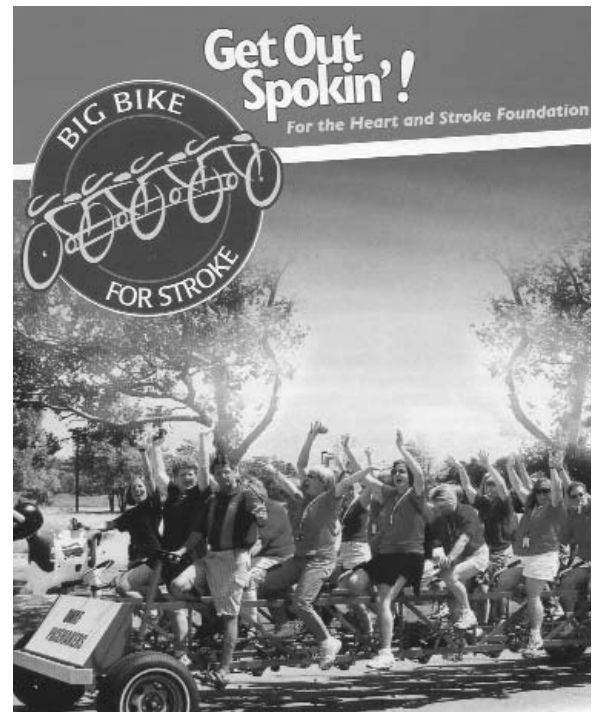
*I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer!*



**KELLY  
SIELING**

**EDITOR**

**Waterloo Regional Labour Council  
Day of Mourning Ceremonies**  
**Location: Waterloo City Hall (at the rear of the building),  
100 Regina St. W., Waterloo, ON**  
**Date: Monday, April 28, 2008**  
**Time: 10:25 am**  
**Key Note Speaker: Wayne Samuelson,  
President OFL**  
**Guest Speakers: From Labour and the  
Community**  
**For more information contact: Peter Cook at  
the WRLC, 519-743-8301**



***Come out and have some fun!***  
 Ride the Big Bike on June 2nd and raise money for the Heart & Stroke Foundation. Pledge forms available at the union office.



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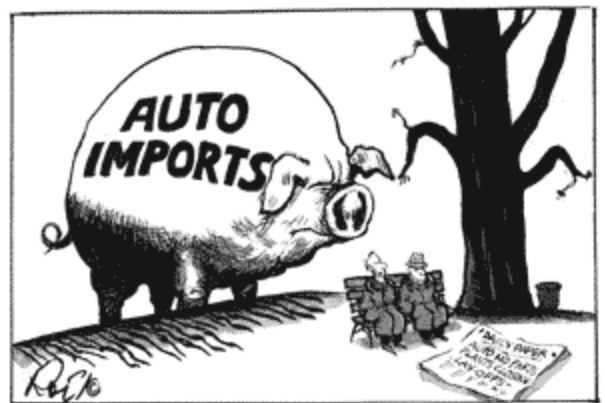
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"THERES SOMETHING IN THE AIR JOE, BUT IT DOESNT SMELL LIKE SPRING!"

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