

## Chairperson's Report

Sisters & Brothers of Local 31:

We currently have 168 grievances in the procedure with 7 being discharges/terminations.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> shift is scheduled to begin on January 4, 2010. The shop committee is beginning to finalize the issues around adding this shift utilizing Paragraph 63 of the National Agreement and the provisions of the local agreement.

Many members have questions about why our local agreement has not been printed. As many know, the printing cost of the local agreement is negotiated and through that process the local union negotiated for management to pay for all the costs of printing the local agreement, using a union printer. Due to a disagreement and subsequently a grievance being filed over vacation procedures and amounts granted, the printing of the agreements has been delayed. However after further discussion, the local agreement has been sent to the printer and we will receive copies soon. **I, as your chairperson,** must apologize for any inconvenience this

delay has caused.

Starting November 2, 2009, we will be receiving 225 transfers from other facilities and will continue to for 4 weeks. Therefore, we will be receiving 900 additional members for the staffing of the third shift. The national parties have reached an agreement that 300 members from the Lake Orion plant will be afforded the opportunity to transfer to the Fairfax plant via Paragraph 96 of the National Agreement. These members may apply by October 30, 2009 and will begin arriving in December 2009. At this time, due to all skilled trades in Lake Orion being offered work for the retooling of their plant no skilled trades will be offered Paragraph 96 moves until the plant retooling is complete.

There is still a lot of work going on with the addition of the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift, the recent re-rate, the implementation of the CPA and the ongoing issues surrounding Document 70 of the National Agreement. However, your elected and appointed representatives are committed to making this plant


work for the benefit of our members. If you need to speak to your chairman, feel free to call me at (913) 573-7776 (plant office) or at the union hall (913) 342-7330.

The annual United Way Campaign has ended and I want to express my thanks to the membership who donated to the organizations throughout Wyandotte County. Your dollars will be put to good use. I also want to thank and congratulate the solicitors for their hard work and dedication to making the UAW-GM United Way drive a success.

The next union meeting will be November 21, 2009 at 2:00 pm at the hall. Plan on attending.

Remember, the plant will revert back to an 8 hour day the weeks of November 17 and November 23. Starting time for 2<sup>nd</sup> shift based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> shift members' desire will be 4:00 pm.

Thanks for all your support.  
Your Shop Chairperson,



## Vice President's Report

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to welcome all new members to Kansas City and to Local 31. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way.

We would like to invite you to a meet & greet on October 30<sup>th</sup> at the Union Hall starting at 6:00 pm. It should be a good time for all.

Please take time to stop by the Veteran's Wall and see the people in the plant who have served in Armed Services. Then when you see them on your job, stop and thank them for

servicing our country. I want to thank the Veteran's Committee for the work they are doing this month in recognition of the Veterans. Please open your wallets when the committee asks for your support.

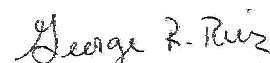
I want to wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving. It will be a good time to spend with family and friends. Travel safely.

Remember that the Retiree Thanksgiving dinner will be on Tuesday, November 17 and will be especially crowded. Plan to arrive early.

The regular membership meeting will be on Saturday, November 21 at 2:00 pm. The regular executive board meeting is at 1:00. Please plan to attend.

Remember, if I can assist you in any way, please call the Union Hall at (913) 342-7330 and leave a message for me with one of the secretaries.

Enjoy your Veteran's Holiday and Thanksgiving Holidays.



## Chaplaincy Committee

### Caring in the Workplace

The Chaplaincy Committee would like to welcome all new transfers with the spirit of Love, Joy and Peace. We hope you will find Kansas City a wonderful place to work, live, and enjoy a bright future.

Sometimes we hold onto the past because we believe there is something there we think we still need. We cling to certain things because we fear we will never be able to replace them. No, God has more in store for you. If you have entrusted your future to Him you have not seen your best days yet. God promises: "Beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (ISA 61:3).

God has provided us with an opportunity to do something great in this community and God shall provide all of your needs as you adjust to your new home. Some of you have already asked about becoming a part of the chaplaincy committee. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the season of Thanksgiving.

would like to thank all the volunteers that have fulfilled the request for committing their time for our next chaplaincy mission of serving dinner at the City Union Mission Family Shelter on November 21, 2009.

want to thank all of you who have offered your services but at this time, we ask if you will donate funds for this event, please see; Don Marshall 1<sup>st</sup> Shift/Trim,

Misty Coghlan 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift/Paint, Denise Garner 1<sup>st</sup> Shift/Body, Joetta Thompson 1<sup>st</sup> Shift/Chassis, and Herb Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift/ Reliability, for your much-needed donations.

As we look for blessings in our daily lives, let this find you in good spirits, both mind and body. Keep ever mindful of the present threat of flu by drinking plenty of fluids, rest when you can and frequent hand sanitizing.

May God Keep You  
and Bless you,  
Mind, Body and Soul

Chaplaincy Committee  
Herb Taylor, Mike Flores  
Tracy Payne, Retiree Chaplain  
Mary Green

## Financial Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Thanks to the membership for allowing me to attend the 26<sup>th</sup> AFL-CIO constitutional Convention in September. It was a very rewarding and educational experience. The AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor – Congress of Industrial Organizations) is the umbrella organization for over 50 labor unions, including the UAW. Their primary objectives are the unionization of workers and support of legislation beneficial to working America. As they say, there is strength in numbers.

The primary function of the AFL-CIO convention was to set policy and to elect officers. The elected top three officers were Richard Trumka/President – Coal Miners Union, Arlene Holt-Baker/Executive Vice President – AFCME and Liz Schuler/Secretary-Treasurer from the International Brotherhood of Electrical

Workers. This is the first time in the history of the AFL-CIO that women hold two out of the three top offices.

Our own UAW International President was re-elected as a Vice President and UAW International Secretary –Treasurer Elizabeth Bunn was also elected as a Vice President.

The main issues addressed at the convention were Health Care Reform and the Employee Free Choice Act. On Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, the AFL-CIO is calling for a nationwide "Day of Action." They are asking union members to press their members of Congress to back sweeping health care legislation. Contact lawmakers in Washington to urge them to support a "public option" creation of a government-run health plan that would compete with private insurers.

How does this "Health Care Reform affect UAW members? The UAW International can't sit down

with GM during negotiations and talk about higher wages without first trying to negotiate our health benefits where UAW members don't have to pay part of their premium out of pocket. Why are Insurance benefits so high? Because the insurance industry has no other insurance plans to compete with so they can charge what they want, making over 400% profit. It's called greed, greed *and more greed.*

So, on November 5<sup>th</sup>, pick up your cell phones and call 866-960-0611. The operator will ask for your zip code and connect you with your Congressional lawmaker. It takes less than a minute. If you don't get the Newsletter until after November 5<sup>th</sup>, please still make the call.

To you and your families have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving holiday.

*Debra Burks*