

199 News

CAW 199
NIAGARA

The official publication of CAW Local 199

Proudly celebrating over 70 years in the community

DECEMBER
2007

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, DEC, 19 2007 - CAW 199 HALL - 124 BUNTING RD.

*THE CAW LOCAL 199 EXECUTIVE
BOARD WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL IT'S
MEMBERS A SAFE AND JOYOUS HOLIDAY.
MAY THE NEW YEAR BE PROSPEROUS,
HAPPY AND HEALTHY.*

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF 199 NEWS IS WED JAN. 9TH, 2008



Season's Greetings



SUSAN ERSKINE-FOURNIER - EDITOR

The opinions and views expressed in this paper are not necessarily the opinions and views of the editor, the editorial board, and or CAW Local 199

EDITORIAL BOARD

WAYNE GATES

BRUCE ALLEN

MALCOLM ALLEN

WHO WE ARE

AN AMALGAMATED UNION INCLUDING
THE FOLLOWING BARGAINING UNITS:

- BRIAN CULLEN MOTORS
- BRUNNER MFG.
- COUTTS LIBRARY SERVICE
- DAVID CHEV / OLDS
- ED LEARN FORD
- EDSCHA
- FIRSTONTARIO CREDIT UNION
- FORBES FORD
- GENERAL MOTORS
- GENAIRE
- IAFRATE MACHINE WORKS
- JOHN BEAR PONTIAC BUICK LIMITED
- NIAGARA MOTORS
- NEPTUNUS
- SECURITAS FIRE & SECURITY
- SENECA MANUFACTURING
- TORA

LOCATION

CAW LOCAL 199 IS LOCATED AT
124 BUNTING ROAD,
ST. CATHARINES, ON
L2P-3G5
PHONE: 905.682.2611
FAX: 905.682.9393
EMAIL: caw199@vaxxine.com
WEB SITE: <http://www.caw199.com>
REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS:
MONDAY -THURSDAY: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
FRIDAY: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
FOR HALL RENTALS CALL 905.682.7616

MEETINGS

CAW LOCAL 199
General Membership Meetings
Held the Third Wednesday of
Each Month at 6:00 pm
(except July & August)

ISSUED BY

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
LOCAL 199 CAW

WAYNE GATES, BRUCE ALLEN,
MALCOLM ALLEN, MARK ROY,
RON ALLEN, JULIE BARTFAL,
BOB CHAPMAN, LARRY GREENHALGH,
ALEX LATHAM, GARY MARTIN,
BRIAN NICHOLL, TERRY WHITE



STOP CANADA /KOREA TRADE AGREEMENT

On Monday October 22, I traveled to Ottawa as part of a CAW Lobby group that included our National President Buzz Hargrove to meet with the N.D.P.,

Bloc, Liberal and Conservative auto caucus to get their party's support to stop a Canada-Korea Trade Agreement.

We held a press conference on Tuesday, Oct. 23, which also included St. Catharines Mayor Brian McMullan. Mayor McMullan spoke about St. Catharines City Council passing a resolution in support of our union position to not support a Korea Trade Agreement.

The mayor was very clear in saying the Canadian government should stop the free trade negotiations with Korea, and any further trade expansion must be based on principles of balanced, fair trade. I would like to thank Mayor Brian McMullan for coming to Ottawa and participating in our press conference.

MANUFACTURING IS ALREADY IN CRISIS WHY WOULD OTTAWA MAKE THINGS WORSE?

Canada has lost 300,000 manufacturing jobs since 2002, 5,000 jobs lost right here in the Niagara Region, thanks to the soaring loonie and a flood of imports. Communities which depend on manufacturing are looking to Ottawa for leadership yet, what is the response??

Trade Minister David Emerson is rushing through a flawed free trade deal with Korea. Why? Because he thinks Canada should sign more trade deals.

Canada's manufacturing trade deficit has grown six-fold in just three years to 28 billion in 2006. Korea alone accounts for 1/8 of that deficit. Tens of thousands more manufacturing jobs in high tech industries like electronics, auto and machinery will inevitably be lost under a Free Trade Agreement



*Buzz Hargrove listens as
St. Catharines Mayor
Brian McMullen lobbies
Ottawa to stop the
Canada-Korea
Agreement.*

(FTA) with Korea. Canada's currency is up 15% against Korea's dollar this year alone. We've already given Korean products a 15% head start in our market. Why would we make things even worse?

THIS IS A TERRIBLE TIME FOR A TERRIBLE DEAL

Nobody has all the answers for how to save Canadian manufacturing, but we do know what will make it worse. Korea is now a manufacturing powerhouse. Giving Korea even more access to our markets with no strings attached will worsen our deficit and destroy thousands more jobs. The Harper government should stop the FTA negotiations with Korea now.

We need a level playing field in trade and a strategy to save Canadian jobs not a desperate deal that will make matters worse. Read the score-card. Is this fair trade?
I think not!

BARGAINING

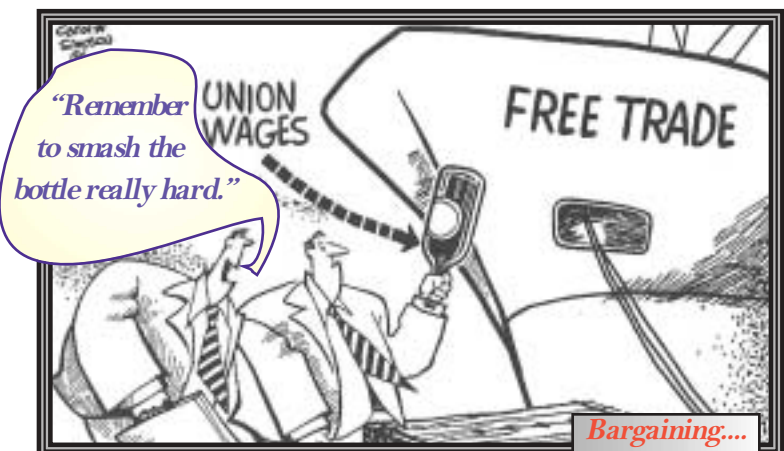
Over the last couple of months we were successful in negotiating new 3-year collective agreements at Ed Learn Ford and Tora Investment Inc. (Please see Pg. 4 for more details)

SCORE CARD:

KOREA sold 130,000 vehicles in Canada in 2005.

CANADA sold 400 vehicles in Korea in 2005.

A CAW study shows; "Provincial Employment Effects of Canada-Korea Free Trade," finds the job loss would be most acute in Ontario and Quebec, with an expected loss of approximately 17,400 jobs and 8,300 jobs respectively.



***Bargaining...
...can't on Pg.4***

Wayne Gates, Local 199 President

ED LEARN FORD

The bargaining committee wants to thank the membership for their support during this round of bargaining and for their 91% ratification vote.

I would like to thank Mike Menicanin and the Ed Learn in-plant committee for all their hard work during this set of tough negotiations.

Ed Learn Ford Highlights

*Improved maximum
dispensing fee
Improved new hires co-pay
Increased Life Insurance
Increased weekly indemnity
Improved wages 5.5%
over 3 years
Improved bereavement*

TORA INVESTMENTS INC.

We are happy to report the bargaining committee was successful in negotiating a new 3-year collective agreement. We had many tough meetings and a lengthy delay as a result of the employer's layoff announcement in March.

The Local would like to thank the membership for their solidarity as they took this employer on strike for about 24 hours .

The bargaining committee would like to thank National Rep. Steve Farkas who made a decision to complete the bargaining at Tora along with his new job as a National Director working in the Kitchener Cambridge area.

The Local would also like to thank Chairperson John Hibben and Committeeperson Evelyn Sacco, Adrianna Ruscitti and Howard Hines for their support and long hours during this round of bargaining.

Tora Highlights:

*Improved recognition and
scope article
Improved grievance procedure
Improved bereavement leave
Improvement in wages
Benefit improvements
Reduced pay grid*

AROUND THE LOCAL

ORGANIZING

Your CAW Local 199 Executive Board has made a decision to work with your CAW National Organizing Department to start organizing workplaces in the Niagara Region. Sister Elizabeth Ferretti who works at First Ontario has been cleared for up to 6 months to work on organizing campaigns. If any active or retired member knows of any workplace, which might be interested in joining the CAW, please call our Union Hall at (905) 682-2611 and ask to speak to Elizabeth.

RETIRED

WORKERS CHAPTER

On Wednesday October 17/07 the Retirees Chapter held their elections for their new Executive Board. The Local union would like to congratulate the newly elected retiree's executive board.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the past executive board for the great job they did on behalf of our retirees. I would also like to thank Bob Chapman for all his hard work and dedication during the last 3 years as chairperson of our Retiree Chapter.

*Chairperson Barbara Abrams
Vice Chairperson Roger Pelletier
Recording Secretary Bill Orr
Treasurer Nick Collini
Sgt. At Arms Henry Wiebe
SEE PAGE 13 FOR PHOTO...*



In Closing, the Christmas season is upon us and we hope you are enjoying yourself with family and friends. On behalf of my family I wish you the happiest holiday season and a happy new year.

**PLEASE! DON'T DRINK AND
DRIVE!**

POLITICIANS HAWG THE BACON, CAW FEEDS THE NEEDY!

by: **Mark Roy - Recording Secretary**

On December 27, 2007 CAW Local 199 and other Niagara area CAW locals will host our 9th Annual Community Dinner. From its humble beginning in 1999, serving just over a hundred guests, our event has grown to the point where we provided a holiday dinner for almost 700 folks last year.

Our dinner has become one of the signature events of the local union for a variety of reasons. The main cause of our success is political. The reasons for this continue to escape me.

Successive Provincial and Federal govern-

ments provide lip service to the hundreds of thousands of Canadians who are underemployed, underpaid, marginalized and otherwise demonized for their stock in life.

Let's be clear. No one wants to be homeless, have physical or mental disabilities or be forced to work two or three minimum wage jobs just to survive. Sadly this is the case for an ever increasing number of Canadians.

Provincial Conservative and Liberal governments continue to ignore the poor. Remember last December when Queens Park sat an extra week to ensure they themselves (MPP's) receive a 15% wage increase yet neglected to raise the minimum wage for hard working Ontarians? Federal Liberal and Conservative governments are no better. They grant

tax cuts for companies and high income earners and ignore the plight of the working class poor. Trade deals have been signed with developing countries that pay sweat shop wages and provide little or no labour or environmental standards and

allow these countries to dump their products on our shores as they deny Canada access to their markets. These deals have resulted in the loss of more than 250,000 good paying Canadian jobs. This they say is the price of doing business in a globalized economy.

If these leaders had

to spend a week in the shoes of those folks who are guests at our Community Dinner each December, perhaps their smug response to the legitimate questions asked of them about these issues would actually offer results and hope for those who suffer daily. Anyone wishing to volunteer their time for this years' dinner are requested to call the union hall during business hours at 682-2611 and ask to be put on the volunteer list.

My family and I wish all our members the spirit of the season and a prosperous New Year.

Solidarity Forever.



**CONGRATULATIONS
SAM RADICE!**

**SAM GOT MORE THAN WE BAR-
GAINED FOR AT WORK PLACE
TRAINING WHEN HE REC'D HIS
CHEQUE FROM BRUCE ALLEN
FOR THE LABOUR DAY DRAW**



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS :
WED, DEC 19, 2007
WED, JAN 15, 2008

MASSIVE EMPLOYER WSIB FRAUD

by: Bruce Allen - Vice President

The Ontario Federation of Labour recently issued a very important report entitled "The Perils of Experience Rating Exposed." The report effectively documents what drives the massive employer WSIB fraud which has been going on in Ontario for many years and which the Ontario Liberal government continues to fail to address.

According to the report experience rating "effectively adjusts premium rates based on an individual employer's claims history" and supposedly provides "an incentive for safety and injury prevention." In fact experience rating actually "encourages employers to misreport and under report accidents, to force injured workers back to work before they are medically ready and to pay workers sick pay rather than have them receive compensation benefits."

These phenomena are rampant at GM and the rest of the Big 3. It reveals that these employers have learned to play the game within an experience rating system.

Consequently, monies that should be going into the system and that should be used for the benefit of injured workers are going into employers' pockets often by way of WSIB rebates. This is worth keeping in mind when you hear of workers allegedly cheating the WSIB system as well as when you hear about the WSIB spying on injured workers who it suspects are being less than honest about their injuries and what they are entitled to.

There is no comparable concern when it comes to the vastly greater problem of employer fraud of the WSIB. The prevailing double standard could hardly be more obvious. The Ontario Liberal government's inaction in response speaks volumes about whose interests they serve.

FILE S&A PAPERS

Recently an injured worker had her seniority broken and was technically fired after being forced off of work due to a serious occupational injury. Through no fault of her own she

did not file for Sickness and Accident benefits while waiting for a decision on entitlement to WSIB loss of earnings benefits. Had she immediately filed for S&A the boss could not have terminated this worker. Consequently, I want to urge everyone who sustains an injury at work that required time off of the job to immediately file for S&A benefits. Upon doing so you will be asked to sign a waiver to have the insurance company reimbursed once your WSIB loss of earnings benefits are paid. By doing so you are in no way calling into question the validity of your WSIB claim. Also make sure you speak directly to a member of management when you notify the employer of your absence from work and document when the conversation took place. If management makes a vague offer of light duty work insist that you are willing to come to work provided your doctor approves of the specific and clearly defined job being offered.

DECEMBER 9TH ACTIONS

On or about December 9 Ontario Network of Injured Workers will again be staging rallies to address issues such as the need for full cost of living protection on WSIB benefits and the need to abolish the anti-worker experience rating system. Contact me for full details about the event to be held in St. Catharines. It will take place outside the WSIB offices at 301 St. Paul St., St. Catharines.

SUPPORT INJURED WORKERS!



SANTA'S ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK LIST

by: Cathy Franklin, Rob Jukosky, & Norm Roy

We are your new environment committee. We thank you all for your support and we hope to accomplish great things! We would like to wish the best of luck to all the newly elected standing committees.

Christmas is a time for thinking of family and friends. This year spare a thought for the environment also. Please think of the things that you can do to help protect the environment. A little thought and care can have a positive affect on the environment and you can still have fun!

This year why not give a gift with a difference? Young trees or plants, bulbs, seeds, non-violent toys, or a homemade gift (yule log, centre piece, jam, etc.) In the true spirit of the holidays why not give a gift of your time or skills (baking, babysitting, woodworking)? If shopping, read labels carefully. Be aware of false or misleading claims that products are safe for the environment. The folowing is a checklist for some consciencious gift giving. Don't be naughty, check it twice!

NAUGHTY

- POOR QUALITY PRODUCTS THAT CREATE WASTE DISPOSABLE PRODUCTS
- PRODUCTS CONTAINING CFC'S HARMFUL TO THE OZONE LAYER
- PRODUCTS WITH EXCESS PACKAGING
- PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES USING EXPLOITED LABOUR IN SWEATSHOPS
- SYNTHETIC MATERIALS IN CLOTHING
- POOR QUALITY PLASTIC TOYS
- BATTERIES: (MILLIONS ARE USED EVERY YEAR AND THE RANGE OF APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRING THEM IS INCREASING ALL THE TIME. MANY BATTERIES CONTAIN HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, INCLUDING CADMIUM AND MERCURY AND CAUSE POLLUTION IN DISPOSAL. THE MANUFACTURE OF BATTERIES CAN TAKE UP TO 50 TIMES MORE ENERGY THAN THE BATTERIES CAN PROVIDE.
- HARMFUL FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES

Most real Christmas trees are grown on managed tree farms for Christmas or come from thinning of large forests. They are a renewable resource and general employment. Try buying a tree with roots in a pot, which you can use year after year. When it grows too big for indoor use, replant it outdoors. Old trees can be ground into mulch or used as fish shelters in ponds. Many communities have a chipping program. An alternative is to use them as wildlife cover in fields. Birds, rabbits and other smaller animals use them as shelter during winter months and the trees will eventually decay. However, if disposing of trees this way, remove all decorations, hooks and tinsel. Also make sure you have the permission of the property owner. If you must have an artificial tree, select a good quality tree, which can be used for many years.

Remember to recycle paper, glass and cans. Empty liquor and beer containers can be taken to the Brewers Retail for reimbursement.

NICE

- GOOD QUALITY PRODUCTS THAT WILL LAST KEEPING ENERGY USED IN MANUFACTURING TO A MINIMUM
- CFC FREE OR ZONE FRIENDLY SPRAYS
- UNWRAPPED ITEMS WRAPPED SIMPLY WITH NATURAL PRODUCTS
- COSMETICS USING NATURAL PRODUCTS AND IN REFILLABLE BOTTLES
- LOCAL FAIR TRADE RETAIL OUTLETS AND PRODUCTS
- NATURAL FABRICS, COTTON, LINEN, WOOL, HEMP
- PAPER PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED PAPER
- BOOKS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- WOODEN TOYS
- LEARNING GAMES
- BATTERY CHARGER, RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES
- HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS CARDS; CARDS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER
- HOMEMADE DECORATIONS USING EVERYDAY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (ENCOURAGE THE KIDS TO GET CRAFTY!)
- RECYCLE USED WRAPPING PAPER & MAKE BOXES & BOWS FOR NEXT YEAR
- ORGANIC FRUIT & VEGGIES: IF DEMAND FOR ORGANIC PRODUCE GROWS, THE PRICE SHOULD START TO COME DOWN.
- NATURAL FERTILIZER FROM COMPOST
- REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE, RESPECT THE EARTH

Happy Holidays. Joyeux Noel!

UNITED WAY & LABOUR....BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Workplace campaigns continue to be the major source of revenue for **United Way**. The **Labour Movement** remains committed to the vision of a supported, compassionate society.

Together, labour and United Way are making a difference...right where we live. **Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you CAW members for your continued support!** Without you there would be no way!



LOCAL 199 MEMBERS GIVE FROM THE HEART



Front Row (L-R) Matt Keleher, John Reynolds.
2nd Row (L-R) Joe Quaranto (coach), Brian Moore, Neill Besselink, Rob Fisher, Jeremy Gough, Matt Maracle, Paul McTaggart.
3rd Row (L-R) Brian Pritchard, Grant Martin(head coach), Tim Comstock, Mark Sherman, Jason Maclean, Wes Yates, Mike Gretzinger, Joe Ricci (coach).

The Garden City Lions softball team have returned from The Special Olympic World Games in Shanghai China as gold medal world champions. The games took Place from Sept. 29 till Oct 12th 2007. 167 countries attended the games, 13000 athletes, 45000 volunteers. The Garden City Lions Team has been together for 14 years with most of the members. The team has been undefeated now at 3 regional comps, 2 provincials, 2 time National champs, and are now the world champs for Canada. **Local 199 member Grant Martin** is a Millwright at the GM Glendale plant and has been involved in the Special Olympics for 17 years.

L199 KEEPS ON GIVING! BETTY LOU SOUTER, COMMUNITY CARE ACCEPTS THE FIRE RELIEF FUND DONATION.



Congratulations to all!!

KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES

by: Mohammad Nazir, Human Rights Committee

While our houses get bigger and our televisions get flatter, wider, digitalized and cheaper, large numbers of us are becoming depressed.

Following a psychiatric Morbidity Survey at London School of Economics, a 2006 report showed one in six of us would be diagnosed as having depression or chronic disorder, which means that one family in three is affected. Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion's Healthy Ontario states that at any given time, almost three million Canadians have serious depression. Simply put, around ten percent of Canadians are currently suffering from serious depression.

Numbers are alarming and since the end of World war two, the rates of major depressive disorders have increased tenfold. The rates are increasing so rapidly that World Health Organization (WHO) has predicted that depression will be the SECOND leading cause of death and Disability worldwide by 2020.

While money and material goods afford people a comfortable standard of living, they in no way guarantee a happy life.

Not only does more money NOT generally translate into greater happiness, but also research has shown the intense pursuit of wealth and material goods can actually make a person ill. While

striving to live like a wealthy person may seem like a good idea, it could have tragic mental health consequences.

Buying a luxury item might give someone a short burst of joy or satisfaction, consumption does not make us happy for very long because, as we all know, there is always something new to buy—something else that we just have to have.

Not only does consumer culture encourage us to engage in activities contrary to our well being and avoid other, more beneficial activities, it also cause us a great deal of stress—one of the key triggers of a depressive episode, “Keeping up with the Joneses.”

One of the deepest, darkest secrets of industrial society is that despite rising income, levels of depression are at an all-time high.

While mental health professionals have traditionally looked at depression as a result of either genetic, biochemical, or environmental factors, some evolutionary experts are now looking at depression in a much different light.

In the 2006 study, it was found that certain negative situations aroused particular depressive symptoms. The study also found that people who were engaged in “failing efforts” were stricken with depressive symptoms such as “guilt, rumination, pessimism and fatigue”.

A pertinent question needs to be asked: ***Are rates of depression rising because our bodies are reacting naturally to discourage us from engaging in a consumer culture that is not delivering on its promise?*** Research shows that people highly involved in material culture are more prone to depression.

Modern society has dealt with this depression epidemic by introducing antidepressants. While antidepressants can be effective at treating the symptoms of the problem, they do nothing to address deeper factors influencing depression.

If depression is the body's way of warning us to stop engaging in harmful behaviour, suppressing the symptoms with drugs only encourages us to ignore our built in warning system, and ultimately, ignore the reasons why we are depressed in the first place.

Money can't buy happiness! It is important to remember that there are always others who have much less and yet consider themselves to have great wealth because they live within their means and find a great luxury in good health and peace of mind.

Out of the Cold, St Catharines begins again November 1 and will run until March 31. Since 1996 volunteers at Out of the Cold have provided more than 200,000 suppers and 25,000 overnight stays. More volunteers are needed especially for the overnight and early morning shifts. Without volunteers Out of the Cold could not help the lonely, hungry, and homeless. Please call to volunteer. Thank you.

Office Phone 905-984-5310 or 905-642-1249



NATALE & VERONOV WIN DARLENE QUINN BURSARY

BY: IRENE LOWELL, ELIZABETH FERRETTI, & SUSAN ERSKINE-FOURNIER



The women's committee would like to apologize for not having an article in the last edition. We owe it to the membership to keep you informed.

Congratulations to Tarin Natale and Oleg Veronov for being the recipients of the Darlene Quinn bursary. We wish these young ladies the best in their future endeavours.

The past committee attended the women's conference in Port Elgin August 20-22. The conference was on organizing and taught us how important it is to continue to work hard to organize workplaces that are not unionized. We came to understand and acknowledge how difficult the organizing of non-unionized corporations and small businesses has been on our organizing teams throughout the CAW.

We were also involved in partnership with the YWCA Niagara Region planning the Oct. 18th event for the students of our community. "The Power of Being a Girl" is the YWCA signature event to mark the anniversary of this international violence prevention campaign. Our committee has been involved in this important educational for students for the past 2 years and look forward to the continuation of this partnership. The women's committee is also very pleased and proud to announce that the CAW National is sponsoring this event through the women's director Julie White

for the next 3 years. This daylong conference will bring together 400 students from the secondary school system throughout the Niagara Region. This enlightenment for our future young women on violence will be an empowering experience, in which our committee is proud to be a part of.

On September 16th we attended the Toronto West Network meeting at CAW L1285 in Mississauga. A silent auction raised \$200.00 for breast cancer. Local 199 was host to the TWWN on November 11th.

We would like to pay tribute to two amazing women activists who passed away earlier this year. These women fought for many generations for women's rights and equality. Doris Anderson was a champion in her leadership of the magazine *Chatelaine*, as the first woman ever appointed editor. During her tenure as editor she brought forth many articles concerning women's issues and became a mentor to thousands of women through the magazine. Doris had a direct responsibility in the creation of the Royal Commission on the status of women during the 60's. Her book "Rebel Daughter" tells us of the struggles women faced during her years with us. She was also a strong advocate for proportional representation in elections and started the Fair Vote Canada in hope of more women becoming elected across our country.

The other woman is June Callwood journalist, humanitarian and social activist. June blazed the trail for women's rights, gay rights and the rights of the underprivi-

leged with a history dating back to the 60's. She was the author of 30 books also the founder of a breast cancer support centre, Nellie's Hostel for abused women, Jessie's centre for teenage mothers and the Aids Hospice Casey House. Their dedication to the issues concerning women and the underprivileged has left a legacy that is an inspiration to the entire women's movement.

Congratulations to all those who ran for the various standing committees within our great union. Irene Lowell, Elizabeth Ferretti, and Susan Erskine-Fournier will now represent the L199 women's committee. Our committee will host a commemorative breakfast at the hall on Dec. 6, 2007. This is an annual event to pay homage to the women who are victim's of violence and to remember the 14 young women who were killed in 1989 in Montreal at L'Ecole Polytechnique.

We encourage you to take a moment on the 6th of December to consider the women in your lives and we ask that you keep them safe.





Who's Man Enough?

Do you know the old saying that you can't really understand a person's experience until you've walked a mile in their shoes? Walk A Mile In Her Shoes is a symbolic gesture of men marching in female footwear to raise awareness and money on the issue of violence against women. Men donned women's high heels, they walked the walk and they talked the talk on gender violence. Ernie Welke, Gary Bradman, Mark Roy, Malcolm Allen, and Wayne Gates took part in the pledged walk that raised \$25,000 for Women's Place. "It can't stop here though," said Wayne Gates "There is a very large ground swell of men stepping up to the issue of violence against women. Violence against women isn't a woman's issue. It's a man's issue and it's a union issue."

"It is not easy to walk in these shoes" said Julie Bartfai "Or open up the discussion on gender violence. This is a fun way to get the community talking about these issues. Our union has a strong history of supporting community and workplace efforts to end violence against women. One shining example of this is our women's advocate program. By negotiating women's advocates at our worksites we have helped to create a workplace environment that is safer from all forms of violence including relationship violence."

RETIREEES' RECREATION SCHEDULE

by: ALMA PELLETIER

RETIREEES MONTHLY MEETING - THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
DON'T FORGET - ALL SPOUSES AND ASSOCIATES ARE WELCOME!

CAW RETIREE 2007-2008 SCHEDULE

SEPT. 22/07	HAMBURG BBQ, CORN ON THE COB & GAMES NIGHT
OCT. 20/07	PUB NIGHT & OCTOBERFEST
NOV. 17/07	POT LUCK & BINGO NIGHT
DEC. 8/07	CHRISTMAS PARTY
DEC. 31/07	NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE
JAN. 19/08	POT LUCK & CASINO NIGHT
APRIL 19/08	BEEF ON A BUN & BINGO NIGHT
MAY 3/08	ANNUAL SPORTS BANQUET
MAY 24/08	HAMBURG BBQ & GAMES NIGHT
JUNE 11/08	ANNUAL RETIREE'S PICNIC
JUNE 28/08	HAM ON A BUN & CASINO NIGHT
FEB. 16/08	CHICKEN ON A BUN & GAMES NIGHT
MARCH 15/08	ST. PATRICK'S DAY POT LUCK & GAMES Night
April 19/08	Beef on a Bun & Bingo Night
May 3/08	Annual Sports Banquet
May 24/08	Hamburg BBQ & Games Night
June 11/08	Annual Retiree's Picnic
June 28/08	Ham on a Bun & Casino Night

CAW HALL ACTIVITIES

MONDAY AFTERNOONS

5-PIN BOWLING FAIRVIEW MALL
CALL VIC FAILES AT (905) 646-5999

MONDAY AFTERNOONS

10-PIN BOWLING PARKWAY
CALL DON DINGMAN AT (905) 646-5999

TUESDAY

CRIBBAGE
EXERCISE CLASS (9-10AM)
TAI CHI (CALL FOR TIME)

WEDNESDAY

CRAFTS (9-11 AM)
EUCHRE (1:30 PM)

THURSDAY

DARTS (1:30 PM),
POOL FOR ANYONE TO PLAY

FRIDAY

ANYONE CAN COME IN AND PLAY
CARDS & DARTS,
HALL OPENS AT 12:30 PM

BENEFIT REP REPORT

BY: MARK ROY & RICK JONES

Congratulations Colin Wright upon your retirement! Colin has served the membership as benefit rep. for the past 12 years. He has done a remarkable job in this position. First at the Glendale Site and then after the retirement of Briane Philbrick, taking on the Ontario Street site as well.

I am deeply grateful for the time spent with Colin as his alternate this past spring. Brother Wright has been extremely helpful and patient with me in showing me the ropes so to speak. Our membership is very fortunate to have had the competence at the benefit position that Colin displayed during his tenure. Taking over a position that requires expertise in

a number of areas is no small task. I will however strive to further educate myself in all aspects of the job in order to provide you with the service you have come to expect from your benefit rep. I can never fill Colin's shoes, I can only work hard and try, this my commitment to you as your new benefit rep.

GM Chairperson Terry White has appointed brother Rick Jones to act as alternate to the benefit rep. I have every intention of working closely with Rick to ensure we both get it right. Benefits are the corner stone of what has been achieved at the bargaining table. As reps. it is our responsibility to see that they are used as intended by our members.

I look forward to working with all of you and again congratulations Colin. I wish you a long well deserved retirement.

With the festive season upon us, Rick and I want to wish you all joy & happiness and a healthy & prosperous new year.

Reach your Benefits At:

GLENDALE SITE:

905-641-6444

ONTARIO SITE:

905-684-9688

UNION HALL:

905-682-2611

EMAIL:

markroy199@yahoo.ca



Barb Abrams

EXPERT COMMISSION ON PENSIONS HEARS FROM CAW

I'd like to thank all the members who came out to the October meeting. It was nice to see the hall filled to capacity. Many of these members had not been down to the hall since they retired. The hall has functions going most of the week. Come out and enjoy the hall and stay in touch with your fellow workers that you worked with for so many years.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the past executive for the work that they did on our behalf for the last 3 years. On behalf of the new executive, thank you, the membership for your support. I'm looking forward to the challenges that we have ahead of us and I can assure you that we will work diligently on behalf of all retirees and their spouses. Thanks also to the recreation committee for a very successful Oktoberfest night, a job well done by all! Please see the Retirees Hall Activities and Recreation schedule on the previous page for more fun events to come.

The Expert Commission on Pensions met with representatives from various unions on November 13th in Hamilton. Submissions have been presented from CAW and were addressed at this forum. The Pension Commission is concerned particularly with the importance of maintaining, and encouraging, defined pension benefit plans and safeguarding the security of pension benefits along with other issues. The Commission findings and recommendations will be addressed to the Ontario Minister of Finance. Representatives from the CAW will be there on our behalf.

As just being newly elected I will be attending the Local Executive Board meetings and the Local 199 Membership meetings on your behalf. If anyone has any issues or concerns, please contact me or another member of the retirees executive board.

The Computer Training classes will begin again in the New Year and a new schedule will be available when we get it from the board of education. I will post the new schedule in the 199 News once I have received it.

Our Retired Chapter meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 2:00 pm. With the approval of the membership we will be having our annual turkey draw (40) at our December 19th meeting with a light lunch to follow after the meeting. Come out and enjoy yourself.

The newly elected board

members are

Chairperson,

Barbara Abrams

Vice Chairperson,

Roger Pelletier

Recording Secretary,

Bill Orr

Treasurer,

Nick Collini

Sgt. At Arms,

Henry Wiebe



**Have a happy holiday and
we'll see you around the
hall.**

The Retirees Chapter Conference Delegates

**Henry Wiebe, Barb Abrams, Roger Pelletier, Nick Collini, Len Harrison,
Local 199 President Wayne Gates, Percy McKay, John Michaud, Bill Orr**

SUDOKU

		8			4	6		
	6			7		2		9
7			6					
9	1				2			8
	3			5			4	
5			7				3	1
					1			5
2		3		4			7	
		5	8			4		



HAPPY HALL-DAZE!



SUB & EI REPORT 2007 YEAR END

BY: LARRY GREENHALGH & GREG BRADY

With the exception of a few temporary layoffs, this has been the first year in many that no one has had an indefinite layoff looming in the wings. We should all applaud our Shop Committee and Brother Terry White for doing an excellent job. At the time of writing this report the population in St. Catharines is as follows:

PRODUCTION: 1,792
SKILLED TRADES: 853
TOTAL: 2,645

PROBLEMS

We still continue to have problems with Sub and Imp

cheques. There is no reason for a delay in deposits on long weekends. This issue must be taken on at the 2008 negotiations.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR 2008

If you have a suggestion for improving Sub or Imp programs please forward it to your in-plant rep who will in turn make sure it is given to your Sub Rep. We are requesting this information now in order to

have everything organized for our regular meetings which are held every 4 months and are attended by all GM/CAW reps. Problems and suggestions for Sub and Imp, are addressed at these meetings which allows us the opportunity to develop a list of demands for negotiations.

CLAWBACK REMINDER

In order to assure you receive your refund for year 2006 you must submit by April 2008.

Finally, we would like to congratulate the new Executive Board of the Retiree's Chapter: Barb Abrams, Bill Orr, Nick Collini, and Henry Wiebe. We would also like to wish a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year to you and your family.

YOUR SUB REPS WORKING FOR YOU:

GLENDAL PLANT TEL: 905-641-6419

ONTARIO STREET PLANT TEL: 905-684-9688 OR
 2441 (IN-PLANT ONLY)

COURSES AT LOCAL 199

by: Peter Scott, Tina Raimondo, Karen Golub- Education Com.

As another year comes to a close, the Education Committee would like to thank the membership for their continued interest and involvement in the variety of courses that the CAW has offered.

The CAW has negotiated many educational opportunities for our members, both locally and in Port Elgin. Below is a list of some of the programs available:

NIAGARA AREA SEMINARS (ALL CAW MEMBERS)
CAW MCMASTER LABOUR STUDIES
HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING FUND
SKILLED TRADES UNION EDUCATION PROGRAM
ONE WEEK PEL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
WTP-ONE DAY PROGRAM (GM)
SUMMER PEL (FAMILY)
4 WEEK PEL
ABORIGINAL & WORKERS OF COLOUR
WOMEN'S ACTIVISTS

At the time of writing, dates have not been posted for 2008 courses. Application should be available at the union hall by Mid December and dates will be posted on the website.

NIAGARA AREA SEMINARS

These are one-day courses that are offered locally. They are available to all CAW members and the course costs are covered. This year, CAW Local 199 hosted 2 one-day seminars: Collective Bargaining and an Advanced Grievance Handling course. We were very pleased with the positive response from those who participated. It was most gratifying to see so many different workplaces represented as well as CAW members from other locals.

The Education Committee conducted a survey to determine what courses members would be interested in attending. In response we will be scheduling 3 courses:

HEALTH & SAFETY - ONE DAY
PUBLIC SPEAKING - ONE DAY
HUMAN RIGHTS - THREE DAYS

**WATCH FOR POSTINGS AND MORE INFORMATION
ON THE WEBSITE AND BULLETIN BOARDS.**

CAW MCMASTER LABOUR STUDIES PROGRAM

This program continues to provide a variety of diverse and interesting courses for our membership. In 2007, we had great feedback from the participants who took part in some of the nine courses that were offered.

In 2008, we will be offering a variety of interesting courses through the program. Due to overwhelming interest, we will offer the "Wal-Mart, The High Cost of Low Prices" and the "Computer Skills for Activists" and a new course called University Skills for activists.

In conclusion we would like to congratulate all of our members who ran in the recent Standing Committee elections and wish you success, if the education committee can be of assistance to your new committee please don't hesitate to ask for our help. The Education Committee would also like to welcome Karen Golub to the education committee.

On a final note, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.



COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CLASS '07



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WILL BE PUBLISHED
AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD.
LETTERS MUST BE 500 WORDS OR LESS.
DEADLINE FOR NEXT 199 NEWS: WED., JAN 9/08

No FAULT INSURANCE PETITION

BY: JOANNE CHERNOSKI, RANK & FILE MEMBER

On a dry and sunny May day I was on my way to work and was involved in a car accident. The other driver was speeding and ran a stop sign. I suffered numerous, non-life threatening injuries and was off work for more than two months. Having driven accident-free for over 38 years, I was not up to date on today's insurance laws. I found out in a hurry, and was totally dismayed with what I learned. In Ontario, if you are involved in a motor vehicle accident, the law states that unless your injuries meet a "threshold" and you are permanently disabled or disfigured, you are only entitled to 80% of your NET wages and up to a maximum of \$400.00/wk, with \$0 for week 1. If you have accident coverage from your employer, that takes priority. To receive any benefits, you are required to submit a set of rather extensive forms, filled out by your employer and doctors. This involved driving around to get them completed at a time when I was not feeling well physically, driving an unfamiliar car rental and not comfortable (physically or mentally) driving at all. After completing the tasks mentioned above, I sent the forms back to my insurance company, and found out that since I work for General Motors, my S & A payments already exceed the legal lost wage formula and therefore I would receive **NOTHING** from the insurance company. To make matters even worse, I was also told that my injuries did not meet the "threshold" so I could not file a lawsuit to recover the balance of lost wages and that I would receive \$0 for pain and suffering.

I have spoken to 3 of the top personal injury lawyers in Niagara who all confirmed what my insurance company told me, and was told that I am **ONE OF THE LUCKY ONES** because I work for GM. **Most** people have little or no coverage from their employer and end up waiting weeks (at best) and usually months for the insurance company to begin paying them the meager lost wage entitlements. Imagine the stress and financial devastation that this creates for families.

I have spoken to the office off Peter Kormos and received information on conducting a legal petition. I would appreciate everyone's signature so together we can petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to change this law and provide victims of motor vehicle accidents with 100% of their lost wages.

Petition sheets have been given to Ron McIntosh, Gary Miller and Dave Dean. They are also present in the HFV6 Team 1 team room. If you would like to help by taking a sheet home for you family and friends to sign, it would be greatly appreciated.

For more information, please email me at nofaultpetition@hotmail.com

Together we can make a difference!



**IT IS TIME FOR
MANY NEEDED
CHANGES. AS
THE NEW YEAR
APPROACHES
AND RESOLU-
TIONS ARE
MADE;
RESOLVE TO
DO SOMETHING
FOR YOURSELF
& FOR OTHERS,
SPEAK OUT,
FIGHT BACK!**

LOCAL 199 SHINING STARS

Mike Labeau & Daniella Russell teamed up with other CAW Skilled Trades to help rebuild the 9th Quarter in New Orleans. "It was such a joy and feeling of fulfillment to be able to help rebuild Mr. Collins home," said Daniella. "Although Katrina hit more than two years ago it seems that these people in the 9th Quarter are so isolated. They are so friendly and warm and so thankful, but it seems the money isn't there for them and neither is their government." she added. "Thanks CAW for letting us go!" Daniella and Mike were in New Orleans in April, 2007.

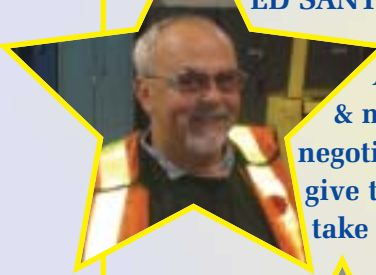


In October '07 Jim Decaire, Golfer Extraordinaire competed in the Reimax World Long Drive Championship in Mesquite, Nevada. Jim's hardwork and commitment has allowed him to hit the ball 377 yds in competition. This years winner in Jim's division hit the ball 394 yds. Keep on Drivin' Jim! Congratulations!



The following statements are in response to the question: **"WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE GREATEST ADVANTAGE OF BELONGING TO A UNION?"**

ED SANTRY: "Protection from the employer, abuse, harassment on the job etc. Also the benefits that support myself & my family. If we didn't have a union to negotiate for benefits, GM wouldn't just give them to us. If anything they would take them back from us. Look at the U.S."



Allan Stevenson-Young, became the first male unrelated Bone Marrow Donor in April, 1992. Stevenson-Young gave the amazing gift of new life to a total stranger. Now retired from GM he is a shining star for his unselfish, caring act. To give a gift that keeps on giving, please contact the local Red Cross Registry. Remember...It's in you to give!

ALLAN STEVENSON-YOUNG



TIM SLACK: "Knowing you're not alone when you're dealing with an issue or you need help."



RICK ROBINSON: "Hopefully they can protect my job from being lost and I can get my 30 years in here and get the hell out with a pension."



RICHARD BOSGRAAF: "The power of collective bargaining."



CONGRATULATIONS TO LOCAL 199'S NEW COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZER ELIZABETH FERRETTI! CALL THE HALL IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN ORGANIZING THEIR WORKPLACE!



KAREN COURCHAINE: "I wish everyone recognized the many benefits like wages, benefits, vacation time, pensions, etc. If there's a problem with management there's access to union representation. There's also pension language like the 30 & Out and the 80 factor. I'll take a union with it's faults over no union at all!"

THANKS MARION MUELLER FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE NEW YEAR'S EVE AD!



Your **Union**. Your **Cars**. Your **Insurance**.

CAW Local 199 Members: **SAVE**

up to **15%**

on your
auto & home insurance

PLUS

FREE monthly finance

AND

No increase in your auto premium after an accident with our 6 and 9 star protector option.

1-877-CAW-INSR

(1-877) 229-4677

www.caw-insurance.com

The CAW Insurance Centre is staffed by members of CAW Local 1524.

Who is eligible? Any member of the CAW who is actively employed, on disability, layoff or is retired from Cami, DCCI, Ford or GM. Also eligible are the spouses and dependent children of these members.

CALL FOR A QUOTE &
YOU COULD WIN
1 of 50
\$150 GAS CARDS!

Contest in effect until December 31, 2008. Maximum of 6 prizes awarded to each CAW Local.

The Value of One. The Power of Many. That's the difference with group insurance. www.caw-insurance.com

 Beckles Insurance Brokers Limited


AVIVA
Traders



I would like to thank everyone that helped to make our dances the success they have been. This year's Halloween dance was no exception. We had a huge amount of home made sweets, bigger and better sound system, and lots of great costumes. Everyone who attended had a great time, and the Easter and Halloween dances will continue in the New Year.

If there is anyone interested in joining the LGBT Committee from any of the Local 199 units please contact TomBalint at **tel: (905) 687-0701**

email: caw_lgbt@mac.com.

Anyone wishing to connect with a Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgendered, Two-Spirited, Intersexed, Queer, or Questioning-Youth support or social group, or are the parents, family, or friends, of the above; you may find the following information helpful. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

In Pride and Solidarity

AIDS NIAGARA

Outreach Coordinator

An organization committed to providing support, education and advocacy to all individuals who are infected or affected by HIV and AIDS.

(905)984-8684

<http://www.aidsniagara.com/>

OUT & ABOUT.

A social group dedicated to getting people together to have fun. Activities range from cycling and hiking to theatre, bowling, or dinner. Any activity that gets us out and about, in Niagara.

out_and_about@mac.com.

PFLAG ST. CATHARINES

An organization that deals with sexual orientation and gender identity issues from a family perspective, providing support, education and resources.

905-937-0202.

<http://www.pflagcanada.ca/chapters/stcatharines.asp>

BROCK PRIDE

The campus club for Gay, Queer, Questioning, Bi, Lesbian, Trans, and Two-Spirited students and Brock community members.

<http://groups.myspace.com/brockpride>

NIAGARA PRIDE SUPPORT SERVICES, INC.

A charitable organization, the purpose of which is to raise awareness of the issues facing sexual- and gender-diverse youth in the Niagara region, and to serve those youth in a supportive role.

905-380-4576

<http://www.niagarapride.com/>

THE IMPERIAL COURT OF ST. CATHARINES & THE GREATER NIAGARA REGION

A monarchical society dedicated to raising funds and having fun while doing it.

<http://www.imperialcourtofniagara.com/>

TRANSPARENT CANADA

A peer support network for parents of Trans persons.

905-401-1044

<http://www.transparentcanada.ca>

TRANSGENDERED OF NIAGARA

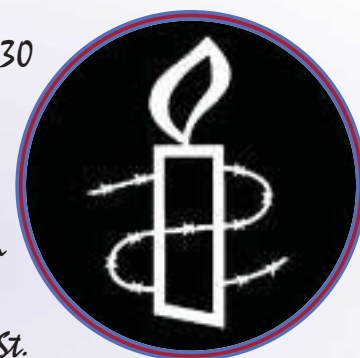
A non-profit support group for Transgendered Individuals.

<http://www.transgenderedofniagara.com/>

*Celebrate International Human Rights Day
Sunday, December 9th, 2007 from 1:30 to 3:30
pm at Knox Presbyterian Church, 53 Church
Street, St. Cath., (located across the street
from St. Catharines City Hall).*

*The event features Wom-Enchant, an all women
choir from the Niagara area. Special guest
speaker, Elizabeth Chitty, Executive Director St.*

*Catharines & Area Arts Council will talk about the issues facing the
Burmese people. Sponsored by Amnesty International Group 112..
Refreshments will be provided.*



WE REMEMBER...NOVEMBER



Wearing **red** on Fridays is a symbolic gesture to show fellow Canadians and our troops that we care and honour those who fought for our freedom, our peace, our resolve. This non-partisan support for our military troops does not support any particular policy, political position, agenda or the nature of the military missions. Proudly wearing **red** are CAW members: Betty Brown, Connie Collens, Fern Campbell, Tom Glucker, Dan Kramer, Kevin Downey, Shawn Rutley, Gary Isaac and Peter Fraser.



The poppy symbolizes Remembrance Day. Replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to raise money for Veterans. Originally called Armistice Day, the first Remembrance Day was in 1919., it commemorated the end of the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.: the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Selling poppies are Retirees Larry

Krupa & Arnie Hartnett to a Glendale worker.



Master Cpl. Jody Mitic, son of Hemi Mitic, CAW Ass't to President Hargrove survived a landmine blast. The 8 soldiers shown were killed in April 2007.



LEST WE FORGET

CANADIAN CASUALTIES

Year

2002.....4

2003.....2

2004.....1

2005.....1

2006.....36

2007.....29

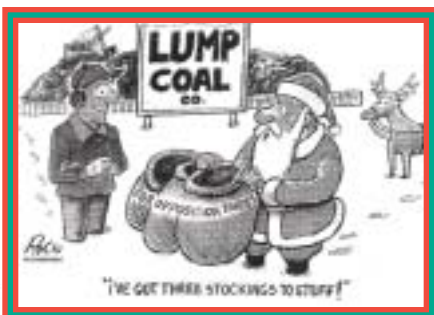
2008.....0

TOTAL: 73



SANTA CLAUS WAS IN TOWN...DECEMBER 9TH

BY: MATT JACKSON, KELLY PURDY, ROB STEVENSON



DID YOU VISIT SANTA AT THE CAW HALL?

The CAW Annual Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 9, 2007. The children who received gifts had to be 12 years and under, pre-registered and in attendance. There was free coffee and tea for the adults and free ice cream for the kids, face painting, balloons & entertainment. Watch for photos of Santa and his helpers in the next 199 Issue.

Upcoming Events

**GHRC 10 Pin Qualifier –
Saturday, January 12, 2008**

**St Catharines Falcon CAW Free
Night – Friday, February 15, 2008**

**CAW 199 Local Hockey
Tournament – April 4/5/6, 2008**

The Rec committee will be looking for volunteers to help with upcoming events. Please contact Matt, Kelly or Rob if you are interested or call the CAW Local 199 union hall at 905-682-2611.

**Happy Holidays
to you and yours!**

RETIREES



BOB BUCKNER, DENNIS DYBALL, BOB BALANOWSKI,
FRED BURKE, DOUG MAC DONALD, JACK BEAUCHAMP



GARY WEAVER, VIC BODY, BERT WILLIAMSON,
JACK HODGSON, BOB BERGE



DON LAWLESS, BOB SALDARELLI,
MIKE MOSKAL, DREW WILSON, MIKE HURD



JEROME BOUCHER, DICK BURKE, SAM BELCAMINO,
GLENN BRADLEY, DONNIE BECKETT



DAVE UNDERWOOD, MIKE BURKE



HENRI COTÉ, ALAN SHEARMAN,
DENNIS MC KEAN



JACK BIRNIE, HEINZ DYCK,
KENNY MAY, JOHN POOTS



SCOTT ALLISON,
WILLY HARRISON



PERCY MCKAY: STILL LOVIN' IT!



CONGRATULATIONS TO
BRUNNER RETIREES!



LINDA JAMES, TED FAZEKAS, GARY LUCHYSHYN,
CHRIS MAC EACHERN, PETER COTTEE, BRENDA MURRAY



WILLIAM CORMIER, GAIL LEGROS, CRAIG KRETZ,
GARY BOOKER, TOM HIND

OBITUARIES

*The Executive and Membership of
CAW Local 199 extend sincere*

condolences to the bereaved families and friends of the following members who have recently passed.

Lyle Adams, Lyle Bolibruck, Frank Burley, Reginald Cameron, Donald Ceporius, Harry Dumas, Frank Gajor, Fritz Henschel, Fredrich Hildebrand, Michel Laurence, Harry Martin, Charles Palmer, Donald Prescott, David Simpson, Gerald Spiers, John Zoleb

CAFE FOR DUMMIES... CHRYSLER EXEC SOUNDS OFF ABOUT UNREASONABLE CAFE LEGISLATION

by: Jason Vines, Chrysler Communications

There's a lot brewin' with the CAFE or Corporate Average Fuel Economy regulations. Trouble is, it's more confusing than choosing between a Tall, Grande or Venti coffee at Starbucks – the kind of people you usually get stuck behind in line. First things first – we're good with the CAFE increase as outlined in the Hill-Terry bill in the House. But many reports continue to miss or ignore the auto industry's biggest beef with the CAFE provision percolating in the Senate Energy bill...the combination of cars and light trucks in calculating fleet average fuel economy. By eliminating the distinction between cars and light trucks, the Senate Energy bill would greatly affect vehicle choices for millions of Americans who depend on trucks.

In fact, a recent Lehman Brothers study found that the Senate Energy bill would cut the sale of large pickup trucks by 60 percent. It would also force vehicle prices to shoot up faster than the cost of a cup when Starbucks came to town – some say upwards of \$7,000. So much for choice, utility, affordability and preserving jobs. That makes as much sense as a double espresso decaf.

Like a Starbucks, one size doesn't fit all. People have different needs for different vehicles for different utilities. Try using a compact car to haul con-

struction equipment, run a small business, tow a boat, or travel on a cross-country journey with a large family. Hill-Terry keeps the fuel economy standards for cars and light trucks separate. That's why Hill-Terry has the backing of the auto industry, including Toyota, not to mention a broad range of other groups from the recreation, agriculture, construction and other industries.

Hill-Terry requires automakers to raise their combined car/light truck average fuel economy by up to 40 percent, to between 32 and 35 miles per gallon by 2022. The Senate Energy Bill? It requires combined car/light truck average fuel economy to rise by at least 40 percent to 35 mpg by 2020. Hill-Terry sets tough fuel economy targets – up to a 40 percent increase. That's not some decaf solution. It's tough but feasible, and it's a smart way to tackle our nation's addiction to oil. The upshot of all this? Trucks are different beasts from cars and need to be distinguished in any new CAFE regulations.





CAFE REGULATIONS = JOB LOSSES IN AUTO

by: TERRY WHITE, GM CHAIRPERSON

C A F E
(Corporate
Average
Fuel Economy)
regulations

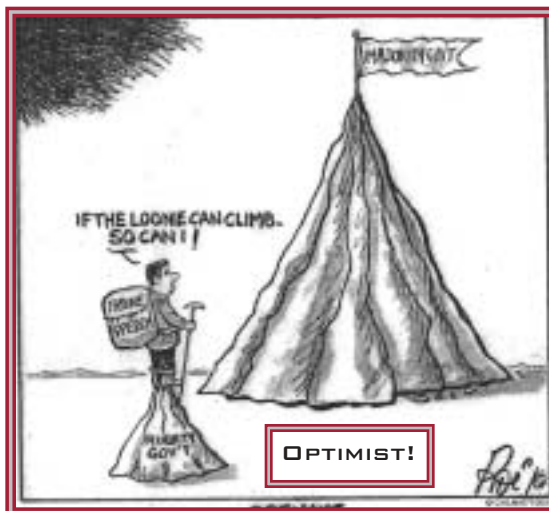
inflict great pain upon automakers trying to reach the stringent fuel economy targets imposed by the U.S. government. An association of several of the major automakers such as GM, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, Honda and others has been lobbying Washington lawmakers for regulations that are more fair to automakers with realistic goals on a more amicable time frame. The proposed bill in its present form to raise fuel economy standards by 4% per year until 2018 is harsh as well as unrealistic and would ultimately lead to product portfolio reductions which translates into job loss.

Although the environmentalists of the world, who would ideally like us all to return to the days of horse & buggy continue to exert pressure for even stricter regulations, the Automakers Lobby Group are proposing a reduced target with a time frame extending to 2022, which is a more fair and obtainable goal. This same group of automakers have gone to court in the state of Vermont in an effort to block Vermont and 12 other Eastern states from imposing extreme tailpipe regulations. The tailpipe regulations would again place an enormous burden on auto manufacturers resulting in even more job loss throughout the industry. The Auto group has lost the initial court ruling and is now appealing that decision. Certainly,

we all have a responsibility to the environment and must ensure its sustainability for many generations to come but this must also be accomplished in balance with maintaining the livelihoods of all working people.

IN THE PLANT

General Motors continues to reduce shifts in many of their manufacturing facilities and many of their assembly plants. As of October 23, 2007 the Delta Lansing plant where GM builds it's popular trio of new cross over vehicles GMC Acadia, Buick Enclave, and the Saturn version will reduce production by removing their 3rd shift. The anticipated impact to the St. Catharines facility that produces the High Feature V6 for these products is the removal of most, if not all, of the previously scheduled over-time for that area. The



issue of the removal of a shift in the Oshawa truck plant has resulted in a reduction of a shift in V-8 production at the Glendale facility also. These two reductions in this

plant are a direct result of market share erosion due to the simple fact that people are buying imports and not a quality product that WE build right here in St. Catharines. **It's critical that our members drive our products and continue to promote them to everyone possible.** Every time someone buys an import, that's one less of our products sold which also means less jobs in the end.

THE CANADIAN \$

The value of the Canadian dollar is of major concern when it comes to investment in Canada; this is just one more issue that we will face as the Shop Committee begins to prepare for the 2008 CAW/GM bargaining next September.

On the other side of the coin with this higher value the car manufacturers need to recognize that the Canadian dollar is now on the side of the Canadian consumer who are now demanding, and rightly so, that vehicle pricing must be adjusted to the current climate. At this time of writing this issue has not yet been rectified. Adjusting pricing in line with the present value of our dollar will surely stimulate more sales of domestic products and help offset the continued erosion of market share for the big three.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe, Merry Christmas and prosperity in the New Year.

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance

Monday December 31, 2007

CAW Hall

124 Bunting Road

St. Catharines

Cocktails @ 6:00 p.m. Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.

Music @ 9:00p.m.

Dinner Menu

Wild Greens with House Dressing

*Roasted Beef Medallions in
Gorgonzola Cream Sauce with
Sautéed Portabello Mushroom*

Fresh Roasted Parsnips and Asparagus

Assorted Fresh Baked Bread

Ice Cream Crepes

Coffee & Tea

Champagne

at Midnight



**Dance in the New Year with
Sandy Vine & the Midnights**

**For more information
and tickets, please
contact Linda
@ 905-682-7616**

Tickets: \$100.00 per couple

Buy your tickets early!

