

RETIRED WORKERS CHAPTER

Mike O'Connell, President

Albert Stevenson, Executive Vice President Reporting

HONORING OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

At our last membership meeting, we erected a board with pictures and funeral programs of some of our members who have recently passed away. This board will serve as a living memorial for the faithful and devoted members of our Chapter who have departed this life. Many times, members have passed away and we never knew about it. The board will be on display at all of our future meetings, and will be updated from month to month. We are asking that if you know of someone who belongs to this Retiree Chapter who has recently passed away, please let us know. We would then try and get a picture and a funeral program which will be placed on our "Living Memorial Board" in their honor.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Marie O'Connor. She had served our Local for over 55 years as a secretary in the office. We honor her for her dedicated service and longtime commitment to this Local Union and it's members.

RETIREES BE INFORMED

Many of our retirees are still losing income by not being informed. When you reach the age of 65, you are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part-A at no cost to you. You will then be offered Medicare Part-B at a cost of $58.00 per month, which will be deducted from your social security pension check. Medicare Part A covers your hospitalization needs and Medicare Part B your doctors' office visit.

If you accept Medicare Part B (and we suggest you do), the money (premium) that is taken out of your monthly social security check will then be reimbursed to you in your Ford pension check. However, you must show proof to the Retirement Board that you are enrolled in Medicare Part B, and this is where some retirees are losing out. Some of our retirees are unaware of the reporting procedure and are not getting reimbursed.

We can help you process this claim to the Retirement Board by simply bringing your signed Medicare card into our office when you receive it, with both Part A and Part B on it. We will then see that it gets processed. If you live out of town, mail us a copy of your card, and we can still take care of it for you. If you have any questions, please give our office a call.

When you retire, you receive a pension. If you should pass away, your spouse will also receive a pension. To pay for your spouse's portion, a small percentage is being deducted from your pension check. If your spouse should die, you need to come into our office with a death certificate so that we can send it to the Pension Board. After this is processed, the cost you pay for your spouse's portion will be folded back into your pension check. This must be done as soon as possible, because it is not retroactive.

Our Annual Picnic will be held on July 9, 2003 at the Warrendale Picnic Area of Hines Park. There will be plenty of food, drink, games, giveaways, and much, much more. We will also have a raffle.

BLACK LAKE SEMINARS

We have two dates for the Black Lake Trip. They are June 30th through July 2nd and November 5th – 7th. The sign-up for the Black Lake Seminar will be held at the May 18, 2003 meeting. Those retirees who have never been to Black Lake will be given the first opportunity to attend this outing.

RETIREES ANNUAL TOUR

This year the retirees' tour will take us to the New England State of Massachusetts. We will visit Cape Cod and the island of Martha's Vineyard. The trip will be for 7 days and 6 nights, June 15-21, 2003. For additional information, please contact James Horton at (313) 842-3147.

NEW RETIREES

On January 31, 2003, we had 130 new retirees, and most of them signed up for the voluntary $2.00 dues check-off. We welcome you, and hope that you become involved and become an active member in your Retirees' Chapter. We would also like to congratulate you on your retirement, and wish you and your family the best of luck. Our Chapter meets here at the Local on the 4th Sunday of each month at 10:00a.m., unless otherwise notified. We do not meet in the months of December, January, or February.

SUPPORT YOUR UNION

...through the voluntary dues program. If you are not on the dues check-off, or to increase your dues from $1.00 to $2.00 per month, please fill out the application below.

Surviving spouses must put the Social Security number that is on your pension check on the application.

Retirees $2.00 Dues

By UAW Convention action in June, 1986, the Voluntary dues deduction was established at $2.00 per month. Fill out the application below and a card will be sent to you.

Check one: _____Surviving Spouse _____Retiree

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Local Union # _____ SS# _____

Mail to: Local 600 Retirees Chapter
10550 Dix Avenue
Dearborn, MI 48120