



Local 592 Tribune

Dedicated to Working People Everywhere

Bruce Bade, Editor
Larry Brauer, Education Chair

www.uaw592.com

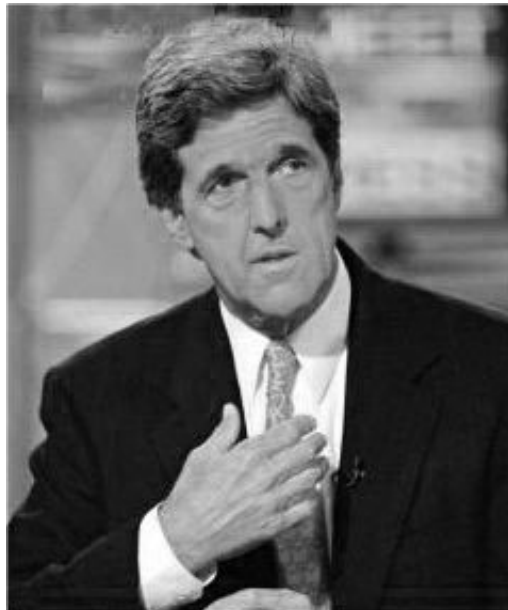
March-April 2004

UAW endorses John Kerry for President

Presidential Candidate John Kerry received a raucous UAW welcome at Region 1 headquarters in Warren, Mich., on March 26, a day after he won the unanimous endorsement from the union's International Executive Board.

The enthusiasm for Kerry was shared by hundreds of UAW members who filled Region 1's Stephen P. Yokich Auditorium, and a nearby overflow pavilion as they waited for his arrival.

After introductions from UAW Regional 1 Director Ken Terry and UAW President Ron Gettelfinger,



cussed the future of the American auto industry. The cars of the future, he said, must become more fuel-efficient, to ensure America's energy independence. "And, I want those cars built by UAW members," Kerry said, "Right Here In America!"

Kerry also outlined his plan to role back Bush's tax cuts for those who make more than \$200K a year in order to free up funds to expand health care coverage. "It's time we stop being the only industrialized nation on earth that does not recognize that health care is a right, not a privilege," he declared.

The Bush-Cheney attack machine has broadcast television as that Kerry has a secret plan to raise taxes. Kerry set the record straight, saying he will keep middle-class tax cuts in place, and role back only those that deliver a windfall to the wealthiest Americans. Kerry also pledged to stand up for American's Veterans, who have suffered benefit cuts during the Bush Administration.

On March 26, 2004, the day after receiving the UAW's endorsement for President, Senator John Kerry did an exclusive interview with UAW Solidarity magazine about the issues in this year's election. The full interview will run in the May/June, 2004 issue of Solidarity.

Kerry entered the hall from the rear of the room, slowly pressing the flesh with union members on his way to the podium. Once on the stage, he displayed the smarts and political skill that led him to a string of impressive primary victories.

Speaking for half an hour without notes, Kerry outlined the key issues facing working Americans and offered a positive vision of a better America.

"We're going to end the subsidies for companies that send jobs overseas and reject the American worker," he said. Kerry dis-

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WORKER'S MEMORIAL DAY IS APRIL 28

Worker's Memorial Day is every year on April 28th, but this year at Hamilton Sundstrand something will be new! We will be having a moment of silence for those worker's killed on the job in the last year not only at HS, but everywhere.

The company was kind enough to agree to let us have a moment of silence to remember those who have died or been killed, on the job. The moment of silence will be at 9:00am and again at 8pm on April 28th.

Please help to observe it. We will also be giving everyone, including both the office and shop, stickers to commemorate the Day. There will be more information available, on the T.V. monitors at work. And also, the moment of silence will be announced over the P.A. that day, too.

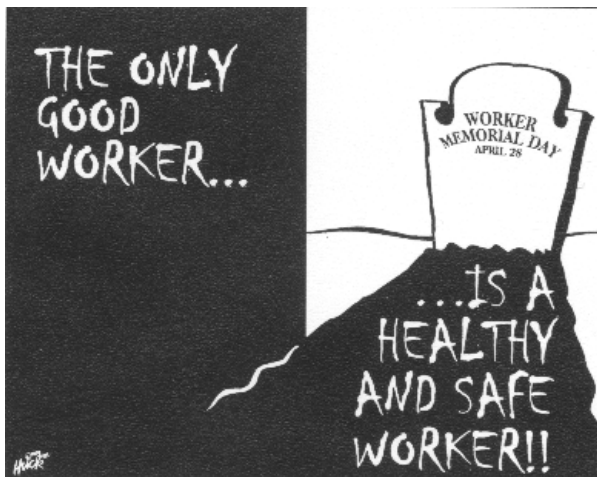
Some of the event is still in the planning stages, so if anyone has any ideas on how to make it more of a success, please feel free to Contact me at X5484. Hopefully, no one will be killed or injured on the job this year. There will also be a Worker's Memorial day service that afternoon at the Zeke

Georgi building in downtown, Rockford.

The first Workers Memorial Day was observed in 1989. April 28 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Every year, people in hundreds of communities and at worksites recognize workers who have been killed or injured on the job.

Trade unionists around the world now mark April 28th as an International Day of Mourning. Mourn the dead, fight for the Living!

In Solidarity, Sue West



Editor's Notes

"Delivering the message" was the theme at this years Local Union Press Association (LUPA) conference at the Walter and May Reuther Education Center in Black Lake. Earl Rowe and myself attended the conference where Union editors, video producers and

Webmasters from across the country come to exchange information and participate in classes on how to communicate more effectively to their members.

against the middle class and working families to our members.

The first step to a victory in November is to insure our members are registered voters. If you are not registered you can use our web site www.uaw592.com to get registered or contact Chris Remhof at work x2157 or at home 234-7154.

"One of the prime responsibilities of the labor movement is to insure greater participation in the political life of the community and nation" said Pat Greathouse UAW retired Vice President.

This is the message that we must embrace, our vote is our voice and our power in 2004.

On April 29th and 30th we will be showing our support in the shop for IAM local 743, in Connecticut. Their contract expires May2nd and are facing the same struggles we faced last year. More news to follow on this.

The 592 Tribune received an Honorable Mention in the journalistic award ceremony at the conference for Best Overall Design. Thanks to Dick Nash for all his hard work and my thanks to the membership for allowing me to attend the conference.

Since this is an election year, Union workers have a responsibly to carry the message of labor to the polls. As working men and women it is important to have strong labor representatives in Washington.

We will be addressing the issues that are important to labor from now till November.

Through the worker to worker program and our newsletter, we will get the facts of this administrations war

UAW Local 592 Tribune
112 N 2nd St. Rockford, IL 61107

Our Editorial Policy

Published by Local 592 with the interest of it's membership, to further the aims and programs of Local 592 and to promote policies of the International Union UAW.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Education committee or UAW Local 592.

We welcome articles from our members as long as are constructive and contribute to the welfare of this union and its members. All articles must be signed and include a phone number. UAW Local 592 reserves the right to edit all articles.

Committee Reports

If you want to help a veteran...

Each day brings more news of troops killed or wounded fulfilling the oath they took to serve our country. The United Auto Workers Union has always supported our nation's veterans in times of war and peace. Our Local 592 Veterans' Committee has, for many years, tried to make things better for veterans by providing benefits information, fighting for improvements through legislation and supporting veterans' charities.

We are contacting you, a member of our Local Union, in hopes that you will feel motivated to join and become actively involved in the UAW 592 Veterans' Committee. We can use your help, but more importantly, *they* can use your help. We currently participate in an annual Stand Down weekend, usually held in September at the UAW Hall, where volunteers and local social service agencies provide help to homeless and other indigent veterans from the Rockford area. We also donate money and other items each year to a different Veterans' home or hospital, funded from the proceeds of several raffles.

If you're a veteran you should consider applying to receive eligibility for health care benefits through the Veteran Center Outstation. It takes several months for your paper work to be completed before you're registered in the system. There is also a prescription card available depending on your income. While you may not qualify at this time, when you retire you may be eligible for the prescription card. For more detailed information contact your Veteran Station Outstation at 4960 E. State St. Rockford or call 815-395-1276.

The Veteran's Committee meets once a month, following the 5:00 P.M. membership meeting at the UAW Hall. You are welcome to come and participate in a committee meeting. You do not have to be a veteran in order to be on the Veterans' Committee – it is open to any 592 member who wants to help. If you have any further questions, please contact me or another Veterans' Committee member.

In solidarity,
Lance Anderson, Chair
UAW 592 Veterans Committee
394-5601 (work number)
983-0034 (pager)



Recreation Committee Report

Were looking for volunteers for our "Adopt a Highway Program" that local 592 signed up for. What a great way for people to see how our Union members make a difference in our community.

There will be more announcements on this in the weeks to come. As of now there we be four times we will meet between April and Nov. for the clean up.

Labor Day is the last thing on anyone's mind but we are looking for candidates to represent Local 592 for the 2004 Labor Day parade. If you or someone one you know might be interested contact a committee member.

Up coming events for 2004 will keep this committee busy and with your help we can have another great year. If you have any ideas or other way to help our community let us know.

Plant 1

1st. shift Tina Roth #8236 or Roberta Oslund #8221

3rd. shift Noel Gustafson or Kristy Baran #8236

Plant 6

Harriet Wellbaum #6052

Plant 8 #6672 or #6673

Plant 19 Tony Wellbaum #2957

CAP Report

By Chris Remhof

I've been asked again to lead the Community Action Program (CAP) Committee for Local 592. If you have any political questions, need to be registered to vote, need help with finding information about the candidates and elected officials, I'm the person to talk to.

I work in Overhaul and Repair on dayshift and my extension is 2157. Feel free to call or e-mail me. You can also call me at home 234-7154 if need be and I'll be happy to help.

V-CAP tickets will be sold during the summer for a chance to win a new car, cash, and other prizes. I'll keep you posted.

Bargaining Committee Report

Larry Brauer; Recording Secretary

We have some good news to report this month in that the company has hired eleven new members. Eight people have been hired as janitors and three have been hired as journeymen electricians. The apprentice positions are still being processed and we are hopeful they will be filled soon.

The Matrix for Class B or Class 2 Postings is for the most part complete. All that remains to be worked out is availability of classes and where they will be held, onsite or offsite, and they will be scheduled during non-working hours. We are trying to have as many onsite, and at no cost to the participants. Some of the classes that will be suggested may be offsite and may have a cost to the employee. The approach that we have taken is that, cost or no cost, the employee is the only person that can position him or herself to take advantage of any opportunity that may advance their chances to succeed. If you take a class or have already done so, please make sure that it is in your personnel file so that you can be considered qualified.

As most of you are aware, this process is a result of the last contract negotiations, where the company and union agreed that by December 31, 2003, the parties would identify what education would be needed to be considered qualified for class B or class 2 postings. Obviously, December 31 has come and gone and the process is not yet in place. Those of us working on this process (Lance Anderson, Mike Hughes and myself) are frustrated by this but we are and will remain diligent to complete the process. We have proposed that a mission statement precede the final document, it as is follows: "We believe the workforce here at Hamilton Sundstrand, has the skills needed, and deserves access to open jobs, this is why this document exists."

Citizenship verification has been on everyone's mind of late, and the verification process has started; our position is that we provide the documentation that is required. We gave the company a letter expressing our desire to bargain over this issue as it

was a "condition of employment" for local 592 members. We are suggesting that you get receipts for any expenses incurred, as we are maintaining that the company should pay for costs involved. Most of us have completed I-9 forms from the government when we were hired. The company has assured us that this is not a witch-hunt for discipline or for false information that may or may not be on the employee's original application.

The bargaining committee feels we deserve answers from the company to out-standing grievances. As of April 14, we have a total of thirteen out-standing grievances, five of which we have lists of arbitrators ready to be chosen and eight that are awaiting lists. It seems to us on the committee, that our desire to reach agreements is wasted on managers who do not see the benefit of following a contract with the membership. Please feel free to help us by showing Solidarity by telling area managers you want answers to grievances and a good working relationship with them and the company.

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETING

Our next meeting
will be:
April 28, 2004

1:00 PM for Night
shift
5:00 PM for day
shift

Bush's Leadership? For a closer look try these sites.

Misleader www.misleader.org

A daily chronicle of Bush administration distortion. Sign up and you can get information e-mailed to you daily.

The Nation www.thenation.org

Bush's Stump Speech, A Jan.21 editorial, points out some of the many distortions in Bush's State of the Union speech.

Need to talk to someone?

The Employee Assistance Program seeks to help those employees with issues that may lead to absenteeism, tardiness, alcohol/drug abuse, and other personal problems.

The responsibility of this program is to search out the cause factors at the earliest stage through confidential counseling and referral of employees or their family members.

Contact an EAP (Employee Assistance Program) Representative. The UAW Representative is Earl Rowe, contact at 972-0418 pager or egrowe@yahoo.com



UAW 2004 Made in the USA

A buyer's guide to 2004 cars, trucks, sport utilities and vans made by the men and women of the UAW.

Cars

Buick LeSabre
 Buick Park Avenue
 Cadillac CTSE
 Cadillac DeVille
 Cadillac Seville/STS
 Cadillac XLR
 Chevrolet Cavalier
 Chevrolet Corvette
 Chevrolet Malibu
 Chrysler Sebring
 Dodge Neon
 Dodge Stratus
 Dodge Viper
 Ford Focus*
 Ford GT
 Ford Mustang
 Ford Taurus
 Ford Thunderbird
 Lincoln LS
 Lincoln Town Car
 Mazda6
 Mercury Sable
 Mitsubishi Eclipse
 Mitsubishi Galant
 Oldsmobile Alero
 Pontiac Bonneville
 Pontiac Grand Am
 Pontiac Sunfire
 Pontiac Vibe
 Saturn Ion
 Saturn L-Series
 Toyota Carolla*

Vans

Chevrolet Astro
 Chevrolet Express
 Chevrolet Venture
 Chrysler Town & Country*
 Dodge Caravan*/Grand Caravan*
 Ford Econoline/Club Wagon
 GMC Safari
 GMC Savana
 Oldsmobile Silhouette
 Pontiac Montana

Pickup Trucks

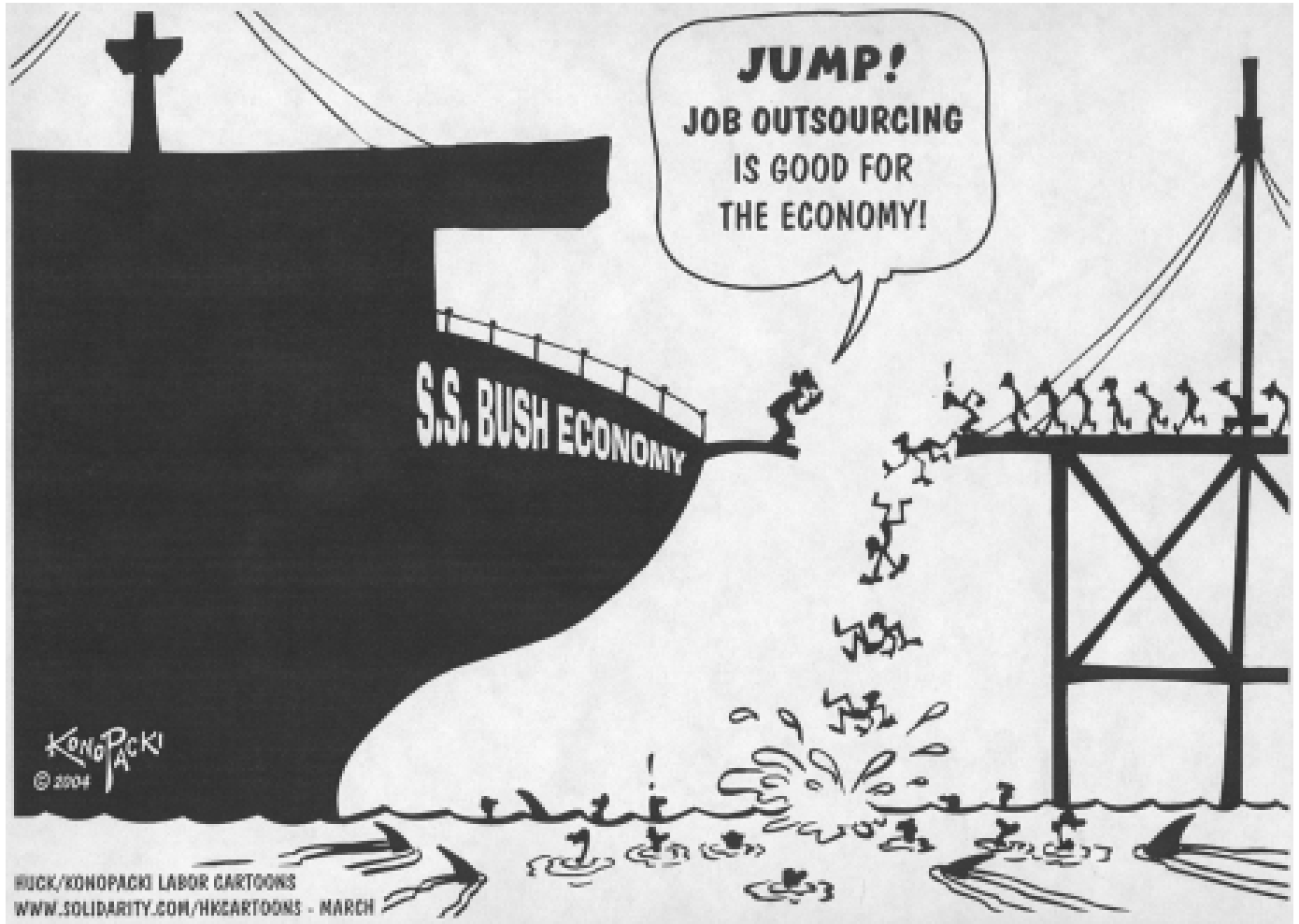
Chevrolet Colorado
 Chevrolet S-10
 Chevrolet Silverado*
 Chevrolet SSR
 Dodge Dakota
 Dodge Ram*
 Ford Explorer Sport Trac
 Ford F-Series*
 Ford Ranger
 GMC Canyon
 GMC Sierra*
 GMC Sonoma
 Mazda B Series

SUVs

Cadillac Escalade
 Cadillac SRX
 Chevrolet Blazer
 Chevrolet Suburban
 Chevrolet Tahoe
 Chevrolet Trail Blazer EXT
 Dodge Durango
 Ford Escape
 Ford Excursion
 Ford Expedition
 Ford Explorer
 GMC Envoy XL
 GMC Envoy XUV
 GMC Yukon/Denali
 GMC Yukon XL*
 Hummer H1
 Hummer H2
 Isuzu Ascender
 Jeep Grand Cherokee
 Jeep Liberty
 Jeep Wrangler
 Lincoln Aviator
 Lincoln Navigator
 Mazda Tribute
 Mercury mountaineer
 Mitsubishi Endeavor
 Saturn VUE

Vehicles marked with an asterisk (*) are produced in more than one country, but all models made in the United States are assembled by UAW members. To be sure the vehicle you are buying is assembled in the United States, check the window sticker, which will list the location of final assembly, and the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), which is attached to the driver's side of the dashboard. A VIN beginning with 1, 4 or 5 means the vehicle was assembled in the United States.

This list can also be found at www.uaw.org



**Local 592
Tribune**

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