

August 21, 1997



President's Message

First, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new employees. Also, I'm pleased to say all but 1 new employee joined the union. May you all have many years of employment here at the Omaha Works.

The EM-3 Council has continued to meet with the company on extending the current agreement for two more years. At this time, **NOTHING POSITIVE** has been brought to the table. The expiration of our contract is May of 1998. No further meetings have been

scheduled. I will keep you informed if anything further develops.

Richard Sigmond, the attorney handling our litigation on the Pension Fund question informed us that Judge Kessler will listen to arguments on Thursday, July 31, 1997. The issue to be argued will be on the company's motion of dismissal. The company, AT&T, was arguing that they had the right to split the excess pension fund in half even though they assigned 70% of the people to Lucent Technologies. Both parties will present their argument on Thursday and there could be an answer as early as Labor Day.

Lucent Technologies had made the decision to again move the Record Keeping and Service Center Operations for the Long Term Savings and Security Plan from Wellsprings Resources in Jacksonville, FL to Fidelity Institutional Retirement Services Company in Marlborough, MA. This move will take place in late December, 1997. A minimal quiet period of no more than 3 weeks is anticipated to accomplish this transition. This move is taking place in order to more closely align the savings and security plan participants with the state of the art products and services provided to the Management Plan. Some of these features include 24-hour a day access to account information via the Internet, an expanded number of service representatives to answer questions and coverage from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Midnight Eastern Time.

A luncheon was held in honor of this year's Academic Award Winners. We are proud to say that each year since this program was bargained, family members of Local 1974 have been recipients of these scholarships. ***Congratulations to these bright students and their parents!***

Stefani Cody - parents Diane & Tom Akeson
Stephanie Greiner - parents Janis & Bill Elliott
Elizabeth Sievers - parents Linda & Glen Sievers

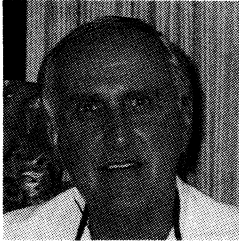
Edie Riester and Sparky Bruning will be representing Local 1974 at the I.B.E.W. Labor Booth August 18th at the Nebraska State Fair.

The Omaha Works is planning to hire another 100 people. The openings are running in the transfer system this week. ***Continued on Page 5***

TO: ALL UNION MEMBERS:

The monthly membership meeting will be held **Thursday, August 21, 1997 in the Small Meeting Room, 13306 Stevens Street, Omaha, Nebraska. Phone: 895-4080 - FAX 895-1828.**

Third Shift meeting: 8:20 a.m., Second Shift Meeting: 2:00 p.m., Day Shift Meeting: 4:15 p.m.



Views from the Vice President's Office

By Sam Martin

Our VPP Safety Audit (Aug. 4-8) has been finished. The 3-member team from OSHA informed Lucent and the Union they were going to recommend to their superiors that we retain our Star Status. OSHA also told us that we have an excellent safety program here at Omaha. Their superlatives concerning our employees made me proud. I had enough conversations with OSHA to know that in their interviews the main message that comes across is that everybody knows that Safety is the responsibility of the individual. Our Union/Management Team and our Sub-Committees are the best and I realize if Management from the top on down didn't support us this couldn't happen.

Still working on our Wellness idea (Exercise Facility). We have to dump our Management member because his effort is not there. This has been a setback.

News from Cabinet area.

New business - Minicell Cabinet

In the month of July our business requoted all the Minicell business from the Mount Olive facility in Mount Olive, New Jersey. The team (Production associates, Engineering, Material Management, & Supervision) produced 4 new prototypes for Mount Olive to review. The prototypes were built in 7 days (around the clock), with 15 minutes to spare before the truck left to the airport. This was great teamwork. The initial feedback has been good. A group from Mount Olive will be visiting our facility August 19th to review

our manufacturing process. This visit is very important to us winning the business. The Minicell business is the other half of the wireless business that we need to have a complete product offering.

New business - Series 11 Battery Cabinet. 350 cabinets. This was a one time order.

PCS cabinets - this business has increased from 70 to 80 cabinets/week to 180 to 200 cabinets/week. This increase should last about 8 weeks and then return to approximately 100 - cabinets/a week. Adjustments in the work force from 80 type cabinets. MSDT/ONU Cabinets (cabinets in the MSDT area went from 200 to 30/cabinets/a week) were added to the PCS program to help fund the increase there.

I hope everybody supports the UPS Workers in their strike against UPS, it could be an OMEN of things to come for all working people.

Here is a question from a Steward's Manual QA Supervisor calls a member at home about his attendance. Should the worker talk to the supervisor? Answer NO! Any time a worker fears discipline, he or she can refuse to answer questions until talking with a steward or other union representative.

Some time ago a Deaf employee here at Omaha, bid on a job in the plating room 30 building. The Engineering at the time put up a serious roadblock saying the area was just too dangerous for him. Working with the Safety Dept. Supervisor, & Labor Relations we ignored their edict. Recently this employee bid on another job. The present day supervisor I quote "I hate to let him go he is one of my best workers." In fact they kept him so long the Union had to step in to get his release. The gist of this story is for people to expand their parameters and give everybody a chance.

I just want to tell our new employees that you are not at the bottom of seniority any more, about 100 more new employees will be under you.

Until next time.

PARADE UPDATE

BY RICK MADEJ

Now is the time for all UNION MEMBERS to sign up to participate in this years Labor Day Parade. Please give your name, work location, and shift to your area rep or call the Union Hall at 895-4080 if you are interested in being included. As soon as the details are received they will be forwarded to you. We need you to help represent our union in this years parade.

THE SHORT CIRCUIT

Omaha, Nebraska

August, 1997

Official Publication of Local Union 1974
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers AFL-CIO,
Omaha, Nebraska

PresidentMarlene Wilson
Vice PresidentSam Martin
Recording SecretarySparky Bruning
Financial SecretaryEdie Riester
Treasurer Tom Pallas

Executive Board

Jim Filipiak, Chairman
Mike Kelly, Rick Madej, Marlene Majeski, Jim Pabian

Newspaper Staff

EditorDeb Gulizia
ArtworkTim Cremeens

Communications for a Future

Submitted by Jim Filipiak
Executive Board Chairman
50 Building Coordinator

First of all, I would like to welcome all the new hires to the Omaha Works. May you have many years of uninterrupted employment here. As of today, we have been fortunate not to have a layoff in over 13 years. Things may look good down the road because a number of members have retired and also because a number of members will be retiring in the next couple of years.

Take advantage of the many bargained benefits you have - to name a few: *Education through ETOP; the Long Term Savings Plan (you can start now - company matching 66 2/3 percent begins after 1 year of service); also visit the Employee Resource Center.* Ask questions and become involved!!

Tom Schulte, Development Facilitator for Manufacturing Excellence, is looking for volunteers to work on communications issues. In 1996, we received an "Opinion Survey" on how we felt the Company was handling their communication issues. Only 40% of the respondents reacted favorably to this. This low percentage must have rattled heads. *To think a Company in the communications business couldn't communicate.*

There were five categories on which we disagreed with the Company that they were doing a good work. We work here! The five questions asked were:

1. *Little effort is made to get the opinions and thinking of the people in this Company;*
2. *I feel I can safely express my view with higher management in this Company;*
3. *In my organization, communication is honest;*
4. *In my organization, communication is timely; and*
5. *Lucent Technologies does an excellent job of keeping the people who work here informed about important matters.*

Working here every day when things are booming, doesn't give us time to think what's going to happen next. When the NEXT becomes a downturn, we start to wonder what happened! We wait for this answer, but it doesn't come. There goes attitude change, and then the bitching and then the pointing of fingers starts.

The coaches tell us what they think the reason for the downturn is, but we're never shown. I'm betting on any given day, there's a couple hundred pounds of "E-Mail" coming down the tube. Most of it gets trashed, but no one tells us WHY. The "WHY" it seems is top secret.

I ask myself what's wrong "if a manager informs the coaches through E-Mail of some-

thing that effects the business - why can't the coaches make copies of this and give it to us?" Isn't that part of 'WORKPLACE OF THE FUTURE' - (which we don't seem to have yet.) Many of us would like to see this happen. WORKPLACE OF THE FUTURE is a start of a "WORKPLACE WITH A FUTURE."

We have a number of things to brag about here at the Omaha Works, but sorry to say, communication isn't one of them - even with a Bell Labs Innovation.

Tom Schulte is a fine facilitator when it comes or organizing peoples values. He's asking for our help to try to improve the communication value at the Works. If you have one week of service or 40 years, try to get involved for the betterment of the Omaha Works and it's employees (union members). Employee doesn't mean Level I's, II's, III's, and Group I's and II's. It means all of us, production and management!!

"Tom," count me in as a volunteer and try to understand me when it seems like I am only bitching. That, too, is part of communication! A manager once said to me, "I don't mind a person bitching at me if that person really cares."

Jack Barry, President of the IBEW, puts it another way:

"Tell me, I might forget - Show me, I'll remember - Involve me, I'll understand."

P.S. As of this writing, Building 50 Job Steward, Tim Johnson, is moving to Building 30 to train for a Master Molding Technician. Good luck, Tim! Don't forget my wood trim!

I WANT TO THANK YOU,
LORD, FOR BEING
CLOSE TO ME SO FAR THIS
DAY. WITH
YOUR HELP I HAVEN'T BEEN
IMPATIENT,
LOST MY TEMPER,
BEEN GRUMPY,
JUDGMENTAL, OR ENVIOUS OF
ANYONE.
BUT I WILL BE GETTING OUT
OF BED IN A MINUTE AND I
THINK I WILL REALLY NEED
YOUR HELP THEN.
AMEN

SAFETY CONTEST

BY DEB GULIZIA

Long before Phase I started in February, your 8 Safety Sub-Committees were hard at work organizing and planning the best way to run this contest. They picked out prizes and thought up questions.

When it was time for Phase II, they got to spend a little more money on the prizes and thought up some tougher questions. With the help of Linda Ryan, they even put some skits on the monitor.

Phase III is almost ready for its start date of September 8th. Your sub-committees have come up with the questions for this phase and have selected watches as the prize. If you are lucky enough to have your name drawn, make sure you have on your safety gear and you know the answers to these four questions when a safety sub-committee member approaches you! You will then have your choice of a men's or women's Seiko watch valued at \$150. *Good luck!*

Phase II Safety Awareness Questions

1. What is the difference between a fire alarm and a tornado siren and what should you do?

A. Fire Alarm is 30 seconds continuous blast - Exit building.

B. Tornado Siren is 3 seconds on 3 seconds off for 3 minute duration. Go to the closest shelter and wait for all clear blast (10 second continuous).

2. What are the symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning?

A. Flu-like symptoms.

B. Dizziness

C. Loss of Awareness

D. Angina (tightness in chest)

3. What is the most effective type and size of fire extinguisher for your home?

A. A 5 lb. ABC Extinguisher

4. What is the proper method for blood cleanup?

A. Isolate Area

B. Call Emergency X3222

C. Protect yourself from touching the blood. Use latex gloves (maybe found in restrooms).

Phase II Contest Winners

Week VI

Harold Davis	C1A
Judith Devault	D13
Rosemary Smith	D17
Gerald Stockwell	C12
Daniel Jacobs	B16
Richard Raven, Jr.	D17

Week VII

John Winchester	A11
Sharon Swingholm	B16
Steven Prerost	B1A
Diane Bare	D17
Donald Schultz	B1A
Brett Bisailon	D17

Week VIII

Richard Krambeck	B14
Marlene Pickrel	A65
Julie Nodskov	D19
Woodrow Long	C15
Tom Pallas	B14
Bob Knoblauch	A17

Week IX

George Siggers	A01
Jimmie Johnson	A13
Wilson Dunlap	D19
Sandy Fisher	C12
Denise Williams	D19
Larry Kingery	D12

Week X

Max Reed	C17
Bob Morisch	D13
Al Pickering	B16
Robert Dobbs	D17
Ellen Stonerook	C14
Evelyn Iselin	D17

FORK TRUCK RODEO DRAWING WINNERS

**DONATED BY
NEBRASKA LIFT SYSTEMS &
CATERPILLARS**

Jacket

Charles Gibbs

Sweatshirts

Debbie Grady

Joseph Williams

Pam McClure

Michael Keller

T-Shirts

Mike Trice

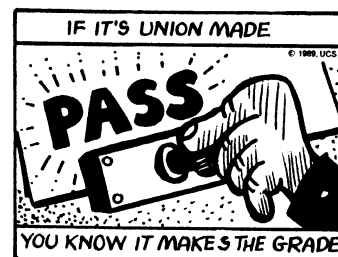
Bryan Stever

Gerald Stockwell

Gwen Harris

John Bonaventura

Jim Karros



President's Message

Continued from Front Page

Shift realignment will take place August 25th. You will be notified on the 18th if you are to move.

Another health care option is being offered to retirees for 1998, the Medicare H.M.O. This Medicare approved plan works much like regular H.M.O.'s. Most retirees will have the option to select the Medicare H.M.O. option during the annual fall enrollment period.

Fraternally,
Marlene Wilson
President/Business Manager
Local Union 1974, IBEW

Benefit News

By Karen Ostrander - Benefit Chairperson

Wall bins containing information on your medical, dental and vision benefits are conveniently placed at the following locations:

30 Building	East Entrance
30 Building	South turnstile entrance
50 Building	BOTH West Entrances
20 Building	Hallway leading from Cafeteria to Medical
20 Building	West Entrance
Employee Resource Center	East end of Cafeteria across from ETOP Learning Center

ALL BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD MEMBERS:

For months, the Joint Benefit Committee has been in conflict with the Local BC/BS over specialists who disregard authorized referrals/services from the PCP. Too many of you have had to pay extra costs for their negligence.

On **July 23**, we were informed by the Corporate New Jersey office at Blue Cross-Blue Shield of the following policy **CHANGE** in connection with the referral process:

"When a primary care physician refers a member to a specialist, should that specialist perform additional services beyond what the primary care physician originally authorized, the member will be held "harmless," and not be asked to fund the cost of the additional services performed. Additionally, the specialists will be contractually responsible for any services they perform not authorized by the PCP."

"While we still believe that the member should be an active participant in the health care delivery process by understanding what services had been ordered by primary care physician (PCP),

we agree that our customers should not be held in the middle."

ATTENTION:

**BLUE CROSS-BLUE SHIELD POS MEMBERS
PRINCIPAL HEALTHCARE MEMBERS (HMO)
UNITED HEALTHCARE OF THE MIDLANDS
MEMBERS (HMO)**

Care for students away from home:

In the case of students temporarily living away from your home network area, they must select a PCP in your network and go to that PCP for routine care when they're home. When they're out of the area, they must get authorization for care from that PCP. In an emergency, they should seek medical care immediately in their local area and call their PCP by the next business day to receive in-network benefits.

ETOP NEWS!! ETOP NEWS!!

BY SHARON BUZZELL

The second group of 45 began classes with Southeast Community College here on site for the Machine Tool Trades Training Program on July 14, 1997.

A list of people who signed up for the Electronics Training Program is posted on the window of the ETOP Staff Office.

A second full time instructor was hired for the Machine Tool Program. ETOP, the Trades Committee, Lucent, and Metropolitan Community College, are in the process of interviewing and hiring a full time instructor for the Electronics Training program.

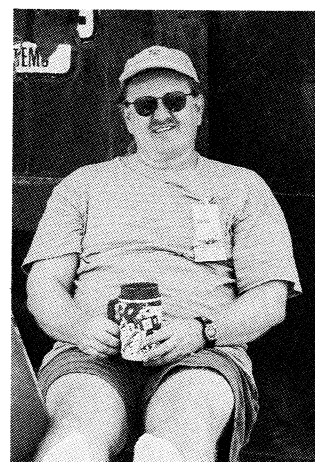
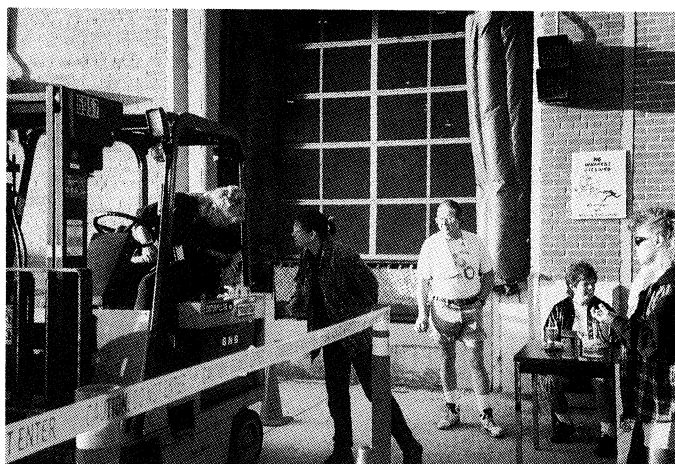
The Accelerated Degree program that was offered on site from Bellevue University, will not take place. There was not enough enrollment. There needs to be at least 12 employees enrolled. There was initially the sufficient number, but 2 decided not to take the program. Anyone still interested, may contact the Academic counselor here in ETOP. Or contact Bellevue University.

A graduation ceremony for the Basic Skills GED program will be held on August 21, 1997.

The ETOP Conference will be held in Chicago on September 8-11. The theme this year is "The ETOP Challenge." There will be speakers, training, and of course, the Committee presentations from each site. The Omaha Committee is rising to the Challenge and working on their presentation.

For questions about your ETOP benefits, please contact Sharon X3828, or stop by the Staff Office in the Enhanced Learning Center 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The representative for Local 1614 is Anniece Farrell X3894.

FORK TRUCK RODEO PARTICIPANTS



If you were in the rodeo, we may have your picture. They'll be at the Union Meetings, so stop by. Pictures are yours to keep.

FORK TRUCK RODEO

BY DEB GULIZIA

Because of the number of registration forms turned in, the rodeo had to be extended an extra day. Last year 117 people went through the course compared to 178 pre-registrations this year.

Since last year was the first year, it was new to everyone and returned registrations weren't real plentiful. Due to the availability of time, walk-ons were allowed if okayed by your supervisor/coach. This year was a totally different situation. After receiving so many entries, not only did the rodeo get extended a day, but time allowed per person went from 15 minutes to 10 minutes. Some late registrations were denied, therefore, when people asked to walk-on, they also had to be denied. Shirts had been ordered and slots were assigned. Handouts stated "You must be pre-registered" "NO WALK-ONS". Please understand that we had to stick with that.

The weather was fantastic all three days. The 50 Building reel yard had absolutely no shade to offer and left a few sub-committee members looking like ripe tomatoes, but all in all it was great!

I'll take full blame for the 30 Building course getting so far behind, but I hope I learned to space the inexperienced drivers and never to put Forrestine, Camille and Lanette right after each other. To top it off I put Sue Greenup on the same course later that day. I hope you will all come back next year!

This year we had the V.P.P. re-certification audit being conducted the same time our rodeo was taking place. Jack Vetter, the head auditor, was curious about the "Fork Truck Rodeo" and decided to come out after lunch Tuesday to get a peek. After watching awhile, he was coaxed to give it a try. Jack had never been on a fork lift so the committee coached him through the course and even told him to get his head back inside because that was a safety violation. When Jack was finished, he thanked everyone for the opportunity to drive the truck and he seemed proud to have earned his rodeo shirt.

The 50 Building again had the most participants of hourly and management people. In fact, Dept. B16 Manager, Charles Gibbs, immediately signed up all his coaches and engineers and made it mandatory that they participate. Day shift had the best response and also a good showing from 3rd shift. Participation from Management in 30 Building and 2nd shift in both buildings was not very good.

The survey sheets that were filled out will be very helpful in organizing next year's rodeo. Most everyone had 3 comments in common: 1. It's hard to see with the mast in the way; 2. It's not as easy as it looks - especially with the back wheels turning; 3. Pedestrians must be more courteous to the truckers. Nearly every-

body took the time to compliment the Trucker's Safety Sub-Committee on the great job they did in every aspect of this event from organization to helpfulness to their fun attitude with all the participants. Also, everyone had fun!

Some of your suggestions were: Holding the rodeo in Hawaii, having a Barbeque, getting Les Cole involved, using the rodeo as a Safety Meeting, and making all truckers go through this before driving inside the plant. I'll personally see what can be done on each suggestion, but as of right now, *Hawaii and Les Cole look to be like "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE."*

The Sub-Committee members and their helpers were there to judge as well as help each driver through the **tougher-than-last-year course**. With first time divers, they were told when to turn the wheels, tilt, raise or lower forks, how to place the load and how to judge making the basket. They all did a great job.

Special thanks to **Linda Sellin** for all the computer work she did at home and for showing us that if you drive over a basketball with a fork truck, it will pop!

Thanks to **Bernie Stopak, Connie Carlson and Steve O'Dell** for their help. Thanks to **Troy Gibler** for helping us set up, judge, and **Nebraska Lift Systems & Caterpillar** for donating prizes.

Thanks to **Rich Schmitz and Charles Gibbs** for making sure we had everything we needed.

Most of all, thanks to the **Trucker's Safety Sub-Committee** for putting on a fun, educational safety event again! **GOOD JOB!!**

Daryl Mandel
Bill Husk
Linda Lloyd
Sue Davis

Linda Sellin
Art Huerta
Debbie Czaplewski

BENEFITS UPDATE

BY EDIE RIESTER

A couple of months ago, we had a benefit meeting and two corporate people, along with Charlie Biggrigg, our Benefit Co-ordinator, IBEW, attended. We had a very good meeting and resolved some interpretation problems that we are having with the local blues.

We received a letter last week and we got five of our cases resolved satisfactorily. These were the ones the blues felt they processed correctly, but were told to reprocess these claims. These were claims that the member had a referral to a specialist, and the claims were paid out of network. So, needless to say, it was a very informative meeting for everyone. So, if any of you are experiencing claims paid out of network, and applied to your deductible, please call X4954 and set up an appointment with one of our committee members. Make sure you bring an itemized bill, if you have one, and the explanation of benefits from Blue Cross Blue Shield.

NON-MEMBER LIST

BY EDIE RIESTER

Seems we had another drop out in May that I didn't know about until after last month's newsletter. Seems like **BOBBIE J. SIMMONS**, doesn't want to belong anymore.

I'm doing the C's and D's this month. So here's a list for you as requested:

Ronald Carter
Frank J. Centamore
Steve R. Chaffin
Melvin R. Clement
Randy A. Cline
Cleda C. Coleman
George C. Coleman
Pat B. Dahlhauser
Geia F. Dante
Betty T. Davis
Willie L. Davis
Danny L. Dockweiler
Kenneth W. Drake
Vernon M. Dschaak
Robert W. Duley

Next month I'll do the E's and F's. Know any of these people? I have some sign-up cards, so page me on 0706 and I'll bring one over. Maybe it wouldn't hurt reminding them of the contract coming up, and without belonging they don't have a say in **OUR** contract.

Next, I'd like to welcome all the new people who just started, and the ones who transferred here. Everyone has joined the Union, but one. That's a pretty good ratio. Don't know why one doesn't want to join, but maybe he will change his mind.

Retired In June 1997

Ronald J. Anderson
Fonda A. Jatón
Gary C. Jones
Darrell D. Kovar
James R. McCallum
Larry J. Nelsen
Claudia A. Perchal
Mary K. Udron
Ronald R. Willms

New Member

Brian V. Geith

Ergonomic Corner

Our Friend Friction

By Don W.

Friction between the hand and handle of any tool used on job is critical to tool performance and avoiding injury. Frictional characteristics of surfaces vary with pressure applied, the smoothness and porosity of the surface with the presence of sweat, oil and grease.

With increasing grip pressures friction decreases. A smooth, low porosity surface will have less friction than a rough, high porosity surface. A wooden handle is better than a steel one. Wood is also better than some plastics. Sweat increases friction.

Spitting into one's palms prior to swinging an axe may have frictional benefits included in the obvious dramatic impact. Fats, oils, spit, grease, and sweat are lubricants that reduce friction but also aide in efforts to do our job.

Tool handle materials should be slightly compressible which means that wood, rubber, and soft plastics are superior for gripping than metal, and hard plastics. The material used for covering handles should not be porous enough to absorb moisture, oil, or fats. This improves frictional characteristics as well as prevents growth of bacteria on the handle. (Keep gripping material if at all possible clean!) The handles should also conduct heat poorly and electricity, especially static electricity; not at all.

There are many solutions to these design problems on the market. The pliers or needle-nose tool you might be using have soft plastic grips molded to the metal.

Some handles have finger grooves in them, other deep grooves. On the other hand fine grooves, patterning, knurling, or smooth surfaces are found in a lot of newer tools that are used in repetitive motion.

Friction is a constant problem on most jobs and in most cases can't be entirely eliminated, but could be used to make the task more tolerable. Friction and work go hand in hand.

THE RECORD

HARLAN HOLCK, RETIREE

BOB RODRIGUEZ, RETIREE

JOHN HOLCK, A13, FATHER

VICKI EADS, B16, MOTHER

KEN AUGUSTINE, B14, FATHER

BOB MACAITIS, A62, WIFE

LARRY EADS, A13, MOTHER-IN-LAW

RICHARD TOELKE, A62, FATHER-IN-LAW

What Happened????

Steve O.

I am writing this article before the OSHA audit takes place and as you read it, the audit will be over.

During the last few weeks, the members of the Union-Management Safety Committee have tried to heighten your safety awareness. We have had an on-going safety contest, resulting with numerous lucky winners selecting different prizes. We have handed you magnets, note pads and letter openers. We even had a free ice cream social. All of this was done with the intent of reinforcing the fact that we are one of the safest factories in the **WORLD**.

As I handed out ice cream tonight to some of you, I was concerned that a few people didn't know why we were having an ice cream social. After all the handouts, flyers, and flashes on the monitors there were still a few who didn't know what VPP is.

Are we taking VPP and the audit for granted thinking that everyone will fall into place at the last second? If we are taking this for granted, are we taking our own safety for granted also? That's when accidents happen.

There are three flags flying in front of Omaha Works. One of the flags is a VPP "Star" Flag. We were awarded this flag as a result of an extensive audit by OSHA. At the time (1994) we were awarded "Star Status" there were less than 100 sites in the world that could brag that they were the best of the best. There are now four companies in Nebraska (3 in Omaha) who have bragging rights.

We got to this point by the "COMPANY" saying "We're tired of paying all this money for injuries and loss of production." And the "UNIONS" saying "We're tired of our brothers and sisters being injured on the job." The end result is that "STAR" flag and all it represents. If you've never seen the VPP flag, take a drive to the front of the works and take a look but please don't run into the car in front of you.

We now have eight safety sub-committees up and running. These individuals are doing an outstanding job helping to keep us safe. **THANK YOU!!**

Emergency Response Team: We all hope you'll not need them but if you do they are #1 - **THANK YOU!**

Deb Gulizia - Truck Rodeo, Ice Cream Social, handouts, on & on - **THANK YOU!!**

Safety Contest - Gerry Pote & Deb Gulizia - **THANK YOU!!**

The Union-Management Safety Committee and Safety Sub-Committees are trying to make the difference - please help them.

BE SAFE!

E.R.C.

Looking for a notary!

Looking for a job on ATS!

Looking for T.A.P. forms!

Looking for work/family information!

Look to the **Employees Resource Center**

Larry 3523, Bob 4970, Marie 3607

UNION - like the way you work it

Muscular Dystrophy Drive

By Deb Gulizia

As we do every year, we will be asking our generous members to reach deep into their pockets to help those afflicted with Muscular Dystrophy.

Too often we take things for granted and forget how good we have it. We all have our problems, whether it be aches and pains, financial or family problems, but think of the families that would consider some of our problems to be petty. These families might start out with a happy, healthy baby and soon begin to wonder why their baby isn't sitting up or crawling or beginning to walk. Some children seem fine even after learning to run, but then come the signs that all is not well. These families watch a child go from that happy, healthy child playing with their brothers and sisters to a child needing leg braces, then crutches, then a wheelchair. Their dreams for their child are shattered. It changes the lives of the entire family.

The Muscular Dystrophy Association is making great strides in finding the cause and a possible cure for this disease. We need to continue our support. Local 1974 will be "*passing the hat*" later this month. When you are contacted, please give what you can. Your contributions will be presented on the **Muscular Dystrophy Labor Day Telethon**.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.

August 12, 1997

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: TEAMWORK:

Teamwork is a word used around Lucent Technologies quite often. Sometimes here at Omaha, I wonder if everybody can grasp what the word really means.

Example - Is This Teamwork?? Hourly workers work and make money for Lucent. Management plays (GOLF) and spends the money that both have earned. I would like to think both the Hourly and the Management should work and play together to really be a team. I understand that it probably would be unfair, knowing that hourly workers are superior athletes as a rule. Maybe a handicap would be appropriate. A helicopter carrying big red cheerleaders that seems to be an extreme - you know it had to be a big expensive one to pull that off. It seems the 50 Building includes all the employees when it's time for the **PERKS**. In the 30 Building, you just can't say they are asleep at the wheel, somebody has to holler "MEDIC" these people are in a "COMA". Let's swap the people who make these decisions from 50 to 30 building.

Sam D. Martin

INDUSTRIAL PARTICIPATION TRAINING WORKSHOP.

THIS WEEK: EXERCISES
TO BUILD TRUST BETWEEN
STAFF & MANAGEMENT



COPE COMMITTEE HALLOWEEN DANCE

The Cope Committee will be having a dance at the Union Hall on **November 1, 1997**. There will be sloppy joes and chips starting at 7:00 p.m. The music is scheduled to start at 8:00 p.m. and continue until midnight.

Music will be provided by **Steve D'Agata**, our friend and Union brother. Earlier, we had reported that the music would be by **Jay Ridenour**, but due to Jay's illness, Steve has agreed to be our D.J. for the evening.

An award will be presented for the best costume, although costumes are optional. Pickles will also be sold throughout the evening. We are still working on the final details for this "fun-filled night."

The Cope Committee would like to welcome our new member, Ron Hug.

Submitted by,
Sheila Filipiak,
Cope Director

Truck-Bed Liners Pose Hazards

Recently, as a motorist filled a small gas can that was inside the bed of his pickup truck, the gas spontaneously ignited, burning him. The investigation determined that the fire was caused by static electricity buildup from the plastic bed liner.

It seems that was not an isolated incident. Technical bulletins and warnings addressing the problem have been issued recently by Ford Motor Corp., Standard Oil Co. and Chevron USA. Chevron's Marketing Bulletin 36-1904 states that the plastic liners found in the back of many pickup trucks prevent the grounding of static charge generated by gasoline flowing into a metal can. As the charge builds, it can create a static spark between the can and the gas nozzle. This also can occur when a gas can is filled as it rests on nylon carpeting in a car trunk.

The reports issued by the three companies, as well as those published by others, all recommend that a gas can should never be filled in the bed of a truck equipped with a bed liner, or in a nylon carpeted car trunk. The gas container should be placed on the ground before it is filled.

Christensen at it again!

Jon Christensen has once again demonstrated his lack of concern for working people. The following article appeared in *Time Magazine*, July 7, 1997:

It Takes Only One Cook to Spoil the Batter

The sweetest morsels in big tax bills, like the ones passed by the House and Senate last week, are often scarcely noticed. In the House bill, for example, "bakery drivers" was deleted from the list of occupations to be treated as employees. Instead, they're to be independent contractors, which means bakeries no longer need to pay Social Security, Medicare or unemployment taxes for the guys who deliver croissants and Twinkies. Why distinguish between them and haulers of veggies or dry cleaning, for that matter? Part of the reason could be that an ardent supporter of the change, Nebraska Republican **JON CHRISTENSEN**, is a chef who knows how to mix the dough of legislation. His Omaha district is home to Metz bakery, a Pepperidge Farm depot and several facilities belonging to the country's largest baking firm, Interstate Bakeries Corp., maker of Wonder Bread. Federal records show Interstate CEO Charles A. Sullivan and his wife contributed \$3,000 to Christensen in 1996. The American Bakers Association, which gave \$46,700 to House Republicans and \$1,000 to Christensen in 1995-96, calls the new rule's enactment by the committee on Ways and Means an "immaculate conception." Now that's real, old fashioned baking. — By Chandrani Ghosh.