

November, 1999



President's Message

As you were notified by Union Handbill, the Lucent Performance Award and the Business Unit Award for the fiscal year 1999 together total \$1294.00 pre-tax. This is a great union bargained for benefit for our membership. The first week of December we will begin bargaining the criteria for the fiscal year 2000 Business Award.

The total number of hourly employees at this time is 2,722 with a total of Union Members at 2,629. Since January 1999, we have had 179 employees leave the roll.

Lucent Technologies has announced a realignment into four core businesses: 1. Service Provider Network; 2. Enterprise Network; 3. NetCore Professional Services and 4. Microelectronic and Communication Technologies. Microelectronics and Communications will consist of Lucent's current Microelectronics Business, Network Products Group (Omaha), the New Ventures Group and Intellectual Property Division.

Steve Lynn, President, EM-3 Council, has informed me that he has received no information concerning the status of the Unfair Labor Practice Charge against the Company. He had initially hoped to receive a decision by this point in time and will keep this Local informed of any updates.

During discussions with Al Cruz, he informed me the business outlook for the next three months is this: Central Office will be loaded at approximately 550 mcf per week; Plenum will be located at 150 mcf per week; and 700 series is loaded at its max capacity. He also stated that the MAX program is getting closer to fully deployed in the cable shop. The insulate, twist/ministrand, strand and jacket operations have been brought online. The strand and jacket operations are the latest cuts. All the cuts have been successful through everyone's efforts including the operators, Redshirts and the engineering support. He said, "We would not be at this stage without everyone's help and cooperation." Al Cruz also had this to say about the movement of people to the 30 building: "The reason for the move is that the Cabinet operation has more than a doubling of orders. The plant is balancing its workforce throughout its business. There have been approximately 100 permanent moves and 50 loans. As far as we can see, the moves are done." This was all as of Friday, November 5, 1999.

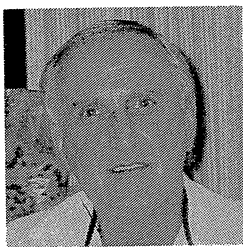
The deadline for the Lucent Academic Awards Program is quickly approaching. If your child is a high school senior, has a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.25 on a scale of 4.0 and has participated in community or school volunteer service activities, then he/she is eligible to apply for the Year 2000 Academic Awards Program which provides for scholarships of up to \$6500 per year. Applications will be available through November 30, 1999 and must be postmarked by December 31, 1999. Employees should call 1-888-582-3684 with any questions or to receive an application/program

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TO: ALL UNION MEMBERS:

The monthly membership meeting will be held **Thursday, November 18, 1999 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

As of October 18, 1999 our rivals Nortel Networks (NT) and Cisco Systems (CSCO) stocks have smoked Lucent Tech. (LU) over the last 12 months with gains of more than 200% and 140%, respectively. Lucent is up about 60% over last year.

Lucent Technologies has reorganized from 11 different businesses to 4 core businesses. Omaha Works will now belong to "Microelectronics and Communications Technologies" headed by CEO John Dickson.

Question asked by Union Member, Everett Peterson, GPC Building, at our last monthly meeting: With all Lucent's acquisitions, Ascend; Octel; Paridyne; Excel Switching, etc. and the company wanting to merge management's Pension Plan, Long Term Disability Plan, Disability Plan with the Occupational's Plans, does this effect the monies in our plan? Yes it does because everybody knows we use the excess in our pension plan to help fund retiree health costs. The management plan monies are far less than ours. It's also a big concern for the Unions because of the addition of all the new employees who are non-union and brought nothing to the table with them. **For the moment this merger has been put on hold.**

IBEW, according to Mike Quinlan, International Representative, has tried to organize these companies with no success. By the nature of the work, employee turnover and getting a hold of pay bonuses are some of the organizing problems.

EPR trial days end October 3rd instead of October 1st. The Union is asking the Omaha Work's Council for its approval to continue EPR Days into the year 2000.

We have filed a grievance on the Iowa taxes. The company says SAP is unable to take Iowa's State taxes

out of our paychecks, and in the future they won't supply a W2 Form for their Iowa employees. We believe they can do Iowa taxes - they just don't want to! Hey, Iowa & Iowa State lost those football games! And now this.

What if Minimum Wage kept up with CEO Pay?

If entry-level wages had risen this decade on par with the skyrocketing pay of U.S. Chief Executives, the minimum wage would be \$22.08 an hour. Instead, it's \$5.15. That's one of the pay disparities cited by United for a Fair Economy and the Institute for Policy Studies in a jointly published report. Here's another: If average production-worker pay had risen at the same rate as CEO pay between 1990 and 1998, that worker would earn \$110,399 today, rather than \$29,267.

In our latest safety report, our OSHA Recordable Cases are running about 7.3 per 100. Our goal is 6.7.

In case you don't understand what VPP is, the following is taken from the "Federal Register" "... rules are **equitably enforced** through a clearly communicated written disciplinary system that includes procedures for disciplinary action or reorientation of managers, supervisors, and employees who break or disregard safety rules, safe work practices, proper materials handling or emergency procedures..." It is not just for the occupational employees.

Because of some confusion that exists as a result of Dowd & Dowd's Article, **remember you must report an injury to medical.** The following excerpt is taken from your benefit book: "*Accident disability benefits may not be paid for any period before you report an injury. If an injury is not reported within 60 days of the accident, no benefits are payable.*"

The following are the cumulative returns for our Lucent Savings Plans from January 1, 1999 to October 31, 1999.

BT (Bankers Trust) Fund (Sept.)(3659)	51%
Emp. Shares Fund 1&2 (9956 & 9955) est.	+16.69%
Fidelity Eq.-Inc. Fund (0023)	+7.41%
Fidelity Freedom Inc. Fund (0369)	+4.02%
Fidelity Freedom 2000 Fund (0370)	+6.22%
Fidelity Freedom 2010 Fund (0371)	+9.32%
Fidelity Freedom 2020 Fund (0372)	+12.01%
Fidelity Freedom 2030 Fund (0373)	+14.43%
Fidelity Magellan Fund (0021)	+13.39%
Fidelity Ret. Money Market Fund (0630)	+4.09%
Lucent Capital Preservation Fund(9977)	+5.42%
Lucent Equity Index Fund (3690)	11.39%
Lucent Stock Fund (9931)	+16.69%
Merrill Lynch Bond Fund (Sept.)(3658)	+1.65%

***Fraternally,
Sam***

THE SHORT CIRCUIT

Omaha, Nebraska

November, 1999

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
TreasurerTom Pallas

Executive Board

Jim Filipiak, Chairman

Bernie Stopak, Rick Madej, Marlene Majeski, Jim Pabian

Newspaper Staff

EditorDeb Gulizia
ArtworkTim Cremeens

President's Message

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brochure. Applications can also be obtained from the website at: <http://ion.hr@lucent.com>, then click on Compensation Benefits, then click on Academic Awards Program. There will be 35 scholarships granted to CWA and IBEW represented employees' children.

If you need to change your home address, W-4 information, Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), you may use the new agent-assisted service available Monday through Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Eastern time at 1-888-372-9402. Paper forms can also be obtained via the internet at: <http://ion.hr.lucent.com/hrtrans/mainasp>. Click on "Get Forms", go to payroll and select whatever form you need. Completed forms should be faxed to 904-636-3738.

The Company is planning to modify the Adoption Reimbursement Program to be effective retroactively to July 1, 1999 to qualify the Program as an "adoption assistance program" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code 137. These changes do not change the eligibility criteria or benefits under the Program. The changes affect only the tax implications. If you have any questions, call Larry Koch at 1-908-559-7343.

Former President of Local 1974, now President of the Nebraska State AFL-CIO, Ken Mass, has announced James M. Tylski was elected to fill the vacated position of Secretary-Treasurer by a unanimous vote. Mr. Tylski has been a member of the Operative Plasters' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada (OP&CMIA) Local Union 538 since 1991; has served as an Executive Board member of the Omaha Building and Construction Trades Council; and, was elected President of the Omaha Building and Construction Trades Council in 1997. Congratulations to James!

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

**Make sure all Calendar Stubs
and money are returned by
November 19, 1999.**

THE RECORD

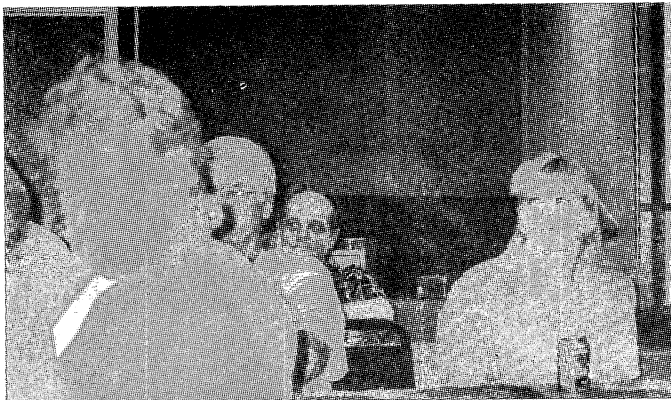
Jesse Welker, A-13, Father
Cheryl Brezenski, F-22, Brother
Joe O'Grady, AD-3G, Brother
Joella Pacas, AC-76, Sister
Carl Soby, A-17, Father
Sue Davis, F-26, Brother
Steve Mahr, A-17, Mother-in-Law
Bob Kamin, ACA5, Father
Jeff Utterback, ABA-3, Grandfather
Kenny Kowalewski, AB-14, Father-in-Law
John Kuhn, AB-49, Mother
Terry Larsen, AB-6, Grandfather
Larry Finley, AB2-4, Father-in-Law
Jim Conrad, AG-11, Father-in-Law
Matthew Howie, AG-18, Grandmother
Darlene Miller, F-26, Mother-in-Law
Larry Duros, AO14, Father
Rich Maycock, AB-4, Wife
Dave Clements, AD-3, Brother

Trade Winds

by Rick Madej

On November 12, an awards ceremony was held to honor the outstanding apprentices from Nebraska and Southwestern Iowa for the years 1998 and 1999. This marks the second time that the IBEW 1974/Lucent Apprenticeship Programs have been included in this event which takes place every other year. While it consists mainly of local unions representing the Construction Trades, our U.S. Department of Labor Representative suggested that we inquire about being included due to our high standards of apprenticeship, and we were accepted thanks to the efforts by Jim Black who has since retired, but still remains an active part in this affair. Being honored this year and representing our local are: Outstanding Apprentice for 1998, Pat Michalak, Pipefitter; and the Outstanding Apprentice for 1999, Jay Ackland, CST; Rick Clites, Toolmaker, and Andrew Frye, Machinist. These individuals were selected not only because they did what they were asked to do, but for the extra effort they showed on and off the job during their apprenticeship. While we give special recognition to these individuals, the Apprenticeship Committee would again like to congratulate all our graduated apprentices for the efforts that they have given to make our programs as successful as they are. We are looking forward to having more Apprentices represent us at this event in the future.

Interested Members at the Union Meeting



Retirees in September 1999

Robert A. Ackley
 Shirley K. Barnes
 James E. Barrett
 Marilyn S. Bernardini
 G.A. Betti
 H. Robert Bloodsworth
 Barbara K. Boll
 Joseph A. Bonaiuto
 Ronald Bush
 Jeanette B. Byers
 William K. Carson
 Duane H. Dolezal
 Jackie J. Frum
 Thomas C. Glesinger
 Jerome A. Green
 James L. Hardick
 Larry L. Hawkins
 Sylvia A. Hearn
 Mildred V. Johnson
 Nicholas T. Johnson
 Gerald H. Keller
 Paula P. Knight
 Jacklyn H. Larkin
 Charles J. Law
 Herbert A. Lee
 Frank J. Nagel, Jr.
 Linda P. Ohme
 Lavonne P. Ostrand
 Siegmund Rasokat
 Marla J. Serflaten
 Emily K. Weible
 Carl M. Williams
 Mary K. Williams

2618 Members

33 Retired • 1 Deceased • 2 Terminated
 1 Quit • 1 Honorary Withdrawal

**What does C.O.P.E.
 Stand For???**
**COMMITTEE ON
 POLITICAL EDUCATION**

What's Happening?



by **Marlene Majeski**
E-Board Officer & 30 Bldg. Coordinator

The cabinet jobs have been very busy and, as a result, more members were excessed from the cable shop and a few from fiber optics. The schedules are high and they need all of the help they can get. The DSX area and Central Office have loaned 20 more people to cabinets.

Some of the newer members that took voluntary downgrades were not slotted in the new pay scale correctly. As a result of the **Union's** questioning where these individuals were slotted, some of our members will be receiving pay adjustments.

Because of Union bargaining, everyone will have some extra Christmas money with the Lucent awards being paid out in December. **ANOTHER UNION PLUS!!!**

If you have ordered a Union shirt and have not received it, please double check with your union rep. We have several colors that we cannot get with pockets or long sleeves. We will be selling Union shirts at the Union meeting this month.

Wishing all of you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!

NON-MEMBER LIST

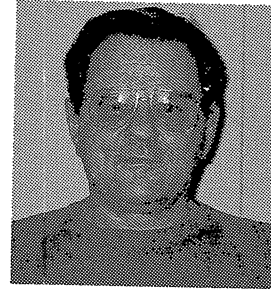
BY EDIE RIESTER

Here's the list of non-members as requested. I did the G's and H's this month. Seems some got offended that I'm running these names in the paper. This has been requested by Union Members. With this being a right to work state, our members feel it is their right to know who is not paying their fair share. We bargain the contract for everybody, and I don't see one of the non-members refusing the benefits the Union gets them. I give my page number in every article, all you have to do is page me, #0706, and I'll bring you a card to sign. I even list the letters of the alphabet that I'll be doing the following month. I feel that is fair. Next month I'll be doing the I's and J's. Well, here goes:

Don George	Jody G. Gorden
Anthony Hall	Henry C. Hill
Rosa M. Hill	Lee A. Holbrook
Jimmie Howard	George W. Huffaker

Don't forget if you need sign up cards, give me a page, #0706, and I'll bring you over a card.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION!



BY **JIM FILIAK**
50 BLDG. COORDINATOR

FYI-hopefully, you'll never have to do this.

Let's say it's 6:17 p.m. and you're driving home, (alone, of course), after an unusually hard day on the job. Not only was the work load extraordinary heavy, you also had a disagreement with your boss, and no matter how hard you tried, he just wouldn't see your side of the situation. You're really upset and the more you think about it, the more uptight you become.

All of a sudden you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home, unfortunately, you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. What can you do? You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course neglected to tell you how to perform it on yourself.

HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE. (Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seems in order.) **Without help the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds before losing consciousness.** However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. **A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest. A breath and a cough must be must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again. Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and the coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a phone and, between breaths, call for help.**

Tell as many people as possible about this, it could save their lives!

Roger Roadway's daughter gave this to us to pass on. **Thanks Tammy!** Roger works in the 50 Bldg. Fine Wire, 3rd shift.

MEET A MEMBER

BY DEB GULIZIA



RON BROCKMAN

Most everyone in the Cable plant should know Ron Brockman. He's been with the Company for almost 41 years and has spent his entire time in the Cable Shop. He told me he started in the Armored Lines and I had never heard of that so he explained that it was a buried cable that was wrapped with tarpaper, aluminum, steel and jute twine. This was definitely before my time. He told me that after the armored lines he went to the steel lines that also produced buried cable. None of this even sounded familiar. After working on these two types of cable, he started on the PVC Insulate lines (now I think we all have heard of that). Ron has about 30 years experience operating various insulate lines and is now a Level III in the Plenum Insulate area on days.

Ron has been a volunteer as a Sergeant for the Pottawattamie County Deputy Sheriff's Department since 1981. The only difference between a volunteer and a paid deputy is that they cannot invoke the implied consent on drunk drivers. The volunteers put a car on the road every Friday and Saturday to assist the regular deputies. There are a total of 23 volunteers in his group, both men and women that work all Westfair concerts, basketball and football games played at Lewis Central, Avoca, Neola, Treynor and Underwood.

This volunteer group owns their own vehicles. With grants and donations, they have purchased an Expedition, two Ford LTDs, five mountain bikes, and a golf cart (sirens and all), a 4-wheeler and a 30 ft. trailer for transporting. They also lease two brand new Harley Davidson's at \$1.00 per year. That sounds like a deal to me!

One of Ron's scariest experiences as a deputy came when all the paid deputies were at a gathering and the volunteers were pretty much in charge of the county. He responded to a domestic disturbance and had a gun pulled on him. Even though he was wearing his bullet-proof vest, it was a very traumatic experience.

Another memorable experience Ron had was about ten years ago when he was the first on the scene of an attempted suicide. He was successful at resuscitating the victim who needed to be taken out of a garage by

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THE WINNERS

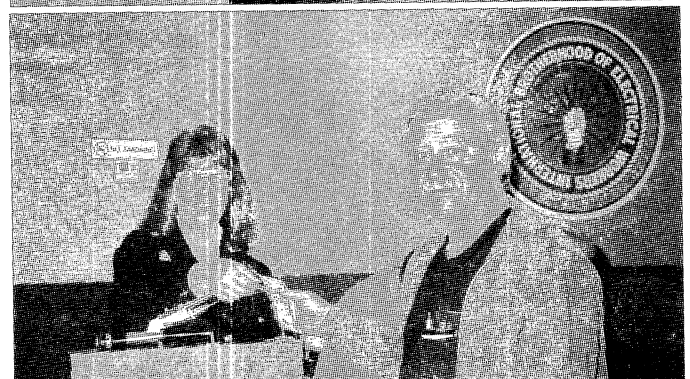
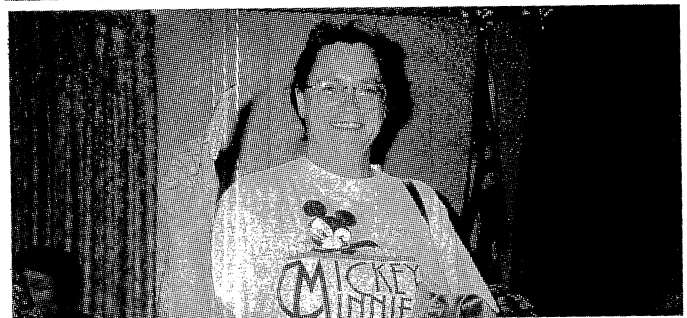
The winners of the 50-50 Drawing were:

8:20 a.m. meeting - Nick Sysilow - \$9.00.
2:00 p.m. meeting - Maxine Lyons - \$3.50.
4:15 p.m. meeting - Buddy Boyles - \$13.00.

Both Maxine Lyons and Buddy Boyles donated their winnings back to the COPE Fund.

The winners of the \$50 Door Prize were:

8:20 a.m. meeting - Don Miller.
2:00 p.m. meeting - Judy Jurkovic.
4:15 p.m. - Tina Nicholson.



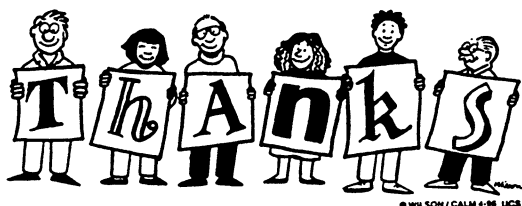
MEET A MEMBER

Continued from Page 6

dragging him quite a way. He was a large man and Ron ended up missing three days of work after injuring his back during that rescue. You should be very proud to know you saved a life, Ron!

Ron was born and raised in Treynor. Even before Ron graduated from high school, he was busy farming 160 acres of crops and right after farming season he applied for a job at Western Electric. He is proud of his smaller town roots where the entire town backs the high school sports and everybody seems to know each other. That is why each year he saves a day of his vacation to volunteer as the deputy for the homecoming parade in Treynor. He and his wife, LaVon, have 3 children and 7 grandchildren that all live within about 5 miles of each other. Besides the family keeping the two of them busy, they are both very involved in Eastern Star and the White Shrine of Jerusalem. They travel quite a bit with these groups and recently attended a convention in Des Moines. Harvey's in Council Bluffs was the site of another convention recently in which LaVon was in charge of two of the luncheons and Ron was in charge of video taping the entire function. Ron is an avid photographer, so he didn't mind his duties at Harvey's.

Ron is a pretty easy going guy so stop by and say "Hi". His picture was taken a few years ago but he hasn't changed much.



I would like to thank my co-workers and the union for the thoughtfulness shown to our family during the loss of my brother. It was greatly appreciated.

*The Driggs Family
Cheryl Brezenski F-22*

We'd Like To Have You Back

By Deb Gulizia

As many of you have noticed, Edie Riester is again running the list of those people that, for whatever reason, choose not to belong to OUR Union. These people are some of the first to ask what's going on during the bargaining of OUR contract, ask what OUR pay raises will be and what the UNION BARGAINED Lucent Award payouts will be. They have no problem asking a UNION rep questions about their attendance or UNION BARGAINED benefits.

I have asked a few of the non-members to sign up lately and have been given a few reasons why they don't choose to do so at this time. Most of the complaints are issues that happened years ago that was a Company Policy the former member wanted the Union to change. When they were told it couldn't be done, they decided to drop out. I understand their frustration, but this is not the way to handle this type of situation. The union does not have the right to force the Company to run their business the way the union wants it run. They have the right to run their business as they see fit. Arbitrators across the country have and will always rule that way.

Another reason I heard that former union members did not want to sign up was that when they dropped out, the membership treated them badly. I know that to be the case in some instances, but please keep in mind that our dues paying members feel like the non-members are picking their pockets each and every day. We, the membership are picking up the tab for your paid vacations, holidays, EWD's, benefits, LTSSP, Stock Purchase Plan, Legal Plan, Signing Bonus, Shares for Growth and now the Lucent Awards to be given out in December. I don't understand how you expect the dues payers to feel about you when they see you reaping their Union bargained benefits.

The \$6.23 spent each week on Union Dues is, without a doubt, the best buy in town! Besides what I have already mentioned, we have 10% Night Work Bonus and 10% 7-Day coverage allowance. Most companies will give a flat amount like 25 cents an hour more. This alone adds up to quite a bit more for our union workers than a non-union shop. Every single gift that is given to you by the Company must have Union approval ... even the "Employee Appreciation" mug you received last month.

If everyone started to have the same attitude and drop out of the union when the **Company** did something they didn't like, we would be in a world of hurt. There would not BE a Union. Everyone would drop out and we would all be at the mercy of the Company to give us the same things they do now. That definitely would not happen.

We may not like everything Lucent does, but you have to be honest with yourself and agree that BECAUSE we have a strong Union here, it is a great place to work. If we didn't believe that, we wouldn't have encouraged our family members and friends to apply for a job here.

We need to have every non-member be honest with themselves and understand that nothing is perfect. In your heart, you know the right thing to do is sign up and pay your way like the rest of us. We need to work toward 100% membership to show the Company how strong we are. The membership will welcome you to IBEW Local 1974.

GAG REFLEX

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

GAG ME!!! For the people that are spitting their tobacco on the floor and in bottles and leaving it for other people to clean up - please check your "gag reflexes."

This includes the smoke shacks.

Politics 1999-2000

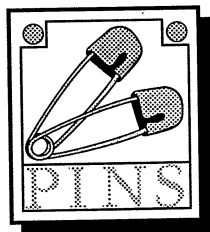
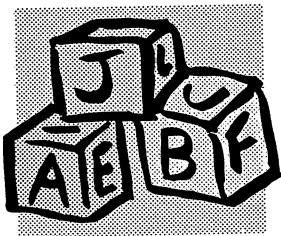
by Sheila Filipiak, COPE Director



In October, I was lucky enough to get a ticket to the Iowa Jefferson Jackson Dinner. The key speakers were Gore and Bradley. It was the first time they had ever appeared together. There were about 3000 people in attendance. The event has been covered by most of the media. I won't bore you with a repeat of their coverage. However, the media didn't have this picture (I was very lucky to get) of Vice President Al Gore and myself. The following week the AFL-CIO gave Gore their endorsement.

The 2000 elections will begin in February with the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary. so for the next couple of months we are going to give you a break from politics. I'm sure even the activists will be politically burned out by November next year. This election cycle could be very interesting though. Hang on, anything can happen.

The COPE Committee would like to wish everyone of you a safe and Happy Holiday Season.



Peggy Pinkerton, IBU AD-76
Daughter - Brittany Loraine Dempsey

Barbara Aldrich, IBU AB-29
Granddaughter - Brittany Loraine Dempsey

Jack Rosencrans, IBU ACC8
Grandson - Craig Bryant Sullivan

KNOW YOUR REP

BY DEB GULIZIA



TIM JOHNSON

Tim Johnson started working at the Omaha Works back in 1991 in Patch Cords. Since then, he has had only a couple other jobs, a very short stint in Cabinets, then onto Stranding in the 50 building before he entered the TRIM (an apprentice program) in Molding. He will hopefully graduate the TRIM Program in February and become a Master Molding Technician.

Tim has two children, son, Cole 6 years old and daughter, Shelby, 5 years old. They are both into soccer and T-ball. Cole is in the Tiger Cubs where Tim helps out and Shelby is in the Daisies. Tim's dad has an acreage and when he and the kids get together, they spend a lot of time fishing at the pond, riding horses or going 4-wheeling. When they aren't at Grandpa's, they might be camping or spending a good deal of time at Mahoney State Park in the playground areas. They enjoy climbing the wall and do just about everything else they have to offer for family fun.

The Waverly area is where Tim was born and raised but now calls Ashland his home. Before coming to work at Lucent, he worked in construction for about 5 years and still uses his skills to do remodeling and additions. He even built his own house. He also enjoys golfing, fishing, hunting and the outdoors.

If you see Tim in the Molding area, you can call him by his alias "The Silver-toed Wuss" (or "woose" the way Tim spells it.) That's what you get for hanging signs on people! It backfired and he still hasn't learned his lesson. Always watch your back when you're around the Molding department. By the way Tim, what have you been kicking?

Tim has been a rep for Local 1974 since 1992 and serves on the COPE Committee. If you would like to get in touch with Tim Johnson, call him at X3185 or X4828 on day shift.

ETOP NEWS!!! ETOP NEWS!!!

by Sharon Buzzell

Start watching your mail for ETOP class schedule flyers. They will be mailed soon.

Tier Core requirement classes and college credit classes starting January 2000 are now being advertised. Registration Forms are located at the doors or you may call me at X3828 to pick one up.

ETOP National is in the process of negotiating a contract for the Electronic Training Program. There has not been a time set to start this program. Keep watching for flyers, the monitors and news in the Union paper for information on Asset Testing dates, pre-requisites and meetings. We are still very hopeful that this program will begin soon.

If you are interested in using the ETOP Computer Lab in the ETOP Center, you will need to sign up for a user name and password. Call me at X3828 for information on how to get your password.

The Omaha Federation of Labor visited the ETOP Enhanced Learning Center on Thursday, November 4, 1999. Their group included Terry Moore, President of the Omaha Federation of Labor, John Kretschmar, Director of the William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies, and approximately 50 guidance counselors from the Omaha Public Schools, Millard Public Schools, Westside Community Schools, Abraham Lincoln High School, Bellevue Public Schools, and Thomas Jefferson High Schools. This tour was designed to inform Guidance Counselors about the shortage of skilled trades training people there are in the United States, and how ETOP, IBEW, Lucent and other Local Unions have worked together in training programs to help ease that shortage in the workplace. This shortage has almost reached crisis level in our country. Thanks go to Jim Pabian. His initial contact with Governor Johanns about the ETOP, IBEW, Lucent and Union skilled trades training programs was the driving force behind these tours. Thanks to Terry Moore and the Omaha Federation of Labor for bringing the group of visitors to the ETOP Learning Center here at the Omaha Works.

Visit the ETOP Learning Center located at the east end of the main Cafeteria. You will find a Computer Lab, Lending Library, AV room and periodicals. We offer Computer classes, workshops and college credit classes, Tier Core requirement classes and study guides. We have Basic Skills counseling and Academic/Career counseling. It was negotiated for Union employees. If you haven't seen it, visit us soon.

Questions??? Call Sharon X3828.

The Holidays 1999

I wrote the following article for the Short-Circuit in November, 1997. A favorite of saying of mine is "Play Back That Tape." As I play back my tape, I realize we have a lot of new members that were not here in 1997. I'm sure there will be another toy to take Elmo's place this year, but the rest of the article still holds true.

MAKE IT HAPPEN

When you read this article, most of us will have 30 days left to work in 1997. For myself, I can't wait. We've put in a lot of long hours in 1997.

Christmas has always been a big part of our lives, a time to be ourselves and try to make others happy. It's time to make our gratitude list. We really have a lot to be thankful for, even if we had some bad times in '97.

There are people out there in the world that can't help themselves. They have no control over what happens in this world. We, at the Omaha Works, have always been there to try to put some happiness in their lives, especially during the Christmas Season. These little people are called "children". They don't feel the joy and laughter of a Santa Claus or feel the love that our children and grandchildren experience.

In the month of December, you will have one of your co-workers come to you with a box, taking up a collection for "Toys for Tots." Please be generous! Think what a smile looks like when a little boy or girl is given a gift. I remember last year when my granddaughter got her "Tickle Me Elmo." Her face just lit up. The rest of the gifts didn't mean anything. That one moment was worth the hours spent looking for Elmo.

The American Worker has always been a part of the American Dream, helping others. We help with the Food Drive, the mitten tree, visits to nursing homes, bell ringers, dress a doll/bear, and Toys for Tots. All these are part of the American Dream.

A special welcome to the new hires! You're becoming part of this dream. Let's make it happen.

*Submitted by Jim Filipiak
Building 50 - Executive Board Officer*



Happy
Thanksgiving

Helpful Phone Numbers

Employee Stock Purchase Plan (all employees)

ESSP Service Center 888-587-8625
TDD 800-637-1215

Global Founders Grant

Salomon Smith Barney 800-818-8345
TDD 800-538-7909

Savings Plan (all employees)

Service Center 800-410-4015
TDD 800-610-4015

SAP Payroll

Tiered & Hourly 877-727-7297

Tech Payroll (Management)

800-761-1555

Pensions

Pension Service Center 888-736-7700
TDD 888-736-0800

The BDEC

Health & Insurance Eligibility 800-368-0426
Long-Term Disability
TDD 800-310-7900

Long -Term Care Insurance

MetLife 800-984-8651
TDD 800-638-1004

Reimbursement Accounts

Health Care & Child/Elder Care
Sykes Health Plan Services, Inc. 800-628-1678
TDD 800-952-0450

Leave of Absence

Health Service 888-345-6784
TDD 800-883-0588

Employee Assistance Program

William Ivins 402-691-3416

Mental Health & Chemical Dependency Program

Magellan Behavior Health 888-314-4017
TDD 800-695-5526

Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Occup.)

800-821-7422
TDD 800-889-2583

Employee Stock Ownership Plan (all employees)

ESOP Transaction Center 888-858-3767
TDD 904-636-1845

Shares For Growth

First Chicago Trust Co. 888-582-3686

Tuition Assistance

800-785-6586

IPAY Payroll (Interns)

800-972-8233

For Non-Benefit Information (888 Lucent HR)

HR Products & Services 888-582-3684

Dental

All Employees 800-220-5470
TDD 800-234-3730

Vision Care

MetLife 800-636-7231

Life/Accidental Loss Insurance

MetLife 888-201-4612
TDD 800-362-7327

Family Resource Program

Work/Family Directions 877-582-3683
TDD 800-873-1322

Adoption Reimbursement Program

973-606-2932

Prescription Drug Program

Merck-Medco 800-336-5934
Managed Care, Inc. - TDD 800-759-1089

Prudential HealthCare (Occup.)

800-778-0034
TDD 800-778-0066

Aetna U.S. Healthcare (Mgt.)

800-872-7136
TDD 800-325-2298

Hyatt Legal Plans

800-821-6400
TDD 800-821-5955

Please keep for future use!

Research by Jim Filipiak