

## **RETIREE'S REPORT - MAY 2010**

***By: Karl Dyksterhouse, Chair***

We had representatives from Habitat for Humanity at our meeting in April. Two of our retirees; Don Cumings and Frank Savickas are pretty heavily involved with this organization, and they are always looking for people to get involved too. Paul Byker from Habitat stressed that they are not in the business of giving new or rebuilt housing to people, but rather to help those people get into housing that is affordable. Last year a number of our younger retirees helped on a couple of their projects. Help is needed again this year. If you are interested, contact Habitat for Humanity, Don Cumings, Frank Savickas, or leave your name at the Union Hall. At the meeting we voted to donate \$100 to Habitat for Humanity.

The UAW members who were locked out from Light Metals over on Prairie in Grandville have been out of work since early last fall. We donated money to them at Christmas and our local union leadership is faithful in bringing coffee and donuts over to them on the picket line. Local 730 Retirees decided to have a food drive to help them out. We are asking our retirees to bring in non-perishable food items, household items such as laundry detergent, dish soap and health care items such as hand soap, toothpaste, bath tissue, etc. to our next meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2010. We will get it over to them. If you can't make the meeting for some unknown reason, just drop it off at the union hall Monday through Thursday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Please join us on Tuesday, August 3rd for our first "Nite at the Whitecaps." We asked the Whitecaps to put aside 250 game tickets for us and to host a picnic on their deck with burgers, brats, dogs, chips, soft drinks, etc. We are asking you to pay \$9 for a game ticket and the Retiree Chapter will cover the cost of the picnic. Angie VanArnham has put a link on our web-site's home page where you can go and download the form with all the information and explanation on how to sign up for this event. Since we have only 250 tickets we are limiting the purchase of tickets to 2 per member, it will be on a first come first served basis.

Page 2.  
Retiree's Report May 2010

A big "thank you" to Chris Schweitzer for being in charge of running the election in April for Constitutional Convention Delegates. Due to all of the transfers and retirements we don't have an election committee anymore. President Greg Golembiewski asked if the retirees could help out. So Bob Zimmerman, Jim Uhen, Ron Henry, Bob and Denise Calkins, Dorothy Vance, Ike Jamison, and Don Cumings volunteered to help Chris. Thank you very much for your time and help.

We had a number of our retirees attend the retiree conference at Black Lake the first part of the month. Seeing that Black Lake is up for sale, we felt it was best if we could send our delegate members who have never been to a retirees' conference at Black Lake before. That is what we did. We also had a number of our retirees attend the conference as representatives of the Region 1D's Area Council. The reports back to our meeting last week from a couple of our delegates were very favorable. The general consensus was that if there are any conferences in the future, members who have never been to Black Lake should be given preference.

In closing, I want to welcome back all of the snowbirds. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

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