

Vanguard

VOLUME 69 ISSUE 81

MARCH 2011

UAW LOCAL 2000

Message from UAW Region 2-B Director, Ken Lortz



The activity of the past few weeks has been at a fast and furious pace as we sought to push back on Ohio's anti-middle class SB 5.

I want to personally thank all of you for the tremendous effort you have put forth, from writing and phoning senators and representatives, to organizing and attending rallies all over the state –

most at short notice and in inclement weather. I am always proud of all of you when I look out see that UAW Region 2-B members are there in force.

You may be feeling now that things are at a standstill, wondering, what do we do next?

The activity on SB 5 has quieted a bit for a few reasons: unfortunately it is sure to pass in the house and be signed into law by the Governor.

A tactical decision has been made by the Ohio Labor Table, a group in which I represent you, to stand back for now and plan strategic efforts to get this anti-middle class legislation on the Ohio ballot for a referendum vote in either November of 2011 or 2012.

Many of you remember our successful efforts in 1997 on Issue 2, a bill designed to gut Worker's Compensation rights in Ohio. We will be replicating those efforts and will be successful again – but we will all have to put our shoulders to the wheel to get it done. I know Region 2-B is up to the task!

Until preparations for that campaign are underway I would like to direct your efforts in the following way(s):

1. Please enroll as many co-workers, retirees and friends as you can into the "GimmeFive" program. This

program is quickly becoming the way for us to quickly and efficiently pass on crucial information to you about issues and plans. We are quickly becoming a virtual army! www.gimmefiveuaw.org

2. Please check-out and support the activities of "Stand Up For Ohio," a group in which we are also invested. This group is channeling a lot of energy and effort in Ohio under one tent and into meaningful ways designed to build momentum and power.

They are organizing small rallies around the state (see attached schedule) this coming Tuesday, March 15. Please take an hour and turnout to represent us in your area.

Stand Up For Ohio is planning a much larger rally for May 5 at the statehouse in Columbus at approximately 5:00 p.m. Please save the date.

Please join Stand Up For Ohio's Facebook page – it is a treasure trove of information and support.

3. Also please mark April 4th on your calendar. The anniversary of the assassination of the great civil rights leader, Martin Luther King has been designated as a national day of action. The plan is to do nation-wide creative mobilization activities in SOLIDARITY with workers all across the nation. (Flyer is on page 13.)

Plan your event today, and stay tuned to www.gimmefiveuaw.org and www.uaw.org for details.

4. Lastly, when talking about our efforts, I believe framing the discussion on attacks against democracy and the middle class of Ohio, rather than organized labor itself, reaches a much broader base of support, which is of course, our goal.

Thank you again for all you do – onto victory for SB 5!

Fraternally,
Ken

Burglarized family enjoys Christmas after all

Dear Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 2000,

As many of you may know, our home was burglarized on December 21, 2010. Among many items taken were all of the presents that we had bought that were wrapped, waiting to be given on Christmas Day. The day after the burglary, my wife and I shopped for over 12 hours straight to replace all the gifts that took two months to buy. We were bound and determined to have a Christmas for our kids and were trying to figure out a way to be sure they did. While my wife and I were scrambling to get things replaced so the kids could have a Christmas, my union brothers and sisters were doing all they could to help us out. We could never have expected the blessings that you all gave us those few days following the burglary. We will never forget the generosity and kindness shown for my family by all of you. This tragedy managed to teach us what Christmas is



really about. It's not the money that is spent or the gifts that are bought. It is about kindness, generosity, and most of all, family and friends. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU LOCAL 2000, for giving us a Christmas that we will never forget....The best Christmas yet!

Sincerely,
Frankie & Misti Pagan & Family



Vanguard

UAW LOCAL 2000

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“Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be what it is today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause.”

~ Samuel Gompers



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Award Winning Vanguard published by Ink It Press (formerly Saunders Graphics)

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(Voluntary gifts or contributions to the Local Union or International Union are not tax deductible.)



President's Report



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and gifts of money during my hospital stay. I received 114 cards with well over 1,000 signatures from both active and retired members. I am still on medical leave but I'm looking forward to getting back to see and personally thank everyone.

It was great to see such a good turnout of Local 2000 members at the rally in opposition to Senate Bill 5 at Lorain City Hall on Thursday, February 24th. I am sorry that I had to cancel attending the rally in Columbus, but my 13-year-old son Colin had a doctor's

appointment and I needed to be there for him.

It is our duty to keep up with what is going on in our local, state and federal governments. There are many of our elected officials who will try to take away everything union workers fought and died for in order to provide for their families and themselves; among them, the right to earn a fair wage, benefits and to perform their jobs in a safe environment.

Given the Republican majority in the Ohio House and Senate along with Governor Kasich and their support of Senate Bill 5 and other current anti-worker legislation, their next move will be to revive their massive effort to make Ohio a "Right to Work" state. If this should happen, ALL of us must be opposed to this. "Right to Work" means the "Right to Work for LESS."

by Tim Donovan

Unit 1 Report



Recently I wrote a letter to the newspapers all across the State of Ohio about Senate Bill 5 and voiced my opposition to the bill, because it is an attack on ALL middle class, working people. My letter (below) was printed in the two local papers and possibly others:

Senate Bill 5 - A Political Attack on Ohio's Middle Class

State Senator Shannon Jones introduced Senate Bill 5. To highlight a few aspects, it eliminates or at best severely limits collective bargaining for all state workers, it bans public employee strikes, it weakens binding arbitration for public safety forces who cannot strike, it limits a local union's right to bargain for health insurance and it eliminates automatic pay increases for public employees. Jones and other Republicans feel that our public employees should not have collective bargaining or union representation.

Senate Bill 5 is a political attack on the middle class and Ohio families, and everyone – union represented or not – needs to call his state senator and demand that this attack on working people be stopped immediately. Our politicians promise to help Ohio families, not destroy their livelihoods. Our elected representatives are trying to reduce the Ohio budget deficit on the backs of the middle class and we need to let them know we will not stand for it. When will they give up their wages, pensions and benefits as they have repeatedly expected the working people that they represent to do?

I am not a public employee union member but this bill is only the beginning and next will be the private em-

ployee unions. This bill adversely affects all working people and their families. I strongly encourage you to call your state senator and let him/her know you will not stand for the demonization of working people anymore. Tell your senators NOT to support Senate Bill 5.

As I write this (3/17/11), the Ohio Senate has passed this bill. At first it seemed as though it might not pass, but they pulled people who opposed it off their committee and replaced them with people who supported it in order to get it pushed through. It is now back in the Ohio House of Representatives and is expected to pass.

Once the bill passes the Ohio House, we will be asking everyone to help gather signatures on petitions to get a ballot referendum drawn up so we can put our right to collective bargaining up for a vote by Ohio voters. I cannot stress to you enough how important it is for all of us to become involved in preserving our livelihoods. There are many ways we can do this: Attend local rallies and rallies in Columbus at the Statehouse. Write letters to the editors of the newspapers and talk to your friends and neighbors and educate them about how this bill affects ALL Ohioans. Help collect signatures for the petition to get this issue on the ballot once SB 5 passes the Ohio House. Join the UAW's GIMME5 program and be ready to help in any way you can as you are needed in this struggle for our survival.

A lot of people I've talked to think that because SB 5 is specifically intended to dismantle the public employee unions, that we in the private sector have nothing to worry about. Let me assure you that we have plenty to worry about if they pass this bill, because our union

Continued on page 5

by Nick Gallogly

Financial Report



The UAW Financial Officers Conference was held in New Orleans, Louisiana. As we all remember in late August of 2005, this city was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. There were 1,570 deaths in the state of Louisiana caused by Katrina, most of which were residents of New Orleans. While it has been six years since the hurricane, the signs of recovery are encourag-

ing. By the end of 2010, New Orleans had regained approximately 90% of its population and 85% of its jobs. As in all disasters, the costs are often hidden and underestimated and the true cost of Hurricane Katrina will never be known.

The conference was opened by UAW Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Williams. Brother Williams was elected June 16, 2010 at the UAW 35th Constitutional Convention in Detroit. Prior to that, he served as the Director of Region 4, which includes Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming since 2001.

He spoke about the many changes that will be taking place in the next few months, including the strike fund rebate that locals receive on the per capita taxes (62% of monthly dues received) that we pay to the UAW International Union. He also talked about some locals that have a habit of sending their per capita tax in late, that rebates will no longer be flexible and that we will pay our per capita taxes on time or we will not receive our rebate. Another change will be making the per capita payments electronically deducted from our checking account, which will eliminate many of the paper copies that are mailed. It would also enable the local unions to receive their rebates much sooner.

Perhaps the biggest change that the secretary-treasurer spoke of is one that financial secretaries have asked for years, the use of a credit/debit card. Since local unions were not allowed to have a credit/debit card, the financial secretaries have been using their own personal cards to conduct the business of their local unions. This change should take place by this summer, upon review of the Department of Labor.

Day one of the conference was dedicated to the Department of Labor LM-2 Form. This form was the result of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (also called Landrum Griffith Act), which was passed in 1959. This act gave the government unprecedented oversight and control over internal union affairs, dictating the conduct of elections and the handling of our finances. The LM-2 is filed annually for those local unions reporting in-

come of \$250,000.00 or more and must be filed electronically 90 days after the end of the fiscal year. This form has changed drastically in the last few years from 12 pages to 38 pages in its present form. We went over some of the new changes and the 20 different schedules page by page filling in the information based on all the printouts that I brought to the conference. This form is public information and is posted on the U.S. Department of Labor website where anyone can find information about any local union's finances.

Day two consisted of per capita taxes/strike assistance in the morning and payroll taxes in the afternoon. The per capita tax form (A-3) is filed monthly and it's the tax that local unions pay to the International Union on the membership's monthly dues. It's taxed at 62% and must be sent to the International Union by the 20th of the month. These forms as mentioned earlier are going to be filed electronically in the next few months.

We went over the Strike Assistance Program Local Union Handbook concerning the UAW Strike Assistance Program and its rules and regulations approved by the UAW International Executive Board. If there would be a need for strike assistance, it will be administered by the UAW International Strike Assistance Department, in cooperation with the local union's Community Services Committee. Sadly, since the government takeover of GM and Chrysler, we are the only ones that still have the right to strike.

The afternoon was spent on payroll taxes. As elected officers of our local union, we have a fiduciary responsibil-

Continued on page 5

by Joe Hribar

REMINDER **RETIREE MEETING**

The next meeting is
Thursday, April 7
at 10 a.m.



Financial Report

Continued from page 4

ity to be ethical in the manner in which we perform our duties and should always be careful to follow the guidelines that have been set by the UAW International Union. We covered the importance of dealing with payroll taxes, avoiding penalties and interest and why it's vital that all taxes are withheld. We went over some of the forms that the local union is responsible for such as: I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification, W-2 Wage and Tax Statement, 940 Employer's Annual Federal Unemployment (FUTA), 941 Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, 1099 Miscellaneous Income, state withholding forms and state unemployment forms.

Day three was spent covering the Internal Revenue Service Form 990. This form must be filed by local unions that have an annual income of \$200,000.00 or more or total assets of \$500,000.00 or more. We touched on the penalties for late filing against the local union: If your local union's annual receipts are greater than \$1 million, penalties are \$100.00 per day not to exceed \$50,000.00. Also, the penalty against the financial secretary is \$10.00 per day, not to exceed \$5,000.00. If that's not bad enough, the IRS does not consider the form filed unless it's correct and complete and there are also penalties (fines and imprisonment) for willfully not filing returns and/or filing fraudulent returns. Upon request, this form must be made for public inspection. Inspection must be permitted during

Unit 1 Report

Continued from page 3

strength is based on numbers that include people from ALL unions, and if our brothers and sisters in the public sector fall, we lose over ¾ of total union membership in the state. This would be a terrible blow to ALL of us who value collective bargaining and all the benefits we, as union members, enjoy as a result.

Some of our members went out and voted for these people who cast their votes to destroy our livelihoods. I'm asking each and every one of you to educate yourselves about the parties on the voting ballot and whose interests they will protect before rushing out and voting for people who don't care about your job, you or your family. Because of people voting for politicians who represent corporate America, we lost some really good representatives who looked out for working class people in the Ohio Houses and nationwide in the last election. This has put a hurting on us because the majority's agenda is to de-

by Joe Hribar

regular business hours at the local union's office. If you don't comply with public inspection a penalty of \$20.00 per day, up to a maximum of \$10,000.00, with respect to any one return. Just like the LM-2, this form has gone from 10 pages to 25 in its current form. We processed through parts 1 through 12 and its many different schedules throughout the afternoon.

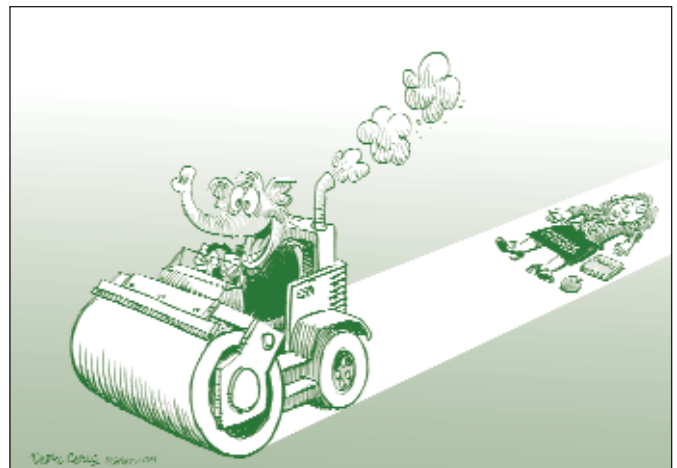
Day four was spent going over the duties of financial officers. It's a 400 page binder packed with the information to enable us to perform our duties. We went over several chapters covering duties of local union financial officers, including chart of accounts, per capita tax, audit procedures for trustees, strike assistance, local union insurance, trademarks and service marks to ordering supplies. As financial officers, we are responsible for overseeing the funds of our local union, its committees and retiree chapter. We must maintain the integrity of our local union by following the correct policies and procedures set forth in the UAW Constitutions and our local union by-laws.

We would like to thank the membership for giving us the opportunity to attend this conference and enabling us to gain more knowledge to serve this membership in the best capacity we can. Those attending this conference were: Kevin Harmon, Ted Williams Jr., Greg Hamilton, Jim Monday and Joe Hribar.

by Nick Gallogly

stroy us and they're currently working as hard as they can to do just that.

We have to take our country back from the politicians that are hell bent on eliminating the middle class. Please do your part and help to make it happen.



Opposition Rally for Senate Bill 5 ~ Lorain



Opposition Rally for Senate Bill 5 ~ Columbus

A rally was held outside the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus in opposition to Senate Bill 5 on Feb. 22, 2011



Opposition Rally for Senate Bill 5 ~ Columbus

A rally was held outside the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus in opposition to Senate Bill 5 on Feb. 22, 2011



Opposition Rally for Senate Bill 5 ~ Elyria



Ford February retail sales climbed 23 percent

DEARBORN, Mich., March 1, 2011 – Consumer demand for Ford’s fuel-efficient vehicles continues to grow as February retail sales increased 23 percent versus a year ago.

Ford’s total February sales, including sales to fleet customers, were 156,626, up 14 percent.

“With oil nearing \$100 per barrel and gasoline prices continuing to rise, consumers’ consideration for fuel economy once again is taking top billing,” said Ken Czubay, Ford vice president, U.S. Marketing, Sales and Service. “Ford’s investment in new products, engines and transmissions is delivering real value to our customers, and people are rewarding us for it.”

Ford offers 12 vehicles that lead their sales segments in fuel economy, including four vehicles with EPA certified 40 mpg or higher fuel economy ratings – a claim no other full-line automaker can match.

Cars

Retail sales of Ford’s small cars – Fiesta and Focus – were more than double year-ago levels (up 114 percent). Fiesta had its best sales month ever with 6,270 vehicles and continues to gain share in its market segment. Focus retail sales were 43 percent higher than a year ago. The all-new Focus will arrive in Ford dealer showrooms this spring.



Ford Fusion set a new monthly sales record with total sales of 23,111, up 40 percent versus a year ago.

Retail sales also were higher for the Ford Mustang (up 22 percent) and the Lincoln MKZ midsize sedan (up 17 percent).

Utilities

Sales of Ford’s utility vehicles were paced by the all-new Ford Explorer. Explorer retail sales were up 268 percent. For the second straight month, the new Explorer is the fastest-turning vehicle in the Ford showroom.

Retail sales also were higher for the Ford Escape (up 34 percent), Edge (up 18 percent) and Lincoln MKX (up 13 percent). Escape set a February record with total sales of 18,005 (up 19 percent).

Trucks

Strong sales to commercial fleet customers and higher sales to retail customers powered Ford truck sales growth in February. Sales of Ford’s F-Series truck totaled 37,549, up 14 percent versus a year ago.

Ford’s commercial vehicles also posted strong year-to-

Ford Brand Feb. 2011 U.S. Sales

	February %		
	2011	2010	Change
Econoline	9,723	7,981	21.8

	February YTD %		
	2011	2010	Change
Econoline	17,702	14,158	25.0

year increases. Econoline sales totaled 9,723 (up 22 percent) and Transit Connect sales were 2,152 (up 61 percent).

Year-to-date sales

In the first two months of 2011, Ford sales totaled 283,943, up 14 percent versus the same period a year ago.

Retail sales were up 25 percent with the strongest growth in the East (where retail sales were up 45 percent) and California (where retail sales were up 43 percent).

“Ford’s fuel-efficient, high-quality vehicles are winning customers nationwide, but the strongest growth is in the ‘smile’ region of the country,” said Czubay. “Early consumer reactions indicate the new Focus will drive more growth in these areas.”

North American production

In the second quarter, Ford plans to build 710,000 vehicles, up 57,000 vehicles (9 percent) compared with the second quarter of 2010. In the first quarter, Ford plans to build 650,000 vehicles, unchanged from the previous forecast.



Anniversaries



Sherwood Smith
February ~ 35 years



Robert Halas
February ~ 45 years



Dennis Marks
February ~ 35 years



Richard Rusnak
February ~ 25 years



Live like the rest of us

by Ty Granakis

By the time this goes to print, the fate of issue 5 will have been decided. I usually like to blame politicians for everything, but this is one of those bills I believe they will vote with their constituency's desires. Why? Because they'd like to get re-elected. Anytime a bill generates this much interest and conflict, politicians seem to start listening to the people. Like they're supposed to.

Unfortunately, this brings us to a bigger problem. Many ordinary voting people think this bill is a good thing. Sadly, this includes some people in our membership. I have had numerous arguments with some smart, good hearted brothers and sisters who actually support this abomination. The reason for this is due to the tax thing... Some actually think their taxes will go down if we get to some union busting.

Well, here we are just two years after America wanted to break the auto industry (and it's greedy, greedy union people), and we've gotten back to forgetting how dependent workers are on each other. The same public workers who may be stripped of their collective bargaining rights also happen to buy cars, and groceries, and houses, etc. Oh, and I'm pretty sure they pay taxes too.

If any UAW member in this or any other facility thinks they'd be making the fair and equitable wages they do without collective bargaining, you've been out of the non-union American workforce too long. Or perhaps you've sustained some cranial injury you should have looked at, and paid for with your negotiated health care benefits.

While driving into work on the 23rd of February, I caught a piece on the news from one of the supporters of the bill: "We're not saying that we want to put these workers on food stamps, we just want them to live like the rest of us". I can't believe this is considered a valid argument. The same people who call organized labor a "Socialist" movement, want to do away with it so everyone can live the same. (I'm certain this is called something... Oh yeah,

it's "communism".)

Has it really come to this? Americans dedicating themselves to taking things away from each other? At least when the Russians had their revolution, in theory it was to help each other. Not us. The hate propaganda machine is alive and well. We get to hear all this rhetoric about capitalism and free market, and then get spoon fed information on why it's the fault of organized labor that your taxes are too high and your cars cost too much.

News flash, folks. If organized labor goes away, your taxes aren't going to magically go down. You will not get any raises. Your cars, homes, groceries and fuel will not cost less. I'm certain some CEO's will get raises. Congress will probably vote themselves one too - (Since they're doing such a great job balancing the budget on the backs of the working class). But in the end, we'll all end up making less money and living lower on the class scale. The idealist in me wants to believe in free market and capitalism, but until we change the existing laws that allow unfair competition, we've all seen that it doesn't work.

Instead, we should be trying to help organize the non-union sector so maybe they could live a little more like us. (Which unfortunately WILL make them pay more in taxes when they're making more)... Wait a second - that would probably eliminate that budget problem for the public workers, no?

REMINDER **UNION MEETING**

The next membership meeting is

Sunday, April 10

at 2:30 p.m.

April 4th – National Day of Action

Respect our Rights

Today, that same demand is electrifying people across America. Voices are raised together to demand that:

- ✓ payment for corporate tax breaks be lifted from the backs of the working poor, children, students, women, people of color, the disabled and senior citizens.
- ✓ the assault on public employees being stripped of their collective bargaining rights stop.
- ✓ unorganized workers not be forced to form their unions under broken labor law.
- ✓ the unemployed or underemployed are not pitted against hard-working immigrants.

On April 4, 1968

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee where he had gone to stand with sanitation workers demanding their dream: the right to bargain collectively for a voice at work and a better life.



Join us to make April 4, 2011, a day to stand in **SOLIDARITY** with working people across the country. Well-funded, right-wing corporate politicians are trying to take away the rights Dr. King gave his life for, it is time to fight back!!



SAVE THE DATE

WE ARE ONE

To learn more: www.gimmefiveuaw.org or www.uaw.org

When an idea becomes dangerous

by *Miya Williamson,*

Local 6000 Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Many Americans are guilty of historical amnesia when it comes to the benefits we have as a result of labor unions. Today's anti-union culture is growing, spread to the public by corporations and politicians to destroy the middle-class.

The most forceful of these ideas is the one that attacks public employee unions and their negotiated benefits. Corporate lobbyists have spread misinformation about the idea of "lavish" public employee wages and benefits. Now, these myths are widely accepted by the majority of citizens. Corporations and politicians continue to perpetuate myths that demonize public employees and union membership. They build on the mythical image of public employees greedily sucking the life out of state budgets with huge salaries and pensions. It's an idea that has been planted in the minds of Americans to drive a wedge between the public and private sector and speed up the middle-class race to the bottom.

Whether or not someone belongs to a union they have benefited from collective bargaining and union efforts to level the playing field among all workers. An example of the benefits of unions and their ability to improve working conditions for all workers is the well-earned, and rightfully bargained, benefits we all enjoy – union or not. The 40-hour-work week, paid vacation, paid sick leave, weekends, health care, health and safety regulations; all these and more are benefits hard fought and won by unions to improve working conditions for all Americans. Legislatures in several states are arguing that public employees are not making a shared sacrifice and must take a cut in wages and benefits, just like the private sector.

A recent report released by Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder claims that public employees have not taken any cuts in pay and benefits, but instead by 2009 increased compensation 113 percent more than the private sector. This misinformation will be perpetuated by the private sector to increase hostility toward public employees and further divide the working class. This misinformation is dangerous to public and private sector employees because it begins the never-ending cycle of driving down wages and benefits in both sectors.

The corporate/political attack on unions begins as they saturate the media with the idea that belonging to a union, and having a decent, well-paying job with good benefits and the dignity that comes with union representation is "socialism." The attacks continue because it is well known that a vibrant labor movement is the main protector of popular programs that protect our most vulnerable citizens such as Social Security, health-care reform, unemploy-

ment compensation, Medicare and Medicaid. These can all be destroyed bit by bit with the introduction of false information.

The attacks on public employee compensation divert attention from addressing the real problems that plague our society and our state budgets such as cutting of taxes for rich corporations and individuals. When the wealthiest don't pay their fair share, vital public services are cut due to lack of funding. You have to ask yourself: how dangerous would it be if we ask the wealthiest 1 percent to be properly taxed? How dangerous is it to close tax loopholes that allow wealthy corporations to pay less in taxes? How dangerous are laws to protect the safety of workers such as ergonomics and MIOSHA safety regulations? How dangerous are a 40-hour-work week, weekends, paid vacation, paid sick leave, decent health-care benefits and employer provided pensions? How dangerous is it to have unions collectively bargain to protect all these benefits? The answer is very dangerous indeed if you are an employer, because you would lose the ability to trample over your work force, deny them time off when they are sick, work them to the bone in attempts to increase productivity and profits, discipline and/or fire them at will and without just cause.

Here's an idea I hope takes off like wildfire – become involved in your union and fight back! Call radio stations when you hear misinformation about public employees and unions. Write a letter to the editor when you see an article defaming public employees and tell them about your shared sacrifice; those sacrifices are called BLT, furlough days and increased co-pays and health insurance premiums. Write or call your legislator and tell them how public employees have contributed and shared in balancing your state's budget. Plant our ideas and watch them grow!



SAFE JOBS SAVE LIVES

OUR WORK'S NOT DONE.

FORTY YEARS AGO, Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act, promising every worker the right to a safe job. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality—winning protections that have made jobs safer, saved hundreds of thousand of lives and prevented millions of workplace injuries and illnesses.

But our work is not done. Many job hazards are unregulated and uncontrolled. Some employers, like Massey Energy and BP, cut corners and violate the law, putting workers in serious danger and costing lives. Each year thousands of workers are killed and millions more are injured or diseased because of their jobs.

The Obama administration has moved forward to strengthen protections, with tougher enforcement on serious violators and proposed new safeguards for workplace hazards. But business groups and the new Republican majority in the U.S. House of

Representatives are attacking these stronger measures and trying to roll back existing protections, falsely claiming they kill jobs. They are trying to slash the budget for job safety enforcement and standards.

We cannot and will not let them turn back the clock and destroy the progress we have made to make jobs safer and save lives. Safety laws and regulations don't kill jobs—but unsafe jobs do kill workers.

On April 28, the unions of the AFL-CIO observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew the fight for safe workplaces. This year on the 40th anniversary of OSHA, we will fight to create good jobs in this country that are safe and healthy. We will fight for the freedom of workers to form unions and, through their unions, to speak out and bargain for respect and a better future. We will demand that the country fulfill the promise of safe jobs for all. Our Work's Not Done.

MOURN FOR THE DEAD. FIGHT FOR THE LIVING.

AFL-CIO

**Observe Workers Memorial Day.
April 28.**



PRSR STD
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Permit #517

Vanguard

The Vanguard
3151 Abbe Road
Sheffield Village, Ohio 44054

Dedicated to Serving the Men and Women of Local 2000.

Relatively Speaking

Rennie named Big 10 Co-Freshman of the Week

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Melissa Rennie, a freshman catcher on the Ohio State softball team, was named Big Ten Co-Freshman of the Week, the conference office announced Monday. The native of Wellington, Ohio, claims the weekly laurel along with freshman pitcher Cassee Layne of Michigan State.

This is the first weekly award of Rennie's career and first conference recognition of the season for the Buckeyes. The OSU rookie earns the honor after helping the squad to two wins last weekend at the South Alabama Invitational in Mobile, Ala. In three games at the tournament, Rennie totaled seven hits, including three home runs with six RBI in her second career collegiate event.

In the Ohio State's 4-3 win over Southeastern Louisiana Feb. 19, Rennie posted her first career three-hit game. In the following game against Tennessee-Martin, she led off an inning with her first career home run to give Ohio State a 6-3 lead over the SkyHawks. In the final game of the invitational, Rennie continued her hot bat at the plate with her first multi-homer performance with a season-high four RBI. Her offense was a main part of the Buckeyes' rally to win 12-4 in extra innings vs. the Purple Aces. Rennie scored leadoff the top of the fifth with a home run to left center to cut the deficit to 3-2. In the eighth inning, the Buckeye rookie put Ohio State ahead, 6-3, with a two-run home run to help start a nine-run inning for the Scarlet and Gray.



Freshman catcher Melissa Rennie hit three home runs with six RBI in three games at the South Alabama Invitational last weekend in Mobile, Ala.

Melissa is the niece of Bill Rennie, Chassis Group Leader, third shift.

Photo and information courtesy of OhioStateBuckeyes.com.

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