



RETAIL STORE EMPLOYEES UNION
 730 Summit Street / Toledo, Ohio 43604 / Phone 244-4967
 Insurance & Pension Phones 242-8488 or 242-8489

POSTMASTER:
 Send address changes
 to: **Rapportier**
 730 Summit St.,
 Toledo, Ohio 43604



More Construction Pictures on Page 6

LOCAL 954

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By
GENE KOLKMAN



**REQUEST LEAVES
 IN WRITING —**

In order to safeguard your job, **always** request a leave of absence **in writing**. Also, be sure to request a written reply from your employer. Even (270-56-0992) if you are on an industrial accident leave, be sure to get **everything** in writing. I also advise you to send copies to your union representative.

Many people have lost their jobs because they believed that they were legally entitled to return to work following their recovery from an industrial accident injury. This is not true. There is no such legal requirement in the State of Ohio. Your **only** protection is your union contract.

**IF IN DOUBT — DEMAND
 UNION REPRESENTATION**

A recent court decision has established it is the right of union members to demand and have proper rep-

resentation by their union representative at any disciplinary meeting with the employer. Just follow these few simple rules:

1. Immediately and respectfully request that you be permitted (272-30-7583) to call your union representative when informed of a disciplinary meeting by your employer.
2. Don't argue with your employer if he refuses to permit you to call.
3. If he goes ahead with the meeting, without your union representative being present, **do not** refuse to attend, but **do not** make any statements.
4. Immediately report any violations of your rights to the Union.

**TAXES, TAXES, TAXES —
 HOLY COW!**

Workers in the U.S. spend more for taxes than any other family budget item, according to the Tax Foundation, a non-profit research group. The foundation says that the average American spends two hours, 49 minutes of an eight-hour workday just earning money to pay taxes. The amount of worktime needed to pay for other personal budget items breaks down like this: one hour, 28 minutes for housing and household

(Continued On Page 2)

Officers' Nominations

Consistant with Local 954 by-laws, you are hereby (291-60-3032) notified that nominations for officers will be conducted at all September membership meetings.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

ISSUE 1: RIGHT OR WRONG

Issue 1 is a proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution to change the time-tested Ohio Plan of financing workers compensation. The amendment, as designed, would permit private insurance companies to sell workers compensation insurance to employers and pay benefits directly to injured workers and to families of workers killed on the job.

The following items are just a few of the many facts surrounding this "sugar coated" issue that, if passed, would permit the huge insurance companies to control another sector of your income in a time of need.

Question: Who is pushing Issue #1?

Answer: Essentially, it's a powerful group of out-of-state insurance (276-70-4756) companies who want to change the Ohio Workers Compensation Plan for their own advantage.

Question: Why are these big insurance companies proposing a change?

Answer: They claim the state fund is unsound and that free enterprise will improve services. The fact is the Ohio Plan is not concerned with making a profit and is operated solely for the benefit of both employers and workers.

Question: Would a free enterprise system work better in Workers Compensation?

Answer: Workers Compensation is a social insurance system much like Social Security and unemployment insurance. No profit by private insurance is permitted in either of these systems. Issue 1, if passed, would create outside control of

Workers Compensation and produce huge profits for insurance companies.

Question: Would out-of-state insurance companies provide higher, equal, or lower benefits to workers?

Answer: There are only so many dollars to be spent on Workers Compensation in any given state. In those states with private insurance companies, those companies take a healthy share of the Workers Compensation dollars and reduce benefit levels to injured workers.

Question: What can the local union member do to protect our current system, the Ohio Plan?

THE DAYS DWINDLE TO A PRECIOUS FEW

Summer's moving right along too fast for most of us. But don't let the summer wind down without going to Cedar Point. When you purchase your tickets through Local 954 (296-62-8811) you save \$2.00. Children four and under are free. The park is open through September 7. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Don't miss out on a day of great fun for the entire family.

★ REMINDER

Stewards Conference

Stewards Conference will be held in August. All stewards (271-52-9941) will be notified by mail as to location, date and time.

By
Jack Silvester



Answer: You, as a union member, along with thousands of fellow workers in Ohio, will make your decision at the polls in November on this issue. We remind you that the Ohio system of Workers Compensation is strong, has low costs and high benefits and has been working properly since 1913. If Issue I is passed (296-72-2805) in November, workers will be short-changed with higher costs and more compromise and release settlements. These deny Ohio workers the benefits that are legally and rightfully theirs.

Vote NO on Issue #1 in November.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued From Page 1)

operations; one hour, four minutes for food; 43 minutes for transportation; 29 minutes for medical care; 22 minutes for clothing; 19 minutes for recreation expenses; and 46 minutes for all other items. Similarly, the foundation calculates that Americans must work from January 1 to May 10 to pay their average tax bill!

BUILDING PROGRESS....

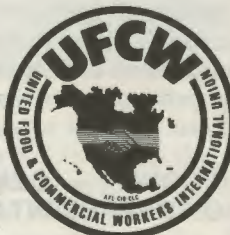
Construction of our new headquarters building is progressing very well. There's a possibility we could move by mid-August. This is really an exciting time for all of us, so I invite you to stop by and see how we are progressing for yourself. The address is 7441 International Drive, very close to the I-475 interchange at Airport Highway (Ohio State Route 2) on Toledo's southwest side. Take Airport Highway west to Fairborn Road (first road past Holloway), turn south onto Fairborn, then west on International. If you can't make it before our open house this fall, check out the construction pictures we're printing in this issue.

The Local 954 Reporter

Published every other month as the official voice of the
Retail Store Employees Union, Local 954
United Food and Commercial Workers Union
Second Class Postage Paid at Toledo, Ohio
(USPS 881-700)

730 Summit St. 244-4967 Toledo, Ohio 43604

- President Eugene H. Kolkman
- Secretary-Treasurer, Organizing Director Jack Silvester
- Organizers/Field Representatives Bob Gilbert, Robert Rechline,
Sam Mills, Richard Ninke and Thomas Douthett
- Administrative Assistant Denny Leedy
- Health & Welfare and Pension
- Administrative Manager Pete Palmison



Field Representatives' Report

APRIL — MAY 1981

	Grievances	Won	Lost	Open	Back Pay
DICK NINKE	46	20	18	8	\$ 927.53
TOM DOUTHETT	17	9	4	4	— 0 —
SAM MILLS	13	9	2	2	\$ 127.00
BOB RECHTINE	10	10	0	0	\$ 160.00
BOB GILBERT	12	7	1	4	— 0 —
DENNIS LEEDY	23	18	5	0	\$ 210.55
TOTALS	121	73	30	18	\$1,425.08
1981 TOTALS TO DATE:	352	200	71	18	\$5,886.23

SOUNDING OFF....

DON'T BLAME INSURANCE GIRLS

Don't Blame Insurance Office!!

We have now passed the one year mark for the new insurance benefits that were negotiated in last year's contracts.

With these new benefits plus the fact that more of you are becoming aware of what benefits you are entitled to, the claims load has doubled over what it was at this time last year. One of the problems we are still having is incomplete medical claim forms which delay the processing of these claims. We used to be able to notify people of what was lacking on the claim form or look up the information ourselves if we had it. We no longer have the time to do this and we feel it is only fair to those members who do properly complete a form to process their's first.

Because of the increase in claims, we have found ourselves in a situation of where we are now taking one to two weeks to process claims that we used to process in one or two days. So, if you have sent bills (287-56-7326) in, give us a couple of weeks to process your claim. If you hear nothing from us after that time, please call our office and together we can determine where the problem is and what is needed. Most likely the problem is that you did not complete all the information that is required and the delay is your fault, not ours!

Carolyn Gossett
Local 954 Insurance Dept.



COLES

CELEBRATE 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Back on July 4, 1941, fireworks and parades took a back seat as Richard and Mary Cole exchanged wedding vows. This past July 4, Dick and Mary celebrated their 40th anniversary. Congratulations! Dick is a longtime member of Local 954 and prior to retirement, he served on the executive board and as a union steward.

Our Deepest Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers go with the following members and their families on the loss of their loved ones.

Francis Hill Bargain City #465 Mother	Dave Dye Krogers #375 Father	Helen Petryck Krogers #N-100 Mother	May Sanderson Bargain City #547 Mother
Donna Craft Bargain City #432 Granddaughter	Sandra Klinger Bargain City #432 Daughter	Judy Richard Foodtown #1 Mother	Norma Sage Fisher #13 Son
Theresa Dougherty Foodtown #22 Sister	Yvonne Mower Bargain City #403 Father	Barbara McNeil Lanes #15 Father	Nancy Smiegielski Lanes #31 Mother
Loraine Arnold Fisher #14 Son	Rhoda White Centre #3 Husband	Sam Welser P-N-P #51 Mother	Dorothy Vigneron Bargain City #447 Father

WHO'S THE UNION?

YOU ARE!!



GET

INVOLVED!

RETIREES CORNER

116 Years of Service

FOOD DIVISION

Jeannia B. Dolt, A&P, 13 years.

Mary J. Downs, Foodtown, 16 years.

Yvonne Mae Lester, A&P, 21 years.

Ruth A. Ludwig, A&P, 23 years.

Doris A. Potter, Krogers, 20 years.

NON-FOOD DIVISION

Julius Weisberg, Home Furniture, 23 years.



RETIREES ENJOY TULIP FESTIVAL



STORK REPORT

TWIN GIRLS CAP SPOTLIGHT . . AGAIN!

Diane Lazette, Twin Girls, Foodtown.

Mark Andrus, Boy, Great Scot.

Patti Wilkinson, Girl, Foodtown.

Vickie Haley, Boy, Kroger.

Randy Bennett, Boy, Kroger.

Mary Gioffre, Girl, Foodtown.

Richard Harner, Girl, Foodtown.

Members of the Retirees Club traveled to the Tulip Festival in Holland, Michigan, on May 13, and had a fabulous time. Traveling in a chartered bus, members were able to relax, yet enjoy all of the color and festivities of this reknown event. Another trip is being planned for August when Retirees Club members will travel to southern Ohio to enjoy the simplicity and beauty of Amish country.

Sound like fun? In fact, the Retirees (282-32-1719) Club is built around fun and fellowship. Interested in joining? In addition to being retired, if you're 55 or over, but still employed, you can be a member. Call Local 954 for details.

Discover the new wonders of the world

Sea World®

You'll enjoy EIGHT live shows featuring Shamu and his new partner in an all new DOUBLE killer whale show. See the new beluga whale and dolphin show, "Belinda & Friends." Watch Wild Wings, the expanded free-flying bird show.

See the all new "Hawaiian Holiday" revue, the Cap'n Kids Theatre magic show and the feuding "Hatfields & McCoys" water ski and boat show. Seals, otters and Wally the Walrus return with the magical show "A Flipped Fairy Tail."

Sea World has a special place for kids to play pirate. They'll love Cap'n Kids World, a land of more than 20 unique adventures.

Plan to spend the entire day. Plenty of FREE parking. Make it a Sea World summer!



Sea World is located in Aurora, Ohio, 20 miles southwest of Cleveland, Ohio, on State Route 43, accessible via Ohio Turnpike exists 12 or 13. No limit on tickets — Available through store stewards and through Local 954.



1981 FAMILY DISCOUNT TICKET

Summertime is Sea World time!

1100 Sea World Drive • Cleveland (Aurora), Ohio

**Retail Store Employees Union
Local 954
Family Month
August 1 thru August 31, 1981**

This Ticket Good for Entire Family
on the above Dates ONLY
Ticket not valid with another discount offer.

	Gate Price	Your Price
Adults (12+)	\$8.95	\$6.80
Children (3-11)	7.95	5.80
Children under 3	FREE!	

On The Site Of New Headquarters



HAVE SOME FUN!!!
— CAPTION THIS PICTURE —



Put your imagination to work and create a caption for this picture. You could win some money. First place winner receives \$25.00 while the second and third place winners get \$15.00 and \$10.00 respectively. Of course, winners also will receive recognition in *THE RAPPORTEUR*. Send your entry or entries to (296-62-8811) Gene Kolkman at Local 954. Entries received after August 15 will not be accepted. Have fun and good luck!