

Retiree's Chair Report – Chris Wilski - September 8, 2010

I hope everyone had a great summer and was able to enjoy the nice weather that we had.

We have lost two of our brothers within the last few weeks, Jim Macateer and George Grasby, our condolences go out to their families. Also our heartfelt condolences go out to Norm Collins (A member of our Executive) who lost his wife Betty last week.

On June 2nd we had our pre-summer luncheon at the Mandarin where approx 40 retirees and their spouses attended. It was a wonderful afternoon with great food and conversation.

The following day, June 3, 2010 a group of Local 584 volunteers went to The Knights Table to serve lunch and to help out in the food bank. Local 584 also picked up the tab that day for the meals. It was a very rewarding experience and I'm looking forward to doing it again very soon. If any retirees would like to volunteer please let me know and I'll get in touch with you next time we will be there.

Also, in June I had a couple of meetings with Habitat for Humanity Brampton and have volunteered to maintain and update their website, a job that will take approx 15 to 20 hours a month.

I'm sorry to announce that Harry Deamer, our Recording Secretary has decided to resign for personal reasons. I along with all the retirees would like to thank Harry for the many years he has spent on the Retirees executive board and wish him well and hope he still attends our monthly meetings. We will be holding an election for this position later in the meeting.

On Monday September 6, 2010 a group of CAW Local 584 members including a few retirees (Myself and wife Pauline, Roz Monchamp and Peter Zebedee) marched in the labour day parade from Toronto City Hall to the CNE Dufferin Gates. It was a great march and even the downpour we went through didn't dampen our spirits.

I was talking to Doug Berry and Frank Marek who were attending the Labour day parade in Port Elgin, according to Doug the short route they walked caused him to have a blister which he made sure I knew all about it. Doug is enjoying the Retirees Conference in Port Elgin as our delegate and he will have a report at our next meeting.

Next Wednesday September 15th there will be a demonstration 12 Noon at Queen's Park for the Nortel workers. As you know they are trying to save their pensions and are asking the government to find other solutions to winding up their pensions. Their fight could easily become our fight. We are looking for our retirees to come out for a couple of hours and show them our support. Transportation is being arranged but we need to know how many will be interested so please let me know if you can make it that day.

Our Annual CAW Local 584 Thanksgiving Luncheon will be taking place on Friday October 8th at the Queen St Legion. As mentioned previously we are going to be asking all retirees and their spouses to be generous and bring non-perishable food items the day of the luncheon. We will be donating these food items to the Knights Table. We will have a couple of vehicles to transport these items but depending on the amount of food collected we may require more. Anyone that would like to help out please let me know. This is a great cause and I know our retirees will there to contribute. A letter from the Local is being mailed out this week to all retirees.

Ford/Costco has extended its \$1000 rebate form Sept 1 to Nov 1 with some vehicles being excluded (Feista, Focus, Ranger, Shelby, F150 Raptor and F650-750 Trucks).

Our next meeting will be Wednesday October 6, 2010 here at the legion at 1 PM.

Move Adoption of my report.