



LOCAL 211 NEWS

Union Proud from Defiance, Ohio



Our success is attributed to the rank and file—the working men and women—of our local union!
 Chartered 1948 uawlocal211.com December 2017

UAW Travels to Dayton In Support of Fuyao Workers to Unionize By Ronald Bendele Jr. Vice Chairman-Herbert E. Orr Co.

On October 25th Local 211 joined Local 12 from Toledo, Local 1005 from Parma, Local 1112 in Lordstown, Local 863 from Cincinnati and Local 402 from Springfield and more. We all traveled to Moraine, Ohio (suburb of Dayton) at the Fuyao Glass Manufacturing Plant.

We went there to Rally and show support to the Fuyao workers wanting to Unionize. Workers who are tired of working in unsafe conditions that (at the time of the rally) had 200 Workman's Comp claims. Conditions that I was told were "like a Factory in China." Workers that want better pay and benefits comparable to other factories making the same kind of product; the kind of benefits, pay and working conditions that we



as UAW 211 members take for granted.

The CAP Council called out for help and we filled a bus with working and retired UAW members to show support for the workers of Fuyao that want to become a part of the UAW family. Family, that in essence, is what we are. When we all band together for something that we believe in, something that we know is the right thing to do, it feels like family to me. UAW Local 211 is my extended family!

An example of that to me is on a cold damp day we attended a rally to support other workers. Hanging out with fellow UAW brothers and sisters that made that day a bit warmer. We were working together showing our signs for all the motorists to see. Calling out to the vehicles trying to get support. Showing our appreciation when we get a honk or a wave. Yeah, not everyone is always happy to see

us, but you expect that and just try to show you appreciation to those that do.

I would also like to thank Region 2-B for providing us all with Subway Subs, chips, cookies and something to drink.

I also want to thank my Local 211 brothers and sisters for coming out and supporting this effort. But most of all, I want to give a huge shout out to our Local 211 retiree members. You continue to support whenever needed, even though you have put in your time working and supporting all those years you personify what it means to be a Local 211 member and why it is still important to support these kinds of things even today. **THANK YOU ALL!**

Thanks again everyone for coming together and showing your support again for Fuyao Glass and their attempt to unionize. Also, I want to remind everyone that our fight to keep the so called "Right to Work" out of our state is still ongoing. "Right to Work" is wrong and we need to keep letting our state leaders know that is not for us.





President's Report

By Keith Boecker

We had three retirements in the month of November, two from the GM unit, Tammy Nielson and Leonard Richter and one from the Powers unit, Russell Luke. On December 1st, Howard Tropepe and Marguerite Williams retired from the GM unit. I want to wish you all a very happy and healthy retirement. Thank you for your years of service to the UAW.

There was a Town Hall meeting at the Memorial Hall Thursday December 7th. The International Union gave details of the current state of Business and answered questions. I would like to thank the International Reps. and Regional Rep. for attending .

I would like to congratulate the Charlie Chatham Scholarship winners, Nicholas Daman, Katie Wagner, Bailey Cline, Paige Snyder, Allie Teats and Danielle Rieger. The alternates are Claire Seedorf, Kelli Kramer and Megan Breckler. I would like to thank the Active members and the Retiree Chapter for supporting these scholarships.

The next CAP meeting will be on Tuesday January 8, 2018; the December CAP meeting has been cancelled. Dinner is served at 5:00 pm and the meeting begins at 5:30.

The Kid's Christmas Party was held on Sunday December 10th here at the UAW Hall. A good time was had by all the children. I would like to thank the Rec Committee and all the volunteers that made it possible. Pictures can be viewed on the Local 211 website.

Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo, tickets are available now. These tickets are good for the weeks of November 17th through December 31st. Ticket costs are \$10 for adult tickets, ages 12-59, children and senior tickets for ages 2-11 and seniors above age 60 are \$7.00. You can see Lisa if you are interested in purchasing tickets.

Thanks to everyone who dropped off items or money for Neighbors In Need and Christmas for Kids. Please keep the less fortunate in your thoughts during this Holiday Season.

The Veterans Gun Raffle was drawn Thursday December 7th (Pearl Harbor Day) at the Local 211 UAW Retirees Christmas Dinner. Winners were David Lucas, Paul Schmersal and Troy Grant. Thanks to Partisan Arms of Defiance for helping the Veterans Committee with the raffle items.

Sims Metal Management held an election for their Vice Chairperson, congratulations to Tim McKeen also Aramark Unit held their election for the Election Committee and Third Shift Committee person. The winners for Election Committee were JP Perez and James Henderson. The elected Third Shift Committeeperson was Josh Morris. Congratulations to you all, I am sure you will represent Local 211 well.

The Annual Region 2-B, UAW Bowling Tournament will be held in Toledo Ohio January 27th & 28th, February 3rd & 4th and February 10th & 11th.

Rob Egnor and I attended a Leadership meeting in Detroit on December 7th. Some of the information from that meeting is listed below.

Gary Casteel announced that there are 404,461 total UAW members at this time, up 8.9% the last five years. The strike and defense fund is now 730 Million Dollars.

Jimmy Suttles, Vice President for Ford announced that 78% of their cars are made in the U.S., Ford has 57,000 UAW members.

Cindy Estrada, Vice President for GM announced that there are 51,100 total UAW members, 7892 are skilled workers. Their average age is 57 and average seniority is 28 years. There are 249 apprentices at this time.

Norwood Jewell, Vice President for Chrysler announced that they have 40,000 active UAW members, hiring 4800-5000 people. There are 6427 Skilled workers.

Remember when purchasing a new vehicle look for the VIN numbers for American Made 1, 4, 5 and 2 is Canada.

All of us at UAW Local 211 would like to wish everyone and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

BUILDING AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT FOR YOUR CAR

WHY?
Because You never know you will encounter winter weather or an emergency road closure

AMERICA'S PrepareAthon!

- Cell Phone Charger
- First Aid Kit
- Jumper Cables
- Spare Tire
- Flares
- Water, Snacks
- Full Tank of Gas
- Sand or Kitty Litter
- Mitten, Hat, Bopps, Warm Clothes
- Flashlight
- Snow Shovel and Brush
- Blankets
- Tow Rope



Chairmans Report

By Rob Egnor

We have seen summer come and go, now we are at the end of fall watching the mercury in the thermometer drop. This is a sure sign that winter is coming and we need to get ready. While getting ready for the winter months ahead just remember to take your time and do things safely. If you are anything like me, you need to step back and remember the likelihood of getting injured goes up while rushing. If we get injured at home we may lose the ability to go to work and provide for our family, so take the extra time to make sure that ladder is in good enough condition to stand on or that your supply of sidewalk salt is ready for the ice.

At the plant we currently have 726 brothers and sisters, 37 are on sick leave at this time. November 1, we had 2 retirements Tammy Nielson and Leonard Richter. On December 1, Howard Tropepe and Marguerite Williams also retired. I would like to say thank you to all four of them for the years of service here in Defiance and wish them a long and happy retirement. Recently we also had Terry Coe and Jim Schanck take a voluntary transfer to Lansing Grand River. Good luck on your transfer and thank you to these 2 for the time spent here in the Defiance plant.

With our impending layoff here, we recently had 47 of our people get letters to report to Ft. Wayne on January 2, 2018 and approximately 60 more who will soon receive a permanent job offer. All of our people from Defiance will be landing in permanent positions when transitioning to the Ft. Wayne plant. We had 12 people from Defiance who were working there in temporary spots; they will also be assuming full time positions. On January 2, 2018 20 of our millwrights will also be starting at the Ft. Wayne plant. I want to say thank you to everyone for doing a great job while here in Defiance. Although you have not seen any great rewards with the hard work you have done here, I want to personally say that everything you have done has put Defiance in great position for future talks concerning new work and this is due to the hard work of everyone here. I wish things were different and that not one person would have to leave unless it was due to that member wishing to relocate. It is my hope that everyone will continue to work safe and that we provide our customer with a quality product. Meanwhile I will continue to push for more work here in Defiance and hopefully see anyone who had to leave, come

back and be able to finish their GM career here in Defiance.

Please be safe at what you do here at work and at home. Remember to lock out your equipment when necessary. The plant pays you to lock out, so please do not take the risk. You are a valuable asset to our plant and not one injury is worth a casting.



Vice President's Report

By Larry Cooper

It is the winter season for sure! The weather is looking like its not going to get any warmer soon. We all could get used to the warmer climate we had earlier.

We are experiencing a difficult time here at our plant with more people leaving because of the loss of the crank and hub business. We all would have liked the business to be kept here in Defiance but that decision was made a while ago. We have always wanted to keep everything that we have made in the past but, it has been a business decision that we cannot control. We here at Local 211 wish all of the affected people good luck and hope to see you back here at the Defiance Plant again soon.

I would like to thank the membership for allowing myself and Amanda Rethmel to attend the 2017 LUCA Conference at Black Lake in Onaway Michigan. LUCA stands for Local Union Communications Association. The classes were very good and we enjoyed the feature writing class along with the many different speakers that spoke during the week. We even got a visit from the UAW President, Dennis Williams who told us that communication is very important and to stay focused and to keep our voice loud and strong in the workplace.

The Local 211 union hall will have reduced hours or be closed the week of Christmas. Please call the union hall at 419-784-5399 before that week if you need to do any business with the local 211. Please be safe if you are traveling during the holidays. Don't forget to check your local radio stations for up to date weather and traffice information.

Please check out website for updated information along with pictures from our fishing derby and Kids Christmas party!

From my family to yours, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Real Christmas Tree Facts

By National Christmas Tree Association

There are approximately 25-30 million Real Christmas Trees sold in the U.S. every year.

There are close to 350 million Real Christmas Trees currently growing on Christmas Tree farms in the U.S. alone, all planted by farmers.

North American Real Christmas Trees are grown in all 50 states and Canada. Eighty percent (80%) of artificial trees worldwide are manufactured in China, according to the U.S. Commerce Department.

Real Trees are a renewable, recyclable resource. Artificial trees contain non-biodegradable plastics and possible metal toxins such as lead.



There are more than 4,000 local Christmas Tree recycling programs throughout the United States.

For every Real Christmas Tree harvested, 1 to 3 seedlings are planted the following spring.

There are about 350,000 acres in production for growing Christmas Trees in the U.S.; much of it preserving green space.

There are close to 15,000 farms growing Christmas Trees in the U.S., and over 100,000 people are employed full or part-time in the industry.

It can take as many as 15 years to grow a tree of typical height (6 - 7 feet) or as little as 4 years, but the average growing time is 7 years.

The top Christmas Tree producing states are Oregon, North Carolina, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin & Washington.

Love Covenant

By Frank Belmares Local 211 UAW Retiree

Yes, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life." John 3:16

This has been and always will be a love message. Although it is simple, many of us don't understand it. We understand the idea of a powerful God, and we understand that He wants us to serve Him. But, a loving God that only wants to give unconditionally? Sometimes this is a scary thought for us. For thousands of years God has been working towards this revelation of His love. To be revealed to the heart of humanity. He has made promises of love, of protection and blessings, but many of us don't believe they are true.

My father use to say "We believe anyone and everyone except God". There is an example in the Bible with Abram. He was not used to the idea of one God who would give. He grew up adoring a pagan god (the moon) that never gave him anything, and that god was never interested in doing anything for him. But, when Abram first encountered the One True God, the first thing this God wanted to do for him was to give him something. This idea of promise from this living God, so astonished Abram that he couldn't believe it and had to ask, "Oh, Lord God, how am I to know that I will truly possess these things?" (Gen. 15:8) Do you know how God answered him? By, making an everlasting covenant of blood with him. With this blood covenant, all the questions of the love and fidelity of God were answered. For, to Abram, as he saw this shedding of blood, he knew that God would fulfill what He had said. This was more than enough proof that God's word would be done. Although he had no idea as to how it would be fulfilled, he believed.

God did the same thing with us, and for us, this covenant of love was fulfilled when His only begotten Son, Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood for each one of us. This was the proof of the love that God has for you and me.

God has much to give us, when we believe and follow Him. What God gives the world cannot give, nor can it take it away. In our Faith journey, when we begin to doubt or forget, let us look up to the sky and count the stars if we can. Look at the cross and see the Precious Blood of Our Savior. Remind myself how much He loves me and not forget His promises. Amen





Retirees Report

By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

We had 190 members and guest at our November meeting. Our Kitchen helpers were Norma English, Jane Clark, LeAnne Breckler. Thank you for your gracious services, Kitchen helpers and nurses.

President Keith Boecker reported the Children's Christmas party will be December 10th.

Chairman Ted Fleming and the Executive board appreciate all the members who pay their monthly union dues. This helps offset the cost of our Christmas party, the monthly meals we prepare and this years Kids Christmas party.

On December 7th we celebrated the Retiree's Christmas party here at the UAW Hall. There were over 280 members and guests present. Some of the guests were; Larry and Dorothy Dole, Region 2-B Director Rich Rankin, Assist. Director Wayne Blanchard and our retired Region-B Director Ken Lortz and his wife.

Susie's Catering from Bryan furnished us with chicken breast, meat loaf, green beans, corn salads, noodles and of course desert.

On December 10th from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Santa Claus and his elves treated all the children here with candy, cookies, pop, tree ornaments, coloring books and face painting. Each child was given a chance for a toy of their choice by placing their wishes in their favorite jar. I did not see any disappointed children. Thank you again to Santa and the elves.

See you at the January retirees meeting on the 4th, 2018. Doors open at 10:30 A.M. Come and enjoy the food and please stay for information following our dinner for the meeting.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year.



C.A.P. Update

By Sheri Baker CAP Chairperson

The UAW-CAP program is undergoing some changes. As you know, all money raised by the UAW-CAP program is voluntary contributions. There are new levels of contributions.

These levels are: \$15 Activist Club, \$25 Platinum Club and \$50 Directors Club. These amounts are donated monthly. For anyone that is owed for their yearly awards, the Region is trying to catch up. All yearly awards for Local 211 members, will be given out in one month of the year.

The Defiance Area UAW-CAP Council has not been told what month that will be for each local. When we have further updates we will pass it along.

The December meeting has been cancelled by membership approval. At the January 9th meeting, we will be taking nominations for a trustee position.

The Defiance Area UAW-CAP Council would like to wish everyone a safe and wonderful Holiday Season! See you next year.

Our sympathy for your loss...

To our bereaved members and their families, we offer our sincere condolences for the loss of their loved ones. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of:

- Robert Hanker – Retired 3/88
- William James – Retired 11/97
- Bill Tracy – Retired 1/95
- Shallus Beatty – Retired 8/98
- Charles Critten – Retired 4/05
- Tom Spires – Retired 3/98
- Leslie Weidenhamer – Retired 6/06
- Jose Urbina – Retired 11/88
- Paul Thompson – Retired 1/2000
- Clevan Smith – Retired 8/94
- John Frazier – Retired 3/01
- David Shook – Retired 4/98
- Deanna Basquez – 8/17
- Richard Gordon – 5/82
- Miguel Reyes – Retired 1/92



Fishing Derby/ Kids Christmas Party By Local 211 Recreation Committee

On October 15th the Recreation Committee held a Fishing Derby at the UAW Hall. Despite the rain and gusty winds we had a great turn out with 28 children in attendance. You could tell they were all true fishermen, because they came in galoshes and rain gear.



The first fish was caught by Maddy Whitaker; the largest fish at 25 inches was caught by Silas Shaffer. The smallest fish of 3 ¼ inches long was caught by Rachael Ward and Hayden Veers. Maddy Whitaker caught 22 fish while Silas Shaffer was close behind her with 19 fish caught. Each child that attended that day

received a door prize. We would like to thank all of the adults that took time to bring their children and grandchildren to this event; it was certainly a day of fun. No turtles or frogs were pulled from the pond this year. We look forward to seeing you at our next Fishing Derby in the future.

The annual Kids Christmas Party was held on Dec 10th from 11am -2pm. This event was held at the UAW Local 211 union hall.

This event was for all active and retiree children and grandchildren ages 12 and under. There were many in attendance that day including Santa and his elves.



There were many activities, food, games and prizes at the Christmas party for all to enjoy. The Recreation committee wants to thank everyone who came and enjoyed the day and to all who

helped that day. We look forward to seeing you at our next Kids Christmas Party.



Stocking Stuffers for Everyone By Labor 411

We hear that Santa still needs to pack some gifts for the stockings and he is looking for suggestions. Labor 411 has more than a few great gifts that will fit the bill! Send your list to the North Pole and see what union-made goodies come back

Beauty Products: Caress Skin Care, Dove Beauty, L'Oreal Paris, Revlon.

Games: Barrel of Monkeys, Ratuki, Scrabble Slam, Yahtzee Hands down.

Candy & Chocolate: Almond Roca, Jelly Belly, Hershey's Kisses, See's Candies, Ghirardelli, Russell Stover, York Peppermint Patties.

Other Stuffers: Stanley Hand Tools, Old Spice, AT&T Phone Services, Verizon Phone Services, Swingline Staplers, Eveready Batteries, Rayovac Batteries, Timex Watches.



Tools and Whiskey

For the sake of safety on the job, not at the same time, please. Whether it is for a DIY project at home or for a career in the trades, someone in the family always wants a cool new tool. There are plenty of options made by companies right here in the USA that support good jobs. And when the last nail has been driven home, it is time to wind down with a nice warm drink. A quality union -made whiskey never disappoints.

Tools: Armstrong, Channellock, Craftsman, Klein Tools, Ridgid, SnapOn Tools, Stanley Hand Tools, Union Tools, Warwood.

Whiskey: Basil Hayden, Benchmark, Blanton's Buffalo Trace, Eagle Rare, Elijah Craig, Evan Williams, Fighting Cock, Henry McKenna, Jack Daniel's, Jim Beam, Kentucky Gentleman, Knob Creek, Old Grand-Dad, Seagram's VO, Van Winkel.



Local 211 at World Record Event

By PJ Storm-Artis

Blast From The Past

By Local 211 Archives

Employees Get GM Preview

Gala Open House starts at Plant

Three women from Local 211 joined 3,755 others attending the Rosie the Riveter World Record Event in Ypsilanti Michigan on Saturday October 14th. Sheri Rickenberg Baker (Trustee and CAP Chairperson), Gert Hahn (Financial Secretary) and PJ Storm-Artis (40 year UAW activist and GM Gypsy since 1999) donned red-and white polka dot bandanas, coveralls and red socks to honor the World War II cultural icon.

It was an awesome event, but more than just a chance to reclaim a Guinness world record, beating last year's record of 2,229 people in California, and far exceeding the Michigan crowd of just over 2,000 which set the original record in 2015. Speakers lauded the role of women in the workplace and our fight for equal pay and justice. Videos were shown telling the history of changes in the industrial workplaces during the war years, and how the image of Rosie came to be a recruiting image encouraging women to fill the hiring needs in factories across the U.S.



The event was sponsored by the Yankee Air Museum, which is housed in part of the original Willow Run aircraft factory (at which some of the original Rosies worked), Ford Motor Co., and UAW Region 1A, among others. Two of the winners of the elementary-age essay contest read their writings, giving all of us Rosies hope for the future. The youngest participating Rosie was six months old

and the oldest was 110, one of 50 "Original Rosies" from Detroit-area plants in the 1940s. There were a few men in costume and even a couple of dogs!



With bunting festoons and pennants flying from the office façade, Central Foundry Division today welcomed the public for a gala inspection of its new Defiance plant and a visit to the General Motors Train of Tomorrow.

The famous train took its place on the B&O track at 8:00 A.M. after arriving from its two-day showing in Fort Wayne. Rear of the observation car rested inside the plant, with entrance from a ramp off the loading dock.

Supervisory personnel, who will be occupied on the welcoming committee during the public inspection hours, brought their families for a preview at 11:00 a.m. today. Other plant employees and their families were scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Doors were to be open to the public from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. both today and Sunday.

Starting as soon as production halted Friday afternoon, plant workers gave the huge establishment a thorough housecleaning and general tidying up. Molds, cores and castings in various stages of production were left on conveyor lines.

Colorful signs bearing General Motors insignia and giving a brief outline of the function of each department were hung at strategic points throughout the plant, along the arrow-marked route to be followed by visitors.

Radio station WONW broadcast from the Train of Tomorrow during the forenoon. Another 15 minute broadcast was planned this afternoon.

More than 300 cars can be accommodated at one time in the stoned employees' parking lot at the plant. Use of an auxiliary lot opposite the plant on state route 18 will depend upon weather. Although soggy from Thursday's rain officials were hopeful it would dry sufficiently for use Sunday.

A line of dual lights has been installed along the east side of the plant, illuminating the parking lot and the paved driveway on which visitors will leave the train. Indications pointed to thousands of visitors accepting General Motors invitation to visit the plant and train during the Saturday and Sunday open House hours.

United Auto Workers
Amalgamated Local 211
2120 Baltimore Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Defiance, Ohio
Permit NO. 342

United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211
2120 Baltimore Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512

Telephone: 419.784.5399
Facsimile: 419.784.5838
Email: local211@defnet.com

UAW Local 211 Unit Meetings
Please confirm exact dates and times.

General Motors

Active, February 7 (UAW Hall)
Retirees, January 4 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, January 2 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, February 7 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

Tuesday, January 2 (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, January 2 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons

Wednesday, February 14 (Quality Inn)

Aramark

Monday, January 8 (UAW Hall)

Local 211 News

Official Publication of
United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211



Visit uawlocal211.com.

Web Editor: Mitch Chandler, Sheri Baker
News Editors: Larry Cooper, Amanda Rethmel

POLICY OF THE LOCAL 211 NEWSLETTER

The views or opinions expressed by the individual writers in *Local 211 News* are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Local 211 administration. The editors reserve the right to edit all material submitted. Any submissions for *Local 211 News* may be e-mailed to: local211@defnet.com or dropped off at the UAW hall. Articles must be received by the Friday following the GM Unit membership meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Here's a reminder! If you find a mistake in *Local 211 News*, please realize that we have not included it on purpose. But, if you feel inclined, bring it to our attention and every attempt will be made to correct it.



Local 211 News
is proudly printed
by Keystone Press,
Toledo, Ohio.