



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

April 2022



VOTE



THE 38TH CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE ELECTION

WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY MAY 12, 2022.

THE GM UNIT WILL BE VOTING ON TWO (2) DELEGATES

POWERS AND SONS UNIT WILL BE VOTING ON ONE (1) DELEGATE

COMBINED UNITS; JOHNS MANVILLE, HERBERT E. ORR,

MIDWEST COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, DFM, TEIJIN,

SIMS METAL MANAGEMENT WILL NOT HAVE TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION DUE TO THE FACT ONLY ONE MEMBER WAS NOMINATED AND ACCEPTED.

THE GM UNIT WILL VOTE IN PLANT 1 IN THE SKILL CENTER ROOM 114 AND IN PLANT 2 IN THE NEW CAR AREA FROM 2:00 A.M. UNTIL 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY MAY 12, 2022

POWERS AND SONS UNIT WILL VOTE IN THEIR FACILITY FROM

5:45 A.M. UNTIL 3:45 P.M. ON THURSDAY MAY 5, 2022

LOCAL 211 RETIREES AS WELL AS ANYONE WHOSE EMPLOYMENT STATUS PROHIBITS THEM FROM VOTING AT THEIR PLANT MAY VOTE AT THE LOCAL 211 UAW HALL FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

ANY RUN-OFF ELECTION IF NEEDED WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY MAY 19, 2022 AT THE SAME LOCATIONS AND TIMES AS LISTED ABOVE.

PROPER I.D WILL BE REQUIRED TO VOTE.



President's Report

By Keith Boecker

March 1st Retirements; GM had two retirements, Ken Karl and James Kroeger; Teijin Automotive had one retire in March, Sandy Burk.

April 1st Retirements; GM had two retirements, Paul Vernot and Ricardo Estrada and Teijin Automotive had two, Simon Mendoza and Cindy Dailey. I would like to thank you for all your years of service and I hope you have a happy and healthy retirement.

I would like to congratulate Brian Brellahan for being elected as Alternate Committeeperson for our GM unit.

On May 15, 2022 an Amalgamated Union meeting will be held at 2:00 P.M. at the UAW Hall if necessary to vote on resolutions/demands that are turned in for any changes to the UAW Constitution; if no resolutions or demands are turned in no meeting will be held.

Recreation Calendar for 2022; keep an eye out for events that will be coming up during the year. Postings will be hung at your facilities and you can check out special events on our website at uawlocal211.com

The Local 211, UAW Women's Committee has hosted a Quarter Auction on Saturday April 9th, a portion of the proceeds will benefit Local Area Food Banks

If you are planning on using the UAW Legal Services, please call 1-800-782-7700 to set up an appointment. They have limited hours and do not take walk-ins at their Defiance office.

Please call the UAW hall with any change of address. The International Union and Local 211 have mailings that are sent to our members at times and we want to make sure everyone gets the information that is needed. Call 419-784-5399 and talk to Lisa, she will get your change of address updated.

Family Scholarships are available through your unit Chairperson and at the UAW Hall for the Family Scholarship programs at Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center at Black Lake. This is a one week session that is held on June 19-24, 2022. The winners for this adventure can meet other UAW Families and enjoy a week at Black Lake; this will give you the understanding and appreciation for our union. Applications must be in by May 13th. All active or laid off UAW members in good standing are eligible if they have never attended the program

before. This event is free of charge.

I would like to thank the membership for your approval to install the new roof at Memorial Hall. It has been completed and looks very nice.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy Easter holiday and enjoy the time with your family and friends.

UNEQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK.

from Label Letter

In 2010, Kohler Co. adopted a two-tier wage scale; it was a dark time for workers and companies alike. But more than a decade later, the two—tier system was still in place and workers were resentful. In 2015, UAW members at the bath and kitchen manufacturer went on a more than month-long strike that successfully narrowed the gap in the two-tier system, but they couldn't close it entirely. That was until 2020 when the company and the union opened new contract negotiations. In December, Kohler agreed to a new five-year contract that phases out the two-tiered wage scale by 2023. The agreement negotiated a year ahead of schedule, benefitted Kohler and workers, bringing the younger workers' pay and benefits up and helping the company find workers in a competitive labor market.

"If you're not equal in pay, you're not equal," said Kevin Bradshaw a Kellogg worker and vice president of BCTGM Local 252G. "We're fighting corporate greed because none of these companies asking for a two-tier system actually need it; they just want it. Time has run out on giving companies big concessions, settling for things and not fighting back.

TO ALL RETIRED OR ACTIVE LOCAL 211 MEMBERS:

If you would like to submit an article for the Local 211 newsletter, please send an email to tonyahuss22@gmail.com or local211@defnet.com



Region 2-B Update

by Wayne Blanchard 2-B Director

On April 28, members of the UAW will observe Workers Memorial Day to pay our respects to those who lost their lives on the job and recognize the impact these tragic losses have on families, co-workers, and communities. We remember and honor every worker who has lost their life to largely preventable fatal injuries and illnesses, and we commit ourselves to fighting to make sure that others do not suffer the same terrible fate. I would be remiss not to mention our UAW Local 1219 brother Patrick Archer, a machine repairman at the Ford Lima Engine Plant who sadly lost his life on the job on November 3, 2021. Our hearts continue to go out to his family and loved ones.

As we acknowledge Workers Memorial Day, I want to recognize UAW Local 685 Health and Safety Rep Rob Seales who was recently honored by receiving the 2021 Indiana Governor's Everyday Safety Hero Award. His dedication to protecting his co-workers from unsafe work conditions caught the attention of both the company and UAW leadership, resulting in his nomination for the award.

This is a great recognition for the UAW and what our Health and Safety Reps do to protect our members and to keep and promote a safe environment for them to come to work in every day.

Last, month I made a request for support of our members at UAW Local 128 in Troy, OH who had been locked out by their employer Collins Aerospace. I'm proud to report that thanks to the incredible members of Region 2B, we were able to collect \$30,000 to be distributed to these brothers and sisters.

Fortunately, the membership of this local was able to come to an agreement with the company on March 14 and have since returned to work. Thank you all so much for supporting one another.

In solidarity,

Wayne Blanchard

Region 2-B Director

Workers Memorial Day 2022

Never forget....

Kim Cogswell
10-12-2018

Terry Bodenbender
2-2-2016

Jimmy Jones
9-11-1993

David A McCreery
6-16-1990

Eugene Childs
11-13-1988

Frank Dixon
9-9-1986

James Kent
11-16-1985

Clarence Webster
1-20-1983

Benjamin Warnement
6-1-1981

Carlos Olvera
12-22-1980

Jimmie Liles
1-14-1977

Joseph Konrad
12-13-1972

Robert Vogelsong
10-22-1971

Bernard Meyer
7-23-1970

Jerry Edwards
3-31-1969

Doyle Price
8-5-1968

Furl Stallard
8-16-1967

Leroy Hunt
9-2-1961





Retiree Chairman's Report

By Ted Fleming

My report is about two organizations that lead workers to vote against themselves.

One is the "Right to Work" organization which does not give anyone the right to work. Its only goal is to defund or cripple unions. I have spoken about this organization many times in the past. They have managed to get legislation passed that allows workers to refuse to pay union dues and still receive the same representation, pay and benefits as those who pay dues. In other words, to freeloader at the expense of their fellow workers.

Today they have joined forces with another organization called the "Freedom Foundation". Their goal is the same. They distribute publications telling workers that unions have a strangle hold on workers, forcing them to pay dues money that they could be using to purchase gasoline, groceries, and their rent, among other things.

Both of these organizations exist to help grow anti-union legislation and the power of corporations over workers. They are designed to cripple unions' ability to represent working families, plain and simple.

It costs money to negotiate collective bargaining agreements. It costs money to hold corporations accountable to the language the parties agreed to.

If they limit the funding unions receive, they can limit the union's ability to defend workers when they are unfairly treated.

So, remember these two organizations. Ask your representatives where they stand on these two anti-union busting organizations before you cast your vote.

**"RIGHT
TO WORK" IS
WRONG**



Retirees Report

By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

Welcome: We finally had a retirees' membership meeting on April 7th. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we were advised to keep gatherings to a minimum. It was wonderful to see all of you enjoying a great meal furnished by Black Angus. We had sirloin tips smothered in gravy, chicken breast, mashed potatoes, corn and a roll. But talking and looking at so many familiar people again tops it all.

Our retiree members approved of giving the Kentucky Tornado UAW victims \$1500 for their hardships. They were so pleased they sent back a huge thank you.

Joe Eureste, our Benefit Representative, gave us an update on what is to happen at our October meeting; information from the Medical Trust will be provided. So it is very important we attend this meeting.

We had eight new associate members approved to our retiree membership. This is important to keep our membership numbers up and show our support to the UAW. Welcome new associate members.

Retirees will be able to vote for two candidates for the 2022 UAW International Union Constitution Convention. The voting date is May 12th at the UAW Hall from 7:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Your vote and support for a fellow UAW member is most desperately appreciated. Please come to the hall and vote.

A lot of our fellow brothers and sisters have been lost in the past few months. Our prayers are with their surviving family members. As well our prayers are for the Ukraine people. May this unforgiving war be over soon!

Finally, this coming July 7th we are having Grandparents/grandchildren's day at the park. The hours will be from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The vendors will be Leininger's Pony Rides, Folly Face Painting, Lily Creek Farms, Party Expressions and Diving Living Snow Cones. If you have any grandkids or great grandkids bring them to this Fun Day at our park. Turn the kids loose and watch them have a blast. Food will be furnished.

Please remember to update your phone numbers and address by contacting the UAW Hall so you can be kept informed with all changes.

Hope to see you at our next meeting May 5th and stay safe and healthy.



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:

Gary Speidell – Retired 5/16
Robert Hazelton – Retired 7/94
Johanna Keesbury – Retired 2/93
Patrick Lineback – Retired 9/17
Larry Hill – Retired 4/05
Roosevelt Hawkins – Retired 5/91
William Lyday- Retired 5/2000
Marvin Hall – Retired 1/07
Walter Reaser – Retired 5/90
Arthur Fields – Retired 1/04
Rey Villarreal – Retired 4/2000
Alberto Gonzales – Retired 4/2000
Brenda Bruce – Retired 8/97
Troy Hall – Retired 6/06
Terry Retcher – Retired 7/97
Leo Florence – Retired 9/04
Jose Urdiales – Retired 6/06
Charlie Cox – Retired 8/09

Womens Committee Fundraiser

The Local 211 Women's Committee will be having a yearlong fundraiser of Rada Knives. These are USA Made products in Waverly, Iowa. These items can be ordered by typing in your web browser the link below or clicking the link on the Local 211 website homepage. These prices are good until July 31, 2022 as a new catalog will be released August 1, 2022.

website: <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=6447350.95bcc2>



Womens Committee Quarter Auction!!

On April 9th the Womens Committee held their quarter auction. A portion of the proceeds go to the local area food banks. Over 80 items were auctioned. A good time was had, as the committee and the volunteers raised money for a good cause. We want to Thank all who donated, volunteered and attended!





Financial Conference

By Sheri Baker, Financial Sec

I would like to thank the membership for sending me to the Financial Officers Conference in New Orleans LA. There were approximately 700 delegates at the conference.

The first day was kicked off with Region 8, which has 21 states, director Mitchell Smith. They had 8 locals on strike in two years and some of our union brothers and sisters survived a tornado. After the tornado in Kentucky, the UAW put out a donation request for our brothers and sisters. There was \$130,000 donated from UAW locals across the country.

Director Smith talked about Article 2 of the UAW Constitution. Article 2 states the objectives of the UAW. Section 1: to improve the working conditions, create a uniform system of shorter working hours, higher wages, health care and pensions, to maintain and protect the interest of workers under the jurisdiction of this International Union.

If you remember some months ago, we voted on a referendum to the constitution. Out of 1,310,650 members, 143,072 voted, that is only 14%. Many International ballots were returned, due to wrong addresses. If you recall seeing a posting on the union board about the local needing your correct address, this would be why. Please call the hall at 419-784-5399, to give us your correct address so you receive future mailings from the local and international.

Vice President of Ford, Chuck Browning said, "It's hard to hire someone right now, because what used to be careers, are jobs now. This is due to lack of pay and benefits." This was not just the big 3.

VP of GM, Terry Dittes, who has announced his retirement spoke. He said, "It's an honor and privilege to serve this great membership." He also advised that our membership see us, hear us and we need to listen.

President Ray Curry thanked the front line workers during the pandemic. There are some changes coming in the UAW. For too long the companies have pitted us union members against each other. President Curry talked about how the executive board is committed to building an ethical reform and a stronger UAW.

Secretary Treasurer Frank Struglin gave an update on the strike fund. The strike fund has increased for the past 3 years. The strike fund was \$830,000,000 at the beginning of the year. When the fund reaches

\$850 million, our dues will decrease to 2 hours pay.

As many have seen, workers are voting for unions in places that were not expected. Recently we have seen Starbucks voting in a union. The most recent was Amazon workers in Staten Island, NY. This was a major victory.

This conference offered many classes that will help me to be a more effective Financial Secretary. There was a strike assistance class that will be very helpful with any future contract negotiations. The labor history class inspired me to educate the membership with how and why unions are necessary.

The majority of my core class was for the LM2, the report for the department of labor, and the 990 (the IRS report). I was able to finish the LM while I was there and get a major portion of the 990 finished.

I brought back many useful handouts and I can not wait to share them with you. Reach out to me anytime with questions, or if I can help you in any way.

How to Read a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

1 F A L P 4 2 X 9 T F 1 1 1 1 1 1

Vehicle's brand, engine size, and type	Vehicle Security Code	Serial number for the vehicle
Vehicle Manufacturer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B, C or D: Chrysler/Dodge FA, FB, FC, FD, FM, FT: Ford Starts with G: General Motors J4: Jeep L: Lincoln USA ME: Mercury USA NX: NUMMI USA P3: Plymouth USA YV: Mazda USA (AutoAlliance) ZV: Ford (AutoAlliance) 	Plant that assembled the vehicle	Vehicle Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model years 1981-2000 used Letters B to Y Model years 2001-2009 used numbers 1 to 9 Model years 2010-2030 will use letters again
Where the vehicle was built: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1, 4, 5 made in United States 2 made in Canada 3 made in Mexico 6 and 7 made in Oceania 8 and 9 made in South America A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H made in Africa J, K, L, M, N, P, and R made in Asia S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, and Z made in Europe 		

PRO MEMBER



JESUS MAKES US CLEAN INSIDE AND OUT

BY FRANK BELMARES

"Approaching Jesus, a leper kneeling down says to him: "If you want you can cure me." Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand, touched him and said, "I do will it. Be cured. The leprosy left him then and there." Mark 1:40-42

What is clean and what is not? Mothers have a different sense of what is "clean" compared to their spouses or their children. We have heard different sayings such as "you can be poor, but clean" or the one we've all heard, "cleanliness is next to Godliness"

All these things are true, but we also have to think of people that for no reason of their own are not "clean". In Leviticus 13:44-46, speaking of the unclean person and how that unclean person had to be set apart from the rest, that person had to shout to the world that he or she was unclean because by being unclean he could infect the rest of the population.

So, the best thing for everyone was to be set apart. Jesus; however knows the pain of being isolated and alone, of not being touched or receiving the warmth of others, which is why He had compassion.

We all lived this past year through this pandemic. We've been told to keep our distance from one another, at least six feet apart. We were told to cover our faces and even at times to stay at home if at all possible.

In the Gospel we hear about being made clean and how we are to be cleansed. Jesus does not condemn because he knows that in some way or other, we are all unclean and striving to be clean, even in this pandemic.

We can see that there is hope in the form of the vaccine, but it doesn't make us clean instantly, it takes time. We still have to be cautious. People are still suspicious of others. After having the virus some people still avoid others as unclean.

In this year God is asking us to work harder in caring for one another. We are asked to make sacrifices, to lead changed lives even if just a little. We are also asked to help someone else find the right path and to lead them back to the Way, the Truth and the Life. If you know who that is, tell people about Him. He is the one that makes us clean from the inside and outside. Amen.

STATEMENT OF UAW PRESIDENT RAY CURRY ON KEEPING IMPORTANT PROVISIONS TO PROTECT THE MANUFACTURING SUPPLY CHAIN IN THE COMPETES ACT DELIBERATIONS.

From UAW.org

Congress has an opportunity to pass historic legislation that will strengthen domestic auto manufacturing for UAW members, their families and their communities to make our supply chains more resilient for decades to come.

The UAW supports supply chain resilience provisions in the House-passed COMPETES Act and, in the strongest possible terms, urges House and Senate conferees to include it in the final agreement so President Biden can sign it into law. These provisions would aid the Biden Administrations' important work to strengthen our supply chains. We thank Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, Congressman Adam Kinzinger, Congressman Tom Malinowski, and other members of the committee for crafting this bi-partisan legislation that stands to help the nation avert future supply chain crises.

The ongoing semiconductor shortage has led to hardship for UAW members, their families and their communities including layoffs and shift cancellations throughout the country. UAW members who build world class light duty vehicles, heavy duty vehicles, agricultural equipment, and parts have suffered due in large part to our over reliance on foreign supply chains. Fortunately, the \$52 billion in funding for semiconductors included in both the COMPETES Act and the Senate-passed USICA bill, along with the \$45 billion loan guarantee and grant program for the manufacturing critical technologies, and other measures, stand to benefit US workers' and our economy, while also leaving us in a superior position to withstand future global supply chain disruptions.



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

General Motors

Active, Wednesday, June 1 (UAW Hall)

Retiree, Thursday, May 5 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, May 3 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, June 1 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

Tuesday, May 3 (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, May 3 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons June 8 (Drop Tine Winery & Tap House)

DFM Monday, May 9 (UAW Hall)

Teijin Automotive Technologies Monday, June 13
(USW Hall, Van Wert)

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Visit uawlocal211.com.

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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.



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is proudly printed
by Keystone Press,
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