



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

October 2022

TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 22, 2022



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

Kid's Christmas Party Drive Thru
at the UAW Hall on December 4th
from 11:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.
Santa will be here with
Candy & goody bags!



President's Report

By Keith Boecker

The GM unit had one retirement as of November 1st, Brian Schmearsal with 32.5 years, the GM unit had 2 retiree's as of October 1st, Jay Earich with 33 years and Rolando Guevara with 30 years. Powers and Son's unit had one retirement; Steve Hartsock and Teijin Automotive had one, Tammy Boyce with 32 years. . I would like to thank you for all your years of service and I hope you have a happy and healthy retirement.

During the last Sub-council meeting GM Chaiman, Robbie Egnor was elected as top negotiator for our National Agreement. Congratulations Rob!

Official forms for resolutions for the GM-UAW 2022 National Contract are available at both plant Work Centers. These resolutions should be turned in at either Work Centers or the UAW Hall. Deadline for submitting resolutions will be Wednesday November 23rd at 4:00 P.M. These resolutions will be voted on by the membership attending the regular monthly meeting on Wednesday December 7th at the UAW Hall. Times for these meetings are 7:45 A.M., 12:30 P.M. and 3:30 P.M.

The Strike and Defense Fund balance as of July 31, 2022 is \$840,265,093.06.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Retiree Steve Mendez who donated his time and equipment to power wash the main Shelter house on September 28th with the help from David Spears from our DFM Unit. The shelter house looks great. They both did an amazing job. In the future if anyone needs any pressure washing done, contact Steve Mendez, he does this work since he retired.

I want to thank everyone who helped out with the Local Union's Fishing Derby that was held on Sunday September 18th, there were 30 children who attended.

The Women's Conference was held at the UAW Hall on October 1-2, there were approximately 125 delegates that attended. Our local 211 Women's Committee worked very hard to hold this conference, thank you for the hard work and to everyone who participated in this event.

Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo are available for purchase at this time, these tickets are good for the weeks of November 18th through December 31st. Adults ages 12-59 are \$15, Children ages 2-11 are \$10 and Seniors ages 60 and over are \$10. You can purchase these tickets at the UAW hall,

first come first serve. There are a limited amount of tickets so if you are interested please contact Lisa at 419-784-5399.

On October 22nd the Recreation Committee hosted a Trunk or Treat at the UAW Park. There were approximately 50 children that attended in their costumes. I would like to thank the Recreation Committee for doing this event for our members' children and grandchildren.

The Credit Union held their election for Vice Chairperson, Connie Flores won the election. There will be nominations coming up for their Recording Secretary due to the resignation of their Recording Secretary.

Johns Manville Unit ratified their Local contract; I would like to congratulate the Bargaining Committee for working hard and negotiating a good contract for their members.

Powers and Son's Unit is holding their election for their Bargaining Committee, the next addition of the Local 211 Newsletter we will update you on this election.

The UAW Park is now closed for the winter season. Thank you to Gary Brown for all the hard work keeping our park and grounds looking so good, we appreciate all the hard work you do for Local 211 UAW.

Local 211 Trustees have received quotes to remodel our Memorial Hall restrooms. With membership approval we hope to have these restrooms updated in the near future. I also want to thank the membership for the approval to put the new roof on the Memorial Hall and new concrete in the main shelter house earlier this year and for allowing us to keep our buildings and grounds in the best possible shape with our limited resources. The roof was installed earlier this year and the concrete will be placed this fall or next spring.

A project the Retiree board has taken on was the purchasing of new picnic tables for our park. Any active or retiree can donate a table for \$310; a plaque will be installed on the table in memory of or donated by. You can contact the UAW hall for more information on this project. There have been 20 tables purchased so far and they are a nice addition to our park.

I truly appreciate the great job our retiree group does for our local and looking forward to joining your group in the near future.

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.



UAW 2022 Region 2B Women's Conference By Sheri Baker

The UAW Local 211 Women's Committee had the honor of hosting the 2022 Region 2B Women's Conference on October 1-2. We had women and men from all over Region 2B which consists of Ohio and Indiana. There were approximately 124 delegates.

Director Wayne Blanchard spoke to the delegates about the importance of being involved in your union. He also said, "When you want something done, have a woman do it. They get stuff done!" He encouraged everyone to take back to their locals what was discussed at the conference. Education is the key.

Raye Ohl spoke to everyone about the importance of politics. We all know that politics can be a touchy subject. We have to pay attention to what bills and legislation is being sponsored and voted on in our states. Especially Women! After all, it was only 45 years ago that we couldn't be fired for being pregnant. It was only in 1974 that we could not be discriminated against on a loan application. In 1988 women could apply for a business loan without a male cosigner. We need to stay aware so that we as women, stop going backward. Get out to VOTE!

Ashley Lewis from the Women's Department of the International UAW spoke to us about the importance of education and how to keep all of our members involved. There is much work to be done.

There were some great speakers on Sunday as well. Sherri Hammersmith came and told the family's story of Scott. Sherri spoke of the important work she does with "One Step at a Time" foundation; the program that helps our youth with depression and suicide prevention. I urge you to reach out to Sherri; to not only hear about Scott but also if you need, or know anyone that would need help with suicide prevention.

Beth Bullock spoke about addiction and the effects it had on her son. Beth spoke about her drug program "Brave Choices" and her son Robby. Not only does her program deal with addiction it also educates on sex trafficking and domestic violence.

The Women's Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the conference and those that made the conference possible.

To date, the Women's Committee has been able to donate \$15,955 in the last four years to

various charities. We do appreciate the support the committee gets from our membership and community.



UAW Core Values

By Sheri Baker

If you go to the UAW conference you will take classes and you will hear "core values". We need to educate not only the delegates at the conferences but the entire membership. A major core value is to build, maintain and protect high standards in contracts. This comes from the UAW Constitution in Article 2 (Objects), Section 1 which states; "To improve working conditions, create a uniform system of shorter hours, higher wages, health care and pension; to maintain and protect the interests of workers under the jurisdiction of this International Union."

With the 2023 national negotiations for our GM unit coming up, members will need to submit resolutions by November 2022. We will be approving which resolutions the members wish to submit to International for the contract at the December 7, 2022 meeting. Ask the shop committee for any help needed to fill out your resolutions. These will be the issues negotiated for the contract.

Another core value is that ALL members are equal. Article 2 (Objects), Section 2 says; "To unite in one organization regardless of religion, race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation or nationality, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, all employees under the jurisdiction of this International Union."

Our Civil Rights committee protects and investigates any issue where members feel they are being discriminated against based on any of the classifications listed in the above mentioned article.

"All men and women are created equal, that

they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men and women, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. Within the orderly processes of such government lies the hope of the worker in advancing society toward the ultimate goal of social and economic justice.” As you can tell, the UAW has a Preamble to the UAW Constitution that is very similar to the US Constitution.

The last article that deals with our core values is, Article 2, Section 5. It states, “To engage in legislative, political, educational, civic, welfare and other activities which further, directly or indirectly the joint interests of the membership of this organization in the improvement of general economic and social conditions in the United States of America, Canada and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and generally in the nations of the world.”

This article is referred to as the breadbox connected to the ballot box article. Walter Reuther, the founder of the UAW, has a famous quote. “There’s a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box, and what the union fights for and wins at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls.” Keep this in mind when you go to the polls. Research how the candidates feel about unions because they can make laws to take away our benefits, that our unions negotiate for us in our contract.

they are all doing.

There were discussions on Electric Vehicles; there are a lot of members who feel they are going to be affected by switching to electric vehicles.

Thank you all again for sending not just myself but other Local 211 members for this important training

UAW/GM Benefit Plans Representative

By Rob Searfoss

I want to thank the membership for sending myself and Lisa Brown, Alternate Benefits Representative, to the UAW-GM Benefits Representative Training, on October 3-7, 2022, in Detroit, Michigan. This was the first training session offered since 2018. This was my first time being in the GM Renaissance Center. The building is amazing. There are nice restaurants, hotels, and shops inside the RenCen and it sits right along the river looking into Canada.

There were Benefit Representatives and Alternates from plants across the country. Many being newly appointed. The presenters covered every aspect of our benefits and gave us some very good information and training. It was also a great opportunity to network with the other Representatives and discuss the issues they encounter on a regular basis.

I want to thank Janet Seedorf for covering for us in the Benefits Office while we were gone and for doing such a great job.

Feel free to call or stop in the office if you have any questions or concerns about your benefits or any retirement questions.



Herbert Orr Chairman Report By Ronald Phillip Bendele Jr.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Local 211 for sending me to the Leadership Advisory Council Meetings at Sawmill Creek. Regional Director Wayne Blanchard said we have 310 contracts through Region 2B. 66 agreements have been ratified so far this year; hopefully 92 by the end of the year. He said that his goal is to make everyone proud to wear the letters UAW and wear it proudly on their chest and back again like we use to.

We learned about “The Other side of the Napkin App”

We did keep hearing that there are not enough workers and that so many employees are working too many hours and not enough money for what

Midwest Community

Federal Credit Union Chairperson

By Kathy Reynolds

I would like to thank the Local for sending me to the recent TOP Conference at Sawmill Creek in Huron Ohio. I was privileged to spend several hours with fellow TOP members including several from St. Vincent’s Hospital, nurses and support staff, a county employee representing Job and Family Services and the Jeep Federal Credit Union Chairperson. (Plus some great fellow Local 211 peeps).

We compared notes about FMLA, diversity, potential violence in the work place and the difficulties involved in negotiating contracts and the effects of striking. We have requested future training at our meetings on some of these hot topics. It is refreshing to see that other units deal with the same challenges that we do.

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:

Randy Cox – Active GM
David Askins – Retired 7/04
Chester Moore – Retired 3/20
Gilberto Gonzales – Retired 10/99
Henry Michelson – Retired 1/90
John Arms – Retired 1/99
John Boggs – Retired 7/87
Forest Bashore – Retired 8/19
Edward Mitchell – Retired 1/90
Donald Landry – Retired 10/87

ATTENTION: LOCAL 211 UAW GM RETIRED WOMEN

On December 6, 2022 there will be a luncheon for the GM Retired Women at Sams Restorante, 501 W. Second Street in Defiance Ohio from 1:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M.

All ladies that retired from the GM Plant at Defiance are welcome to join us. It has been a long time since we have been able to get together with our friends and co-workers. This year we are donating gifts for Christmas for Kids, if you can please bring an new unwrapped gift for a girl or a boy or both if you wish. Please RSVP to Rosie Ortiz at 419-439-6434 or Kathy McCarthy at 419-769-3474 if you are attending. We are looking forward to celebrating the Holiday's with our past Co-Workers.



Local 211 is collecting clean and acceptable caps for future discount recycled benches and picnic tables for the park. They can be dropped off at the Local 211 Union Hall.

Plastics R Unique, Inc. CAP Program YES! Caps



Best Rule of Thumb: It must be a clean cap or lid that is 100 % plastic and not used for medical purposes. Collect only Plastic Caps! Remember they must also be clean & dry!

Examples of Caps:

Caps on Food Products: Bottles, Milk, Juice, Broth, "Squeezzy" Caps, Peanut Butter, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, & Other Condiments

Other Caps: Medicine Bottle Cap, Lotion, Soap, Toothpaste, Detergent Caps, Spray Point, & Deodorant

Examples of Lids:

Food Lids: Butter, Ice Cream, Dips, Cool Whip, Cottage Cheese, Sour Cream, Coffee, & Pringles

If you question it, drop us an email to be safe.



CAP Program NO-NO Examples



The NO-NO or NAUGHTY Lists

NO Dirty Caps or Lids

NO Foil or Paper Inside the Caps

NO Metal or Other Foreign Materials of any kind

NO Trigger Sprayers or Mechanical Pumps that may hide Metal Springs

NO Medical Supply Items – Except for Medicine Bottle Caps

NO Plastic Bottles or Containers

If these pieces are missed, they can cause great damage to our shredder.



**Lights Before Christmas
@ Toledo Zoo**

**GOOD FOR THE WEEKS OF NOVEMBER 18TH
THROUGH DECEMBER 31st**

Adult Ages 12-59 \$15

Children Ages 2-11 \$10

75 Adult Admission Tickets Available

50 Children and Senior Tickets Available



Fishing Derby 2022



Congratulations to the Winners!

Most Fish - Benjamin DeSota

Biggest Fish - Madelyn Whitaker

Smallest Fish - Mackenzie DeSota

First Frog- Hudson Brown

DEFIANCE SWCD EDUCATION



Ayersville, Fairview, and Timora 6th Grades gathered at the UAW Park on Baltimore Road for the 2022 6th Grade Conservation Tour, hosted by Defiance Soil and Water on September 23. Students rotated between stations presenting information about the environment and environmental issues. Subjects presented were: Forestry, pollinators, geology, water quality, archery, energy, and soil. Over 300 students were in attendance along with teachers, drivers, and other staff.

The presenters brought their knowledge from a diversity of backgrounds. Employees from GM, OSU Extension, Ohio Natural Gas & Oil, Defiance SWCD, ODNR, and local apiarists (bee keepers). Students acquired knowledge regarding the importance of caring for natural resources, the importance of natural resource to our everyday lives, and how governmental policies effect our use of natural resources.



Assisting at this event were many county employees as well. Sandwiches were prepared by the Defiance County Sheriff's Department. Lunches were distributed by the Defiance County Commissioners. Students were able to talk and interact with these elected officials on a personal level.

Many local businesses donated generously in order to make this event possible: Arp's Dairy, Cooper Farms, Mainke Orchards, Double D Dairy Bar, and Family Farm and Home. We also wish to thank UAW for the use of their beautiful facility which provides the perfect venue for this youth outreach opportunity.



Walter Reuther Stamp

Show your support for a postage stamp in honor of Walter Reuther's life. Sign our petition today!



bit.ly/ReutherStamp

"You've got to make up your mind whether you're willing to accept things as they are, or whether you're willing to try and change them."

- Walter Reuther



Pack the Purse

UAW Local 211

Women's Committee

The UAW Local 211 Women's Committee has collected over 80 purses to be donated to Sarah's House or House of Ruth. Each purse will contain a variety of the following items. Items needed are below and can be dropped off at the UAW Hall. Thank you for your support!

Travel size Shampoo, Travel size Conditioner, Travel size bar soap or shower wash, Travel size lotion, Dental Floss, Nail Clippers, Hair brush, Comb, Pick, Pony Tail holders, Hairspray, Toothbrush / Toothpaste, Socks, Tissues, Pepper Spray, Small first aid kits, Safety pins, Notebook and pens, Chap stick, Makeup Wipes, Qtips / Cotton balls, Disposable Razors, Sanitary napkins/tampons, Gas Gift Card, Grocery Gift Card (Meijer/Kroger/Chiefs), Travel size Deodorant

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.



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

General Motors

Active, Wednesday, December 7 (UAW Hall)

Retiree, Thursday, November 3 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, November 1 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, December 7 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

Tuesday, November 1 (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, November 1 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons Wednesday, December 14 (Drop Time Winery & Tap House)

DFM Monday, November 14 (UAW Hall)

Teijin Automotive Technologies Monday, December 12 (USW Hall, Van Wert)

Defiance Area UAW CAP Council Tuesday, November 8 (UAW Hall)

Local 211 News

Official Publication of
United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211

Visit uawlocal211.com.

News Editors: Tonya Huss, Trisha Ramirez

Web Editor: Mitch Chandler, Tina Cattell

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.