



UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR GREEN



As we move into 2025, I wanted to refresh my monthly update in an effort to reach more members. Feel free to send feedback and let me know your thoughts.

The Holiday Season can be great for some and tough on others. Please check on your family and friends this time of year. We are all going through things that no one knows about. Many members are dealing with the stress of the holidays and for some, loneliness. There are also work-related insecurities at some locations right now as well. It seems that companies go through the layoff and closing announcements around this time of the year. When my home plant in Lordstown, OH announced it was “unallocated”, it was the Monday after Thanksgiving. I will never forget the stress and anxiety that brought to our members, the entire community, and myself. What we had was each other. What we focused on was our solidarity. I encourage you to reach out to your fellow sisters and brothers and let them know they are not alone.

Solidarity



Make no mistake, solidarity is not just a word, but an action. The companies are never our friends. They are driven by profits and forget that the workers are the ones that work tirelessly to make them money. Corporate greed is alive and well. This is why we have unions. This is why workers like my grandfather stood up and fought for the right to have a voice in the workplace. It is up to every single one of us to continue to fight for workers everywhere and stand with each other regardless of our disagreements. Our labor, in my opinion, is our most valuable resource. The time and energy we give to our employer belongs to us, not them. Workers need to demand more, but they can only do it when they take action, hence, have solidarity with each other.

Our ability to fight for our members is directly related to the solidarity our members have. Even with great contracts, the companies break them every single day. Our only real recourse is the grievance procedure, aside from a strike. We know the cost of a strike, and the grievance procedure can take a lot more time than we like. Please read your contracts, the UAW Constitution, and your local union by-laws. This is where your rights and obligations as a union member are.

Because the UAW is a member driven organization, your elected officials work for you. Internationally elected folks like me, work for you by providing the resources and support your local needs. It's the membership that holds all the accountability to put people in positions that are willing to fight for ALL members. I know I give all I can for our members because I believe in us. None of us are perfect, our union is not perfect, yet I cannot overstress the importance of having a labor organization on your side and the power we truly have in our solidarity. The question is, are you willing to use it? Like a gym membership, you must put in the work to see the results.

Recently Ratified Contracts in R2B

- Local Union 12, I want to thank the bargaining team at Adient for negotiating and ratifying a new four-year agreement. Thank you, Brother Crayon, for your support.
- Local Union 12, I want to thank the bargaining team at Jeep Country FCU for negotiating and ratifying a new four-year agreement. Thank you, Sister Barber, for your support.
- Local Union 12, I want to thank the bargaining team at the Lucas County Clerk of Courts and Auto Titles who ratified a new three year agreement with a 100% approval vote. Thank you Brother Barlow, for your support.
- Local Union 211, I want to thank the bargaining team at Midwest Community FCU for negotiating and ratifying a new four-year agreement. Thank you, Sister Barber, for your support.
- Local Union 211, I want to thank the bargaining team at Teijin Automotive Technologies for negotiating and ratifying a new three-year agreement. This is only their second contract since organizing their unit in 2020. There are no concessions and major wins such as a new Fresh Air HVAC system that is air conditioned, improved 90/10 Health Care Plan (previous 80/20) and 20 percent in wage increases. Thank you, Brother Barlow, for your support.
- Local Union 863, I want to thank the bargaining team at Quality Plus Containment for negotiating and ratifying a new agreement. Thank you, Brother Mason, for your support.
- Local Union 933, I want to thank the bargaining team at the AFL-CIO in Indiana for ratifying a new agreement. Thank you, Brother Collins, for all your support.
- Local Union 996, I want to thank the bargaining team at Varbros for negotiating and ratifying a new three-year agreement. Thank you, Brother Frammartino, for your support.
- Local Union 977, I want to thank Aimee Pena, who is on the national negotiating team for DFM in helping secure a great contract for our members.
- Local Union 1123, I want to thank the bargaining team at W.F. Meyers Company for negotiating and ratifying a new agreement. Thank you, Brother Wright, for your support.
- Local Union 2308, I want to thank the bargaining team at Integrated Power Systems for negotiating and ratifying a new four-year agreement. Thank you, Brother Meadors, for your support.
- Local Union 3044, I want to thank the bargaining team at Cleveland-Cliffs for negotiating and ratifying a new agreement. Thank you, Brother Wright, for your support.

More Union Business



There are other contracts that are in play right now at Local's 959, 933, 1244, and more. Know that we will use every available resource to help our members get the best possible contracts. Again, our best leverage in negotiations is the solidarity of our members. I know members of Local 128, the CareFlight Nurses and Medics are standing in solidarity as they kicked off negotiations with the company on Monday, November 18, 2024. This is their very first agreement. Thank you, Brother Gadd, for giving them all your support, and thank you to Local 128 for accepting them as your new work family. To move forward, we all need to be continuously learning and supporting each other.

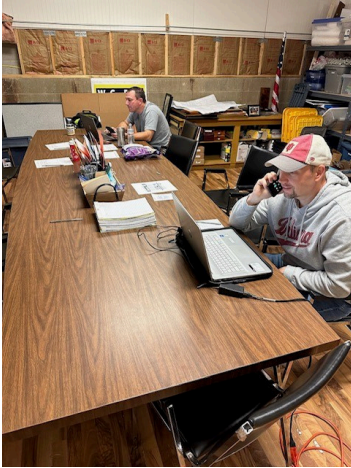
Now, more than before, we have been focused on organizing and growing our membership. We also have more training and educational opportunities at our disposal. Region 2B will continue to focus on ALL members, active, retired, or laid off.

Retirees Update

I wanted to announce that in July, The Greater Marion County International Area Council (GMCIAC) was established in Indianapolis as Region 2B's first Drop-In Center. This Drop-In Center serves as a resource to the retirees in the Greater Marion County area who need assistance with medical bills, pensions, and life insurance. It's a great opportunity for retirees to come together and meet to discuss issues which impact them directly. The UAW has a Constitutional mandate which provides an opportunity to establish IAC's and Drop-In Center's for retirees. Our retirees in the greater Marion County area haven't had a benefits representative to assist with closed locals since 2019. This has been a hard-fought journey, and I wanted to thank UAW Region 2B Indiana Retiree Representative, Petra Jameson for her dedication to bring this Drop-In center to fruition. The Greater Marion County IAC Meeting's will take place on the 4th Thursday of every month at 12 p.m. at UAW Local 933. The Drop-In Center Counselor, Sister Robin Heiskell is available on Wednesday's and Thursday's from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. except on holidays. Sister Heiskell is a former Benefit's Representative with Stellantis, so her prior experience will be very beneficial to the IAC.

I want to thank the GMCIAC Chairperson, Blaine Smith (UAW Local 1111) and the IAC Committee for all your hard work. I also want to extend my gratitude to UAW Local 933 President, Gary Holmes and those at 933 who have provided the IAC with office space. The first quarter meeting dates for 2025 are as follows, January 23rd, February 27th, March 27th, and April 24th. I strongly encourage your participation in an effort to help retirees utilize this newly established service, so we don't lose it. My hope is that with this IAC being a success, we will be able to create more Drop-In Center's in other areas throughout the Region in both Indiana and Ohio. The IAC is still new, and in the meantime, they will be using UAW Local 933's number (317-247-6661) or you can reach Sister Heiskell via email at rbup2bat1@aol.com.

Our Labor has Value



I know that national politics has created some division in our units, and that needs to stop. The UAW endorses candidates based on the hard work of our CAP Councils. Any member can be a part of our CAP Councils, so I challenge you to get involved in your Local CAP and use your voice and learn the facts. In R2B, we endorsed candidates from both parties and in Ohio, 70 of our endorsed candidates won, while 58 lost. In Indiana, we had 39 candidates win and 26 lost. With our path to power program in Indiana, we had three UAW members get elected to offices. We need to build power and focus on the most important issue there is, our labor.

Focusing on worker related issues is what we do. Endorsing candidates that will answer the phone and support your union is important. This is not about any one of us, but about all of us. Now that the elections are over, lets hold every elected official accountable for their view, stance and votes on labor related issues. Here again, our solidarity matters. If we stand together, our power will grow for all of us!

We Are The Union



To wrap up the year, I want to wish every single member and their family, a very Happy Holiday. It doesn't matter what you celebrate or how, know that you have a union family to lean on. Whether it's our retirees, active, or laid off members, **WE ARE THE UNION**. We need to focus on **US** as a collective. Learning, growing, and fighting side by side for **OUR** labor must be our goal if we want to succeed.

May God Bless us all.

In solidarity,

Dave Green

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well. To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

