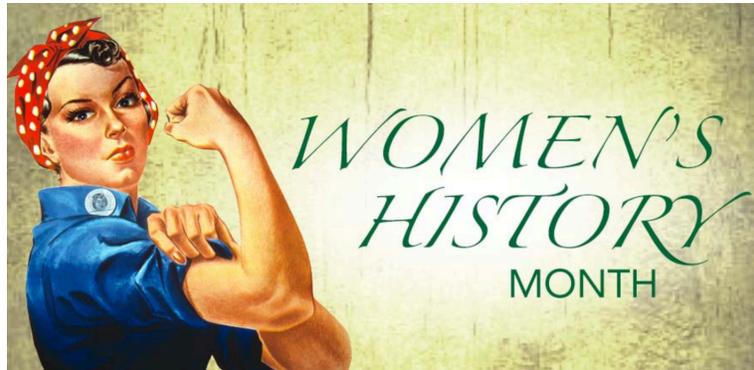




# UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR GREEN

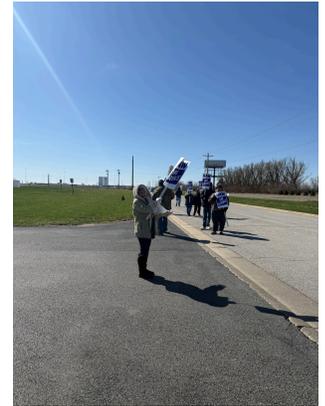


Dear Region 2B Family,

March is Woman's History Month which marks a time to recognize women that have made the world a better place. One thing I know for sure is we have some strong union women right here in our region. They are in local, regional, and international leadership, active and retired. Looking back in time, the Flint Women's Emergency Brigade stood on the front lines fearlessly ensuring the success of the Flint Sit-Down strike. Strong union women are on the plant floors, in offices, and taking care of others every single day. There are strong women in my personal life as well, like my mom, daughters, and wife. Never forget that none of us would be here if it were not for a woman. I just wanted to thank all the women out there that get it done every single day, I see you, I appreciate you, and have the utmost respect for you!

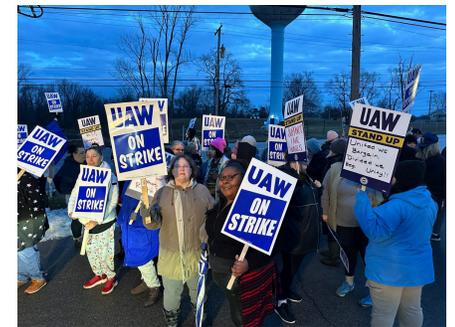
It has also been a very busy month with a lot of council meetings, as Ford, GM, and Stellantis all had sub council meetings this month. We also had our 19<sup>th</sup> Ohio CAP Convention, and an Indiana State CAP meeting. The region offered Election Committee Training at different locals, a special thank you to all the locals that hosted. We supported the Effective Educator Program and taught a sexual harassment course as well. There was a "Salute to Labor" event in Indianapolis where President Shawn Fain was the keynote speaker, and we had another local walk out on strike.

# Region 2B



UAW Local 1327 walked out on strike March 24<sup>th</sup>. They are standing up for fair wages and reasonable health care. The company, Freudenberg NOK, doesn't believe the workers should earn a fair wage. We have members that have worked there for decades and still make under \$20 an hour plus pay quite a bit for their health care. I got to visit the strike line listen and talk with the members and to thank them for standing up. As Director, I can't strike for the workers. They must be willing to do the work. And it's not just standing outside with a sign. There is a lot of work and preparation that goes into this type of action. We must have a plan to get back to work as well. Our members must be willing to put themselves out there and fight for what they want, and the company needs to have violated some labor laws to protect our members. Thankfully, our union does offer strike pay and covers healthcare costs, this gives them the ability to hold out longer and stay stronger. The support from other locals is also essential. Thanks to locals 863, 913, 1219, 2075, 12, the Toledo Area CAP and others for their support as well as to the community and other labor organizations. When you put it all on the line, it gives you strength knowing others have your back.

# Region 2B



UAW Local 2192 has been out on strike for almost 6 weeks now as they walked out February 18<sup>th</sup>. They are in a unique situation as public employees where the Commissioners in Lorain County won't even bargain. They rejected the independent fact finders report, used mediation to complain about receiving emails, and have been grossly negligent to the residents of Lorain County. One thing I know about these workers, they are in it for the long haul. Their chairperson, Gina Jones is a great example of a strong union woman fighting to make the world a better place. Many of the workers at Lorain County JFS are eligible to receive the benefits they help others receive. Meanwhile the commissioners have increased the number of administrators by over 150%. More than doubling 100K salaried staff that do not serve the residents of Lorain County and only bow down to the commissioners. This is going to be a long one and I can't thank the Job and Family Services employees and leadership enough for standing up to these injustices. They are fighting for themselves as well as doing this for future employees. Fighting for future generations is important so they won't have the same struggles.

## Region 2B



Aside from these strikes, we are still dealing with the fallout left by the First Brands bankruptcy. Our work family at Local 1181 lost their jobs at Eagle Machining. While we were working with the legal department and actively looking for buyers, they abruptly closed the doors violating the WARN notice that was filed. We are still actively working to gain more compensation for those members. Our family at FRAM, Local 2413, are going through a similar situation and we are using outside council as well as our internal lawyers. Toledo Molding and Die, Local 2021 has two locations and we believe there is a possible buyer. We are working diligently through all of this. It's very frustrating watching these profitable locations, where our members work extremely hard every day, sometimes for decades, only to close because the parent company committed fraud. We need more regulations, not less, to hold the bad actors and lenders accountable for multi-billion-dollar scams that leave workers and communities behind.

This is why our CAP Council's function. Our union is involved in politics because we must do everything we can to protect our members. Many times, we have gotten gains at the bargaining table and politicians try to take them away in the halls of congress. When we endorse candidates, we do so with a ridged screening process. We do this to hold politicians accountable after they are elected. We don't just give one party our endorsements, regardless of those who think we do. We endorse candidates that have a history of, or promise to support organized labor and protect workers rights. Our fathers and grandfathers fought very hard for us to have the rights we do today. We cannot sit by and watch them slip away. I don't know about you, but I want to make sure my kids and their kids have a world where workers have rights and a voice in the workplace.

# Region 2B



To that end, we had our 19th Annual Ohio CAP Convention this month. The delegates were able to debate resolutions and update our bylaws. We heard from some political candidates about why they are running for office and what they will do to support working class folks like us. One of those was Dr. Amy Acton. She is running to be Ohio's next Governor. She grew up tough and understands working family struggles. I am proud that our Ohio State CAP has endorsed Dr. Acton. Only working folks can fix working folks' issues. Billionaires and CEO's are good at fixing billionaire issues but don't fully understand what it is like for the working class.

The region also had an Indiana State CAP meeting at the Indy Sub-Office this month. We were able to have open discussion and talk candidly about the candidates that the councils want to endorse and why. If you ever want to get involved in this process, show up at the meetings. We want our members involved. We need to hear from you in a respectful way. We are trade unionists that need to focus on people and laws that protect and empower workers. Not a single product or service can be completed without our labor. The billionaires will use propaganda and lies to try and divide us. My advice is don't take the bait, know that you have way more in common with the folks you are working with, than the people that own the place.

## Region 2B



This is why all organized labor needs to stand up together. We can disagree but still stand united on where we do agree. So when I had the opportunity to sponsor an all-encompassing labor event, I took it. I was honored to introduce President Shawn Fain at the Indiana Dems “Salute to Labor” event in downtown Indianapolis this month. Building relationships with other labor leaders and members is essential. Finding common ground and building strategies to move workers forward is a must. That’s what we are doing right here in Region 2B. Our members have been to the strike line at the Whiting Refinery where 800 USW members got locked out. British Petroleum sure can’t claim they have no money. In fact, none of these energy companies can. They care more about CEO pay, stockholders and dividends than they do about safety, workers, or our environment. Again, workers and their unions need to stand together if we want to win for the next generation. We stand with the USW, AFT, Unite Here, AFSCME, OPEIU, CWA, IBEW, the Teamsters, LiUNA, UFCW, and more. When workers are on strike, the UAW is always showing up and showing out!

One piece of standing together is directly related to education. If you know me, then you know how passionate I am about it. This is one reason I have so much respect for our retirees, as they have lived through some of the toughest times and are always willing to share their knowledge. Their history is an important part of who we are and that is one reason why I think all members should go to Black Lake. Education is important and empowering. This is why I am excited to offer training at your new regional headquarters in the near future. Our Spring Advisory Council meeting will be held there May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> (Official Call letter is coming soon). Having the ability to offer education and training at limited costs and with flexibility is something this region has needed for some time.



## ***Region 2B***

I know that many of our members just want to go to work, earn their income, and go home. They think the union “will take care of it”, without understanding they are the union and have power too. Every single member has a responsibility and obligation to help us all move forward. That just means being active and taking part in your union. Going to meetings, supporting the standing committees, and bargaining team, voting, making calls or knocking on doors at election time, running for office, or just being supportive of your work family. If each of us does some of it and we work together, we can move mountains.

Working together is what the sub councils do and why they meet multiple times a year. What is happening at your work location is probably happening someplace else, and if not, it will, this is why we share information with our work family. The sub council meetings are important for us to build solidarity and help remind us that we have each other. Solidarity is not just a word, it's an action, and we need to practice it to make us stronger. This is never more evident than when we have a tragedy at a workplace.

This is exactly what happened at the Sharonville Ford Plant, Local 863, on March 16<sup>th</sup>. A union brother, Greg Knopf, was tragically taken from us in a workplace accident. While there is an ongoing investigation, the members there are struggling with his loss, as is his family. The outpour of support from across the region and the Ford Department has been a blessing. We give the most valuable thing we have to make a living, that's our labor, but make no mistake, every worker deserves to make it home every day. Please continue to keep Greg's family and coworkers in your thoughts and prayers.

Lastly, I want to wish everyone a Happy Easter! Enjoy your family and remember your union is you.

God bless and as always, in solidarity,

Dave Green  
UAW Region 2B Director