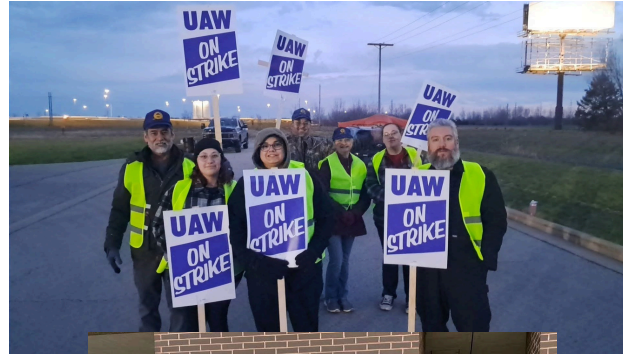




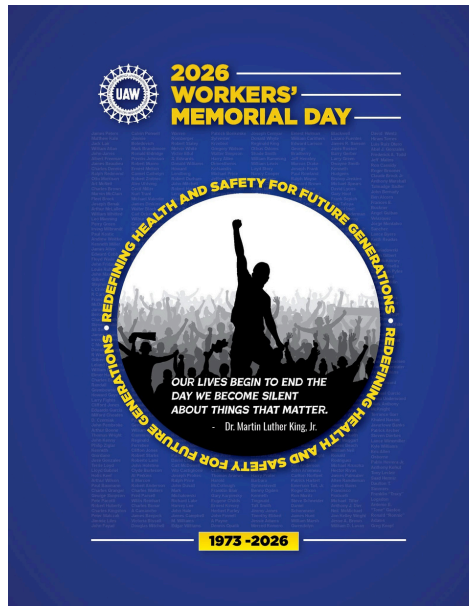
UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR GREEN



Dear Region 2B Family,

April showers bring May flowers. I hope everyone had a blessed Easter and got to spend some time with their loved ones. Many members and locals have been busy this past month and so has the region. I was honored to listen to some retirees this month as I attended Local 969 and Local 549 retiree meetings. It was also great to update the regions retiree leadership at their conference in Carmel, Indiana. There was an IPS conference in Atlanta, Georgia, where I talked with many of our delegates to better understand the issues they are facing at their locals. There was a community town hall at Local 2000 in support of our Local 2192, JFS members that are still out on strike. We also have members out on strike in Findlay, Ohio at Local 1327 Freudenberg NOK, they have been out since March 24th. The Region supported the HealthCare for All Ohioans Conference, because our healthcare system is broken and needs major repair. I had the privilege to tour a couple of our facilities this month as well, AM General, Local 5, and Tenneco, Local 86. We also recognized Workers Memorial Day at our worksites on April 28th.

Region 2B



Every day when we go to work, we expect to go home, and our families expect us to return unscathed. After all, we work to provide for our families. We support our communities as well. Whether it's coaching our kids' team, cleaning up our neighborhoods, supporting those in need through our churches or local shelters, or any activity that builds a stronger community, we contribute and people depend on us. That means we should be coming home after a hard day of work, safe. Workers Memorial Day is there to remind us of this. We recognize those that have lost their lives and those that have been injured or disabled while at work. We do this every year on April 28th as that is the date OSHA was created in 1971. Let's face it, work becomes a routine and many of our members work in dangerous environments. After decades of doing the same thing at the same place, it's easy to not see all the dangers around us. Just last month we lost one of our own, Greg Knopf. Greg was a Local 863 member at the Sharonville Ford plant. While I did not know him personally, I have talked with many members who did. A great man, son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many, that is gone too soon. These are absolutely the worst calls anyone can receive. Greg, like so many others, did not get to go home after work. He had plans for the upcoming weekend like we all do. So please, please, please, stay safe at work. If you see someone in an unsafe situation, let them know, even if it seems awkward or they might get mad, you can literally save someone's life.

Region 2B



Here in Region 2B, our worksites are very diverse. As such, I am privileged to tour many different locations to better understand the work our members do and the challenges they face. This month I spent time on the factory floor at AM General, represented by Local 5. Our family there builds the iconic Humvee and the JLTV. A lot of what they do is by hand. The attention to detail is very important to everyone I heard from as these products are made for our national defense. I would like to thank Local 5 President, Mark Maron and the Shop Chair Keith Oden for their hospitality. A big thank you to the entire membership for your candid and honest feedback, and a shout out to Region 2B Servicing Representative Shawn McDougal.

I also had the opportunity to tour our Tenneco facility represented by Local 86. Our members there build parts for a variety of automotive manufactures, mainly suspension parts at the Napoleon location. The show of solidarity in the plant was strong, and I know our members there deserve more than the company provides. I want to thank Local 86 President Chris Franz, Shop Chair Kim Kwasniak, and the entire committee for a very warm welcome. Thank you to all the awesome members, especially those that shared their stories with me. Shout out to the Region 2B Servicing Representative Aaron Shinaul for setting this up. We have been in negotiations with the Tenneco working to get our members a better contract and secured a tentative agreement this week. Recognize that Tenneco, like every other company puts profits over people. Bargaining for better wages and a fair healthcare plan is not easy. My commitment to every unit is to use all available UAW resources to get the best contracts we can. We have many IPS facilities like Tenneco that feel like they have been left behind. I see you, I hear you, I am trying to build better contracts at each location, one at a time.

Region 2B



One of the biggest issues we face at every bargaining table is healthcare. That's why the region was proud to sponsor the Healthcare for All Ohioans Biennial Conference. Fighting for better healthcare frustrates me because I personally believe that it is a right and not a privilege. We live in the richest country in the world and working folks must make choices if they can afford to go to the doctor or pick up a prescription. This should be unacceptable to every single American. The healthcare companies are for profit, they put money above our health. They are literally killing people to make money. It is disturbing and completely unethical in my opinion. Even the revered Cleveland Clinic, known for their excellent doctors and state of the art facility, have been denying our members from Local 2192 coverage because they won't accept the health coverage we provide to striking members. I know we have called and written them, yet we never even received a response. I believe this is because the Cleveland Clinic doesn't support unions, they do this to try and break our members solidarity. We cannot let them win.

Our members at Local 2192 have been strong on the picket line and are refusing to break. They have been holding the strike line since February 18th. What the Lorain County Commissioners used as their first offer was the same as their last offer. They are not negotiating in good faith for our members. They refuse to get back to the table, so we have put boots on the ground to expose them. Politicians are supposed to work for their constituents and in Lorain County, they have been padding the pockets of their friends and have left the residents out to dry. To the members there, HOLD THAT LINE! The UAW is only as strong as our members. No one can fight for workers better than the workers can.

Region 2B



Our family down in Findlay, Ohio at Local 1327, Freudenberg have been out on strike since March 24th. They are holding that line too. Standing up for better wages and healthcare costs that won't break the bank, all while the company is committing unfair labor practices. These members have showed tremendous solidarity and know that the gains they deserve will not be easily won. It's always a difficult time being on strike, knowing that the bills are piling up. However, it's this power, stopping our labor, that we need to use to get the dignity and justice we deserve. I want to thank all the local unions and CAP Councils that have made donations and brought firewood, water, snacks, and the likes to both strike lines. That support and show of solidarity helps our members get through to the next day.

Solidarity was also present at the IPS Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. It was great to see our local leaders learning and connecting. These meetings are an important part of building relationships by connecting leaders from different companies in order to share important information. There was a lot of classroom learning as well, and my hope is that every delegate there was able to take back learned knowledge to share and build more power at their local. It really does take all of us working together if we want to move forward.

Region 2B



Moving forward is easier when you know where you are coming from. This is why our retirees are so important. They fought the fights, so we have rights. They have seen it and lived it and are a wealth of knowledge. I was honored to attend a retiree meeting in Columbus, Ohio with Local 969. Listening to the stories and seeing our members together sharing and supporting each other is a true sign of solidarity. I experienced the same sense of solidarity at the Local 549 retirees meeting in Mansfield, Ohio. Both retiree chapters are still sharing information and helping their members even though they come from closed GM plants. I know what its like to come from a closed GM plant which makes these visits even more personal for me. The company leaves the community while the workers are left behind. Thank goodness for the UAW and our retirees still out there supporting each other.

The Region 2B Retiree leadership met in Carmel, Indiana this month and I had the privilege to update them on the happenings in our region. As we moved into the new regional headquarters this month, I had asked if the retirees would like to sponsor a piece of the new building, specifically the audio and video equipment. I want to thank them for doing so. The headquarters belongs to our members, active and retired. I wanted to make sure we honor our retirees for their continued support for our active members. Education and training are imperative for our members to grow and thrive and our retirees will be supporting that effort. I think every active member wants to be a retiree someday and I'm hopeful they will give back and support the next generation like our current retirees continue to do.

Region 2B



I know May is going to be a busy month with Delegate and triennial elections happening at many locals. I love seeing members wanting to run for office. That means they have a passion to do more and serve the membership. Win or lose, service to our members is the priority in every single position in our great union. Our members are the highest authority and the entire reason we do what we do. We also have our Region 2B Advisory Council meetings coming up soon. I'm looking forward to seeing all of our delegates at your new regional headquarters. Don't forget that external politics are also at play in May. Please get out vote and May 5th in the primary elections. Exercise your rights. VOTE!!

Finally, I just got some good news today that our work family at Local 2021 in Bowling Green and Tiffin, Ohio are working on a deal to keep all members working at both locations. Both of these locations were owned by First Brands, which went bankrupt. The multi-billion dollar fraud has caused many workers at different worksites, along with their communities, to fall victim to this greed. We are hopeful that the new owners of these locations will bargain in good faith and treat our members with the dignity they deserve.

May God bless us all and stay safe out there Region 2B Family!

In solidarity,

Dave Green
UAW Region 2B Director