



# REGION 2B

## UPDATE

### THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Wayne Blanchard receives the Trade Unionist award from the CBTU Toledo Chapter in 2019.

UAW Family,

February is **Black History Month** and the history of our country is not complete if we do not include the experiences and contributions of black Americans. When people think about the black experience, they typically default to thoughts of slavery. However, the mission of Black History Month's founders was not to focus on the horrors of enslavement, but to promote the achievements of the black community in the wake of emancipation.

Black history can mean a lot of things to a lot of people. For me, it is about honoring the contributions of those that came before me by living a life that serves others. We cannot successfully lead our families, our communities, our unions...if we are not passionate about service. As a black man, it is in my

heart to be a good example for those who may look to me for guidance. Demonstrating to others that hard work, compassion, diligence and follow-through are key, not only to success, but to living rich and meaningful lives.

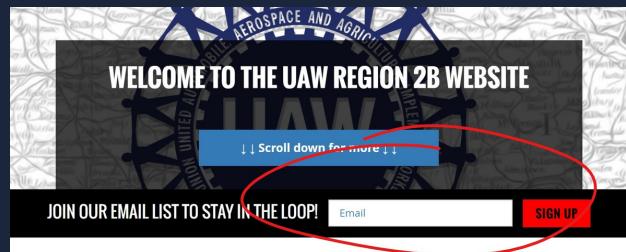
Black History Month is a time to celebrate the black Americans whose achievements we benefit from today. Also, this month can and should serve to bring a divided country back together by reminding us that we are better when we embrace our diversity.

**Communication and transparency** are an integral part of leadership. For me, it is important to be in direct contact with local union leaders so that our lines of communication are clear. For the second year in a row, I have started the year by **inviting local union Presidents and Chairpersons to join me in a virtual meeting**.

This gathering allows me to give local union leaders important information and updates, but it also provides an opportunity for me to hear what is going on with all of our locals/worksites. It is my plan to continue to create opportunities for direct communication as often as is necessary.

We have been through a lot in this union over the last several years and Region 2B is going to take all of the steps necessary to rebuild our strength and reestablish the trust and respect of the membership.

In solidarity,  
Wayne Blanchard  
Director, UAW Region 2B



SIGN UP AT [REGION2B.UAW.ORG](http://REGION2B.UAW.ORG)