



# UAW LOCAL 751 NEWS



October 2023  
UAW LOCAL 751  
7<sup>th</sup> Issue  
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2365 E. Geddes St.  
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# Dates to Remember



## September

3 - **Retiree Breakfast**

9- **Retiree Meeting** – pulled pork, bring a dish to share. \$1 per person.

11 – **Membership Meeting**

10am – all members welcome

13 - **Steward meetings** – all members welcome to attend

(7:15am, 1:30pm, and 3:15pm)

25 - **Steward meetings** – all members welcome to attend (7:15am, 1:30pm, and 3:15pm)

24- **Attorney Frank Bertuca** at the hall, please **call** for an appointment.

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### ~REMINDER~

\*STEWARDS MEETING ARE HELD EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> WEDNSDAY OF THE MONTH. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A STEWARD TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS. ALL MEMEBERS ARE WELCOME. THIS IS A GOOD OPPURTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS. RAISE ANY COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS YOU MAY HAD OR HAVE ON HOW THINGS ARE HANDLED ON THE SHOP FLOOR. \*

## Retiree Meeting August 8, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Chairman Karen Verhusen.

Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America. Moment of silence for the deceased members and those missing in action.

Invocation by Paul Espy.

The regular order of the meeting was set aside for the new officers to be sworn in by Local 751 President Jason Hess.

Karen asked any new members and their guests to go first in line for the meal and set aside the regular order of business to let the group enjoy the meal.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call of officers with all present or excused.

The Recording/Financial Secretary Dave Ashenfelter read the Minutes from the July meeting and they were accepted as read.

The financial report from the month of July was read and it was accepted as read.

### **Reports of Officers:**

Karen reported on what is happening at the Hall; talked about the Labor Day Parade and the food & festivities afterwards will be at Fairview Park this year, not at the Union Hall. Also talked about donating to different charities.

Dave Ashenfelter reported a free screening for prostate cancer with the PSA blood test on September 22 at 302 W. Hay Street, Suite 200.

Richard Springman & Gerry Grandon talked about their service to the retirees and they enjoyed it.

The hat was passed for the food drive collection - \$178 was collected.

**Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

September 5 at 8:00 AM will be the next breakfast.

September 12 at 6:00 PM will be the next meeting. We are having a cookout. Please bring a dish to share. Cost is \$1.00 per person, pay at the door. Call Deanna at the Union Hall for reservations (217-428-7706).

The menu for the remainder of the year: October – ham & beans, November – turkey breast, December – fried chicken.

### **Communications:**

There was one birthday, and no anniversaries.

There were five deaths: Alvonzo Hodges (7/12), Ronald Lyon (7/21), Morris Washburn (7/25), Delmar Heidkamp (8/4), & Howard Fair (8/4)

Motion to adjourn by Richard Springman, seconded by Gerry Grandon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

### **Door Prizes:**

\$10 Rod Finke

\$5 Dennis Heinz

\$5 Paul Espy

\$5 Dale Hale

David Ashenfelter  
Recording Secretary  
Local 751 Retiree Chapter  
Region 4, UAW

Hello Union Brothers and Sisters

## Presidents Report

I would like to thank everyone for helping on Labor Day at the hall and at the Ameren parking lot. Handing out shirts, hats, candy and wristbands for Fairview Park. I would also like to thank Sam Hart and Bob Kreidler for letting us use their trucks and trailers so the retirees could on them in the parade.

To the members, I would like to ask how Fairview Park went. Would you rather have it at the hall next year? The grand Marshall of the parade, Nicki Brudzinski, U.S. Rep and Sue Scheven were at the picnic. I would also like to tell members we have sign-ups for committees in the hall. Please sign up and get involved with your union. Retirees who retired after 2005 **OPEN ENROLLMENT** is October 15<sup>th</sup>- December 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Election committee report

Nominations for Vice President and guide will open at the October 8<sup>th</sup> membership meeting and will be open through October 10<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. Please turn in your written acceptance to the head of the election committee, Mary Hill, or deliver it to the union hall in care of the election committee chairperson.

# Chairmans Report

The Local currently has 1 "Just Cause" case waiting for a ruling from the arbitrator. In the meantime, the Local is also sending 4 "Just Cause" grievances to the International to be certified for docketing and for possible appeal. The Local had 17 Issue Grievances certified for docketing, and all have been answered before going to an arbitrator.

The Committee has started the Tri-Annual elections for Stewards and will hopefully be completed by mid-October. Our contract books should be here before the elections are complete. So, when the elections are complete, we will have a numerous training session for those new(er) Stewards in hopes that they can be caught up to speed with the day-to-day rolls of a Steward.

In our daily activities it seems that attendance (**AWOL**, out of notes, out of blue card, and no call) is high on the disciplinary chain followed by Values in Action. We currently have 61 grievances in 3<sup>rd</sup> step with a total of 335 for the year, 270 of those are since the ratification. If you or someone around you, doesn't know how the Attendance Guideline or the Work Performance disciplinary path works please ask those questions. Also keep track of all your doctors' notes and signed slips for time off because the company is switching over to Workday for everything and Kronos will be eliminated. We do not know how well the transition will go, so hard copies will be your best option if needed.

Every week in 3<sup>rd</sup> step we ask about S.E. conversions/percentages, Christmas shutdown/vacation days, and Market Base wages for next year. The only thing that we have been given an answer to is that there will be a conversion soon, but the amount has not been communicated.

In closing, keep an eye out for your Union Brothers and Sisters, work together, and enjoy this beautiful Fall weather.

Chairman Marty Hunter

*"In Union there is Strength."*

# Grievance committee report

Attendance has been the biggest battle in Final Step. The company's "Guidelines" are not always explained clearly and **definitely not** followed consistently by management. Here's what they are:

## Guidelines-

When an employee has an Unapproved Absence and is unable to excuse it with verification, they will receive an occurrence. The attendance guidelines follow a six-step progression of occurrences. Depending on where the employee is in the progression steps, they will move to the next step with each occurrence. **If an employee goes 12 months without an unapproved absence, the process starts over.**

## Approved Absence-

Any absence for which an employee has provided Proper Notice and obtained prior approval from their supervisor, or any absence which is protected by law, e.g., ADA, FML, VESSA.

## Proper Notice-

Face-to-Face at work at least a day in advance of the absence.

## Unapproved Absence-

An absence that is not an Approved Absence. An Unapproved Absence will be reviewed by management to determine whether or not it will be excused. An unexcused Unapproved Absence is an Occurrence. The company will excuse an Unapproved Absence if there is acceptable Verification – but only 6 times during a rolling 12-month period. In order to use Verification, the **employee must call in prior to the start of shift**. If an employee does not call-in prior to the start of shift, Verification will not be accepted, and the employee will progress to the next corrective action.

## Occurrence-

Any unapproved attendance infraction – Tardy, Late, Leave Early, unexcused Unapproved Absence, etc. – without acceptable verification. This includes both regularly scheduled days and overtime opportunities. If an employee misses multiple consecutive shifts, it will be considered one occurrence. If, however, an employee is absent for more than three consecutive shifts without providing Proper Notice and having acceptable documentation for these absences, the employee is subject to immediate discharge for being absent without leave (AWOL). **If you are going to be absent for more than three shifts, you must call in to Section Manager and Medical before the start of your 4<sup>th</sup> missed shift.**

## Verification-

Documentation acceptable to the company, that states that the employee is **unable to work, reason why, is dated the date of the absence, and is provided upon the employee's return**. Verification must be provided immediately upon the employee's return. If the employee is absent multiple days, the verification must be dated **the first day of the absence and cover all of the days absent**. Verification will only be accepted 6 times during a rolling 12- month period and only if the employee called in prior to the start of the shift.

Your Committee,

Brian Marts, Sam Hart, Rob Walters, Jed Rohr, Blake Force.

## **Thank you letters!**

Dear friend,

We would like to thank you for your support of our association. Without the assistance of people or organizations like you, we would not be able to fulfill our mission within the Macon County community.

Appreciatively,

Jason Danner.

Bill Pesch was a strong union man. Went through many strikes but because of that '751' I'm being well taken care of. Your thoughtfulness in sending the bible will always be remembered by my family. Again thank you for thinking of us.

The family,

Theresa, Penny, & Chris.

Blessings to you & local 751!

To the UAW, thank you for your donation to the Labor Day parade/picnic. Your contributions helped make it a success.

In solidarity,

DTLA

UAW members, during a time like this we learn how much our family and friends really mean to us. Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. Thank you for the beautiful bible.

Rosemary Doubles

**UAW Local 751**  
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Decatur, Illinois 62526

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# CLASSIFIEDS

## LOCAL 751 NEWS – CLASSIFIED ADS

Due to membership action, commercial advertising or business services will not be published in Local 751 News.

### LIMIT 20 WORDS PER AD

Ad should be submitted to 2365 E. Geddes, Decatur, IL 62526 – No ads will be accepted on the telephone – Ads will be accepted only on this form and no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of even numbered months.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BADGE #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**One Word Per Space only! Please Punctuate!**




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**THANK YOU!**