

Important Notice

Greetings Brothers and Sisters, I understand that there are some out there who have not had Union Dues deducted and have filled out Union Cards a while back. As of now, we have submitted all cards that we had in our possession. If you are one of these individuals, please come by the hall and we will get you taken care of. This is very important as we prepare for a potential strike. You must be a member in good standing in order to qualify for strike assistance! If you did not sign up, this is your chance to get it done, otherwise you will not receive Strike Assistance. This goes for all of us, make sure we are current on our dues and make sure we (at the Hall) have all your current information. INTL. UAW sent out a Revised Administrative Letter that clarifies Strike Assistance eligibility, qualifications and many other topics. Come by the hall and take a read.



Financial Secretary Leo Carrillo

In Solidarity,
Leo Carrillo

Update Your Information at the Union Hall

UAW Local 31 *Newsline*
Published Monthly at
500 Kindelberger Road
Kansas City, KS 66115
Phone (913) 342-7330

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August 2023

News And Updates For The Membership By The Membership



UAW Local 31 News



(The Gm National Negotiation Team get started July 18th (photos courtesy of UAW.org) Pictured is our Shop Chair Doug Bias Jr.

President's Message

BARGAINING NOT BEGGING

September 14, 2023.

This date should be etched into every UAW brothers/sisters mind. This is the day we gain a better quality of life. The day we receive reciprocity for our hard work and sacrifices. The day our worth and value is truly realized – not just to this company, but to the country... Or it will be the day we harden our resolve, plant our flag of solidarity and fight to gain these things in the streets.

At the stroke of midnight (EST) September 15, 2023 (September 14, 2023, 11:00pm CST), the UAW/GM national agreement dissolves. Under normal circumstances there may be extensions reached, especially if both parties felt like an agreement was near. However, not this time. Our President, Shawn Fain and Vice President, Mike Booth informed us all that there will be no extensions this year... **Fair Contract or Strike.**

All UAW members across the country have sacrificed so much in recent years. We gave huge concessions in the 2007 contract and then watched as the companies leveraged the economic crisis to com-

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UAW-GM



Union Standing Committees Defined

Local Union Standing Committees: Article 44

The Local Union shall have the following standing committees: Constitution and Bylaws, Organizing, Union Label, Education, Conservation and Recreation, Community Services, Civil and Human Rights, Citizenship and Legislative, Consumer Affairs, Veterans, a Local Union Women's Committee where such membership exists, and such other committees as they deem necessary. All committees should be appointed or elected, subject to the discretion of the Local Union or Unit Workplace Organization in the case of an Amalgamated Local Union



Local union standing committees are probably the least understood element of our union's structure. Most members understand our union's role in making gains at the bargaining table. Additionally, most understand the role that solidarity plays to achieve those gains. This solidarity is born through our shared experiences, hopes, and values. It is in this context that standing committees shine! Through our standing committees, we discover our shared interests and learn to work together towards common goals. By working in our standing committees, we can view our membership as a whole – not just a body of coworkers. In our standing committees' activities, we demonstrate our values and work together toward building solidarity. Standing committees are designed to find the membership's passions and give them an avenue to work within it. Below are a few to discuss:

Civil and Human Rights Committee: Temieka Shannon Chairperson

The Civil and Human Rights Committee is the essential guardian of our union policy. Members of this committee fulfill the local unions commitment to assuring members full rights regardless of religion, race, creed, color, sex, political affiliation, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. The committee informs members of steps and procedures, including filing complaints and hearings, whenever a member or members believe their rights have been violated. The committee works toward the elimination of discrimination in the workplace, the community, and the nation. This committee needs members who feel a moral obligation to speak out on the issues of intolerance, injustice, and bigotry.

Community Services Committee: LaTisha Dunnell Chairperson

The Community Services Committee performs the critical task of helping members and their families in times of need. If you feel strongly about being there for others when an emergency, natural disaster, or other hardship strikes, then this is the committee for you. Some examples of community service activities include: Support during layoffs, worksite closings, and strikes, Hurricane relief, Organ donor awareness, Food drives and Blood drives. The Community Services Committee works through public and private organizations to ensure that members faced with emergencies get relief when needed. This committee serves as the local's link with the community to help those in need.

Education Committee: Stacy Ponds Chairperson

Building the power of the labor movement through educating and training our members is the education committee's responsibility. Members of this committee work with local union leaders to determine the membership's needs and provide classes, materials, and information based on these needs. In many subject areas, the National Education Department has programs that can be delivered to your members. Some of these programs include: New member orientation, Grievance handling, Leading with vision and The structure of standing committees. If you are committed to providing education that informs, develops skills, and motivates our leadership and members, this is the committee for you.

Veterans Committee: Kim Weaver Chairperson

The Veterans Committee seeks members who are willing to represent the interests of all active and retired UAW veterans and their families. This committee is dedicated to advocating for the political and social concerns of veterans. This is accomplished through leadership, guidance, and education on matters of concern, including dependent care, disabilities, benefits, and more. The people who came to the aid of our nation when they were called upon are a valuable resource to the entire labor movement. If you want to build and enhance the dignity that all veterans have earned by serving their country, this is the committee for you!

In Memoriam: UAW, Forever & Always

Robert O McCartney

Joined: 01/07/1985
Retired: 11/01/1995
Dept: 17
Passed: 12/08/2022

Odessa K Stapp

Joined: 01/07/1985
Retired: 08/01/2009
Dept: 17
Passed: 05/06/2023

Scott J Gregory

Joined: 10/15/1964
Retired: 01/01/1997
Dept: 15
Passed: 03/21/2023

Gerald L Allison

Joined: 12/01/1964
Retired: 09/01/1994
Dept: 87
Passed: 05/14/2023

Ronald D Fisher

Joined: 05/03/1972
Retired: 08/01/2007
Dept: 86
Passed: 05/19/2023

Steve R Geiger

Joined: 08/09/1962
Retired: 07/01/1995
Dept: 19
Passed: 04/22/2023

Thomas J Lukomske

Joined: 02/11/1976
Retired: 02/01/2001
Dept: 50
Passed: 04/12/2023

Carthell Davis

Joined: 09/19/1983
Retired: 04/01/2015
Dept: 17
Passed: 05/19/2023

Thomas J Rovito

Joined: 01/07/1985
Retired: 01/01/2007
Dept: 43
Passed: 04/05/2023

Berthell Brown

Joined: 08/19/1969
Retired: 01/01/2007
Dept: 70
Passed: 04/08/2023

James W Coleman

Joined: 01/07/1985
Retired: 01/01/2005
Dept: 11
Passed: 03/23/2023

Hubert F Martin

Joined: 07/08/1949
Retired: 03/01/1993
Dept: 86
Passed: 04/03/2023

Mark G Anderson

Joined: 03/16/1975
Retired: 06/01/2004
Dept: 17
Passed: 03/28/2023

Charley J Allen

Joined: 11/30/1949
Retired: 06/01/1980
Dept: Unkown
Passed: 04/17/2023

Judith A Baker

Joined: 08/27/1975
Retired: 05/01/2001
Dept: 17
Passed: 07/04/2023

Donald R Heskett

Joined: 01/07/1985
Retired: 10/01/1999
Dept: 43
Passed: 05/22/2023

Michael S Kates

Joined: 02/27/1976
Retired: 02/01/2006
Dept: 17
Passed: 04/08/2023

Keith H Hoyt

Joined: 08/26/1952
Retired: 01/01/1997
Dept: 41
Passed: 04/04/2023

Geneva Bell

Joined: 03/27/1972
Retired: 01/01/2007
Dept: 41
Passed: 04/18/2023

Robert Harlow

Joined: 11/21/1961
Retired: 03/01/1993
Dept: 41
Passed: 03/20/2023

Bobby Carnes

Joined: 09/12/1964
Retired: 01/01/2007
Dept: 46
Passed: 2023

Barry T Leonard

Joined: 05/04/1965
Retired: 05/01/2016
Dept: 83
Passed: 06/05/2023

William Shakespeare

1564 - 1616

William Shakespeare is widely considered the greatest English writer of all time. His poetry earned him the nickname "The Bard of Avon." His numerous plays, including "Hamlet" and "Macbeth," are still regularly



- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| ACTOR | JULIUS CAESAR | SHAKESPEARE |
| BARD | KING LEAR | SONNET |
| COMEDY | LONDON | STAGE |
| ELIZABETH | MACBETH | STRATFORD |
| ENGLAND | OTHELLO | THE TEMPEST |
| GLOBE | PLAGUE | THEATER |
| HAMLET | PLAYWRIGHT | TRAGEDY |
| HATHAWAY | POET | TROUPE |
| HISTORY | QUEEN | WILLIAM |

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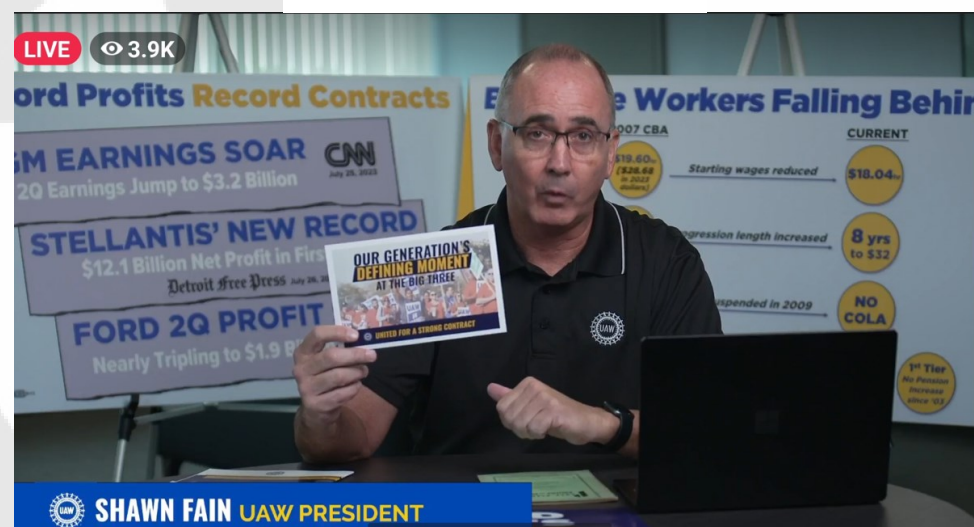


Pictures courtesy of UAW.org

The 2023 UAW-GM National negotiations are underway. This is quite possibly the most important contract for the automotive industry. Corporations are recording record profits yet those profits are not trickling down to the workforce. This is our time to make the gains we deserve.

As, Our top negotiating team fights for a fair contract, let's stand in solidarity with them! Below is a link and QR code for the UAW Solidarity cards. Sign up to pledge your unity with our fellow UAW brother's and sister's.

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/sign-up-for-big-3-updates/>



Pictures courtesy of UAW.org

Veterans Committee

What is the PACT Act?



There has been a lot of talk in the news lately of this thing called the PACT Act. You might have seen ads running on social media, solicitation calls from law firms inquiring about you or your loved ones that were stationed at certain locations or you may have received letters in the mail requesting you to follow up and get placed on a national registry. It can be daunting to wade through all the information floating around, so let's try to get a perspective on what the PACT Act actually is, and where to go for further information.

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act. The PACT Act which was signed into law by President Biden in August 2022, will expand and extend eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War and post 9/11 eras. This act adds to the list of health conditions that are presumed causation from exposure to a lengthy list of toxic substances. This law will help generations of Veterans and their survivors get the health care and benefits they deserve and need. Toxic exposure screenings are available at VA health facilities all across the country. If you are a Veteran currently enrolled in VA health care, you will receive an initial screening at least once every 5 years. The screening will ask if were you exposed to a list of hazards while serving. This list includes: Agent Orange, Open burn pits, Radiation, Camp Lejeune contaminated water exposure, and other exposures. From that screening the VA will guide and direct you in the next steps to receive the health care necessary from the expanded list of exposures. This new law also covers spouses, dependents, and survivors who may have also been exposed to harmful substances throughout the Veteran's duty. To obtain assistance in getting information of filing a claim, the presumptive health conditions due to toxic exposure or just navigating the claims process, there is a VA benefit hotline number 800.827.1000 or your local Veteran service office can also help you get started on your claim, check up on possible benefits owed to you, and assist with seeking care from VA doctors and specialists.

Submitted by Kelly A. McClary, (Veteran, United States Marine Corps) and your Local 31 Veteran's Committee / Kim Weaver, Chairperson

A Quick Note From The Vice President:

Hello sisters and brothers. Sometimes we fall short of glory, everyone deserves grace. I have made several mistakes in life and will probably make more. Taking accountability and learning from your indiscretions builds character. I have been authorized to sign off on sisters and brothers who have experienced legal issues and need community service hours. This is not a handout. Our local executive board deals in integrity and you will have to work to earn your hours. We have several ongoing projects that need attention at our Union hall. We are always in need of volunteers. If you are interested contact the hall. All community service issues will be forwarded to me. Thank you!

In Solidarity, Vice President Tony Pryor



On this day in Automotive History, August 26, 1935, the American Federation of Labor (AFL) officially chartered the United Auto Workers (UAW) in Detroit, Michigan. Throughout the mid 20th century, as factory production expanded, auto workers faced increasingly dangerous, even fatal working conditions. With the passage of the National Labor Relations Act (or Wagner Act) in 1935, private sector employees were guaranteed the right to organize into trade unions, engage in collective bargaining, and take collective action such as strikes.



Credit: Petersen Automotive Museum

* Birthday Celebration *

Join us as we celebrate the birthday of The UAW!

**Saturday August 19, 2023
Following the Union Meeting**

- "Kick Back" Fellowship • Market Day • BYOB/BYOF •

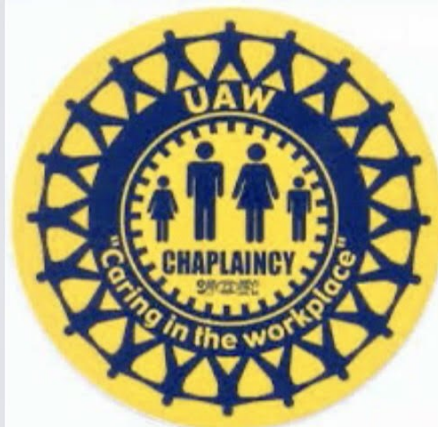
“The LORD God has told us what is right and what He demands: "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God." Micah 6:8 (CEV)

LET US PRAY,

Our Father and Creator, of Heaven and Earth, we thank You, that Your gracious and provident hand holds the entire world. In these uncertain times we certainly thank You for being God and God all by Yourself. We thank You for the blessings of liberty, not only for this generation but also for the generations to come. We thank You for the peace that is within us, and for the gallant men and women of our Military who have bravely given their lives in the defense of freedom and justice. Father we thank You for the UAW, we pray You would grant our leadership wisdom to trust and submit to You so that they are enabled and equipped to resolve our issues beyond their own comprehension. Help them to choose the path of righteousness to align all decisions that impact us with Your Will. And give the negotiators grace and courage when handling our contract. Make us Your honorable and generous servants, a holy Nation, a people set aside to love You and Your people. For the sake of the land of the brave and of the free, we give honor and thanks to our Lord and Savior for liberating us from the bondage of sin. Our land is in need of You, our people are in desperate need of You. We The People who are called by Your name, we seek Your mercy and forgiveness for our sins and the sins of our nation, and ask that You continue to shine Your grace on our country. Teach us Dear LORD, to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with You! We ask all this, as one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for ALL people through Christ Our Lord we pray...Amen.
~ From my heart to yours,
Sister Sherri Gillis-Clark

Solidarity Forever,

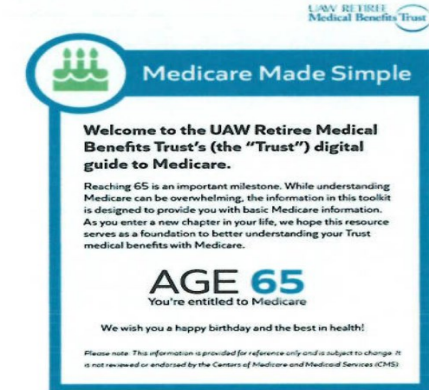
Your Chaplaincy Committee:
 Sherrie Gillis-Clark-Chairperson
 Donna Jones-Co-Chair
 Temieka Shannon-Spiritual Advisor
 Mike Flores
 Vernon Peterson
 Virginia (Reece) Enlow
 Rhonda Hayes
 Shannon Strother
 Florence Ward-Higgins– Retiree Chaplain
 Bobbie Bennett-Area Council Chaplain/Retiree
 Herb Taylor-UAW International Chairperson/Retiree



Turning 65 in 2023?

New this year, the Trust is launching a digital tool designed to provide members with Medicare information as they approach the age-in process.

In the months leading up to your 65th birthday, you will receive a postcard with instructions on how to download this tool to your smartphone or tablet.



Have Ideas?
 Are there other topics you'd like covered in this newsletter? We'd love to hear from you, email us at uawtrust@rhac.com with your ideas.

Questions?

Throughout the year you may have questions related to various aspects of your healthcare. Here's an overview of who to call when you need help:

Health Plan

Call the number on the back of your ID card or visit uawtrust.org/healthplancarriers for a list of all Trust-sponsored health carrier contact information (medical, pharmacy, dental, vision, and hearing).

Trust Eligibility & Plan Enrollment

Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC)
 866-637-7555 | UAWTrust@rhac.com

Medicare

800-633-4227 | medicare.gov

uawtrust.org

Contact Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) at 866-637-7555, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Eastern Time

- Update your contact information with the Trust (including email)
- Ask questions

If you do not want to make changes to your health plan selection, you do not need to do anything. There are many resources to help you better understand your healthcare benefits.

The 2023 Benefit Highlights the Highlight always include the following:

- *New Medicare Advantage plan carrier
- *Lower monthly contributions
- *Lower deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums
- *Lower copay for tier 2 prescription drugs
- *New prescription drugs carrier

If you're still having issue with anything pertaining to Retire Health Care Connect (RHCC), claims, prescription drugs, providers, etc. Please don't hesitate to call the Benefits office at 913.573.7421 or 7422, or call the Trust at 800.637.7555 The annual document detailing updates to the Trust's plans will be mailed this fall for 2024. If you need assistance, contact uawtrust.org/annual-enrollment or call 866.637.7555.

Sick Leave (Disability Plan):

Administered by Sedgwick through GM Benefits and Service Center 1-800-489-4646. The purpose of disability benefits is to provide income for eligible employees who are unable to work due to illness or injury and who are wholly and continuously disabled. There is an eligibility criterion to be insurable by the plan, a member must be actively at work. Otherwise, coverage is effective upon return to active work. Actively at work is performing the job for which the employee has been hired or being on an approved vacation at time of disability. A member must have obtained 1 or more years of seniority.

Waiting Periods

Sickness: 7 days

Outpatient Surgery: 1 Day-Benefits begin day after surgery

Hospitalization: Benefits begin the date of admission

Emergency Room Observation: If in emergency room over 24 hours and admitted the claim is payable from the day member entered the emergency room.

Waiting Periods Sickness: 7 days / Outpatient Surgery: 1 Day-Benefits begin day after surgery Benefits begin the date of admission / Emergency Room Observation: If in emergency room over 24 hours and admitted the claim is payable from the day member entered the emergency room. Dental Surgery: Procedures covered under the GM Dental Plan requires a 7day waiting period unless oral surgery performed by a Doctor of Dental Surgery.

CERTIFICATION Acceptable medical professionals that can complete your certification paperwork and authorize you to be disabled. Psychiatrist, Ophthalmologist, Family Doctor, Internist, Podiatrist, Chiropractor,

Unacceptable Psychologist, Optometrist, Physical Therapist, Social Worker, Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant There has been an increase of certification paperwork not being submitted by the member to Sedgwick in a timely manner. Please if you have questions or issues with paperwork contact the benefit office. It is the members responsibility to submit all paperwork to Sedgwick.

FMLA THIS IS A GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, COVER YOURSELF AND FOLLOW THE PROCESS!! BECAUSE YOU'VE APPLIED DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE APPROVED! ONLY USE HOURS ONCE APPROVED! HOURS NEEDED FOR FMLA IS 1250.

Dependent Audits : Please be advised that audits are being sent to members concerning dependent verification. Not all members will be receiving them, they are randomly selecting people. Please submit paperwork in a timely manner. This may cause disruptions in medical bills being paid. If you receive notification that you have been selected, call Gainwell at 1-877-670-2042 or fax info to 1-877-223-8478. **MENTAL HEALTH** Administered by CARELON (BEACON) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Note: August 1, 2023, it will change to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (Lucet)

Benefits Representatives: 913-573-7421 / 913-573-7422

Bobbie Dunnell, 1st Shift

Shannon Roehl-Wickingson 2nd shift

Norma Raya and Alternate Dedire Hawkins

WORK FAMILY EAP

1ST Shift Carol Thompkins

2nd Shift Anthony Walker/ Roger Stark

913-573-7327

Community Service Committee Presents

Market Day on August 19th 2023!

Come on out to our "Market Day" as a fundraiser to stock our pantry and a way for our members to Buy, Sell, or Trade their Products and/or Services! So Come On Out and Enjoy!!!! Tables are available for rent for \$50 per vendor ,and you can decorate as you see fit for your display! Sign Up at The Hall, and table locations will be picked on a first come first serve basis! The Pantry will be open and accepting all Donations ...Canned Goods -with good dates, Non perishables -with good dates, Toiletries , Diapers, Personal items, Baby food, Cleaning products.

*No Illegal Items may be sold or traded or donated. All transactions are made through individual vendors and customers only, not through Local 31 or The Community Service Committee.

Submitted by your Local 31 Community Service Committee

Community Service Committee Presents

MARKET Day

\$50 Booth

August 19th

Buy/Sell/Trade/Donate

500 Kindleberger Rd. KCK 66115

Clothes Crafts Food Services

Sign Up at the Hall

* All items sold are by Vendors ; Local 31 has no part in transactions between Buyers and Vendors

For information call the Union Hall @ 913-342-7330

Chaplaincy Committee Prayer Brunch & Honorees Event



UAW Local 31 Union Hall
500 Kindelberger Rd.
Kansas City, KS 66115

Saturday August 5, 2023
11:00 a.m.

Good Food, Fellowship, Entertainment and
Lifetime Achievement Awards

- Sherrie Gillis-Clark (Chairperson)
- Donna Jones (Co-Chair)
- Mike Flores
- Vernon Peterson
- Virginia Enlow
- Temieka Shannon
- Rhonda Hayes
- Shirrel Reese-James
- Herb Taylor (International Chaplaincy Chairperson/Retiree)
- Florence Ward-Higgins (Retiree Chaplain)
- Bobbie Bennett (Area Council Retiree)



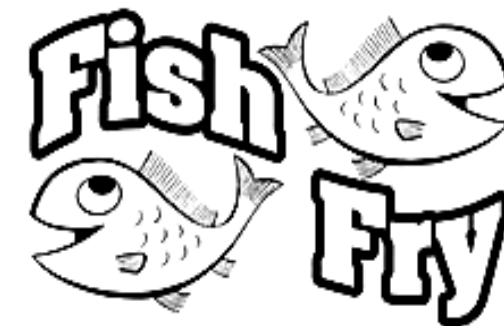
Retiree Recreation Committee

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Hello! It's great to be arriving back in your mailbox! There's been a team of talented members and the union secretary trying hard to get this newspaper back on the presses. It's been a challenge and we appreciate your patience during these months without it. There's a number of events coming up for retiree recreation. Mark your calendars! **Saturday, September 16, 2023** - the show "Always a Bridesmaid" at the New Theatre. \$35 each. The story, starring Morgan Fairchild, is about 4 dateless young women who promise to be there for each other, for better or worse. Now, over 30 years later, that promise is put to the test in a series of high-strung, ill-fated, and riotous weddings as this quirky quartet looks for love again and again. Come join us for a good laugh and a delicious lunch. **Saturday, February 10, 2024** - the show "Elvis, Aloha from Vegas". \$35 each. The Elvis estate chose Victor Trevino Jr. as Graceland's Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist in 2022. He's back with an all-new concert celebration of The King's amazing years. Join us for stories, songs, and a special surprise guest, as well as a delicious lunch. It promises to be a heart-pounding tribute to a legend, packed with dozens of the biggest hits that shaped the career of one of the greatest performers of the 20th century. **Saturday, April 27, 2024** - the show "Squabbles". \$35 each. The show stars George Wendt (Cheers) and Bernadette Birkett (his real-life wife) and is the story about them as a happily married couple until her father moves in. Then his mother moves in. Then all hell breaks loose! It is filled with truth and humor, and guarantees to be a great show, along with a delicious lunch. Also this September, we'll take a bus to Warsaw for their annual Southwest chapter meeting and fish fry. It always falls on the 4th Thursday of the month, this year it will be on **September 28th**. It's always a great time seeing the retired members who live in the lake areas, people we don't see but maybe once a year. It's a free trip so sign up before the bus fills up! Their only income is donations, so if you have any nice items or baked goods that you wish to donate, please do so. They have an entertaining auction to raise a few dollars for their chapter. For any of these events, please call the union hall to add your name to the list so that we will know to save you a seat. (913-342-7330). Money for the first New Theatre show (Bridesmaid) is due by **August 11, 2023**. Due dates for the other shows will be announced in the next paper. Bring or mail your money to the union hall, 500 Kindelberger Rd., KCKs 66115. **Our retiree union meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month - see you September 19th!** Thank you for your participation, YOU help to make these events fun.

And again, thank you for your patience - we have realized just how important this paper is to our members.

Retiree Recreation Committee - Libby Dantzler, Kelli Saucerman, Susan Simmons



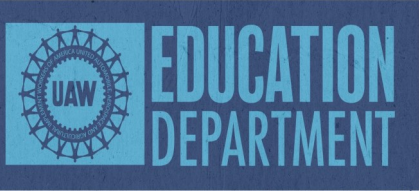
September 28, 2023

Quote For The Month:

"The results you achieve will be in direct proportion to the effort you apply"

~Denis Waitley

Submitted by member Stephanie Robinson



The Benefits Of Being EDUCATED.

As a dues paying Union member, we expect that our dollars will go towards the protection of our employment, benefits, and the quality of our work experience. But do you know all the benefits that are available to you just for joining the UAW? Many of us do not! But there are so many ways to find out! Besides showing up for Union meetings (Every 3rd Saturday of the month), Your Education Department will soon have workshops, that not only help you understand the Union, but will also help you prepare for life outside of work. There are basic getting to know the Union classes like UAW 101, Lessons from Labor History, or Union Meetings & Me. Workshops are also offered for Elected Leadership, Standing Committees, and Other Departments. But the Workshops that can benefit us the most are ones that teach us how to improve our quality of life Outside the walls of the plant, like Money Matters. Providing members with strong consumer education is the natural partner to collective bargaining. Improved wages are easily undone if members are subject to predatory lending or overextended credit. The Money Matters workshop provides common-sense budgeting tips, strategies for building an emergency fund, and straightforward advice on avoiding the pitfalls of endless debt. Many workshops are available to you, and the Education Committee is looking forward to hosting some of those classes for you. With the possibility of an upcoming Strike, we want to make sure we are prepared. We need to not only be Union Strong showing Solidarity, but also strong in our Education on what to expect. Our UAW has also provided us with self-paced workshops that you can sign up and take on your own time. Anyone interested in these workshops can register at <https://region4.uaw.org/helpful-link-forms>. You may access the training platform from your PC/laptop, smartphone, or tablet. If you are interested in joining the Education Committee please see one of us! We want to grow our Union by getting people active, involved and educated.

Submitted by your Local 31 Education Committee
 Stacy Ponds, Chair / Luke Godwin Co-Chair

2023 Victor Armstrong Scholarship Recipients Selected



The Education Committee has announced the three (3) winners of the Victor Armstrong Scholarship for children of UAW 31 members seeking secondary/post-secondary education, under the age of 25. Each student will receive a \$500 award. Sister Stacy Ponds and Brother Luke Godwin pulled these names from a blind draw. Congratulations to all!

Amanda R. Pranke,
 Mackenzie Shields
 Carissa Smith-Neely



2023 Inaugural UAW Local 31 High Tea Party June 24th, 2023

Presented by The UAW Local 31 Women's Committee

What an absolutely lovely and truly powerful event. Thank you so much to the entire UAW Local 31 Women's Committee and all that contributed; volunteers, vendors, performers, speakers etc. Beautiful event, wonderfully done and masterfully executed. We hope everyone is looking forward to next years event!

Photo credit : Sher'Rae Lasley Smith / Dontay Wilson



WHAT IS A STRIKE AUTHORIZATION VOTE?



A strike authorization vote is a formal vote that takes place prior or during contract negotiations. Taking a strike vote does not mean we are going on strike, however, a resounding strike vote is very important at the bargaining table.

If you cast a YES vote, authorizing the National and Local Bargainers to strike, you are telling management:

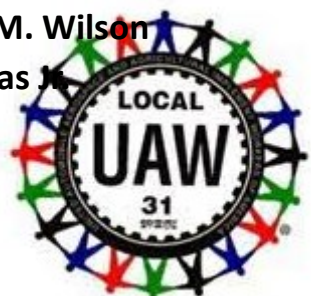
- We are strong and united.
- You, as an individual Union member, stand behind your Leadership.
- We, as a collective Union, are serious about our DEMANDS.
- We are willing to strike to resolve our DEMANDS.

Going on strike means the bargaining process has broken down and is the last resort.

Remember that an authorization vote gives our Top Bargaining Committee the authority to use if necessary. A 100% YES vote shows the company we have full consensus, expect our DEMANDS to be bargained in good faith, and gives our bargainers every tool to achieve a fair contract. We encourage all members to VOTE YES and to show the Corporation we are UNITED in our DEMANDS!

In Solidarity,

Dontay M. Wilson
Doug Bias



UAW local 31
President

UAW Local 31
Shop Chairman

AUGUST

UAW MEMBERSHIP MEETING

&

Market Day

Saturday, August 19, 2023.

Executive Board Meeting

1:00p.m.

Regular Membership Meeting

2:00p.m.

mr/opeiu277



Dontay M. Wilson, President
UAW Local 31

NOMINATION NOTICE

(TO FILL THE REMAINDER OF TERM)

Executive Board—Trustee

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON
Thursday August 10, 2023 - Friday August 11, 2023
7:30 AM – 4:30 PM
at UAW Local 31 Union Hall
500 Kindelberger Rd., Kansas City, KS

- Each candidate must be a member of UAW Local 31 in good standing for one (1) year and have all dues paid to be eligible for nomination.
- Each candidate may either sign the nomination sheet in person or accept nomination with a letter. – letter must state what district he/she accepts nomination for and how their name should appear on the ballot.
- Nominations will be placed on the nomination sheet under the write-ins in the order in which they are received.
- In the event of two or more nominations received at the same time, a drawing by two Executive Board members will determine position on the nomination sheet.

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD
Thursday August 24, 2023
Polls will be open 5:00am Thursday August 24, 2023 until 8:00am Friday August 25, 2023
AT THE UAW LOCAL 31 UNION HALL
500 Kindelberger Rd., Kansas City, KS

Members must be in good standing to be eligible to vote.

Runoff Elections will be held September 7, 2023

Stacy Ponds
Election Committee Chair



Dontay M. Wilson
President

President's Message

pletely gut that agreement in 2008. These actions lead to the most profitable years for automakers to date. Those record profits are the direct product of your blood, sweat, chronic back issues, carpal tunnel flare-ups, knee pains, tendonitis, arthritis, etc. Those record profits are labors wages/benefits. Those record profits were produced by our retirees and us all.

We all have truly given our fair share and perhaps few have given more than this local membership over last four years. From the 40-day national strike in 2019 to nearly two years of Covid-19 related work interruptions (including sacrificing an entire shift so this company can remain viable). Now, 2023, with yet another potential labor dispute just a month away, this local has truly been resilient and it's more vital than ever that we prove it once more. This is no time to grow weary or frustrated. We need to feel emboldened as we embark on this expedition together. Every trial has been preparation for this moment...and few are more prepared than UAW Local 31.

To the world, "Solidarity" is a noun, a person, place or thing. To union brothers/sisters, SOLIDARITY is a verb (a word of ACTION).

When we stand with our fellow union brothers/sisters, we are in ACTION. When we lend a helping hand to our communities, we are in ACTION. When we walk the picket line until we get the contract we rightfully deserve, we are in ACTION. I know we are up to the challenge. I have seen us overcome so much throughout the past four years and there is no doubt that we will see this through as well. Our strength is now and always will be in our numbers... and those numbers are rendered meaningless but for the unsurpassed, impactful action of our SOLIDARITY.



Solidarity, Forever. President Dontay M. Wilson



Photo credit: Leo Carrillo