

## INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE AND AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA-UAW

RAY CURRY, PRESIDENT

FRANK STUGLIN, SECRETARY-TREASURER

VICE-PRESIDENTS: CHUCK BROWNING • TERRY DITTES • CYNTHIA ESTRADA

March 8, 2022

TO: All Local Union Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Financial Secretaries, Bargaining Committee Chairs, CAP Chairs and Area CAP Chairs - Region 4 UAW

## Greetings:

On Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 10:00 AM, we will convene our annual Spring Regional Conference at the UAW Pat Greathouse Educational Center, 1000 E. Center Street, Ottawa, Illinois.

We are excited to get going with 2022 which will be a busy year, with Covid restrictions lifted, and if the case trends stay contained, we can resume with normal schedules and conditions using good everyday sanitation habits. We are looking forward to a full schedule of conferences at the Pat Greathouse Center. For many of you it will be a chance to continue your education and visit the Regional Headquarters office located in Ottawa since 2021. Due to the limited schedule, in 2021, many of you haven't had the opportunity to visit the office, but when you do, you will see how much more efficient and well designed and effective this Union built facility is. The efficiencies and smaller footprint with newer technology was an immediate fiscal savings and will be for the Region for today and in the future.

This year is an important year starting with the UAW Convention which will have a different process of electing the officers and directors for the board. While the Referendum vote passed, the amount of participation was less than 10% of the membership, and we are still waiting on the complete set of rules for the election procedure from the election officer and the monitor's team that is working through the process. Once this process is finalized we will send them out as soon as possible. The procedure of electing delegates to the convention is under way with the call letters out to the locals. As in prior years, this is an important part of the process. As you have done so in the past, you still elect your delegates, which needs to be done in a timely manner so you can fit them into your meeting schedules. While technology provides many avenues for people to express their views, our convention is the process to be involved on a personal level. So, if you really want your voice to be heard then use your democratic system, get elected, and participate in the process.

We all know, everything we bargain for and win, can be taken away with the swipe of a pen by elected state or federal representatives. We have witnessed workers compensation, voters rights, medical coverage be attacked and taken away. This year is midterm elections and are equally important to participate and be active working with your CAP committees. Again, many members have different views, but everyone should be having healthy discussions on these topics to ensure we are electing representatives who are working on our behalf. We have many opportunities, for organizing, as the electric transformation of vehicles and components arrive with the assistance of fair laws and agreements if elected officials work with us.

Region 4 Spring Conference 2022 Page Two

Education of our members will remain the cornerstone of Region 4. We will continue to work with local leadership to provide classes at the Pat Greathouse Center using the feedback from you the members. We will also use technology and resources to best serve you and provide the tools you need to perform your daily tasks while listening to your concerns. We understand the strain many members and families have endured over the last couple of years dealing with Covid restraints, health issues, loss of earnings due to part shortages and downtime. For myself, Assistant Director Brad Dutcher and the entire regional staff from our secretaries, servicing staff and our entire Pat Greathouse Center staff we are ready to face the challenges ahead, serve and provide the assistance to be successful in our endeavors.

We will again be selling Regional Conference tickets at **\$10.00 each** to help defray expenses. Tickets will be available from your International Representative.

Checks should be made payable to: "REGION 4 ACTIVITY FUND".

Even if a local is not in attendance at the Conference, purchasing of tickets is encouraged. Refreshments and lunch will be served at the conclusion of the conference. Failure to purchase a ticket for the conference will not prevent a member from attending. However, those who eat must pay for the meal if they have not purchased a ticket. If income from the event exceeds expenses, the surplus will be deposited in the Region 4 Activities

Fund and be used, at the request of the Regional Director, for proper union purposes. Contributions or gifts to the UAW are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.

Reservations for rooms at the new Pat Greathouse Center Hotel, if required, should be made by the Local Unions by calling the Regional Office at 847-459-3888.

<u>NOTE</u>: PGC check-in will be Friday, May 6th from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 PM. If a delegate is unable to check-in during the above-mentioned hours, please contact your Education Coordinator, Brad Schwanda at <u>bschwanda@uaw.net</u>, to make special arrangements for room key pick-up. Check-out will be Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> by noon or immediately after lunch.

Once the Center has been filled Locals will be asked to call one of the following hotels to arrange their own accommodations: Fairfield Inn (815) 431-8955, Hampton Inn (815) 434-6040, Comfort Inn (formerly Holiday Inn Express) (815) 433-0029 and Super 8 (815) 434-2888; or any other hotel in the area.

On Friday evening, May 6th, we will host a dance for all delegates who come in the evening before the **Conference.** It will be held from 7:00 PM until 10:30 PM at the Center.

For your convenience a copy of this call letter is available on the Region 4 website. We ask that you notify your chairpersons to visit <a href="https://region4.uaw.org/">https://region4.uaw.org/</a> to obtain a copy of this call letter.

I'm looking forward to seeing each of you at the Conference.

Fraternally,

Ronald D. McInroy, Director 6

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Region 4 UAW

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cc: Brad Dutcher, Asst. Director All Region 4 Staff

All Region 4 Retired Staff