

# RANK-N-FILE



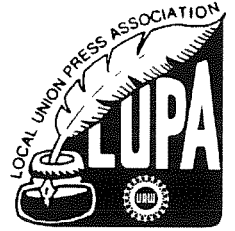
Amalgamated UAW Local 893

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*Deadline for the February 15th edition is February 8th*

Published Monthly for the Membership of UAW Local 893

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It's hard to believe that it is the end of the year. 2023 is almost over with. With the new year, comes new calendars. Let's talk about calendars.

Soon you should be receiving your 2024 UAW calendar. We will do our best to get them out before the end of the year. Thanks to our editors and everyone else who took pictures of events throughout the year. I would also like to thank Billie Mull for the work she does on the calendars.

We have some calendars for the 2024 Sportsmen's calendar for sale right now. The purchase of a Union Sportsmen's Alliance Calendar gives you a chance to win one of two guns every week throughout the year. The proceeds from these calendars go to conservation and the mentoring of youth in outdoor sports. Our CAP committee is currently selling them. Get them while supplies last. If you would like to donate some new 2024 calendars, our Veterans Committee is collecting them for the residents at the Iowa Veteran's Home. Just drop them off at the union hall. That pretty much covers all the calendar news I have.

The Christmas season is upon us and I wish all of you a safe and Merry Christmas. Enjoy your negotiated holidays.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In solidarity,  
Jim Chance

## **Retirees December Meeting**

Sid Hass called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and roll call of officers was taken. Sid declared that this December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was now open for any and all business that may properly come before it. The minutes of our November meeting are posted on the bulletin board.

Linda Fuller gave our financial report. A motion to approve the report was made by Joyce Bollhoefer. Seconded by Joyce Elliott. Carried.

Old Business: The cookies we purchased for the Veterans were delivered. The Marshalltown schools made them for us. The cost was \$175.00 for 35 dozen. The Breakfast with Santa at the Union Hall was very successful.

New Business: A motion to cancel our January and February meetings was made by Tom Murphy. Seconded by Rich Park. Carried.

We were saddened to learn that Carol Luthe has passed away. We also were updated on Reita Acord's condition. She suffered a heart attack around Thanksgiving and has serious blockages. She is at Grandview Nursing home in Room 106.

December Birthdays and Anniversaries: Betty Needs' birthday is today. Rolland Herral and Nora Meling birthdays.

January Birthday and Anniversaries: Elgin Spence's birthday is January 21<sup>st</sup>. Harvey Varnum – anniversary 62 years. Someone asked him what they did to observe the occasion. He said they go out for dinner two nights a week. One goes on Monday and the other on Wednesday (HAHA).

February Birthdays and Anniversaries: Leroy Thoms and Linda Fuller – Birthday February 19th.

Door prizes winners were Leroy Thoms, Linda Opperman, and Diane Hass.

50/50 winners were Leroy Thoms and Linda Fuller.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Harvey Varnum. Seconded by Linda Fuller. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Recording Secretary,  
Bill Schmidt

### **Retirees Helping**

**The following retirees helped assemble the Rank-N-File paper in November:**

**Mr. Mike Mayer**

**Mr. Bruce Ehrig**

**Mr. Bob Healey**

## FOR SALE

Howard Miller Grandfather Clock with 3 chimes ~ like new ~ \$1500 ~ 641-328-1650

Firewood ~ Small or Large quantities ~ Delivery possible ~ all hard wood  
Tom Amundson ~ 641-691-0442

Sea Eagle Inflatable Boat with Motor ~ \$400 ~ Call Carl at 641-750-2954 or 641-750-9261  
Tonneau Cover ~ Like New ~ Solid trifold ~ 6 months old ~ fits 2015-2023 Chevy Colorado & GMC Canyon ~ Asking \$200  
Call Kelly ~ 641-844-3226

2012 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide Classic ~ only 20,000 miles ~ well maintained ~ lots of chrome ~ \$11,500  
Call Kelly ~ 641-844-3226

Peterbilt Running boards, brand new, never been on a truck. Bought for a 1999 Dodge Ram club cab.

\$100.00 or reasonable OBO. Cash only. 641-485-0959.

Springfield St. Victor 308, 4 (20 round) mags, soft case for gun, iron sights, 16" barrel, 1:10 twist rate ~ \$1,100 OBO ~ Call Calvin at 641-751-4972

Brown Lift Chair Recliner ~ Good Shape  
\$800 new ~ Asking \$400  
Call Don Fisher @ 641-328-1650

Thompson Inline Black Diamond .50 cal muzzle loader with Truglow open sight ~ 4 boxes of pyrodex pellets and two containers of RS powder plus extras ~ \$350 ~ 641-753-8941

***\*\*Please let the UAW Secretary know when you sell items so they can be removed.***

## WANTED

WW1 and WWII memorabilia ~ German, Japanese, USA. Cash paid. Bruce Bodie – Phone: 641-752-7555.

Schwinn Airdyne Exercise Bike Speedometer ~ 641-328-1650

THANK YOU

UAW Local 893:

Thank you so much for the bible  
The Kerr Family

UAW Local 893:

Our sincerest thank you for the Holy Bible in memory of our dad. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are so much appreciated.  
From the Family of Gene Seim

Unit 1 - UAW Local 893:

Thank you to my second shift family. Thank you so much for the great dinner and money and being such great friends. Thank you again. Miss all of you so much.

Love,  
Sharon Varnum



The UAW Hall will be closed  
December 25<sup>th</sup> through  
January 1<sup>st</sup>. We will resume  
regular office hours on  
Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
2024. Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year to  
you all!

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
New Address/Street

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip Code

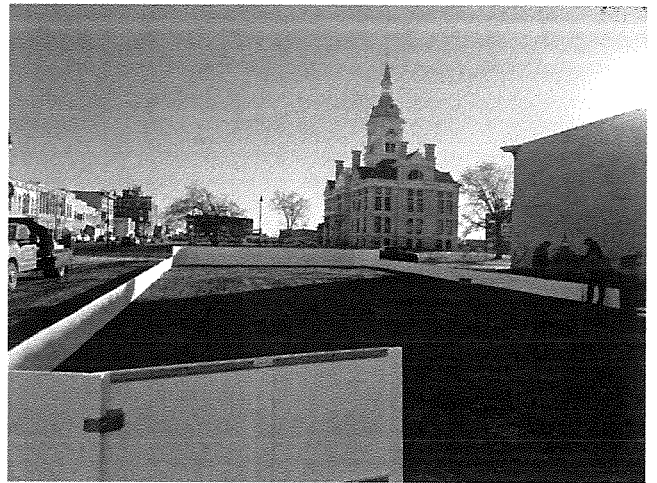
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Today's Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee's Signature

If you have moved recently or are planning on moving, please fill out this change of address form and give to one of your union representatives or drop off at the UAW Hall.

## Unit 18 - Park and Recreation News



The Park & Rec, in conjunction with the Iowa Wild will be putting up a skating rink on the Southwest corner of Center and Main in Marshalltown, Iowa. The Park & Rec office will have skates available for rent. Skating will be allowed when weather permits. Make sure to keep an eye on announcements from the Marshalltown Park & Recs department as to when the skating rink will be opening. The Kiwanis Park in Marshalltown is also getting an upgrade as we speak. It is getting a new basketball court, soccer field, shelter, and other amenities.

THE VETERAN'S COMMITTEE IS  
TAKING 2024 CALENDAR  
DONATIONS FOR VETERANS AT  
THE IOWA VETERANS HOME.  
ALL CALENDARS ARE  
ACCEPTED. SPORTS AND  
MUSCLE CAR CALENDARS ARE  
THE MOST POPULAR REQUESTED.  
THANK YOU.  
JAYSON MULL  
VETERAN'S COMMITTEE CHAIR

## Snowball

I made myself a snowball,  
As perfect as could be,  
I thought I'd keep it as a pet,  
And let it sleep with me.  
I made it some pajamas,  
And a pillow for its head,  
Then last night it ran away,  
But first—it wet the bed!

- Shel Silverstein

# Breakfast with Santa



Seems the place to be on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> was the Union Hall. Santa, Mrs. Clause, and a few Elves showed up for a delicious breakfast of pancakes, eggs, and sausage, all prepared by the locals' Women's Committee. Santa was so excited to greet all the children and their families that came out. He took Christmas

wishes from all the kids, posed for photos, did crafts and visited one on one with each family. One of the Elves even brought his race car for the kids to check out! Everyone had so much fun and enjoyed the delicious food.

Santa has many shout outs to give:

The Women's Committee for the delicious food and all their hard work

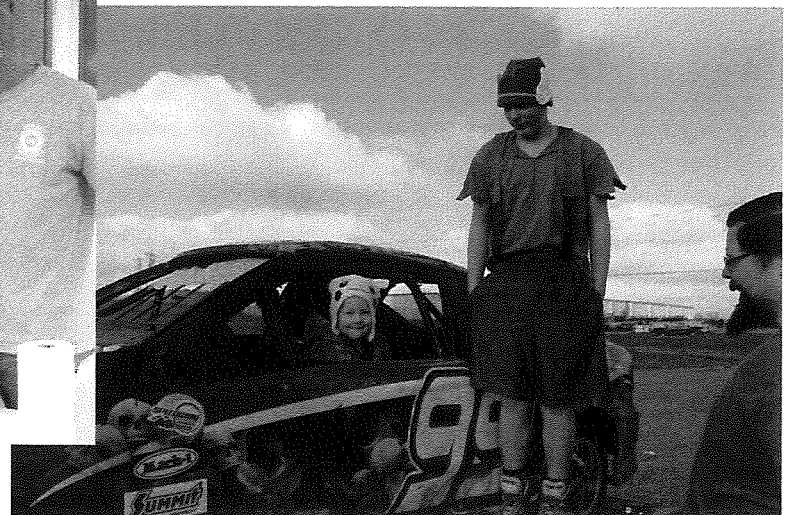
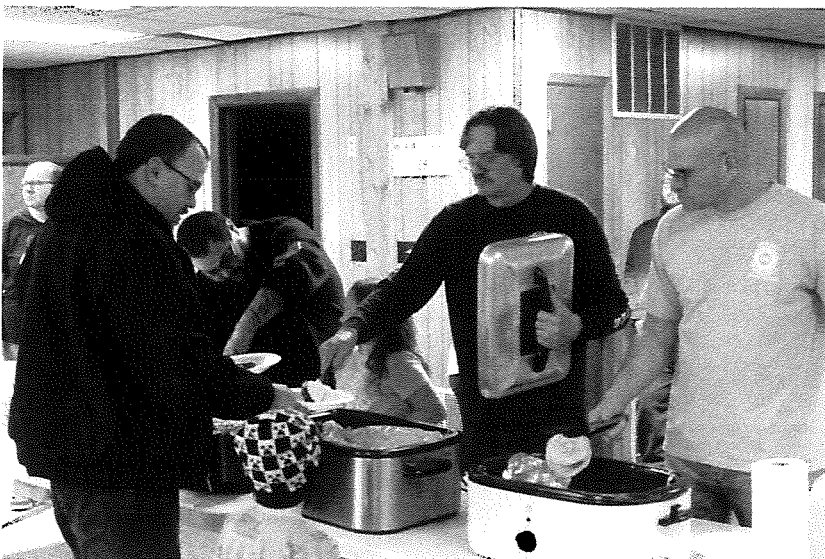
Don and Donna Dieleman for the use of the Blackstone

Marshalltown Walmart for the \$50.00 gift card

Hometown Family Market in Gladbrook for the donation of eggs

Chad and Tracy Dieleman for the donation of Santa sacks

Santa also said he really hopes next year's breakfast grows even more and to let you all know "kids" of all ages are welcome to come and enjoy breakfast with him. Especially those retirees!



# UAW MEMBERS RATIFY HISTORIC CONTRACTS AT FORD, GM AND STELLANTIS

After the historic Stand Up Strike, UAW members at Ford, General Motors and Stellantis have voted to ratify their new contracts, locking in record gains at the Big Three automakers. Across the three companies, 64% of voting members voted in favor of the agreements.

“The members have spoken. After years of cutbacks, months of our Stand Up campaign, and weeks on the picket line, we have turned the tide for the American autoworker,” said UAW President Shawn Fain. “The Stand Up Strike was just the beginning. The UAW is back to setting the standard. Now, we take our strike muscle and our fighting spirit to the rest of the industries we represent, and to millions of non-union workers ready to Stand Up and fight for a better way of life.”

The 150,000 UAW autoworkers at the Big Three have won back major provisions that were sacrificed during the Great Recession, from cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), to annual bonuses for retirees, to the elimination of wage tiers.

The agreements include substantial wage increases for all Big Three members, life-changing raises for tens of thousands of members, and tens of billions of dollars in product and investment commitments from the companies. After decades of deindustrialization and working-class decline, the new contracts pave the way for a future of reindustrialization and working-class power. Contract provisions include:

- **Raises from at Least 33% to Over 160%** – Over the life of the agreement, members will see raises of at least 33%, after COLA and compounded wage increases, ranging up to over 160% for some of the lowest-paid workers. Tens of thousands of autoworkers will see immediate raises of over 40% upon ratification.
- **Faster Progression to Top Pay** – At all three companies, the union won a three-year wage progression to the top pay rate, down from eight years. This restores the progression in place before the 2011 contract.
- **Reopening Belvidere, Reinvesting in America** – Stellantis agreed to reopen an assembly plant in Belvidere, Ill., it shuttered in February and committed to build a \$3.2 billion battery plant there employing more than a thousand union workers. The company was slated to shed more than 5,000 U.S. hourly jobs when bargaining began. It is now on track to add more than 5,000.
- **Blazing the Path to a Just EV Transition** – The UAW won commitments at all three automakers that will bring thousands of electric vehicle (EV) and battery jobs under the union’s national agreements.
- **Improvements in Retirement Security for All Active and Retired Members** – Current retirees will receive annual bonuses for the first time in 15 years, a \$1.25 billion boost in their benefits. That is a billion dollars more than the union won for retirees in the last four contracts combined. At all three companies, workers hired before 2007 won an increase to their pension multiplier for the first time in over 15 years. Though the union did not win back defined benefit pensions for post-2007 hires, the employer contribution to their 401(k)s is massively boosted to 10%, which will more than double many members’ annual 401(k) contributions over the life of the contract.

All six agreements – hourly and salaried units at each of the three automakers – were ratified by the membership. The results and relevant materials for the [Ford](#), [General Motors](#), and [Stellantis](#) contracts can be found at [UAW.org](#).

# Is There a Union Meeting – Who cares?

*(This article first appeared in the January/February 2020 issue of the American Postal Worker magazine)*

Far too many local unions are not able to secure a quorum in order to carry out the functions of their membership meetings and fully represent the interests of the members. This problem is serious. Too many members never attended a meeting during their entire career. Below are a few of the reasons for not participating usually heard:

- **“I don’t have the time.”** Most meetings are regulated to about 2.5 hours once a month, once a quarter, or some even have them only twice a year. Two and a half hours out of 730 hours in a month is not too much to ask when you consider what is required to occur at a union meeting.
- **“If they hold them on a different day I’d go.”** Most locals have fixed dates for meetings written in their bylaws. The APWU represents multiple crafts and more often than not members work on different tours. An effort should be made to rotate the meetings.
- **“All they do is fight.”** A membership meeting is usually the lawmaking authority in a local. Not the President, not the Executive Board, it is the membership that truly is supposed to ensure the membership is properly represented. There are Rules of Order that are supposed to ensure a democratic and orderly meeting.
- **“The meetings are boring!”** Most local bylaws have an “Order of Business” with required reports such as that of the President and the all-important Financial Report. Some of the locals have not updated their by-laws and still call unfinished business “old business.” However, almost all locals also have “new business” listed. Under this item many issues can be discussed, including what is the current problem important to the rank-and-file members.
- **“I don’t get how they talk.”** Too often regular attendees who are used to “parliamentary procedure” get too technical. The purpose of ‘Robert’s Rules of Order’ is to ensure questions are handled democratically. The Chair should not be dictator. The Chair’s main function is to get the business done in accordance with the local’s constitution and by-laws and protect everyone’s right to participate. The rules can be used to try to undermine the will of the members present and the Chair has to prevent that.

## How Can We Improve Meetings?

How can a local ensure a sufficient number of members attend their meeting?

There is no magic wand, but here are some ideas:

- Welcome new attendees. Explain what happens at the meeting. If time is taken to make the meeting meaningful; they will likely return. Work at helping that member so that they realize meetings work! They will let others know and so interest will grow.
- Give members a sense of power and ownership of their union. We preach that members are union and too often do not include them in enough of the process. Make this an event where they can truly see their elected leaders in action on behalf of every member.
- Spruce up the agenda under new business. If there are controversial issues on the work floor make that a topic of new business. Let them vote on policy positions of the locals. Invite guest speakers.
- Announce the meeting well in advance and follow up with personal contacts with individual members. Don’t give up on them if they are a no show. Go back and ask them why they were not able to attend. If possible, rotate the meetings. Space will not permit me to elaborate more but there are hundreds of ideas and projects. Form a committee to work on some.

Next time someone asks “Is there a Union Meeting?” the response is *“yes there is, can I pick you up to go together?”*

**AMALGAMATED UAW LOCAL 893**  
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**OUR EDITORIAL POLICY**

**TO OUR READERS:** This paper is the voice of your local and international union. This is our **only** vehicle for bringing to you, on a regular basis, the views and actions of the leaders you elected, so you can evaluate them. Through the paper we explain union policies and show how your dues are spent.

The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from UAW members and stories about our members.

While we welcome your contributions, we ask that they be constructive. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of this union and its members, and we will accept no attacks on any union leader or member. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letters column, and reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the union and its policies.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**UAW CALENDAR – JANUARY 2024**

| Sunday    | Monday                                      | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday    | Saturday  |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|-----------|---|
|           | <b>1</b><br>NEW YEAR'S DAY<br>OFFICE CLOSED | <b>2</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Amalg Exec Bd  | <b>3</b><br>3:45 p.m.<br>Civil Rights                                 | <b>4</b><br>3:45 p.m.<br>Lydall R&F  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                    | <b>9</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Recreation     | <b>10</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Union Label                                 | <b>11</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Women's Comm<br>Community Serv   | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br>10:00 a.m.<br>Lennox R&F   |
| <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Education Comm    | <b>16</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Amalg Exec Bd | <b>17</b><br>3:45 p.m.<br>Ritchie R&F<br>4:20 p.m.<br>Health & Safety | <b>18</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Consumer Affairs   | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b><br>9:00 a.m.<br>Amalg R&F<br>Following<br>Unit 1 R&F<br>Unit 17 R&F |
| <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Vets Committee    | <b>23</b>                               | <b>24</b><br>5:00 p.m.<br>IA River Labor                              | <b>25</b><br>1:30/4:00 p.m.<br>Lennox Stewards<br>4:00 p.m.<br>Lennox Unit Brd.<br>6:00 p.m.<br>WC CAP | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                   | <b>30</b><br>4:20 p.m.<br>Amalg Exec Bd | <b>31</b>   |  |           |   |

CANCELLED: Retirees Board and Chapter, CAP Committee