



UAW LOCAL 751 NEWS

December 2023
UAW LOCAL 751
9th Issue
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Dates to Remember



DECEMBER

- 5 Retirees Breakfast 8 AM
- 10 Membership Meeting 10 AM All members welcome
- 12 Retirees Meeting Noon
- 13 Steward Meetings all members welcome to attend (7:15 AM, 1:30 PM, & 3:15 PM)
- 19 Attorney Frank Bertuca Please call Deanna for an appointment
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Holiday
- 27 Steward Meetings all members welcome to attend (7:15 AM, 1:30 PM, & 3:15 PM)
- 31 New Year's Eve

Looking Ahead 2024

January

- 1 New Year's Day Holiday
- 2 Retiree's Breakfast 8 AM
- 10 Steward Meetings
- 14 Membership Meeting 10 AM
- 15 M.L. King Day Holiday

Retiree Meeting
November 14, 2023

Meeting was called to order at noon 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.

Chairman 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 1:00 PM. Roll call of officers with all present or excused. The Recording/Financial Secretary Dave Ashenfelter read the Minutes from the October meeting and they were accepted as read. The financial report from the month of October was read and it was accepted as read.

Reports of Officers:

Karen talked about insurance changes, the Veterans collection and the food drive donations.

Motion was made by Jim Taylor, seconded by Dave Ashenfelter to donate \$750 to the Veterans collection and the food drive. Passed. (\$191 collected).

Sam Hart, the newly elected Vice President of Local 751 told the members about the new sign in front of the union hall.

Karen reminded the group that the December meeting will be the last one until April 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Old Business: None

New Business:

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

December 12 at 12:00 noon will be the next meeting. The club is furnishing fried chicken. 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) so that we can get a headcount!**

Communications:

There were three birthday's and two anniversaries.

There were six deaths: Walter Edwards, Charles Whitlow, Randy Morrell, John Taylor, David Ford, and Ron Berryman.

Motion to adjourn by Jim Taylor, seconded by Bob Butler.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM

Door Prizes:

\$10	Diana Ashenfelter	\$5	John Verhusen
\$5	Pat Kunz	\$5	Richard Springman

President's Report

On November 29, I had the privilege of going with the Veterans Committee and retirees Bob Bennett and Dave Stanley to Danville Veterans Hospital to give them a check for \$5,318.79 from the donations raised by Caterpillar employees during our annual Veteran's gate collection. It was very heartwarming to see their gratitude and to know that our donations went to such a wonderful place. The money donated will be split up to provide more coats and warmer clothes for Veterans during the cold months ahead, along with adding to their pantries that offer food and hygiene products. I want to thank you all again for your participation and support for our Veterans.

Your Local leadership attended the Ag Imp Fall Conference in mid-November for training for social security benefits. All Locals from Caterpillar, John Deere and Case New Holland attended this conference to read their business reports and then broke away to their separate councils. Cat Council conducted their triennial elections.

November has been a very busy month in the president's office. Open enrollment for medical insurance services has now come to an end.

Have a happy and safe holiday!

President Gerry Myers

Grievance Committee Report

First of all, we the grievance committee would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday. Now back to business; for anyone using a lift-a-loft, you are expected to inspect it daily for operational functions. If it is not operating properly, do not use it because the company will discipline you for it. If you are told to use it anyway, then you should request your union safety rep and follow the procedures from there.

Your Grievance Committee,

Brian Marts

Rob Walters

Jed Rohr

Blake Force

Season Greetings from the Grievance office ~

We are currently sitting at 433 grievances that have been put into final step with one month left in the year. That is almost 200 more than the previous year's total. I would like to say it was because of the influx of new employees but that wouldn't be true. Currently there is 1 issue grievance and 8 Just Cause grievances that are pending a docket meeting with the company. At this time, there aren't any grievances in the appeal process. With it being the end of the year, let's make it a good one. Keep your harsh words to yourself, use the proper notes if you are going to be gone from work, and don't disregard a safety device.

No word has been communicated to us about a market base wage for 2024, if there would be one it should be communicated soon. The 2023 boot vouchers will expire December 15, 2023. Also, with the end of the year coming quickly, so is the last day of use of 2023 vacation (December 29, 2023). The 2024 vacation period will start January 1, 2024. Any remaining vacation bank will be paid out by February 15, 2024.

In closing, look out for one another, this isn't always the jolliest time of the year for everyone. At the time hope everyone can make the most out of the holiday season!

Chairman Marty Hunter

Safety Talk

I attended the Caterpillar/UAW Health and Safety Conference in October. One of the important topics presented by Ross Baize from the UAW Health and Safety Department was resiliency. This training is to prepare workers to recognize the signs/symptoms related to stress and trauma, avoid PTSD and make use of the resources that are available to us. Every day we go through stress at work and home, especially during the holidays.

If you or one of your coworkers are feeling stressed or overwhelmed, please reach out for help through the EAP Program. It is free and confidential.

EAP Phone# 217-475-4312

National Suicide Hotline # 988

Remember... if you have a safety issue, bring it up to your Section Manager. If the issue remains unresolved, tell your Section Manager that you would like to speak with a Safety Committee Representative.

Steve Followell

Safety Committeeman

Veterans Committee

On November 29th two of our retirees, Bob Bennett & Dave Stanley, along with eight members of the Veterans Committee delivered a check from the money donated during the veterans' gate collection to the Danville VA Hospital. Caterpillar employees donated over \$5,300!

After we presented the check to them, we got to tour the facility. It was nice to be able to see the facility where the donations were going and who it was helping.

The Danville VA Hospital said they would relay back to Local 751 as to where the donations were put to use.

On behalf of the Veterans Committee, thank you to all who donated. Local 751 members and Caterpillar employees have donated money to the veterans for over three decades!

Education Committee

Corbin Sampson, Chairman of the Education Committee and currently active education committee members are still working on a training program for the new committee members. This is to help those unfamiliar with the committees feel more confident in building up their committees. At the same time, we are also working on a program for new hires and employees who want to know more about their union. We are asking for anyone with suggestions of things they want to know more about or have any questions, to please call the union hall (217-428-7706) and leave a message for the Education Committee. This allows us to better cater the program for you and the questions you have. Further updates will continue to come as these programs get finalized.

Your Education Committee,

Corbin Sampson

Ellanah Gentry

Bob Kreidler

Danica Braggs

Thank You Notes ~

UAW Local 751,
During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us.
Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.
Thank you so much for the Bible.
Lana Morrell and Family

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To the Members of UAW Local 751,

On behalf of the Life Builders Church of God congregation, I want to thank you so much for your gift of \$100 towards the purchase of Thanksgiving baskets. Your donation is a wonderful way to give back to the community and we truly appreciate it!

In His Service,  
Pastor Tim Lusitana

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Thank you so much for your generous donation. We greatly appreciate you! Have a wonderful day!

Oasis Day and Resource Center Team

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Dear UAW Local 751

Thank you so much for your donation of \$500. This helps us greatly in fulfilling our mission of providing help and hope to homeless women and children.  
God Bless!

Dan Watkins  
God's Shelter of Love

**UAW Local 751**  
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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

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