



# UAW LOCAL 751 NEWS



March 2024

3rd Issue

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UAW LOCAL 751

2365 E. Geddes St.

Decatur, IL 62526



# DATES TO REMEMBER

## MARCH



- 5 - **Retirees Breakfast** 8AM
- 10- **Membership Meeting** 10:00 AM
- 13- **Steward meetings** (7:15 AM, 1:30 PM, and 3:15 PM)
- 17- **St. Patrick's Day!**
- 26- **Attorney Frank Bertuca** at the hall.  
Please call for an appointment.
- 27- **Steward meetings** (7:15 AM, 1:30 PM, and 3:15 PM)

## ~REMINDER~

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

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# **President's Report**

**Caterpillar has made some system changes that have affected all members (active and retired). The Retiree's Medicare Part B reimbursement was accidentally sent out two months in a row. Caterpillar has announced that the second check was supposed to be July's reimbursement. You are safe to spend your checks, but you will not receive one in July this year. There have also been several mix ups with active members pay with the changeover to "Workday". Please look over all your paystubs to ensure you have been properly paid for your hours worked. We have been experiencing a lot of issues with insurance since Caterpillar switched from Alight to B-Swift.**

**We have been spending a lot of time focusing on Standing Committees. Our goal for the year is to have all eleven up and running efficiently. Please be patient, as it takes time to build and train each committee in their purpose and duties.**

**Our local will be sending members of our Safety Committee to OSHA training coming up in April. The training will consist of 30 hours of classroom work and will be held in Peoria at Local 974.**

**Our local has welcomed the Decatur Teaching Assistants to use our hall to conduct training once a month. A small gesture, but a great way to help our union brothers and sisters that are teaching assistants in our community.**

**Gerry Myers,**

**President**

# Vice President's Report

**Standing committees play a critical role in how our union operates. We have made strides in assembling standing committees that allow our members to use their voice in how we bring our members together. No standing committee is more important than the other and when they come together, they lean on each other for a greater impact. It is taking some time to fine tune these standing committees but here are the standing committees that are currently functional.**

**Education Committee**- 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.

The officers of the Education Committee are building criteria to conduct a training session for newer members called "New Member Orientation". They are also in the process of training our standing committees on the responsibilities of each standing committee. Once training sessions start, Education Committee members will be called upon to assist.

**Women's Committee**- The women's committee works to further the gains of women in the workplace and society. This committee informs and educates to broaden the scope of traditional women's roles. The union siblings on the women's committee encourage women to become active in local, national, and community causes and programs. If you are interested in issues and topics such as legislative action, initiatives for work and family, women in politics, and pay equity, this may be the committee for you. The officers of the women's committee have already started planning events for the 2024 year. Members that have signed up for the Women's committee will be called upon to assist. The Women's Committee meets on the first Friday of every month at 3:30pm.

**Veterans Committee**- 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 veterans' political and social concerns. 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. Members that have signed up for the Veterans Committee will be called upon to assist. The Veterans Committee meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month at 3:30pm.

**Conservation and Recreation Committee**- The conservation and recreation committee provide a variety of opportunities that fall into two categories. Recreation, which includes leisure time activities, and conservation, which includes environmental concerns. It has been proven that in today's busy work environment, people need to combat stress with quality family and individual leisure time activities. The Conservation and Recreation Committee officers have begun planning events for the 2024 year that bring solidarity and fellowship at our local union hall. Members that have signed up for the Conservation and Recreation Committee will be called upon to assist. There is no set meeting scheduled at this time.

One of the most notable benefits of standing committees is the improved level of communication when committees operate effectively. I am excited at how many members have shown interest in joining standing committees. We are working to get people in the right places to achieve healthy and long-lasting committees that view our membership, as a whole, and not just a body of coworkers. A union is made up of people. When you choose to join a standing committee, you decide to become an activist. As an activist, you determine if your union is strong or not.

**Sam Hart,**

**Vice President**

# **Grievance Committee Report**

We would like to draw attention to this underused language found in the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph in Article 12.13 of the Central Agreement.

**An opening will not be filled by recall or new hire if there is an employee with greater seniority currently working on the same job but on a different shift and whose Pre-filed Shift Preference form indicates the shift of first preference is the same as the shift of the opening. Instead, the opening shall be filled by placing the senior employee already on the same job on a different shift, with such Pre-filed Shift Preference form on record for at least forty calendar days, into the opening. No more than two shift changes shall be made under this paragraph for each original opening.**

If you are a full-time employee not on the shift you prefer and have had a Pre-filed Shift Preference form on file for 40 days and a new hire is placed in the same job on the shift you want, you have the right to be moved to your preferred shift instead of the new hire. You will need to file a grievance on the shop floor within 15 days of knowing the new employee was placed.

We would like to encourage all employees who are not on their preferred shift to make sure they have a valid Pre-filed Shift Preference form on file.

Thanks,

Your Grievance Committee:

Brian Marts

John Gruber

Rob Walters

Jed Rohr

Blake Force



# Easter Egg Hunt

Date: Saturday, March 30, 2024

Time: 11 AM – 2 PM

Egg Hunt at 1 PM

Place: UAW Local 751

2365 East Geddes Avenue

For: Visit with the Easter Bunny, Face  
Painting, Coloring Activities and  
Refreshments Provided

More info to follow \* Must sign up to attend  
\* Entry forms will be available at the front  
desk at Local 751 starting on Monday,  
February 12

# UAW Local 751 Easter Egg Hunt

Location: UAW Local 751 Union Hall  
2365 E Geddes Ave.  
Decatur, IL 62526

**Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**11-2pm**

Coloring activities, face painting & visiting of Easter Bunny

\*Refreshments Provided\*

**Egg Hunt 1pm**

**"Find an egg with golden ticket, win a prize!"**

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## Registration Form

1-3yrs

\_\_\_\_\_

4-7yrs

\_\_\_\_\_

8+

\_\_\_\_\_

(3 age groups available for egg hunt. Please mark how many children attending.)

Please turn in no later than **March 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2024** to a member of our Local 751 Women's Committee or drop forms off at the Union Hall during normal business hours **(7-4pm)!**

**Hope to see you all there!!**

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

Badge Number: \_\_\_\_\_



# Safety Talk

As we start off 2024 off, Caterpillar gives us a refresher of the rules and policies of the facility. One of those rules covers powered vehicles (fork trucks, lifts, carts, etc.)

A few reminders when operating these vehicles are as followed,

- Never by-pass a safety device
- Fill out daily inspections!
- Report any defects to management for repairs!
- No more than 5 mph inside the buildings.
- No more than 10 mph outside.
- No fly times apply to ALL VEHICLES  
6:50am-7:10am  
2:50pm-3:10pm  
10:50pm-11:10pm
- Sound your horn & make eye contact with all pedestrians never assume they see you!

Steve Followell,  
Safety Committee

## UAW 751 Recreation Committee



The UAW 751 Recreation Committee will be holding a raffle, with tickets costing \$10 per ticket. All proceeds will be used to fund a Fish Fry (hot dogs also provided) at the UAW hall Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-4. The winner of this raffle will be drawn at the fish fry. You do not need to be present to win. The winner will be able to choose either the PS5 or \$500 cash. Tickets will be available at the UAW hall on Tuesday through Friday starting in March, also see Rob Walters, Rich Opalka and other members of the Recreation Committee for your chance to win. Hope to see you there.

## Education Committee Report

### Education Committee March Update

Greetings from the Education Committee! The Education Committee has been working to get the finishing touches on the CAT 101 and new member training. We are planning to start delivering this training to interested members early this Spring. The CAT 101 training has been developed specifically for our local and the specifics that we have with the company. This will cover most of the basic knowledge that members will need to know for success at the Decatur plant.

If you are interested in some independent study training, Region 4 has an online institute that offers many courses to deepen your education about our union. These courses can be taken any time and at your own pace. Subjects range from UAW history, standing committee basics, basic grievance knowledge, and many others. To take advantage of these opportunities, you will need to create an account and register with the Region. The link is: <https://region4.uaw.org/online-institute-talentlms>

For those of you that have crave even more educational opportunities, the Region and International offer several in person conferences. Stop by the hall or call for more information on these upcoming conferences.

# UAW REGION 4



# ONLINE INSTITUTE

FREE BENEFIT TO ALL UAW REGION 4 MEMBERS

## THE PROGRAM

The UAW Region 4 Online Institute is a web-based training about YOUR union and your role within it!

Members may register themselves at the link/QR code below. Within 24 hours you will receive an email confirmation and will be able to log in and begin your workshops!

## REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a Region 4 member
- Must be in good standing
- Must register under a personal email address
- Participate on your own time and at your own pace

Questions may be directed to Region 4 UAW Education Representative Bradley Schwanda at [bschwanda@uaw.net](mailto:bschwanda@uaw.net), or visit [region4.uaw.org/education](http://region4.uaw.org/education) for more information.

**REGISTER HERE! \***

**[UAWREGION4.TALENTLMS.COM](http://UAWREGION4.TALENTLMS.COM)**



\*Verification of membership status and account approval may take up to three business days.



tw/opeiu494af1-cio



# UNION-MADE EASTER

## CANDIES:

- Peeps
- Jelly Bellies
- Tootsie Rolls
- Laffy Taffy
- Mike and Ikes

## MEATS:

- Butterball ham
- Hormel honey roasted ham
- Fischer Meats lamb
- Tyson Foods ham

[AFLCIO.ORG/EASTER](https://aflcio.org/easter)

AFL-CIO

## THANK YOU LETTERS!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFT OF \$500.00 WHICH HAS BEEN RECEIVED AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MACON COUNTY FOR THE WE ARE ONE COMMUNITY FUND.

FOR TAX PURPOSES, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOUR DONATION IS DEDUCTIBLE, AS THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MACON COUNTY DID NOT PROVIDE ANY GOODS OR SERVICES IN RETURN FOR YOUR GIFT.

WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE THE WE ARE ONE COMMUNITY FUND AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MACON COUNTY

SINCERELY,

NATALIE BECK

PRESIDENT

## THANK YOU

MEMBER OF UAW #751 THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT DURING OUR FAMILY'S TIME OF MOURNING. THE BIBLE YOU SHARED WITH US IN DENNY'S HONOR IS BEAUTIFUL. WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR KINDNESS.

GOD BLESS YOU,

THERESA BINIOR & FAMILY

**UAW Local 751**  
2365 E. Geddes Ave.  
Decatur, Illinois 62526

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DECATUR, IL  
PERMIT No. 106

## 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!**




VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<http://region4.uaw.org/local751>



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FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

[www.twitter.com/uawlocal751](http://www.twitter.com/uawlocal751)



## Thank you

Member of UAW #751 Thank you for your support during our family's time of mourning. The bible you shared with us in Denny's honor is beautiful. We deeply appreciate your kindness.

God bless you,

Theresa Binior & Family

