

Local Voices

UAW Local 2209

Chartered 1985



MAY-JUNE 2019



Re-Dedication Ceremony May 25, 2019 at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum

Photo by Gary Schepp

Local Voices

UAW Local 2209
Chartered 1985



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Zone Shift 2	John Dohner Jr
Zone Shift 3	Tony Cantasano

Member

Retiree Chapter Chair	Diana Bovie-Koomler
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Newspaper & Communications Committee

Jason Jackson	Katie Knox	Chrissy Mangrum
Len Maydwell	Kevin Murray	Roxanna Murray
	Gary Schepp	

Editorial Policy

The views or opinions expressed by the individual writers are not necessarily those of the editor, nor the administration of Local 2209. The editorial decisions to publish or edit content are made at the discretion of the editors and are based on factors including but not limited to: relevance, interest to the readers, timeliness, as well as space limitations within the publication.

* Photos in the Local Voices may be photoshopped or cropped for better presentation.

Deadline for articles is the Friday before the 3rd Saturday in odd months. Publications will be in even months.

Address Change

To ensure delivery of the Local Voices it is important to keep your address updated. Please stop by or call the Union Hall whenever you have a change of address.

Local Voices Deadline Friday, July 19, 2019

To submit articles
email: localvoices2209@gmail.com
or drop it off at the Union Hall



UAW Local 2209 Publication PO Box 579 • Roanoke IN • 46783

Union Hall

Phone: 260-672-2209 Fax: 260-672-9220
Email: uaw2209@frontier.com
Hours: Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 3:30 pm

GM Union Work Center

Unit 1 Shop Chair	260-673-2838	
GA	260-673-2538	260-673-2197
Body & Paint	260-673-2975	

GM UAW Benefit Office

260-673-2339	260-673-2540	260-673-2596
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GM Benefits & Services

GM Benefits & Services	800-489-4646
GM UAW Legal Services	800-482-7700
Vehicle Purchase Plan	800-235-4646

Membership Meetings

Membership meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 11:00 am unless GM production is scheduled. When production is scheduled on the third Saturday the meeting will be held the next day on Sunday at 11:00 am.

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Holli Murphy
President

Hello Brothers & Sisters!

Since my last report, I, along with the FWA Health and Safety team attended the 2019 UAW-GM Health & Safety Conference, April 28-May 3. The theme was “New Mindset, New Results- Safety Is My Responsibility.”

Our new mindset in health and safety is focusing on being brave and speaking up when processes that were developed to control, and when possible, eliminate exposure to hazards that are not working well. We should be the mentors and the coaches of health and safety because we are the experts. We should not be satisfied with the status quo because our goal is to save lives and achieve “zero injuries.”

There were sessions in safety, ergonomics, and industrial hygiene to help us understand our new and existing processes so we can implement them with excellence and validate their effectiveness. The UAW-GM Leadership Team hopes we use the information obtained that week to live out the theme at Fort Wayne Assembly, and in our lives outside of work every day. With a new mindset will come new results! Make Safety Your Responsibility!

I also attended the UAW-GM Leadership Conference with the Key 4 from all plants, which includes the plant managers, personnel directors, Local Presidents and Chairs from all UAW-GM locations. Under the leadership of General Motors Chair and CEO, Mary Barra, GM envisions a world with zero crashes, to save lives; zero emissions, so future generations can inherit a healthier planet; and zero congestion, so customers get back a

precious commodity-time.

She’s focused on strengthening GM’s core business of great cars, trucks and crossovers, and working to lead the transformation of personal mobility through advanced technologies like connectivity, electrification, autonomous driving and car sharing. It includes putting the customer at the center of everything the company does.

Mary Barra and her team also explained that the auto industry has been going thru rapid changes since 2015. They say we cannot confuse progress with winning. We are responsible for building a stronger future. The foundation of General Motors is People, Values/Behavior and the Culture. “Love what you do, Respect what you do.”

UAW International Vice President, Terry Dittes, spoke about how when he hired in 1978, he was a 2nd generation GM employee. “Back then General Motors had it all. It was baseball, apple pie and Chevrolet. But we can’t live in the past and we need this opportunity to bring loyalty to the brand.”

He stated that one of the reasons



Mary Barra and Holli Murphy at UAW-GM Leadership Conference

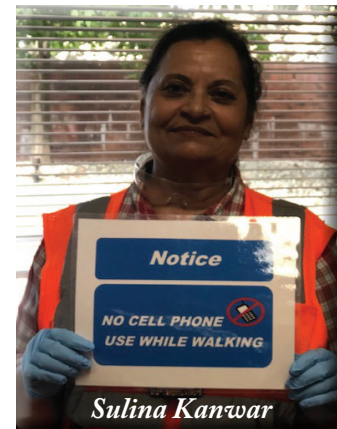
we lose loyalty is when so many of our temporary employees are asking the question “When am I going to be permanent?” He reflected on the days when General Motors provided jobs and supported the communities. We need to win back the favor of the people, win back the USA. He believes if GM wants to buy it here, then we build it here!

Dittes is a servant leader, which means our leaders are here to service the membership. “We’re going to win together, or lose together. We’re the best team on the field, we’re going to focus on what we’re doing well. We are an American company and we’re proud to be an American company.”

I would like to recognize the Safety Heroes at Fort Wayne Assembly.

Travis Mueller, Julie DeLong, Bret Wade, Christina Hensley, Rob Rueckert, Janice Hodges, Sam Martin, Cynthia Mustaine, Ellie Frauhiger, and Sulina Kanwar from Caravan.

In Solidarity,
Holli Murphy



Quotes from the UAW-GM Leadership Conference

“You will not inspire everyone, but you will inspire someone”

“To get what you never had, you must do what you never did.”

“Fight for what is right, not just to be right”

“You are people of influence. Be A Person of Inspiration.”

“Complacency is the silent killer for safety.”

“Safety is a conversation, not a confrontation.”

“The road to perfection requires inward reflection.”

“Leaders influence behaviors. You influence others by how you make them feel and what they see you do”

“Talk to the people. Listen to the people.”

“People are our best resource.”

Finding Your Way Home

by Kevin Murray

We went to witness the “Watch Fire” being lit at the Veterans National War Memorial Friday May 24, 2019, but neither my wife nor I knew what to expect. The Watch Fire roots date as far back as the Revolutionary War. Back then, regiments would light bonfires guiding soldiers toward safety, soldiers who may have gotten disoriented or separated from their respective units in the heat of battle.

At the Shrine they light an annual watch fire Memorial Day weekend, as they have for the past 30 years.

They do so not to lure the wounded and weary to safety, but in memory of the service men and women that never came home. Attendees, including our Greg Bedford, Veterans Committee Chair, place logs on the fire in memory of fallen friends and loved ones. This shrine doesn't just pay homage to the fallen heroes from one war, this beautiful property has memorials for them all, including the Civil War.

The most moving monument, for me anyway, had to be the Korean War Veteran Memorial. That's the war my grandfather served in. I didn't grow with war stories from my dad or my uncle, they didn't have the chance to serve. I was told not to ask my grandfather about it, the war that is, and why he walked with such a limp, but I did. He would always shy away from my questions or ignore me altogether. I was in my twenties when he broke his silence. I had stopped over to have breakfast with him, as I did most Saturdays. Out the of the blue he said “no one wanted that war, but we were ready to fight!” “What?” “I didn't ask

for the shrapnel in my hip or any of the other horrors of that war, but I fight everyday to try and forget”. He went on to say no man or country should seek war but every man and country should be ready to fight. As



2019 Watch Fire at the Veterans Memorial Shrine, 2122 O'Day Rd, Fort Wayne. Photo by Gary Schepp

he poured the coffee he hanged the conversation back to sports, “think the Tigers got a shot this year?” “Nope”. That was the last time I had breakfast with my grandfather, he passed away that evening, peacefully, in his sleep. Memorial Day Weekend 1998.

Perhaps for service men and women it's not the proverbial “light at the end of the tunnel” that they see, but rather the glow from a watch fire in the distant woods, guiding them home.

R.I.P. Clayton Julius Richardson
U.S. Army PFC Purple Heart recipient.

Attorney

An attorney will be available to help with worker's compensation and other legal matters on the last Monday of each month from 9:00 am to Noon at the Union Hall.

The initial consultations are free and if additional representation is needed they will be provided at a discounted rate.

Upcoming dates:

June 24

July 29

Calendar

June 2019

- 6 D-Day (1944)
- 14 Flag Day
- 16 Father's Day
- 19 Juneteenth
- 24 Attorney at Union Hall

July 2019

- 4 Independence Day *
- 27 Rolling Into Roanoke
- 29 Attorney at Union Hall

* UAW GM Negotiated Days Off
(Local may be different)

Membership Meetings

**June – Canceled
(by membership action)**

July 21– Sunday

Meetings start 10 am

UAW Benefits

Union Hall Office Hours

A UAW Benefit Representative is at the Union Hall every Wednesday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Except during Holidays, vacation, and training.

It is suggested to call the Union Hall at 260-672-2209 to confirm a Benefit Rep will be available. When you arrive, please check in with office secretary, Erika.



**UAW -FCA-Ford-
General Motors
Legal Services Plan
1-800-482-7700**

www.uawlegalservices.com
Facebook: UAW Legal Services Plan

You must call to open up a case.

Retiree Chapter Corner



Diana Bovie-Koomler
Retiree Chair

Chapter Meetings Update

The UAW Trust along with many health providers and local businesses were in attendance at the April meeting. The Trust provided update in the hearing coverage change to TruHearing, and the two support programs for retirees.

At the May meeting, Collier Financial went over some of the retirement plans available and how each works. At the April and May meetings donations were collected from retirees for the Letter Carrier's Food Drive. The Chapter matched the amount collected and \$670 will be given to Associated Churches of Fort Wayne and Allen County for this cause. A check will be presented to Associated Churches and the Letter Carrier's at our June meeting. We like to thank our retirees for their generosity.

This Chapter decided in 2015 to

go with cash donations for the Letter Carrier's Food Drive for 3 reasons.

1) A dollar goes further. It is equivalent to about 6 canned food or other non-perishable food. 2) A collection of \$670 of food would be about 4,020 canned food or non-perishable food items. Cash is easier to transport. 3) It makes it easier for the food bank to fill in any needs.

Nearly a bus-load of retirees took a day trip to Cleveland to visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The trip was May 13th. With enough interest we will have other day trips for our retirees to enjoy.

Region 2B Retired Workers Council

At the UAW Region 2B Retired Workers Council meeting in April we learned that there are 44,400 active members 217,300 retirees, and 64,000 surviving spouses in Region 2B. For all of the UAW there are 2,200 to 2,500 retirees dying each month. For Retiree Chapter 2209 there have been 7 retirees no longer with us this year compared to 20 in the first 5 months in 2018.

Elections were held for Region 2B Retired Workers Council. Charles Sheppard from Chapter 1226 in Indianapolis was re-elected as Vice-Chair for the Region and Jim King from Chapter 663 in Anderson was elected as the Indiana State Chair.

Legal Services updated us about the legal services available. Basically,

it is limited to office legal work. For legal services not covered under the plan you may be entitled to a low cost referral to a private attorney. There are about 750 cooperating attorneys in the plan.

Everyone is encouraged to review their will at least every five years or when there is a life event such as a marriage, divorce, death, or moving to a different state.

An example of a case that was resolved involved a \$30,000 hospital bill that was reduced down to \$40.

To open up a case, eligible participants must call (800) 482-7700.

Retiree Chapter Meetings

Our meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month beginning at 10:00 am at the Union Hall. In addition to conducting the regular business we invite speakers to speak on different topics of interest to the retirees.

Staying Active

The UAW is an organization that fights for social and economic justice for all working and retired people. The UAW has built a security net so that people can enjoy their retirement and the UAW Retired Workers' program offers many opportunities for a fulfilling retirement. This security net is also supplemented by the voluntary retiree dues that help pay legal costs to protect our retirement benefits.

In Memoriam

*For those that are no longer with us
let us not say goodbye
but remember the time
they were with us.*

Daniel Rodriguez	19 Mar	(48)
Elizabeth Snow	22 Mar	(75)
Richard Stark	9 Apr	(66)
Eugene McQuade	12 May	(68)



It is not possible to recognize all of our past Brothers and Sisters in a timely manner. Your help would be greatly appreciated when you know of someone no longer here.

Retirements

January	—	Kim Longstreth • Thomas Howe • James T Howe • Steve Nagy • Judy Glenn • Judy Burton • Jack Thomas
February	—	Dave Krauter • Susan Garrett • Dan Barton
March	—	Craig Emke • Cris May • James Rector • Danny Rodriguez
April	—	Jose Tinajero
May	—	Dennis Schenkel

Contact us if any retirees have been missed.



Combined Funds Financial Report

1 March 2019 - 30 April 2019

Shane B. Davis
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Financial Secretary Shane B. Davis is available for any questions about the finances of the Local Union. You can call the Union Hall at 672-2209 to make an appointment to review the income and expenditures.

The lost time of members performing union business is posted at the union hall. Their name, purpose, hours, and wages are included in the posting.

At the April meeting, the membership approved transferring \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Local Strike Fund.

FUND BALANCES

General Fund Unit 1	\$ 1,206,297.71
GM Nurses Unit 2	285.74
Caravan Facilities Unit 3	8,222.48
Android Unit 4	46.15
Android Maint Techs Unit 5	283.22
Ruan Trucking Unit 6	593.25
Strike Fund	100,000.00
Chaplaincy Fund	1,730.09
Citizenship & Legislative Fund	80.79
Civil and Human Rights Fund	3,375.02
Community Services Fund	5,554.95
Consumer Affairs Fund	75.87
Disaster Relief Fund	2,551.07
Education Fund	5,654.28
Education Dues Allocation Fund	4,197.76
Recreation Fund	744.96
Recreation Dues Allocation Fund	2,037.85
Union Label Fund	6,992.41
Veteran's Fund	6,640.82
Women's Fund	2,145.73
Building Fund	-6,853.82
Make a Wish Fund	-195.00
New Member Orientation Fund	2,162.87
Picnic Fund	8,874.27
Retired Workers Chapter Fund	62,467.17
Retiree Penny Transfer	3,233.33
Retiree Event Fund	1,935.78
Retiree Chapter 57	14,208.01
Retiree Chapter 305	838.95
Retiree Chapter 1405	13,167.86
Retiree Chapter 2357	25,924.77
Retiree Chapter 2911	8,449.53
Total of All Funds	\$ 1,491,753.87

March/April 2019

Beginning Balance	\$1,188,595.55
Income	\$1,226,897.27
Expenditures	-\$923,738.95
Difference	303,158.32
Balance	\$1,491,753.87

Expense:

Wages (Clerical)	8,948.84
Wages (Maintenance and Security)	8,482.43
Lost Time & Per Diem (Officers)	61,367.56
Lost Time & Per Diem (Others)	58,683.19
Medical Insurance	9,563.52
Medical Fees - Other	1,750.00
Payroll Deductions (Federal, State, Local)	-24,905.20
Payroll Deductions (Forward)	23,737.62
FICA Employer (Forward)	8,384.30
Unemployment Taxes (Federal & State)	1,055.23
Taxes - Sales (State Forwarded)	3.20
Per Capita Taxes (International)	661,850.60
Per Capita Taxes (CAP Councils)	25,076.18
Per Capita Taxes (Affiliates)	38.54
Union Dues	-232.58
Union Dues Forwarded	292.20
Utilities (Building Ownership)	3,961.41
Postage	1,288.15
Postage Meter	236.42
Printing Costs (Print Media)	1,150.67
Professional Fees (Clerical, Steno, Legal)	6,608.31
Donations - Charities & Other	15,558.00
Furniture & Equipment (Leases & Rentals)	11.85
Maintenance & Repairs	722.75
Maintenance & Repairs - Equipment	1,773.89
Office, Building, Janitorial	894.58
Raffle and Fundraiser Costs	6,698.15
Refreshments (Caterers, Coffee, Donuts, Etc)	1,491.73
Registration/Conference/Tuition Fees	10,980.00
Sponsorships (Athletics & Community)	16,025.00
Telephone	1,016.28
Travel (Airline, Hotel, Travel Agency)	10,143.52
Reimburse Charities	100.00
Reimburse Refreshments	260.96
Reimburse Fees	100.00
Reimburse Picnic	924.00
Banking (Includes Prior Year Voided Checks)	-261.35

Beginning Balance

\$1,128,086.34

Income:

Dues - Regular & SUB (Private Sector)	563,452.19
Dues - Bonus & Profit Sharing	539,145.71
Dues - Retired Workers	4,038.55
Collections (Gate & Shop)	10,151.37
Donations - Retired Workers Chapter	548.00
Donations - Other	1,133.65
Initiations (Intl & Local)	260
Interest on Credit Union Accounts	343.39
Intl Strike Fund Rebate	85,566.99
Registration/Conference Fees	2,025.00
Rents (Building Office and Property)	350.00
Sales -Raffle Tickets	3,350.00
Sales -Make a Wish	12,750.00
Sales -Other	46.00
Social & Rec	1,173.00
Voluntary Contributions (CAP)	22.00
Refund (Travel Per Diem Etc)	1,638.34
Refund (Travel to Vendor)	903.08
Income Total	\$1,226,897.27

Expenses Total

\$923,738.95



Amy Houston
Recording Secretary

The Language:

Section 1. The International Union shall engage in communication programs (through print, electronic media or otherwise) designed to educate the membership and to acquaint the membership with the activities of this International Union. Special publications or other communications for all, or a particular segment, of the membership shall be disseminated from time to time as the International Executive Board may direct. The title of any official print publication shall be "Solidarity"

Section 2. "Solidarity" shall be under the supervision of the International Executive Board who shall select a Publication Committee consisting of the International President and two other members of the International Executive Board. The Publication committee shall be directly responsible to the International Executive Board in carrying out the task of publishing "Solidarity". The editors of "Solidarity" shall be appointed by the International President subject to the approval of the International Executive Board.

Section 3. The International Secretary-Treasurer shall allocate out of each per-capita tax, five cents (.05) for a special fund for the communication programs described in Article 29, Section 1

Section 4. Beginning July 2014, members will have electronic access to "Solidarity". The only issue sent through the United States mail to members shall be the July-August publication. Members may submit a request to receive "Solidarity" via email or United States mail on the uaw.org

Learning the Language

A key to understanding the Constitution and Bylaws

UAW Constitution — Article 29

Communication

website.

Section 5. To non-members, the rate shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per annum with postage additional for foreign subscribers.

Section 6. Local publications shall conform with the policies of the International Union and all Local Union Editors and/or Editorial Committees shall be responsible to the Officers and Executive Board of the Local Union who shall have authority to effectuate such conformity. Where a unit of an Amalgamated Local Union has a publication, such initial responsibility shall be to the unit officers, but the Amalgamated Local Union Officers and Executive Board Officers shall still have the ultimate authority of effectuation such conformity.

What it means:

Section 1: The International UAW will always educate and inform through communication with its members. Be it in print, online or other format. Any official publication will be called "Solidarity".

Section 2. "Solidarity" is overseen by the International Executive Board. The editors of "Solidarity" are appointed by the International President with the approval of the International Executive Board.

Section 3. Five cents out of each per capita tax shall go towards the publications.

Section 4. Starting in July 2014 "Solidarity" will be available online. Once a year it will be mailed to members in July-August. If you would like to receive it in the mail please visit uaw.org to request.

Section 5. If you aren't a member, you can purchase "Solidarity" for \$5.00 per year plus postage.

Section 6. All Local Union publications must follow the policies of the UAW. Changes to our policies are

voted on by the elected delegates of the Constitution Convention, which is held every 4 years.

The Local Union officers and Executive Board members oversee the Editor(s)/committee that produces publications for the Local and they help ensure the committee is following the policies set forth in the Constitution. In the case of a publication for a single Unit within a Local Union, the elected officers of that Unit may assist with ensuring UAW policies are being followed.



Holli Murphy and retirees (L-R) Judy Paulk, Pam Kruckenburg, & Patti Flores.





Standing Committee Chairs

Chaplaincy	Michelle Buckler
Citizenship & Legislative	Regina Cartwright
Civil & Human Rights	Curtis "CJ" Johnson
Community Services	Jannie Burkhammer
Consumer Affairs	Jason Hobson
Constitution & Bylaws	Matt Sterk
Conservation & Recreation	Mike Fairchild
Education	Phil Ratkos
Union Label	Luvenia Hairston
Veterans	Greg Bedford
Women's	Colleen Singer



Local 2209 Chaplaincy Committee

Do you need someone to pray for you?

Pray with you?

Or just a kind ear to listen?

The Chaplaincy Committee

is here to serve, day and night.

Don't hesitate to call.

Call the Union Hall

to be connected to a Chaplain: 260-672-2209

Michele Buckler 260-515-0662

Belva Parkison 765-210-2704

Cinde Mustaine 937-344-3563

Joel Picklesimer 260-249-7787

Find us on Facebook — UAW 2209 Chaplaincy



Any prayer requests will be kept private.

Sometimes there are obstacles in the road, in this journey of life. Some days we can handle it, others, it's a struggle. Know that there is someone here that is praying for you. Whether you want to specify what your prayer is or not, we are here.

Women's Committee

Colleen Singer, Chair

The Womens Committee recently sponsored the Women in Engineering Team from New Tech Academy at Wayne High School in their project during "CANstruction" for Community Harvest Food Bank. This years theme was "Souper Heros: Putting A Stop To Hunger." The team designed a small city street incorporating Captain America's Shield to later mash through some of the buildings. They had a lot of fun using canned goods to build their city, and all the cans were then donated to the food bank. The opportunity was brought to the committee by a request from Mia Sartain, a member of the Women in Engineering Team and granddaughter

of Herman Berghoff, 2nd shift, body shop.

Thank you, everyone, for purchasing raffle tickets for the Mothers Day Basket, helping us raise \$973.00. It was won by Matt Menard, congratulations! We received \$66.50 from the Texas Roadhouse fundraiser, where if you presented the flyer when you ordered food, we would receive 10% of your food purchases. Currently the committee is selling tickets for a Fathers Day Basket, the drawing will be June 10. We really appreciate all the wonderful support from you, our membership. We are in planning stages for future projects and will keep you posted.



Women in Engineering Team from New Tech Academy at Wayne High School



The Women's Committee also made a donation to H.O.P.E. for animals. H.O.P.E. is a low cost spay and neuter clinic. Colleen Singer holding check.

Community Services Committee

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

It is once again the time we must prepare for the worst of situations as we go into negotiations with the company, we want to arm you with all the information we can to make a strike have the least impact as possible.

To be eligible for strike funds you must be a member in good standing, which means you cannot be in arrears in dues, owe a reinstatement fee, back dues, or a strike fund loan. You are also not eligible for strike funds if you are receiving S&A benefits (Sick Leave), if unemployed prior to strike and receiving \$250.00

**SAVE
YOUR
MONEY**

or more per week during the strike, or receiving workers compensation benefits. Probationary and new hires may become eligible for strike benefits if they join the union one day prior to the strike by paying the initiation fee and current month's dues. Check off cards forwarded to the company prior to the strike would be considered a member in good standing.

If eligible the amount of your strike assistance is \$250.00 per week, if the strike should go on into the Holiday's there will be bonus checks issued. Medical will also be paid, if approved by the International Union, vision and

dental will not. We must be on strike for eight days before a check is generated, if you receive \$600.00 or more during a calendar year you will receive a 1099 from the IRS.

Please try to prepare your family for the real possibility of a long strike, your Community Services Committee has resources to help us get through times like this, but we can't stress enough, **Save Your Money!!!**

In Solidarity

Your Community Services Committee

Please see pages 16 & 17



The Community Services Committee performs the important task of getting help for members and their families in time of need. This committee also plays a pivotal role in plant closings, strikes and layoffs.

Turnstone Community Picnic

Greetings Brothers and Sisters

I would like to thank the members of UAW Local 2209 Cordell Hurse, Brandon Kimbrough, Amanda Meijer, Quinton Perry, Paula Frederich, Tiffeni Anderson and Jamie Teller for their continued efforts in volunteering at the Turnstone community picnic. Turnstone Center for Adults and Children with Disabilities is a non-profit organization that services people in the community with disabilities. Local 2209 has been involved with this organization for many years.

This year our members participated in setting up the gym area, serving food to the clients, and tear down. This year's picnic serviced over 300 clients, Everyone in attendance had a good time.

Thanks again,

In Solidarity

Courtney Lewis

*United Way Community Service
President*



(L-R) Quinton Perry, Brandon Kimbrough



(L-R) Unknown volunteer, Cordell Hurse

Veterans Committee



Memorial Day started Friday night at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum with the Watch-fire. The tribute to those that have gone before was performed shortly after 9:00 pm.

Saturday morning was the re-dedication of the Museum. It consisted of a flag raising, National Anthem, and Honor Guard Ceremony with dignitaries speaking.

Greg Bedford is the Commander for the Shrine and Museum as well as Chair for the UAW Local 2209 Veterans Committee. He would like to thank the membership for the financial donations and continued volunteer hours that were contributed by both active and retirees.

LUCA Awards 2019

by Roxanna Murray

Out of twelve total entries in the 2019 LUCA (Local Union Communication Association) Contest, our Local Voices Newsletter won 7. The following is a breakdown of what we won and the judges comments. The LUCA Conference skips the year in which the International Bargaining Convention is held, so this year's contest actually consisted of two years' worth of publications. Each Local is limited to only 6 entries per year out of the fifteen categories which include print, website, photography, social media and writing. Soon all of our issues will be made available at our UAW Local 2209 Web Page.

*Best Front Page, First Place: "A



(L-R) Kevin Murray, Chrissy Mangrum, Jason Jackson, Katie Knox

New Beginning" photo by Linda Riedel Ellis, Cover by Amanda Meier. "So many times we see a really good photo used way too small to have any meaning. The creator of this front page used this really nice shot big and gave it the space it deserved instead of trying to cram multiple photos on the cover. The size of the shot matches the historical importance of the story at the local: its first female president.

*Best First Time Entry writing excellence, First Place: "The Strong Reach of Solidarity", Katie Knox. The story about Josh Riddle and his experiences in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. "Good writing is about story-

telling and putting a face on the story, putting the reader in the shoes of the subject. You took us right to the heart of the action."

*Best Series, First Place: Member Spotlight, Katie Knox, Chrissy Mangrum and Roxanna Murray. "This series is a consistently solid series with depth and good writing that includes member quotes to flesh out the stories of inspiration and determination from Local 2209 sisters and brothers."

*Best Series, Second Place: An Organizer's Tale, Chrissy Mangrum. "Always great to see first-person pieces on a topic such as organizing a plant in Fremont, California. The detailed day-in-the-life listing of hourly challenges

an organizer faces and what an organizer does, spelled out plainly, is a bonus for members, some of whom don't know what organizing looks like on the ground. Nice job putting a human face on a difficult job, organizing."

*Best Local Union or Regional News Story, Second Place: Fuyao Rally, Katie Knox. "The report about Local 2209's participation at the Fuyao Glass America Rally in Moraine, Ohio, had the tone you want to see in a rally report- one of hope, solidarity and the sheer joy of being together for a good cause, which the writer communicated in detail and photos supported. Solidarity!"

LUCA Learnin'

by Chrissy Mangrum

I have been to quite a few conferences over the years. Not a one of them has compared to the LUCA (Local Union Communication Association) conference that I recently attended at Black Lake. This was the smallest one I've gone to, which really gave it a large family reunion vibe. There was greetings, hugs, congratulations on a recent article, podcast or picture. Chatter about families, graduations and births. It sounds incredibly cheesy, however, you could literally feel the love in the air.

There is SO much to take in. If you want to become a better writer, take a better picture, keep up with technology. It was fantastic to be in such a small atmosphere that you could meet every person there and share how they communicate with their locals. Everything from locals that have their own Apps to locals that have their

Continue on next page

*Best Photo or Photo Collage, Third Place: Trunk or Treat, photos by Linda Riedel Ellis, collage layout by Gary Schepp. "What I've grown to learn about the union can be shown visually here in these photos representing Trunk or Treat. The UAW is about making a better life for not only workers, but their families and communities, too. This layout speaks volumes to the kind of love and happiness that being part of a union can bring to adult and child alike. Each photo here tells a story."

Print Contest General Excellence for publication designed by Local, Honorable Mention. We submitted two consecutive issues for this contest entry, Jan/Feb 2018 and March/April 2018. "Local Voices contains a lot of committee reports. But it also does a great job at feature/human interest stories, such as the Bumblebee Racer, the artist autoworker and the member who makes his own video. Interesting stuff!"

Continued from *LUCA Learnin'*

newsletters hanging on the bathroom stalls called the Stall Street Journal. A gathering of creative powerhouses that can't wait to help you be your best self.

People were more than willing to share their knowledge. You could ask no dumb questions. Others would take time before and after classes, during lunch and at break times to help you out. There is also a good mix of those who have been to this training many times and those that are first timers. As a first timer you definitely won't feel that way. You will be welcomed with open arms and made to feel right at home. It seems almost that LUCA is a Local all of it's own.

I'm grateful to our Membership for allowing us the opportunity to attend and come home with invaluable knowledge. Thank you for trusting us to bring you information. It's a pleasure to serve this Membership.

LUCA

(Local Union Communication Association)

by *Kevin Murray*

The Local Union Communication Association (LUCA) has an annual conference at the UAW Black Lake Education Center. It's a chance for seasoned journalists and photographers to hone their skills and reconnect with like minded members from across the country. Four of our members recently had the opportunity to attend this years conference. Here is what they had to say:

Jason Jackson- "This was my first time to the Black Lake LUCA Conference. What a peaceful and yet educational facility. I attended classes on digital tool kits and brought back a lot of ideas for our President and Shop Chairman."

Katie Knox- "After attending the

conference several times and not having had anything submitted to the contest it was so nice thrilling to have some of my stories submitted and actually winning. I even called my parents, I was so excited!"

Kevin Murray- "Like Jason, this was my first time as a LUCA participant. I was in awe of the raw and refined talent and creativity of the relatively small group of 130. The knowledge I was able to soak up from my class (Digital Photography) and classmates is priceless."

Chrissy Mangrum- "I could not have asked for a better Black Lake experience. The LUCA family is so welcoming. I learned so many new and inspiring ways to communicate."

Photos by Don Lehman



Wedding



*Jermail Craig & Stacy Walton
Married May 11, 2019*

Community

2019 Letter Carrier's Food Drive Volunteers



Lloyd Osborne, president of the ALF-CIO NE Indiana ALF Chapter.



Jason Jackson (UAW 2209) & wife McKayla sorting food from NALC Food Drive.

Photos by Holli Murphy

Welcome Mat or Stepping Stone?

by Kevin Murray

At the new location of the Fort Wayne Boys and Girls Club, the brick entryway could be considered a welcome mat or stepping stones, maybe both. To the thousands of boys and girls, ranging in age from 7 to 17, who will pass over the brick we voted to sponsor at our March 2019 membership meeting, I believe it is a welcome mat.

Welcoming them to a place free from harassment and violence from neighborhood bullies and gangs. The doors open wide, sort of reminiscent of an awaiting hug from grandma. Inside the club the kids are fed nutritious meals, cooked on site. They receive help with homework and get one-on-one tutoring if needed. Kids are given not only the chance to succeed but to excel! The entryway bricks are part of a fundraiser for the new location for the Boys and Girls Club of Fort Wayne.

I'm a long standing believer in higher education. College? Sure, it's

an option, but it's not the only option. The Boys and Girls Club not only used 95% union labor during the construction of their new facility, they incorporated a "Labor Room" to use for their after school curriculum. Here, kids of all ages can literally learn the tools of the trades. From woodworking/carpentry, pipe-fitting and sheet metal working just to name a few. Kids will be able to not only imagine but realize a path to a career in the trades if

they choose. That's a step in the right direction.

Speaking of steps, here's where the stepping stone comes in. Our brick will be grouped together with the bricks of other trade unions from the Fort Wayne area. "Great Futures Start Here" is a message posted not far from our bricks and it's a message repeated throughout the facility. As the kids progress through their various programs, our donation, our dues dollars, takes a step closer towards a great future.

As I write and you read this my thinking is that one day a little boy or little girl will look down at these bricks and see neither a mat nor a stone but rather a symbol of hope for a better tomorrow and brighter future.

To purchase a brick contact Cheri Tappman (260)744-0998 ex 133

To volunteer contact Valerie Magana (260)744-0998 ex 119.



Photo by Kevin Murray

Tap by Tap Guide to Bookmark

<https://uaw2209.org>

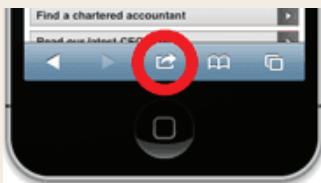


by Jason Jackson

How to add a bookmark icon to your phones home screen. Whether your phone uses android (google) or ios (apple) to run, follow these simple steps. Type “uaw2209.org” into the web browser (make sure using Chrome (android) or safari (apple) browser for steps to work) then follow step below.

Step 1 — Tap the bookmark icon

(When you're on the page you want to create a shortcut to, tap the bookmark icon.)



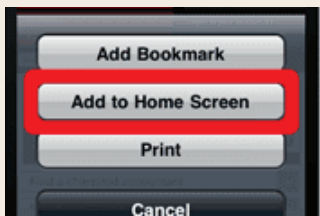
IOS (Apple)



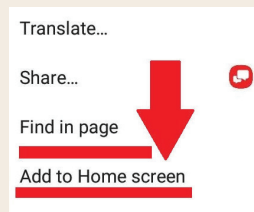
Android (Google)

Step 2 — Tap on 'Add to home screen'

(When the bookmark options appear, tap on 'Add to home screen'.)



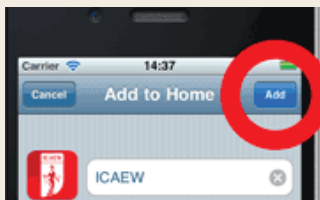
IOS (Apple)



Android (Google)

Step 3 — Change the shortcut name

(Edit the shortcut name to something you'll find easy to remember and tap the 'Add' button.)



IOS (Apple)



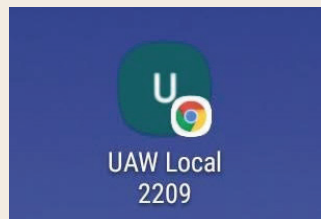
Android (Google)

Step 4 — See the shortcut appear

(You'll then see a shortcut appear on your iPhone's home screen. Just tap on this icon at any time to open.)



IOS (Apple)



Android (Google)

Financial Practices

Union funds are held in sacred trust for the benefit of the membership. The membership is entitled to assurance that Union funds are not dissipated and are spent for proper purposes. The membership is also entitled to be reasonably informed as to how Union funds are invested or used.

1. The International Union and its Local Unions shall conduct their proprietary functions, including all contracts for purchase or sale or for rendering housekeeping services in accordance with the practice of well-run institutions, including the securing of competitive bids for major contracts.

2. The International Union and its Local Unions shall not permit any of their funds to be invested in a manner which results in the personal profit or advantage of any officer or representative of the Union.

3. There shall be no contracts of purchase or sale or for rendering services which will result in the personal profit or advantage of any officer or representative of the Union. Nor shall any officer, representative or employee of the International Union or any Local Union accept personal profit or special advantage from a business with which the Union bargains collectively.

4. Neither the International Union nor any of its Local Unions shall make loans to its officers, representatives, employees or members, or members of their families, for the purpose of financing the private business of such persons.

Source: UAW Constitution

2018 MIDTERMS:

Poorest states have
Republican legislatures,
and richest have
Democratic ones

Based on data from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

Region 2B Union Label Advisory Council

by Amy Houston

Along with being the Recording Secretary at UAW Local 2209, I am also the Union Label Advisory Council President for the Region. April 15-18, the Director of Region 2B, Rich Rankin held a Leadership meeting and Advisory Council Meetings in Indianapolis. I was able to meet with members of Union Label Committees from Indiana and Ohio. During our meetings we came up with two projects to work on this year. A short term social media challenge and a long term education plan.

The first being a Made in the USA Challenge between all of the local unions in Region 2B. It is very simple. If you buy something Union made and/or American made (from a board game to a new vehicle!) snap a photo of what you bought (and you, too if you want!) and post to Facebook, Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #2BUSACHallenge along with your local number. This contest will go on through October 1 and the local with the most entries will be recognized at the next Advisory Council. If you aren't on social media, you can email your entry along with your local number to UAW2BUSACHallenge@gmail.com and we will receive your entry that way. Sounds fun, right? So let's get shopping and snapping and posting! Look for the flyer in the plant, too!

The second project is age appropriate educational programs that range

MADE IN AMERICA CHALLENGE
Region 2B Union Label Advisory Council
#2BUSACHALLENGE

The Region 2B Union Label Advisory Council is challenging each Local Union to a friendly competition to Buy American and Union made products and post them to social media.

BUY AN AMERICAN MADE OR UNION MADE ITEM
and take a photo

POST A PHOTO TO SOCIAL MEDIA
use #2BUSACHallenge

MAKE SURE TO IDENTIFY YOUR LOCAL UNION
It's a friendly competition

If you are not on social media, please email your name, local number, and photo to UAW2BUSACHallenge@gmail.com.
Deadline to post or submit photos is Oct. 1

from 15-30 minutes that we would like to take to schools, clubs and the like. We think it is important for the youth of today to grow up knowing the importance of supporting American Manufacturing by buying American made and Union made goods and services along with labor history for the older kids. We are working on developing programs from grades

k-3rd grad, 4th-8th grade and High School students. If you are interested in participating in these educational programs, it would be a great way to check out our Local's Union Label Committee. They are always looking for new members. Contact the hall for more information on joining the Union Label Committee or any committee.



UAW Region 2B
Union Label Advisory Council

Labor History Fair Labor Standards Act (1938)

Description: Fair Labor Standards Act, also called Wages and Hours Act, the first act in the United States prescribing nationwide compulsory federal regulation of wages and hours, sponsored by Sen. Robert F. Wagner of New York and signed on June 14, 1938, effective October 24. The law, applying to all industries engaged in interstate commerce, established a

minimum wage of 25 cents per hour for the first year, to be increased to 40 cents within seven years. No worker was obliged to work, without compensation at overtime rates, more than 44 hours a week during the first year, 42 the second year, and 40 thereafter.

Thursday, June 20, 2019
Annually on June 20

Mike Palan Wild Game Feed

July 27, 2019

The 2019 Wild Game Feed will be held Saturday, July 27th from 5 pm to midnight at the Union Hall. The band, REKT will play from 7 pm to 11 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 each.

It will be a time to enjoy food not usually found in the supermarkets, courtesy of the hunters in our midst.

For all of us non-hunting, not normally "adventurous" eaters, have no fear. There will be normal every day

food items to enjoy, adult beverages, and live music.

Speaking of hunters, do you have any wild game you would like to donate for this event? We would really welcome anything you might have. Call Dave Bartkowiak at 260-348-3058 to make donation arrangements.



Touch-a-Truck

Ivy Tech Community College's Early Childhood Education department and student organization, IvyAEYC, invited children and families to explore and experience first-hand, trucks and vehicles and all things that go!

It was held at the Ivy Tech Community College Coliseum Campus on Saturday, April 27, 2019.



Rex Wegesin with family



*Owen
grandson of Ron McKibben*

Photos by Holli Murphy

UAW Region 2-B Community Action Program

2019 V-CAP Drive

Prize List

Grand Prize

\$ 3,000.00

Two Second Place Prizes

\$ 1,000.00

OR

COLT COMBAT COMMANDER (.45 ACP)



Other Prizes

50-\$100.00

25-\$50.00

Rich Rankin, Director Region 2-B, UAW

The drawing will be conducted in the 2nd quarter of 2020, using the ticket stub bearing the contributor's name and address. Contributions or gifts to the UAW are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Purposes.



**IF LABOR UNIONS ARE
NO LONGER NECESSARY
WHY DO CORPORATIONS
SPEND BILLIONS TO TRY
AND DESTROY THEM?**

FAQ on Strikes and UAW Strike Assistance

What is a strike?

A strike happens when workers collectively decide to withhold their labor, after authorization from the International. In the UAW, strikes are governed by the UAW Constitution, including Articles 12, 16 and 50.

How much is UAW Strike Assistance and how often is it paid?

Weekly strike pay is \$250 per week (\$50 per day, Mon-Fri, beginning on the 8th day). On January 1, 2020, strike pay will rise to \$275 per week (\$55 per day, Mon-Fri, beginning on the 8th day). Eligibility for weekly benefits on the 8th day of a strike. Strike assistance pay is available after the 15th day of the strike. A bonus check is paid the week prior to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

What medical benefits are covered?

The UAW Strike and Defense Fund covers certain benefits such as medical and prescription drugs. Benefits not covered include: dental, vision, hearing and sick and accident.

These benefits are either paid directly by the Fund according to the company's current plan or by having the Strike and Defense Fund make COBRA payments to the company plan.

Who is eligible for strike benefits?

To be eligible for strike pay and benefits, members must be:

In good standing (current on dues and initiation fees, if any) on the day before the strike starts

On active pay roll at start of strike: members laid off, on workers compensation or receiving sick and accident benefits are not eligible

Member must participate in the strike: picket assignments, strike committee, etc.

Eligible members include temporary employees as well as anyone who is current in their union security obligations such as fee payers or objectors.

Are probationary employees and new hires entitled to strike assistance?

Probationary and new hires may become eligible for strike benefits if they join the Union and pay the initiation fee and dues prior to the strike taking place. In the event a worker has completed an application for membership and paid dues, he/she would be considered a member in good standing and would be entitled to strike assistance.

Are temporary employees entitled to strike assistance?

All dues paying members, including temporary members, are eligible for strike assistance.

How do I apply for strike benefits?

You must register and make application for strike benefits on the day and time assigned to you by your local union.

If I get another job, can I still receive strike assistance?

Members must continue to participate in the strike to receive strike assistance. If members receive gross pay from outside work that is equal to or greater than \$250 (\$275 starting on January 1, 2020), then the member will not receive weekly benefits but will continue to receive medical and prescription drug assistance.

Can I collect unemployment insurance while on strike?

The law varies by state, but in many states participation in a strike will disqualify a worker from eligibility for unemployment insurance.

My wages are garnished for child support. Will that happen with strike pay?

If the UAW receives a court order, we will garnish the strike assistance.

Can the strike pay be mailed to me?

No, members must pick up their own benefit on the assigned date from their local union with ID.

Are strike benefits taxable?

Yes. After \$600 in a given year, the UAW will issue an IRS Form 1099-MISC.

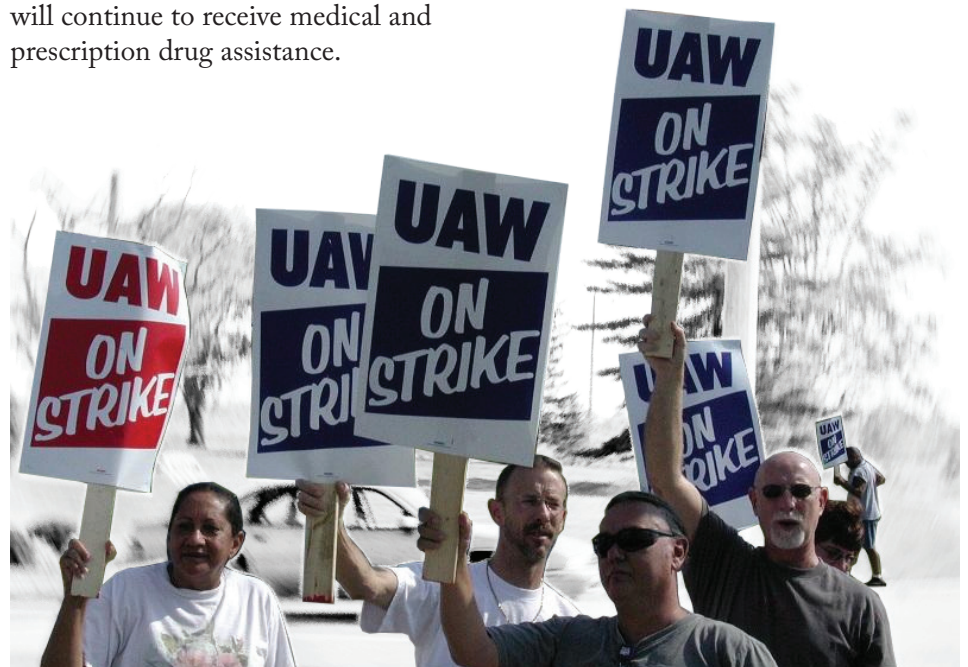
What happens if I cross a picket line?

All strike benefits cease immediately and appropriate action may be taken under the UAW Constitution.

Do I owe union dues on strike benefits?

No.

Source: <https://uaw.org/strike-faq/>



Contract Year for Beginners (Part Two)

by Katie Knox

Last month thirteen members from 2209 met at a sub-council meeting in Atlantic City, NJ to further discussions on bargaining, and to go through proposed resolutions. During this meeting it was discussed that Terry Dittes, UAW Vice President in charge of General Motors Department, has announced that he will not be giving out updates during the contract negotiations. This is because what can be bargained today can be taken off the table tomorrow.

Some of the mandatory topics that have to be negotiated are: Compensation (including hourly or salary rate, signing bonus, profit sharing, step increases, and benefits), Health Care plan design, Pension, Seniority, Workplace safety, Paid time off, Layoff and recall to work, Promotions, Professional enrichment, Tuition reimbursement.

The employer and union are not required to bargain over issues that are indirectly related to wages, hours and other work conditions. These issues are known as permissive bargaining subjects and they include: Cost of living adjustments, Issues involving current retirees, when a product can be manufactured, How a product can be manufactured, who should be in the union bargaining unit, and employer or union bargaining committee composition.

There are also illegal bargaining subjects which include "Closed Shop" clauses that require workers to be union members before they can be hired, provisions that discriminate against bargaining unit members based on race, sex, national origin, or other protected classification, "Hot cargo" clauses that allow members to refuse to handle struck goods, and seniority provisions for elected union leaders who don't handle contract administration or grievances.

The question was asked whether the topic of temps was mandatory, permissive or an illegal subject in regards to

bargaining and it was stated that it is a mandatory topic.

Another topic that the membership should be aware of is that if a strike happens in our future you will not receive strike pay unless we are out for longer than 8 days. During this time we will be mandated to participate in assigned strike duties. Also remember that Strike Pay is different than Sub Pay and we do not collect Sub Pay during a strike. Remember your local membership is here to serve you if you have any questions in the future. Please make sure that your contact information stays current at the hall as well. It was stated in the last issue but it is important to mention again that

everyone is eligible for strike pay if:

- You are in good standing on the day before the strike starts
- On active pay roll at start of the strike, members laid off, on workers compensation, or receiving sick and accidents benefits are not eligible
- Members must participate in the strike: picket assignments, strike committee, etc.

This information has been taken from UAW.org and I suggest that if you have further questions this website is a great resource that is available. We will continue to provide information to the local as soon as it becomes available to us.

Mercy Health St. Vincent Nursing Strike



UAW Local 2209 members on May 11th supporting St Vincent Nurses on strike in Toledo, Ohio.
(L-R) Nelson Rodriguez, Tara Black, Sheri Baker.

Photos by Nelson Rodriguez

Over 2,220 workers from St Vincent Registered Nurses, represented by UAW Local 2213 and Technical and Support, represented by UAW Local 12 went on strike in Toledo, Ohio.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT Courtney Lewis

by Roxanna Murray

Courtney Lewis is a union sister who has a passion for the people of our plant and our community. As President of the UWCSC (United Way Community Services Committee), a position she has held since she was first elected in 2015, she helps coordinate labor members from all over the city in activities in several annual events sponsored by the United Way. With Labor Liaison Mike Bynum, she and her committee help plan and coordinate activities like the Turnstone Picnic, United Way Day of Caring, The NALC Food Drive and more.

Mike Bynum commented “Courtney is a very dedicated community service advocate, and I enjoy working

with her. She is so energetic and wants to be sure others are being the best they can be as they give their time, talent and energies. Whenever I have the opportunity to involve her in important decisions, she is always willing to lend a hand or her expertise.”



Courtney Lewis
with (Joe & Jannie Burkhamer)

During the United Way Community Education Classes, which are offered every year, Courtney live streams on Facebook so people who are unable to attend in person can still profit from valuable

education on various topics such as financial preparation, ALICE (Assets Limited, Income Constrained, Employed), LGBTQ Support, Scams and more. Her live feeds resulted in over 100 hits on the United Way Facebook

page, and “people are still looking at the classes the Community Education class offered this year.” he said.

Courtney was hired permanently at General Motors in 2012, after having been a temp off and on for four years. She currently works 2nd shift, Trim 5. While she has an associate’s degree, her main focus right now is helping to get more work done in the community. Her mom and dad work in the plant now, her stepdad retired in 2008. Like so many of us, Courtney realized her earning potential was greater as a GM employee at this stage in her life.

Fighting against economic inequality is a passion for Courtney. Raising awareness through the UWCSC and through her union involvement keeps Courtney fired up. She shares on Facebook her passions to help raise awareness amongst her friends, engaging in discussions and encouraging everyone to get more involved in changing our world, rather than accepting what is.

The most important message Courtney wanted to share in this article is “the “union” doesn’t “do” or “not do” for us, we ARE the union. We all have to be there for one another. Even with all of our differences of opinions, we are all we have.”

Driver Beware

by Kevin Murray

They sure don’t make them like they used to. They don’t teach them same either but more on that in a few minutes. My wife and I have been considering buying a new Chevy Traverse. Thanks to a recent vacation out west, and my mother-in-law, we were able to drive just such a vehicle for the better part of a week to traverse, no pun intended, the desert southwest. This SUV is leaps and bounds a head of my first car, a 1978 Grand Marque, (purchased in 1991), in terms of style, gas mileage, safety, and legal seating capacity. Here are a couple of scenarios to better explain the differences: Old Car Vs. New Car.

Scenario 1 Lane Changes: Old

car, place hands at “10 and 2”, rotate counter clock wise to “9 and 1” and wait for the car to sashay over into the next lane. New car, hands same position, same rotation, but guess what? Your seat will vibrate! Why? Because you didn’t use your turn signal, thus activating a safety feature known as the accident avoidance response system.

Scenario 2 Taking a corner too fast: Old car, congratulations, you just learned how to drive on two wheels, learned some new curse words or invented a few. “Holy crap!” Followed by “now let’s see if we can do that again!” New car, same instilled excitement/fear only this time around, the ma-

neuver is accompanied by the traction control light on the dash flashing, soon to be followed by the somewhat calming voice of the OnStar representative asking you to “pull over”. What is this? Am I in high school being called down to the principal’s office, again!? Nope, just more built in safety.

Now, about that teaching part. I took Drivers Ed in the summer of 1991. The cost of the class to develop this lifelong skill, totally free. Now I am living with the joy and fear my parents must have been experiencing back then, my son is currently going through Drivers Ed. For those of you who don’t know, things have changed.

Continue on next page

Continued from *Driver Beware*

The courses are no longer free, so get ready to shell out \$385.00 and that's just for phase 1. Phase 2 is another \$50 bucks. The course is no longer a mere two weeks either, you and your young, soon to be "errand runner," have to endure months of training. Students must have a certain minimum number hours of day/night as well as city/highway driving tracked. Tracked by what you may ask? A log book? A responsible adult? No! An app on their phone!! The one thing we want our young drivers not to touch! I know right?! Clearly I don't make the rules.

This year at F.W.A. we don't have the traditional shut down. So why not use a couple of vacation days to reconnect with friends and family down the road. Share stories of first cars with up and coming drivers. Maybe go and kick the tires on one of these new fandangled rides for yourself. Wherever the road takes you, be safe out there. And for god's sake Siri, Google maps, Apple Car Play, and OnStar, shut up and let us drive!

DISCLAIMER: No GM vehicles were harmed in the writing of this article.

Who Are You?

by *Chrissy Mangrum*

So often I hear how much the Union has changed. Has it, really? I believe it is more that it is the people who have changed. Technology has made it so we don't have to interact with one another. I am just as guilty as most. Within three minutes of the start of my shift I already have my headphones in and I'm tuned into a podcast, book or music. What I'm not tuned into is my Brothers and Sisters around me.

Back in the day the only way to get through the day was to get to know each other better. You got through the day by listening to stories about hobbies, families, you got to see WHO that person was other than just a factory worker. Those commonalities are what weave us together.

It's much easier to not care too much about someone you don't know too much about. We all have these small fundamental similarities that make us have a string of connections. What am I talking about, you might ask? For example.. We both work

third shift. Check. We both have dogs. Check. We both come from a Union background. Check. The more we have in common, the deeper the bond.

We are constantly told about solidarity but we don't often take the time anymore to really explain what it is and why it's so important to our very way of life. Does it mean you absolutely love and adore your Brothers and Sisters, Absolutely not. What it does mean is that when worse comes to worst they can count on you to have their back.

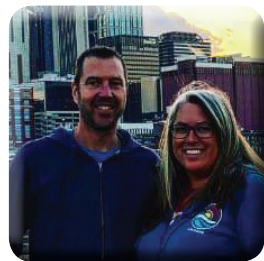
This is a contract year and we need to tighten up the ranks. I understand how ridiculous this may sound to some of you. I encourage you to put down your phone once a week and get to know someone around you that you've never spoken with before.

The Union has changed? Fine. Then let it be up to us to change it back. Let it be up to us to strengthen it and grow it to an unbreakable force. In case you have forgotten, YOU are the Union. It can only be what you make it to be.



By *Katie Knox*

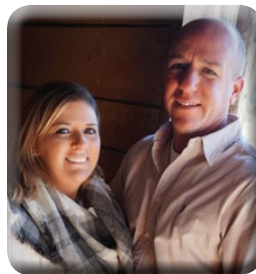
I've had the pleasure of attending weddings and watching proposals from members at the plant in the past. Recently two members just announced their engagement on the Members of UAW Local 2209 Facebook page where it was mentioned that if it wasn't for work they would've never met. It had me wonder how many other love connections were made while working at one of the plants. From a quick poll on Facebook, 60 members confirmed they either met their spouse or a significant other in the plant.



Scott & Amy Houston

Some members posted comments that went from adorable for instance when Amy Houston mentioned that her and Scott Houston met on the Motor line in 1997 and were mar-

Love is In the Air



Kristine & Dale Stutz

ried in 2003, to funny when Kristine Dilts posted that "she met her honey (Dale Stutz) where I make my money, now we make double money." In fact in August of 2013 I was on my first trip with Local 2209 to the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights March when it was announced on the bus that Kevin Murray proposed to then girlfriend Roxanna Lucas, they eventually married in November 2013.

It was so neat to see all of the responses that I received from the Facebook poll and I appreciate the feedback from our members. To all of the love connections from the past and in our future I wish you many years of happiness and the best of luck. Who knows where cupid's arrow will hit next.



Kevin & Roxanna Murray

Please share your Local Voices
with your family.



UAW Local 2209 5820 E 900 N PO Box 579 Roanoke IN 46783	Nonprofit Org U.S. Postage PAID Indianapolis IN Permit #593
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Did You Know?

Automotive industry in the United States (General Motors)

General Motors Corporation (GM), the company that would soon become the world's largest automaker, was founded in 1908 by William Durant. Durant had previously been a carriage maker, and had taken control of Buick in 1904. The company initially acquired Buick, Oldsmobile and Oakland (later to become Pontiac) in 1908. The next year GM acquired Cadillac, along with a number of other car companies and parts suppliers. Durant also was interested in acquiring Ford, but after initial merger talks, Henry Ford decided to keep his company independent.

