



# REGION 2B UPDATE

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

First off, I want to wish every single one of you a Happy Easter Holiday! Spring is in the air, and I truly hope that you get to spend some quality time with family and/or friends over the weekend. Down time is an important part of our well-being, so it is important to rest your body and mind. Don't worry, the work will be there. Work is always there, and some companies seem to believe that we are meant to spend our lives working. This is just one reason that Unions are so important. We deserve dignity in our labor. We give our lives to the companies and want to be treated fairly and justly. For without our labor, the companies don't make their money. But, make no mistake, as union members we need to be activists by supporting each other. We don't have to agree, but to gain power, we must support each other. Article 41 of our Constitution, Duties of Local Union Members, makes this clear, you can find your constitution at [uaw.org](http://uaw.org).

One of the duties of your region is to support and assist the locals. We do this in various ways. One is by helping our Local Chapters and Units with contract negotiations. I have been listing the Units and Locals that have reached tentative agreements (TA's), not only celebrating the hard work of the Local Unions and the Regional Staff, but in hopes that our members can see how diverse Region 2B is. You should all know the energy and emotion that goes into these contracts impacts every single member of our UAW. Sometimes we win big, sometimes we don't. None of this work is perfect and it's not easy. The fact is, its you, the members that get to vote on the contracts, this is because they belong to you. Here are the agreements reached within the last month:

- Local 1437 at Durez Corporation. Thanks to the local bargaining committee for all their hard work and to Region 2B servicing representative, Chad Cattell.
- Local 12 at Glass City Federal Credit Union. Thanks to the local bargaining committee for all their hard work and to Region 2B servicing representative, Denise Barber.

- Local 1050 at Howmet - Forge & Wheel Plants. Thanks to the local bargaining committee for all their hard work and to Region 2B servicing representative, Brian Cole.
- Local 1389 at Bowmar, LLC. Thanks to the local bargaining committee for all their hard work and to Region 2B servicing representative, Ryan Hiestand.

As I have said from day one, education is a top priority. Just in the last month the region has had training classes for UAW 101, Financial Officers, and Election Committees. These have happened at different locals, so I want to thank the locals that participated along with the locals that hosted these classes. We learn every single day. When we focus and choose to learn about our union and our roles and responsibilities, we grow power for all workers.

### **ORGANIZING**

We have multiple organizing drives happening throughout our region right now. I don't list these because we are still under the radar with the companies. That said, know that the goal is to gain workers power through organizing. On the national front, I hope you all know that Volkswagen will be voting to join our UAW April 17-19. This is a big deal as the Big 3 may soon be the Big 4. We won't stop there folks, we will continue to use our momentum in the labor movement to grow our membership. In numbers comes power.

### **POLITICS**

In Ohio, Primary Day was March 19th, and we are now focusing on the November elections. While we didn't get every candidate on our side elected, we had some good wins. In Indiana, Primary Day is May 7th. That means that there is still time for those in Indiana to get out and vote for labor friendly candidates. We are affiliated with the AFL-CIO in Indiana, and I am a huge supporter of the "Path to Power" Program. This is where we find and support union members to run for public office. I encourage any union member that is interested in running for public office to do so. Getting like-minded and labor friendly union members elected to public office is an essential way we can gain power for working people. Workers built our country; unions built the middle class. Please at least make sure you vote for labor friendly candidates; our future depends on it!

Finally, I want to again thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve. I do enjoy the early mornings and late nights. If you have tried to reach me personally, I always respond in a timely manner. Your issues and concerns are my issues and concerns. If we work together, and support each other, we will build our solidarity and that is where our power lies. This is never about any one of us, this is about all of us. Our continued fight is about leaving the next generation the opportunity to keep pushing forward for working people everywhere. May God Bless you all.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Green".

Dave Green  
Director, UAW Region 2B