



LOCAL 211 NEWS

Union Proud from Defiance, Ohio



Our success is attributed to the rank and file—the working men and women—of our local union!
Chartered 1948 uawlocal211.com October 2024

UAW LOCAL 211 RETIREE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON THURSDAY- DECEMBER 5, 2024

Come and enjoy a good meal and fellowship with past co-workers, friends and our union families.

There will be a cash 50/50 DRAWING, DOORPRIZES, SEVERAL GIFT CARDS AND FUN GIFT DRAWINGS.
Seating is limited to the first 225 registrations.

Registrations will be accepted beginning Friday November 1, 2024
DEADLINE TO REGISTER: 3:00 p.m., TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2024

COST of MEALS:

- Retirees who pay \$1 Monthly Union Dues...\$20.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$2 Monthly Union Dues...\$10.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$3/\$4 Monthly Union Dues...\$15.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$5 up to \$9 Monthly Union Dues...\$5.00 per meal
- Retirees who pay \$10 or more Monthly Union Dues...no charge
- Non dues paying members...\$32.00 per meal

DETACH AND RETURN FORM BELOW

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: UAW Local 211

Name: _____

Number of Meals _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Mail or bring form to: UAW Local 211 Secretary
2120 Baltimore Street
Defiance, OH 43512
Phone: 419-784-5399

Surviving Spouses Welcome

Questions should be directed to retiree board members or call Lisa Rankin at 419-784-5399

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR ON DECEMBER 5, 2024



President's Report

By Larry Cooper

GM Unit had two retirements as of October 1st, Sheri Baker with 32 years of service and Kevin Gerken with 34.9 years of service. Sheri has been with us for many years and will continue to serve the Local Union as our Financial Secretary.

We appreciate everything you have done over the years for our Local and I am happy to get to continue to work with you.

Strike fund as of May 31st is \$751,204,456.91. During the month of May there were eight strikes.

In the upcoming months the Local Union will start an Organizing Committee. There will be additional information on this committee coming soon.

We will be holding an amalgamated meeting on Sunday October 20th at 2:00 P.M. This is a meeting where the entire Local 211 active members can come and voice any concerns. Just a reminder to all elected and appointed members; you are required to attend this meeting.

The Richard T. Gosser Scholarship forms are still available at the Work Centers or the UAW Hall. These Scholarships must be postmarked by October 15, 2024.

Beginning September 28th through January 7th there will be a Local 211, UAW "Big Buck Contest" The information is posted on the communication boards. If anyone has questions, please contact anyone from the Recreation Committee.

The Veterans' Committee is also hosting a Breakfast for all Local 211 UAW Veterans, Active and Retired on Monday November 11th at the UAW Hall. The breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.

If you see new faces in the plant, please make them feel welcome, show them how to work safely and show them Solidarity. I would like to invite all the new hires to join us for the Local 211 UAW GM Meetings. You can meet the officers and see our beautiful Union Hall and grounds. We welcome you all, so please take a little time to come and join us. I also hope the new hires at our Satellite Units attend their bi-monthly meetings. You will get information needed from the Union officials and ask any questions you may have. Our officers work very hard for our memberships and attending meetings is a huge "Thank You" for all their hard work, remember they are all working for you. You will see the meeting dates and locations on the

back of our newsletters.

October CAP meeting has been changed to Tuesday October 15th. Doors open at 5:00 with a meal served, 5:30 is the meeting. With this being an election year; attending CAP meetings will keep you informed and educated on the candidates and issues in the local and state government.

Unions work, and not just for the workers being represented, but for all WORKERS!



Chairman's Report

By Rob Egnor

Summer has come and now on its way out. I hope everyone had a great summer and enjoyed what they could. With the end of summer, on come projects for the fall. Always take a minute or two to think about what needs to be done so you can do it safely.

At the plant, our schedules look to remain steady throughout the year. With this brings a lot of overtime for us to meet the demand. Not only do we have the demand from our customers but we also have our challenges of keeping the equipment running properly. I want to say thank you and I appreciate how hard our members work to keep our product flowing. I know it is not always easy to make this happen every day of the week. We are constantly bringing up issues that we hear from the floor and have seen some much needed attention. Our team here in Defiance takes a great deal of pride in putting out good quality product and making sure we meet our customer demands. I know personally that when we do not get to perform up to standard when it is no fault of our members on the floor, it does not set well with me. I do hope everyone gets the support they need to get us back on track to providing our customers with the adequate product and not have to ever look for outside help from here on out.

We do have some additional information on the next wave of the SAP announced in the 2023 National Agreement. The next phase in the sign up will start in November 24 and end in January 25. You must sign up during the allotted timeframe and be eligible to retire by the end of 2024 and be pension eligible. When more information comes to us we will make sure to communicate as soon as possible.

For manpower in the plant we currently have 355 production and 143 skilled trades with 32 of our members on leave. We recently have brought in an additional 15 appendix A production members



and had a request for 5 electricians, 1 millwright and 1 pattern maker. We did not get any accepts on the skilled appendix A postings other than 1 that applied for the pattern maker position. The offer did get rescinded due to incorrect classification. With that said we will be hiring from outside of the company and should be seeing some new faces in the plant soon. Please take the time to make the new UAW-GM Defiance member feel welcome and make sure they are staying safe.

I want to say thank you for all your hard work here in Defiance. When you are at work I want to remind you to take the time to do your duties as safe as possible. There is not one single task in our facility that is worth risking an injury or worse. We all need to go home as we came in to work. Thank you for helping our plant in delivering the best quality castings to our customers in a safe manner.

intelligence. When Trump was in office, he appointed pro-corporate board members to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), the agency that was put in place in the 1930s to protect America's workers' right to organize and protect us from unfair labor practices. His appointments were a pay back to corporate America. They blocked, delayed and ruled against our union's charges many, many times.

The Republican legislators' plan is to push for a National Right to Work law. This is a back door approach to defund unions. How, you ask? This legislation would give non-dues paying members all the same wages, benefits and rights as dues paying members. A free ride.

So please don't tie the hands of our union leadership when you go to the polls. We need your help and solidarity to keep our access to federal and state lawmakers, otherwise we will be standing outside looking in as they pass laws to weaken unions and diminish our protected rights.

We stood together in Solidarity on the picket lines, so please don't turn your backs on our union leadership now.

We are stronger and our voices are louder when we stand together!



Retiree Chairman's Report By Ted Fleming

Voting is one of the most important responsibilities we have. The UAW Constitution calls on each of us to participate in political and legislative actions. There is no better way to support the UAW's political efforts.

I cannot overstate the importance of getting our UAW endorsed candidates elected. Our jobs literally depend upon it.

In Solidarity
UAW Region 2B Director
David Green.

Note: The above message has been sent to all UAW 2B staff, CAP Councils and local union leaders.

I could not agree more. The UAW cannot achieve our goals of economic and social justice for our members if we fail to recognize and support candidates who support us. Walter Reuther said it best. The ballot box is tied to the bread box. If we as union members turn against our leadership at the polls, the message we send is "there is NO Solidarity in the ranks of our union today". We are not the union we once were. We are a divided union. Abe Lincoln said "A divided house will not stand".

The Republican Party leadership are not pro union. In fact, they are the exact opposite. They really don't hide it.

Sure, Trump put together a fake union picket line to fool our membership into believing he was with us. I viewed it as an insult to our membership's



Retirees Report By Ivan Burgei, Recording Sec

Fall has officially arrived with the weather turning colder and the trees turning to autumn orange and brown. Don't forget to turn your clocks the first Sunday in November.

We went to the Region 2B Retirees Conference at Sawmill Creek, Huron, Ohio for an update on information that could be very helpful to all retirees.

Registration was Monday September 23rd from 9:00 – 9:50 A.M. At 10:00 Ted Fleming opened the meeting. Bill Thomas led us with a prayer for all of our deceased UAW brothers and sisters. Mike Palmer, Region 2B Financial Secretary, led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 10:30 Mike Walden, President of National United Committee to Protect Pensions, talked about the stock market crash and how it affected people's pensions and home mortgages. He spoke about the Butch Louis Act and how it protected billions of dollars of working people's pensions.



At 11:30, Norm Wernert from Ohio Alliance for Retired Workers gave us the history of Social Security. President FDR signed this bill so we could live out our life with dignity and respect. Norm said there are 435 members in Congress when the Inflation Reduction Act was signed to reduce our pharmaceutical drugs 75% to 80%. Our Social Security needs to be expanded and the best way is to raise the income max from \$168,000 to \$400,000 and not by raising the age to 70.

After lunch Indiana Chairperson, Jim King gave us a demonstration on how to win an election. He said in order to win you have to go after the people who either don't vote or won't vote.

Ohio Chairman, Bob Masterson ran down all the numbers of retirees in Florida, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio.

We spent the rest of Monday with the nomination and voting for Region 2B Vice President to replace Charlie Shepherd who stepped down. Monday ended at 4:15 P.M.

Tuesday September 24th at 8:45 A.M. President Ted Fleming continued with the conference meeting by declaring Brenda Smith of Local 1111 as the winner of the Vice President Region 2B Election. She was opposed by Ron Bendixon from Local 685.

NaDiyah Freeman briefed us on fall preventions that occur mostly with elderly senior citizens. Being physically and socially active can help you to be independent. You may need bathroom grab bars, walk in showers, raised toilets etc. These are very helpful.

Exercise at least 30 minutes a day at moderate, intensity, five days a week. Have your vision checked at least once a year and raise up out of your chair slowly to allow your blood pressure to adjust and prevent dizziness. Then we all done some exercises to check our balance ability.

At 10:07 A.M. Fatina Perkins the Director of Community Outreach and Advocacy on Area aging, said to do your best to stay in your homes and communities. Home care and Assisted Living is the next option. She covered the Seven dimensions of wellness which are Physical, Emotional, Intellectual, Spiritual, Environmental, Social and Occupational.

If you think you need help, don't hesitate to ask for it.

Please be careful and we hope to see you at our November Retirees Meeting November 7th at 10:30 A.M.

International Women's Conference

Submitted by Sheri Baker
Women's Committee Chair

I would like to thank the membership for sending me to the Women's International Conference August 25-30 in Chicago IL. There was a lot of excitement at the conference as this was the first ever Women's Conference that was held off site of Black Lake. It was also the first ever combined conference for the Women's Department and TOP Department.

There were 415 delegates in attendance and Region 4 Director Brandon Campbell got us fired up. Director Campbell informed us that women workers that are under a union contract get paid 19% more than non-union workers. On the average women that are not in a union get paid 18 cents less an hour than men. Director Campbell reminded us of John F. Kennedy's famous quote, "A rising tide lifts all boats." This references the data that workers who work in areas where there are union, on average, will receive a higher rate of pay. Companies must remain competitive because they need workers.

Director Campbell also spoke about the ProAct. This was a piece of legislation that would make it easier for workers to organize and become members of a labor union. The bill would have made it an unfair labor practice to require or coerce employees to attend employer meetings. They do this to discourage union membership, and it also prohibits employers from entering into agreements with employees which the employees would waive the right to join collective or class-action litigation.

Region 1 Director Laura Dickerson is also the Director of the TOPS Department. Director Dickerson educated us on who the TOPS members are. UAW TOPS members work at the Museum of Modern Art, Harper Collins Publishers, St Vincent (Toledo), LifeFLight Children's Hospitals, health insurance providers like Blue Cross Blue Shield, HAP, the state of Michigan employees (local 6000, the largest) and the Smart Buses. These are all examples of Public Sector members.

The private sector TOPS are members from MAC Heavy Truck clerical/engineers, Cornell University (currently on strike), Legal Aid attorneys, Indiana State AFL-CIO and there are 22 newly organized units.

Laura told us of her favor quoted, "You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines. You make progress by implementing ideas". Director Dickerson encouraged us to implement those ideas to move this great union into the future.

Stacey Davis Gates, President of Chicago teacher



union, encouraged us to not limit our labor work to a contract. Go out into the community and let the community see what labor is.

Director LaShawn English is not only the Women's Department director, but she also directs Region 1A. Director English encouraged us to make women's issues demands at the bargaining table. Get these issues in our collective bargaining agreements. We, as women, should not have to rely on legislation to go to the restroom while pregnant and working. We, as women, should not have to have legislation to stop harassment. Please seek out your Local Women's Committee for help with any of these issues.

President Shawn Fain gave us an update on how contract negotiations went and continuing to go. President Fain gave us an update that the majority of skilled trades are men and we need more women in the trades. "The fight against corporate greed is the working class fighting for a common cause. This is about the workers getting a fair shake".

I look forward to educating the membership from what I learned over that week. Again, thank you and Solidarity.

Congratulations Veterans Committee



Well Deserved Achievement

The UAW Local 211 Veterans Committee has donated their time for several years at the Sandusky Veterans Home. Each year the committee will raise funds to help UAW Local 1005 provide an afternoon of food, music and appreciation for the Veteran's.

Over the past couple of years there has been an award handed out to the local that raises the most money for this event. This year, UAW Local 211 Veterans Committee brought home this award.

Thank you, Bill Jackson, Danny Green, Reyes Ramirez, Tony Curtis, Mark Friesner and Brad Baldwin. You all have done a wonderful job representing the membership at UAW Local 211.

Our sympathy for your loss...

To our bereaved members and their families, we offer our condolences for the loss of their loved ones. We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of:

- Ronald Wheeler – Retired 4/92
- Juan Villarreal – Retired 1/2000
- Robert Johnson – Retired 9/98
- Charles Petty – Retired 3/99
- William Jurcevich – Retired /06
- R.T. Bowser – Retired 12/96
- Isaiah Vance – Retired 10/03
- Nathaniel Leftwich – Retired 1/01
- Betty Crisp – Retired 5/07
- Isaac Shelton – Retired 8/08
- Alexander Fodor – Retired 5/01
- William Rucker – Retired 5/05
- Frank Ordway – Retired 3/08
- Robert Kuhlman – Retired 8/94
- Phillip Hilvers – Retired 7/2000
- Donald Whitman – Retired 6/06
- John Hillis – Retired 8/94
- Delmar Miller – Retired 9/92
- Robert Schaffer – Retired 1/99
- Eric Elston – Retired 11/97
- Baldemar Bejarano – Retired 5/05
- Adolpho Noriega – Retired 6/06
- Robert Liffick – Retired 4/04
- Gary Fairchild – Retired 6/06
- Frederick Heitmeyer – Retired 4/05
- Eugene Deitrick – Retired 12/96
- Jimmy Wiles – Retired 2/94
- Paul Vernet – Retired 4/22
- Dewey Tacey – Retired 1/2000
- Jesse Gutierrez – Retired 3/93
- Sanders McClure – Retired 3/93
- Jaquin Ramon – Retired /98
- Harold Williams – Retired 5/80



Thank You Mr. Otto Beindorf
Submitted by Sheri Baker



UAW Local 211 Veterans Board at the UAW Hall was started quite a few years ago. In that time, we have only ever had one person engrave the names of our 211 Veterans on the plaque for that wall. Otto Beindorf has engraved every name on our wall to date. Mr. Beindorf is officially retiring from his trade this year. I sat down with him to have a conversation and get some history of our Veterans Wall, also to thank him for his dedication to our organization. Otto Beindorf has made 889 plaques for Local 211. He believes that the wall started around 2004. Our Veterans Board is the only one that he has done.

Mr. Beindorf not only makes our plaques but over the years he has also made signs and door signs out of metal. He has been in business since 1968 where at that time he would make the signs by hand. When the computer programming became available, he upgraded.

Otto Beindorf is a retired teacher and principal from Defiance school district; therefore, he was a member of the OEA. He has been a resident of Defiance County his entire life and will soon turn 92 in November. Mr. Beindorf has decided to fully retire due to spending more time with his wife, and his equipment is in the basement of his home, making it harder for him to get the plaques made.

“I appreciate all our military and have a lot of respect for the Veterans. I have enjoyed making every plaque for this wall.” Otto, we cannot thank you enough for your dedication to making the plaques for our Veterans at UAW Local 211.

**RETIRED WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS
DINNER FOR ALL RETIRED
LOCAL 211 WOMEN**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.
HENRY'S BANQUET ROOM- 810 N. LOCUS
STREET IN OTTAWA OHIO.

MENU: CHOICE OF TWO MEATS, VEGGIE,
POTATO, SALAD AND A ROLL \$14.99

DRINKS FOR AN ADDITIONAL COST.

PLEASE BRING A CHILD'S GIFT FOR TOYS
FOR TOTS (YOU DO NOT NEED TO WRAP
THE GIFT)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT

ROSIE ORTIZ AT 419-439-6434

Civil and Human Rights Seminar
Submitted by Sandy Stanfield

On Wednesday, September 11th, I was invited to attend a Civil and Human Rights Seminar in Lima Ohio at the Ford UAW Hall, Local 1219.

The trainer was Mark Willingham and he spoke on the basic policy and procedure for the Civil Rights Committee.

We learned about the origin of Civil Rights Laws, which started with the Civil Rights Act of 1866.

Mark covered topics from three different rights we have in addition to Civil and Human Rights. He also talked about discrimination and harassment and offensive conduct.

He spoke about the different laws and agencies to become familiar with and the basic rules to follow. There were 19 that showed up and three of us were from GM, the rest were all from Ford. This was a great learning experience and I am thankful to the UAW members at Ford that invited area UAW locals to attend this training seminar at their Local 1219.

RETIREE SPOTLIGHT

If you like to be featured in the “Retiree Spotlight” or know someone who would,

PLEASE CONTACT

Lisa Rankin at the UAW Hall
(419) 784-5399 or

email Tina Cattell at
uawlocal211web@gmail.com.

UNION - MADE
Thanksgiving

<p>SET THE TABLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL-CLAD COOKWARE • CORNINGWARE • PYREX 	<p>HAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APPLETON FARMS HAM • COOK'S HAM • TYSON HAM 	<p>VEGETABLES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDY BOY • BIRDS EYE • MURANAKA FARM
<p>FRESH WHOLE TURKEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BUTTERBALL • FOSTER FARMS 	<p>STUFFING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MANISCHEWITZ • STROEHMANN BAKERY PRODUCTS 	<p>POTATOES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BETTY CROCKER SPECIALTY POTATOES • DOLE FRESH POTATOES
<p>BREAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUNT MILLIE'S BREADS • PILLSBURY ROLLS • BUNNY BREAD 	<p>PIE FILLING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEL MONTE FRESH APPLES • KROGER PUMPKIN PIE • MOTT'S APPLESAUCE 	

AFL-CIO



★

YOUR VOTE COUNTS.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS.

Early Voting in Ohio starts October 8, 2024
at your county board of elections
Election Day November 5, 2024 6:30 AM- 7:30 PM

UAWENDORSEMENTS.ORG



CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Big Buck Contest - September 28 - January 7, 2025**
- Craft Fair at the UAW Hall - Saturday, October 19, 9am-3pm**
- Defiance Halloween Parade - Saturday, October 26**
- Presidential Election - Tuesday, November 5**
- Women's Committee Quarter Auction - Saturday, November 9, 5pm**
- Veteran's Breakfast - Monday, November 11 - 8am-11am**
- Retiree Women's Christmas Party - Tuesday, December 3**
- Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo - November 22 - December 31**
- UAW Retiree Christmas - Thursday, December 5**

Specific details regarding each event can be found at www.uawlocal211.com

United Auto Workers
Amalgamated Local 211
2120 Baltimore Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Defiance, Ohio
Permit NO. 342

United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211
2120 Baltimore Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512

Telephone: 419.784.5399
Facsimile: 419.784.5838
Email: local211@defnet.com

UAW Local 211 Unit Meetings
Please confirm exact dates and times.

General Motors

Active, Wednesday, December 4 (UAW Hall)

Retiree, Thursday, November 7 (UAW Hall)

Herbert E. Orr

Tuesday, November 5 (Paulding Fire House)

Midwest Community FCU

Wednesday, December 4 (UAW Hall)

Sims Metal Management

Tuesday, November 5 (UAW Hall)

Johns Manville

Tuesday, November 5 (UAW Hall)

Powers & Sons Wednesday, December 11 (Drop Time Winery & Tap House)

DFM Monday, November 11 (UAW Hall)

Teijin Automotive Technologies Monday, December 9 (USW Hall, Van Wert)

Defiance Area UAW CAP Council Tuesday, November 12

Local 211 News

Official Publication of
United Auto Workers,
Amalgamated Local 211

Visit uawlocal211.com.



News Editors: Tonya Huss, Cody Pittman
& Sheri Baker

Web Editors: Mitch Chandler & Tina Cattell

POLICY OF THE LOCAL 211 NEWSLETTER

The views or opinions expressed by the individual writers in *Local 211 News* are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Local 211 administration. The editors reserve the right to edit all material submitted. Any submissions for *Local 211 News* may be e-mailed to: local211@defnet.com or dropped off at the UAW hall. Articles must be received by the Friday following the GM Unit membership meetings which are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

Here's a reminder! If you find a mistake in *Local 211 News*, please realize that we have not included it on purpose. But, if you feel inclined, bring it to our attention and every attempt will be made to correct it.



Local 211 News
is proudly printed
by Keystone Press,
Toledo, Ohio.