



Voice of 2069



*Happy
Memorial
Day*

Local 2069 Hall Hours: Mon. - Thurs. - 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday 6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

P: (540) 674-5130 ~ F: (540) 674-2531 ~ region8.uaw.org/uaw-local-2069 ~ voiceof2069@yahoo.com

THE MAGAZINE FOR UAW LOCAL 2069 MEMBERS ~ Vol.04152025

UAW Local 2069 President

Billy Ogle



Greetings All,

Summer is just around the corner! So, we can finally look forward to vacations, cookouts, and nice weather! I hope everyone had a great Easter weekend!

With Memorial Day coming upon us please do not forget to attend the Veterans Memorial Day Service at the Hall on Memorial Day weekend. If you have never attended before, I urge you to do so as this service honors our Nation's finest, and it will touch your heart. Also, I would like to personally thank each of our Veterans for the sacrifice that you and your families made to protect us and give us our freedom.

As most of us know, orders are slow, not just at NRV but also for all OEM's. After speaking with the Presidents at other Locals, although our orders are not great, ours is not as bad as some. I know the big question is whether there will be additional down weeks or even a further reduction in manpower. At this time, it is a guess for all parties involved. With that being said, I know unemployment is still an issue for some. The VEC office in Radford has been helpful in fixing several issues for members during the down weeks. Morgan Griffith has also been of considerable help to our members and his number is 1-540-381-5671 if you would like to reach his office.

There have been several changes to our HR Dept. As mentioned earlier, Rex Johnson, HR Director, has retired and is being replaced with Sara Golden from Hagerstown Powertrain. Our Labor Relations Director, Brett Westerfeld, has also resigned and we currently have no news about a replacement.

I hope everyone is enjoying the much-deserved warmer weather.

In Solidarity,

Billy Ogle



Hourly Bargaining Chair

Tony Burnette



Greetings All,

The start of 2025 has most definitely seen its challenges already. This year, for many in the industry, it has been filled with down weeks, layoffs, and the forecast for the rest of the year is very unclear. A recovery of the market in the second half of this year may be dependent on the resolution of the current regulatory uncertainties. Tariffs like aluminum, copper, and steel will play a big part in industry where everyone will be facing issues and adjustments to adapt to the market change. The EPA Clean Truck regulations remain a consideration in fleet replacements for transport companies. Companies considering prebuy are taking a more cautious approach, waiting for clearer signs on regulatory enforcements.

Vacation

If you have an issue with your vacation being denied, contact your committeeperson and they can help verify that the allotment has been met and is accurate. Always attain and keep an approved copy of your vacation form for your records.

ARTICLE 34, Section 8 "Employees who have scheduled a vacation and who subsequently transfer into a different work area, department or shift will be guaranteed their previously scheduled vacation. Vacation slots created by an employee's transfer out of a work group, department or shift will not be available to other employees, unless Management determines, pursuant to Section 14 below (listed in the contract book), and on a case-by-case basis, if it can accommodate the vacation slot request".

Overtime Records

Are overtime records in your department displayed and accessible? ARTICLE 18, Section 1, subsection g "Supervisors shall maintain current overtime records for their department. Department overtime records shall be displayed in a location accessible to all employees in that department".

Celebrate our Freedom!

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May and is a day dedicated to honoring and remembering the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. It is a time for reflection on the sacrifices made by these American patriots. Remember the weight of this day. In the words of Thomas Sherlock, "The most important thing parents can tell their children is that we, as Americans, are able to enjoy the freedoms we do because there have been men and women willing to sacrifice their lives so that we can be free. We should all stop and remember this on Memorial Day."

In Solidarity,

Tony Burnette



Salary Bargaining Chair

Bill Richardson



Greetings All,

We are now at another Union won holiday and everyone has already been mowing, enjoying outside activities hopefully and found something to enjoy helping them relax. We all have had enough stress here at work to last for a while.

We are still struggling with getting orders at the moment. It is industrywide. We just need to do our jobs the best way we can daily, and make sure our premium product is perceived that way in the marketplace.

Also, as I am writing this article, we are about to host the Area Sub Council for Skilled Trades. Typically, we have this meeting twice a year. We meet at different locations each time, but we are the host this time.... It usually has a lot of different Freightliner facilities involved with us, which I feel like it is a great thing. We may be competitors in the market, but our groups get along great together. They experience a lot of the same things we do. We learn together! Thank the Union for allowing us to participate!

I want to say just a little bit about our situation in HR. As we know right now, the person handling Salary issues will be Leisa Jones, and Susan Turner for Hourly issues. With Brett Westerfield and Rex Johnson both leaving they have had to split the workload for daily issues. Any major issues we have been instructed that the new Labor Director, Sara Golden, will be handling. Just so the membership knows.

I want to take this time to talk about one of my Committeepersons, Kenny Bratton. Kenny has been a Committeeperson or an Alternate Committeepersons for over 20 years. Kenny has also been to the negotiating table once in 2008 and handled stuff here at the plant other years when he wasn't at the table. Kenny was one of the individuals that helped to get the Union here for Salary. I am grateful for all the work he has put in both as a Committeeperson and as all levels of Designer and is currently a Lead Design Liaison. Kenny has always been willing to help and has been a servant to the people. I can speak on my own behalf; Kenny helped me when I first came to work here in 1988. We were both in the Chassis group and Kenny helped me learn the Volvo way of doing things. As I am writing this article, Kenny only has a few days left here at the plant, as you get this to read, we will be at Kenny's retirement date. There are a lot of things I can thank Kenny for, but the thing I want to thank him the most for is being a friend. Kenny will be missed by the Committee and by the group he works with. Job well done Kenny! You have earned your chance to leave on your terms. Best of luck in this next chapter of your life!



Remember red shirt Wednesdays, and your monthly Union Meetings!

In Solidarity,

Bill Richardson





Participate in the Local *By Joining A Committee*



Thousands of UAW members participate in local union standing committees, sub-committees or programs. They are rewarded by a feeling of accomplishment, working with their co-workers on meaningful projects, and “being the change” of what they want to see for working people. But we need many more activists at the table to help.

By working every day to develop and expand our standing and other committees, we can help meet the needs of our members and community.

As members, you are the lifeblood of your local union. Some of the most rewarding experiences you will have as a UAW member will come from volunteering to help with a local union standing committee. All UAW local unions must have standing committees to make a lasting union and community impact. Whether you’re interested in veterans, politics, community work, civil rights, education, recreation, or something else, you can fire up your local union by volunteering to serve on a committee or helping with a committee project as your time permits.

Not quite ready to sign up for a committee, but would like to volunteer? Many times Committees have events and would appreciate extra volunteers. If you see an upcoming event and would like to participate, please contact the chairperson of the committee holding the event to offer your help. You can find a list of committee chairs below:

Kenny Jessie, Constitution and Bylaws Chair
Donna Wilson, Education Chair
Nick Ferra, Community Services Chair
Chris Via, Citizen and Legislative (CAP) Chair
Tena Simpkins, Women’s Chair
(VACANT), Consumer Affairs Chair

Erroll Hash, Union Label Chair
Dawn Harvey, Conservation and Recreation Chair
Vicki Meadows, Civil and Human Rights Chair
William Price, Veteran’s Chair
Scott Wright, Chaplaincy Chair
Missy Edwards, Election Chair (Elected)

In Memory Of Recent Deceased Retirees

Wilbert R. Viars	January 31st, 2025
Joseph Holt	February 21st, 2025
Forrest (Bo) King	February 27th, 2025
Thelma Reece (Spouse of David Reece)	March 7th, 2025
Susan Anderson (Spouse of Michael Anderson)	March 7th, 2025
Norma Carico (Spouse of David Carico)	March 21st, 2025
Ann Bernice Johnson	April 1st, 2025



Veteran's Committee Chair

William Price

Greetings,

The Veteran's Committee has been working hard planning the Memorial Day Ceremony and the Ride for Freedom/Run to the Wall. This ceremony will be our 32nd edition and will begin at 8:00am on Saturday, May 24th at the Union Hall. The ceremony will be held in honor and remembrance of our nation's military heroes who died in the service of our country, particularly those who died in battle. We also remember, honor, and remind ourselves of the nearly 81,000 American POW/MIA's still unaccounted for around the world.

This year's ceremony is hosted by Jeff Walke and will feature guest speaker US Army Veteran Mike Henshaw. Mr. Henshaw retired from the Department of Veterans Services as Director of Cemeteries and is an Army Veteran with about 30 years of service.

In addition to Mr. Henshaw, we will have flag raising, music, bagpipes, 21-gun salute and much more. The ceremony will also serve as the starting point for our annual ride to DC to join AMVets Rolling to Remember motorcycle demonstration, seeking to raise awareness of the mental health crisis affecting thousands of our American Veterans and demanding full accounting of America's Missing in Action and Prisoners of War.

Please start making plans to join us for the ceremony. If you would like more information or would like to join the ride, please see the link on our Facebook page for hotel reservations or contact a Veterans Committee member.

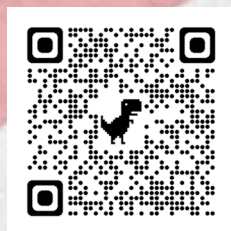
Our gun raffle is now under way, and as always, we cannot thank you enough for your participation and help in raising funds. Your support is crucial for us to complete our mission.

And lastly, a limited number of Ride for Freedom/ Run to the Wall T-shirts will soon be available for purchase. These limited 2025 edition shirts will be available at the Union Hall and from any Veterans Committee member.

Thank you for all your support. Please consider joining the Veterans Committee or getting involved with any of the Local's Standing Committees.

In Solidarity,

William Price



<u>Application for UAW Veterans Card</u>	
Local Union: _____	Region: _____
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City, State, Zip: _____	
Branch of Service: _____	
Telephone Number: _____	





Memorial Day means something different to everyone depending on who you ask.

For the kids in your neighborhood, it likely marks the beginning of summer and the opening of the community pools. For others, it means a long weekend and an opportunity to gather with friends and family. Some see it more as a day for deals on consumer items as the holiday has gradually become increasingly commercialized.

But for many, Memorial Day is an opportunity to remember friends who paid the ultimate price and are no longer with us. Some approach the day seriously and with a somber spirit; others may choose to remember their loved ones by gathering around a grill and raising a cold one in their honor. Many will do both.

The holiday started after the Civil War, according to the Department of Veteran Affairs, when Army Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, a leader of a Union veterans organization, called for May 30 to be known as "Decoration Day," saying it was "a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers." There are also reports of the tradition starting in the South when women decorated not only the graves of Confederate soldiers but the graves of Union soldiers as well.

Logan suggested that the graves of the war dead be guarded "with sacred vigilance ... Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

After World War I, the day was "expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars," the VA said, and was declared a national holiday by Congress in 1971 to be celebrated on the last Monday in May. Then in 2000, "The National Moment of Remembrance Act" was signed into law, encouraging Americans everywhere to pause at 3 p.m. local time "for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation," according to the VA.

Marine Corps veteran Carl Forsling made the argument in 2018 that the "best way to think of Memorial Day is not as a national military funeral, but as a national wake. We have already shed our tears for fallen comrades. There is nothing wrong with shedding a few more, especially for the recently departed, but a better way to cherish their memories is to spend a moment reflecting on all the good things their sacrifices enabled the rest of us to enjoy."

- Haley Britzky





Women's Committee Chair

Tena Simpkins

Happy Spring!

I would like to thank the ones who participated in the dress as Rosie the Riveter Day contest. Everyone who participated looked great. The winners received a Rosie the Riveter cup and a UAW Local 2069 lanyard from the UAW Local Women's Committee.

Our committee will be participating in the Relay for Life Savior Walk in Giles County on May 17th and showcasing our pink ribbon. Some of our committee will also be participating in the Gritty Chix Mud Run on June 21. We have recently donated 4 breast cancer t-shirts to the Rec Committee for the annual union picnic and donated \$1000 to the Relay for Life in the NRV.

We have a few upcoming fundraisers coming later in the year. Our annual Yard/Bake Sale will be on June 28th from 7am to 2pm at the Union Hall. We will be selling this years breast cancer t-shirts sometime in September and we are currently working on the design. Also, in the fall we will be making apple butter at the Union Hall again.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the Women's Committee. With your support, it helps us support others in the community. If you are interested in joining a hard-working Committee, we would like to have you!

In Solidarity,

Tena Simpkins



June 28th

7:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

UAW Local 2069 Union Hall

5110 Cougar Trail Road

Dublin, VA 24084

Sponsored by: Women's Committee



Rosie the Riveter Day! Friday, March 21st

In Honor of Rosie the membership dressed in their best Rosie attire for the day.



We Can Do It!





Chaplaincy Committee Chair

Scott Wright

Greetings and blessings from the Local UAW 2069 Chaplaincy Committee.

Our chaplaincy motto is "caring in the workplace," and our goals reflect our motto. With all the hurt that life can bring, it's nice to know that there are people who care and can offer assistance at times of need. "When hearts are broken, opportunity is open." It's not that we can fix every situation by any means, but we can always be someone to lean on. The mission field we face is our place of work, and the people we reach are the ones we work side by side with. A card, a handshake, or a kind word from a brother/sister can go a long way in a time of need.

Our committee plans to meet on the last Friday of each month at 2:45 p.m. in the main cafeteria. We would love to add new members. We are always discussing new ideas on how to reach people in the workplace, so come join and get involved. We would love to have you.

As Memorial Day approaches, we would like to give a very special thank you to all the veterans for all the sacrifices that have been made and to all the families that have lost loved ones.

Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

John 15:13

Thank you, and may God richly bless you.

In Solidarity,

Scott Wright

LOCAL 2069 CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE



"To help our fellow workers in times of need when hearts are broken, opportunity is open".

Email: uaw2069chaplaincy@yahoo.com

Facebook Group: Local 2069 Chaplains

faith





Retiree Chaplaincy Committee Chair

Benzena Eaves

Greetings,

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good and his Mercy endureth forever. Psalm 107

We praise God for all of his benefits that He gives us to breathe, laugh, dress ourselves, read and enjoy our lives. After moving to Richmond, I gained 20 pounds, because I went back to fast food and bread and gravy. My doctor at VCU warned me I was headed down the wrong path. Three doctors put me in a three-month program to prevent heart damage and promote weight loss. I turned one of my bedrooms into a war room determined through Prayer and silver sneakers to lose weight, bring down my blood pressure and lower my blood sugar. At the gym we do aerobics on Monday and lift weights. Tuesday, we do water aerobics, On Wednesday we do exercises for the heart, and on Friday we do chair yoga, hot tub sauna, hot yoga. Praise God I passed the test. We need to do all we can to protect our heart but if you feel discomfort in the chest upper body, shortness of breath or a cold sweat, call for help.

Eulalia Mills and I had the pleasure of visiting Sylvia Goff at Heritage Hall nursing home in Blacksburg. She is happy and has many friends there. She introduced her friends to me, and we had a good time dancing. I showed her my aerobics moves. My goal is to be happy and make other people laugh and be happy. Sylvia Goff was hired into Volvo May 1976 and was a dear friend and worked in the same department with David and Glenna Garwood who are now deceased.

In Solidarity,

Benzena Eaves





Upcoming Events



April 22nd - Recreation and Conservation Committee Earth Day

April 26th - Community Service's Committee Roadside Cleanup

April 28th - Workers Memorial Day

*May 24th - Veteran's Committee
Flag Raising Ceremony and Ride to the Wall*

May 26th - Memorial Day Holiday

June 12th - Community Service's Committee Blood Drive

June 28th - Women's Committee Yard Sale

July 4th - Fourth of July Holiday



Let's Ride!

UAW Local 2069 Veterans Committee will be hosting a ride to Washington DC to join AMVETS in its demonstration ride in remembrance of our Nations POW's and MIA's.

When: May 24th 8:00am

Where: UAW Hall Dublin, Va.

Stay: Clarion Inn Falls Church-Arlington
703-765-9000

Register: Begins at 6:00 am 5/24

Info: 540-577-4722

Hotel Reservations

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/BD3412>



"We will never forget our POWs and MIAs, and we won't stop fighting for real solutions to the suicide crisis."





Earth Day 2025

Our Power, Our Planet



UAW LOCAL 2069 - COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE



ROADSIDE CLEANUP DAY

LET'S COME TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR ENVIRONMENT A CLEANER, GREENER PLACE! GRAB YOUR GLOVES AND HELP US PICK UP LITTER AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT - EVERY HAND MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

SATURDAY APRIL 26TH

9AM - 12PM

CHECK IN BY 8:30AM TO SET UP

MEET AT THE UNION HALL

GLOVES, GARBAGE BAGS, TOOLS AND LUNCH

WILL BE PROVIDED. CLEANUP WILL BE ON COUGAR TRAIL ROAD. UAW MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES ARE WELCOMED TO PARTICIPATE. LUNCH WILL BE FROM 12 - 1PM AT THE UNION HALL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT US AT:

CommunityServices2069@gmail.com

BLOOD DRIVE

SAVE LIVES. EARN REWARDS. DONATE TODAY.

TBC REWARDS = TBC REWARD POINTS AWARDED IN DONOR PORTAL. REDEEMABLE FOR GIFT CARDS

UAW Local 2069
5110 Cougar Trail Rd., Dublin

Thursday, June 12th
12:00pm - 5:00pm

\$40
IN REWARDS!

Sponsor Code: 13094



"I need 8 people to donate . . . in order to live my life. I think about the people who donated, and I'm eternally grateful."

Shontrell, recipient

Scan to make an appointment! (sponsor code above)



The Blood Connection is a non-profit organization. Blood can be donated every 56 days. Donors must be 16 years or older and over 110 lbs. to donate. Written parental consent required for 16-year-olds in SC and GA. 16-18 and 17-year-olds in NC. Before you donate blood, make sure that you drink plenty of water and eat a healthy meal. TBC Donor ID Card (preferred) or photo ID required to donate. Rewards are non-transferable.

thebloodconnection.org

AFL-CIO
MOURN
FOR THE DEAD
FIGHT
FOR THE LIVING

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY
APRIL 28

To those who served,
who sacrificed,
who gave up your lives
so we could have ours...

Thank You



Union Labels Committee Chair

Erroll Hash



DO BUY

Spring Cleaning

As hard as it may be to believe, spring is just around the corner. And that means it is just about time for some spring cleaning. If you plan to join in the ritual, here are some union-made cleaning products to help you get your home a union style sparkle and shine.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| » Ajax Laundry Detergent | » Fab Laundry Detergent | » Minwax |
| » Ajax Cleaning Powder | » Fiberguard Carpet Cleaners | » Mop & Glo |
| » ALL Laundry Detergent | » Final Touch Fabric Softener | » Mountain Pine |
| » Arctic Bright Bleach | » Fresh Start Laundry Detergent | » Palmolive Dishwashing Soap |
| » Blanco Bleach | » HiLex Bleach | » Palmolive |
| » Bowl Fresh Toilet Bowl Sanitizer | » J.R. Watkins Laundry Detergent | » Purex Laundry Products |
| » Clorox Bleach Tabs | » J.R. Watkins Naturals | » Snuggle |
| » Clorox | » Lysol | » Spic N' Span Clean Wipes |
| » Clorox Disinfecting Wipes | » Love My Carpet | » Soft Scrub |
| » Dynamo Laundry Detergent | » Mini Safe Scour | » Sunlight |
| | | » Tide Soap |
| | | » Top Job Household Bleach |
| | | » Wisk |



UAW Local 2069



Apparel for Sale



Grey T-Shirts - \$16
Red T-Shirts - \$15
Veteran's T-Shirts - \$20
Salary Polos - \$45
Lanyards - \$4








UAW Local 2069
P.O. Box 306
Dublin Va 24084



Return Service Requested

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6		8	9	10
11	12 2nd & Salary Meetings	13 1st, 3rd & 2nd shift Maintenance Meetings		15	16	17
18	19	20		22	23	24
25	 26 Union Won Holiday	27		29	30	31

These views and the opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the UAW2069 and/or International UAW.