



Voice of 2069

Happy Thanksgiving

Local 2069 Hall Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. P(540) 674 - 5130 F(540) 674 - 2531

THE MAGAZINE FOR UAW LOCAL 2069 MEMBERS

Uaw2069.org ~ voiceof2069@yahoo.com

uawlocal2069 on

Vol. 10172023



UAW Local 2069 President

Billy Ogle



Greetings All,

It has been a rough couple of months dealing with paycheck issues, parts shortages, and frame rails issues. The entire Bargaining Committee met with the Plant Manager and presented several different paycheck issues. After that meeting Payroll from Greensboro, along with a programmer came to the plant to help address the issues. Some ongoing issues are being worked on through training on SAP system.

As of the time of writing this issue Mack has voted down their first Tentative Agreement and has gone on strike. I am being told it was a very tough fight to obtain this first TA. All of our support goes out to Locals 677, 171, 1247, 2301 and 2420 during this time of struggle and wish them the best on being able to negotiate a fair and profitable contract to support their families.

Volvo is still needing welders and painters. If you would like to test for one of these positions, reach out to your supervisor to find out when the tests will be given. Also, there are several grade 37's needed (robotic paint operator). If you know anyone that has these skills, the Company is still having walk in interviews on a regular basis, usually at the Pulaski County Innovation Center in Fairlawn on Thursdays.

I hope everyone enjoys a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. In reflecting, we all should be thankful for our families, in our ability to provide for ourselves and family's and be thankful for our coworkers who, in many respects, are just as much family as those at home.

In Solidarity,

Billy Ogle





Hourly Bargaining Chair

Tony Burnette

Greetings All,

On the threshold of the holiday season, we get a chance to take a few days off this month and give thanks for all that we have.

On Veterans Day we honor all those who served in the military. This day was first observed on November 11, 1919, as Armistice Day in honor of the first anniversary of the end of World War I, which officially ended on the “eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month” in 1918.

Many will enjoy Hunting Day. This is a time many hunters will go out and harvest a valuable resource to feed their family. Some even do it to help feed others.

Some people enjoy Thanksgiving more than any other holiday. Why? Simply because Thanksgiving to some is all about the “Four Fs”: Faith, Family, Food, and Football.

Fall is here and change is coming

As of October, at least 453,000 workers have participated in 312 strikes in the U.S. this year, (This number does not include Mack workers that went on strike on October 9th) according to J. Kallas, a director of Cornell University’s Labor Action Tracker. Compare this to just 36,600 workers two years ago. Many workers are increasingly frustrated with decades of income inequality, benefits, and working conditions.

Employees have become a company’s most valuable asset.

The “Era of Human Capital” has begun. Employees have always been treated as a cost to production, and a cost to contain. Now the shift comes where employees make all the value. A company can no longer expect to recruit and maintain employees when the company controls their lives with pressured work environments, inconsistent work schedules, unplanned weekend mandates, and pay scales that are below what a college student driving around delivering food and groceries can make.

In a Muse survey of job seekers, 67% of respondents said they were likely or very likely to change jobs in the next 12 months, and their most important criteria for a new job was income, work-life balance, followed by learning and growth opportunities. For companies to retain and slow down their turnover rate they must support employee advancement, create a culture of care and flexibility, and offer greater compensation. Are most companies willing to do this? No! Therefore, Unions are forced to go on strike, contracts are negotiated, and members have a right to vote on their future.

Why are we Union? Because we believe in our rights to live a safe, healthy, and higher quality of life. We set the standard that other employees may reap similar wages, benefits, and work hours. We fight for these rights not just today, but for future generations to come.

In Solidarity,

Tony Burnette





Salary Bargaining Chair

Bill Richardson

Greetings All,

I originally had written in this article that I did not know what was going to happen with Mack's vote, but now I do know they are on strike. I have seen a few things regarding what was in the highlights of the TA, but the people were obviously not happy with what was brought back and voiced their opinion. Not sure what will happen with this going forward, but they are one of our suppliers, so if they are out for a little bit, it will affect us in our jobs. Contract issues are always hard to resolve, especially now that we are in this economy. Neither side wants to give concessions, but Union employees I am sure feel like we have ever since two-tier wages began. Let us hope for the best for our Mack Brothers and Sisters.

Here at the plant, within our Engineering group, we recently had an issue where they had a job posted in Bangalore that had NRV Customer Engineering work within the job description, and even listed NRV on it. It also listed several other Customer Adaption groups such as Brazil, Tuve, Gent, LVO, and Wacol. Other groups saw this too, and we were able to hold this off for the moment. The Company did say that this posting was meant to cover design work for Tuve now but may be expanded to include other CA groups in the future, as soon as 2025. That is not comforting at all. That is my home department. It comes down to a matter of trust at this point. I will say the Union has had no communication with the Company on any outsourcing prior to this job being posted, but apparently from a higher HR level it had been discussed as a future possibility. We did discover they had already begun to do our work on one part. We got that stopped and now the work will be back in our CA group.

Just a quick update on our job descriptions being updated, as part of the prerequisite to go back to the table. The Company has stated they have all the job descriptions updated. We have seen several of them and have marked up things and questioned other things, so this will be a little bit of a task. We have 86 job descriptions we must agree on before they can go to the 3rd party for the job value evaluation. The entire committee have been involved with the review process of the updated job descriptions. We will update everyone when we get closer to getting them sent out to the 3rd party.



I also wanted to say thank you to Reba Sutphin for the job she did as the Alternate Benefits Rep. Reba Sutphin had a tough job while we were at the negotiating table and during the strike handling benefits issues for our employees. Reba did an outstanding job, and we appreciate her efforts.

I would like to say thank you to all the Veterans who sacrificed for our country that work here at this plant. also, so would like to say Happy Thanksgiving to all. This is a great time of year to enjoy your family, food, fun, and football. I hope there is something in that group that brings joy. Hopefully, folks will be able to enjoy some time off too.

Remember red shirt Wednesdays, and your monthly Union Meetings!

In Solidarity,

Bill Richardson





Veteran's Committee Chair

William Price

Greetings All,

The following months will be a very busy time for the committee as we have several upcoming events to honor and bless our local Veterans. November is the month we celebrate Veterans Day. Originally known as Armistice Day, Veterans Day is November 11th and the date set aside to thank and honor our military men and women past and present.

Armistice Day is also commemorated in other countries to mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Allied forces and Germany signed a peace agreement on the 11th hour of the 11th day in the 11th month in the year 1918.

We continue to observe this day and encourage you all to reflect on your freedom and those who have served to protect that freedom. One day set aside to honor these individuals is certainly not enough to repay them for their sacrifices. These men and women, along with their families, have given up so much to ensure our freedom. We can never repay them with words but sometimes a simple thank you can mean so much.

Veterans should be recognized and shown gratitude every day of the year. Future generations should also know the importance of what it means to be a Veteran who fought for this country and our freedom. The Veterans Committee urges you to reflect on your freedoms and those who have served to protect those freedoms.

The Veterans Committee would like to recognize you for your service. If you would, please scan the QR code and let us know you are a Veteran, Thank you.

In Solidarity,

William Price



***WHEN YOU THANK A VETERAN FOR THEIR SERVICE
THANK THEM FOR YOUR FREEDOM***



Veterans Committee Upcoming Events:

- November 03** **Bucket Drive @ Volvo Plant for VA Hospital Christmas Wishlist**
*We will be collecting funds that will be used to purchase gifts for the residents at the VA hospital in Salem.
- November 10** **Union won holiday in observance of Veterans Day**
- November 11** **Veterans Day Parade in Roanoke, Va**
*We will have two Veteran trucks in the parade through downtown Roanoke. The parade will be televised on WSLC Channel 10.
- November 11** **Fish Fry @ VA Hospital in Salem, Va**
*We will be preparing a fish dinner to feed the residents at the VA hospital in Salem.
- December 16** **Wreath Laying Ceremony @ SWVA Veterans Ceremony in Dublin, Va 1:00pm**
*We will be assisting the SWVA Veterans Cemetery Volunteers with the laying of wreaths on Veterans gravesites and participating in the ceremony.
- December 19** **Christmas Party @ VA Hospital in Salem, Va**
*We will be hosting a party for the residents of the VA hospital to bring Christmas cheer and help brighten their holiday season.



**As always, we thank you for your support and all you do to allow us to
"Serve those who have Served us"**



Recreation & Conservation Committee

Dawn Harvey

Greetings All,

The Recreation and Conservation Committee would like to thank you for your attendance at our Annual 2023 Family Picnic. We had a fantastic time! We also want to thank all our volunteers who helped our event become a remarkable success. In addition, want to thank Austin Baker, Zakery Lantern, William Pearse, Paul Brown, Eliya Harvey-Brown, Kim Busby, and Tyler Dixon for all the hard work on our cornhole board project. They came out wonderful, and on time for our cornhole board tournament at our family picnic 2023.

We gave a special presentation to one of our committee members Mrs. Benzena Eaves, also known as "Queen B." We presented her with a UAW wreath in appreciation to her for serving on our committee, even beyond retirement, after serving our local and national for 47 years. We really love and appreciate you Mamma B.

The Recreation Committee will be hosting our Annual Local 2069, 2023, Dinner Dance on Saturday December 9th. Dinner starts at 5:30pm. Registration for Dinner will start November 1st at the Union Hall, in person registration will be announced on the Local UAW Website, see QR code below for link. We are excited to announce that this year's party will have a western theme. So, bring your cowboy hats and boots! The UAW Local 2069 leadership will have a program during dinner hour and then we will dance the night away with a live band. We will have an open bar from 6:30-8:00 pm.

The Recreation Committee is looking forward to seeing you there.

In Solidarity,

Dawn Harvey





UAW Local 2069 Presents

SATURDAY, December 9th, 2023

WINTER DINNER AND DANCE

Doors Open at 5:00p. Open Bar from 6:30-8:30. Formal Dinner free for members and 1 guest.



Western.
Wear Your
Cowboy
Hat And
Boots

Seating begins at 5:30





Women's Committee Chair

Tena Simpkins

Greetings All,

The Women's Committee would like to thank everyone who purchased a Breast Cancer T-shirt. By doing so you have supported a special cause and helped bring awareness to Breast Cancer.

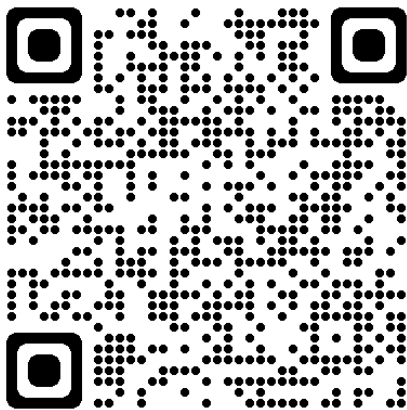
We have a Pink Ribbon set up and would like it if you would go by and sign it in remembrance of those past or present who have had cancer. We would also like to thank the machine shop (Tony Saver, Jerry Fisher) for making the ribbon and Dave Collins and Wayne Hetherington and others in the P.C. building on second shift for painting the ribbon. You all did an Awesome job. Thank You from the Women's Committee.

We have a hotdog and bake sale coming up on November 18th while the Community Services are holding their Vendor Event. Please come and support our committee events. All the funds we make go back into our community. Keep a lookout for more information to come. I would like to thank all the ladies on the Women's Committee, you have done a wonderful job, Thank You.

If you would like to join a hardworking, caring committee, we would love to have you. Please see myself or anyone on our committee.

In Solidarity,

Tena Simpkins





Constitution & Bylaws Committee Chair

Kenny Jessie

Greeting All,

First let me begin by saying how proud I am of the By-Laws Committee. In September the committee met for the first time under my leadership, going thru the by-laws and finding issues, the committee made great headway on motion to bring to the membership for review in the October monthly meeting.

With the number of motions made it was decided to split the motions up into two meetings. The first set of motions will be voted on in the November monthly meeting. After reviewing and voting on the motions, they will be sent to international for final approval. Upon approval the changes will appear in the next publication of the Voice of 2069.

In Solidarity,

Kenny Jessie





Education Committee Chair

Benny Arnold

Greetings All,

The Education Committee has been moving towards bigger and better things for the Local. The Committee has started giving the bulletin boards a bit of a makeover. The first one that was completed is located across from Labor Relations office.

You can find a plethora of information there such as lists containing Union Stewards (Districts by departments) including their phone numbers and list of the Elected Board members and their phone numbers. The Committee hopes to continue to give these boards a more updated face.

In the future, the Committee is committed to keep bringing information to the Local as we can. We are currently working on getting workshops set-up for the Local as well.

We hope to see you at the Vendor event in November at our table. We will be giving away some baskets stuffed with goodies. All you need to do is answer a Union related question to get a chance to get your name in that "hat."

In Solidarity,

Benny Arnold





Chaplaincy Committee Chair

Scott Wright

Greetings All,

The Chaplains are actively selling calendars to raise funds for the committee. If you see some of us running around selling calendars, you can be assured it is going to be a great cause.

Calling all believers! We have started having collective prayer around the flagpole. This will be on the days we work off before a holiday, right after work at 2:35—2:40ish. The next holiday will be Veterans Day. Then, the next will be Thanksgiving (You do not have to be a part of our committee to be a part of our prayer group).

We are here to serve the membership, and if anyone has a need or concern that we can help with, please let us know. We know it can be fast paced in the workplace. You can reach out to us on breaks, lunch breaks, and before or after shifts.

You can email us at: uaw2069chaplaincy@yahoo.com
We also have a private Facebook page: "Local 2069 Chaplains."

Stay blessed.

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

**Blessed be the Lord,
my rock, who trains my
hands for war, and my
fingers for battle;
He is my steadfast love
and my fortress,
my stronghold
and my deliverer,
my shield and he in
whom I take refuge.**

Psalm 144





Consumer Affairs Committee Chair

Benzena Eaves

Greetings All,

The Consumer Affairs Committee is committed to providing our members information that can be used for us and our families. Alzheimer's is a disease that is growing, but doctors are making progress. The article below as published from AARP Bulletin July/August 2023 is to make you aware of Medicare drug coverage.

MEDICARE COMMITS TO ALZHEIMER'S DRUG COVERAGE

Medicare announced that it intends to cover Alzheimer's disease medications if they are fully approved for usage by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The policy decision, which applies to people with Medicare Part B, raises the prospect that thousands of older adults could have access this summer to a promising medication to treat the early stages of the disease.

"Alzheimer's disease takes a toll on not just the people suffering from the disease but also on their loved ones and caregivers," said Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, head of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). "CMS has always been committed to helping people obtain timely access to innovative treatments that meaningfully improve care and outcomes for this disease."

Two new Alzheimer's drugs, Aduhelm and Leqembi, have received accelerated approval from the FDA. So far, Medicare coverage is limited to people participating in clinical trials. But the FDA is reviewing a traditional approval application for Leqembi and is expected to make a decision this summer.

Wider access to Leqembi would begin as soon as the FDA grants traditional approval, CMS said. That Medicare coverage will apply to patients in the initial stages of the disease whose doctors participate in what's known as a registry, where they collect and submit evidence about how drugs work in the real world.

Researchers will use that information, "furthering knowledge of how these drugs can potentially help people," CMS said. Aduhelm and Leqembi are different from other Alzheimer's drugs on the market. They go after amyloid plaques in the brain and are designed to slow the rate of cognitive decline, not just treat its symptoms. About 6 million Americans live with Alzheimer's disease. Without a cure, that number is expected to skyrocket in the coming decades.

In Solidarity,

Benzena Eaves



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
Benny Arnold, Education Chair
Jill Cox, Community Services Chair
Chris Via, Citizen and Legislative (CAP) Chair
Tena Simpkins, Women’s Chair
Benzena Eaves, Consumer Affairs Chair

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



Union Meetings

Why should you attend?

Why Attending Union Meetings Is Important?

Due to having so many people in the plant and the size of the plant it can be difficult to reach all members to keep them up on current events and news. The best way to keep up to date and to get questions answered is by attending the monthly union meetings. Please realize you can attend any meeting but there are specific days and times for the shift you work. If you have never been to a meeting, there's usually a call to order, a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, and a prayer. Going into the main part of the meeting, there's a discussion of old business and updates, new business that is generally a discussion of monetary and grievances in the system. Then there is a time of open discussions. Multiple times you as the member can voice your opinion. You can vote on how the locals spend the funds.

Trust me, the company knows about how many members attend the meetings. When attendance is low, they feel comfortable about bending the limitations of the contract. Attendance shows leadership how important certain issues are to you, the member. The key is communication. Education is key to growing as a member. Once you start to attend meetings you might want to join a committee or run for office.

You will be able to find out about all the events. A lot of these events are outreach to our communities. Helping the veterans, the elderly and the disable are only a few of the things this local does monthly. Please be advised we have a Facebook page and website as well. Union membership is like gym membership, the more you put into it, the more you will get out. Going to meetings, you will meet other members in different parts of the plant, and you will hear their concerns. By going to meetings, you will be eligible to go on trips to further your education and meet members from other locals. You may also be able to help with your working environment. Leadership may not be aware of a condition and could even help with efficiency.

We should take advantage of the location of our union hall. It makes it easy to attend meetings and vote for offices. The hall is generally open through daylight hours and the phone number is 540-674-5130. You can arrange to have events and celebrations at the hall for a fee and you will need to call and schedule.

Union Meetings are held each Month:

Second Shift Meeting — Monday before Second Tuesday at 2:00 P.M.

Salary Meeting — Monday before Second Tuesday at 4:15 P.M.

Third Shift Meeting — Second Tuesday at 6:15 A.M.

Second Shift Maintenance Meeting — Second Tuesday at 12:30 P.M.

First Shift Meeting — Second Tuesday 15 minutes after end of First Shift
production

Retiree Meeting — Every other Month on Second Tuesday at 10:00 A.M



Union Labels Committee Chair

Erroll Hash

Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

Union Made Thanksgiving



SET THE TABLE

HOMER LAUGHLIN CHINA (GMP)
FIESTAWARE (GMP)
ANCHOR HOCKING (GMP)
LIBBEY GLASSWARE (USW AND GMP)
CLAUS KNIVES (USW)
PYREX (USW)
CORNING WARE (USW)
BENNINGTON POTTERS (UNITE HERE)

TURKEY & HAM

BUTTERBALL (UFCW)
FOSTER FARMS (UFCW)
APPLETON FARMS HAM (UFCW)
BLACK FOREST HAM (UFCW)
BUTTERBALL HAM (UFCW)
COOK'S HAM (UFCW)
ARMLAND OLD FASHIONED PIT HAM (UFCW)
FARMLAND ORIGINAL PIT HAM (UFCW)
HORMEL HONEY ROASTED HAM (UFCW)
TYSON HAM (UFCW)

STUFFING

MANISCHEWITZ (UFCW)
STROEHMANN BAKERY PRODUCTS (BCTGM)

CRANBERRIES

OCEAN SPRAY (IAMAW)
DOLE (IBT)

VEGETABLES

ANDY BOY (UFW)
MURANKA (UFW)
EUROFRESH (UFCW)
BIRDS EYE (UFCW)
MANN'S (UFCW)
SUNRIPE PRODUCE (UFCW)

POTATOES

DOLE FRESH POTATOES (IBT)
MANN'S FRESH CULINARY CUTS SWEET POTATO (UFCW)
BETTY CROCKER SPECIALTY POTATOES (BCTGM)

BREAD

PILLSBURY ROLLS (BCTGM)
STROEHMANN BAKERY PRODUCTS (BCTGM)
AUNT MILLIE'S BREAD PRODUCTS (UFCW)

PIE & PIE FILLING

ENTENMANN'S (BCTGM)
MARIE CALLENDER'S (UFCW)
PILLSBURY PIE CRUST (BCTGM)
SARA LEE (BCTGM)
BANQUET FRUIT PIES (UFCW)
KROGER BRAND PUMPKIN PUREE (UFCW)
FOOD CLUB CANNED PUMPKIN (UFCW)
DEL MONTE FRESH APPLES (IBT)

WINE & BEER

ALMADEN	ANHEUSER-BUSCH
BARTLES & JAYMES	BUDWEISER
BLACK BOX	LANDSHARK LAGER
C.K. MONDAVI	LEINENKUGEL
CARLO ROSSI	MICHELOB
CHARLES KRUG	MILLER LITE
CHATEAU STE. MICHELLE	MILWAUKEE'S BEST
COLUMBIA CREST	NATURAL ICE & LIGHT
CORBETT CANYON	O'DOUL'S
DUBONNET	SHOCK TOP
FAIRBANKS	
FRANZIA	
GALLO ESTATE WINES	
ROBERT MONDAVI	
ST. SUPERY	
TURNING LEAF	

The Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO does its best to verify that products listed on our "Do Buy" lists are made by union members. In many cases products are made by both union employees and in non-union plants. As well, many manufacturers produce goods in the U.S. and other countries. Be sure to check product packaging for country of origin and, of course, the union label.

Should you see an error in our list please contact us at ulstd@unionlabel.org and we will correct our records. Don't see your union-made product listed, be sure to send us an e-mail and let us know what products your company makes and which union it is made by.

AMERICA IS AT ITS BEST WHEN YOU SHOP AND SAY "UNION YES!"



Cap Committee Chair

Chris Via

"Our endorsements are going to be earned, not freely given," Fain has said. This example of labor proudly standing up for itself and demanding respect, instead of reflexively bowing to those in power, likely encouraged Biden to make history by joining the picket line today. It may also be what ultimately forces the Big Three to make historic concessions to striking autoworkers."

#StandUpUAW





To All Who Served

*Both in War and Peace
To Those Who Came Home Changed
And to Those Who Didn't Return
We Honor You
We Remember Your Sacrifices
We Cherish Your Memory
Your Nation is Grateful*

Thank You Veterans

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



Return Service Requested



November 2023



Sun

Mon









Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				2	3	4
5	6	7		9	 UNION WON HOLIDAY!	11
12	¹³ 2nd & Salary Meetings	¹⁴ 1st, 3rd & 2nd shift Maintenance Meetings		16	17	18
19	 UNION WON HOLIDAY!	21		 UNION WON HOLIDAY!	 UNION WON HOLIDAY!	25
26	27	28		30		