LOCAL MOTION

VOLUME 75 • ISSUE 2

https://region I .uaw.org/local400/

SUMMER 2022

UAW National CAP Conference



from the PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Johnny **VERELLEN**

he 2022 UAW National CAP Conference was held from May 15 to May 18, 2022 in National Harbor, Maryland. The Community Action Program (CAP) of the UAW is the Union's non-partisan political arm. CAP educates members, both active and retired, on political issues that affect them and their families. CAP also registers members to vote, and works to elect politicians who stand with working Americans. As part of this effort, CAP endorses candidates who have a record of backing legislation that supports unions and addresses issues facing working families. CAP is not tied to any political party.

At this conference, delegates attend workshops and have opportunity to lobby lawmakers on issues important to our active and retired members; such as freedom to form unions, strengthening the middle class, manufacturing, health care, international trade, and others.

These delegates are our voice in the never-ending effort to defend workers' rights, protect the well-being of our families, and provide and enhance the safety net for our retirees. No matter where you reside on the political spectrum, these are issues that affect us all and we must, in solidarity, continue to enhance and protect the working class.

LOCAL

V-CAP

From time to time, you may hear about or be requested to contribute to V-CAP. V-CAP is the UAW's political action program, which includes the Union's PAC (Political Action Committee). The PAC fund is made up of voluntary contributions from UAW members, both active and retired. The money is used to support political candidates who are pro labor and have earned the endorsement of the UAW Community Action Program (UAW CAP).

WHY SUPPORT V-CAP?

Whether it is taxes, trade policy, retirement security, healthcare, education or infrastructure, politics affects our daily lives. That's why it is essential for working families to make our voices heard in local, state and national politics by supporting candidates who support us. One of the most effective ways to do that is by contributing to V-CAP.

DOES V-CAP USE UNION DUES?

Are Union Dues Used for Federal Campaign Contributions? No. That's a common misunderstanding. The fact is federal (and many state) election laws prohibit unions from contributing members' dues money to political candidates. The only money that can be used for contributions to federal candidates is money members voluntarily contribute to V-CAP.

Most of the Local 400 collective bargaining agreements allow for "check-off" V-CAP contributions, which means that they will automatically be deducted from your check in much the same way that your union dues are. Even if this method is not available to you, there are still ways for you to contribute. Please see your union representative or Chairperson for more information.



Delegates met with Congresswoman Haley Stevens from Michigan's 11th district to discuss the issues that are affecting our members. Congresswoman Stevens sits on the House Committee on Education & Labor, and the House Committee on Science, Space & Technology, where she also serves as Chairwoman of the Research & Technology Subcommittee. On these Committees, Congresswoman Stevens works to protect access to healthcare, promote manufacturing, expand educational opportunity, stand up for workers' rights, and increase investment in critical research and development.

(L-R) UAW Local 400 President Johnny Verellen, Congresswoman Haley Stevens, and Romeo Engine Plant (Local 400) Bargaining Representative Jeremy Rickert

REPRESENTING UAW MEMBERS from...

- Utica Trim
- ◆ Chesterfield Trim
- ◆ Romeo Engine
- ♦ Ford Highland Park
- ♦ Yanfeng USA, Highland Park
- ♦ MPG Hourly
- **◆** Learning Designs, Inc.
- ♦ Wes Pro Fleet Switchers
- ◆ ABM Romeo
- ♦ Utica Schools Clerical
- **♦ MPG Salary**
- ♦ Imag America
- Bridgewater Interiors
- ◆ ABM MI Proving Grounds
- ♦ Utica Schools Maintenance
- **◆ Union Sorters of America**
- ♦ Flex-N-Gate, Shelby



from the FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

David MURRAY

FINANCIAL REPORT

MARCH 2022 to MAY 2022

Balance as of March 1, 2022 \$836,746.19

INCOME

03/01/2022 - 05/31/2022

03/01/2022 - 03/31/2022	
Regular Dues	311,899.52
Sub Dues	1,169.39
Bonus Dues	. 44,905.13
Initiations	5,600.00
Reinstatements	840.00
Rebate International Strike Fund	5,237.19
Refund - Conference	3,196.94
Refund - Insurance Emp Benefits	999.54
Retired Workers Chapter	3,016.65
Recreation - Golf Outing 6/16/2022	3,360.00
Rent for Hall	300.00
Exchange	2,243.78
Interest	<u>32.97</u>
TOTAL INCOME	382,801.11

DISBURSEMENTS

03/01/2022 - 05/31/2022

Wages	78,578.34
Lost Time	16.741.48

1,650.00
18,779.28
1,051.42
(28,307.67)
28,274.08
8,263.78
21,258.11
6,675.00
1,655.31
4,028.39
137.00
8,124.55
5,280.11
1,887.64
263,271.54
2,817.20
909.55
31,625.00
80.00
288.00
623.91
1,323.78
2,994.95
<u>1,607.10</u>
<u>(479,617.85)</u>
\$739,929.45

ALLOCATION of CASH ASSETS

Commercial Checking -	
Comerica Bank	\$167,956.59
Deposit on Hand	0

Total Cash Assets	
Money Market Account - Chase Bank	202,109.56
Money Market Account - Comerica	369,518.30
Petty Cash	345.00

FUND BALANCES

General	\$642,423.21
Education	37,210.30
Recreation	3,558.30
Retired Members	2,846.24
Community Service Fund	110.07
New Member Orientation	4,601.00
Local 400 Retiree Club	17,559.18
Retired Workers Chapter	31,621.15
Total of All Funds	\$739,929.45

STATEMENT of ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET WORTH

LIABILITIES and NET	WORTH
Total Cash Assets	\$739,929.45
Current Liabilities:	
Per Capita Tax- Int'l UAW	
Net of Rebate	53,943.73
Per Capita Tax -	
Affiliates and CAP	2,601.03
Accounts Payable - General	20,000.00
Total Current Liabilities	<u>(76,544.76)</u>
Net Cash Worth	\$501,946.50
Fixed Assets:	
Building & Land,	
50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI	\$501,946.50
Furniture & Fixtures at Cost	<u>67,342.69</u>
Total Fixed Assets	569,289.19

GRAND TOTAL NET WORTH

at May 31, 2022...... \$1,232,673.88





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Once again, DELAYED...

Due to the limited amount of space in this edition of the *Local Motion* and the amount of important information the membership should be aware of, **Part 3** of "The Trinity of Resources that Every UAW Member Should Know" (By-Laws) has been postponed, again.



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Local 400, no additional fees are charged to members.
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Chris Dilbert, JrVice President
David MurrayFinancial Secretary/Treasurer
Jim Sorgi Recording Secretary
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Mary Ann CalabroChairperson/Retired Workers Chapter
Dominic ZerilliRetiree Executive Board

POSTMASTER, send address changes to: UAW LOCAL 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI





from the RECORDING SECRETARY

Jim **SORGI**

I want to wish everyone a great summer! Be safe and enjoy the nice weather.

The incentive packages being offered at the Romeo Engine Plant bring excitement and apprehension to everyone considering their options. Let me assure you that Kim Brooks and I are here to assist you with questions regarding pensions and health care. We have already spoken to several members trying to explain and answer all of their concerns.

Also, through the next month, I will be working with the UAW Medical Benefits Trust to schedule our annual Health Fair. Anyone in the Trust (VEBA), or expects to be soon, will find this Health Fair beneficial. The date, time, and location will be published in the next issue of the *Local Motion* – so, watch for it.

I look forward to seeing many of our retirees at the upcoming scheduled outings. The first event is the Retiree Appreciation Golf Outing on August 11th. Following that, we will be holding our Retiree Appreciation Picnic at River Bends Park on September 15th from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Please see the information on page 8 in this edition of the *Local Motion*.

As always, I wish all the members and families of Local 400 health and good fortune! Remember: What the world needs now is love!



from the RETIRED WORKERS CHAPTER CHAIR

Mary Ann CALABRO

Greetings Retiree Brothers and Sisters,

Okay, the hot summer is here for those that have been waiting for it. Just remember to stay cool when there is high humidity and extreme heat and keep plenty of water with you for hydration.

I would like to WELCOME all those that have recently retired from Romeo Engine and for the soon-to-be retirees. I hope you enjoy your retirement with lots of wonderful memories and good health.

Here it is - some great dates for everyone to mark their Calendar NOW! Our Annual Christmas Party will be held Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at MIRAGE (located on 18 mile Rd. / off of Garfield in Clinton Twp).

There are many reasons why the cost of our Christmas Tickets will be \$25 per person:

- 1) High inflation has driven up the cost of food, fuel, and other goods and services. Also, wages are going up to bring in the necessary workers that are needed to maintain business.
- 2) We have lost some retiree membership over the years, therefore retiree dues are down. We need more of our retiree members to volunteer to pay retiree dues, if able.

All details will be in our next *Local Motion* and/or explained at our retiree functions!

To All our Senior Drivers Understanding your choice under the New Auto Insurance Law

Under the new Law as of July 1, 2020 dramatic changes were made to the

Michigan Auto Insurance Law. Drivers are faced with a number of choices in Personal Injury Protection (PIP). If you have and provide proof of Medicare Parts A and B, and all resident relatives have and provide proof of qualified health coverage you can select no PIP coverage. That means you and anyone else covered under your auto policy will rely on health coverage to pay for medical expenses resulting from an auto accident.

This is NOT a decision you should make without all of the information!
On October 19, 2022 our guest speaker

will be from the Law office of Mark Bernstein to explain this PIP coverage for the many of us who are confused with the change in the law.

GOD OUR FATHER,

In your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless those parents who have the incredible responsibility of parenting. Bless those who have lost a spouse to death or divorce who are parenting their children alone. Strengthen them by your love that they may be and become the loving, caring person they are meant to be.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Amen!



TONY & JULIE AUGULIARO
TINA & AL HOSKINSON
DAVE HOHENSEE
GARY HARDER

JUANITA GAINES HELEN DAVIDSON CARL KLEIN

For those not mentioned, please remember those who are in need of our prayers!



Full Month of July There will be NO RETIREE FUNCTIONS

Thursday, Aug. 11 Annual Retiree Appreciation Golf Outing

NO AUGUST RETIREE MEETING

Thursday, Sept. 15 Annual Retiree Picnic

Wednesday, Oct. 19 Retiree Meeting
Guest Speaker: Auto Insurance (PIP)

November Details in the next issue of the LOCAL MOTION

Tuesday, Dec. 13 Retiree Annual Christmas Party



NOTICE of ELECTION

(by Acclamation)

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

UAW Local 400 Delegate/Alternate Delegate

In the recently completed nomination process on May 5, 2022, for Constitutional Convention Delegate/Alternate Constitutional Convention Delegate of all UAW Local 400 Units, conducted in preparation for the 2022 **UAW Local 400 Constitutional** Convention Delegate/Alternate Delegate election scheduled to take place May 23-25, 2022, the person(s) whose nomination(s) was completed and who was qualified to stand as a candidate for Constitutional Convention Delegate under the UAW Constitution, UAW Local 400 by-laws, and the Election Committee Rules did not exceed the maximum allowable candidates allowed per unit in either category (Delegate/Alternate Delegate).

2022
Constitutional
Convention

Detroit, Michigan
July 25-29, 2022

Accordingly, it is hereby declared that the following candidate(s) for the 2022 Constitutional Convention Delegate/Alternate Delegate of all UAW Local 400 Units is elected to that position by acclamation:

ROMEO ENGINE PLANT

Randy Lashbrook – Delegate

Jeremy Rickert – Delegate

Brad Sweet – Alternate Delegate

Nicole "Nikki" Taylor – Alternate Delegate

COMBINED UNITS

Mark "Hemp" Hemphill – Delegate

Mary Ann Calabro – Alternate Delegate

BRIDGEWATER INTERIORS, WARREN

David Sandoval - Delegate

JOINT COUNCIL

(elected at Joint Council on May 25, 2022)

Johnny Verellen – Delegate

Chris Dilbert, Jr. – Alternate Delegate

As a result, as communicated with in-plant/Local postings, there was not a contested election for 2022 Constitutional Convention Delegate/Alternate Delegate of UAW Local 400 Units during the May 23-25, 2022 election and the scheduled election was cancelled.

UAW LOCAL 400 ELECTION COMMITTEE

Carrie Murawski, Vlatko Petrovski, Rick Nelson, Kathy Whitaker





Notice of 2022 UAW International

OFFICER ELECTION

In accordance with results of the UAW Referendum held in the fall of 2021, the International Officers of the UAW will no longer be elected by Convention delegates, but rather through Union-wide direct elections in which UAW members will cast votes directly for nominated Candidates. The 2022 UAW International Officer Election ("Election") will be conducted by secret mail-in ballot in the fall of 2022.

Pursuant to the Consent Decree issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan in the matter of United States v. International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, 20 Cv. 13293 (DML-RSW), the Court-appointed Monitor of the UAW will supervise the Election. In consultation with the UAW, the Monitor has developed detailed election rules and methods for the Election.

The offices to be filled through the Election are the offices of International President, International Secretary-Treasurer, three (3) International Vice Presidents, and nine (9) Regional Director positions. UAW delegates to the 2022 Constitutional Convention (July 25-29, 2022) will nominate Candidates for these offices, and mail-in ballots will be distributed to UAW members beginning in October 2022.

For more information about the Election, and to review the Rules and access corresponding forms, please visit the Monitor's website at *www.uawmonitor.com/elections*. The Rules contain important details such as rules and requirements around campaigning, campaign finance, anti-retaliation, and election protests.

For more information, including the link to full Notice of 2022 UAW Election, link to the Full 2022 UAW International Officer Election Rules, and the link to UAW Monitor's website, please visit: https://uaw.org/2022iebelections/

To ensure that you receive a ballot package for the 2022 Election, please provide your updated mailing and e-mail address information to your Local Union as soon as possible and advise your fellow members to do the same.

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

July 25-28, 2022: The 38th UAW Constitutional Convention to be held at Huntington Place in Detroit, MI, at which Convention delegates will nominate individuals to run for UAW International Office.

September 1, 2022: Deadline for all Slate Declaration Forms to be submitted to the Monitor.

September 2022: 2022 UAW International Officer Election Candidate Forum(s) to be held.

October 17, 2022: First formal mail distribution of mail-in ballots distributed to the electorate.

October 24, 2022: Second formal mail distribution of mail-in ballots distributed to additional voters.

October 31, 2022, at 5pm ET: Deadline by which members MUST be in good standing in order to have their vote counted in the Election.

November 11, 2022: Final date replacement ballots can be requested from the Election Vendor.

November 18, 2022: Last day by which members should place their ballots in the mail to best ensure receipt by November 28, 2022 deadline.

November 28, 2022: DEADLINE for all return ballots to be received by the designated U.S. Post Office or Postal Facility.

November 29, 2022, at 9am ET: Tabulation of votes begins.

December 2022: All official victors of International Officer races will be sworn-in.





from the YANFENG HIGHLAND PARK CHAIRMAN

Mark **Hempill**

Hello, My Brothers And Sisters,

I am Mark 'Hemp' Hemphill, Chairman at Highland Park, Yanfeng. In the last year and a half, we went from 300 members to about 700 members...and growing!

Our whole plant had a facelift and a new line and a new truck was added – the Wagoneer. Also, we had a \$1.35 supplemental pay and \$.60 was also added to the shift premium, which was scheduled to end in January 2022. I was able to have it extended to end of our contract 2024.

In addition, we just obtained a MOU sign for our Material Handler. Now, we have a Level I & II. We received a rise in pay for Level I & II and the Material Handler Team Leaders.

With the exponential growth of our facility recently, there are some things that you, the member, can do to make our Union stronger and work life more efficient. First, read your Collective Bargaining Agreement (contract). Everything you need to know regarding grievance procedure, wages, benefits, etc. is contained in that document.

Secondly, use the "chain of command" when having issues within the plant. Go to your representative on your shift prior to going to your Chairperson or the Local officers. There is a process for your complaints or grievances, and if they are not done in order, it is likely that the next level may not even be aware of the issue and will have it sent back to where it should have started in the first place.

Finally, have patience. With many people come many personalities. You may not sync with everyone, but we all just want to get paid and go home safely. I ask that you have patience with your Brothers and Sisters in the plant so we can all have a more harmonious work life.



YOUR VOTE is YOUR VOICE

submitted by

David P. Sandoval, Executive Board member

In his dialogue *The Republic*, the ancient Greek philosopher Plato said, "The price of apathy is to be ruled by evil men." Plato lived at a time when the concept of democracy was first articulated and developed in its most rudimentary form. It was predicated on the idea that the rights of equal representation belong inherently to each male citizen, and that each has both the right and responsibility to collectively participate in the decisions about matters affecting the community. By doing so, an engaged citizenry could reduce the chances of being ruled by tyrants or oligarchs.

Although imperfect (citizenship was limited to males whose fathers were also citizens), for the first time in history political authority was not seen as the exclusive role of a king or emperor.



Are You Retiring?

Doug Gravelle, CFP
Investment Professional

Michelle Gravelle, CFP

Investment Professional

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Member FINRA/SIPC When the framers of our democracy drafted our founding documents, they drew in part from the ancients for their inspiration. And throughout our nation's history, the role of citizenship has expanded, and has come to be seen as a birthright now applying to people of all races and backgrounds. In time, suffrage was extended to women, African Americans, and other minorities.

It is through this process that we as a nation choose our leaders. On the federal level, this includes the president and members of Congress. Their impact on our lives, which may sometimes not seem significant, is in reality, quite profound. Yet this reality is too often overlooked.

Whether due to laziness, apathy, or cynicism, our current abdication of our political responsibilities is troubling, and its effects are alarming. Opportunistic politicians have taken notice, and in the wake of several recent election cycles, many of the rights and advantages we enjoy as citizens have slowly been eroded. Recent rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court (whose members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate) have struck down key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and enabled the corrosive influence of money in our elections due to the odious Citizen United ruling of 2010.

At this writing, the Court is poised to overturn Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 ruling granting women agency over their sexual and reproductive lives. If this occurs, many observers predict the overturning of other key rulings governing the use of contraception, or the rights of same sex couples, or even interracial couples, to marry. This slippery slope may also affect organized labor, and compromise rights to collective bargaining under the Wagner Act.

To say that these developments are troubling would be an understatement. However, we as citizens still hold the ultimate authority: the power of the ballot box. Despite a series of recent laws making voting more difficult, casting a ballot at elections at all levels of government is still a precious right and meaningful responsibility. Exercising the franchise is now more essential than ever.

This same principle holds true in our union elections, whether at the local or national level. Only ethical and enlightened leaders will assure our best interests are given priority, not theirs.

May we heed Plato's warning and enthusiastically embrace our political responsibilities. Our future literally depends on it.



from the **ROMEO ENGINE** PLANT CHAIR Randy LASHBROOK

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

We all have had a busy few weeks with a lot of changes and information coming at us.

In-Progression info

As of June 13, 2022, all TFTs with 90 days or more have been converted to In-Progression. This is great negotiated gains for the members, as you all get health, dental and vision benefits from that date as well! Those who hired in prior to June 13th will be converted after 90 calendar days, too.

Unfortunately, there are always a few issues that come with the negotiated gains for the membership. The biggest issue brought up was by the members who were close to becoming In-progression in the coming weeks/months. Everyone who was converted was given the same seniority date with the tie-breaker being the SSN#.

We understand the frustration of those who were close to being converted soon anyway and being put on the same June conversation date with everyone else. We have voiced your concerns to our leadership downtown.

Buyout/Bridge Packages

Since our informational meetings, quite a few questions and rumors have been circulating around

the facility. We have had 135 members sign up for packages as of June 16th. We have met with the company to start discussions on how/who and when we will start releasing members that are eligible to leave.

The earliest anyone will be released will be in conjunction with the end of production in specific departments; with the next ones to be the Niche line and Maverick crank line.

We understand those who are eligible for the 28-29 year bridges want out immediately to get the most benefit out of the incentives of the negotiated packages. Unfortunately, the company will not bring in new temps so we can get you released.

Please be patient, as we will be reconvening the week we return from shutdown and will push to negotiate on your behalf.

Lastly, it's easy to always point fingers and complain about our International leaders. Let's give them kudos for negotiating these great packages for us under these tough circumstances we face.

Have a nice shutdown!

of Rome



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Come check out the 1ST EVER BRONCO SHOWROOM in Michigan!

FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES

SUMMER 2022

INMEMORIAM

The Officers, Representatives and members of Local 400 extend their deepest sympathy to the families of our recently deceased members.

CHESTERFIELD

Joan Boyd Kathleen "Kiki" Jones Cook Sante Majuri

MPG HOURLY Harold Klein

ROMEO

Larry Kohler

YANFENG

Janice Gatson (Active)

UTICA

Rosalie Benser **Eugene Jeffries** Bill Kelley Carol Nelson Franklin Pierce III Larry Shagene

2022 RETIREES

Appreciation Golf Outing

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022

9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start • 8:00 a.m. Registration





Romeo, MI 48065

golfer

INCLUDES:

- ~18 Holes of Golf w/cart ~
 - ~ Lunch at Turn ~
 - ~ Drink Tickets ~

Cash Bar/50-50/food/ raffles also available!

Please join the Officers of Local 400 in a day of recognition and celebration of our retired Brothers & Sisters. You do not have to be a retired member to participate and honor those who are!

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

UAW Local 400, 50595 Mound Rd., Utica, MI 48317 Advanced Ticket Sales ONLY! • Limited to first 144 Golfers • NO WALK ONS!

The Officers of UAW Local 400 invite all retired members of Local 400 to attend a picnic in your honor. Come out to enjoy a relaxed atmosphere and share lunch, beverages and music with friends.

Johnny Verellen President

David Murray Financial Sec'y Chris Dilbert, Jr. Vice President

Jim Sorgi Recording Sec'y

UAW Local 400 RETIREE CHAPTER

September 15[™] 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

River Bends Park 5700 22 Mile Road Shelby Township, MI 48317

