



# UAW Local 774

## President's Report

### *Retirees Edition*

President Wence Valentin III



December 13, 2022

### UAW Local 774 Retiree Chapter Meetings

The next UAW Retiree meeting is on Tuesday January 10, 2023, at 1:00 pm, in the upper and lower meeting halls of UAW Local 774 2939 Niagara St. Buffalo, NY 14207. \*All dates are subject to change

### Annual Retiree Christmas Party

The Annual Retiree Christmas Party will be held at the Grapevine Banquets 333 Dick Road Depew, on December 18, 2022. You can purchase tickets from Russ Flynn or at the Union hall between the hours 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. The last day you can purchase tickets will be tomorrow December 14, 2022.

Name

Phone

### UAW Local 774

## Annual Retiree Christmas Party

Grapevine Banquets  
333 Dick Road  
Depew, NY

**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Doors open at 11:30 AM  
Noon ~ 4:30 PM  
Dinner 1:00 PM • Music 2:30 PM ~ 4:30 PM

Open Bar • Dinner • Music • Dancing • Door Prizes

No Take-outs

**Donation \$20**

### We Choose Love T-Shirt Cause

Thank you to everyone that has purchased t-shirts or who has donated to the “We Choose Love” cause. We are proud to announce that we raised **\$1394.53**. All proceeds will be donated to the community of Buffalo affected by the senseless tragedy on May 14, 2022. This t-shirt represents diversity, love & strength that our city and union possesses.

In Solidarity,  
Amy Kloc  
Communications Director  
UAW Local 774



### Union Hall Holiday Hours

Please be advised that the UAW Local 774 union hall will be closed from Monday December 26, 2022 – Friday December 30, 2022. We will reopen Tuesday January 3, 2023, at 8:00 am.

## **2022 International Executive Board (IEB) Election update**

The incoming UAW International Executive Board will be sworn in on December 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a run-off election for the office of International President (candidates Ray Curry and Shawn Fain), International Vice-President (candidates Chuck Browning and Tim Bressler), and the Regional Director of Region 9 (candidates Daniel Vicente and Lauren Farrell). Rules and details around the run-off election will be forthcoming, but it is anticipated that ballots will be mailed to members starting on January 12, 2023, and the deadline for the return of those ballots will be February 28, 2023, with the vote count commencing on March 1, 2023. Additional information will follow. Congratulations to our new UAW IEB members

- **Secretary-Treasurer:** Margaret Mock
- **Vice President:** Mike Booth
- **Vice President:** Rich Boyer
- **Region 1 Director:** LaShawn English
- **Region 1A Director:** Laura Dickerson
- **Region 1D Director:** Steve Dawes
- **Region 2B Director:** David Green
- **Region 4 Director:** Brandon Campbell
- **Region 6 Director:** Mike Miller
- **Region 8 Director:** Tim Smith
- **Region 9A Director:** Brandon Mancilla

Our union continues to influence our workplace and society for the better wholeheartedly. With this election, you can be a part of something amazing. So many workers in our country have never had the opportunity to make a difference within their workplace. It is heartbreaking that many in the middle class have never experienced a labor-driven electoral process. Yet, to choose those to represent and fight for our struggles is an absolute right all workers should have. The assaults on organized labor are rising. Because of these attacks on the labor movement, we must strengthen our bargaining power by addressing urgent issues strategically and with solidarity. Strong leadership is essential to fighting these external adversaries. We must continue our dedication to facilitate better contracts and strengthen our union. Voting is an investment in your future. To foster a strong, participatory member-driven union, we must make the best-educated decisions about our rights as workers and the leaders we choose to execute our interests. Education is vital to our labor movement; a member's knowledge increases awareness and cultivates strength to grow. Research the candidates so we can make changes within our workplace and our union. We need leaders that strictly follow the protocols outlined in the UAW constitution and be transparent to our active and retired members. We, as members, ARE the union. A union is never one-person, executive board, shop committee, or international union. It's all of us, collectively; that's where we draw our strength. Please vote in the upcoming run-off election and inspire co-workers to vote to build our power. We have an obligation to continue to be the voice and protector of the past, present, and future members. Around 10% of the membership participated in this election Union wide, UAW Local 774 had the highest voter turnout within our Region by percentage with around 20% 807 members voted from our Local 280 active members and 527 retired members.

**PLEASE CONFIRM THAT YOUR LOCAL UNION HAS YOUR CURRENT MAILING AND E-MAIL ADDRESS INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ADVISE YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS TO DO THE SAME. IF YOU ARE A NEW MEMBER WHO HAS RECENTLY JOINED THE UAW, YOU MUST MAKE SURE YOUR LOCAL UNION HAS YOUR INFORMATION.**

**IF YOU ARE NOT PRESENTLY IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE UNION AND WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO IMMEDIATELY REMEDY THAT SITUATION, INCLUDING CURING ANY DUES DELINQUENCIES, TO HAVE YOUR VOTE COUNT.**

## Kid's Christmas Party

2022 UAW Local 774 Kid's annual Christmas party was held Sunday December 4th, 2022 at Rainbow Roller Rink. Thank you to all who came out and donated canned goods, the donations received will be going to Rooted in Love a nonprofit organization in the city of Buffalo. A special thank you to all who volunteered to make the Kid's Christmas party a success.



## Community Services Committee

Again I find myself in awe of our membership! When I say every year you all shock me with your generosity it is true. During our gate collection, on December 9<sup>th</sup>, you reached deep into your pockets and raised **\$2286.85** thank you so much.

This year we are helping 3 organizations with your efforts. The Belle Center has given us the opportunity to help give Christmas smiles to over 100 kids. The REACH4ROFOUNDATION is a nonprofit organization started by a Buffalo police officer who is a son of a member. They distribute unwrapped gifts to children in need. Lastly, we got a late request for an additional 8 single-parent families from the YWCA when they had another organization drop out. We were able to step up again because of your generosity.

Thank you again to all who have helped, donated, and supported our annual gift drive. Without your efforts, we couldn't have pulled this off. If anyone needs assistance in getting anything to the hall please contact our Community Services Committee member, Women's Committee member, or Executive Board member.

We would like to wish everyone a happy and safe Holiday season. See you all next year.

In Solidarity,

John Orsini, Chairperson  
Jeanne LoHouse Co-Chair  
UAW Local 774 Community Services Committee

## **Important Upcoming Dates and Events**

- Saturday December 17, 2022 – Defensive Driving Course, Contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Sunday December 18, 2022 – Retiree Christmas Party, at Grapevine Banquets 333 Dick Rd. Depew, NY 14043
- Saturday December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve
- Sunday December 25, 2022 – Christmas Day
- Monday December 26, 2022 – Kwanzaa Begins
- Monday December 26, 2022 – Friday December 30, 2022: Christmas Holiday Period
- Saturday December 31, 2022 – New Year’s Eve
- Sunday January 1, 2023 – New Year’s Day
- Monday January 2, 2023 – New Year’s Day (Observed)
- Friday January 6, 2023 – Three Kings Day
- Tuesday January 10, 2023 - Retiree Chapter Meeting at 1:00pm (In the upper and lower Meeting Halls)
- Monday January 16, 2023 – Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- Saturday January 21, 2023 – Defensive Driving Course, Contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Sunday, January 22, 2023 – Regular Membership Meeting 10:00 am (In the upper and lower Meeting Halls)

## **Happy Holidays**

May the feeling of solidarity warm your heart and the hearts of your loved ones throughout the holiday and the coming year, wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and best wishes for the New Year.

The holidays can be the most joyous time of the year for some and the most difficult for others. If anyone has any struggles this holiday season, we have resources available via EAP, whose primary responsibility is to ensure the health and welfare of the membership. During times of stress, the well-being of membership is imperative. Holidays can be a powerful experience and create insurmountable strain for workers and their families. Bill Martin our EAP representative can be reached at (716) 879-5516



**In Solidarity**  
**/s/ Wence Valentin III, President - UAW Local 774**