



UAW Local 774 President's Report

President Wence Valentin III



Monday, April 4, 2022

Upcoming Membership Meeting

The next UAW Local 774 membership meetings are scheduled at 10:00 am on the following Sundays: April 24th, May 15th, and June 12th. Membership meetings take place in the upper and/or lower meeting halls of the UAW Local 774 located at 2939 Niagara St. Buffalo, NY 14207. All dates are subject to change

Prescription Safety Glasses Program Update

There is a temporary pause on the prescription safety glasses program with SVS Vision and for the time being safety glasses are not available for GM employees at any of the SVS Vision locations.

GM employees are able to get their prescription safety glasses at the listed Provider's below:

Niagara Falls Labmasters

1635 Military Rd
Niagara Falls, NY
(716) 297-9115

Boulevard Optical - Dr. Komm's Office

55 Crosspoint Pkwy
Getzville, NY
(716) 694-4388

Dr. Komm

900 Center St
Lewiston, NY
(716) 754-2555

Every twelve (12) months you are eligible to receive prescription safety glasses, just bring your GM badge to your scheduled appointment to order your glasses.

UAW Region 9 Tom Fricano Scholarship Fund

Applications for the UAW Region 9 Tom Fricano Scholarship Fund are available at the Union Hall, on our website, uaw774.com or at the UAW Region 9 Website – region9.uaw.org

The 2022 Scholarship consists of \$6,000.00 payable at \$1,500/year for a maximum of four (4) consecutive years

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- A high school graduate.
- Current College/University student – **undergraduate degree only**
- Be a member of or have a spouse, parent, guardian, or grandparent, who is a member of a UAW Local Union in Region 9 (Central and Western New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania)
- Be accepted at an accredited institution of higher education.
- Maintain the equivalent of a "C" average for continuation of the scholarship.

[Deadline for applications is June 30, 2022](#)

UAW Local 774 Website and Facebook page

Check out our website at <https://uaw774.com> and Facebook page at [UAW Local 774](#) to stay up to date on the latest Labor News & Reports issues, President's Reports, Regional/International news, and more.

Amy Kloc, Communications Director
UAW Local 774

2nd Annual UAW Local 774 Golf Tournament

We are having our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament on Sunday, June 26, 2022, 1:00 pm at Chestnut Hill Golf course in Darien Center, NY. You must have (1) active or retired member in your foursome. The cost is \$100.00/person, due at sign up. Forms are available at the UAW Local 774 Union Hall. The tournament is limited to (36) foursomes. We are also looking for volunteers to help during the event. Volunteers will be provided lunch and dinner at no cost. All proceeds of this event will benefit the Variety Kid's Telethon. Please contact 1st Vice President Ted Maldonado at tmaldonado@uaw774.com for more info and/or to sign up. *Limited spots are available.

UAW 2022 Family Scholarship

Since 1970, thousands of UAW members and their families have participated in the Walter and May Reuther UAW Family Education Center Scholarship Program – changing their lives and those of their loved ones forever. Located in scenic Onaway, Michigan on Black Lake, the Center was envisioned by legendary UAW President Walter Reuther to be a place where UAW members and their families could come together to learn and relax. Through educational and recreational activities, the Family Scholarship Program provides an opportunity for adults and children to learn and think about how our union empowers us to change our workplaces and communities for ourselves and future generations.

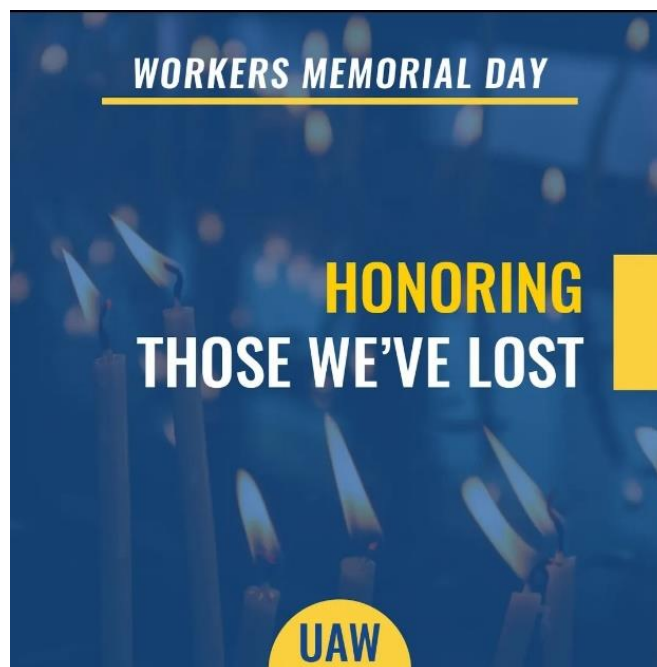
All active or laid-off UAW members in good standing are eligible to apply for a Family Scholarship if they have never attended the program before. You must also be willing to use your regular vacation, personal leave or union leave time (where permitted by contract) to attend. Past participants are not eligible to reapply. Your spouse and children/grandchildren 4-18 years old may attend with you. You may be required to provide a birth certificate or proof of legal guardianship for each attending child.

If you are interested in applying for UAW Family Education Center Scholarship Program, you can obtain an application at the UAW Local 774 Union Hall, 2939 Niagara St. Buffalo, NY 14207

Workers Memorial Day

On April 28th, members of the UAW will observe Workers Memorial Day to pay our respects to those who lost their lives on the job and recognize the impact these tragic losses have on families, co-workers, and communities. The sad fact is that nearly 4,600 Americans die every year from job-related injuries. An additional 50,000 succumb to work-related illnesses. Another 4 million will be injured on the job. We come together this year to call for action on hazards that cause unnecessary injury, illness, and death. We will stand united to strengthen workers' rights and protections, and demand resources and actions needed for job safety enforcement. We will commit ourselves to fight to make sure that others do not suffer the same terrible fate.

I would be remiss not to mention our lost UAW and Unifor brothers this past year. UAW Local 79 in Moline, IL lost a member who was struck in a traffic accident and fatally injured while walking to the picket line. In addition, UAW Local 1219 in Lima, OH, Ford Engine Plant lost a machine repairman due to an accident in the workplace. Additionally, there was a fatality at our sister plant at GM St. Catherine's, Unifor Local 199. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families, friends, and coworkers, may they rest in peace



Legal Gambling - UAW Work Family

Online sports gambling is forecast to generate billions of dollars in New York State tax revenue. The prevalence of legal gambling will result in an increase of “problem gamblers”. After all, I would say you had to be living in a cave if you have not seen the deluge of advertisements regarding sports betting. It is on television commercials, radio, billboards, and on our cell phones. I must admit that I have been tempted but I had to come back to earth and remind myself that the ads look good, they also make winning look easy. One ad gives you \$300 if you use a promo code and bet \$20. Then, you read the fine print, yes, do not forget about the fine print it states you will get \$300 in free bets win or lose. Once you give them your \$20, most of the bettors have lost. Casinos and sportsbooks do not give out money. Their plan is to get you started and when you lose, you take out your ATM card for the ATM machine that is not too far away. These scenarios often are the start for many people that do evolve into problem gamblers. Do not let it be you!

One of the departments of the New York State (NYS) government is, the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Support (OASAS), which launched a media campaign to raise awareness of problem gambling services in NYS. It was named the “Stick to The Game Plan Campaign”. OASAS is spearheading this campaign, but I would like to remind employees that this is a problem that the Work-Family Office can assist you with.

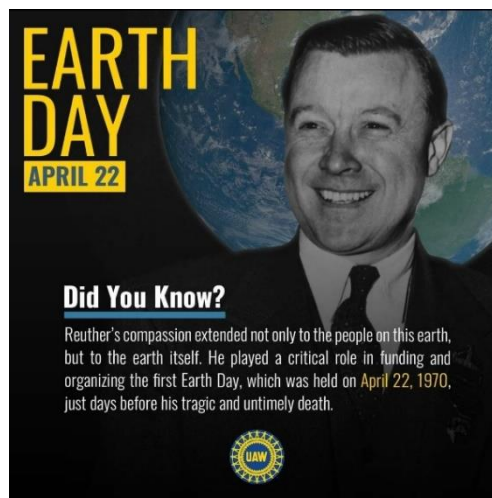
One of OASAS concerns is underage gambling. In NYS, you must be over the age of 18 for any gambling. OASAS Executive Deputy Commissioner Sean Byrne states, “delaying the onset of gambling can help prevent future problem gambling.” Their Vision is “a future where New York State is alcohol safe and free from chemical dependence and compulsive gambling”.

www.OASAS.NY.GOV

Please contact Bill Martin with any questions at (716)-879-5516
UAW Work-Family Rep. Bill Martin, Alternate Reps, Howard Jeffries, & Rich Howes

Important Upcoming Dates and Events

- Tuesday, April 12, 2022 – Retiree Chapter Meeting 1:00 pm
- Saturday, April 9, 2022 – Defensive Driving Course, Contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Friday, April 15, 2022 – Good Friday
- Sunday, April 17, 2022 – Easter
- Monday, April 18, 2022 – Easter Monday
- Friday, April 22, 2022 – Earth Day
- Sunday, April 24, 2022 – Regular Membership Meeting 10:00 am
- Tuesday, April 26, 2022 – District 4 Alternate Committeeperson Election, 2:00pm – 12:00am @ Local Union Hall
- Thursday, April 28, 2022 – Workers Memorial Day 🍷



In Solidarity,

/s/ Wence Valentin III, President - UAW Local 774