



RETIREE NEWS

VOLUME 36 – NO. 2



SPRING 2024

'STAND UP' FOR BIDEN



REGION 1A DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by **Laura
DICKERSON**

Greetings Region 1A Retirees,

We are entering into the most important election cycle of our lifetimes! It's a critical time as we look to support all of our endorsed candidates up and down the ticket. The most critical is the UAW-endorsed candidate for President of the United States. As you know, we have endorsed President Joe Biden. We are working hard to make sure he is re-elected in November 2024.

Michigan is a critical state in this election. Michigan will decide who our next President will be! Michigan is a battleground state. One thing to note is we have 9 additional days to vote and we need to make sure we do so!

Region 1A has started our election activities. We are working closely with the Biden-Harris campaign in Michigan. The campaign has 30 offices open across our state. Region 1A kicked off our election activities with a very zealous Regional Community Action Program (CAP) Conference. We will be counting on you!

Retirees have been a true asset for every election we've had to date. Please reach out to our Region 1A CAP Coordinator, Yvonne Cash, for more information on how you can help.

Region 1A will also be working hard for our Congressional Districts – 6, 12 and 13. As you all know, our good friend Debbie Dingell is our endorsed candidate in the 6th Congressional District. Rashida Tlaib is endorsed in the 12th

Congressional District and there is a highly contested race in the 13th Congressional District.

We are finalizing all of our endorsements and will get that information out to you, shortly. But I want to focus on President Joe Biden. He has been the most pro-Labor President we've ever had in the White House. He has shown his support for Labor, legislatively, for which I will point out that he stood with us, literally, in Region 1A during the historic "Stand Up" strike.

Locals 174 and 900 stood on the picket lines, Local 900 for 41 days! President Joe Biden came to the Local 174 GM Willow Run CCA, along with myself, UAW President Shawn Fain and members from our Region, as well as, Regions 1, 1D and 2B. The first time in history, a sitting President has walked an active picket line. His support helped us succeed at the bargaining table. The companies could not help but take notice!

Biden has also supported the Chips Act, and has attempted to pass legislation which would provide incentives for buying Union-made/American-made vehicles.

I think we need to stand with President Biden. He has supported favorable legislation, which has helped us organize. Our recent victory at Volkswagen could not have happened without his support. The great contracts we have in the Big 3 (Ford, General Motors and Stellantis), Independent Parts Suppliers (IPS), Technical, Office and Professionals (TOP), Agricultural Implement Workers, Heavy Truck, Gaming, Higher Education could not have happened without support and legislation from our legislators and the White House.

We have prevailed in Michigan by repealing Right to Work, thanks to the Governor of



President **JOE BIDEN** has:

- Lowered costs for families with the Inflation Reduction Act
- Lowered the costs of prescription drugs by allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices
- Created 11 million jobs and brought unemployment to a 50-year low
- Created over \$300 million in manufacturing investments in the U.S.
- Supported historic student debt relief
- Expanded benefits and services for those that served our country (Veterans) with the PACT Act
- Supported moving production of semiconductor chips back to the U.S. from overseas
- Delivered pro-worker changes to the NLRB that empower unions and organizing

our great state, Gretchen Whitmer, Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and Attorney General Dana Nessel. Michigan became the first state in over 60 years to repeal Right-to-Work laws.

President Joe Biden needs our help to prevail, again, nationally, just as we have prevailed here in Michigan!

Once again, *thank you* for your support as we work hard to protect our Union and fight for working families!

STAND UP... STAND WITH PRESIDENT BIDEN.

VOTE AS IF YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT, BECAUSE IT DOES!

ADVISORY COUNCIL Report

by Pat Greca, Advisory Council Delegate

RWIAC Conference

As we begin the second quarter of 2024, I have just attended the UAW Retired Worker International Advisory Council (RWIAC) Conference at Solidarity House in Detroit for the first time. We spent two days at presentations from an array of Departments: National CAP, Legal Services Plan, National Ford Benefits, GM Benefits, and Stellantis Benefits, Organizing Department, Information Systems, and many others who would stop in just to thank the retirees for all they have contributed and continue to contribute to our UAW Union.

A FEW OF THE HIGHLIGHTS:

All UAW Retirees should check their status at their Local with the Financial Secretary to ensure that their information is correct in the LUIS system. And that they are a *member in good standing*, as this can affect their benefits, their ability to vote in UAW elections, receive vital information, and other benefits. Also, you should update the information on your life insurance and health insurance by contacting the NESC.

Legal Services for Ford, GM, and Stellantis has estate planning information available and much more, so please contact them at 734-482-4500 to find a location nearest to you.

We have added over 2,300 new retirees to our ranks

from Ford, GM, and Stellantis just this year. If you are considering the purchase of an electric vehicle (EV), it must be built in North America to qualify for a Federal Tax Credit.

GM retirees should be receiving a beneficiary update solicitation from MetLife Insurance, so please watch your mail for this important communication.

In other news, the first Region 1A UAW CAP Conference under the direction of Director Laura Dickerson was a great success, which energized all who attended with an impressive host of speakers.

In addition, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson provided a full-service mobile office at Region 1A for two days that week, available to UAW members and the community as well. She has 50 of these full-service mobile offices available throughout our State for the rest of the year. They go anywhere from nursing homes to schools, to provide enhanced access for voter registration plus full-service convenience.

In closing, I must apologize for any confusion I may have caused regarding the OTC Benefit for Ford, GM, and Stellantis. I am still familiarizing myself with the diverse array of UAW Locals in our Region 1A. I appreciate your patience and understanding.

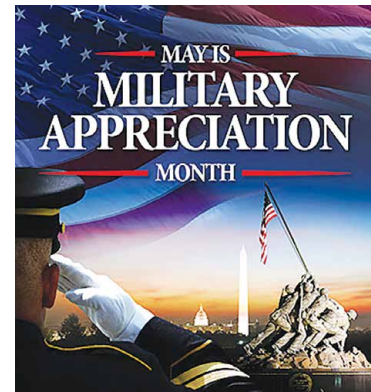
I send out *light* and *love* to all in Solidarity.



May is Military Appreciation Month

The month of May has numerous dates of importance.

- **May 1st** is Silver Star Banner Day. The day is to Honor Awardees of the 3rd highest military award.
- **May 8th** is the date of VE Day. In 1945, victory over Germany was achieved.
- **May 10th** marks Military Spouse Appreciation Day.
- **May 27th** is Memorial Day. In 1868 it was originally called Decoration Day. It was made a Federal Holiday in 1938. In 1967 the name was changed to Memorial Day. It is a day to Honor the 1.2 million Veterans who have given the Ultimate Sacrifice to our Country since the Revolutionary War. This number does not include the 650,000 that lost their lives during the Civil War.



- **On May 11th**, the Veterans Council and Region 1A held a Veterans Benefit class. Lots of information was shared and participants had access to Service Officers who helped start claims, do follow-ups, and helped sign up folks with the V.A.

My thanks go out to Gary Easterling and his staff. Many folks thanked the Veterans Council for hosting the event. I would like to express my gratitude to Director Laura Dickerson for the use of the Region 1A Hall, and John Moore for all his help. We have been asked to present this again. We will.

Registration has begun for this year's Veterans Conference. Contact your Local to get registered. This will be the 30th Anniversary of the Conference. Truly a milestone in our history.

– Edward Jackson, UAW Region 1A Veterans Council Chair

FRAUD GUARD

Fraud Guard is a **FREE** service provided by

BERNARD J. YOUNGBLOOD

Wayne County Register of Deeds

It is a simple way to monitor your land record and warn you of potential property fraud.

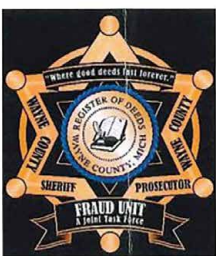
INSTRUCTIONS:

- ▶ Go to waynecountylandrecords.com > "Fraud Guard" tab.
- ▶ Enter the email (twice to confirm) and press "I Agree"
- ▶ On the next page type in the name for monitoring and press "Add Alert". You can add more than one name.
- ▶ When done, press "Save My Alerts".
- ▶ You will receive a confirmation email. Any property alerts will be sent via email.
- ▶ Submit a fraud complaint at waynecounty.com/register or Call 313-224-5869.

Since 2005, over 373 homes have been returned to their rightful owners.



Complaint Form



Fraud Guard

Congratulations!

DIRECTOR LAURA DICKERSON

Our UAW Region 1A Director Laura Dickerson has been appointed as Director of the UAW Technical and Office Professional Department (TOP). She also received the EMG Foundation 2024 *Detroit Woman of the Year* award, the Michigan *Chronicles Power 50* award, and sits on the United Way for Southeastern Michigan Board of Directors. **We congratulate you, Laura, and all you do!**



UAW REGION 1A RETIRED WORKERS COUNCIL

- REGION 1A DIRECTOR**
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- ASSISTANT 1A DIRECTOR**
Dave Pagac
- DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY**
Christine Neal
- RETIREE COORDINATOR**
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 - PAT GRECA, LU 898
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Advisory Council Alternate Delegate
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 - Legislation/CAP Rick Custer, LU 600
 - Veterans George Turner, LU 372
 - Civil Rights Jim Barczyk, LU 372
 - Consumers/
Protection Issues Pat Greca, LU 898
 - Scholarship Richard Custer, LU 600
 - Healthcare Katie Martin, LU 900
 - Black Lake Retreat Program
Yvonne Harris, LU 36
Peaches Anderson, LU 600



MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE
MOBILE IS COMING TO YOU

The Secretary of State Mobile Office will be visiting the **UAW Region 1A Union Hall** to provide service to **Seniors of the UAW to complete Secretary of State transactions**

Date: June 27, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Location: 9650 S. Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI 48180

Book a visit to complete your Secretary of State transactions, including:



First-Time Michigan ID



Renew Driver's License or ID



Transfer Title



Apply for/renew Disability Placard

For more information or to schedule your visit during this Mobile Office event, contact **JEFF MORRIS** at **jsmorris@uaw.net** or call (313) 291-2750



Region 1A RETIREE NEWS

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
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BOB SISLER, Ex-Officio
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CHAPTER 36 REPORT



Chair – **YVONNE HARRIS**

Chapter Happenings

Greetings, My Retired Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 36 and Associate Members,

On behalf of the Executive Board and myself, what a pleasure to greet and pray that we find you and your family well. The winter weather has been mild, and the temperatures weird to say the least, but hello Mr. Spring and his friend, Summer. Enjoy and be safe.

Please remember to keep your 2024 Healthcare Highlights and UAW Retiree Medical (Trust) booklets.

With my deepest regret, I had to accept a resignation letter from brother Vice Chair Ken Jasin, due to personal concerns. We wish Ken and his family the very best.

Our first meeting, April 15, 2024, was exciting. We welcomed back members and were surprised to greet members whom we had not seen in a while. What a joy. The first special guest was Bob Sisler, Chair of LU 6000 and Region 1A Retired Workers Council and a very active member of the Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA). He shared information concerning “Medicare for All,” which we will be hearing more about soon.

Our meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, 10:30 a.m., at UAW Local 182, 35603 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150. See you at one of our upcoming meetings.

No question about it, all Elections are important. The fast-approaching Primary Election is August 6, 2024, and it is very important to *vote*. Hopefully, you have requested an absentee ballot. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

I remember when families used dinner time for open discussions. Times most definitely have changed. Today, we must do all we can to keep our younger generation informed. The key factors are open communication and listening.

The Trust has been invited to attend our June 17, 2024 meeting, and will return in the fall. Please remember that spouses are welcomed.

I cannot cover everything, but this newspaper is

a very useful tool, use it.

We are accepting *donations of socks, gloves and scarves for “Keeping our Seniors Warm”* and “Coffee for Vets,” for local Nursing Homes and V.A. centers. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

A thank you also for their outstanding work and support goes out to the Executive Board, K. Jasin, R. Carpenter (A.M.), G. Love, A. Griffin, N. (Charlotte) El, and D. Nunnally.

Special appreciations to our Chaplain, G. Wison, and the thoughtfulness of our volunteers. Remember, we have “One Call Now.” Join now to keep yourself posted.

We appreciate your hospitality always, UAW Local 182, thank you.

In closing, our deepest condolences to the families on the passings of our Brothers and Sisters. Please keep their families in your prayers.

Prayers also go out for our sick and shut-ins: Brother Clyde Day (Hi-Low driver), Keith Halliburton (Master Electrician), and Sister Lorraine Wigget.

In Solidarity my brothers and sisters. Stay safe, and may God Bless you, God Bless America, and the UAW.

Until next time...

CHAPTER 78 REPORT



Chair – **NATHANIEL ‘DAN’ BISHOP**

The Future of America is on the November Ballot

Greetings to our Retirees and Retired Spouses,

As we move forward into our summer months, without a doubt, it seems that time is moving on at a fast pace. We’re now in six months of this year. Hopefully, the past months have been kind to each of you and your family.

We are only a few months away from one of the

most impactful elections that will be recorded in our history. I know, you are saying, they have said this before, in past elections, but I assure you this election of 2024 is setting up to be a true turning point for this nation and its future. If ever there has been a defining point for this nation and the direction of this nation, it is on this ballot.

Whatever you do, don’t be fooled by the ongoing negative press and social media reports and coverage. Remember, it is a true saying, “a leopard cannot change its spots.”

I remember saying in my last article that the racial, political, and social media storm clouds are looking increasingly dangerous by the day. Well, may I rephrase it. We are on the verge of entering into a tsunami of overwhelming impact and the only way we will be able to survive is to vote and make the right choices for our future.

As we move closer to this election, the lies and misbehavior of many will become unbelievable and

mindboggling. Please keep in mind, the implications of this election are global, affecting not just the United States, but people around the world. It’s a reminder that our actions have far-reaching consequences.

Let’s hope for a brighter future for all. May we together vote for a brighter and great future for the good of this nation.

SENIOR ALLIANCE INFORMATION 1-800-815-1112

A special expression of sympathy to the family and friends of those members or spouses who may have passed away.

REMINDERS

We will be meeting during the next few months on the third Wednesday of each month, 10:00 a.m., at UAW Local 245, 1226 Monroe St., Dearborn, MI. *Come on out and join us.*

Union dues are \$3.00 per month. You can pay at our Regular Meeting or send a check to:

REGION 1A

9560 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI 48180

Local 78 Union Dues – Check payable to INTERNATIONAL UNION UAW.

If you have any questions concerning your pension check or any other personal matters related to your retirement:

DETROIT RETIREES, CALL:

ZF (TRW) Service Center

877-698-7910, press “2”

Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ROMULUS RETIREES, CALL:

PBGC – Customer Contact Center

800-400-7242

Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Are you paying your retiree dues? Maybe NOT!

Even if you opted at one time to have your voluntary retiree dues taken out of your pension check, they may not be taken out now. Check your pension statement (State Street for Ford retirees). If you don’t see “U Dues” under deductions, they are not being paid. Have your Local Financial Secretary, Benefits Rep, or Chapter Chair give you the form for deducting this small amount (\$3) which supports the work going on every day for retirees. We are not “former members” of the UAW, *we are forever members!*

Another thing to check is whether your dues are going to the correct Chapter. Each Retiree Chapter Chair receives a list of members who are paying dues. If your name is not on this list, some other chapter is getting your money. Help us make sure you are supporting *YOUR* Chapter and *YOUR* Region.



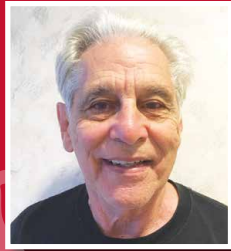
40% to UAW
Retired Workers
Department

35% to Local
Retiree Chapter

25% to Regional
Retired Workers Fund

**Retired Workers Dues Allocation
(\$3 Per Month)**

**CHAPTER
163
REPORT**



Chair – ROY GONZALEZ

Big Oil Needs Transparency

There is no end to what Big Oil comes up with to con Americans out of billions of dollars each year. They have so many ways that they get away without any transparency or accountability for their schemes. I think it is time for transparency and accountability!

For example, when we retirees were much

younger, there was no summer gas or winter gas. Is there really a gas change necessary?

In the warmer months, gas has a greater evaporation rate, increasing emissions and producing smog. Refineries produce gasoline blends that lower the vapor pressure and emissions. These blends do vary by state, and this higher-grade blend costs more to produce and more to the consumer.

In winter months, gasoline blends evaporate less easily and allow the gas to ignite better when you start your car in cold temperatures. This blend is cheaper to produce. But, does Big Oil really need to keep their prices so high just so they continue to be big billionaires and make billions for their stockholders? Why not lower their prices for the billions of hard-working people who keep them in business?

Take Care, Be Well.

We also have a new Guide, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Trustee that the retirees could vote for.

Our Retired Workers Chapter does not meet during the months of June, July, and August. We will start back on September 12th.

For the September meeting, I'm hoping to have a refresher course on our A.E.D. machine, along with hands-only C.P.R.

I'm also working on getting vaccinations for the month of October, and the Trust (VEBA) will be back in October.

I'll be working on the Vets for the month of November, and on December 12th, we will have our annual Christmas Party.

Our Local is going to a Tiger baseball game on June 8th, and we will be having our annual Car Show in the fall.

Please be safe over the summer and I look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall. Always remember that there is strength in unity.

brothers and sisters a wonderful retirement. I also invite them to join our Retiree Chapter. We have set up an email to send out to the Retirees about information that will be useful for them. It's being administered by Retiree Executive Board member Gerry Mauer, and Bookkeeper Larry Niner.

If you would like to be included in this email, please give your email address to either one of these individuals at the Local.

Our Retiree Meetings are held at UAW Local 245 on the third Thursday of the month at 11:00 a.m. and lunch is provided. We look forward to seeing you soon. *God Bless America.*

**CHAPTER
227
REPORT**



Chair – ELMER DUFF

Use Your Benefits

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

It feels as if summer has already arrived, and summer is not due until June 20th. I'm not complaining, but there's some dos and don'ts when the weather gets hot. We need to protect ourselves in the sun. We need more water and outdoor time.

The elections of 2024 are heating up and going to get hot. Come November, we will be electing some people to represent us for the next four years. A lot can happen in that amount of time, so make your vote count.

I hope you are taking advantage of the new healthcare benefits, such as no monthly contributions, lower co-pays for Tier 1 and Tier 2 drugs, lower co-pays for office visits and Urgent Care, and new coverage for dental implants.

You should have received the UAW Legal Services booklet and read it to see what benefits you have. Also, there's the OTC plan that went to \$200. Be sure to use your benefits.

Need a ride? Free rides start summer of 2024 for persons 62 and older and all ages with a disability living in Detroit. Call 313-583-6396.

If you are planning on going to the Region 1A Retiree Retreat, June 30 thru July 3rd, you need to call Jeff Morris at 313-291-2750 for an application. Rates are \$402.50 (Single), \$275.00 (Double) and \$550.00 (Couple). If you are taking the bus, there is an additional charge of \$10.00 per seat. The deadline to apply is June 10th. All UAW members should experience the joys of Black Lake.

It is with great sorrow we announce the passing of Robert W. Jones, Pipefitter, and Rico Hill from 9840. Let's remember that with each member we lose our world gets smaller. Our condolences to their families and friends.

Meetings are the third Wednesday of each month up until December, with the exception of August, which is our picnic on that third Wednesday. We ask you to come to your meetings. *In Solidarity...*

**CHAPTER
182
REPORT**



Chair – GEORGE 'MICKY' HERRICK

Special Election Held

Hello Retired Brothers and Sisters,

We recently had a special election for spots that were vacated by retirements and newly appointed positions. Our former Recording Secretary accepted an appointed job as the new Quality Representative, due to our retirements. Tracie Collins was elected as our new Recording Secretary. Welcome aboard!

**CHAPTER
245
REPORT**



Chair – LARRY F. KELSEY

Chairperson Lubeck Passes

Brother and Sisters,

I am starting this article on a sad note. Our Retiree Chair of Local 245 has passed away. Dick Lubeck was a great leader and he will be sorely missed by the membership of Local 245 Retirees.

My name is Larry Kelsey, and I am your new Retiree Chairperson. Previously, I was the Financial Secretary.

The Plant Chairman has indicated that around 100 Local 245 members are taking the recent buyout offered by the company. I wish these

**If you or someone you know is in emotional distress,
visit www.988lifeline.org, or call/text 988**

**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE**

CHAPTER 372 REPORT



Chair - **GEORGE TURNER**

McCain, a POW who showed remarkable bravery during Operation Rolling Thunder in October 1968. He was shot down, seriously injured, and captured by the North Vietnamese. McCain refused early release, opting to stay with his fellow soldiers in the concentration camp until 1973. He later became one of America's great U.S. Senators, embodying the leadership we need.

Don't forget to sign up for the new PACT Act, which brings additional benefits for Veterans. Even if you are already receiving benefits, I urge everyone to register again, as many new provisions, including those concerning lead paint on ships and other updates have been added.

Our first Region 1A Veterans Class was a resounding success, providing invaluable information for our Locals. We plan to host this class annually to ensure our Veterans and

members stay informed about changes that impact their lives and families. It's crucial to keep abreast of evolving Veterans' laws, as they change daily.

On June 12th, join us for our Flag Retirement Ceremony at Local 3000, organized by the Boy Scouts at 5:00 p.m. This ceremony will surely be a moving tribute to our nation's symbol and all it represents.

Attend the Region 1A's Veterans Council meeting and witness this meaningful event. A bin to collect old and tattered flags can be found in front of Region 1A.

Lastly, please attend the Local 372 Retiree Meetings, 4571 Division Street, Trenton, MI 48183 at 11:00 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Dinner will be served and your attendance is highly encouraged.

If You Love Your Freedom, Thank A Vet.

Protecting Americans

We must defeat Trump at all costs; particularly to support women whose reproductive rights are under attack, people of color, the poor, and our Veterans who Trump has called "criers and whiners." Here's a man who dares to criticize heroes such as the decorated Veteran, John

CHAPTER 387 REPORT



CHAIR - **KAREN MAGER**

At our May Retiree Meeting, our guest speakers were Max Harring and Adrienne Bradley from the Life Skills Autism Academy. They spoke on how to recognize and deal with individuals with autism. Thank you, Gary, for securing them to come and speak to our group.

I had no idea how many of our retirees deal with family and friends with autism. Our members were engaged with their presentation. They were scheduled for a 30-minute report/question time slot, but they were so interesting that the members kept them for over an hour with questions.

Max and Adrienne told me it was their best response to their presentation ever. They would like to come again in September for a follow-up. If you are interested in speaking to them, you can contact Max at 313-384-4067.

RETIREE MEETINGS

June 12 – We will have Peter Gianopoulos

from Retirement Strategies of Michigan, and Nakia Mills from the Better Business Bureau (BBB). Our friend, Mel Leonard, with the BBB has retired.

We will not have a July or August meeting.

September 11 – We are trying to get a speaker from Social Security to come speak.

October 9 – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will attend our meeting and inform our members what is happening in our area and in Washington, D.C. She will take questions from the membership.

November 13 – The Medical Benefits Trust will bring information about the changes to our benefits along with all the providers to answer any and all of our questions. These presentations are always very informative and helpful to our members. Please try to attend this meeting.

December 4 – Meeting is our Christmas Party.

Spring Is Here

I hope everyone had a great winter. Thank you to Gary Shack, Local 387 Retiree Chapter 1st Vice-President, for chairing the Retiree Meetings while I was getting away from the Michigan snow. He had many speakers come to our meetings to inform the membership on things affecting our lives.

CHAPTER 600 REPORT



President - **PEACHES ANDERSON**

very informative information that is given to our members for themselves, their family, and friends to pass on.

Remember, we have a very important election coming up in November. We must remember it is our time to show our strength as Union brothers and sisters. We must get ready to battle for our lives. Let's work together to get the right person in office who is talking about the issues and policies that are important to working families and retirees. We do not want to elect someone who is talking about cutting our Social Security and Medicare benefits. Don't forget that we are the middle class.

2024 is a very important year for everybody. We must keep our eyes open for a lot of information that is being mailed to us. And, if possible, attend your membership meetings for information that you need.

211 is the number to call your United Way representative for information and referrals for all your needs. Whether for housing help, temporary shelter, tax preparation, food assistance, utility assistance, and so much more. They are there to help our communities.

VEBA Trust reminds us that we should never sign any paperwork for another healthcare plan. You must use the UAW VEBA Trust for your healthcare. If you have any questions, you can call them at 866-637-7555.

My condolences go out to all those who have lost family, friends, and loved ones.

"The need of God is sometimes more than the need of essentials. When you are in the need of God (which should be daily), He will supply what you need and more."

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- VEBA Trust 866-637-7555
- Davis Vision 888-234-5164
- Midwest Vision 313-582-8080
- Delta Dental 800-524-0149
- Tru Hearing 844-394-5420
- Nations Hearing (HAP only) 877-484-7977
- Optum Rx 855-409-0219
- MetLife Insurance 833-552-3673
- NESC 800-248-4444
- Ford-UAW Retirement Board ... 800-929-8833
- UAW Legal Services 800-482-7700
- AXZ Plans 800-348-7709

Educate, Advocate, Promote

Sisters and Brothers,

To our new members, we extend a very special greeting. We are thrilled to have you as part of our retiree family and look forward to you joining us in unity and mutual support. The challenges we face may change with time, but our unity always stays strong.

At our March 24th meeting, we had a presentation to educate, advocate and promote healthy aging, which enables people to make choices about their home community from basic services to long-term care that will improve their quality of life. At all of our meetings, we have

REG. 1A RETIREE RETREAT 2024



Please join us... at the **2024 Region 1A Retiree Retreat**

Everyone should experience the beauty of Walter Reuther's vision for UAW members at least once in their lifetime.

OPEN TO ALL Reg. 1A Retirees **JUNE 30-JULY 3** **DEADLINE to apply is 06/10/24**

There will be a fee of \$10 per person to reserve a seat on the bus leaving from the Region. This helps offset the cost of the buses.

Please indicate whether you will be riding the bus when you sign up.

Contact your Local or Region 1A Retiree Rep. Jeff Morris at 313.291.2750 for application.

• RATES •

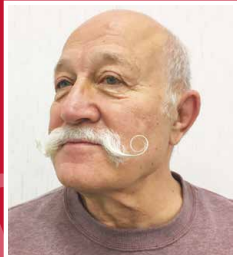
\$402⁵⁰ PER RETIREE SINGLE OCCUPANCY

\$275⁰⁰ PER RETIREE DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$550⁰⁰ PER COUPLE COUPLE PACKAGE

Prices include room accommodations and all meals, starting with dinner on Sunday, June 30th, and breakfast on Wednesday, July 3rd.

CHAPTER 723 REPORT



Chair – **ROBERT CEBINA**

p.m., at the UAW Local 723 Union Hall. We would love to see more of our retirees coming to the meetings and, of course, the meals that go along with the meeting. Currently, the meals are \$10.00 a person. I don't believe that you can find a meal and beverage any place else in Monroe for \$10.00 that includes dessert. The desserts are better than they used to be.

With that being said, I hope that you will start coming to the meetings and enjoy the fellowship with your sisters and brothers and check out the food. We are averaging about 40-50 members coming to the meetings. Currently, there are 1,340 retiree members in the Local Retiree Chapter.

The Local 723 Retirees Chapter is still in need of someone to fill the positions of Vice Chair, Recording Secretary, and Financial Secretary. These three positions do not require a lot of work or time. If anyone is interested, please contact the Local or me.

If you are out and about and bump into any of our retirees, let them know about the meetings and the meals that go along with the meetings.

Sisters and brothers, election time will soon

be upon us once again. I am not going to barrage you with who to vote for or who not to vote for. First, what I would like you to do is get out there and vote. Yes, we need candidates who are labor friendly, but this is not the only critical item that we are faced with in this country of ours. We truly need candidates who will stand up and put forth what is the best course of action for this great country of ours and its people.

Let us not put forth what is best for one's political party. That is not going to get this country out of the crisis we are in. There are those who believe that all is well in this country. All one has to do is look around and see what is going on in this country.

Remember that this year is a critical year for voting. All of us should exercise our right to vote for the candidate of their choice. Let us hope that we choose the right candidate.

Let us not forget our Veterans who have given our country and us so much, asking nothing in return. For those members who are Veterans, thank you for your service. God bless you and all of our Veterans. *God bless all of you!*

Attend Monthly Meetings

Greetings UAW Local 723 Retirees,

I hope that all of you are in the best of health these days. If you happen to know of one of our retiree members who has passed away, please let me know, or let the Local know, so we can let the retired members know who has passed on.

Since our last *Retiree News* issue, we have lost Larry Poor, Tony Weatherholt, and George Cousin.

Sisters and brothers, the UAW Local 723 Retiree Meetings and luncheons are still being held on the third Thursday of the month, 1:00

CHAPTER 735 REPORT



Chair – **SHIRLEY POLING**

If you plan to go, you will need to sign up very soon as we will have the bus filled quickly.

July – No membership meeting

July 12 – Annual Retiree Reunion Golf Outing at Rolling Meadows Golf Course in Whitmore Lake, 8:00 a.m., shotgun start, 4-person, best ball scramble. Cost is \$65 per person. Please contact Sterling Mullins at 734-265-6132 or Shirley Poling at 734-560-4347 to register your team. *Please only have one person per team call to do the registration.* Please see the post on the *Local 735 Forever* Facebook page for more in-depth information.

August 14 – Annual Retiree Picnic, starts at 10:00 a.m., no cost. It will be held at Local 163 on the grounds (behind the building). See the *Local 735 Forever* page.

September 11 – Membership Meeting

October 9 – Membership Meeting featuring our Healthcare Fair

November 13 – Membership Meeting

December 11 – Annual Retiree Christmas Party. More details to follow.

ELECTIONS

The Primary Election date in Michigan is Tuesday, August 6, 2024. I encourage you to vote for your UAW-endorsed candidates and either for

or against various proposals based on the UAW recommendations. These endorsements are meant to be informed recommendations to our members. It is not intended to be any of us telling anyone how they have to vote.

Rank-and-file members and retirees just like you have voluntarily served on the Region 1A Candidate Screening Committee, where they interviewed all the candidates who requested an endorsement from Region 1A, in addition to reviewing all available information regarding proposals. Based on the answers given by the candidates and information on the proposals, the committee votes to recommend for or against endorsement for each candidate or proposal.

There is no "rubber stamp, easy pass" for any candidate. I can speak to this issue with authority, having served more than 30 years on the Region 1A Candidate Screening Committee. Please, remember to vote!

I hope to see a great many of you at our June meeting, or at the picnic.

I also want to express condolences from your Executive Board for each of you who have lost loved ones recently. May God grant each of you with good days and good health.

In Solidarity...

Attend Our Chapter Events

Greetings to Everyone from Your Local 735 Chapter,

Our next Chapter Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. However, you are invited to join us at 9:00 a.m. or later for coffee and donuts and to visit with your brothers and sisters. Our meetings are held at Local 163, 450 S. Merriman Rd., in Westland. Lunch is served after the meeting, but you must pay for it first. The cost is \$7 per person.

IMPORTANT DATES

Going forward, this is our schedule for the year:

June 26 – Bus trip to Shippshewana, Indiana. Cost is \$35 per person. Please see the Local 735 Facebook page to get more detailed information.

CHAPTER 845 REPORT



Chair – MIKE LAMBERT

Come Join Us

Time seems to fly by lately. It seems like only yesterday I was wishing everyone a Happy New Year. In only a few weeks, this year will be half over already. Welcome to the summer of 2024. We have a few things planned in the near future.

This year, we have a choice to make in the upcoming elections. Our local communities, as well as state and federal elections, will be a big part of our lives. I have never been a person who has asked you to vote my way, and I will not start now. I have never been a person to allow my vote to be dictated by the letter 'D' or 'R' that has followed a name. I will continue to ask each of you to review the candidates in your communities with serious thought and inspection of past voting records. Ask the candidates their opinions. Do they share similar ideas?

No matter how you decide, make that trip to the polls later this year to make sure your vote counts. Staying home is never a good option.

Each year, our Local tries to have summer fun through annual picnics. This year is no exception. Our active members (those still working) will be sharing an *Afternoon at the Park* event on Sunday,

August 18th. All Local 845 members are asked to come share a fun-filled day at Van Buren Park, starting at 12:00 noon until 5 or 6:00 p.m. There is always plenty of food and refreshments to go around. Grandma, grampa, bring the grandkids and have a great time.

As Retirees, we too try to have an Annual Reunion during the summer. This year, as in the past, we will continue to enjoy the company of those who we have shared so much of our lives with. At Local 845, we have always thought of those who we worked with as an extended family. When they decided to separate our family and spread them throughout Ford Motor Company, we continued to claim them as ours.

So, let me invite *all* those who were asked, or forced to go to foster Ford facilities throughout this country, to join us at *Local 845's Annual Sheldon Road Survivors Reunion*. We will be at Heritage Park in Canton, on Thursday, August 29th from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We have reserved Pavilions 1 and 2 (at the north end of the park). The Local supplies all the meats and refreshments. Please bring your favorite dish to pass. This location is the ideal area for our elderly to get together. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me. My phone number has not changed, it's 517-403-1327.

As most of our members know, about four years ago, our Local in Canton was sold and a building was purchased in Wayne to be closer to the new work facility. During the move, Warren Hug, Bill Socola, and I removed the bricks from the Veterans Memorial at the Local. These bricks were hopefully going to be respected in a Memorial Wall at the new Local building.



We now know this will never happen. We have donated the service monuments to the City of Wayne, and they are now placed in the city's Veterans Memorial, which is only a couple blocks from Local 845. However, the bricks are currently in storage at the Local. We have pride in those who have served this country in our military. We would like to thank you once again for your services.

Now, many of you own a brick that once stood proud at our memorial. We would like to return your brick to you. This is a hard task to do, since many of our brave servicemen and servicewomen have passed on. But, these bricks may be cherished by family members. Please, give us the chance to return a memory. If you would like to have your brick returned to you or a family member, please let us know.

I will have the bricks at our annual *Sheldon Road Survivors Reunion* on August 29th. If you are unable to come get your brick, please contact me at 517-403-1327. Hopefully, we can make arrangements to return a memory.

CHAPTER 849 REPORT



Chair – BOB BOWEN

Why I'm A Liberal

Like most 849 members, I take my votes seriously. It is true that over the years I have promoted and voted for candidates that some believed were too liberal. Friends who dislike liberalism may be surprised to learn that I voted straight Republican until 1968.

Forgive me for making this article about me, but I believe the membership should know how its leaders think. This Chapter report should help you understand me better, and cut through some of the animosity that threatens to destroy our democratic republic, and in turn the Labor Movement.

I grew up in a Southern Democratic family, but somewhere through our meandering from Arkansas to Wyoming, back to Arkansas, and eventually to Michigan, I drifted toward

Republican Libertarianism. Though Southern by birth, our family is proud that our great-grandfather had served in Lincoln's army, and that Dad had been named after the great labor leader Eugene Debs.

Somehow, I had overlooked the fact that Lincoln's party was no longer the emancipation party that had freed slaves and believed in the right of working people to unionize. Unfortunately, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt's party had become a haven for the diehard racists who had controlled the South's Democratic party. The shock of Barry Goldwater's defeat in 1964 forced me to re-examine the foundations of my political faith.

Looking back, I can identify the forces that transformed my thinking. The prime mover was learning to listen more and talk less. The next was to open my mind by studying a wide range of writings, instead of relying on the closed loop of Conservative theory that my right-wing friends had flooded me with. The third, and inescapable, was the times we were struggling through – the Civil Rights struggle, Vietnam, the infant Environmental Movement, and the pressure of International Trade.

Without turning this article into a book, let me say that these forces changed all of us; some

became more liberal, others more conservative, but few remained unchanged. I have tremendous sympathy for those who think differently than I do. Our personal experiences are as varied as our personalities and the places we were in at a particular time. We have lived through one of history's most tumultuous times, and will continue to do so until we turn our responsibilities over to newer generations. In the meantime, let us find a way to combine the best of liberalism and conservatism, so our successors have a world and society worth saving.

Now, to answer why I am a liberal. Every day, I am reminded of the good things that progressive leaders created that make our lives better – Social Security, Medicare, and Obamacare chief among them. When your retirement check is deposited in the bank, thank FDR for the National Labor Relations Act that makes it legal for working people to organize and bargain as equals with their employers. Do not forget the Civil Rights Act of 1965, that continues to lead us away from Jim Crow laws and the racial animosity that has plagued us since our founding.

These are just a few of the benefits of progressive action. Add the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Western hydro-electric projects

See CHAPTER 849 on Page 9

CHAPTER 892 REPORT



Chair – JIM PEDERSEN

your Union’s endorsements.

It is important to note here that the candidates are screened based on their position and record on union matters. Unions screen candidates based on our issues, like collective bargaining rights, free riders, jobs and wages, health insurance, Social Security, prevailing wage laws, OSHA, trade and tariffs, unemployment and workers’ compensation. There may also be local issues, like school millages, road construction or government contracting, the treatment of picketers. Our unions make recommendations based on our issues.

Individual union members may have individual, personal issues, but the union sticks to union issues. It drives me crazy when a union member gripes about a union endorsement for a candidate who doesn’t agree with their personal issue. Fine. Vote with your church or gun club, I get that. But

the union endorsement is based on your work issues, your paycheck, your insurance card, your pension, your health and safety. Not your personal issues.

And ‘yes,’ union endorsements tend to go to Democrats. Honestly, frankly, there are very few pro-union Republicans left. The Republican Party is anti-union to its core. Against collective bargaining, against picketing, against Social Security increases and Medicare expansion, against OSHA, against union-only contracts, and against prevailing wages in government contracting. Look at the facts, look at the votes, look at their record.

And please, pay attention to the hard work and thoughtfulness that are in the unions’ endorsements. Open the mail from your union. Read the flyers. And vote.

Union Endorsements

It is an election year, and its portents to be a busy, expensive, and long election season, full of political ads telling how bad some candidates can be. It is difficult to sort the facts from the fantasy and fanaticism, but we have a suggestion for active and retired union members. Pay attention to

CHAPTER 898 REPORT



Chair – SHEILA PEDERSEN

putting up yard signs due to “crazy neighbors.” That is one of the saddest things I have ever heard. That Americans, our neighbors, think it is okay to intimidate others. That is taking our freedom away!

I was fortunate to be able to screen our now-endorsed candidate for Washtenaw County Sheriff, Derrick Jackson. He is educated, a community activist, an officer, and a social worker. Derrick has worked to bring new reform to policing by creating new programs to help people get help and stay out of trouble. He is helping make our county more just, with community-based solutions. Thank you for your consideration when voting on August 6th.

Karen Roe, retiree from UAW Local 898, is also on the ballot, running for Ypsilanti Township Trustee.

MEETING DATES

June 19th is a National holiday, so our June meeting is cancelled. Happy Juneteenth!

See you all on July 17th for our next meeting.

August 9th is the Annual United Way Golf Outing, where we will be joining other UAW Locals and Unions to help support the youth in our community.

Please be careful while traveling this summer, because Covid is still out there.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to all Local 898 officers on their new appointments. We are proud of all of you.

Lastly, the officers and members of the Retiree Chapter would like to offer our sincere condolences to the families who lost loved ones this past year.

Union-Friendly Candidates

Greetings To All,

By the time you read this this, summer will be around the corner. Spring was a very busy one for those of us who helped screen candidates for the upcoming election. This election seems especially strange to me, as lifelong Democrats are not

CHAPTER 849

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that opened underdeveloped parts of the nation, making it possible for rural citizens to benefit from running water and electric appliances. This list is far from being complete, but it is enough to help you understand how a Conservative Libertarian transformed his thinking.

Before I close my commentary, I ask that you carefully look at the unfolding of a disastrous bait-and-switch policy that is being engineered by the GOP candidate for president. He and his cronies have studied history and known what happened in the ‘60s when the country turned against LBJ over the Vietnam War.

Most citizens are not aware that the Johnson Administration had successfully negotiated an end to the Vietnam War months before the 1968 election. Nor do our citizens remember that Henry Kissinger, the future Secretary of State, went to Paris on behalf of Nixon to ask North Vietnam and the Viet Cong to reject their agreement with Johnson. If they would, Nixon promised a better deal, if he were elected. Today, we know that Nixon and Kissinger’s deal meant four more years of war.

Today’s bait and switch is the rejection of a

Conservative-engineered border deal, so the GOP can continue to use the porous southern border as a political issue. In the meantime, the border problems are unabated.

OUR 2024 MEETINGS SCHEDULE

We meet at 12:00 noon on the third Thursday of most months to fellowship and enjoy a potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. Our business meetings follow at 1:00 p.m. Meetings are held at Local 898’s hall. Upcoming meeting dates are:

- June 20
- July (*No Meeting*)
- August 15 (Meetings resume)
- September 19
- October 17 – 58th Anniversary

(Social at 12:00 noon, Meal at 1:00 p.m)

CHAPTER OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

Even though our old workplace closed in 2008 and Local 849 is no longer an active Local, our Retired Workers Chapter thrives. A key part of meeting the challenges we face is having an organized structure in place where issues can be discussed, plans put together, and we are able to communicate with people inside and outside the UAW, who can lend us a hand.

Assisting the membership in meeting this challenge are officers chosen from the Chapter body. Earlier in the year, the Chapter membership

set in place election procedures at its meetings. On May 16, 2024, it re-elected the officers who just completed three-year terms. Their terms of office will run from June 20 until June 17, 2027.

The offices and officers elected are: *Chairperson*, Bob Bowen; *First Vice Chair*, Carole Galante; *Second Vice Chair*, Bennie Griggs; *Recording Secretary*, Beverly Dare; *Financial Secretary*, Shirley Green; *Sergeant-at-Arms*, Helen Wylie, and *Alternate Regional Delegate*, Betty Hickman.

IN MEMORIAM

Mourning the loss of Local 849 Members whose deaths have been reported since the last edition of the *Region 1A Retiree News*:

Jerry Harrison.....	07/26/40 - 01/31/24
Bruce Walker.....	06/30/45 - 02/09/24
Alvin R. Becker.....	10/24/42 - 02/12/24
Robert G. Dunlap	06/26/64 - 02/16/24
Marlene Fox	09/28/47 - 02/28/24
Charles Schropshire.....	06/17/48 - 03/03/24
Gerald L. Shock.....	12/17/38 - 03/05/24
James P. Campbell, Jr.	04/28/43 - 04/12/24

If you have information about the passing of an 849 Member, please email Bob Bowen at bowen59@gmail.com, or call (734) 482-6213 and leave a message, including your name and a phone number. I will return your call.

CHAPTER 931 REPORT



President – SYLVIA GRIFFIN

various Locals and experience good food, great company and valuable information shared by some of our best leaders. Don't just take my word for it, escape the city life and come and see how great of a time you can have for yourself. Bus transportation is provided, so no need to gas up. Just sign up and show up.

Additionally, I'd like to remind everyone to stay abreast of the politics that affect your life and lifestyle. Gather information that will help you make an informed decision in upcoming Primary and General elections.

Lastly, I'd like to thank all the retirees who contributed to the support of an undisclosed Women's Shelter and Melvindale's Angel Children Program. Great job, Retirees of UAW Local 931!

As I close, we welcome all new retirees to our Retiree Family, and we hope to see everyone at the next retiree's meeting on July 17th, 11:30 a.m., at the Golden Coral located at 14691 Huron St. off Eureka in Taylor, Michigan.

Yours in Solidarity...

CHAPTER 6000 REPORT



Vice Chair – BERNARD NOWAKOWSKI

Local State of Michigan Retired Workers Reg. 1A

The Local 6000 Retired State of Michigan Workers of Region 1A do not have monthly meetings during the months of June, July, and August of 2024. The group's monthly meetings will resume Monday, September 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

You, as a UAW member, can attend monthly meetings in person. Meetings are at UAW Region 1A, 9650 S. Telegraph, Taylor, MI or *Zoom* them. Contact Bernard Nowakowski by text 586 7679303 or *big.cobra@gmail.com* with your name and email address. This information will enable you to get *Zoom* links and alerts about issues on retirement.

The retirees are currently participating in a joint writing campaign with the State Employee Retirees Association (SERA) requesting that the governor and Michigan lawmakers introduce legislation that will remove a \$300 annual cost-of-living (COLA) cap on State employees receiving the defined benefit retirement plan and put in place a 3% annual increase. Contact R. Cole Bouck at *somretiree@gmail.com* for a writing kit for the "Scrap the Cap" campaign.

Here is the current status of the campaign to remove the COLA cap.

Excerpt from SERA Lansing Newsletter by Mary Pollock

STATE SENATE – Sen. Sarah Anthony (D-Lansing), Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has successfully sponsored new language in the Senate Appropriations bill to require an actuarial study of options for an increase in the State of Michigan Defined Benefit (DB) annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

DB retirees with a \$10,000 or above pension at their retirement have been limited to a \$300 maximum per year accumulating (not compounding) COLA since 1987. During the last five years, that has meant a 0.96 percent COLA for these new retirees. Meanwhile, inflation has exceeded 170 percent since 1987 for those of us in the DB pension system since the late '80s!

The following boilerplate was added to SB 760 S-1, the Senate General Government Appropriations bill: "*Sec. 894. (1) The office of retirement services shall contract with the State's actuary to conduct a study that provides an array of options and corresponding costs related to providing an increase in the cost-of-living adjustment in the State employees' retirement system created under section 2 of the State*

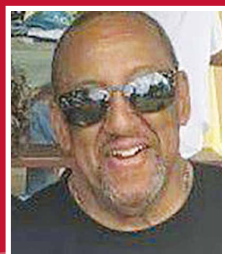
See **CHAPTER 6000** on Page 11

Attend Black Lake Trip

Greetings Retiree Brothers and Sisters, I hope that all the mothers and mother figures celebrated a beautiful Mother's Day this month. Additionally, as we approach Father's Day, we don't want to leave our dads out, Happy Father's Day!

I know that schedules are busy with doing whatever we want, but don't forget about the upcoming Annual Black Lake Retiree Trip opportunity on June 30 through July 3rd. Come and meet or reunite with other retiree friends from

CHAPTER 1776 REPORT



Chair – DERIC TWIGGS

the meetings and we will try to make those accommodations.

It is important to sign in at the meetings to ensure we have a current cell phone number, so you can be called or texted, informing you of any updates or changes to our meeting days.

Our Annual Picnic will be on our regular meeting date, Thursday, August 15, 2024 at UAW Local 182. Bring another retiree with you to share in good food, good fellowship, and good fun.

Let's continue to keep our bereaved, sick, and shut-in retirees and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Please continue to encourage our members to join us at our regular monthly meetings:

Retirees Chapter Local 1776 Meetings

Every third Thursday of every month
11:00 a.m. at UAW Local 182
35603 Plymouth Road
Livonia, MI 48150

Gonzales, and Local 3000 for providing the hamburgers and hot dogs.

No meetings in July and August.

August 22, 2024 – UAW Region 1A Retiree Picnic. Call the Local at (734) 692-3490 for more information.

Tuesday, September 5, 2024 – Our special guest speaker is our own IUAW Vice President, Chuck Browning.

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 – Ophthalmologist Julie Reno, MD will do a presentation on eye disorders (dry eyes, cataracts, glaucoma).

MEETING DATES

- June 11, 2024
- July – *Cancelled*
- August – *Cancelled*
- September 10, 2024
- October 8, 2024

Join Us In Fellowship

Well, we're already six months into the year, and we are looking forward to working together to continue making our meetings interesting.

Previously, we had Representatives from UAW Benefits, Blue Cross Blue Shield, HAP, Hearing, and Diabetic Shoes. If you have any suggestions of speakers or vendors you would like to see, please don't hesitate to bring your requests to

CHAPTER 3000 REPORT



Chair – SHARON HARDING

Welcome New Retirees

All monthly Local 3000 Meetings start at 12:00 noon. An entrée provided, please bring a dish or dessert to pass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – Meeting is going to be our annual cookout. Thank you, Steve

CHAPTER 6000

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employees' retirement act, 1943 PA 240, MCL 38.2, which is currently the lesser of \$300.00 or 3% of a retiree's pension.

"(2) The study must include all of the following:

- a) Options for time and permanent adjustments.*
- b) The number of individuals impacted.*
- c) The short- and long-run costs of providing cost-of-living adjustments."*

"(3) The cost of the study must be paid for from work project funds established and available for the purpose of conducting actuarial studies."

STATE HOUSE – In the State House, Rep. Julie Brixie (D-Okemos), a member of the full House Appropriations Committee, who sponsored an amendment to HB 5516 H-2, the House

General Government Appropriations bill, to add the actuarial study. Brixie said many State employees live in her district, and she felt that it was important to be included. Section 822 of HB 5516 H-2 contains the same language as SB 760 S-1, Section 894.

GRS Study – The actuarial study would be done by the State's actuaries, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS), contractors with the Office of Retirement Services in the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget.

GRS knows State pension plans very well and has done many actuarial studies over the years. Very precise details as to variables and parameters of the study remain to be determined.

Full Chamber Approval Needed – The next step is approval by the full State Senate and House of the same language during May and early June, and then, if successful, on to the Governor's desk. The Governor may veto line items in

appropriation bills.

Your Voice Is Needed Again – This success has been because SERA and UAW members have raised their voices with their own legislators, legislative leadership, and the Governor through phone calls, snail mail, e-mails, at community forums, and fundraisers. As your lobbyist, I heard this feedback from them. So, it is time to do it again (or the first time if you've not done it before)! Contact the Governor and your own State Senator and State House member urging support for the actuarial study and "Scrapping the Cap" on our \$300 COLA.

Finally, the officers of the Retirees Chapter are exploring meeting rotations for future meetings between the Taylor, Michigan Region 1A building and Warren, Michigan Region 1 building. Your comments and feedback on this proposal should be directed to Robert Sisler at robertsisler@att.net
Have a safe and great summer.

BOB SISLER *continued from Cover Page*

plans to privatize and/or remove these programs from the legal status of a Trust?

PBS aired a special on WWII, April 14th, about the powers at the time. In 1942, we knew we were going to win the war. They wanted to cut Social Security and abolish it at that time. They even thought that the women would have to give up their jobs for the men coming home. These *men* did not worry about the widows. Sounds too familiar even today. FDR stopped that then, and it *is important* who is in the White House.

We were threatened that we would lose part of our Social Security in 2005, when the then-Bush Administration led an effort to privatize Social Security, saying you could take a percentage of your benefit and put it in the Stock Market. Thank God enough survivors of the Depression were still alive and remembered the Stock Market crash and the resulting starvation and homelessness in America.

I pushed a woman in a wheel chair as we went to Washington, D.C. I listened as more and more seniors from that time became emotional recounting the events of hunger, having no shelter, and even death. I have a shirt that reads "*Privatization? NO, DON'T RUIN Social Security!*"

Again, we have an attempt to get rid of Social Security and Medicare. Social Security is in a Trust and more difficult to abolish. Medicare does not have the same protection and is already being used for the benefit of the billionaires. Traditional Medicare costs 4% to administer versus the Created Advantage Plans, whose administration costs are 20%. They do not have the same coverage as traditional Medicare.

Social Security Works has said that their denials and delays for benefits kills seniors.

Even Social Security Works also said a minimum wage of \$15 hour would increase the Social Security benefits a family earns. FDR thought every family has the right to a decent

home, the right to earn enough to provide for their family, the right to an education, and have time for recreation.

The United States adopted the rule for education for high school, but now we need to expand this to have college or trade schools included. We slept while many of our regulation safeguards have been taken away.

FDR had Union leaders like Walter Reuther and social workers like Frances Perkins, who knew what it was like for the people during the Depression.

Deregulation of the banks was the primary cause of the 2008 financial crash. It was people who could least afford it who lost their 401(k) plans, pensions, and other investments.

Pensions laws were strong when Denny McLain went to prison for embezzling pension funds. Then laws were changed to give companies benefits and control of pensions; taking a stable system that costs a member less than 1% from a managed fund to a 401(k) that cost 10-30 % with an individual broker.

The pattern is when a program that brings security to ordinary Americans, there is an attempt to find another way to get more money for the wealthy. This usually brings division among workers earning lower wages and not being able to keep up with the cost of living.

President Roosevelt's system was all interconnected. Social Security was designed with a limit on yearly contributions, so that the wealthy could not claim it as their own and control it. The system does work.

Remember that during the Clinton years, there was no deficit and there was a surplus.

Social Security was designed to be enough to keep older Americans out of poverty, without the need of pensions or savings. Why should the vast majority of Americans suffer just to be able to post the next trillionaire?

Education and housing are important to this Plan. The system would work if it was allowed.

FDR gave this speech knowing a coalition

of Republicans and Dixie Democrats would not endorse it. It was during his State of Union Address in 1944. He was ill, but gave the speech by radio.

We were at war and he was determined to pursue freedom of speech, freedom to worship, and freedom from want and fear. The greatest being freedom of want and fear. The speech was noted to prevent Fascism. It is said that Europe adopted the Second Bill of Rights because they were directly affected by Fascism.

As we enter into this election, we see that since 1942, there have been attempts to get rid of Social Security. That same threat still exists in this election. Don't say they won't do it. *They will.*

So, I say we have failed by accepting pensions being changed to 401(k)s, Medicare Advantage denying needed care, overbilling and harming us. Do you know someone who has died because of denial and delay? How many of us must help our children because there isn't a living wage? They tell us every time we vote that this is the most important time to *vote*. I say every time you can vote, *vote!*

No mental health services, poor roads, violence, poison water, and taxing pensions for the people while giving tax breaks in the millions and billions to companies. These are the results of not voting. The solution is to regulate as FDR did with the financial industry, and allow trust funds for needed services that are regulated to protect the common man.

When we demand regulations that protect Main Street Americans, we are told it is bad for the *economy*. When it comes to the government's ability to regulate women's or anyone's healthcare, it is not acceptable. In some states, a referral to an abortion clinic is seen as murder. Freedom from threats and intimidation should not be legal when it produces harm or possible death.

President Roosevelt said necessitous people do not vote. The result is that our elected Representatives support a \$7.25 minimum wage instead of a living wage!

VOTE...It is not just one issue, IT IS YOUR FUTURE...STAND UP!



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RETIREE NEWS

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SPRING 2024



Retired
Workers Council

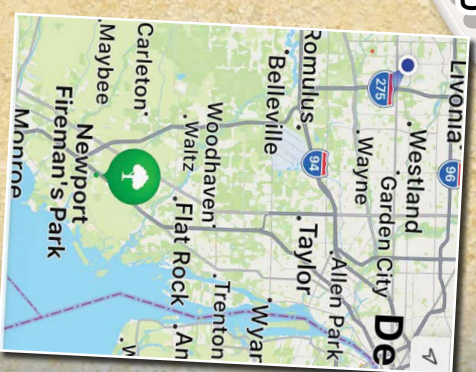
PINIC 2024

NEWPORT
FIREMAN'S PARK
9005 BRANDON ROAD
NEWPORT, MI

to Region 1A
Retirees & Family

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

 Come Out for a
Day of Friendship.



We look forward to seeing you there!

LAURA DICKERSON, DIRECTOR

BOB SISLER, CHAIRPERSON

RETIRED WORKERS
COUNCIL CHAIR

BOB SISLER

UAW President
Shawn Fain
has shown this
country the need
to **STAND UP FOR OUR FUTURE.**



That we do not have to be
Necessitous people.

President Roosevelt said necessitous people do not vote. As FDR warned, "People who are in a constant struggle to maintain their daily lives, do not have the time to see what the government is doing to add to their daily struggle."

From 1922 to 1929, there was an extreme inequality of wealth and power, where the wealthy called for limited government, deregulation (especially the stock market) along with tax cuts. This led to the Great Depression and there was massive starvation and homelessness. But those on Park Avenue did not suffer from loss of food nor housing. President Herbert Hoover believed that helping people would lead to dependent citizens. He believed in the trickle-down free market.

There was from 1929 to 1933 a massive deportation of Mexicans (Mexican Repatriation), including a large percentage who were U.S. citizens. Estimates place Mexican deportations at over 1 million people. That did not solve the Depression. Finally, in 1932, it was grassroots organizing to stop the evictions and demanding food. FDR was elected with the

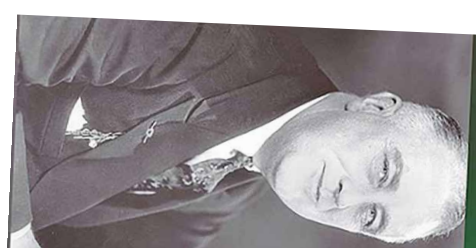
promise, "I pledge you, I pledge myself, to a New Deal for the American People, not just for the 1%".

Sometime later, I will write about the New Deal. Now, I wish to focus on five things out of the eight items in his *Second Bill of Rights*, and why FDR wrote them and most of Europe adopted them. Europe suffered the most as compared to those in the United States.

Minimum Wage, Social Security, Healthcare, Housing, and Education are the five Bills of Rights.

As stated before, FDR lived on trust funds and wanted Main Street Americans to benefit from trust funds like the wealthy did at the time, bringing security (a New Deal) to all Americans.

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's
Proposal to Congress: **A Second Bill of Rights**
January 11, 1944



- 1) The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation;
- 2) The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;
- 3) The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;
- 4) The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;
- 5) The right of every family to a decent home;
- 6) The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;
- 7) The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident, and unemployment;
- 8) The right to a good education.

Why is Park Ave. and the billionaires of today trying to stop Main Street Americans from the benefits of Trust funds? They do not believe in equal distribution of the "fruits of this Country." Why, when Social Security and pensions keep Americans from the dark days of the Depression, are there

See **BOB SISLER** on Page 11