



REGION 2B UPDATE

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Dear Region 2B Family,

It has been a month of good news and bad news. The top job in our great nation is up for grabs, along with many other races that are happening across Indiana and Ohio. We still don't have a building that we can properly use for business in the region, yet the training continues.

The good news is that we have ratified agreements at Local 1889 - Teijin Automotive, Local 12 - GT Technologies, Local 211 - DFM Defiance, Local 440 - Caravan, Local 996 - Varbros Corp., Local 1250 - Union Sorters of America, Local 2317 - Dana Lafayette, Local 2335 - CSG, and Local 1216 - Ventra Sandusky. I can't thank the local bargaining teams enough for all their hard work on these contracts. None of this is easy, it is hard work. I also want to thank the R2B staff for all their support to the locals and keeping me up to date during the negotiation process. When we work together, we win every time.

On the bad news side, Local 1765 was notified that Dana wants to move their work. We have not given up on those members and are working with the national parties to try and prevent this move. Local 91 at Ohio Crankshaft have also announced a closing as well as Local 70 at Zagar. There is nothing worse than giving yourself every day to an organization that ceases to exist. This happened to me personally and it was not just something that goes away. It is still painful when I think about how many people got their lives turned upside down. Currently, with the slowing of production at the Jeep facility, we have members at suppliers like JT and JL that are still out of work. Other Jeep suppliers affected are Mobis and KUKA. This takes a toll on our members. The region understands this and will work with any local to support our members.

Some of you may not like to talk about politics, but we must. I have an obligation to share some of the facts with the membership. I'm not telling you how or who to vote for but sharing some personal experiences that I hope will help you understand why politics are so important. Shortly after I won this position, Local 4104 out of Zanesville Ohio reached out about a ruling from the Department of Energy (DOE). The ruling would have changed the type of metal used in transformers, which our union family makes at AK Steel, thus putting our members out of work. The DOE, DOJ, NLRB, and others are appointed by the President. That said, we were able to have a conversation with the DOE and get the ruling changed, hence, keeping our members employed. Our voice matters, our members matter. When we have a voice at the table, we can support our union members. When we have no voice, we cannot. The Biden - Harris Administration heard our voice.

When my home plant in Lordstown Ohio closed, we had no voice in the White House. There were Republicans and Democrats that were calling for help, meeting with GM, offering plans, yet the POTUS did nothing. I wrote letters, got no response, and talked about how he was doing nothing on FOX news. Minutes later I got verbally assaulted on twitter. He literally had to pay people to pretend to be union workers at a rally. He is not our friend and will take any voice we have away.

The first politician to call and asked "what can we do to help" was Sherrod Brown. He helped us through the difficult months after the announcement. Sherrod stood alongside our Mahoning Valley brothers and sisters to save our jobs. He joined union hall rallies, wrote letters to GM executives, and made countless calls, and called the company out for screwing us over. He reached across the aisle with former Republican Senator Rob Portman to push the CEO of GM to do the right thing and bring a new product to Lordstown. He helped us set up a "transition center" that helped our members with all that was happening. He knew our voice was important and Sherrod listened.

I share these personal experiences with you so you can understand that when you see a UAW endorsement, you know that those are the candidates that have earned our endorsement

because they listen to our voice. Without a union, workers have no voice. In a union, we need to use what we have to help our members through a variety of things, job security being at the top of the list. Our UAW is more influential and using our collective voice today, like no other time in my 30 plus years as a dues paying member. With the wrong people in office, that will all change. Voting the UAW endorsed candidates means you care about working folks and job security. It gives you a voice.

Finally, we were hopeful to get into our new building by the end of year, but that doesn't look like it will happen until early next year. It has been a challenge running the business of the region without a physical space, yet we are continuing to have a variety of training and education for locals that have requested it. We also have a full house attending the Leadership and Advisory Council meetings set for October 7 in Cincinnati. Many of our locations have seen a shift in demographics with new and younger members in the workforce. This means that we need to educate and train. Anyone who knows me knows, education and training are very important for my vision of building a great region. I hope you all stay safe out there and lookout for each other, we are our sisters' and brothers' keeper.

God bless,



Dave Green
Director, UAW Region 2B