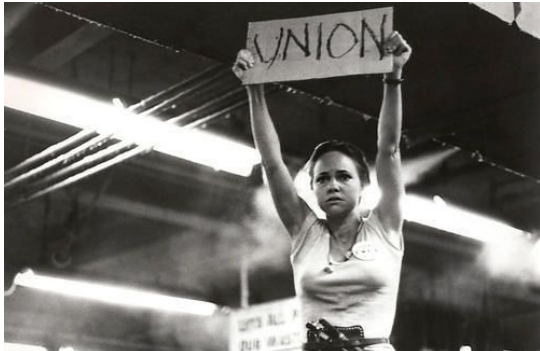




UPDATE FROM DIRECTOR GREEN



Dear Region 2B Family,

March has flown by! As the weather breaks and days get longer, I know everyone is thinking of all of the things that need to get done. Spring is a time of growth, rebirth and new beginnings. It reminds me that after every storm, the sun will shine. It is truly my favorite time of year. It is also recognized as Women's History Month. For anyone that was born, it was a woman that brought them into this world. In my 55 years around the sun, women have mostly had the same rights as men. These rights that my mom and daughters have were not always there, they had to be fought for. Just look at the history to the right and recognize that in the big scheme of things, this was not that long ago. And make no mistake, there are those that would like to take not only women's rights, but human rights away from all of us.

That is why we need to fight like hell against the oppressors and people that want to roll the clock back 100 years. I believe that the wealthiest people got that way because of their greed and desire to want more, and more, and more, and more.

A Century of Progress: Women's Rights Milestones

1923

Equal Rights Amendment Introduced

Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party propose the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) to establish legal gender equality.

1920

The Right to Vote

The 19th Amendment is ratified on August 18, 1920, granting women the legal right to vote after decades of activism.

1963

Equal Pay Act Signed

President John F. Kennedy signs the Equal Pay Act, making it illegal to pay women less than men for equal work.

1969

No-Fault Divorce Introduced

California becomes the first state to pass a no-fault divorce law, allowing couples to separate without proving wrongdoing. Other states follow suit over the next decade.

1972

Title IX

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act prohibits sex-based discrimination in federally funded education programs and activities.

1974

Women Gain Financial Independence

The Equal Credit Opportunity Act is passed, allowing women to obtain credit cards, loans, and mortgages without requiring a male co-signer.

1975

Women Secure Jury Rights

The Supreme Court rules in Taylor v. Louisiana that women cannot be excluded from jury service.

1978

Pregnancy Discrimination Act Passed

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act prohibits employers from firing or discriminating against women due to pregnancy.

1988

Women's Business Ownership Act Passed

The Women's Business Ownership Act removes barriers for women seeking business loans and allows them to start companies without a male co-signer.

2022

Violence Against Women Act Reauthorized

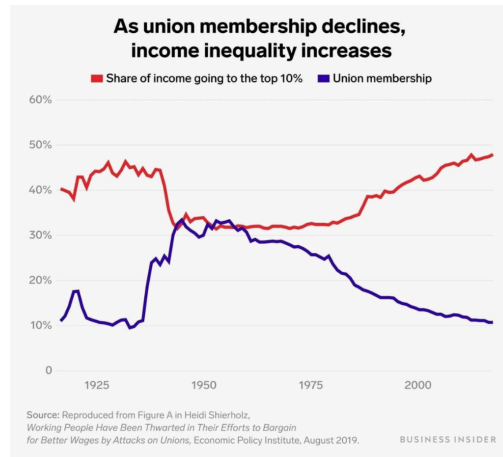
The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is reauthorized, strengthening protections against domestic and sexual violence.

2024

Equal Rights Amendment Support Grows

Resolution 801 is passed, reinforcing efforts to recognize the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Region 2B

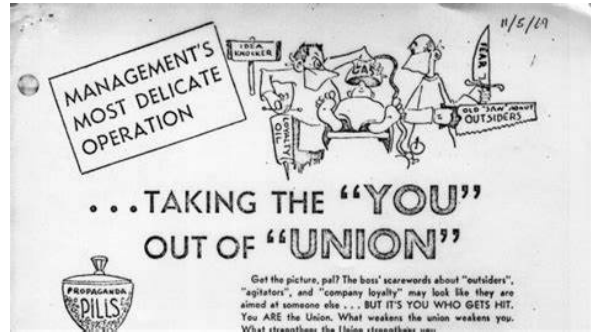


When the oligarchs are willing to eliminate food for the needy to pay for their tax breaks, we are in trouble. When our tax dollars are going to for profit organizations instead of the services we expect, we are in trouble. When labor protection agencies are crippled so workers have no voice, we are in trouble. When the President of the United States (POTUS) can sign away one million federal union workers right to bargain, we are in trouble.

But, we have been in trouble before. When I was 11 years old, my dad came home from work and seemed more upset than usual. I asked, “hey pa, what’s up with you today”. He said, “the POTUS fired over 10,000 air traffic controllers today, he can’t do that and if he can, we are in trouble”. I thought many times over the years that every union member should have walked off the job until those workers got rehired with what they deserved. Today it looks like we are moving into the same dangerous territory where workers rights and dignity are not just being overlooked, but attacked and striped away.

On March 27th, the POTUS took the unprecedented step of terminating collective bargaining for over a million federal workers, arguing that it would be inconsistent with national security imperatives. This is a direct threat to the continued existence of several federal unions. Workers at the largest federal employer, the Department of Veterans Affairs, now have no right to collectively bargain or form a union. These actions will impact an estimated 600 UAW members at a specific institute at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) - the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Region 2B



The POTUS nominated Crystal Carey to serve as General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, replacing Acting GC William Cowen. Carey is a partner at union busting big law firm Morgan Lewis & Bockius. The firm represented GM during the UAW's 40-day strike in 2019 and it currently represents Amazon in its union busting efforts. Meanwhile, thanks to DOGE, the Social Security Administration (SSA) continues to deteriorate. The SSA website crashed four times in ten days this month as the agency cut some of its phone services, removed its system for monitoring customer experience, pushed staff out through firings and buyouts, and moved to close field offices.

In Ohio, Gov. Mike DeWine signed a bill into law (SB1) March 28th, that will prohibit diversity, equity and inclusion programs at public colleges and prohibit faculty from going on strike. In Indiana, SB 373 is being held for a committee vote this week. Amendment #7 is not good. This amendment creates a Mastery Based Education Pilot Program that means "an innovative, learner centered approach to teaching and learning that focuses on the mastery of specific skills or knowledge areas rather than the amount of time spent in a classroom." To do this, the bill gives participating districts the ability to suspend, forego, opt-out of, or refuse to collectively bargain.

Unions are not some outside organizations that comes in to protect you, a union is workers coming together to collectively empower each other. When they attack one of us, its an attack on all of us. I have been trying to build bridges with other labor organizations across the entire region. Just like we all must support each other as a UAW family, different labor organizations need to collaborate and work together before they pick us off one at a time. Now is not the time to point fingers and attack others in labor, but a time to unite and fight for our very survival. We are in trouble.

Region 2B

The good news is that we know how to make good trouble. That is, fighting back against attacks on workers' rights, women's rights, civil rights and human rights. Our rights were fought for by our grandparents and parents. They did this not only for themselves but for future generations. I'll be damned if I sit by while those rights are taken away. I respect our retirees too much, I appreciate their fight then for what I have today. For the retirees that have reached out to me very concerned for our future, thank you and I can see why you are mad as hell. Please stay up to date on our social media platforms as action against these attacks often pop up fast.

While dealing with the attacks on labor and more, the region is also working on education, organizing, and fighting for great contracts. Just this weekend, Local 1457 ratified their agreement. Thank you to the local bargaining committee and servicing rep Tom Wright. Local 2209's Essex Brownell unit ratified their agreement this weekend. Thank you to the Local bargaining committee and servicing rep Ryan Hiestand. Local 70's Lite Magnesium ratified, thank you to the Local bargaining team and servicing rep Dan McGrath. The region also got two tentative agreements this past week. Thank you to the bargaining team at Local 1073, Johns Manville and R2B servicing reps Brian Cole and Jason Waller, and the bargaining team at Local 1005 and servicing rep Mike Kalman for getting it done at the Jack Casino. Know that none of this work is easy and many contracts are still in play across our region.

As we fight for better contracts in today's political environment, know that our members participation is critical. For those folks that don't want to pay union dues, know that you are taking leverage away from your officers at the bargaining table. When we fall into the traps of division, the companies only pour gas on this fire. Don't be fooled, stand with each other like your livelihoods depends on it, because it does. We will continue to support agendas that support our members and their work and will continue to fight against agendas that threaten us. This is your union. It is every members responsibility to take an active role in fighting for all workers. If they come for them today, they will come for you tomorrow.

May God bless us all and as always, in solidarity,

Dave Green

UAW Region 2B Director