

# Local 592 Tribune

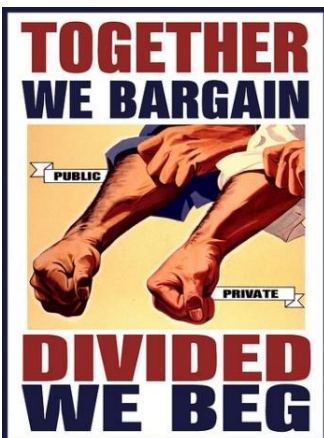
## Illinois Amendment 1... and more

By, Chris Remhof

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On November 8<sup>th</sup> in Illinois there is a proposed amendment to the state constitution which the UAW, AFL-CIO and all other labor unions support. Illinois Amendment 1, Right to Collective Bargaining Measure will enshrine a state constitutional right for employees to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their choosing to negotiate “wages, hours and working conditions and to protect their economic welfare and safety at work”. It also prohibits laws that interfere with, negate or diminish collective bargaining agreements.

Several other states have similar protections in their state constitution but the Illinois amendment would also prohibit a state level so called “right to work” law from ever taking place. This amendment deserves a YES vote from you as a un-

ion member, retiree or even as someone who places an emphasis on state sovereignty and the ability of local voters to effect change as opposed to federal control. The only union members that likely oppose this amendment are those that support cutting off their nose to spite their face.

Opponents of Amendment 1, uber rich people, giant corporations... the usual suspects, falsely say passage of this amendment will lead to higher property taxes. When has Local 592’s collective bargaining ever led to higher property taxes for you or your neighbor? That would be never, don’t fall for their tricks as Halloween nears. I encourage you to vote YES on Illinois Amendment 1 Right to Collective Bargaining Measure on the November ballot.

Another election to talk about is the UAW International Executive Board election. For the

first time ever, individual members will cast votes for members of the UAW IEB, not delegates at a convention. President Jackson has more information in his report, and you can also go to [UAW.ORG](http://UAW.ORG) and you’ll find information on the candidates, replays of debates between candidates and answers about the timelines and process.

In last issue we missed including retired sister Sonia Johnson in our “Remembrance” section for members that passed away in 2021. That was pointed out to me and I want to apologize for the oversight.

In closing, Veterans Day is Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and it’s never too early to say thanks to those that have served our great country. Freedom isn’t free and I appreciate your service and sacrifice.

# President's Report

By Alton Jackson – UAW 592 President

Brothers and sisters:

The 2022 UAW International Officer Elections will be conducted by secret ballot in the few weeks. The offices to be filled through the election are the offices of International President, International Secretary-Treasurer, three International Vice-Presidents and nine Regional Director positions. All UAW members in good standing as of October 31, 2022, are eligible to vote in the elections, including members who are part-time workers, reinstated members, and retired members. In order to have your vote counted, your mail-in ballot must be received by the final deadline of November 28, 2022.

On October 17, 2022, the first formal mail distribution of mail-in ballots will be distributed to the electorate. November 11, 2022, is the final date that replacement ballots can be requested from the Election Vendor. Lastly, November 28, 2022 is the deadline for all return ballots to be received by the designated U. S. Post Office or Postal Facility. However, November 18, 2022, is the last day by which members should place their ballots in the mail to best ensure receipt by the November 28, 2022, deadline. Please remember to update your information with us when you change addresses. This includes both active and retired members. Recording Secretary Michael Fishe will be updating our records for the local.

We have two signed agreements to resolve outstanding termination grievances. The

Union has ordered the next panel of arbitrators for the Temporary Layoff Agreement the company is refusing to honor.

With Negotiations starting in the spring of 2023, the membership should start preparing financially if you can. It's the Bargaining Committee's intent to bring the membership the best possible contract to the ratification vote. We'll be sending out surveys to find out what is the most important things the membership wants changed or improved. Please rate the survey items in order of importance and there will be space to add anything extra you would like to add.

## **UAW International Executive Board election ballots should be mailed no later than Nov 18th**

The Membership has approved the purchasing of red t-shirts to show solidarity as we approach negotiations in 2023. Our current contract for Unit 1, Collins Aerospace, expires May 21, 2023. We hope to have them ordered early enough to make sure we receive them before negotiations start. We ask that the membership wear them on Wednesdays. The more the company sees us with the red shirts on "Red Shirt Wednesdays" the more they will see that the membership supports the Bargaining Committee.

I would like to thank Vice-President Mike Roth, his wife Tina, Recording Secretary Mike Fishe, his wife Lori, District 1

Chief Steward John Cartwright, his wife Annette, District 2 Chief Steward Tyler Jackson, District 3 Chief Steward Scott Lineman, his son, and District 4 Chief Steward Craig Fryda and Jackie for all their help in the planning, setup, working during the picnic and the cleanup afterwards.

The Annual Retirees Banquet will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at the Eagles Club of Rockford, 3829 11<sup>th</sup> Street Rockford, IL 61108 for retirees and their spouse/guest. The postcard reminders have already been sent out. Please RSVP if you plan on attending. Please detach the RSVP portion and return it so we can get an accurate count for the dinner. Hope to see you at the banquet.

There were a few proposed By-Laws changes for our local. One change is the start time of the monthly membership meeting from 5:00 to 4:00pm for the day shift. The other was to align the locals per diem with the International Executive Board. Both proposed changes will be reviewed by the Local 592 By-Laws Committee and then voted on by the membership at the October meeting. If approved, changes will be submitted to the International UAW and those changes will NOT go into effect until the International approves. So, dayshift meetings will continue to be at 5pm until we communicate with you that everything has been approved.

In Solidarity,

President Alton Jackson

## Labor Negotiations Primer: part 1 of 3

The labor agreement between UAW Local 592 and Collins Aerospace expires at midnight May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023. We're doing a three-part series on the steps taken leading up to contract expiration so members understand the who, what, when, where and how. Here's part 1.

In January, you'll see a survey from the bargaining committee listing topics such a wages, pension, vacation, job security, health care, etc and you'll be asked to rank each in an order of most to least important. This helps the committee understand what the membership considers their priorities. They'll also be a section for you to fill out if there are specific issues in the contract that you want addressed that aren't in the survey topics.

After compiling the survey results, but before negotiations start with the company, the bargaining committee will write an opening proposal for the company to consider. This proposal will cover economic and non-economic issues. For instance, if union leaders feel that language is vague, confusing or a loophole is being abused by the company in a certain section of the past contract, they'll propose clarifications. Local 592 is also in contact with other UAW or IAM (International Association of Machinists) unions that represent workers at Raytheon Technologies. Comparing notes about recently completed negotiations and what they're seeing at their plant sites.

Negotiations with the company will likely start sometime in March. Make sure you're wearing those red shirts every Wednesday. Article 20.1 of the labor agreement is the mechanism by which one party to the agreement can give notice to terminate the agreement on May 21<sup>st</sup>. This formally begins the process of negotiating a new agreement between Local 592 and Collins Aerospace.

Part two of this series will be in the next issue.

## Friday, November 11th 2022



## Safety Committee Report: Craig Fryda, Chairman

Let's discuss Carbon Monoxide. It's easy to detect with a properly installed detector, yet so many homes don't have one. A CO detector and smoke alarm can save you and your families life. Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. Each year carbon monoxide poisoning claims approximately 480 lives and sends another 15,200 people to hospital emergency rooms for treatment. Over 200 people die from carbon monoxide produced by fuel burning appliances in the home including furnaces, ranges, water heaters and room heaters. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses with symptoms including shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness or headaches. High levels of CO can be fatal, causing death within minutes. People can die when they improperly use gas generators, charcoal grills, and fuel-burning camping heaters and stoves inside their homes or in other enclosed or partially enclosed spaces.

### **How to properly install a detector:**

Install a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm (also called detectors) in the hallway of your home near sleeping areas. Avoid corners where air does not circulate. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to test the CO alarm every month. Do not use a CO alarm in place of a smoke alarm. Have both.

### **Tips to make sure you do not generate CO in your home:**

Make sure all household appliances are installed according to manufacturer's instructions and local building codes. Most appliances should be installed by professionals. Have heating systems (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually, checking for blockages, corrosion, partial and complete disconnections. Only burn charcoal outdoors, never inside a home, garage, vehicle or tent. Always make sure to turn off any gas-powered engine, even if the garage door is open. Do not use gas appliances such as ranges, ovens or clothes dryers for heating your home.

### **What to do if you suspect you are being exposed to CO:**

Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness, and confusion. If you suspect CO poisoning, get to fresh air immediately, and then call 911. Treat the alarm signal as a real emergency each time. If the alarm sounds and you are not experiencing any symptoms described above, press the reset button. If the alarm continues to sound, call the fire department.

I've responded to many CO alarm calls as the Captain of the Edgerton Fire Department, and a lot of them are from low batteries or unmaintained detectors. I will also tell you I'd rather go to 100 "false alarms" than have someone not call because they aren't sure. Call the FD if it's going off and we can use our meters to verify if there is CO in your home or not. It can be the difference between life or death.

Take care, and as always be safe at home and at work.

Craig Fryda  
District 4 Chief Steward  
Union Safety Chairperson  
First Responder  
Cell: (608) 295-6895  
Craig.Fryda@Collins.com



# Veterans Committee Report: Joe Harper, Chairman

This year, the Veterans Committee is supporting two charities: Top of Illinois Stand Down and the Dark Horse Lodge Trek for Troops.

Top of Illinois Stand Down supports local homeless and low-income veterans by offering them a chance to sign up for services, clothes, and a good meal. Local 592 has been supporting and playing a role in this organization for over 25 years. Two members from the local will be attending this event to help on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Nordlof Center 118 N. Main St. Rockford from 9am to noon. If you have a vet in your life who needs help, wants a free lunch or just some fellowship, please ask them to attend.



Darkhorse Lodge Trek for Troops was started by the family of a Marine from Byron that was killed in Afghanistan. The Trek is the primary fundraiser for Darkhorse Lodge, a non-profit which is building a retreat for combat veterans. This November, our local will be taking part in the Trek for Troops and we need your help. Held at the Nardi Equine Preserve 6651 N. River Rd. Byron from Friday, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> through Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup>, the Veterans Committee will be walking on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup>, and meeting at the trek headquarters at 10am. Last year we had four people representing Local 592 walk the course, but this year our goal is 10. You can use this link <https://givebutter.com/trekfortroops/uaw-592/joeharper> to join our team for the walk or donate to the cause if you can't make it, but want to help.

Come join us for a walk, get some fresh air, sunlight, and help The Darkhorse Lodge support our combat veterans. Hope to see you in Byron on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Here's the link for more information about Trek for Troops: <https://darkhorselodge.wixsite.com/trekfortroops>

**ATTENTION:** Until further notice, Local 592 union meetings will be held as follows. **1pm** night shift meeting at UAW Hall 929 S. Alpine Rd. **5pm** day shift meeting will be at Screw City Tavern 4412 Manchester Dr., across from Plant 6, in their backroom.

### Upcoming Local 592 Membership meetings:

- Wednesday, Oct 26th 1pm night shift, 5pm dayshift.
- Wednesday, Nov 16th 1pm night shift, 5pm dayshift.
- Wednesday, Dec 21st 1pm night shift, 5pm dayshift.

### WWW.UAW592.COM

- Contract
- Seniority lists
- Attendance Policy
- FMLA paperwork
- Short term disability forms

**Attorneys for UAW Region 4**  
Katz, Freedman, Eagle, Eisenstein, Johnson, and Bareck will be at the Hall on membership days between the night and day shift meetings. You may also contact them at 1-800-444-1525.

The password for access to the seniority list is: **UAWs1592#**

The password for access to the documents list is: **UAWLocal1592**

**UAW Local 592**

929 South Alpine Rd., Unit 203  
Rockford, IL 61108

Phone: 815-962-0600

Follow us on Twitter: @uawlocal592

**We are on the Web!**  
**www.uaw592.com**

# Reminder!

A note from the Recording Secretary...

Please remember to notify your union office of any changes of name or address. The number to the union office is

**815-962-0600**. If you know of other members who have had a change of address within the last year please remind them to notify the union office as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Michael Fishe

Local 592 Recording Secretary

United States elections for federal offices, statewide and local offices are Tuesday, November 8. In Illinois polls are open from 6am to 7pm and in Wisconsin from 7am to 8pm. Please consider voting for those candidates that support organized labor.



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