

Local 592 Tribune

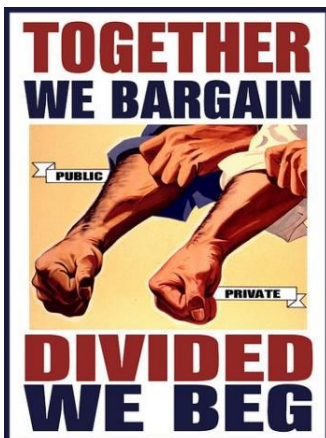
International and Local News

By, Chris Remhof

Inside this issue:

Cover Story	1
President's Report	2
Negotiation Primer	3
Important Dates	4
Veterans Committee	5
Help wanted	6

Editor: Chris Remhof
 newsletter.uaw592@gmail.com



The UAW International elections are over, and we have new leadership. Outsiders Shawn Fain of Local 1166, Stellantis Kokomo Casting Plant in Kokomo, Indiana is the new President and Margaret Mock, Local 140 Stellantis Warren Truck Plant in Warren Michigan, is the new Secretary – Treasurer. This was the first ever election in the history of the UAW where individual rank and file members voted for members of the International Executive Board by mail, and without sending delegates to a convention to vote as their proxy.

Local 592 President Alton Jackson and Recording Secretary Mike Fishe attended the recent Special Convention on Collective Bargaining in Detroit where Fain and Mock, along with other new Vice Presidents and Regional Directors, were together for the first time.

There was some grumbling and hard feelings evident from candidates and their supporters that lost, towards the winners. But all agreed that the fight against corporate America, multinational corpo-

rations and concessions would bring everyone together soon. President Fain in his remarks to delegates said, “We are here to come together for the war against our one and only true enemy — the multibillion-dollar corporations and employers who refuse to give our members their fair share. I don’t give a damn who you voted for. We are going to come together. We’re going to stop taking scraps—we are going to fight.”

At the convention, several proposals were approved or debated that are interesting. For instance, that local union contracts have language about the right not to cross picket lines from other unions at our workplaces and restoring COLA, cost-of-living-adjustments to contracts.

Here in UAW Region 4, our new Director is Brandon Campbell formally of Local 1268 in Belvidere. Region 4 covers 12 states from Illinois and Wisconsin west to Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. Brandon used to have an office at our old union hall on N. 2nd St and worked closely with Local 592’s International Rep Ted Dever.

With approximately 4 weeks until Local 592’s contract with Collins Aerospace expires, our moment is now. In this issue you’ll have an update from President Jackson, a list of important dates, and part three of our “Labor Negotiations Primer”. Nominating candidates, voting, and expressing solidarity on the shop floor will be so important in the coming weeks. When you see your Supervisor, Manager, or the Plant Manager, make sure to talk with them and express that we want a fair contract with no concessions. In fact, we want improvements to our livelihood inline with the massive profits that Collins Aerospace and Raytheon Technologies make with our help. Don’t be shy about it, because they’re not shy about proposing all sorts of concessions and take aways that our bargaining committee must constantly fight off.

Remember, we’re stronger together. United we bargain... divided we beg.

President's Report

By Alton Jackson – UAW 592 President

Brothers and sisters:

Negotiations with Collins Aerospace will open on Wednesday, April 26. Your Bargaining Committee has been working on proposals, and it's the Bargaining Committee's intent to bring the membership the best possible contract to the ratification vote. The Ratification meeting will take place at Loves Park City Hall gymnasium located at 100 Hart Blvd. Loves Park IL, 61111 on May 21, 2023, at 1:00pm. The voting will start when the meeting ends, and the polls will close at 4:00pm.

Please wear your red shirts on Wednesdays. The more the company sees us with the red shirts on "red shirt Wednesdays", the more they will see that the membership stands together in support of the Bargaining Committee. If you do not wear the Union shirt, any red shirt will show support. This is not only something to do during negotiations but all year long. It also shows solidarity.

Let's talk about the Strike Authorization Vote. It's on April 30, 2023, at the Love Park City Hall gymnasium from 12-2:00pm. This is a vital tool for your Bargaining Committee to help in the negotiations process to show management that the membership stands behind their committee at the negotiations table. This action, and/or the results from

this action, tend to bring a more serious response from the Company when they see that there is Solidarity within the Union. This authorization vote does NOT mean that you will go on strike. We'll still have three more weeks of negotiations after this vote. A two-thirds majority of those casting ballots on April 30th must vote in favor of a strike before any strike authorization can be requested from the International Executive Board.

The UAW always strives to settle contracts and disputes with

Voting "YES" on April 30th gives us more power to bargain effectively for you.

management through negotiations, not strikes. Contrary to anti-union propaganda, the vast majority of UAW contracts are settled at the bargaining table without resorting to strike action. Nevertheless, there are times when talks alone don't succeed in resolving issues.

Remember... the Strike Authorization Vote is a **vital tool** for your Bargaining Committee to show management that the membership stands behind their Bargaining Committee at the negotiations table. This authorization vote does **NOT** mean that you will go on

strike. But, a divided and confused vote outcome may embolden the company to give less in pay and benefits because they don't see solidarity in the membership. Voting "YES" on April 30th gives us more power to bargain effectively for you.

The General Election for all Executive Board and all Unit Bargaining Committee positions will be held on Tuesday, May 2, at the UAW Hall, 929 South Alpine Road Suite 203 in Rockford. All UAW members in good standing as of March 2023, are eligible to vote in the elections.

We have been discussing resolutions to a few grievances with the company trying to get the number heading to arbitration down. The Quarantine grievance has been settled and waiting pay out by the company. The Kishwaukee warehouse grievance has been settled and our members are currently working at that site. The Union is in discussions with HR and management on a resolution for the Tool & Gage grievance.

The Membership Meeting for April has been canceled by membership action. Our Negotiations with the company will start that day.

In Solidarity,

President Alton Jackson

Labor Negotiations Primer: part 3 of 3

Part 2 of the labor negotiations primer was in the last issue of the Local 592 Tribune.

In a somewhat unusual quirk, 2023 is also when we hold elections for Local 592 officers. On Sunday, April 23rd at 1pm there'll be a meeting to elect an Election Committee who will count the votes for any local union elections and for the contract ratification. We'll also hold nominations for President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Chief Stewards, Trustees, Sergeant-at-Arm, Guide. While the current bargaining committee is negotiating the contract, anyone that's newly elected by the membership in May will not be sworn into office until June. Hopefully, we'll be celebrating a successful contract agreement with the company.

In the last week or so of negotiations, picket assignments will be handed out to members. Again, this doesn't mean we're going on strike or will be locked out, but it's a necessary step taken in the event an offer is voted down by the membership. A strike headquarters will be arranged and signs on the ready should they be needed. Better to be prepared than not.

In the past, the company has used its email to let office and union workers know how to proceed if a contract agreement isn't reached. Be prepared for them to talk about how they have contingency plans and operations will be open for business as usual on Monday, May 22nd with office employees only. In May of 2003, both sides knew a work stoppage was very likely. Many union members found it prudent to remove personal belongings from work on the Friday before the contract expired, and the company locked out Local 592 members on Sunday at midnight.

On Sunday, May 21st the "last, best, final offer" that was negotiated will be available to review. The bargaining committee will speak about the offer and polls will be open for several hours for the membership to vote. The tentative agreement will not be given in advance of that meeting even if negotiations wrap up two or three days before. Most of the time negotiations go into the Friday before the deadline, and Saturday is spent printing copies and preparing for Sunday's vote.

The election committee that is selected at the April 23rd meeting will count the votes multiple times and report the results to the bargaining committee. So, if you want to be the first to know the vote outcome, volunteer for the election committee. Local news usually reports on the vote, and of course UAW Local 592 officers will spread the word about a hopefully successful agreement with the company.

Local 592 union elections in April & May

There will be a **SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** on Sunday April 23, 2023 at 1:00 P.M. at the UAW Hall, 929 S. Alpine Rd., Rockford, IL for the purpose of nomination and election of the Election Committee and the nominations of candidates for **ALL** Executive Board and **ALL** Unit Bargaining Committee positions. You need not be present to be nominated, however, persons nominated but not accepting nomination at the April 23, 2023 meeting must notify the Recording Secretary in writing no later than 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday April 26, 2023. Retired members can run for all positions except the seven members of the bargaining committee.

The **GENERAL ELECTION** for **ALL** Executive Board and **ALL** Unit Bargaining Committee positions will be held on Tuesday May 2, 2023 at the UAW Hall, 929 South Alpine Road., Rockford, IL. The polls will be open from 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. A run-off election should one be necessary will be held on Monday May 8, 2023 at the UAW Hall, 929 South Alpine Road, Rockford, IL. Polls will be open from 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Winning Candidates will take office at the June 28, 2023 Membership Meeting. Notices will be published on the bulletin boards in the plants and on Local 592's website.

Finally, we can't stress enough the importance of having seven good members of our Election Committee. Retirees are eligible to serve and between nominations, strike authorization and ratification votes, committee members will be busy in April and May. But it's critical we have good dependable help. Please reach out to your Chief Steward if interested.

Important Dates

Sunday, April 23rd 1pm

- nominations for Election Committee & Local 592 officers at the UAW Hall

Wednesday, April 26th

- contract negotiations open with Collins Aerospace

Sunday, April 30th 12 – 2pm

- Strike Authorization vote at Loves Park City Hall 100 Hart Blvd.

Tuesday, May 2nd 6am – 6pm

- voting for Local 592 officers at the UAW Hall.

Monday, May 8th 6am – 6pm

- IF NEEDED, runoff election for Local 592 officers at the UAW Hall

Sunday, May 21st 1 – 4pm

- contract ratification vote at Loves Park City Hall 100 Hart Blvd.

Wednesday, May 24th 1 & 4pm

- monthly Local 592 membership meeting.

Wednesday, June 28th 1 & 4pm

- monthly Local 592 membership meeting with swearing in of new officers.

Cut this out, take a picture with your phone or add these dates to your calendar.



Veterans Committee Report: Joe Harper, Chairman

There have been almost 1.4 million men and women that have paid the ultimate price for us in the defense of our country.

This Memorial Day weekend, please consider honoring those heroes. You can watch a parade, attend a Memorial Day ceremony, or at least say thank you to those great men and women who built and maintained the freedom we enjoy.



ATTENTION: Until further notice, Local 592 union meetings will be held as follows. **1pm** night shift meeting at UAW Hall 929 S. Alpine Rd. **4pm** 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, <u>April 26th</u> | Cancelled. |
| Wednesday, <u>May 24th</u> | 1pm night shift, 4pm dayshift. |
| Wednesday, <u>June 28th</u> | 1pm night shift, 4pm dayshift. |

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.

WWW.UAW592.COM

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

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

We can't stress enough the importance of having seven good members of our Election Committee. Retirees are eligible to serve, and between nominations, strike authorization and ratification votes, committee members will be busy in April and May. But, it's critical we have good dependable help.

Please reach out to your Chief Steward if interested.



Local 592
Tribune



UAW LOCAL 592
929 South Alpine Rd., Unit 203
Rockford, IL 61108

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
ROCKFORD, IL.
PERMIT NO. 861