



# UAW Local 774 President's Report

President Wence Valentin III



**Tuesday November 9, 2021**

## **Upcoming UAW Local 774 Retiree Chapter Meetings**

The last meeting for 2021 is at 1:00pm on Tuesday December 14, 2021 in the upper and lower meeting halls of UAW Local 774 2939 Niagara St. Buffalo, NY 14207. \*All dates are subject to change

## **Important Upcoming Dates and Events**

- Thursday November 11, 2021 – Veterans Day
- Sunday November 14, 2021 – Regular Membership Meeting at 10:00am
- Saturday November 20, 2021 – Defensive Driving Course, contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Thursday November 25, 2021 – Happy Thanksgiving!
- Friday November 26, 2021 – Native American Heritage Day
- Sunday November 28, 2021 – Hanukkah Begins
- Sunday December 5, 2021 – Kids Christmas Roller Skating Party from 5pm – 7pm
- Saturday December 11, 2021 – Defensive Driving Course, contact Ken Ryan (716) 861-4896
- Sunday December 12, 2021 – Regular Membership Meeting at 10:00am
- Tuesday December 14, 2021 – Retiree Chapter Meeting at 1:00pm
- Sunday December 19, 2021 – Retiree Christmas Party, Grapevine Banquets 333 Dick Rd. Depew, NY 14043
- Friday December 24, 2021 – Christmas Eve
- Saturday December 25, 2021 – Merry Christmas!
- Sunday December 26, 2021 – Kwanzaa Begins
- Friday December 31, 2021 – New Year's Eve

## **Kids Christmas Roller Skating Party**






UAW Local 774 Recreation Committee is sponsoring their annual Kids Christmas Roller Skating Party on December 5, 2021 from 5pm to 7pm, at Rainbow Roller Rink 101 Oliver St. North Tonawanda, NY 14120. Admission is free when you bring in a donation of can goods for our local food pantry.

## **Website and Facebook Page**

For current updates and events, UAW Local 774 has a Website and Facebook page. You can find the UAW Local 774 website at <https://uaw774.com> and the official Facebook page is listed as [UAW Local 774](#).

## Annual Retiree Christmas Party

The Annual Retiree Christmas Party will be held at the Grapevine Banquets on December 19, 2021. You can purchase tickets from Russ Flynn or at the Union hall between the hours 8:00am - 4:00pm Monday through Friday. The last date you can purchase tickets will be Tuesday December 14, 2021.

<b>No. 121</b>	
<b>UAW Local 774</b> <b>Annual Retiree Christmas Party</b>	 Grapevine Banquets 333 Dick Road Depew, NY
	
	<b>Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b> Doors open at 11:30 AM Noon ~ 5:00 PM
	Dinner 1:00 PM Music 2:30 PM ~ 4:30 PM
<b>Open Bar • Dinner • Music • Dancing • Door Prizes</b>	
Name _____ Phone _____	<b>Donation \$20</b>
	<small>UAW LOCAL 774</small>
	<b>No. 121</b>

## Condolences to Our Lost UAW and Unifor Brothers

UAW has lost two members. UAW Local 79 in Moline, IL lost a member who was struck in a traffic accident and fatally injured while walking to the picket line. UAW local 1219 in Lima, OH a Ford engine plant has lost a machine repairman due to an accident in the workplace. There was also a fatality to a skilled tradesman at our sister plant in St. Catherine's, ON Unifor Local 199. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families, friends and coworkers and may they rest in peace.

## UAW Local 774 Hall Rentals

Retired and Active members can rent the Union Hall for private events or personal use.

Call (716) 873-4715 ext. 12 (Wence), ext. 20 (Cleveland) or ext. 23 (Jill) for more details, information and availability.

Deposit: \$200.00 Rental Fee: \$225.00

\* Includes soda & cleanup

\* Proceeds from hall rentals go to the kitchen improvement fund

## Skilled Trades Openings

Tonawanda Engine Plant is still looking to hire tradespeople in the Machine Repair, Tool Repair and Pipefitter classifications. To be eligible you must have at least 6 years of on the job experience. If you know of any qualified Skilled Trades, please have them apply online at [gm.com/careers](http://gm.com/careers). UAW Local 774 has been pushing local management to put on apprentices, but this decision has to be made by GM at the corporate level. GM agreed to put on 400 apprentices during the life of the 2019 UAW/GM National agreement. Over 2 years since ratifying the National Agreement, not one apprentice has been indentured at Tonawanda.

## **Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate. STARC**

The process for application to the Apprenticeship Program is called the **Skilled Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Certificate. STARC**

All candidates that want to be eligible for the Apprenticeship Program must complete 4 classes, with the online educational provider, Penn Foster. Completion of classes does not guarantee a position as an apprentice. There is still an interview process.

The classes are called STARC 1 thru 4 with Penn Foster. The first two classes enrolled into are called Semester 1. (STARC 1 and STARC 2). After completion of Semester 1 the next 2 classes taken are Semester 2. (STARC 3 & 4) The classes can be taken in any order within the semester. The program is complete after taking a proctored exam and receiving at least a 75% grade for each of the four STARC classes. Penn Foster estimates the number weeks it takes to complete each class, based on the candidate working roughly 10 hours online per week. Students can work at a faster rate to finish quicker. Every class **MUST** be completed within the estimated weeks allocated. Exceeding the allocated time frame estimated for completion or getting less than 75% grade are considered a failure.

Candidates are placed on the list on January 1st of the year after they complete the STARC Certification, in the order they finished the program. A Certified STARC applicant from 2021 is placed on the list starting for the 2022.

The cost of the classes are as follows. STARC 1 and 2 are \$350 each. STARC 3 and 4 are \$375 each. For a total of \$1450.

Additional Information about the program is available, contact

Dominic Caselli  
Apprentice Chairperson UAW Local 774  
Office: (716) 879-5003  
Cell: (716) 574-0728  
[dominic.caselli@gm.com](mailto:dominic.caselli@gm.com)

## **Community Services Committee**

This month the UAW Local 774 Community Services Committee held its [Raffle to Benefit Roswell Park's Herd for Hope and Leukemia Lymphoma Society's](#) Light the Night Walk. UAW Local 774 has been making a difference in people's lives. Everyone has been touched by cancer. Over the past 4 years our committee has raised over \$28,000 for cancer research. We as a Union are giving people hope and changing lives. The pandemic was a major setback for all of us. We set out a lofty goal, with membership dwindling, and the plant morale down, but the membership at UAW Local 774 shines through once again as we were able to raise over \$10,000 for these two great causes. With the money raised for Roswell Park we will get a big blue buffalo to be displayed at our union hall. This will let the community know what we do. When they deliver our buffalo, I hope we can have a big turnout for a group picture, because this represents all of us. Thank you to the vendors and small businesses across our community for your generosity in making this fund drive a success. Also a big thank you to the Community Services Committee, the entire Executive Board, Shop Committee and most importantly our Membership!!!! Great Job!

In solidarity,

John Orsini, Chairperson  
UAW Local 774 Community Services Committee

## **Solidarity Magazine**

Every issue of Solidarity magazine has been converted to an electronic version that is now posted on [uaw.org](http://uaw.org). It contains the same stories that are in the printed version. What's more, the electronic version is usually available two weeks before the printed version lands in your mailbox. It also has links to videos and additional content.

We understand that some members still like to have an actual hard copy of the magazine to read. To continue to receive one, you can opt-in by filling out a simple form, the forms are available at the UAW local 774 Union hall 2939 Niagara Street Buffalo 14207.



November 2, 2021

To Our Veterans,

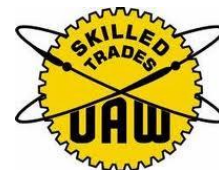
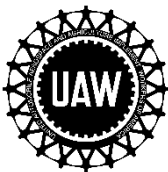
To those who serve now or have served in the past we thank you with all of our heart for your service. Thank you for our life in freedom in this unique and wonderful nation.

Freedom is not an abstract idea. It is the difference between the life we choose and the life others choose for us. We are free to think, feel and speak the way we wish. We are free to live where we want, as we want and with whomever we want. We are free to speak our opinion and stand for our beliefs. You have given us that freedom, as you've sacrificed your life to do so in part or in whole, without complaint, without reservation, you gave even when giving cost you dearly.

Thank you for your sacrifice, your care and dedication to make our life better. We have no way to repay you, our sacrifices in life cannot compare to yours. Please know our thanks to you are sincere and deep, for without you freedom would not exist.

With all our hearts,

**Your UAW Local 774 Executive Board says THANK YOU!**



**UNION HALL HOURS/PHONE EXTENSION LISTING**

**Union Hall Hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm**

**Main Line - 716-873-4715**

**Fax Line - 716-873-8341**

**10 – Main Office**

**Wence Valentin III**

**12 – President**

**Tim Mc Innis**

**13 – Benefits Representative \*12:00pm - 3:30pm**

**Mike Grimmer**

**15 – Shop Chairman**

**Jose Colon**

**17 – Benefits Representative \*3:00pm - 5pm**

**Cleveland Jones Jr.**

**20 – Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

**Russ Flynn**

**21 – Retiree Chairman**

**Stacie Mc Kernan**

**22 – Recording Secretary**

**Jill Rajla**

**23 – Administrative Assistant**

**Amy Kloc**

**29 – Communications Director**

**30 – Chaplaincy Prayer Requests**



**In Solidarity,**

**/s/ Wence Valentin III, President - UAW Local 774**