

**Upcoming Events!****GEO Membership Meeting**Thursday, February 7th  
6:00—8:00 PM  
Campus Center room 917,  
UMass Amherst**White Shirt Day**Monday, February 11th  
*Wear a white button-up shirt to  
honor the 1936-1937 Flint sit-  
down strikers!***GEO Stewards' Assembly**Wednesday, February 20th  
6:00—8:00 PM  
Campus Center room 904-08  
UMass Amherst**UAW 2322 Solidarity and  
Education Committee Meeting**Monday, February 25th  
3:00—5:00 PM  
UAW 2322 Office, 4 Open  
Square Way #406,  
Holyoke, MA

*Do you want to be  
more involved in  
your union?*

UAW 2322  
Triennial Elections  
for  
Executive Board  
are  
coming up!

*Check page 2 of  
this newsletter for  
more information!*

**Goddard College Staff Vote to Join UAW 2322!**

By Ron Patenaude, President

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'd like to take this opportunity to announce the Goddard College staff's decision to join UAW 2322. On Wednesday, January 23rd, UAW 2322 Vice President Ryan Quinn and I drove to Plainfield, VT to witness the election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board for 74 staff workers at the Goddard College Campus. Those workers are from a variety of departments including the library, ITT, and kitchen. They, and others, approached us to represent them so that they would have the right to bargain over their "wages, hours of work and working conditions."

The results were that of the 74 workers eligible to vote, 66 exercised their Federally-protected right under Section 7 of the National Labor Relations

Act to "organize and join a union of their own choosing free of employer coercion or intimidation." Of those 74, 58 voted yes, 8 voted no, and 8 did not cast votes.

I'd like to take this time and this occasion to remind us all that we are part of something bigger than our individual shops (no matter the size), UAW Local 2322, or the International UAW. We are part of a broader social movement that (since the days of our great President Walter Reuther) has strived to represent the interests of all workers, to make workplaces safer, and to promote fair and equitable treatment and dignity for all workers.

In closing, I'd like to say when I get tired, depressed, or feel like the cards are stacked against us (or that we're fighting an uphill battle, and that, in my worst moments, I wonder if we can win) it's people like the

Goddard College Staff Organizing Committee, Karen, Sarah, Jamie, Tom, Helen and the many others (including the Goddard College Faculty Union members and Goddard College students), who risked the ire and possible retaliation of the boss to remind me we can win. Not only can we win, but we can also kick some butt and take some names. That, in the end, makes it all worth the sleepless nights, stress-filled days, and sometimes enduring the personal attacks that are all part of doing this work which I love (most of the time), but could never do without the strength and support of our activist members who we all owe a world of thanks and appreciation to.

Fraternally,

Ron Patenaude,  
President, UAW 2322



UAW Members Helen Linda, M.E. Lawlor, Reynaldo, Karen Murray, UAW 2322 President Ron Patenaude, Sarah Hooker, Jackie Fischer, Sharon Cronin, Tom Pearson, Jamie Kline celebrate a successful union election for Goddard College staff!

Photo by Ryan Quinn



## Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Labor Movement

By Court Cline, Servicing Rep.

Each year in January, we honor the birth of the visionary civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This holiday is also a reminder of all of the contributions Dr. King made to all of us in his courageous defense of civil rights, human dignity, and economic justice. Although many folks are familiar with his important civil rights accomplishment, few know of his powerful contributions to the

labor movement. Dr. King was a longtime champion of the labor movement, and he died in 1968 while marching with sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, all members of AFSCME Local 1733. Those workers were fighting for the recognition of their union, for collective bargaining rights and for the respect that every person is entitled to.

Dr. King also had strong ties to the UAW. Legendary UAW Presi-

dent, Walter Reuther, befriended Dr. King in 1959 and joined him on the frontlines of many civil rights protests in the South, including the March from Selma to Montgomery and the March from Selma to Birmingham. Walter Reuther donated space to Dr. King at the UAW's Solidarity House, and there he penned his famous "I Have a Dream" speech for the 1963 March on Washington.

Dr. King said so eloquently in 1961, "In our glorious fight for civil rights, we must guard against being fooled by false slogans, as 'right-to-work.' It

provides no 'rights' and no 'works.' Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining... We demand this fraud be stopped." Dr. King recognized the important link between the struggle for civil rights and struggle for worker rights. As union activists struggling for economic justice, we emulate and honor Dr. King, the labor activist, every day.



## Buy UAW

By Ryan Quinn, Servicing Rep.

Many UAW Local 2322 members are familiar with the annual list that our International Union puts together of UAW-made cars. Hopefully, we all consider this list when looking to purchase a vehicle, but since most of us don't buy cars very often, the UAW also provides information about other products and services manufactured and provided by its members at <http://www.uaw.org/products>. For instance, Local 442 members in Webster City, Iowa make White-Westinghouse, Tappan, Gibson, Kelvinator and Frigid-

aire brand washing machines and dryers. Local 469 members in Milwaukee, Wisconsin make Master Lock 1500 series combination locks - the locks you probably remember from high school. Thirsty? Reach for Folgers coffee, Bacardi rum, or Miller beer - all made by our UAW brothers and sisters. If there is something you need which isn't made by a UAW member, look to Union Plus for an up-to-date list of union-made goods from other unions at <http://www.unionplus.org/buy-union-made>.



## Victory for Servicenet Homecare Nurses!

By Brooks Ballenger, Servicing Rep.

Congratulations to the ServiceNet Homecare Nurses! We won a very powerful National Labor Relations Board settlement. One nurse who had his job changed unfairly and then was forced out, received a substantial back pay settlement

and reinstatement. ServiceNet also agreed to rescind changes to schedules, job descriptions, job assignments, and to bargain in good faith with the Nurses and their Union. A posting signed by ServiceNet will go up at the worksite.

## February 11: "White Shirt Day" honors those whose struggles built the UAW

By Ryan Quinn, Servicing Rep.

February 11, 2013 marks the 76th anniversary of the UAW's victory in the 1936-1937 Flint sit-down strike, the strike that won an agreement that General Motors (GM) would recognize the UAW as the exclusive bargaining representative of its members. The history of the strike itself is a fascinating one (which any member interested in the history of the UAW should look into), but the strike's legacy - the membership of our union doubled itself four times in the year following the strike - is of particular importance for all union members, as it marked the beginning of a series of massive successful organizing

campaigns for organized labor in the U.S. Every year, we commemorate the sit-down striker's bravery and resolve by wearing clothes customarily worn only by management in the auto factories to remind ourselves that management is no better than we are. On Monday, February 11, please consider wearing a white button-up shirt to work to reflect on those UAW members who struggled to build the union in the early days.



## UAW 2322 Triennial Elections!

UAW Local 2322 is preparing for a full election of the Executive Board. Nominations are currently open for all positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Financial Secretary
- Recording Secretary
- Guide
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Trustee 1
- Trustee 2
- Trustee3

All dues-paying members in good standing for one year prior to nominations are automatically nominated and eligible for all open positions. Watch your mail for more information!

We are also looking for members to serve on the Election Committee. If you are interested, contact the office at [info@uaw2322.org](mailto:info@uaw2322.org). **Committee Members cannot be running for office or actively campaigning for someone who is.**