

2002 Notice of Nominations and Elections UAW Local 2322



This spring, Local 2322 will elect Executive Board officers, Joint Council members, and delegates to the UAW 33rd Constitutional Convention. This is official notice of such nominations and elections. The process below was approved March 13 at a Membership Meeting.

Local 2322 Executive Board

The Executive Board meets monthly to decide policy and make the operational decisions of the local union. The duties are described in Article 40 of the UAW Constitution. The open positions are: President; Vice President; Recording Secretary; Financial Secretary; Trustees (3 positions); Guide; and Sergeant-at-Arms. The term of office begins May 20, 2002 (unless a run-off ballot is required) and continues through May 2004. You must be a member in good standing of Local 2322 for one year (12 consecutive months) at the time of nominations to accept a nomination. Those elected to the positions of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary will also be elected as delegates to the Area and State CAP Councils and Conventions.

Delegates to the UAW 33rd Constitutional Convention

Local 2322 is entitled to five delegates and five alternate delegates to the UAW 33rd Constitutional Convention, which runs from June 3 to June 7, 2002 in Las Vegas, NV. The Membership Meeting on March 13 approved paying air fare, hotel bills, registration fees and a per diem for all attendees. There are equal numbers and proportions of alternate delegates as well (3 from GEO; 2 combined from the other shops in the local), each of whom must meet the same eligibility requirements as regular delegates as described below.

GEO Delegates to Convention

Of the five delegates, three must be current members in good standing of the Graduate Employee Organization (the union of graduate employees at UMass, Amherst), members in good standing for at least three months of the Local Union prior to June 1, and members in good standing of the International Union for one year (12 consecutive months) prior to June 1. These delegates will be elected by GEO members in good standing.

Miscellaneous Delegates to Convention

The other two delegates must be members in good standing of any of the other worksites represented by Local 2322, members in good standing for at least three months of the Local Union prior to June 1, and members in good standing of the International Union for at least one year (12 consecutive months) prior to June 1. These delegates will be elected by members in good standing from the non-GEO worksites.

Local 2322 Joint Council

The Local will also be accepting nominations for its Joint Council, which is a membership body composed of representatives from each worksite, proportionally distributed according to the size of the work sites. It decides policy of the local, and is above the Executive Board in the union's hierarchy. You must be a member in good standing of your worksite for one year (12 consecutive months) to accept a nomination to this position. Elections for a particular worksite will only be conducted by members of that worksite, meaning that each worksite elects its own representatives to Joint Council. The term of office begins May 20, 2002 and continues through May 2004. Representation to the Joint Council is based on the size of the work site. Therefore, every work site shall have two representatives except as follows: GEO=31 reps.; HCAC=3; RA Union=7; ServiceNet=4.

Definition of Membership in Good Standing

"Membership in good standing for one year" is calculated with reference to April 10, the day that nomination acceptances are due (Article 38, sec. 3). To vote in the elections, you need only be a member in good standing when ballots are mailed.

Accepting Nominations

It is incumbent on each member to accept her or his nomination. Nominations will be accepted in two ways. First, you may send a letter to UAW Local 2322, PO Box 269, Northampton, MA 01060 by April 10, 2002. If such letter is not **RECEIVED** by 4 p.m. on April 10, it will be considered late and invalid. (Note, a letter postmarked before April 10, but received after 4 p.m. on April 10, will be considered invalid.) The second method is to accept the nomination in person by attending the next Local 2322 Membership Meeting at 6 p.m., April 10, at the Local 2322 Conference Room, 243 King St., Suite 236, Northampton, MA. No other methods of accepting your nomination are allowed (e.g. write-in ballots, "sticker" campaigns, or another person announcing that you accept in your absence). All members of

Local 2322 are automatically nominated for all offices, but nonetheless this procedure does not prevent a member from making a nomination of some other member or members for any specific office established in these elections. If you nominate someone, it is your responsibility to notify your nominee, and it is that nominee's requirement to accept said nomination in the manner described below. At the April 10 meeting, all of the nomination acceptances received by mail will be announced. All other members will, at that time, have the opportunity to accept their respective nominations, as they desire. When the nominations period at this membership meeting closes, there will be no further opportunities to accept a nomination.

Following the close of nominations, the Elections Committee will verify the eligibility of all nominees. On Friday, April 12, at 4 p.m. in the Local 2322 Office, Suite 110, Northampton, MA, the Elections Committee will meet with all candidates to discuss ground rules and other elections issues. If you plan to accept a nomination, you should plan to attend this meeting because candidates shall be notified of their eligibility at this meeting. Candidates who do not attend will be notified ASAP by U.S. Mail.

Inspecting the Membership List

Bona fide candidates for the above offices, i.e. those who have officially accepted a nomination, may inspect the union's membership list once after the close of nominations.

Mailing the Ballots

UAW Local 2322 will be conducting the above elections via a mail-in ballot. Therefore, ballots will be mailed to all known eligible voters on April 16. Every member of the Local Union is encouraged to fill out the enclosed card to update or correct their address. (UMass RAs must sign a membership card before voting.) If you do not have this card available to you, please contact the Local 2322 Office at (413) 584-4905 or by e-mail at uaw2322@uaw2322.org. Updating your information will help assure that you properly receive a ballot. If you do not receive a ballot, but feel you should have, please contact the union office. In any election in which the number of eligible nominees is equal to or less than the number of available positions, each eligible candidate shall be declared "Elected by Acclamation" (Article 38, sec. 17) and no balloting will be conducted for those positions.

Candidate Statements

The Elections Committee will be publishing candidates' position statements that will be mailed with the ballots. Each candidate for Executive Board or Convention Delegate may contribute a position statement of up to 300 words; if someone is running for both E-Board and Delegate, that person may submit two statements that describe her or his position statement regarding the respective office. No position statements for Joint Council elections will be published. Statements must be received by the end of the Elections Committee meeting that convenes at 4 p.m. on April 12 (as described above).

Ballots Must Be RECEIVED by May 10

Ballots must be received by Local 2322 by 4 p.m., Friday, May 10. Immediately after collecting the ballots from the Post Office at 4 p.m., the Elections Committee will return to Local 2322's Conference Room, Suite 236, to tally the ballots.

Announcing the Results

Election results will be announced by the Elections Committee immediately following the tallying of the ballots. The next Local 2322 Membership Meeting will be held at 4 p.m., May 20 at the Local 2322 Conference Room to officially enter results into the union's record.

Appealing the elections

If someone wishes to appeal the conduct of the Executive Board or Joint Council elections, appeals must be received no later than the May 20 Membership Meeting. They may also be sent by mail to Local 2322, PO Box 269, Northampton, MA 01060, and be received by 4 p.m. on May 20. Protests of the Delegate Elections must be received by the International Secretary-Treasurer not more than seven days after the Local Union delegate election.

Run-off Elections

Successful candidates for Executive Board must receive a majority of votes cast to be elected. For positions in which no candidate (or an insufficient number of candidates) receives a majority, a run-off election will be immediately conducted. On Monday, May 13, the Elections Committee would send out a new ballot to the membership including only the top two vote-getters for any position in which the winner did not receive a majority of votes. For the position of Joint Council or Convention Delegate, the top vote-getters in those positions will be deemed elected, regardless whether they have a majority, and no run-off ballots will be conducted for those positions.