

UAW Local 2164 – Bowling Green Assembly Mid-Engine Reveal



Hello fellow UAW Region 8 members and families! Things are certainly looking very promising here at UAW Local 2164 Bowling Green Assembly, especially once the mid-engine Corvette was unveiled and revealed to the world on July 18, 2019. The UAW men and women that build this extraordinary, world class vehicle are certainly a tribute to what will be a successful product for General Motors now and for years to come. The reveal for the mid-engine was in Santa Ana/Orange County, California inside an enormous airplane hangar built in the 1940's. A proud moment to share with our members regarding the reveal-specifically whom was to attend the event was that two days before the reveal I was asked by our Region 8 Representatives and our International Representatives in Detroit if any members, including myself, of Local 2164 had been invited to attend this important event. Sadly, management had not seen the need for any of us to attend; however, there were 10 salaried individuals from the facility that WERE attending! Obviously, I was not the only one that saw the irony in this situation. That's where Region 8 and our International Union stepped in! These individuals stood up, at the dawn of national negotiations, and demanded equality in acknowledgment for the hard-working hourly employees at Local 2164. Three hourly launch team members and I chose to attend this history making event and represent our fellow UAW brothers and sisters. Thank you to Director, Mitchell Smith, Assistant Director, Tim Smith, International Representative, Jim Bledsoe, President, Gary Jones, Vice President, Terry Dittes, and our International Leadership, Dwayne Hawkins for making our attendance to this event possible. Also, thank you to those on staff that were not mentioned that also assisted in pointing out to the company, while in Detroit, that they had failed miserably in the recognition of the hourly workforce and quite frankly the UAW! Lastly, like myself, many of you have had to take transfer options to other facilities in order to continue employment. As a matter of fact, our facility is on boarding over 400 new members currently! The sacrifices that you AND YOUR FAMILIES have made are admirable and a testament to your loyalty to the UAW-GM family. WE THANK YOU!

In Solidarity,
Jason Watson
Shop Chairman UAW Local 2164



Pictured left to right: Local 2164 Hourly Launch Team Members Shawn Haller, Steve Blackmore, Matt Ratliff, and Jason Watson Shop Chairperson.



