



EASTERN KENTUCKY UAW RETIRED WORKERS COUNCIL
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*Chairperson: Lawrence Hamilton ** Vice Chairperson: Cliff Cantrell*
*Recording Secretary: Nola Kelly ** Financial Secretary: Pat McKinley*
*Sergeant-At-Arms: Gary Mosely ** Trustees: Doug Nease and Thurman Mullins*

Eastern Kentucky - 2023 Spring Newsletter

Greeting to all our UAW brothers and sisters in eastern Kentucky.

Our **first meeting will take place on March 28, 2023**. Representatives from the Trust, Blue Cross, and United Healthcare, which also covers Optum RX will be in attendance. Our meetings have not changed. They will be held at the same location, the Rural Development Center in Somerset.

Due to the big 2023 health care changes, it's very important to attend this meeting. **Aetna will no longer be available and United Healthcare will replace it. Additionally, your prescription drug coverage for 2023 will be administered by Optum Rx.** Again, you need to be at this meeting because of the major changes to our insurance. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the March 28th meeting.

Members that plan to attend any of our events where refreshments will be served, to sign-up and where necessary (non-members) pay 7 days in advance for the food.

We thank all our members that took the time to vote in the UAW National Elections. However, there was disappointment in the low turn-out of retirees.

UAW Executive Board members run-off elections-As a result of the UAW IEB elections held in November, a run-off election is now necessary for the office of President, one Vice President seat, and UAW Region 9 Director. Once again, this is an especially important election for the UAW. Ballots will be mailed beginning January 12, 2023. To ensure your vote is counted, please complete, and return your ballot immediately, or at the latest, February 13, 2023. Ballots must be received by February 28, 2023, not postmarked by that date. ***If as of this mailing you haven't received a ballot, please immediately request a replacement ballot by calling 855-433-8683.***

This election is particularly important for UAW Retirees. Those you elect can quite possibly affect your benefits, and our retiree structure. We have great benefits through our UAW Medical Benefits Trust. The Trust, along with the independent (non-UAW) members of that board, decide what our benefits will be. The existence of our Retiree Councils and Drop-in Centers are determined by our International Officers. All of these are issues for retirees to consider when they vote.

Kentucky ID Travel License

The deadline for the new Kentucky ID Travel License is now May 7, 2025. We have the information at the Drop-in Center if you need it or need help obtaining it. We would be glad to assist you with what's needed to get the new driver license ID.

Voluntary Retiree Dues

Retirees, spouses, and surviving spouses are encouraged to participate in Retiree Dues Checkoff. Please know that these monthly voluntary dues (\$3.00 or more) are vital to the survival of the Retired Workers Program and our Council. If you are NOT currently participating, please consider doing so. Retiree dues checkoff cards will be available at our monthly meetings.

Associate Member Dues

We encourage spouses of UAW retirees to participate and join retiree chapters and councils as Associate Members. Associate dues of \$3 per month, or \$36 per year, can be paid via check to the UAW Retired Workers Department, or can be added as a deduction to the retiree monthly pension check.

For members who pay their dues by check, you should send your check to the **UAW Retired Workers Dept., 8000 E. Jefferson, Detroit, MI. 48214.**

(On the left side check, in the check memo area, write Retiree Dues Fund)

Somerset Council Contact Information

Somerset Drop-in Center – 606-676- 0028

Lawrence Hamilton – 708-220-1573/Email – lbeckee@aol.com

Cliff Cantrell – 606-219-2900

Pat McKinley – 317-357-9844

In solidarity,

Lawrence Hamilton, Chair

Eastern Kentucky IAC

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

Retiree Health Care Connect (RHCC) – 866-637-7555

www.benefitsweb.com/rhcc.html

UAW Trust – 866-637-7555 www.uawtrust.org

Ford – General Motors – STELLANTIS (formerly FCA/Chrysler)

Blue Cross/Blue Shield – 877-832-2829 www.bcbsm.com

Davis Vision 888-234-5164 www.davisvision.com

Delta Dental – 800-524-0149 www.deltadental.com

Legal Services Plan – 800-482-7700 www.uawlegalservices.com

Silver Sneakers – (BC/BS Members) www.silversneakers.com

“New” Silver Sneakers – 855-604-1588 **(UnitedHealth Care Members)**

www.uhcrenewactive.com

TruHearing – 844-394-5420 www.truhearing.com/uawtrust

United Auto Workers – www.uaw.org

“NEW” UnitedHealth Care Medicare Advantage Plan **(Medical Benefits)**

844-320-5021 www.retiree.uhc.com/uawtrust

“NEW” UnitedHealth Care Medicare Rx **(Optum Rx - Prescription Drug Benefits)**

855-409-0219 www.uawtrustpdp.com

LIFE INSURANCE CONTACT NUMBERS

FORD MetLife – 833-552-FORD (3673)

STELLANTIS (formerly FCA/CHRYSLER) – 888-409-3300

GM MetLife – 888-543-3461

Social Security Administration – 800-772-1213 www.SSA.gov

Medicare – 800-Medicare (800-633-4227) www.medicare.gov