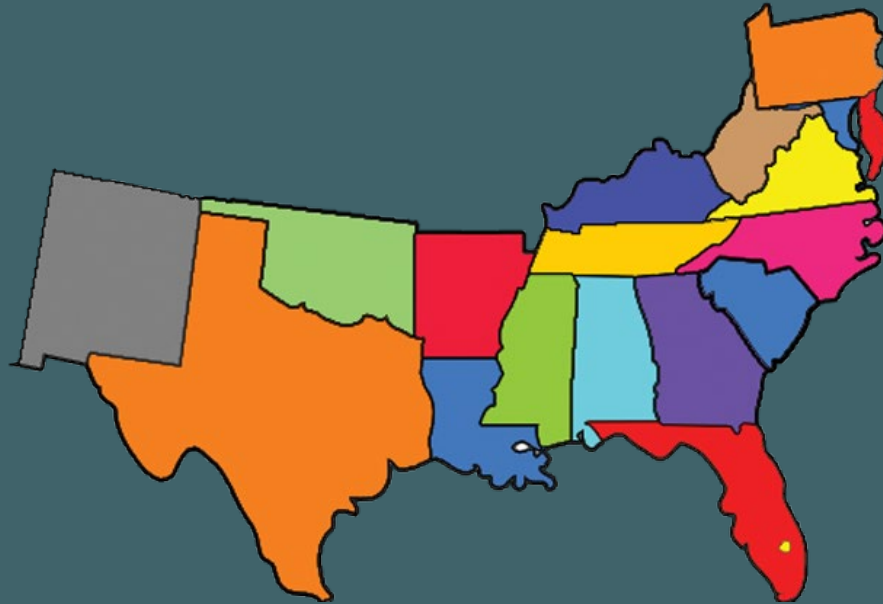


UAW REGION 8 VETERANS COUNCIL REPORT YEAR IN REVIEW: 2024



OFFICERS: Region 8 & Veterans Council

REGION 8

- Tim Smith, Director
- George Palmer, Assistant Director
- Jeff Hall, Veterans Liaison

VETERANS COUNCIL

- Donna Kerberg, NVAC & Chairperson
kyhellkat2001@yahoo.com
- Frank Baskin, Vice-Chairperson
mrtankb@yahoo.com
- Diane Carpenter, Recording Secretary
molemanfc@aol.com
- Edwin Perez, Sergeant-At-Arms
Edwin.perezgriffith1982@gmail.com

Region 8 Veterans Council Objectives

- To recommend to the affiliated Local Unions and the Area and State CAP Councils, programs of common interest to the Union and the community
- To work in conjunction with the affiliated Local Unions and the Area and State CAP Councils, on the implementation of UAW programs
- To activate more Veterans in the Labor Movement
- To promote social activities for the members of the Area Veterans Councils
- To conduct educational programs for the Region 8 Veterans Council and the community

Meeting Our Objectives

- Actively participate in Union affairs
- Meet for the purpose of mutual help and the understanding of the aims and objectives of the UAW among its Veteran members and within the community
- Actively seek involvement in Veteran organizations by providing donations and manpower
- Maintain a presence in the community

REGION 8 VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL



ST PETE



DALLAS





ATLANTA



LOUISVILLE

WE STAY INFORMED ON VETERANS ISSUES

- CAP Bulletins
- Veteran Rallies





**★ STOP ★
THE CUTS
★ PROTECT ★
VA SERVICES**

Join us as we stand together to defend vital services that support our veterans. Cuts at the VA threaten the care and resources our heroes deserve.

**WHEN:
Saturday, March 29 @ 3-5pm**

**WHERE:
Veterans Administration Hospital
2215 Fuller Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Parking info TBD.**



UAW ACTION GUIDE

STAND UP FOR OUR VETERANS: STOP THE CUTS TO OUR VETERANS' HARD-EARNED BENEFITS

They fought for us, now we fight for them.

UAW VALUES:

The UAW will always stand up for our veteran members' benefits, opportunities, and welfare, advocating for them as they advocated for our country. It is our nation's solemn duty to care for our service members and ensure they receive the resources and support they need. That commitment to those who have served does not, and must not, end when their service concludes, and they return home.


As a union, we have fought for increased funding for the Veterans Administration and supplemental compensation and benefits for Persian Gulf veterans and Agent Orange accountability. On August 10, 2022, the "Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act," (PACT Act) was signed which is the most significant expansion of benefits and services for veterans exposed to toxins in more than 30 years. That bill is named after the son-in-law of UAW retiree Susan Zeiler from UAW Local 913 in Sandusky, Ohio (Region 2B).

THE FACTS:

FACT: The Trump administration plans to cut over 80,000 employees from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The VA's chief of staff, Christopher Syrek, told top level officials at the agency that it had an objective to cut enough employees to return to 2019 staffing levels, cutting the current number of employees by over 80,000. More than 25% of the VA's workforce are veterans themselves. The department manages and directly provides comprehensive services including health care, short-term and long-term housing options, life insurance, pensions, education stipends, and assistance in jails and courts.

(con't)



UAW ACTION GUIDE

FACT: Cuts to the VA staffing will greatly endanger veterans' access to benefits and healthcare, including thousands of UAW members.

The Veterans Health Administration workforce constitutes 90 percent of the VA's 482,000 workers, so cuts to VA workers mean cuts to health care, leading to longer wait times for care, including:

- To see health care providers;
- To have their disability claims adjudicated;
- To have someone to pick up their calls at the Veterans Crisis Line;
- To have burial and funeral expense reimbursement requests processed;
- And much more.

BY THE NUMBERS:

FACT: Trump and billionaire Elon Musk have already fired thousands of veterans in the federal workforce, hurting UAW veterans and their families.


Not only have President Trump and Elon Musk fired workers who help get veterans the benefits and care they have earned, they have also fired thousands of federal workers across government, many of whom are veterans.

- Veterans make up 30% of the federal workforce, and the federal government is the largest single employer of veterans in the country.
- In 2021, there were 337,000 disabled Veterans serving in the federal government, making up 16% of the federal workforce. In February, Trump and Musk had already fired nearly 6,000 veterans according to a report done by House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro.

TAKE ACTION: STAND UP FOR UAW FAMILIES & VETERANS

UAW members say: STOP THE CUTS AND STAND UP FOR OUR VETERANS.

Contact your representative today to let them know that our veterans fought for us, now we fight for them! Say no to cuts to the VA, to life-saving and essential services and benefits.



opeiu494tall-cio

UAW

STANDS WITH

VETERANS

and the

VA



WE CONTINUE TO LEARN

- Standing Committee Conference
- National Veterans Conference



WE STAY CONNECTED



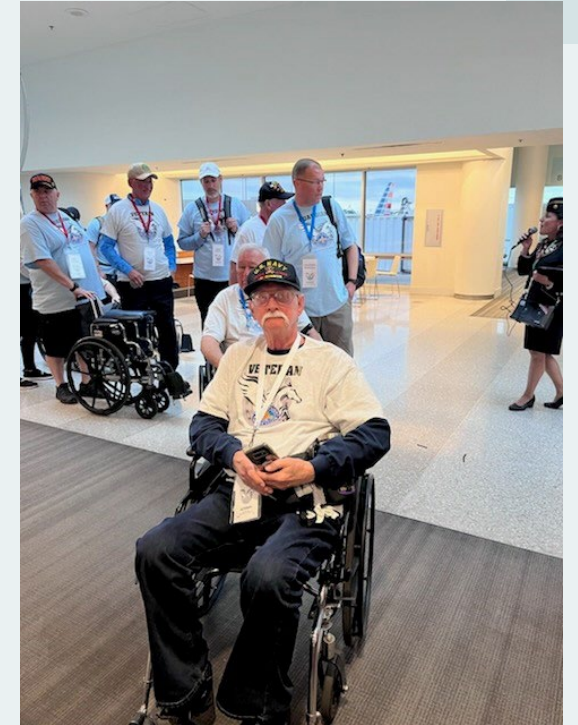
Region 8 Website: uawregion8.net



Follow us on Facebook!

WE SERVE THE COMMUNITY

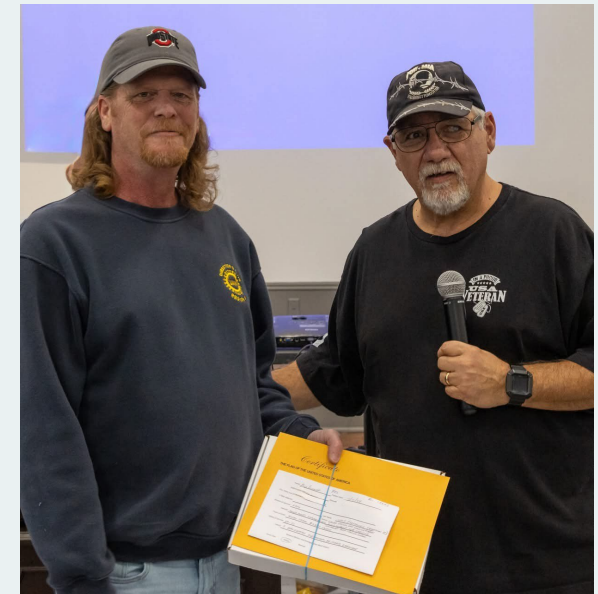
- Suicide Walk
- VA Medical Center
- Honor Flight Bluegrass
- Run For The Wall
- Stand Downs
- Toys for Tots
- VA Town Halls
- Active Heroes
- Ride to Remember





WE HONOR OUR VETERANS

- POW MIA Table
- Veteran Walls
- Veteran Parking
- Veteran Dependent Scholarship
- Veteran of the Month



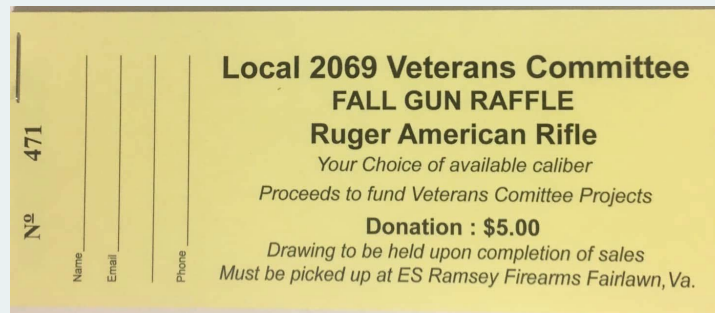
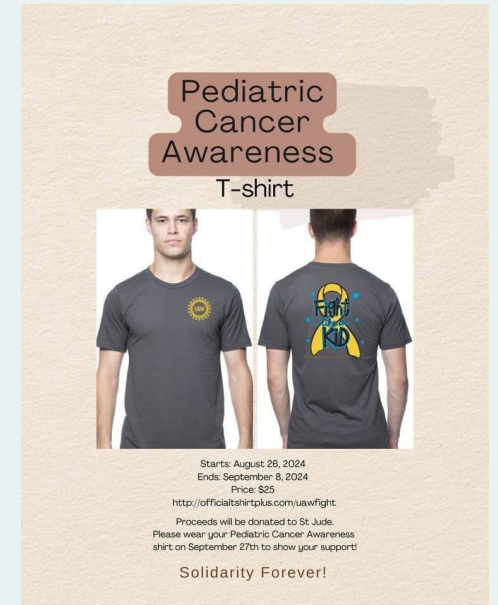
WE ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS

- Memorial Day
- Christmas
- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Fourth of July



WE HAVE FUND RAISERS

- Raffles
- Challenge Coin Sales
- Split the Pot
- Hotdog Sales
- T-Shirt Sales
- Car & Bike Show
- Pushups for Pay



WE HONOR OUR FALLEN



- Moment of Silence



- Sergeant Major Jimmy Martin

GOALS MOVING FORWARD

- Continue serving those who served
- Further our presence in the community
- Educate the new Veterans Committee Chairs
- Increase Committee membership and involvement
- Increase the number of Women Veterans on the Committees
- Encourage the Local Unions to take advantage of the Region 8 Scholarships

Thank you!



To stay updated on the Region 8 Veterans, visit the Veterans page on uawregion8.net

OR

Join us on Facebook: UAW Region 8 Veterans Council