

Issue 22

July, 2026

DIRECTORS REPORT



Letter from the
Director

2026
Constitutional
Convention



TIM SMITH
REGION 8
DIRECTOR

UAW Local 42
Social Justice
Award



www.uawregion8.net

UAW REGION 8

Constitutional Convention 2026

Thank You, Region 8 Constitutional Convention Delegates

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to every elected Constitutional Convention Delegate from Region 8.

Our delegates were elected by their fellow members to carry the voice of Region 8 to Detroit, and they fulfilled that responsibility with professionalism, integrity, and dedication. Throughout the week, they carefully reviewed constitutional amendments, debated resolutions, participated in meaningful discussions, and cast votes on issues that will help shape the future of our union.

Serving as a Constitutional Convention Delegate is both an honor and a tremendous responsibility. It requires time away from family, work, and local union obligations to ensure that the voices of our members are heard on the convention floor. Our Region 8 delegates accepted that responsibility and represented our membership with pride.

To every member across Region 8, I want you to know that your delegates represented you exceptionally well. They arrived prepared, remained engaged throughout the process, respected the democratic traditions of our union, and worked tirelessly on behalf of the members who elected them. I could not be prouder of the way our Region 8 delegation conducted itself throughout the convention. Their commitment to solidarity, democracy, and the principles of our union was on full display for the entire UAW to see.

On behalf of the Region 8 leadership team, thank you to every delegate for your service, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the members of Region 8. Your hard work ensured that our region's voice was heard, respected, and reflected throughout the Constitutional Convention.



In Solidarity,

Tim Smith

Director, UAW Region 8

VW Workers honored at the UAW 39TH Constitutional Convention.



United Auto Workers honored UAW Local 42 Volkswagen Workers in Chattanooga, TN, with the union's Social Justice Award. For over a decade, VW workers never gave up on winning their union or a historic first contract. Now they have both!



UAW Volkswagen Chattanooga workers received the 2nd UAW Social Justice Award of the Convention.



Members of UAW Local 42 Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga, TN, applaud during a standing ovation in their honor for winning a new contract for their members during the UAW Constitutional Convention on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, in Detroit, Mi



Grievance Handling training dates for the newly elected committeepersons at Local 42 will be August 11 through the 13th, 2026.



A Message to the Membership of UAW Region 8



Thank You for Your Confidence and Support

Brothers and Sisters,

I am truly humbled and honored by the trust you have placed in me by electing me, unopposed, to serve another four-year term as Director of UAW Region 8. This election is not a victory for one individual. It is a reflection of the strength, unity, and solidarity that define Region 8. It is a reminder that when we stand together, we can accomplish extraordinary things for working families across our 17-state region.

Over the last four years, we have faced challenges, embraced opportunities, and continued to move our union forward. Together, we have organized new members, secured strong contracts, expanded educational programs, defended workers' rights, and strengthened our collective voice. None of these accomplishments belong to one person—they belong to every member who wears the UAW badge with pride.

I want to personally thank our local union leaders, bargaining representatives, stewards, retirees, activists, and members who dedicate themselves every day to improving the lives of working people. Your commitment and sacrifice are what make Region 8 one of the strongest regions in the entire UAW.

As we begin this next chapter, my commitment to you remains unchanged. I will continue to fight for good jobs, fair contracts, safe workplaces, strong retiree protections, quality education programs, and a brighter future for every UAW family. We will continue organizing, continue building worker power, and continue proving that when workers stand together, there is nothing we cannot achieve.

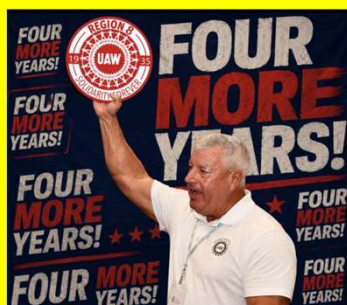
The future of our union is bright. While challenges remain before us, I have never been more confident in the strength of Region 8. The dedication of our membership, the leadership within our local unions, and the solidarity that binds us together will continue to guide us forward.

Thank you for your trust. Thank you for your support. Most importantly, thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Director. I look forward to continuing this journey with you over the next four years.

Together, we will keep organizing. Together, we will keep fighting. Together, we will keep winning.

In Solidarity,

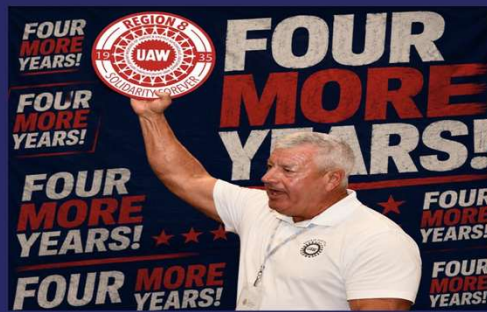
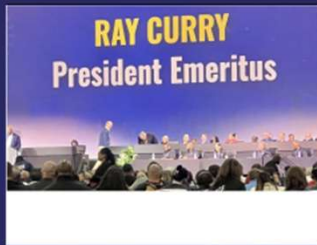
Tim Smith
UAW Region 8
Director



39th UAW Constitutional Convention



THE UAW MEMBERSHIP IS
THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY
INSIDE THE UAW.



A Message of Thanks to the Members of UAW Region 8

Brothers and Sisters,

Every day across UAW Region 8, our members go to work with pride, determination, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Whether you build automobiles, heavy trucks, aerospace and defense products, agricultural equipment, or serve in higher education, gaming, supplier facilities, or countless other industries, you represent the very best of the United Auto Workers.

On behalf of Region 8, I simply want to say thank you. Your hard work strengthens your families, your communities, and our union. Being a United Auto Worker means believing that every worker deserves dignity, respect, safe working conditions, and a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. It means standing together because we know our collective voice is stronger than any one individual.

We are also proud to welcome the members of UAW Local 42 at Volkswagen in Chattanooga, Tennessee, to our UAW family. Your successful first contract delivered significant gains in wages, benefits, working conditions, and, most importantly, a meaningful voice on the job. Your victory has inspired working people throughout the South and proves what solidarity can accomplish.

Our union has always been built by members willing to stand together for something bigger than themselves. To our retirees, thank you for building the foundation we stand on today. To our active members, thank you for carrying that legacy forward every day. Your dedication ensures that future generations will inherit an even stronger union.

The strength of Region 8 is not found in buildings or titles—it is found in each of you. Thank you for your sacrifice, your professionalism, and your commitment to one another. Together, we will continue building a stronger future for working families across Region 8.



In Solidarity,

**George Palmer
Assistant Director
UAW Region 8**

How to Get Involved:



Attend Local Meetings: Participating in local union meetings is one of the most effective ways to stay informed and engaged. These gatherings provide a platform to discuss issues, propose solutions, and connect with fellow members. Check your local union's schedule for upcoming meetings and make it a priority to attend.

Join a Standing Committee: Standing Committees are the backbone of our union. Whether you're interested in organizing, women's committee, or community service, veterans committee, CAP, and many more, there's a committee for you. Joining your local union standing committees allows you to dive deeper into specific issues and work collaboratively with others who share your passion.

Volunteer for Events: Our union hosts various events throughout the year, from rallies to community service projects. Volunteering not only strengthens our community ties but also fosters a sense of belonging and purpose. Keep an eye out for announcements regarding upcoming events and consider lending a hand.

Engage on Social Media: Stay connected and informed by following your Local union and UAW Region 8 on social media platforms. Engaging with our online community allows you to share your thoughts, ask questions, and stay updated on important union news. Don't hesitate to share your own experiences and stories as well!

Advocate for Change: Your voice matters! Whether it's advocating for better working conditions, fair wages, or social justice, there are many ways to make your voice heard. Participate in campaigns, write letters to local representatives, or join advocacy groups that align with our union's mission.

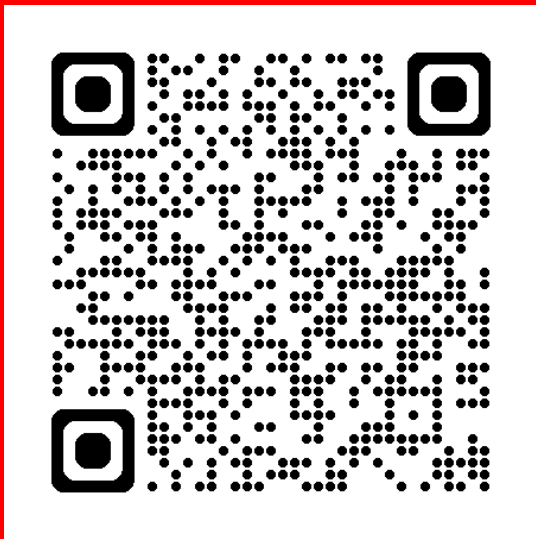
In recent months, UAW Region 8 members have made significant strides in various initiatives. From successful negotiations that resulted in better health benefits to community outreach programs that support local families, our collective efforts are making a tangible impact. These successes remind us that when we come together, we can create change.

Your Call to Action: Now is the time to step up and get involved! Your participation is crucial to the strength and success of UAW Region 8. Whether you choose to attend a meeting, volunteer, or simply spread the word about the importance of union membership, every action counts.

Take the first step today:

1. Mark your calendar for the next local union meeting.
2. Reach out to your local leadership to express your interest in joining a committee.
3. Follow us on social media and engage with your fellow members.
4. Together, we can continue to build a powerful union that stands up for the rights of all workers.

Thank you for your commitment to the UAW and for being an essential part of our community.



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***UAW Region 8
Director
Tim Smith***



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