



INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

RAY CURRY, *PRESIDENT*

FRANK STUGLIN, *SECRETARY-TREASURER*

VICE-PRESIDENTS: CHUCK BROWNING • TERRY DITTES • CINDY ESTRADA

August 3, 2021

To: All Region 2B, UAW Local Presidents, Recording Secretaries and Financial Secretaries

Subject: Region 2B, UAW Online Academy – Autumn Session, 2021

I am pleased to announce the Autumn 2021 session of the UAW Region 2B Online Academy. This training is web-based, and members can participate on their own time and at their own pace during the 20-day window. There are three workshop series available for the Autumn 2021 session, each containing multiple courses. *(For more details on each workshop and its courses, see the following pages.)*

*Building Our Union – Series Runs 10/5/2021 through 10/25/2021*

Registration for this series is due no later than October 1, 2021; cost is \$15 per delegate.

*Leading for Change – Series Runs 11/2/2021 through 11/22/2021*

Available for *local union leadership only*, registration for this series is due no later than October 1, 2021; cost is \$15 per delegate.

*Standing Together – Series Runs 12/1/2021 through 12/21/2021*

Registration for this series is due no later than October 1, 2021; cost is \$15 per delegate.

**ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND**

This conference is open to UAW members in good standing, as approved by their local unions. Delegates may be registered for multiple Course Series within the Autumn Session.

**REGISTRATION**

Local unions must register their delegates via this link:

<https://bit.ly/R2BOnlineAcademy>

Registration for each Course Series is open from now until Friday, October 1, 2021 and payments are due on that date. The conference registration fee is \$15 per delegate, per Course Series and **MUST** be paid by the deadline to reserve a place for delegates. Mail payments to:

UAW Region 2B, Attn: Catie  
1691 Woodlands Drive  
Maumee, OH 43537

**In registering delegates for this conference, we ask that local union leadership/personnel fill out the online registration form for each delegate. This will ensure the local union receives a confirmation e-mail for each delegate that is successfully registered. Please do not have delegates fill out their own registration forms.**

**As members are registered, they will be emailed important information needed to complete their course series, and information on how to log-in. Participants will log in to the TalentLMS website/app on their computer, smartphone, or tablet.**

Please contact Region 2B, UAW Education Representative Amy Richardson ([arichardson@uaw.net](mailto:arichardson@uaw.net)) with any questions you may have.

Over the last year, we have found that the UAW Region 2B Online Academy is a useful tool that has been well received by the membership. I encourage all local unions to take advantage of the convenience and affordability of this educational option.

In solidarity,



Wayne Blanchard, Director  
Region 2B, UAW

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cc: Jeff Shrock, Assistant Director, Region 2B UAW  
Region 2B, UAW Staff

## **Building Our Union – Series Runs 10/5/2021 Through 10/25/2021**

The Building Our Union category offers a set of workshops that help rank-and-file members understand their role within our union and encourage their participation.

### **UAW Basics**

In 2015, the UAW celebrated its 80th anniversary. We are a union rich in history and heritage with a powerful influence over today's labor agenda for working people. In this course, you will learn essential UAW information that will be useful and relevant in your daily life as an active UAW member!

### **UAW 101**

In this workshop, participants will learn information about our UAW history and structure, the purpose and mission of the UAW and the responsibilities of local unions, and the International. This workshop also covers the importance of member involvement, why unions are relevant and necessary today, and participants will be encouraged to get even more involved in their union.

### **UAW Core Values**

When we understand the principles upon which our union was built, we understand the path forward. This workshop focuses on four of our union's core values that are found in our constitution. First, we must build and maintain strong contracts. Second, all are equal. Third, we fight for everyone, not just ourselves. And fourth, we understand the importance of electoral politics. These four pillars define the UAW and serve as a guidepost for all members.

### **UAW V-CAP Program**

The UAW's V-CAP program is an essential, yet sometimes misunderstood, part of our function as a union. In this workshop, you will learn what V-CAP is, how it functions as one of our "core values" and why it is important that all UAW members support the program.

### **Union Meetings & Me**

Meetings play a vital role in our union – but why? In this course, you will learn the importance of attending union meetings, the basic elements of an agenda, understand Robert's Rules of Order and other information that will help you to feel more comfortable and confident in your ability to participate in your local's union meetings!

### **It Starts with Me**

This training is meant to share with you how our union and our locals build power so we can win better wages and benefits, and improve our lives, our families, and our communities. This class emphasizes the roles we all can play to make our union and ourselves stronger.

### **Talkin' Union**

When it comes to talking about organized labor, how you talk is as important as what you say. This workshop delves into 10 lessons of effective communication when it comes to our union. Examples include: the power of leading by example and the downside of debating.

## **Building Our Union – (cont.)**

### **Understanding Bargaining**

A workshop designed for rank-and-file members to understand the vitally important process of bargaining. Participants learn the role of the law and member solidarity and how the interplay affects what we get at the table. Highly recommended for local union membership facing a bargaining year.

### **Understanding Grievances**

This course gives you, as UAW members, the tools to understand grievances and grievance procedures, to learn your rights as a union member, and to find your role in the grievance process.

### **Understanding Strikes**

A workshop designed for rank-and-file members to understand the vitally important process of strikes. From how strikes happen to why they are effective, this workshop is highly recommended for local union membership facing a tough bargaining year.

### **Lessons from Labor History**

Our past is our history. And that history is rich with stories. Stories of heartbreaking loss and great success. As we stand here today, we have the right to collectively bargain, to grieve violations of our contracts. To come together to elect officials who support working families, safe worksites, and retirement security. But nothing of what we have today was given to us. All of it was fought for. And some paid the highest price. Appreciating the long journey that brings us to today gives us insight into what we must do tomorrow.

### **Money Matters: Budget Planning for Life**

Providing members with strong consumer education is the natural partner to effective collective bargaining. Improved wages are easily undone if members are subject to predatory lending or overextended credit. This workshop provides common sense budgeting tips, strategies on building an emergency fund and simple advice on how to avoid the pitfalls of endless debt.

### **Money Matters: Consumer Tips**

This course is a continuation of Money Matters: Budget Planning for Life. Throughout these modules we will explore our options if we find ourselves in debt trouble. We will learn the truth about payday lending and the true cost of credit card purchases. We will identify the best loans for us. Lastly, we will learn ways to protect ourselves from identity theft, frauds, and scams.

### **Globalization 101**

This workshop discusses our economy from a worker's perspective, provides some of the history surrounding the U.S. economy and explains what drives our economic model. Participants will understand how technology is accelerating and expanding the process of globalization, how legislation creates the global system, how the laws that protect workers are being weakened, the goal of the neoliberal agenda and how our power can shape the system.

## **Leading for Change – Series Runs 11/2/2021 Through 11/22/2021**

Leading for Change: these were designed for elected or appointed leaders. These workshops emphasize not only the knowledge necessary to meet our responsibilities as leaders, but also the importance of engaging with membership to build the power of our union.

### **Roles of Officers**

This workshop is a great fit for newly elected leaders to learn the duties and responsibilities of their local union's executive board officers. Participants will discuss some do's and don'ts of local union leadership, learn surrounding information related to these leadership roles and will leave with a good understanding of how the local union executive board works together to carry out the duties of our union.

### **Effective Union Meetings**

This workshop will help leaders plan and facilitate effective union meetings. The class focuses on laying out objectives, meeting preparation, parliamentary procedure, and the role of the chair. The workshop also teaches strategies for getting more members to attend meetings.

### **Leading with Vision**

This course defines leadership and the elements of a great leader. Our union was built on the shoulders of men and women who knew that their role was to inspire change in others. This workshop explores those traits and helps participants evaluate their own strengths and weaknesses.

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## **Standing Together – Series Runs 12/1/2021 Through 12/21/2021**

The Standing Together workshops focus on helping standing committees with information on strategic planning, recruiting new members, and being effective, as well as info specific to each committee.

### **Keys to Effective Standing Committees**

Participants will learn the duties and responsibilities of their standing committee, committee structure (chair, co-chair, recording secretary, treasurer, member and subcommittee/task force), ideas for recruiting and engaging members in committee work, learn how to plan an event or project, plan a meeting, how to run an effective meeting, and how to report out at their local union meeting.

### **Strengthening Our Union**

This course focuses on the importance of building the power of the local union through standing committees. Participants will learn the purpose and function of each standing committee and what types of members are the best fit for each committee. There is also discussion centered around strategies for building member relationships, increasing member involvement and ideas for committee events and projects.

### **Strategic Planning to Grow Your Standing Committee**

Too often, standing committees fall into a routine, where the same program is run year after year with diminishing results. This workshop is designed to help all standing committees reset and create strategic plans that meet the needs of today's membership.

### **Community Services (\*denotes additional workshops that are designed for Community Services Committees)**

Participants will learn their role in plant closings, strikes and layoffs. They'll also learn how to prepare for natural disasters: like hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes. In addition, this workshop covers how to build a community services network, develop an action plan and how to report at membership meetings.

#### **\*Disaster Preparedness**

Natural disasters wreak havoc on our lives and economy. This workshop teaches participants basic survival tips such as: preparing a survival kit, how to find drinkable water in your home, how to identify safe exits, etc. We then go a step further and share tips for your local union on how to set up a communications network and save important records, as well as bargain an emergency plan at your worksite.

#### **\*Layoffs, Closings, and Strikes**

The mandate of the Community Services Committee is to support members in times of need. That often means strikes, layoffs or closings. This workshop gives Community Services Committee members an overview of this important work as well as guidelines on how to prepare for these challenging events.

### **Consumer Affairs**

Consumer Affairs Standing Committees give members common sense advice and information on achieving sound financial footing. This workshop provides the context for and best practices of this important standing committee.

## **Standing Together series (cont.)**

### **Conversation and Recreation**

The Conservation and Recreation Committee is the only hybrid standing committee mandated in the UAW Constitution. It brings together two distinct yet similar areas of concern to our union: concern for ecological matters and the importance of recreation and family activities. Both concerns evolved from our union's early commitment to building a better society that extended beyond the four corners of work. This workshop is a basic primer providing history on this standing committee, as well as presenting the activities of today's Conservation and Recreation Committees.

### **Effective Education Committees**

The Education Committee is at the center of strong locals. This standing committee is tasked with training and education for union members. Members of this committee identify the training needs of their local union and with their leadership's approval, provide classes, materials and information based on those needs. This workshop gives Education Committee members an overview of the committee's work as well as information on how to work with their local union leadership to identify educational goals, create an education plan, work with other committees, and promote the work of the committee.

### **Union Label**

Union Label is one of the original standing committees of our union. It's for a very good reason, as the work of this committee covers the importance of educating the public about unions and our members about their purchasing power. This workshop explores creative ways existing union label committees are carrying out the message today.