



**UAW LOCAL 571  
MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**



P.O. BOX 7275  
GROTON, CT 06340  
(860) 448-0562  
FAX: (860) 448-3721  
E-mail: [uawlocal571@snet.net](mailto:uawlocal571@snet.net)  
<http://www.uawlocal571.org>

***MDA-UAW Local 571  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2022***

*September 20, 2022*

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order and asked that we keep in our thoughts our recently deceased member Mace Hansen, retirees Anna Pepin and Peter O. Smith, family members and our Veterans past and present.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the August 1, 2022 Executive Board Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted. A motion was made (G Pothier), seconded (D Belanger) and passed to accept.

**Treasurers Report:**

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (E Straub) seconded (T Giordano) and passed to accept.

**Correspondence:**

**To President William E. Louis** from the Rhode Island AFL-CIO. Convention Call letter for the 2022 COPE Convention to be held at the Twin River Casino Event Center, Lincoln, RI, September 20, 2022.

**To President William E. Louis** from the Labor Arbitration Institute. A Labor Law & Labor Arbitration workshop to be held at the Hynes Convention Center, Boston, MA, November 17, 2022.

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW, Young Workers Institute to be held at Black Lake, MI, October 2 through October 7, 2022.

**To President William E. Louis** from Eric Novick resigning as Union Councillor and Member at Large.

**William E. Louis, President  
David M. Reagan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Amy Stephenson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**



**Martha J. Fletcher, Recording Secretary  
Dave W. Evans, Financial Secretary  
Robert J. Faraci, Treasurer**

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW, Leadership Essentials Institute to be held at Black Lake, MI, October 9 through October 14, 2022.

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW Region 9A, a Save the Date for the UAW Regional 9A Veterans Council 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Dance to be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Bristol, CT, Saturday, November 5, 2022.

**Officer Reports:**

**First Vice President David Reagan** reported no new step 3 grievances filed. One member was discharged for violation of rules and regulations.

**Second Vice President Amy Stephenson** reported no new step 3 grievances filed.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported no new step 3 grievances filed.

**Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported no new step 3 grievances filed.

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported no new step 3 grievances filed.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Recreation Committee William Louis for Chair Nicole Reagan** reported:

Last event of the year will be the Dinner Dance at Foxwoods December 10, 2022 more info to follow. Foxwoods Info for Dinner Dance Room Reservation please follow the link below <https://book.passkey.com/go/MDAUAW2022>. Reservation Cut-Off Date: **November 16, 2022**

**Absentee Committee Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported no absentee at the August 1, 2022 E-Board Meeting.

**Apprenticeship Committee Co-Chair Joe Marmaud** reported classes are starting up again. It is the apprentice responsibility if they are falling behind to get the help they need (i.e., tutors, conference with the instructor, notify the JAC reps, etc.). It is easier to fix a problem in the beginning than to wait to it is too late to fix the problem.

**SHIP Program Joe Marmaud** reported the 2022 SHIP Program ended on 08/2/2022. 5 of the 10 interns will be working here during the school year in a CO-OP program that is starting in September. In order for the program to be successful, the mentors are the key. The union would like to thank all the mentors. If you ask someone about their success, you're likely to hear about an influential mentor. Mentors offer steady support, hope, wise guidance,

experience, and critical encouragement. It's important that we train and pass on our knowledge to the next generation of designers.

**Education Committee Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported the Education Committee will again be starting up new hire training classes. I would like to thank Bill Louis, Rob Gaudiano and Rich Gianfrocco for all the work they have put in to making this class a success. The next class will be on September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Mystic Marriott.

**Building and Property Committee Financial Secretary Dave Evans reported** the committee has once again been accepting bids to replace the front door and frame, including the push bar system at the hall. We have received one before tax bid for \$6089.57. We have reached out to 2 other companies with no response. The gutters at the hall need to be repaired, they may also need to be replaced or adjusted. We will be looking at taking estimates for both.

**Community Service Committee Co-Chair James Newman** reported We are still collecting cereal boxes for the Domino Cereal Box Challenge. If you have not had a chance to pick up a box or two and drop it off in the food collection boxes throughout the facilities, you still have until Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be sending it all to the Gemma E Moran United Way/Labor Food Center to be toppled, domino style.

In August EBECSA Volunteers were invited to help collect food and other household items left behind after the C&S Food Show and the Buyer's Edge Food Show at the Mohegan Sun. In a few hours after each of these shows with just over 40 volunteers, we were able to collect and send a grand total of 43,725 pounds of food and other household items to the Gemma E Moran United Way/Labor Food Center. It will be distributed to over 90 different distribution sites including food pantries, shelters, child care centers, community meal sites, programs for elderly and the mobile food pantry, all at no cost to those in need.

We would like to thank the following MDA volunteers and their family members for helping out: Recording Secretary, Martha Fletcher, Peter Crizer, Andy and Nicky Checchia, Debra Hankey with Mia, Alex and Koray, Pam Harvey, Amy Houser with Michael, Carter, and Emma, Kristen Kvist-Morrow and Thomas, Brad Lamphere, Don Miller, Dave Murallo, Jim Newman, Mary Pine, Katrina Spanos and Ted, John Wirth and Anita. Retired MDA Members: Ken Fontaine, Joan Gaynor and her Granddaughter Larissa Wilson, John Jones, and James Warren.

Our Annual EBECSA campaign is kicking off with WCTY in Building 88-3 on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are in the final stages of developing our department schedules for the month of October. Please watch for updates and notifications of the scheduled in person presentations for your departments and your members. Together we can make this year's campaign a success. If we have anyone who would like to get more involved and volunteer with the campaign, please let Peter Crizer or James Newman know, we can add you to the team.

Please contact James Newman 433-2558 or Peter Crizer 433-2706 if you have any questions.

**Trustee James Newman** reported the week of August 8<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> we conducted the semi-annual trustees' audit. We reviewed all of the expenses, income, deposits and CD's. We verified the books balanced and the taxes and dues have been paid as required. We updated the inventory list. The CD's were updated to list the current officers after the mid-year's elections as recommended in the past audit. We would like to thank the officers for helping answer any questions which came up during the audit. They set the example of transparency. Thanks also to our hall secretary, Karen Heroux. A special thanks for the record keeping and organization skills of our treasurer, Robert Faraci. This makes our job much easier. Thank you to retiree Mark Ciliano for donating his week to attend this semi-annual audit.

Respectfully, you're Trustees: Jim Newman, Eric Straub and Mark Ciliano Sr.

**Insurance and Benefits Committee Jim Newman** reported:

**Health Fare 2022:**

The EB Wellness Fair will be running some Healthfares on the following dates.

- Sept 7, Long Hill Road, 10-1pm
- Sept 14, Kings Highway, 10-1pm
- Sept 21, Groton wet dock tent, 6-10 & 2-6pm
- Sept 22, New London Café Area, 9-1pm

The Wellness team will be there for "Know Your Numbers" biometric screenings, along with several local vendors promoting health and wellness.

***Reminder - Completing a "Know Your Numbers" screening will "count" for the "It All Counts" portion of the Employee Incentive Program. EB's goal is 85% company-wide participation (currently below 50%).***

What counts towards employee incentive program:

**Health Maintenance Prevention:** EB Wellness Visit, Fill Rx at EB Pharmacy, PCP Annual Physical, Know your numbers Biometric screening, Influenza vaccination, Age specific preventative health screening- Breast cancer screening, cervical cancer screening, colorectal cancer screening.

**Health Improvements and behavior change:** OPTUM Health coach, Tobacco cessation completion, Real Appeal weight loss program completion

**Annual Dependent Re-Verification 2022:**

Periodically dependent verification is required for members who enroll new dependents, make changes or fall under a random audit. Members receiving letters are given deadlines to complete the necessary steps. Members not completing these steps are provided

communication reminders prior to deadlines. We did have a few that did not complete the process in time and will need to appeal.

**Electric Boat Retiree Health Coverage "Over 65":** If you're over 65 or maybe even planning to retire and interested in obtaining some information on options and plan designs feel free to contact Beacon Retiree Benefits group, LLC at 1.888.484.0414, ask for Darcy Caslin or Helen Sullivan. [d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com) and or [H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com)

**Covid-19:**

If you're looking for information, visit the CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC provides information on protecting yourself, Mask protection, etc. Visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

EB also provides guidelines that are posted and available to employees for review, you should make yourself aware of these rules so if something happens your able to follow the proper procedures moving forward. These guidelines can be found on the EB home page.

As we move away from summer time, I would only like to remind you that the virus does spread more during the November through February time period because we are more in doors and not in open outside areas. Please keep in mind and protect yourself as best you can.

**Monkeypox Virus:** Members should be aware that this virus is out there and EB had an employee test positive for the virus. EB does not have the ability to test for monkeypox or to provide a vaccine. The availability and distribution of monkeypox tests and vaccines are at the discretion of the state. Common Symptoms include a rash that can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy, going through several stages before healing. Other symptoms include a fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, fatigue, muscle aches and backache, headache, and respiratory problems such as sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough. Please refer to the CDC for guidance.

**Open Enrollment 2023:** The annual enrollment period will be approaching in November. This is the time of the year your able to make new benefit selections. **The meeting schedule and guides are being developed.** Information will be available shortly on meeting schedules, keep your eyes open. (Refer to your contract book for plan highlights).

**MDA Insurance Committee:** Mark Ciliano at 860-303-2952(Retired), Jim Newman at 860-433-2558 (Groton), Tony Giordano at 860-867-2458 (NL) and/or Chairman Ed Nevins at 860-867-2563 (NL).

**LUCA committee Chair Kristen Kvist-Morrow**, is looking for articles for our Soundings. We welcome members to submit articles or ideas for what to see.

**Veterans Committee Co-Chair Joselyn Mullaney** reported BJ's membership is regularly \$45.00 is \$30.00 and the \$110.00 membership is \$80.00 for veterans with proof of service for new and renewal membership. You will need to show your DD-214 or discharge papers, retired I.D. card or VA medical card or Choose VA I.D. card. This is a retraction from the past: For non-disabled veterans, vets who have a 0% service-related disability can now get a non-medical I.D. card call "Choose VA" I.D. card (this card is just proof of uniformed military service of the United States) not through the VA healthcare system. To obtain this I.D. card you will first need to log into ID.me "ID.me: Simple, Secure Identity Verification". If you've already completed this online for another website such as Lowes or GovX you can skip this step. Log into VA.gov to finish to process; (this process can take some time if doing it on a cell phone or an iPad, be patient. Remember it is a government website) it will ask about your ID.me status fill out that part then, you will need to download a photo for the ID (shoulders and up nothing in the back ground for example: white wall), an electronic copy of your discharge papers & both sides of government issued ID from the DMV or driver's license. Once you filled out the application for your "Choose VA" I.D. card you will get a few emails from "Veterans Identification card" VIC@va.gov about status and it takes about 3-4 weeks to receive 2 copies of the ID card in the mail. If you have any problems with the online forms, you can contact Matthew Green, he is a Veterans Outreach Program Specialist at the Norwich Vet center, 2 Cliff St Norwich 860.887.1755 or email matthew.green@va.gov. He is a big help with this or any other VA type questions. You can also contact specialist at your local Vet center or the new national toll-free number 1-844-MyVA311 (1-844-698-2311) is a go-to source for veterans and their families who aren't sure what number to call.

And last:  
Vet center Crisis Line  
1877-war-vets (1877.927.8387)  
Veterans Crisis Line  
1800.273.8255 press 1  
Confidential Help for Veterans and their families.

Irreverent Warriors – we bring veterans together using humor and camaraderie to improve mental health and prevent veteran suicide.  
Upcoming Irreverent Warriors (silkie hike) events: September 17 - Norwich CT 39 Laura Blvd parking lot Norwich exit 11 (old exit 80).

October 8 – Boston MA 3 Maguire Rd, Lexington, Ma. Hiking the freedom trail.

Silkie Hikes are for Veterans, Active Duty, National Guard, & Reservists Only.  
The hikes are between 4-10 miles, paced at 2-3 miles per hour. There are frequent stops for fellowship and food/beverages, and rucks, weight and boots are optional.  
Civil war tour of Yantic cemetery Norwich Ct. 20 people first come first serve basic call the Hall to reserve a spot.

Tour guide name is Vic Butsch. "I am a Civil War enthusiast, and co-author of two Civil War Historical novels. I enjoy giving informational Civil War tours to interested residents and organizations by conducting a walk through The Yantic cemetery. It is the resting place for 383 Civil War soldiers. I will be happy to tell your group or organization the true and heroic stories about some of the soldiers buried there and of life at the time of that historic war. I will also take everyone to the Andersonville Circle, located within the cemetery, and explain its unique and historical significance.

These men were part of the actual history that the Civil War created. They fought, and some died for the idea of freedom for us all. These are some of the brave men who volunteered to do the fighting that rid the nation of slavery and at the same time kept this great country together. We owe them more than we can ever give."

If you would like to attend the hikes register at [IrreverentWarriors.com/events/](http://IrreverentWarriors.com/events/) and pick the city.

UAW Region 9A Veterans Dinner Dance is November 5, 2022 contact the hall for a seat at the table.

Cornhole tournament: November 12, 2022 at Foxwoods Resort and Casino. More info to come.

New challenge coins have been ordered and should be in sometime in the next few weeks.

### **Old Business**

MDA Apparel is available with many options and colors with a new MDA Logo added. The MDA covers 1/2 the cost. If interested contact the union office secretary Karen Heroux for more info.

We are looking to have an MDA Local 571 Tee-Shirt designed for purchase to wear at outings. Anyone wishing to submit a design, please do so by contacting the Union Hall.

A motion was made, E Straub, seconded, R Canova and supported to donate \$200 towards the Cereal Box challenge. The Union purchased the \$200 worth of Cereal and donated to the total collected at the Gemma E Moran's Labor Food Center.

Just an update on FTO being paid out in tenths, the company is fixing it and should be in affect by the end of year. This change will also apply to the MTC and Carpenters who were "never" able to take their pay in tenths.

We have 2 positions open for the election committee. We will be taking nominations and voting if needed, at the December General Membership meeting.

**New Business**

We have a back log of about 400 new hires since the start of COVID. A motion was made, M Ciliano and seconded, K Kvist-Morrow and approved to cover the expenses for New Hire Classes.

A motion was made, J Marmaud and seconded, J Lombardo and approved to have the door replaced/fixed at the union office, not to exceed \$6500, excluding taxes.

A motion was made, J Mullaney and seconded, R Canova to approve 2 tables and an Ad for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9A Veterans Council Dinner Dance. The cost is \$1450 total.

We had an email approval last month for a \$1000 donation to help with the back-to-school event hosted by the Groton City Police. Children were able to stop by, get free haircuts if needed and all were given a backpack with school supplies.

I would like to thank the MDA members who attended the Joe Courtney Ad shoot on September 10<sup>th</sup>. He was very appreciated, thanks again for the support. Robert Canova, Velma Williams, Brad Lamphere, Pat Trebiacci and James Stolaronek.

The company has come to us with a change in coverage for dependents coverage until 26 years old. Right now, and since the beginning, anyone who turns 26 is covered till the end of that year. The company now wants to change that to the end of the month someone turns 26 and implement it starting January of 2023, part of the open enrollment this year. We, the union, do not agree with this change and feel it should be a negotiated item at next contract. Since the company disagrees with this, we have our attorney filing an NLRB charge on this issue. More to come.

**Financial Secretary Dave Evans** provided a list of the new member applications:

<b>BADGE:</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DEPT</b>
155468	AARON CRAVEN	456
159924	MICHAEL MASSA	403
163553	MARILYNN RAPTIS	491
163526	TANYA WALDRON *	604
162909	TYLER UPTON	459
226482	ROBERT READEY	604
228385	RANDALL HOLL	459
163333	DIANE PONTIOUS	458
229434	LEONEL FRIAS	459
149732	WESLEY LOZADA	604
158927	DANE CRETELLA	505
163525	PETER O'NEILL	701



**MDA-UAW Local 571  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
August 1, 2022**

163608	JESSICA BANTA	447
163258	ANTONIO CARNAROLI	456
163303	MEGAN CROWLEY	455
229460	PRESTON SIMPKINS	453
163463	CAMERON BEARDSLEY	456
155990	ELIJAH GOODE *	456
163069	ANDREA PEEK	442
160264	GAGE BROWN *	456
162935	BENJAMIN YOUNG	460
223842	CRAIG LAMOUNTAIN	453
154520	ANDREA CASSARA	455

\* Reinstated

A motion was made to accept the new member applicants (R Canova), seconded (R Gaudiano) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (R Gaudiano), seconded (M Fletcher) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



William E Louis for Martha Fletcher

Recording Secretary, MDA-UAW Local 571

***Visit our WEBSITE on the GDEB Intranet Homepage or at [region9a.uaw.org/local571](http://region9a.uaw.org/local571)  
Please "like us" on our Facebook site: "[MDA UAW Local 571](#)".  
Also, check for updates of news, pictures of events, etc.***

