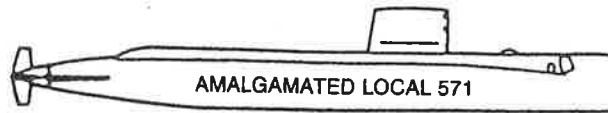




**UAW LOCAL 571**  
**MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

P.O. BOX 7275  
GROTON, CT 06340  
(860) 448-0552  
FAX: (860) 448-3721  
E-MAIL: uawlocal571@snet.net  
region9a.uaw.org/local571



***MDA-UAW Local 571***  
***General Membership Meeting Minutes***  
***December 2, 2019***

December 3, 2019

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order. Our Chaplain Deb Basnight asked to observe a moment of silence for recently deceased retirees Richard Greika and Mel Olsson, former President of our Local, all deceased union members, family members and to our Veterans past and present. Deb then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. President William E. Louis asked all Veterans in the room to stand and be recognized as he thanked them for their service.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the November 4, 2019 E-Council Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted. A motion was made (Dave Reagan), seconded (Greg Allard) and passed to accept.

**Treasurers Report:**

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** read the Treasurers Report. A motion was made (Eric Straub), seconded (Bill Dwyer) and passed to accept.

**Correspondence:**

**To President William E. Louis** the Connecticut and Rhode Island CAP and PAC Financial Statements as of October 1, 2019.

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW International, a call letter for the UAW National CAP Conference, February 1<sup>st</sup> through February 5, 2020, at the Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC.

**To President William E. Louis** from UAW Region 9A, an invitation to the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil and Human Rights Awards Recognition Dinner, Friday, January 24, 2020, 5:30 pm, at the Hartford Hilton Hotel, Hartford, CT.

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW International, a letter for the Region 9A New Hampshire Member Education Program, February 7<sup>th</sup> through February 12, 2020, at the Radisson Nashua Hotel, Nashua, New Hampshire.

William E. Louis, President  
Kenneth Rowland, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
David M. Reagan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



Martha J. Fletcher, Recording Secretary  
William R. May, Financial Secretary  
Robert J. Faraci, Treasurer

**To President William E. Louis** from the UAW International, a letter for the UAW 2020 Financial Officers' Conference, March 8<sup>th</sup> through March 13, 2020, at the San Antonio Marriott River Center, San Antonio, Texas.

**Officer Reports:**

**First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported a member received a final written warning for absenteeism. Attendance warnings do not result in suspension from work; members should be aware they could be suspended pending investigation for unexcused absence after the final written warning. I'd like to take this time to thank all the NL Tower B Councillors and Grievance Reps, who are doing a great job communicating with members and handling issues in the workplace. Your work is greatly appreciated!

**Second Vice President David Reagan** reported no new step 3 grievances. A member received a final written warning for attendance. Thank you to all the grievance representatives and councillors in my areas for all the work you have done throughout this year.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported a member in tower B received counselling for a security infraction. Filed U-0026-19 for a member not receiving full contractual benefits after returning to the bargaining unit from a supervisory position. Filed grievance U-0027-19, members of management choosing Shipcheck personnel that is not IAW DI-459, Section 3.1 and our contract. I would like to thank the council of Tower B, Wayne Carbone, Bill Dwyer, Kevin Brodnicki, Steve Karavolis, Greg Allard and Phil Behney for all their hard work they do for the members in their areas. They serve our members well by working with members and management to resolve issues before they escalate.

**Financial Secretary William May** reported no new step 3 grievance filed. Filed intent to arbitrate letter for grievance U-0022-19, disparate treatment of a member. I would like to thank my grievance representatives and councillors for their hard work.

**Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported no new step 3 Grievances filed. Thank you to the grievance representatives and councillors in my area for doing a great job.

**Standing Committee Reports:** A motion was made to suspend the reading of Standing Committee Reports (Bill Dwyer), seconded (Larry Avery) motion passed. No reports were read during the meeting to save meeting time for the gathering and partaking in the Holiday General Membership meeting. The following reports were sent into the office to be put in these minutes.

**Joint Technology Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported the committee met to review TD-04-02, which will be rebranded as MDD-01129. A team led by one salary and one hourly employee has been taking feedback from checkers and supervisors to

understand issues and reduce “churn” in the checking process. Changes to the document include adding a self-review by the designer (or drafter) and a Check Package Assessment by a peer group prior to placing the product into check. No change to the check and review process is identified. The committee had no comment to the revised document. It is seen as a way to better develop drafters and designers, and to free up more senior members to provide training and mentoring.

**Joint Apprentice Committee First Vice President Ken Rowland** reported the committee met twice this month to discuss several student issues, including one student withdrawal due to personal issues. The committee also met with TRCC program administrators to discuss student complaints about an instructor. Students recently were asked to sign up for a new certificate program for Technology Studies. After the MDA was able to review the certificate program and ask questions, we are satisfied that it is a plus for apprentice students, and in no way affects the degree credits they also earn from TRCC classes.

**Veterans Committee Financial Officer William May** reported the Region 9A Veterans Dinner Dance was a great success. We raised about \$18,000.00 to be distributed to needy Veterans throughout Region 9A. Thank you to Ken Rowland for participating in the Color Guard and Carol Mauro and Kristen Kvist-Morrow our LUCA Committee for taking pictures at the event.

**Absentee Committee Chair Amy Stephenson** reported the following E-Council Members were absent from the November 4, 2019 E-Council Meeting: Bill Dwyer, Jeremy Deschamps, Larry Avery, David Belanger, Jeff Carver, Tom Montgomery, Ed Roczniak, Steve Karavolis and Aaron Sawyer.

**Benefits Committee Chair Ed Nevins** reported:

**2020 Annual Enrollment:**

Your benefits **Annual Enrollment is from November 20 – December 6, 2019**. During this time, you will be asked to make your benefits selections for calendar year 2020. You should have received information in the mail concerning medical, dental, vision and life insurance to help you. Insurance briefings were held at the Union Office, Kings Highway, Eagle Park, Groton and New London. The benefits committee participated in those briefings.

- The benefits briefing held at the union hall was well attended, we had many good questions that allowed for a good Q & A period.
- The briefings held in the outlining locations I hope were informative to those attending and your questions or concerns have been addressed. If not feel free to give a benefits committee member a call.

**Fidelity Error:** The benefits committee has been working with the company to contact those members that Fidelity erroneously sent refunds on 401K deferrals due to testing error. Letters from GD Service Center went out to those members affected with instructions on returning the money by December 15, 2019. Either send back the original uncashed check,

money order or personal check. A prepaid envelope will accompany the letters. **If cashed and not returned it will be recorded as income and subject to withdrawal /distribution penalties.**

**It All Counts Program:** This is the Health and Wellness portion of the Health and Safety category of the employee incentive program. This period is from July to December and is referred to as the second half; the company is looking for 87% participation. Just finish any of the following: Annual Exam, EB Family Wellness Visit, Real Appeal-Weight Loss Program, Dimensions Diabetes Program, Tobacco Cessation Program, Under Weight Program, EB Fitness center, know your numbers Biometric Screening, UHC wellness coaching, Flu Shot, Colonoscopy or Mammogram; Cancer Screening education course in corner stone. **Help everyone reach the 87% goal and earn \$350 bonus!**

One of the easiest ways to help is the Cancer Screening Education course in Cornerstone, this course provides general information on cancer screening tests, cancer risk factors and available EB health and wellness resources. Search Cancer on cornerstone webpage look for **"Cancer Prevention Education (Wellness Incentive)"**.

**To help our members the benefits committee attends some of the events held in New London-Tower by Tower located in the kitchenette /lobby area.**

**Flu Shots:** If you still need Flu shot contact the EB Pharmacy, Wellness Center or Yard Hospital.

- **Hospital** 6:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
- **NL Health Services** 6:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**EB Wellness Center Turns "One":**

The wellness center turned one, if you are interested in meeting the health team, tour the site and learn more about the services available stop and take a tour from 2-4pm on December 7. There will be Snacks and giveaways and options to schedule a service like an Annual Physical, Lab Testing, Physical Therapy, Vaccinations, Health Travel consultations, Allergy injections, blood pressure checks, Flu Shots, On-site Pharmacy, Pre-op, school or sports.

**Electric Boat Retiree Health Coverage "Over 65":** If you're over 65 or maybe 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 or feel free to e-mail them at [d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:d.caslin@beaconmedicare.com) and or [H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:H.sullivan@beaconmedicare.com)

**2020 Medical/Rx Coverage:** We finalized the 2020 agreement with Beacon Financial Group, the MTC, Carpenters & Salary groups to move forward for the 2020 calendar year with Anthem.

The benefits committee attended some of the meetings held at the Groton Motor Inn.

**UHC Benefits Advocate!**

Our benefits advocate for UHC is Alicia Kelley. If you have questions regarding your United Healthcare health Insurance benefits or claims feel free to contact her:

- Groton Location Mon, Thurs & Fri building 45A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 8am-4:30pm, 860-433-6552
- Quonset Location Tues & Wed 8am-4:30pm at 401-268-2240

**MDA-Benefits Committee:**

If you have an insurance questions or concerns feel free to contact a benefits committee member today!

- Mark Ciliano 867-1831, NL, Tower C, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.
- Jim Newman 433-2558, Groton, Shipyard, Bldg. 130.
- Chairman Ed Nevins 867-2563, NL, Tower B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Community Service Committee Chair Don Miller** reported the Electric Boat Employees' Community Services Association (EBECSA) completed its campaign. Pledge cards that had not been provided during the sessions were forwarded following the campaign to management for distribution to employees to give them a chance to review their donation information, update if they chose, and return to Human Resources for processing.

Upon completion of our EBECSA campaign we have hosted a thank you lunch for those who helped and volunteered for the campaign.

We attended the critique meeting with committee members to discuss lessons learned to ensure we address any concerns for next year.

The raffle for the American Express \$100 gift and parking spaces will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Winners will be notified as soon as possible for claiming the prizes.

There are also a few drives right now benefitting local non-profits. Tuesday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup> is the last day for the Winter Wear Drive in Tower A, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, collecting new/gently used coats, hats, gloves and boots for two United Way agencies. The Giving Tree will be in New London, Groton, and King's Highway atriums collecting children's hats, mittens, and scarves until Dec 13<sup>th</sup> benefiting two more non-profits. Also, through Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Tower C 4<sup>th</sup> floor there is a collection for new toys for Tommy Toy Fund, which will distribute them to over 5,000 children in Eastern CT. If anyone is interested in doing any drives in their area for food, clothes, toys, school supplies, etc. to benefit local non-profits, please contact committee members Chair Don Miller, Kim Deschamps, or Jim Newman.

Our AFL-CIO Labor Liaison and United Way representative, Sharon Peccini, is retiring. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend her open house at the Gales Ferry United Way office on Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup> between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm to help celebrate Sharon's work at the United Way over the last 28+ years. Bill Louis presented her with an MDA retirement watch at a post campaign Spinnaker reception for her dedicated service to our members. Please RSVP to [maggie.marley@uwsect.org](mailto:maggie.marley@uwsect.org) if you plan to attend.

Lastly, the next C & S Spring Food Show will be held on March 24, 2020 at Mohegan Sun casino after work, so save the date now for what is often the largest food show of the year.

More details will follow once they have been received through the EBECSA blog (sign up on Homeport).

**Education Committee Chair Kim Deschamps** reported New Member Class went well last month. Thanks to all the great members that participated, as well as guests Bev Brakeman, Kurt Hesch, and Emil Casciano, as well as Jim Newman and Mark Ciliano from the Benefits standing committee.

The Standing Committee Workshop is being scheduled for late February, and a date is being chosen for Councillor training.

**LUCA Committee Chair Carol Mauro** reported on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> the Local Union Communications Committee (LUCA) in collaboration with the Women's Committee will be hosting a Holiday Card Event that is free to our members from 10:00am until 3:00pm at the Union Hall. Please call Martha Fletcher at 860-448-0552 for more information.

Union Plus Scholarships are available to Union Members ranging from \$400 to \$4,000 per year for your child. The deadline is January 31, 2020. Please visit the MDA website for more information at <https://region9a.uaw.org/local571>. The Information banner is posted on the homepage for easy access.

If you are a committee member or retiree that has any information that needs to be posted in our Soundings Newsletter or on the Website, please contact Carol Mauro at 860-867-3966 or email [cmauro@gdeb.com](mailto:cmauro@gdeb.com). As always, we look for contributors in any form such as article pieces, opinions, thoughts, feedback and pictures from events.

**Consumer Affairs Chair Tim Carlson** reported a reminder to go to: <https://www.unionlabel.com/> for apparel made in the USA, <https://unionlabel.org> for the Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO what to buy and what to boycott lists and [Labor411.org](http://Labor411.org) to see Union made products that we use in our lives every day.

**Worker's Compensation Committee Co-Chair Tim Carlson** reported we have taken a few calls this month from members seeking information and advice after suffering an injury at work. We did have an unusual injury report that occurred in Newport News. We gave the member advice on how to proceed with the comp claim. Please report any injury to the yard hospital at 433-3470 or the New London clinic at 867-4000. And then call one of us on the committee if you need assistance: Tim Carlson- 433-4033, Larry Avery- 433-4143, Nick DeFosses- 867-2714 and Vinny Blanco- 867-2035 (Vinny is out recovering after surgery, but we hope to have him back to work soon).

### **Old Business:**

MDA apparel brochures with many colors, types and sizes with pricing have been distributed to your councillors. See your councillor or go to our website for the brochure and contact

Karen Heroux at the Union Hall with your order. Hooded and zippered sweatshirts and other styles have been added. We have had a great response and are continuing to order.

Note: Price changes and updated catalogs will be sent to councillor asap.

The Red Solidarity Shirts are now being distributed to members who did not receive one in the past. Your councilors have them. We plan on ordering again in January for those members or very recent members whose name was not submitted to the hall. Please let your councillor know if you were overlooked.

A reminder that this Saturday, December 7, 2019 the LUCA and Women's Committee will be having a Holiday Photo Event for members and their family. This will be held at the Union Hall, 394 Tollgate Road, Groton, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

**New Business:**

The 2020 UAW Financial Officers' Conference will be held March 8<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas. A motion was made to send up to 6 members (Deb Basnight), seconded (John Jarvis) and passed to accept.

The 2020 UAW Nation CAP Conference will be held February 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC. A motion was made to send up to 6 members (Jack Bond), seconded (Deb Basnight) and passed to accept.

The Region 9A New Hampshire Primary Member Education Program will be held February 7<sup>th</sup> through February 12, 2020 at the Radisson Nashua Hotel, Nashua, New Hampshire. A motion was made to send up to 5 members (Brian Brimmer), seconded (Judi Page) and passed to accept.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9A UAW Civil & Human Rights Awards Recognition Dinner will be held January 24, 2020 at the Hartford Hilton Hotel, Hartford, CT. A motion was made to purchase a full page, black and white ad for \$250.00 in the program book and purchase up to 2 tables for members for \$1300.00 (Judi Page), seconded (Glen Pothier) and passed to accept.

Our LUCA committee chair has been participating in the UAW's LUCA training through the Region 9A. The final training is to be held in New York City, NY. A motion was made to send this member for training, train transportation and meal expenses not to exceed \$1,000.00 (Tom Clancy), seconded (Judi Page) and passed to accept.

One of the back-up hard drives has crashed at the Union Hall and it has been recommended by our IT consultant to purchase 2 external cloud drives. A motion was made to purchase to 2 external cloud drives not to exceed \$1,000.00 (Aaron Pearson), seconded (Deb Basnight) and passed to accept.

**For the Good of the Union**

The Negotiating Team and the E-Board met on November 12, 2019 at the Union Hall for a pre kick-off meeting for an overview on how the time line of the Negotiation Team will take place.

President William E. Louis presented a retirement watch on November 20, 2019 at the Spinnaker Event at Mohegan Sun to Sharon Peccini, the United Way Labor Liaison for her 28+ years of dedication in serving our community.

Member Zachary Lemmon addressed the membership with concerns of contract negotiations in particular he pointed out pensions, Electric Boats Unions having different contract dates, 2 tier pension structure and core values. Bob Canova weighed in on the dynamics of negotiations during his past term of MDA Local President, as did President William E. Louis. Please see your councillor who was present for more details on this discussion.

President William E. Louis swore in newly appointed Councillor Aaron Sawyer.

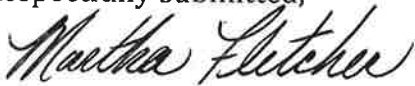
**Financial Officer William May** provided a list of the new member applications:

<b>BADGE:</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DEPT</b>
105979	Cynthia Lesser	322
146972	David Naylor	403
149383	Matthew Dyer	460
152008	James Roselund	474
154715	Noah Currence	341
154565	Christian Gifford	474
157704	Kailah Waheed	430

A motion was made to accept the new members (Jack Bond), seconded (Greg Allard) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (Bill Gustini), seconded (Jack Bond) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Recording Secretary MDA-UAW Local 571

Visit our **WEBSITE** on the **GDEB Intranet Homepage** or at [region9a.uaw.org/uaw-local-571](http://region9a.uaw.org/uaw-local-571)

Please "like us" on our Facebook site: "[MDA UAW Local 571](#)".

Also, check for updates of news, pictures of events, etc.