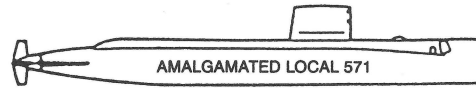




**UAW LOCAL 571**  
**MARINE DRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**



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***  
***June 2, 2025***

June 4, 2025

**President William E. Louis** called the meeting to order. MDA Chaplin George Earley led us in prayer and a moment of silence, asking that we keep in our thoughts, recently deceased members, past members, retirees, family members, and our veterans past and present. The UAW Region 9A Veterans Committee Color Guard Tom Montgomery (US Army), Melvin Hicks (USAF) and Shawn Tripp (USMC), presented colors, followed by the National Anthem.

We also recognized first time attendees, retirees and our Veterans in the room. It was a great showing of Solidarity with more than 220 members in attendance. Thank you all for attending.

**President William E. Louis** asked for a motion to accept the May 5, 2025, Executive Council Meeting Minutes as circulated and posted (Joseph Marmaud), seconded (Eric Straub) and passed to accept.

**Treasurers Report:**

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

**Officer Reports:**

**First Vice President Amy Stephenson** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

**Second Vice President Bob Canova** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed.

**Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed. 2 members were returned to work on last chance memos after being suspended pending investigation.

**Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported no new Step 3 grievances filed. A member was discharged for a rules and regulations violation (lateness).

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

**Standing Committee Reports:**

William E. Louis, President  
Amy Stephenson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Bob Canova, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



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

**Recreation Committee Amy Stephenson:** reported dates for upcoming events:

Six Flags - July 19, 2025

Solidarity Picnic Washington Park - August 16, 2025

MDA Golf - September 13, 2025

MDA Camping Nature Campsites – October 10-13, 2025

Great Wolf Lodge Foxwoods – November 7- 9, 2025

MDA Holiday Dinner Dance – December 6, 2025

**Building and Property Committee Financial Secretary Dave Evans** reported we have had three estimates for a new furnace at the Union Hall. The committee has selected the vendor who will do the replacement. The work will be started as soon as the vendor has procured all of the necessary parts.

**Election Committee Treasurer Robert Faraci** reported the MDA-UAW Local 571 Contract vote was held May 27, 2025. There were 1,897 ballots cast, 1,596 yes votes, 280 no votes, 10 voided (markings other than just a yes or no) and 11 contested (non-members/resignees).

**Community Service Chair James Newman** reported we would like to recognize and thank the United Way of SECT and the local community programs for their efforts to make sure we had services set up for our striking families ready to rock if we were to go out on strike. They took the time briefing our strike captains on what was available so when the strike captains were talking to our members, they were able to address our members concerns and ensure them we had resources available.

We were set up with assistance and programs for financial hardship and guidance, food pantries available, pet food, emergency dental services, daycare and coping with stress and anxiety just to name a few.

A few of us were able to attend a UCAN training at the United Way from May 5<sup>th</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the MDA. MDA members in attendance were Dave Belanger, JoAnna McClenathan, Don Miller, Stephanie Miller, Jim Newman and T Ryan. The classes included details about the services and programs in the area and how these programs are funded through the allocations process. Just to name a few presentations were the Gemma E. Moran United Way Labor food pantry. Social Security Benefits, TVCCA and SCADD.

**DOC Events:**

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, we need volunteers for a joint day of caring with EQUAL at the Coogan Farm from 9 am to 1 pm. **Please RSVP by June 9<sup>th</sup>** with us if your able to come lend a hand. We will have light refreshments available. If you have your new yellow live united shirt, please wear it. We will have shirts available with the new logo.

**EBECSA Campaign 2025:**

We continue to plan for the 2025 Campaign in October and have scheduled the conference rooms for the events. If you are interested in joining our campaign team, please let us know. We need help in all locations. We will do our best to use our volunteers where they are located.

Please contact JoAnna McClenathan, via Teams or (860) 867-4587, Peter Crizer (860) 433-2706 or Jim Newman (860) 433-2558 if you have any questions or would like to sign up for any volunteer opportunities or notifications.

**Absentee Committee Eric Straub:** reported that the following Executive Board or Executive Council Members were absent from the May 5, 2025 Executive Board/Executive Council Meeting. Attendance was not tabulated for the April 14, 2025 Special General Membership Meeting. Wayne Carbone (2), Joe Huffman (2), Peter Button (9), Ryan Davis (7), Michael Edem (1), Wendy Ellithorpe (5), Richard Gianfrocco (9), Brad Lamphere (2), Holly Montbriand (3), Nicole Reagan (1), Lauren Senofonte (2), Jeffrey Vary (5). Joseph Marmaud and Jerry Montplaisir arrived late.

(Value) – Indicates number of Meetings the Member has been absent.

When a member of the Executive Board is recorded as being absent in the meeting minutes, per the UAW Constitution, it does not reflect whether the absence is excused or un-excused.

Three late arrivals in excess of 15 minutes each is considered as one un-excused absence.

If you feel you were reported in error, please submit, in writing to the Absentee Committee, the reason you feel the error was made.

The Absentee Committee would like to stress the importance of regular monthly meeting attendance for all E-Board members, E-Council members and Committee Chairs.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, please contact, in advance, any one of the Absentee Committee members: Wayne Carbone (Chair): [WCARBONE@GDEB.COM](mailto:WCARBONE@GDEB.COM) (860) 867-2691 / Cell: 860-857-6426, Anthony (Tony) Giordano Jr.: [AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM](mailto:AGIORDAN@GDEB.COM) (860) 867-2458, Eric Straub [ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM](mailto:ESTRAUB@GDEB.COM): Work: (860) 867-4607 / Cell: (860) 501-2230. The Officer of the Absentee Committee is Martha Fletcher [RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RECORDSEC571@GMAIL.COM), (860) 448-0552 / Cell: (860) 608-1301.

**Summer High School Intern Program (SHIP) Committee Joseph Marmaud** reported the interns will be at the plant for 8 weeks from June 30<sup>th</sup> through August 22, 2025. The interns are new MDA Union Members and shall be treated as such.

**Joint Apprenticeship Council (JAC) Co-Chair Joseph Marmaud** reported the Eastern Seaboard Apprenticeship Conference (ESAC) was held from May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 23, 2025 and was attended by the committee. Many topics were cover dealing with the current administration and their apprenticeship changes, challenges with younger apprentices and women in the workplace. A discussion that could affect Union Members is mental health and that accessing care is complicated, difficult and stigmatized. A lot of times letting members know they are not alone and we can help them through crisis. Also, let those suffering know to call “988” for the suicide hotline or “211” for other issues. The three biggest health issues are anxiety, depression and drug and alcohol addiction. People often average 10 years before they seek help. Ages 14 -24 are the fastest growing population with mental health issues and the older generation is the largest group committing suicide.

**Citizenship and Legislation Committee T Ryan** reported the Connecticut State Senate and House has just passed SB 8, unemployment insurance for striking workers. It is now up to Governor Lamont to accept. His plan as of now is to veto the bill.

We can all put our hard work on practice picket skills to good use. Demand that Governor Lamont side with workers and not CEO's by signing SB 8 into law! The AFL-CIO is organizing to picket the Governor's Mansion at 990 Prospect Avenue, Hartford on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm-Save-the-Date. All Union siblings, family friend and neighbor are welcome to come tell the Governor not to veto SB 8 this time around. **RSVP at [bit.ly/picketlamont](http://bit.ly/picketlamont)**

We are united Governor Ned Lamont. We are watching your actions and we will remember them come Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

### **Old Business**

If you are interested in purchasing apparel, outside of the 2 free items, the Union covers 50% of the cost. We have a new logo, many styles and colors. If interested, please contact Erica at the Union Office, 860-448-0552. Orders are slowly coming in and we will contact you and make arrangement to get your order to you.

### **New Business**

President William Louis addressed the membership that we pride ourselves as a Union by supporting our Veterans. He introduced Thor Torgersen and Zack Neilson from the Veterans Equine Therapeutic Services (V.E.T.S.) located in Ledyard, CT. Their organization is operated solely through donations and events. They work with Veterans through Equine Therapy, a form of therapy that involves interactions between individuals and horses. It utilizes the unique and gentle nature of the horses to promote emotional, cognitive and physical well-being. There is also an Archery program and a Ruck-Up Adventure School to gain confidence and independence while learning outdoor skills and shelter building.

The organization will be holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fundraising Golf Classic at Lake of Isles Golf Course. A motion was made to once again be the Title Sponsor of the event costing \$12,500.00 (Thomas Clancy), seconded (Eric Straub). A motion was made to amend the first motion of \$12,500.00 to be \$15,000.00 (Steven Karavolis), seconded (David Morgan) and passed to accept.

### **For the Good of the Union**

A motion was made to hold a Recognition Dinner for the efforts put forth during our recent negotiations by the Strike Captains, Strike Committee and the Negotiation Team and their guest (William Larkin), seconded (David Morgan) and passed to accept.

This years Run to Home Base event to support Veterans will be held July 26<sup>th</sup>, Fenway Park, Boston, MA. Last year Electric Boats Team which included many MDA members raised approximately \$126,800.00. We are looking for more team members. For more information on this event please contact member Jeffrey Carver [jcarver@gdeb.com](mailto:jcarver@gdeb.com)

It was stated at the meeting that unofficially the ratification bonus would be directly deposited into your account on the week of June 17<sup>th</sup>, since the meeting, we have heard back from HR and the checks will be directly deposited on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made to suspend July and August E-Council Meetings (David Belanger), seconded (Joseph Marmaud) and passed to accept.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP TO MDA-UAW LOCAL 571**

<b>BADGE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>
156511	EDWARD AHLCRONA *	459
153408	NAKISHA PAGAN *	452
140297	PAUL MILLER *	456
153181	CLAYTON DUNCAN *	447
154353	JAMES ROYER *	456
162242	ZACHARY SPENCER	431
152785	JOHN HAMMER *	456
153452	JOSEPH SCHWAGER *	459

\*Reinstated

A motion was made to accept the new members (William Larkin), seconded (Phillip Behney) and passed to accept.

A motion was made to adjourn (William Larkin) , seconded (Gregary Allard) and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

*Martha Fletcher*

Recording Secretary Martha Fletcher

*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.*