



SOUNDINGS

2025 CONTRACT NEGOTIATION EDITION

JULY 2025





UPCOMING MEETINGS

**MDA-UAW
LOCAL 571**

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This newsletter will also be available on the MDA-UAW Web Page. We appreciate your feedback and any comments you have to make us better at how we communicate MDA-UAW news.

GET INVOLVED

If you would like to volunteer or get involved in any of our committees, events or volunteer efforts contact, the Union Hall at 860-448-0552.



Mission Statement of the MDA-UAW Local 571

The mission of MDA-UAW Local 571 is to serve and represent all members and their families to the best of our ability by providing work place representation, financial/job security, seniority and respect.

We will achieve these goals by educating the union leadership and the membership about their roles and responsibilities in this process. We also understand that teamwork is the ability to evaluate ideas on their merit, focusing on the issue and not the person. Our teamwork starts with the membership's voice being heard which will help create an environment necessary for success.

Local 571's priority is to improve the quality of life of our members and their families by maintaining the highest level of integrity in operating the union.

"Pride, Ownership and Accountability"



MDA-UAW Local 571 Union Hall, 394 Toll Gate Rd,
Groton, CT 06340 (860)448-0552

MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2025 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

JUL 10	Lake of Isles North Stonington, CT
AUG 14	Port & Starboard New London, CT
SEP 11	Great Neck Country Club, Waterford, CT
OCT 9	Venice Restaurant Westerly, RI
NOV 13	Lake of Isles North Stonington, CT
DEC 11	Great Neck Country Club, Waterford, CT

MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2025 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	Jul 7	3:00PM	Union Hall
Executive Board	Aug 4	3:00PM	Union Hall
Executive Board	Sep 8	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
General Membership	Sep 8	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Oct 6	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Oct 6	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Nov 3	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Nov 3	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Dec 1	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
General Membership	Dec 1	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott

IN MEMORIAM



JOHN NIELAN (RETIREE)

John Kevin Neilan, 74, Niantic, passed away with his loving family by his side on June 6, 2024. John's remarkable courage was admirable throughout his entire path of life with congestive heart failure.



WILLIAM DOWNIE (RETIREE)

William "Bill" Noble Downie Jr., 77, New London, passed away at his home Monday, Nov. 11, 2024. After spending half his career teaching, he changed careers and spent 24 years as a structural designer at Electric Boat. He loved photography.



ALEXANDER WOODS (MEMBER)

Alexander Scott Woods, 34, Groton, died Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024. He worked for 16 years at EB as a senior designer. He will be missed by all that knew him.



EDWARD ROCZNIK (MEMBER)

Edward "Ed" Joseph Rocznik, Jr., 67, Windham, died at home on May 27, 2024. Starting in September 2003, he worked as a Senior Electrical Designer for Electric Boat in Groton.



JAMES AGUIAR, JR. (RETIREE)

W. James Aguiar Jr., 64, Groton, passed away unexpectedly at home on June 11, 2025. He began his career at Electric Boat as a shipfitter and dedicated almost 45 years, he retired this past February as a Senior Design Specialist.



JON BABCOCK (RETIREE)

Jon A. Babcock, 80, Westerly, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on February 27, 2025, at Westerly Hospital. Jon, a mechanical designer by trade, worked at Electric Boat until his retirement in 2019.



OMAR DANIEL HALL II (RETIREE)

Omar Daniel "Dan" Hall II, 82, Old Mystic, passed away peacefully Aug. 10, 2024, at Backus Hospital, after a battle with cancer. Dan worked as a designer at Electric Boat until his retirement in 2007. Dan had a wide variety of interests including skiing, sailing, and refereeing youth football.



STEPHEN SHOCKLEY (RETIREE)

Stephen Paul Shockley, 68, Plainfield, whose journey of life gracefully concluded on August 19, 2024. Stephen Paul touched countless lives with warmth and kindness.



NEAL ROGER PETERSON (MEMBER)

Neal Roger Peterson, 61, Norwich, passed away quietly Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at his home. Neal had currently held the position of Sr. Structural Designer after 45 years with the company. He exemplified how one can be rich in life in so many ways.



FRED REIFEISS (RETIREE)

W. Frederick "Fred" Reifeiss, 86, Uncasville, passed away Sept. 6, 2024, at the Lawrence + Memorial Hospital in New London. Fred worked as a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service before finishing his career at EB.



GEORGE YEO (RETIREE)

George Alan Yeo Jr., 69, New London, passed away of natural causes on June 24, 2024 at the Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in New London. George retired after 30+ years of service to Electric Boat.



TIMOTHY MCDONOUGH (RETIREE)

Timothy E. McDonough, 68, Uncasville, passed away on Monday, January 13, 2025. He retired from Electric Boat in 2023 where he worked for 40 years. He enjoyed golfing, and his two dogs Moe and Murphy.



MDA RETIREES

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST MDA RETIREES

JOHN KRAJCIK	21	T/A MATERIAL
MICHAEL JENSEN	44	VENT SR DES SR SPEC
GEORGE LEACH	48	ENG SUPPT-OP TOOL
DOUGLAS LEACH	49	ENG SUPPT-OP TOOL
VALERIE KNUDSEN	15	T/A ELECTNX SR SPEC
STEPHANIE STEVENS	50	PIPE S/DES SR SPEC
PAMELA HARVEY	38	DESIGN TECH-MECH
CATHY MARTINEAU	42	MECH SR DESIGNER
ROBERT GALLO	45	T/A PHOTOGRAPHY
THOMAS HOFFMAN	36	DESIGN TECH-PIPING
JOSEPH KURTZ	39	ARRGT S/DES SR SPEC
CARL CECCHINI	42	ARRGT S/DES SR SPEC

GEORGE LAMARCHE	45	STRCT S/DES SR SPEC
STEPHEN GONZALEZ	30	MECH SR DESIGNER
HENRY DZIEDZIC	31	MECH S/DES SR SPEC
DAVID RUSSELL	28	MECH S/DES SR SPEC
WILLIAM MAYCHEK	43	T/A MET.SR SPEC
JOSEPH MARTINEAU	8	MECH SR DESIGNER
PAUL RAMSEY	39	TECH EDITOR
DAVE AUBIN	37	DESIGN TECH-ARRGT
LANA SELIGER	17	PIPING SR DESIGNER
MICHAEL BANNO		ELECT S/DES SR SPEC
STEVEN MULHERN	39	DESIGN TECH-PIPING

David Serafy
30 years
DESIGN TECH-PIPING



Happy Retirement

Paul Neves
35 years
COURSEWARE
DEVELOPER



Jim Aguiar, Jr. (RIP)
44 years
STRCT S/DES SR SPEC



CONTRACT NEGOTIATION TEAM



The MDA negotiation team started preparing in November 2024 for the full table bargaining meetings that would be held with EB company executives. The newly established negotiation team was diligently laying the groundwork for the new contract terms and conditions. The team worked numerous hours to prepare a timeline and course of action to proceed when full negotiations would begin in March 2025.

MDA negotiation team:

William E. Louis, President MDA

Amy Stephenson, 1st VP MDA

Robert Canova, 2nd VP MDA

Martha Fletcher, Recording Secretary MDA

Dave Evans, Financial Secretary MDA

Robert Faraci, Treasurer MDA

Ed Nevins, Benefits Chair MDA

Tom Clancy, Joint Technology Co-Chair MDA

Jose Melara, UAW Region 9A Servicing Rep.

Karen Hensley, Admin Aide MDA

Region 9A negotiation team:

Brandon Mancilla, UAW Region 9A Director

Vail Kohnert-Yount, UAW Region, Asst Director

Jose Melara, UAW Region 9A Servicing Rep

UAW negotiation team:

Mary Seitz-Brown, Deputy Organizing Director

Jeff Balfour, Organizing Director

Aspen Williams, Organizer

UAW negotiation team Cont:

Tony Rivera-Matos, Organizer

Mike Morrison, Director Bargaining Strategies

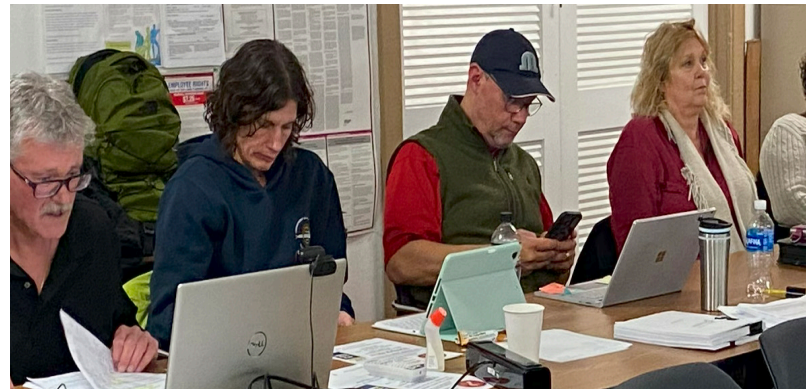
Adam McKenzie, Servicing Rep Bargaining Strategies

Nathaniel Charny, Outside Counsel

Max Fazeli, Director Research Department

Adam Stevenson, Admin. Asst.

Andy Bertog, Servicing Rep





STRIKE & STRIKE CAPTAIN COMMITTEES



A special thanks to the organizers, mediators, and dedicated members who played a critical part in driving the membership to a state of preparedness that the MDA has never experienced before in preparation for a possible strike.

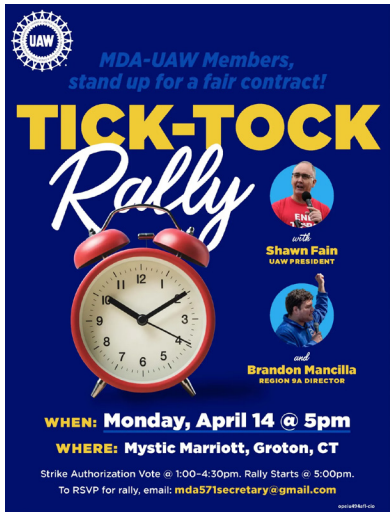
Amanda Fagan
Amanda Turner
Andee Dodge
Anne Wurzbacher
Arthur Dollinger
Austin Gillespie
Austin Perrett
Bradley Lamphere
Brian Highland, Jr.
Brooke Birdsell
Casey Alger
Ceco Lowe
Christine Bobinski
Christine Elliott
Craig Kelley
Daniel Champagne
David Belanger
David Houchin
David Marcotte
Dayna Spencer
Deanna Willbanks
Deasanne James
Eddie Edwards
Emmanuel Voltaire
Eric Straub
Erica Bonafas
Erica Hayward

Erica Sigersmith
Evan Sperry
Fania Rukundo
Gary Young
George Early
George Hunold, Jr.
Glen Pothier
Gregory Maynard
Holly Montbriand
Ilias Arsenis
Jacob Basilica
James Duprey
James Newman
Janet Morse
Jason Anderson
Jay Russo
Jeffrey Carver
Jeffery Vary
Jeremy Deschamps
Jerry Momplaisir
Jessica Price
Joanna McClenathan
John Fournier
John Lombardo
Joseph Drechsler-Martell
Joseph Marmaud
Joseph St. Germain

Justin Winans
Kevin Fusconi, Jr.
Kevin McGill
Kimberly Deschamps
Konrad Poznanski
Kristen Kvist-Morrow
Kristina Matteau
Laura Beck
Lisa Pauley
Matthew Carlos
Matthew Gamache
Melinda Bell
Melvin Hicks, Jr.
Michael Baillargeon
Michael Edem
Michael Lowry
Michael Molinari
Michelle Leduke
Nicole Reagan
Pamela Gonski
Patrick Breen
Patrick Fitzgerald
Paul Chreiman
Paula Brown
Peter Anastas
Peter Crizer
Rasheem Steele

Rebecca Sherman
Richard Bernat
Richard Sampson
Robert Gaudiano
Russell Quick
Ryan Davis
Ryan Newsome
Santos Serrano
Sarah Nelson
Sarah Tetreault
Shawn Cavanagh
Sherman Harris
Stephen Watrous
Steven Karavolis
Steven Trujillo
Tack Ryan
Thomas Flanigan
Thomas Fournier
Thomas Potter
Tony Giordano
Tracie Tenety
Tyler Shea-Loewenstein
Valerie Beasley
Valerie Bowen
Vaughan Miller
Velma Williams
Warren Gohacki

TICK-TOCK RALLY



*After The Strike Authorization
Vote Is Announced, Special
Guest Speaker Shawn Fain
Asks The Crowd.....*

“Are You Ready To Rumble?”

**MDA-UAW
LOCAL 571**





TICK-TOCK RALLY



MDA member Joanna McClenathan was the voice of all the MDA members that night.

Her speech was inspirational and she rocked the house!

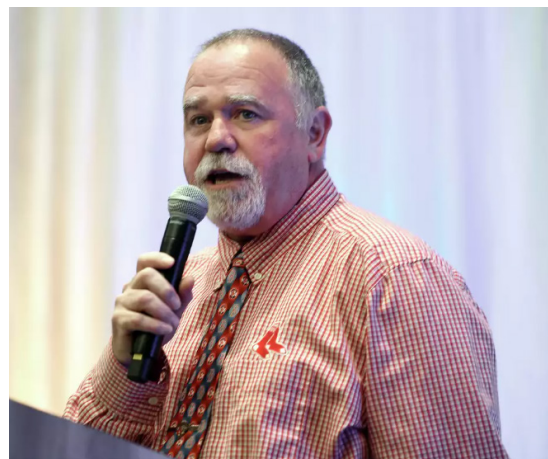


JoAnna asks "But what if we win?"



"I Have Never Been More Proud Of Our Local Union Than I Am Now"

Bill Louis, MDA President



Over 1200 members cast a vote and attended the rally that followed. Red shirts were worn by most members who attended. The energy in the room was amazing, and MDA members were ready to fight for a fair contract and would take no less than what they deserved!!

The vote came in and over 2/3 of the members present voted in favor of giving the bargaining committee the authorization to strike that evening.



MAY DAY MARCH AND PRACTICE PICKET



*May Day Rally & Practice Picket
May 1, 2025
Washington Park to EB Facility*

Approximately 700 MDA members & supporters met on a beautiful spring day at Washington Park in Groton before marching to Fort Griswold and then onto the Electric Boat facility for a practice picket.

This event was held amid stalled contract negotiations and an expired April 4th, 2025 contract.

MDA members wanted to let EB know that they were united in solidarity. On May 18, 2025 at midnight, the MDA members will walk out on strike if the company did not offer an acceptable contract offer.





MAY DAY MARCH AND PRACTICE PICKET



FINAL COUNTDOWN RALLY



*Final Countdown Rally
May 16, 2025
Ocean Beach*

The MDA-UAW Local 571 gathered for the last chance before the May 19th strike deadline to show EB they were serious about winning the contract they deserved.

Fellow MDA members joined with family and friends at Ocean Beach with numerous key note speakers in support of a fair contract.



*Jose Melara- Region 9A Rep
with 1st VP Amy Stephenson*



*Kenny Q - Event DJ
MDA Region 9A Member*



*Julie Kushner
CT State Senator*



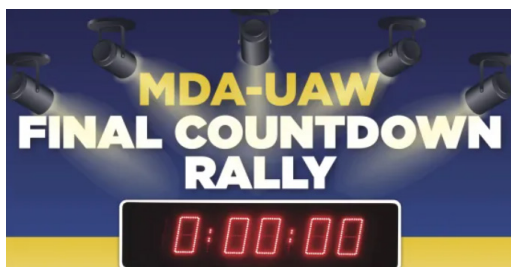
*Richard Blumenthal
US Senator*



*Brandon Mancilla
UAW Region 9A Director*



FINAL COUNTDOWN RALLY



Join us for the Final Countdown Rally at Ocean Beach Park on Friday! This is our final chance before the May 18 strike deadline to show Electric Boat management that we're serious about winning the contract we deserve. We are demanding a contract that includes COLA, profit sharing, and real retirement security. This is our time.

WHAT: Rally with family, friends and fellow MDA-UAW members! Free music, bounce house, and food trucks will be provided. Cash bar.

WHEN: Friday, May 16, 5:00 PM

WHERE: Ocean Beach Park, 98 Neptune Ave, New London

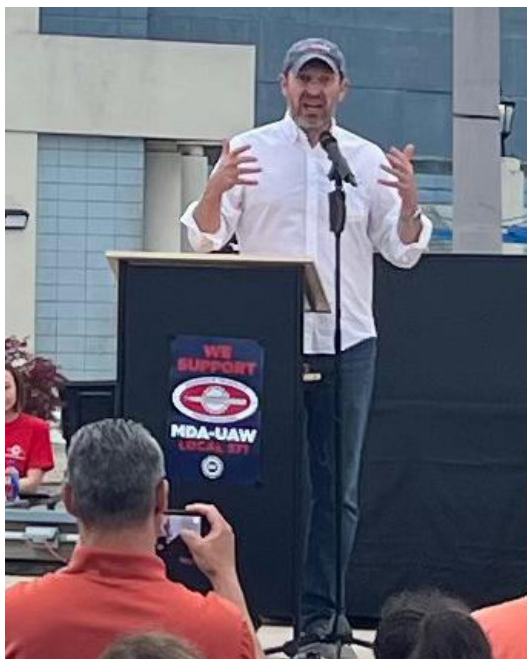
IT'S THE FINAL COUNTDOWN



*Craig Kelley - Event MC
MDA Region 9A Member*



*William Louis
MDA Local 571 President*



*Chris Murphy
US Senator*



*Kristina Matteau
MDA Region 9A Member*

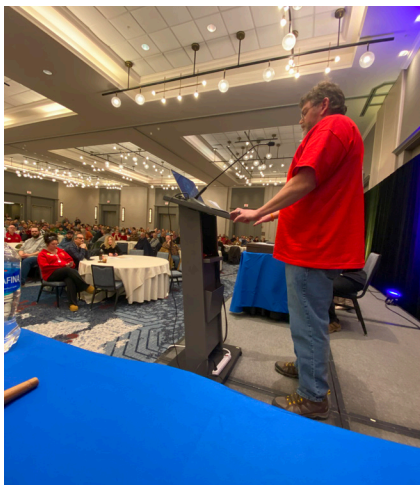
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



*Bath Iron Works - Executive Council
UAW Local 3999 Bath, Maine*



*Baby Layla Senofonte
Member Lauren Senofonte*



*Dave Church - Foxwoods
UAW Local 2121*



*Bath Iron Works
UAW Local 3999 Bath, Maine*



*General Dynamics Land Systems
UAW Local 2075 & 2147 Lima, Ohio*



*Cummins - Jacobs Vehicle Systems
UAW Local 379 Bloomfield, CT*



2025 SURVEY RESULTS

MEMBER SURVEY TOP 3 PRIORITIES



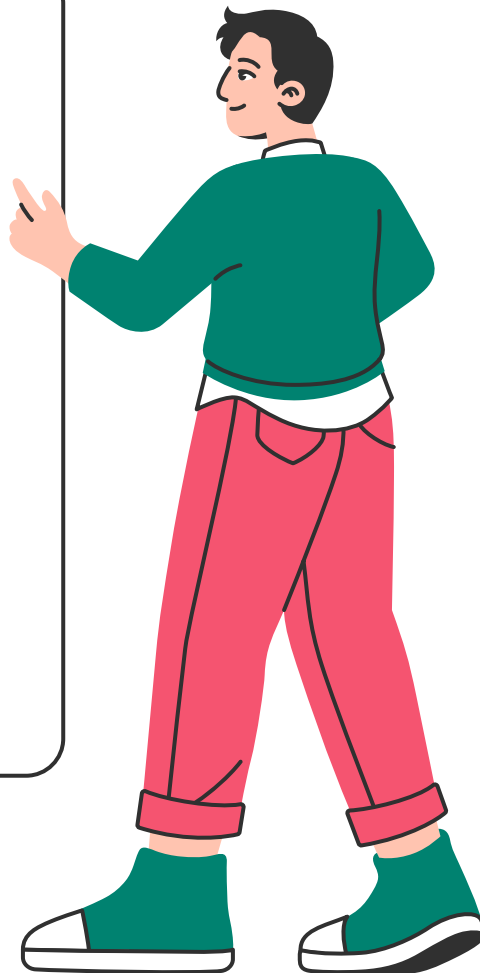
WAGES



**401K &
PENSIONS**



**MEDICAL
COST**



INTERESTING FACT:

**MORE SURVEYS WERE RETURNED
THIS YEAR THEN THE LAST 5
CONTRACTS**



- MOST FEEL THEIR SUPERVISOR IS DOING A GOOD JOB
- 75% MEMBERS FEEL VALUED
- 84.7% WOULD SUPPORT A STRIKE
- 95% FEEL JOB IS SECURE
- ATTENDANCE AT MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTGS HAS BEEN 200+ SINCE DEC. 2022



- ONLY 42% OF MEMBERS HAVE ATTENDED A UNION MEETING
- 21% DO NOT FEEL VALUED
- 3% DO NOT FEEL THEIR JOB IS SECURE
- NOT EVERYONE IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPANY 401K MATCH, LOTS OF LOST MONEY OUT THERE

VETERANS COMMITTEE



The Veterans Committee held the 4th annual free steak dinner for 120 veterans on April 12, 2025. This was one of the many veteran organizations that benefitted from our MDA-UAW Local

571 Veterans Committee Cornhole fundraiser, raising more than \$27,000 in November of 2024!

The benefit was held at the Moosup American Legion - Post 91. All whom attend this event are grateful for the generosity of the MDA and the opportunity to attend this free event held yearly.





RETIREE LUNCHEON



On March 13, 2025, over 175 guests attended one of the largest retiree luncheons in MDA history at the Lake of Isles in North Stonington. The lunch and the company were both amazing that day!!

The MDA retirees meet on the second Thursday of each month at various local restaurants. All MDA retirees are welcome to attend with a guest. If you are a retired MDA member and would like more information please contact the union hall (860)448-0552.





SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

JOHN F SAFFOMILLA & E. ROY COLVILLE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Class of 2025



Nicholas Souder

Son of Silvia Souder



Jordyn Hartman

Daughter of Janina Hartman



Anna Maynard

Daughter of Jessica Thomas



Lillian Claspell

Daughter of Rachael Claspell



Jacob Russell

Son of Lisa Russell



Justin Sieng

Son of Tim Sieng



Alex Hankey

Son of Debra Hankey

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL!!



UPCOMING EVENTS



Baseball Night

VS

NASHUA
SILVER KNIGHTS

NORWICH SEA
UNICORNS

\$10 PER PERSON/\$5 12 & UNDER
INCLUDES:

BBQ PIT
FIREWORKS AFTER GAME

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025

DODD STADIUM

14 STOTT AVENUE, NORWICH, CT 06360



**RSVP TO ERICA BY JULY 25, 2025:
MDA571SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM OR 860-448-0552**

UPCOMING EVENTS



MDA-LOCAL 571
MDA RECREATION
COMMITTEE NOTICE



RAIN OR SHINE



2025 *Solidarity* RECOGNITION PICNIC

Saturday, August 16, 2025

10 AM - 3 PM

Washington Park, Groton

\$10 per person

(12 & Under FREE)

Members & Immediate Family

NO FOOD SHALL LEAVE THE PREMISES

Come join us for a day
full of fun and solidarity!

April's Balloon Creations,
Bounce Houses, Human
Foosball, DJ and so much
more!



FOOD PROVIDED BY:



Please RSVP with Erica at the Union Hall at 860-448-0552

by August 8, 2025



UPCOMING EVENTS

GREAT WOLF LODGE FAMILY WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 7 - 9, 2025



Two nights available at
\$150 per night.

Each night includes:

One room (Sleeps up to 6)

- Two queen beds
- One pullout couch

One waterpark pass per guest

- good all day of check-in
and check-out

Day Passes Available at \$50
per person.

- Pass good only for date
purchased



Registration Deadline:
September 19, 2025

Call the Union Hall at 860-448-0552 to sign up!!



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