COLUMBIA GAS WORKERS UNITE

DECEMBER 2024

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM UWUA

LOOKING FORWARD TO A BRIGHT AND PEACEFUL 2025

The holiday season is here again, and we here at Utility Workers Union of America send warm wishes from our Union family to you. We hope you're celebrating joyful holidays with your friends, family, and loved ones this year.

We also know that the holidays can be a difficult season for many, including skilled gas workers who may be underpaid or unappreciated. If that describes you, please don't hesitate to reach out and experience all the support you can have as a Union member.

At this and all other times of year, we're here to serve workers like you and ensure that everyone can enjoy a safe, happy, and fulfilling workplace.

We're excited to turn the page into 2025 and continue another year of working to get our Union. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Ready to get into the Union spirit? Call Deirdre (484) 678-8896 or J.J. (330) 631-1751 to let us know and to get involved

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

A BANNER YEAR FOR THE UWUA

We couldn't be more thrilled to share with you a few highlights from what we've accomplished in 2024. From big wins to fun events to the small moments that make our fight worth it, here's a look at what we can accomplish when we work together.

EVEN MORE OHIO WORKERS JOIN UWUA!

City of Louisville

The municipal workforce in this small city between Akron and Canton is charged with maintaining the streets, parks, and water and wastewater systems. This crew just voted to join UWUA Local G-555 and are already in contract negotiations.

Upper Sandusky Service Department

The water, wastewater and streets/sanitation workers voted to unionize in June 2024 and are also now part of G-555 and in negotiations for their first contract.

Carroll Electric Cooperative

Linemen, crew leaders, staking engineers, mechanics, meter readers, meter technicians and warehouse coordinators in Carrollton, Ohio voted to unionize in April 2024 and are now part of UWUA Local 116 out of New Philadelphia.

Members of the Local 399 negotiating committee, from left: Gilbert Moothart, David Powell, Mason Sapper, Eric Schoofs, and James Filon.

UWUA MEMBERS STRIKE NEW DEALS WITH TWO OHIO MUNICIPALITIES

Members of Local 399 ratified a new three-year contract with the City of Cuyahoga Heights on September 11, 2024. The agreement, retroactive to July 1 and extending through June 30, 2027, includes guaranteed annual wage increases of 5%, 3%, and 3%. It also introduces a job description committee, increases rest periods after working 16 hours, and improves the conditions for when call-out pay begins. "The committee did an outstanding job during these negotiations," said Local 399 President David Powell.

OHIO'S OWN UWUA LOCAL G-555 NEGOTIATES $44 MILLION PAYOUT FROM DOMINION ENERGY

When Dominion Energy announced the intended sale of its Ohio operation to Canada-based Enbridge last September, Local G-555 leadership immediately began negotiating terms to protect members' pay, benefits and working conditions.

In February, the local sent a letter to its membership detailing the results of these efforts. First, Enbridge agreed to assume all obligations under the current collective bargaining agreement, which is in effect until June 15, 2027. Second, through negotiations with Dominion, the Union secured two unprecedented benefit enhancements:

- ✓ A one-time contribution of **$23,000 to the 401(k) account of each active employee represented by the Union**, regardless of seniority.
- ✓ A one-time **increase of 8% to retiree benefits** for all those who retired before February 19, 2024.

The increase to retiree benefits went into effect in September but will be retroactive to April 1 of 2024. In September, retirees received a check for the retroactive bump. The increase will also be provided to those individuals who are considered "deferred" — those vested but not currently receiving pension benefits — once they begin to collect.

With 1,019 active members and 1,622 retirees and surviving spouses, these two enhancements represent a payout of approximately **$44 million**. Both enhancements were contingent on the sale closing, which occurred on March 7 when Dominion Energy Ohio was sold to Enbridge Inc. and became Enbridge Gas Ohio.

Gas Workers Union
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WANT TO LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED?

SCAN HERE!

QUESTIONS? CONCERNS? CALL DEIRDRE (484) 678-8896 OR J.J. (330) 631-1751 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA (UWUA) AND TO GET INVOLVED.

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