



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Leigh Tomlinson, President

AFSCME Retirees Michigan Chapter 255

DECEMBER 11, 2025

CONVENTION NEWS

I am pleased that the Officers and Regional Executive Board Members were re-elected by acclamation at this year's convention in October. With the passing of the Go Get Organized Resolution, a budget that includes \$5,000 for organizing, and a plan laid out for that purpose, the Officers of AFSCME Michigan Retiree Chapter 255 are already moving forward with the organizing effort. May we all work together to reach a goal that one day all of the Regional Board positions for our retiree chapter will be filled to include representation across the entire State of Michigan.

Resolutions passed at Convention were as follows:

In Support of Resolutions written and adopted by the MDP

Senior Caucus:

Addressing Ageism

Condemning Hate

In Partnership with AFSCME International and AFSCME

Michigan 925:

Go Get Organized

ORGANIZING

Detroit Senior Housing Centers – Ed McNeil has been visiting senior complexes in Detroit and found as many as 7 AFSCME retirees in each building he has visited to date. He will continue in this effort to organize members of SubChapter 98.

Contact with Sam Zettner in Region 3 – Kathie Sherrill has been in contact regarding organizing members in Region 3 and had positive interest from Sam. He will be reaching out to her in 2026.

Staff Meetings in Detroit and Lansing – We spoke with Gino Carbenia, Executive Director of AFSCME Michigan 925, at our Convention Reception. Gino has agreed to offer assistance with organizing retiree members by possibly providing funds and/or VMO's, to be determined later. He has given us permission to meet with Staff around the state to introduce our chapter and talk about what we do and he supports our vision to meet with active locals as well. These meetings can be done in person or virtually.

We met with Staff in the Detroit office on Friday, December 5th. Attorneys from Bruce Miller's office also attended. We were well received by all and they are on board with getting the word out to their locals. We signed up one new member at the meeting in Detroit and another took two membership signup cards home to have his mother and father sign up. We hope to attend Local meetings and events in these regions in 2026.

We met with the Director and Staff in the Lansing office on Monday, December 8th and, again, were well received. They are excited and committed to helping us organize retirees. One of the Staff took a membership signup card home to have his mother sign up. We will be looking into attendance at several events in these regions:

Walt Campbell Award Dinner **(flyer attached)** – *I am hoping to get support today to place an ad and to attend this event in Detroit on February 1, 2026.*

Grand Rapids Labor Day Event Flint Labor Day Parade

I will be reaching out to the Director in the Upper Peninsula and hope to meet with he and the UP Staff virtually to share the same information as we have in Detroit and Lansing.

Region 11 – UP Labor Day Parade in Marquette – I will be contacting member Kathy Carlson in the UP for information and will be sharing with the board and our Region 11 VP, Shana Thornton, as well as other retiree members in the UP.

HOUSEKEEPING

We will be working to keep our website updated (PLEASE
TAKE PICTURES AT ANY EVENTS YOU ATTEND AND EMAIL
THEM TO KATHIE SHERRILL to be put on the website)

We may be selling retiree computer and garment bags online,
and possibly mugs

Possibly order more t-shirts

We are looking into putting a QR Code on the back of our
business cards that will link directly to our website where
people can sign up to become members.

Considering organized “fun” events around the state for
members to socialize and enjoy being together.

To accomplish these goals, it will take a village of retirees who are committed to bringing other retirees into our community to make their lives better. Thank you to those who are part of it. Let's be retired with purpose, always UNION STRONG!



Hello to My Union Brothers and Sisters,

I am calling on you today to ask all our labor brothers and sisters to join us in celebrating the 2024 Walt Campbell Award dinner. A fundraiser to celebrate community service by union members will be held on Saturday February 1st, 2025 at IBEW Local 58 in Detroit Mi. Some of you may not know who Walt Campbell is or what the Walt Campbell award is. Allow me to share some information on who Walt was, when the award started, and where we are now.

Walt Campbell, known throughout Michigan as “Mr. United Way” he was a member of AIW Local 404 and the Secretary - Treasurer of the Michigan AFL-CIO where he also chaired the Michigan AFL-CIO Community Services Department and the Michigan United Labor Community Services Committee. Walt Campbell worked tirelessly for the underserved. This is just a peek of who Walt was.

The Walt Campbell Award was established in 1977, the Walt Campbell award stands as a beacon of recognition for those who exemplify Walt's unwavering dedication and commitment to serving their communities, and since that time, has been awarded to Union Members who showed and made outstanding contributions to community service within the state of Michigan.

The Walt Campbell Awards Dinner marks a new era of the Walt Campbell Award Legacy which had been previously awarded during the annual Michigan State AFL-CIO Community Services School. The Walt Campbell Dinner is a night to honor, applaud the accomplishment of our fellow union brothers and sisters and celebrate the enduring United Way Labor Partnership alongside friends and peers. Funds raised will benefit the Michigan Association of United Ways Labor Department.

I am reaching out to you today and asking you to join me in making this event a great success and to celebrate labor's deep history and accomplishments in community service. You can help support this in a variety of ways including sponsorship, nominating outstanding union members from your local area to receive the award or by purchasing tickets to celebrate this year's award winner. I have attached the sponsorship form and nomination form to this letter. You may also go to our website to learn more about the event and see past winners at www.uwmich.org/waltcampbelldinner

Thank you for all that you do for your community. If you have any questions, please contact me at 810-275-5409.

Thank you and In Solidarity,

Teresa McGinnis

Michigan AFL-CIO State Labor Liaison Director Labor Liaisons, Labor and Community Services for
Michigan Association of United Way



Celebrating 80 Years of Working Together



**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 1ST, 2025
IBEW LOCAL 58
DETROIT, MI
4:30 VIP ACCESS, 5:00
GENERAL ADMISSION**

AWARD SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

TITLE SPONSOR	DINNER SPONSOR	BAR SPONSOR
\$5000 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16 VIP access tickets to event• Listed in program with full page ad• Large Signage at event	\$3000 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 VIP access tickets to event• Listed in program with 1/2 page ad• Signage at event	\$2500 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 VIP access tickets to event• Listed in program with 1/4 page ad• Signage at event
VIP SPONSOR	TABLE SPONSOR	EVENT SUPPORTER
\$1500 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 VIP access tickets to event• Listed in program• Tabletop signage	\$850 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 tickets to event• Listed in program• Tabletop signage	\$300 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 tickets to event• Listed in program

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The Walt Campbell Award Dinner and the proceeds from this event will be used to host the annual Michigan AFL-CIO Community Services School. This school gives union members tools and resources to help support and empower their local unions and communities.

MAUW is a 501c(3) EIN # 38-1359596

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNITED WAYS (ATTN COMM SERV DEPT.)
330 MARSHALL ST, SUITE 211 LANSING, MI 48912



**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 1ST, 2025
IBEW LOCAL 58
DETROIT, MI
4:30 VIP ACCESS, 5:00
GENERAL ADMISSION**

AWARD SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

FULL PAGE AD	1/2 PAGE AD	EVENT SUPPORTER	BUSINESS CARD AD
\$1000 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full page in program book	\$750 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/2 page in program book	\$400 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/4 page ad in program book	\$200 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business card Ad in program book

ORGANIZATION NAME:

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:

TICKETS:

CONTACT NAME:

CONTACT PHONE:

CONTACT ADDRESS:

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