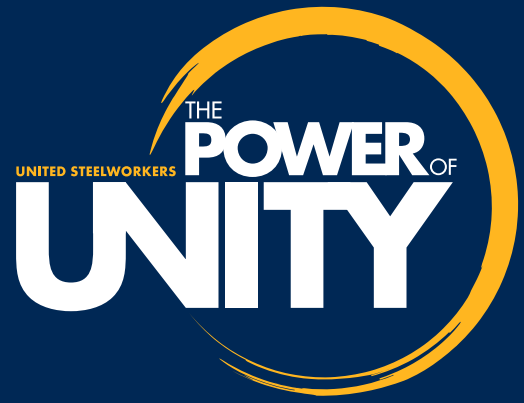




DELEGATE PROFILE



Peggy Newton

Name:

Local 5965 District 2

Local Number/USW District #:

Viking Corporation, Valve floater

Employer, Job Title:

31

Fire protection systems

Years as USW Member:

What does your local do or make?

Hastings, MI

Hometown:

1 What is unusual about your hometown, place of work or job?

"There are so many different components and valves that go into a sprinkler system. There are different degrees and there are even sprinklers that are specific to very cold areas."

2 What does this year's theme, "The Power of Unity," mean to you? How has your local benefited from putting unity into action?

"It takes all of us, not just one set group of people who are going to take care of everything. We all have our role to play. We all have our gifts. In our local we show unity by doing things for the community. We provide snacks and meals for hungry kids; we raise money for the women's shelter; we're really involved in the United Way. I'm very proud of our local for reaching out and realizing we're important in this community."

3 What issues will be important when your local's contract expires?

"Healthcare is going to be very important and wages. But language is also important. The language in your contract dictates how your issues are handled. A lot of people don't think about the language, but they're finding more and more that it matters a whole lot. It's the basis of fairness and equity so we can make sure our voices are heard."

4 What's your favorite alternative fact?

"Well I don't know about alternative facts, but here's something I wish was true. I wish people understood how important it is that we lift each other up instead of putting each other down—and that everyone would understand how much good that would do."

5 Who would you prefer to have dinner with: Sean Spicer, Betty White, Vladimir Putin, Drake, or Céline Dion? Why?

"I would rather have dinner with Betty White because she's funny. She seems like she'd be a real hoot to hang out with and have years and years of wisdom."

6 What's the best thing about the convention so far?

"The speakers Emmanuel Cleaver and William Barber have been the best parts of the Convention. They inspire me. I wish I had their ability to help people see the big picture."

7 What things do you hope to do while you're here?

"I got to hang out with Dan Ferson. That was really cool. He was our staff representative at Local 5965 about ten years ago. He is one of the best staff reps we've had the opportunity to work with."

8 What in this convention will you put to work when you return home?

"I've talked to the collective bargaining staff and hope to utilize some of the services they offer. I also hope to show my local that it's all about unity—that it takes all of us, and we can make a difference. Maybe we won't change the whole world at once, but we can make a real difference within our circle of influence."