



United Auto Workers

LOCAL 598

EYE OPENER



Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 1

www.uawlocal598.org

JANUARY 2026

The Birthplace of AMERICA'S Middle Class

by Debi Kirchner, Editor

The seeds of UAW Local 598 were planted in the 1936-37 Sit-Down Strike. The men working at GM's Fisher 2 plant, who became the first members of Local 598, were part of two important movements that changed the lives of workers everywhere.

Most of us know about how the Union gave workers a voice and helped improve working conditions and pay. But did you know that because of the strike, Flint, Michigan is also known as the birthplace of the American middle class?

When workers here made the choice to join and fight for the UAW, a trifecta – industrial labor, union power, and mass production – was formed. It was a time when unionized auto workers first proved that factory labor could support a stable, dignified, middle-class life, and that reshaped America.

Before the strike started, only about 122 workers in the Flint plants had signed a union card, a small percentage of the thousands of GM workers in the city at that time. Local 156 became the first established industrial Local Union in Flint, and it represented union members in many industries, not just GM.

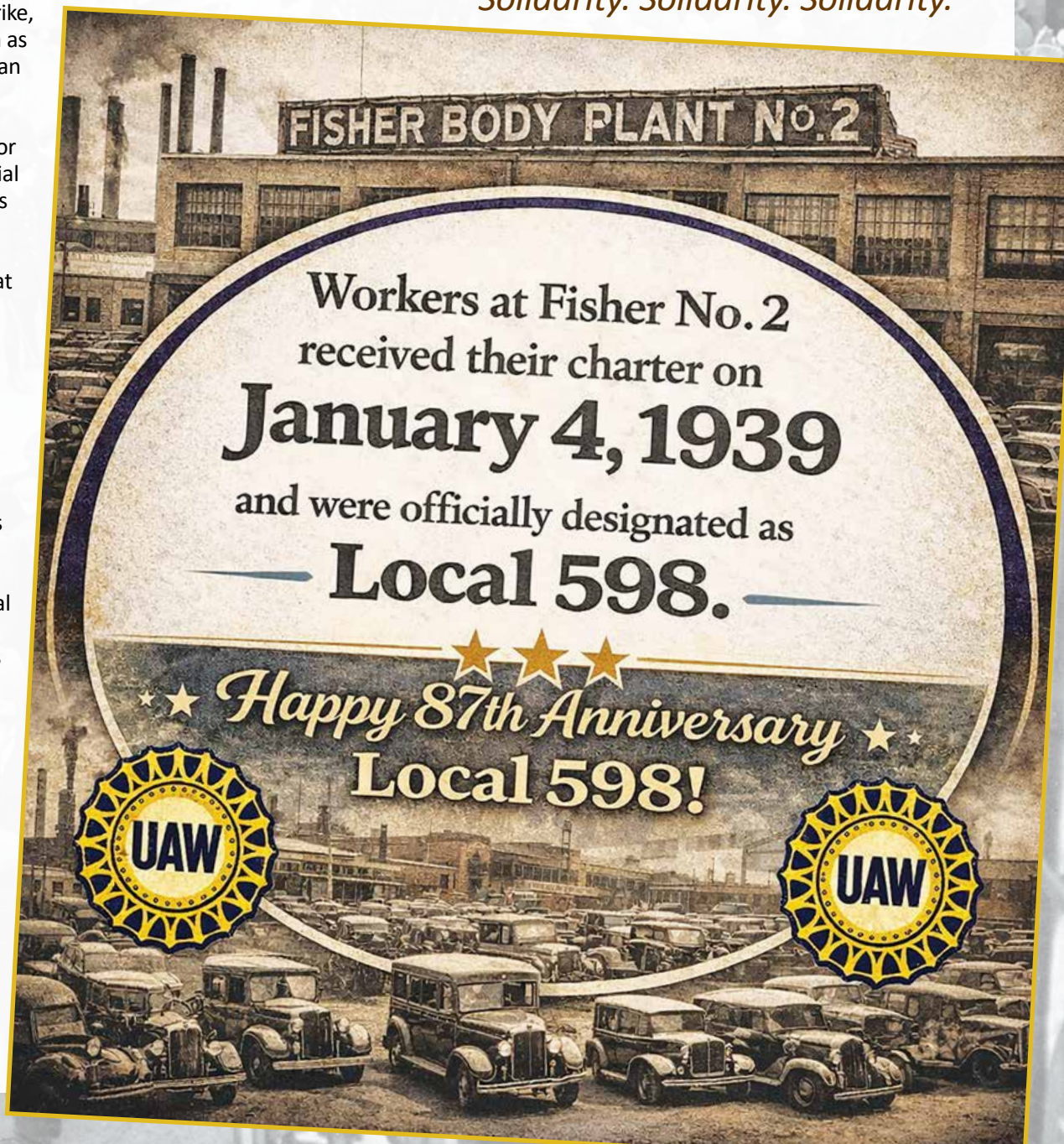
After the first contract, thousands more joined the UAW and individual Local Unions representing GM plants were formed. Local 659 was the first (1937), Local 581 (1938), and then Local 598 received its charter on January 4, 1939. Local 599 followed, chartering in 1939.

Unfortunately, the growth of the middle

class was also tied to corporate decisions and trade policies of the '80s, '90s, and forward. We can see the devastating effects everywhere we look. However, one thing has remained constant throughout the decades, and that is the fighting spirit of UAW workers. We are still here. We are still fighting.

Happy 87th Anniversary, UAW Local 598! May we continue to know that together, we can change the world. We've done it before.

Solidarity. Solidarity. Solidarity.





RESOLUTIONS for Strike Pay; Organizing Budgets; One Member, One Vote; and May Day 2028

"I strongly encourage members to consider submitting resolutions in these four key areas."

STEPHANIE RILEY

from the **PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Brothers and Sisters of UAW Local 598,

As we prepare for the 39th UAW Constitutional Convention in June, I want to speak directly to you about a critical step in this process that happens before any debates or votes take place – members submitting resolutions.

The Convention is the highest decision-making body in our union. But its agenda is not created in isolation. It is built from the ideas, concerns, and priorities raised by the membership. If we want the Convention to reflect the real needs of working members and their families, those needs must be put into writing and submitted as resolutions.

This is the moment to act!

I strongly encourage members to consider submitting resolutions in the following four key areas that will shape the future strength, democracy, and direction of our union...

STRIKE PAY: Preparing to Stand Strong

Strike pay is not just about financial support — it is about power. When members are forced to choose between standing up for their rights and keeping food on the table, employers gain leverage. Submitting resolutions on strike pay allows members to propose changes that reflect today's cost of living, economic realities, and the sacrifices made on the picket line.

If you believe our strike benefits should be strengthened, adjusted, or re-examined, now is the time to put that belief into a resolution. Strong strike pay begins with member input.

ORGANIZING BUDGETS: Growing Our Union

Our union's future depends on organizing. Every non-union workplace represents workers who deserve a voice and protections — but organizing takes resources. Members have the right to propose how our union prioritizes and funds organizing efforts.

Resolutions on organizing budgets can address transparency, long-term investment, and strategic growth. If you want to see the UAW expand its reach and build power across industries, your ideas belong in resolution form.

ONE MEMBER, ONE VOTE:

Strengthening Union Democracy

Democracy is not automatic — it is something we must actively protect and expand.

Resolutions related to One Member, One Vote are about ensuring that every member's voice carries weight in union decision-making. If you believe there are ways to strengthen member participation, accountability, or direct input, those ideas should be formally submitted.

The Convention cannot debate what is never proposed. Democracy starts with members putting their ideas on the table.

MAY DAY 2028: Elevating the Voice of Workers

May Day has long been a symbol of worker solidarity and collective action.

Resolutions focused on May Day 2028 give members an opportunity to propose how our union recognizes, organizes around, and elevates labor issues on a national and international stage. Whether the focus is education, visibility, solidarity, or mobilization, this is a chance to shape how the UAW shows up for working people.

Resolutions Are How Members Lead

Submitting a resolution does not require being an expert or holding a title. It requires caring enough about your union to speak up.

If an issue matters to you, it likely matters to others. Putting it into a resolution ensures it becomes part of the official conversation at the Constitutional Convention.

I encourage every member of Local 598 to:

Talk with your coworkers and stewards

- ▶ **Identify issues that deserve union-wide discussion**
- ▶ **Put your ideas into resolution form**
- ▶ **Submit them within the required timelines**
- ▶ **Use the sample in the *Eye Opener* to submit your resolutions to the Union Hall.**

The strength of our union has always come from engaged, informed, and active members. The 39th UAW Constitutional Convention begins not on the convention floor, but right here — with you.

(See Page 8 for Resolutions form)

Stephanie Riley

HOW TO:
UAW 2026 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
RESOLUTION

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS FOR OUR 39th CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION HELD IN JUNE. DO NOT MISTAKE THIS FOR OUR NATIONAL BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

Our International UAW is calling the Sisters and Brothers of Local 598 for Resolutions to our UAW Constitution. If you have a Resolution you would like to contribute and be voted on at the April 19th Membership Meeting, please complete this form and submit to our Local Union Hall — **NO LATER THAN: Tuesday, April 14, 2026.**

Reference current language if applicable: [You can search by topic at uaw.org/uaw-constitution](http://uaw.org/uaw-constitution)

Article No. _____ Section No. _____ Line No. _____ Page No. _____

Whereas: This is where you say what is currently in the constitution concerning your topic

Be It Resolved: This is where you state how you want it to change. Be as clear as you can so your intent is understood.

Only 1 topic per form. Resolutions are sorted by topic. If you have more than 1 on a page, the others might not be seen.

*Respectfully submitted by, _____

* Forms are available on page 8 of this paper

_____ GMIN/Employee No. _____ Department _____

2026: All Projects Ahead of Schedule

"The 2025 earnings report will be January 27th. This is when we will find out how much profit sharing will be."

ERIC WELTER

SHOP CHAIRMAN



We are in the final week of shutdown, and all of the projects are ahead of schedule. Contrary to rumors, there is no extension of the layoff. The most dramatic change is in the trim shop, where both aisle crossing pits have been filled and a floor-level crossing has been put in place. At the east end of trim, the skillet extension is also complete.

I would like to recognize our Union Benefits Reps for their continued dedication to our membership. Even though it is outside the scope of their responsibility, they have been helping a lot of members with unemployment issues. *Thank you!*

The W2's were supposed to include the qualified overtime for tax deduction. Payroll said it would be on line 14 – *it is not*. It has been escalated to payroll and now there is more pressure from other locations. While we work through this, you can use your last pay stub. With "overtime 0.5x," you get all of that. With "overtime 2.0x," you get half of that as an above-the-line deduction, if you make less than \$150k filing single or \$300k married filing jointly.

The 2025 earnings report will be January 27th. This is when

we will find out how much profit sharing will be, when it pays out, and the deadline for deferral to your PSP.

GM's North American Ebit was at 8.2 after 3 quarters with a strong 4th quarter, but GM is dealing with headwinds on the transition away from EVs and tariffs.

The workers on 2nd and 3rd shift were not scheduled to work January 23rd, so they will have to claim Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday pay on their unemployment. By the time you have to certify for that week, you will have your pay stub to get the exact gross amount to claim.

The unused vacation payout is January 30th. We will be back to work that week, so you do not have to claim this on your unemployment. These are two different types of earnings; the MLK holiday pay is earned during the week we were laid off; whereas, the unused vacation is paid on the same date, but not earned during the layoff.

The bi-annual Skilled Trades lateral moves are upon us. The Shift Preference application period began January 19th and ran through the end of your shift on January 22nd. Shift preference moves will be posted on January 26th, which is also the start of lateral move week January 26-30. Moves will be posted on February 2nd and moves will be made February 9th.

I hope everyone enjoyed the time off and I look forward to seeing you back in the plant.

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OFFER EXPIRES 2-28-26

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**Region 1D
Veterans
Council**



Public Welcome!

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026

Time: Bags fly at noon

(Arrive by 11am to confirm properly registered)

Entry Fee: \$30 per person

Payable via Venmo QR below (preferred) – cash at door

Location: UAW Local 598

3293 Slyke Rd. Flint MI 48507

**St. Patrick's
Day theme
so wear
your Irish
best!**



- ✱ Challenge your friends and co-workers for bragging rights as we raise money for:
My Brothers Keeper & MI Honor Flight (but not limited to)
- ✱ Please register in advance by scanning QR code via the Scoreholio App
- ✱ Pay entry fee in advance via Venmo @Timothy-Duplanty or 810-625-8535
- ✱ We urge everyone to pre-register & prepay to help things run smoothly
- ✱ 6 round switcholio to seed double elimination blind draw
- ✱ Cash payouts 1st thru 4th – 60% of entry fees collected
- ✱ Absolutely NO outside food or beverages permitted except bottled water
- ✱ Price of snacks, lunch, and beverages NOT included in entry fee
- ✱ Questions? Contact R1D Veterans Council Chair, Tim Duplanty 810-625-8535



Locals: Please consider
donating a gift basket for
our fundraising goals.



✱ Snacks, lunch, and beverages available for purchase on-site ✱

"No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence."

— DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

D'ANDRE JACKSON

RECORDING SECRETARY



I am grateful to step into another year with all of you. And hey, if you're still eating the same in 2026 as you were in 2025, you're in good company. We got all year to change.

We have a big year ahead at UAW Local 598. This is another chance to show why we're known as *"the Local with a Heart."*

Also this year, the UAW will convene the 39th Constitutional Convention. This is the place where the rules, rights, many responsibilities, and day-to-day structure of our Union are shaped. This year also kicks off our General Election cycle, where you, the membership, will choose the leaders who will guide this Local for the next three years and help push us into the future.

If you haven't been, this is the perfect time to get informed, get involved, and stay connected to what's happening at your Union. I personally invite you to join us at our membership meetings every third Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Your voice matters, and your presence makes a difference.

Happy MLK Day to everyone. The UAW played a major role in establishing the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, thanks to our long-standing alliance with Dr. King and the leadership of UAW President Walter Reuther. The UAW provided critical financial and organizational support during the Civil Rights Movement,

making our Union a cornerstone in the fight for equality. Because of that legacy, every UAW member today is a custodian of the principles, courage, and convictions that drove that Civil Rights movement forward.

~ NOTICE ~

Nominations & Election of the **ELECTION COMMITTEE**

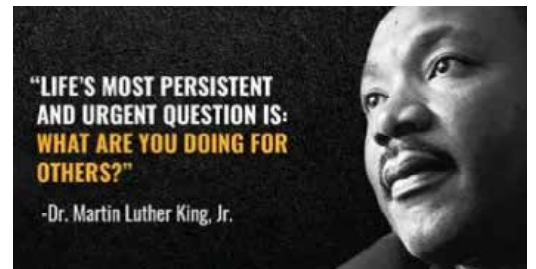
NOMINATIONS and ELECTION
will take place:

Sunday, February 15, 2026

at the
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Time: 2:00 p.m.

**Place: LOCAL 598
UNION HALL**
G-3293 Van Slyke Rd., Flint



Civil Rights & Diversity Conference

Members of our UAW Local 598 Civil Rights and Diversity committee proudly represented our Local at the **MLK/ Civil Rights Conference** in Baltimore, Maryland – standing together in solidarity, learning from powerful voices, and recommitting to the ongoing fight for justice, quality and workers rights.

Key Changes for Members to Watch For

"As we move into 2026...
here is what you need to keep
on your radar this year."

CHAD FABBRO

FINANCIAL SECRETARY



Brothers and Sisters,

As we move into 2026, we are seeing significant shifts in labor law and financial regulations that impact both our Local's operations and your personal bottom line. From new rules at the NLRB to changes in Michigan law, here is what you need to keep on your radar this year.

1. The NLRB is "Back in Business"

After nearly a year without a working quorum, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) is fully functional as of January 2026.

- **What this means:** Pending cases and unfair labor practice (ULP) charges stalled in 2025 will finally begin to move.
- **The Shift:** With new appointees, we expect the Board to take a more employer-friendly turn. We are closely watching for potential reversals of the Cemex decision, which previously made it easier for workers to organize. Now more than ever, our solidarity on the shop floor is our strongest defense.

2. Michigan Labor Law & Wage Updates

Michigan continues to see the effects of recent pro-labor legislative wins, but 2026 brings specific adjustments:

- **Minimum Wage Increase:** As of January 1, 2026, Michigan's minimum wage has risen to \$13.73 per hour. While our negotiated UAW contracts keep us well above this floor, these increases raise the standard for all workers in our community.



Important: Tax Season & Address Updates

As we prepare for the 2025 tax filing season, please be advised that W-2s will be mailed out by January 31, 2026. To ensure you receive your documents without delay, it is vital that your current mailing address is updated in our system. If you have

moved in the last year or haven't checked your profile lately, please take 30 seconds to verify your info today. A returned W-2 can delay your tax refund by weeks



Scan this QR code
to **DONATE** to this
year's Polar Plunge.



- **Unemployment Benefits:** If you find yourself facing a layoff, the maximum weekly benefit in Michigan has been boosted to \$530 for 2026.
- **Earned Sick Time:** The state's updated sick time laws are now in full effect. While our CBA often provides superior benefits, these laws set a new legal baseline that protects all Michigan workers.

3. IRS & Travel Reimbursements


For members traveling on union business or those of you tracking work-related expenses:

- **Mileage Rate:** The IRS has increased the standard business mileage rate to 72.5 cents per mile for 2026 (up 2.5 cents from last year).
- **Reporting:** The Department of Labor has proposed new inflation-adjusted thresholds for financial reporting. This will streamline some of our internal Local 598 filings (Form LM-2), allowing us to focus more resources on member representation rather than paperwork.

4. Protecting Our Dues & Pensions

There have been ongoing legislative attempts in D.C. to restrict "dues check-off" (the ability to have union dues deducted directly from your paycheck).

- **Current Status:** As of January 2026, these efforts (like the "Paycheck Protection Act") have been successfully blocked by labor allies in the Senate. Your right to choose how to support your union remains intact.
- **Trade Review:** Keep an eye on the USMCA (United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement). It comes up for a major review this year. Our International leadership is pushing for "worker-centered" changes to ensure that "Made in Flint" remains a global gold standard.



Solidarity House
8000 EAST JEFFERSON AVE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48214
PHONE (313) 926-5000

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

SHAWN FAIN, PRESIDENT • MARGARET MOCK, SECRETARY-TREASURER
VICE-PRESIDENTS: MIKE BOOTH • RICH BOYER • LAURA DICKERSON


January 16, 2026

RE: Int'l Union Strike & Defense Fund Report – October 2025

The following is a summary of Strike Fund Income and Expenditures for the month of August 2025.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| NET WORTH JULY 31, 2025 | \$817,858,109.44 |
| INCOME FOR AUGUST 2025 | |
| Dues Per Capita Taxes | 7,632,116.93 |
| DISBURSEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 2025 | <u>1,788,172.59</u> |
| NET WORTH, OCTOBER 31, 2025 | <u>\$823,702,053.78</u> |

There was one strike during the month of October.

Fraternally,

Margaret Mock
Secretary-Treasurer, International Union, UAW

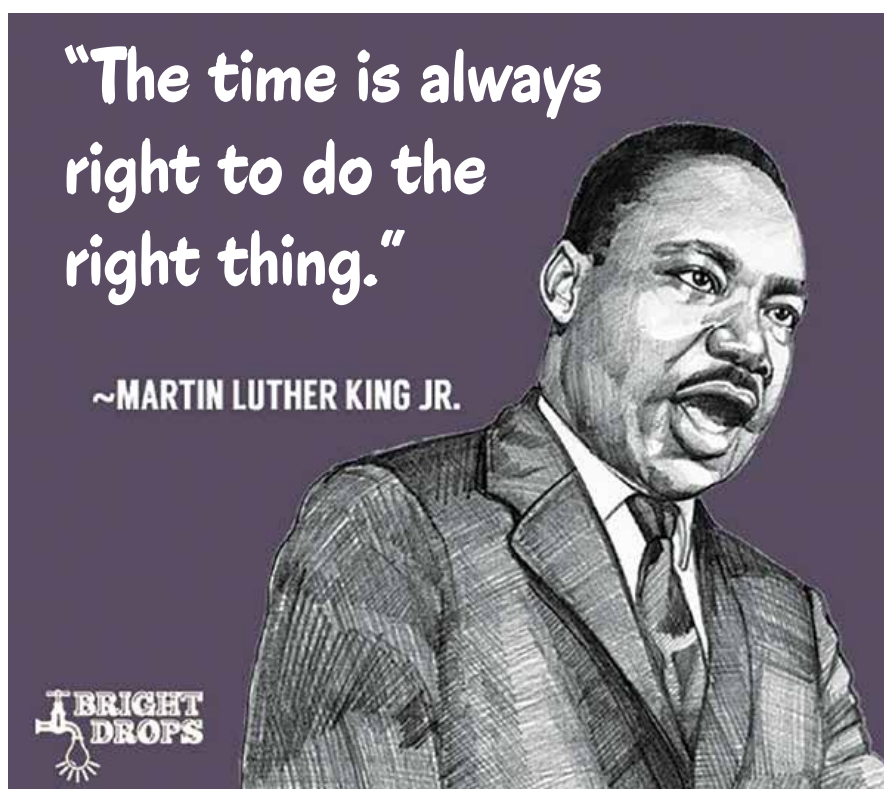
Michigan Activists' Impact On The

by **Christin Haney, Member Local 598**

The people mentioned here are only a few of the activists who saw a need for change and made the choice to stand up and speak out against the injustices they saw. There are far more who have had notable impacts in the fight for civil rights in America, and their stories help show that you don't have to be a full-time activist. Many of the changes made in America were done through a multitude of small acts by ordinary citizens.

Dr. Martin Luther KING, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is one of the most widely known civil rights advocates in the world. He committed himself so deeply to the movement that it impacted his health, resulting in several hospitalizations to force him to rest and recover. At times, it was as if he was a lone force fighting against oppressive systems, but he was far from alone. Others who protested, marched, and carried on the fight after his assassination are worth knowing and I'd like to highlight a few with roots in Michigan; Gordon Carey, Jim Letherer, Olive Beasley, and Viola Liuzzo.



Gordon CAREY

Gordon Carey of Grand Rapids, Michigan took notice of the first major sit-in at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, NC. He decided to take a greater part in the movement. He helped organize workshops to teach civil disobedience and other non-violent tactics to other activists trying to peacefully assert their rights. Gordon also conceived of the Freedom Rides with fellow activist Tom Gaither, and he would become one of the regular bus riders alongside more famous Riders, such as former Representative John Lewis and activist Stokely Carmichael.

Viola LIUZZO

Viola Liuzzo, of Detroit Michigan, is a tragic inclusion on this list of Michigan activists. She was a participant in the Selma march, and after the event was helping another activist – Leroy Moton – shuttle marchers from Montgomery back to Selma. During their travels, the pair were ambushed by KKK members, who chased them and eventually fatally shot Viola. Her death was one of many suffered during the Civil Rights Era, an unfortunate reality activists faced in their struggle to assert the rights of all men and women. The fight to defend and uphold civil rights continues and will likely continue so long as some people seek to dehumanize others. While protestors and activists are still met with violence today, we are fortunate that instances of murder are far less common.



Olive BEASLEY

Olive Beasley, originally from Chicago, moved to Detroit in 1947 as executive director of the Michigan Committee on Civil Rights. She was a tireless campaigner for civil rights and social welfare in Michigan. In 1963, the new state constitution created the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, and she became the District Executive of the Commission's office in Flint, where she would live the rest of her life.

Olive's most notable activity in Flint was organizing a 10-day, sleeping-in protest on the Flint City Hall lawn after the city commission rejected a fair housing ordinance. The protest gathered 4,000 people, including then-Governor George Romney, and resulted in a public vote where residents of Flint approved the nation's first fair housing ordinance, ending the practice of housing discrimination in the city.

Civil Rights MOVEMENT

by Christin Haney, Member Local 598

We have returned from a long holiday break, hopefully spent relaxing, resting, and celebrating with family and friends, and now settle back into the familiar pace of our jobs.

Our first holiday of the new year is a day to reflect on the life and activism of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man well known to most Americans for his righteous fight against injustice. I would like to highlight a partner in his fight, a friend and supporter of Dr. King we, as UAW members, should know well – Walter Reuther.

In building up the UAW, Reuther sought to create a union that would challenge more than just the injustices within the factory. The preamble of our Union Constitution calls upon us to participate in the fight for justice both economically and socially, recognizing that justice within the workplace would be undermined if we did not have a greater community where all people have dignity and worth.

The ideal to always fight for a better future made it an easy choice for Reuther to be publicly supportive of Dr. King. When Dr. King and other activists were imprisoned in Birmingham, the UAW under Reuther's leadership contributed to the \$160,000 sent to bail the activists out of jail, with UAW staffers sent to deliver the money.

Prior to the March on Washington, UAW President Reuther marched with Dr. King in Detroit in the *Walk to Freedom*, where Dr. King gave an early version of his "*I Have A Dream*" speech. During this time, he also helped organize the 1963 *March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom*, where he marched alongside Dr. King, as well as being one of many speakers that day.

Reuther regularly lent his support to Dr. King, as well as to many others in the civil rights movement, because he knew that



their movement was a sister to the labor movement. He saw the effective adoption of labor tactics in the civil rights movement, sit-ins and boycotts, pickets and peaceful protests being met with violence, and he knew that their fight is our fight.

Reuther was also one of many UAW leaders who fought persistently to stamp out racism within the rank-and-file of the union, and he knew that eradicating racism in the workplace was only part of the battle.

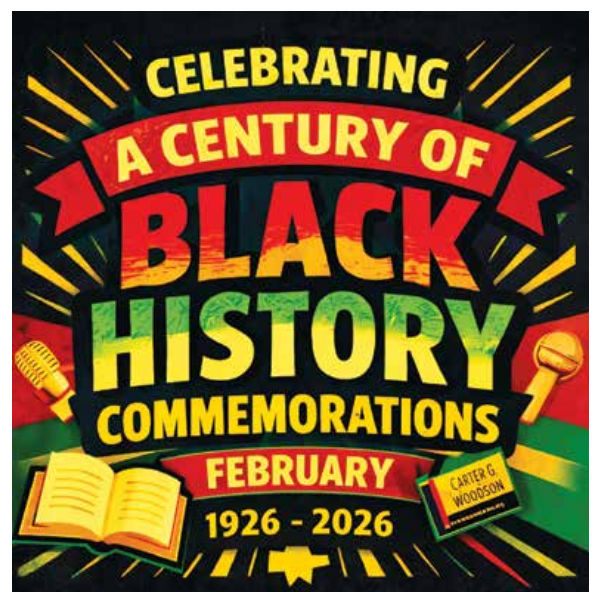
As UAW members, we are called to stand up as brothers and sisters and fight against injustice, and to not let that fight stop at the factory gate. We are called to stand in solidarity as brothers and sisters fighting for civil and human rights in our communities and in our country.

UAW presidents before and after Walter Reuther also worked diligently fighting against injustice, and learning the history of our union's participation in the fight for civil and human rights is a fundamental part of understanding our union and what it means to be part of it. I recommend biographies as a good starting place, such as "*The Most Dangerous Man in Detroit*" by Nelson Lichtenstein, or "*King: A Life*" by Jonathan Eig.

Jim LETHERER

Jim Letherer of Saginaw, Michigan is perhaps most well-known for taking part in both the 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965, and the March Against Fear in 1966. He did so while on crutches, as he had lost his right leg to cancer as a child.

When thousands of people showed up for the Selma march, only 300 were permitted to take part and of that 300 only 50 non-Alabama residents were allowed to join. Jim was one of those 50 and would be quoted by reporters as saying "*You see the world through a different perspective when you see it from a wheelchair or on a pair of crutches. You look for things that happen to the underdogs, the longshots, those who have to beat the odds just to get the little things that other people take for granted.*"



UAW 2026 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION RESOLUTION

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Reference current language if applicable:

Article No. _____ Section No. _____ Line No. _____ Page No. _____

Whereas: _____

Be It Resolved: _____

*Respectfully submitted by, _____

GMIN/Employee No.

Department

**For clarification purposes only*

PLEASE JOIN US IN HONORING THE
1936-1937 SITDOWN STRIKERS AT



WHITE SHIRT DAY 2026

FEBRUARY 11, 2026, AT 11 A.M.

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SVS VISION
OPTICAL CENTERS

ATTORNEYS' SCHEDULE for the Union Hall

LEGAL SERVICES FOR LOCAL 598 MEMBERS

MONDAY

Richard Wagner 810.820.9111

Doud, Smith & Wagner, Attorneys & Counselors
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

Robert MacDonald 810.234-2204

MacDonald & MacDonald, PLLC
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Neal Wilensky 810.606.0410

Kaechele & Wilensky, p.c.
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

GM-UAW LEGAL SERVICES: 1-800-482-7700



United Auto Workers LOCAL 598 EYE OPENER

Home of the Original Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

UNION HALL • G-3293 VAN SLYKE ROAD, FLINT, MI 48507 • (810) 238-4605

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| President | Stephanie Riley | DISTRICT COMMITTEE / ALTERNATES |
| Vice President | John Jackson III | Alex Perry / Lindsay Brooks |
| Recording Secretary | D'Andre Jackson | Sean Meachem / Chad Boyce |
| Financial Secretary | Chad Fabbro | Shane Herriman / Bo Browning |
| Guide | Twanna Q. Coleman | Stan Cherwinski / Todd Bieber |
| Trustee | Melissa Bowen | Brian Shick / JoAnna Batson-Escamilla |
| Trustee | Corissa Carter | Dana Waider / Joe Berriman |
| Trustee | David V. Garcia | Bryan Ventrone / Stan Dulaney |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Randy Frost | Jon Galant / Wendy Ignash |
| Retiree Chapter Chair | Janet Woodson | DeWayne Tippit / Mike Bukovchik |
| SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN | Eric Welter | Aaron McAlister / |
| SHOP COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE | Nick Dekalita, Joe Dontje | Jeremy Switzer / Antonio Pritchett |
| SHOP COMMITTEE (DISTRICT) | Shane Herriman, Sean Meachem | Kevin Smiley / Anthony Vincent |
| | | Terry M. Oliver / Stephanie Farrell |
| | | William McIntosh / Jacob Kohn |
| | | Mike Kocsis / Shane Balcer |

ARAMARK BARGAINING COMMITTEE - DISTRICT COMMITTEE

JaShanti Walker, Sr. and Orlandis McNeal..... Alternate Edward Menzel

BEACON O&M BARGAINING COMMITTEE

District Committeeperson Mark Leineke..... Alternate Rodney Haggard

M.P.S. BARGAINING COMMITTEE - DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Tasha Wynne..... Alternate Kristine Momany
John Wineland..... Alternate John Little
Damon Harrison

ADAPT REPRESENTATIVE..... Rick Hager

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE..... Rosalyn Morse

LOCAL 598 BENEFIT REPS..... Chris Dungerow, Adam Prieur, Archie McGrath, Hans Smith

HEALTH & SAFETY REPS..... Mike Dankert, Doug Culhane, Jeff Wier

WORK & FAMILY REPS..... Cheryl Middleton, George Washington, Dave Yanta

EYE OPENER EDITOR..... Debi Kirchner

POLICY OF THE EYE OPENER


TO OUR READERS: The **EYE OPENER** is the voice of our Local and International Union. This is our vehicle for bringing to you, on a regular basis, the views and actions of the leaders you elected, so you can evaluate them. Through the paper, we explain Union policies and show how your dues are spent. The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from UAW members and stories about members. While we welcome your contributions, we ask that they be constructive. At no time will the editorial staff tolerate any defamatory remarks regarding any person or persons. We reserve the right to reply to those who seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the Union and its policies and to edit any article for clarity and length.

Opinions reflected in signed articles in the **EYE OPENER** do not necessarily represent the position or opinions of Local 598. Published monthly by UAW Local 598, G-3293 Van Slyke Road, Flint, MI 48507. Phone: 810-238-4605.

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Congratulations!

to Local 598's
recent retiree...



**HERBERT
SHERMAN**
effective date:
January 1, 2026

*Congrats,
Herbert!*

We hope to see you at our **CHAPTER MEETINGS** held on the second Thursday of the month at 12:00 p.m.

Do You Hear But Not Understand?



**DON'T MISS OUT
... ON THE MOMENTS
THAT MATTER MOST!**

Now is the time to find out whether the difficulties you're experiencing with your hearing are due to hearing loss or maybe just earwax.

Some common difficulties include:
Asking people to repeat themselves, turning off TV volume to understand what is being said, ringing or buzzing in the ear, and more!

THIS MONTH ONLY Beltone is offering ...
FREE Hearing Screenings with one of our hearing care professionals.

We will test your hearing to determine what degree of hearing loss you have, if any. This exam is FREE, and you are under no obligation.

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**WONDERING ... WHAT'S THE CATCH?
There is none!**

We're making this offer because it is our mission to support those in our community who are ready and willing to start their journey to better hearing.

Before fixing a problem, it needs to be evaluated.

HURRY! The \$20 Amazon.com Gift Card*offer expires 02/28/2026



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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"...we would like to thank the officers and Executive Board for their generosity in providing our holiday meal."

JANET WOODSON

RETIRED WORKERS CHAIR



We were happy to see everyone back after the holiday break. At our first Chapter meeting of the year, there was a decision of a one-day trip to Soaring Eagle Casino, instead of the Detroit Auto Show that we usually attend.

Please Note: There will not be a regularly scheduled meeting for the month of February.

Trip To Soaring Eagle Casino

The Soaring Eagle Casino trip will be on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at a cost of \$25.00 for members, and \$35.00 for non-member attendees. If you plan on attending, cash or check payments will be collected at the Local *no later than Wednesday, February 11th*. Please leave a phone number with your payment in case I need to contact you. *Many thanks!*

The package information per attendee includes:

- \$20.00 in premium play, 10,000 points (\$10.00 value) Bingo Bucks (Wednesday-Sunday only)
- 5,000 points (\$10.00 value) towards food. If an attendee wishes to forego the food or bingo, the points can be transferred to a \$5.00 credit in free play at the Access Club Booth.
- Earn 600 points on slots and receive a \$10.00 premium play bonus! (4 hours required minimum stay)

Bus Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Bus arrives at Union City Fields, 4151 Torrey Rd.
8:45 a.m. Bus departure



Retired Workers Chapter

Chapter Meetings held at 12:00 p.m.
in the **LOCAL 598 UNION HALL**

**WEDNESDAY
February 11th**

WHITE SHIRT DAY
Local 651 Union Hall, 11:00 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY
February 18th**

Soaring Eagle Casino
One-day trip, starting at 8:30 a.m.

**THURSDAY
Mach 12th**

Retiree Chapter Meeting
Local 598 Union Hall, 12:00 noon



UAW

WHITE SHIRT DAY

FEBRUARY-11



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads run on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Classified ads are limited to Local 598 members' name only and must be submitted monthly.

services

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46 years of experience.
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VISIT CAROL'S CAT HOUSE

813 Main St., Daytona Beach, FL
UAW Sister, owner and operator.

Call 586-322-3464

or write: P.O. Box 263086
Daytona Beach, FL 32126
Feline-Friendly Gift Shop.

for sale

ESTATE SALE

Baby Grand Piano, \$1,500 (buyer moves);
Dining table with 6 chair and china cabinet set, \$500.

Call Gregory, 810-610-3905

STONE'S TREASURES

Resale - New and Used
G-3358 S. Saginaw
Burton, MI 48529

Call 810-240-6675

for rent

3 BEDROOM, BRICK HOME

In Flint; 2 Bath, 1 Office, finished basement, Florida room with fireplace, appliances, CA, 2.5 garage w/storage area. Must have water affidavit.

No pets. Non-smoking.
\$1,300 monthly, \$3,900 move-in.

Additional fee for credit/background check applied upon approval.

Proof of income request.
THE MORGAN GROUP INC.

Call 810-242-7655 call or text



in Loving Memory

Jason Morse Preston Peery, Jr. William "Bill" Conley
Jimmy Skaggs Jimmie Hendrix Christopher Wright

Our UAW Local 598 family extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friend of these deceased members.

If you know of a Local 598 member who has recently passed, please submit their name at the Union Hall, so they may be listed here in the Eye Opener.



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Small enough to care.*

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LOCAL 598 EYE OPENER
G-3293 VAN SLYKE RD., FLINT, MI 48507



Home of the Original
Fisher 2 Sit-Downers

UAW PROPERTY - ILLEGAL TO DUPLICATE
USPS Publication #110-770



Spotlighting Member Businesses who participated in our 2025 Small Business Expo

These Local 598 businesses are owned and operated by members of our Local 598 family who participated in our November Small Businesses expo. If you participated and would like us to print your business card next month, drop it off at the Union Hall by February 12, 2026.

