

EYE OPENER



www.uawlocal598.org



"A Local Union with a Heart"

598

Volume 36 – Issue 6

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JUNE 2017

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UAW LOCAL 598
Next Meeting

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
2:00 P.M. at the UNION HALL

UAW PROPERTY – ILLEGAL TO DUPLICATE

Positive Transitions



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ryan Buchalski

Greetings and Salutations to all our Local 598

Sisters and Brothers (active & retired),
It is with great honor and pleasure that I pen this report for the first time as your President. From the time I became a member of Local 598 (over 20 years ago), I had no idea I would one day be in the position where you have elected me to.

Not a single day goes by that I don't think about when I first started out and when I first was elected to the bargaining unit to being on the administrative side of our Union. I have represented and met so many good people over the years and I believe whole-heartedly they made me who I am today! I am very excited about the next chapter here at 598 and look forward to it every day.

The officers and staff here at the Hall hope you are all enjoying the warm weather and spending some time outdoors. We would also like to welcome our newest members to 598 and hope it is a positive transition for you. The officers and I had the pleasure of getting to know all of you a little more at the second day of your orientation. Both Chairman Welter and I know the benefits of teaching and welcoming new members to our great Union.

The Executive Board met for the first time this month and they are also very excited about the opportunity to serve this membership. There were many different discussions that we had but the one thing that is very clear is that we are all on the same page when it comes to the best interest of Local 598.

Local 598 has been very busy the last couple of weeks, everything from changing from doing business with a bank, to doing business with our friends and neighbors at our Local Credit Union, to getting bids from our local unionized contractors to perform some renovations and remodel updates here at your Union Hall.

Recently, we had 2 of our members go to Black Lake for the UAW Chaplaincy Conference. We are pleased to report that when these members returned home they were excited to tell us all about the experience and educate us about the UAW and its involvement in the Chaplaincy Program (see page 9).

Anytime a Local has an opportunity to send members out to represent us and those members return home wanting to share their experience, it's a win-win for all of us.

The Community Service Conference is being held at Black Lake at the end of June. The membership approved sending 10 delegates to represent 598 at that conference. I am confident we will have a report from our Sisters and Brothers when they return.

The United Way of Genesee County held their annual meeting on June

14th. Members of 598 Leadership and I were in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to bring forward some of the 2016 campaign highlights.

For all of our members who donate to the United Way through weekly payroll deduction, you can feel proud to know that your contributions helped impact more than 85,000 residents of Genesee County. Your financial contributions to United Way affects the lives of thousands and you should all be very proud of your support. I have always said, "Every dollar counts!"

With the summer months also come events for our members. One of the events is Soberfest. Soberfest is a great way to show that you can have a great time without indulging in the use of drugs or alcohol. It is also a great way to get to know some of our community partners.

When I attend Soberfest, I always make sure to take my kids over to the trout pond, there's nothing better than seeing a child's face light up when they catch a fish. Now watching the fish get cleaned on the other hand... well, anyhow, hope to see you there.

Whether you keep up to date with what your Local is doing through Social Media or the *Eye Opener*, don't forget the old-fashioned way to find out, call or stop by Your Union Hall!

It's my hope that everyone is able to take time away to spend with family and friends and have a happy and safe summer. As always, thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to Local 598!

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH
23RD ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2017
SOBERFEST
of Recovery

(see full notice on page 12)

SHOP COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

By Eric Welter



Fire in the Old Paint Shop

As usual, I have some people to recognize. We recently had a fire in the old paint shop, while it was under demolition by a contractor. The source of the fire is still under investigation, but thankfully no one was hurt.

Chris Timbs, one of our safety trainers, was covering the Safety Rep. while he attended training. Chris was alerted to the contractors fighting a fire in the old clear coat booth. Chris responded with Salary Safety Rep. Bill Turner and they used fire suppressants, but were unable to extinguish the fire. Chris called the Flint Fire Department and they responded quickly. Ron Drumhiller, Jason Morse, and Jon Edwards supported the safety department throughout this crisis.

It was determined evacuation was prudent, so the alarm was sounded. Dustin Culhane, Nick Dekalita and Leroy Shinabarger went around the plant and made sure that everyone was out safely.

Safety Rep. Tony Robinson, Sr. and I arrived on sight as the evacuation began. We met with the safety team at the sight of the fire, to make sure we understood the magnitude. We then met with plant staff in the emergency response room to oversee the crisis. In twenty-one minutes, everyone was evacuated and accounted for, which was good since everyone had to be rerouted out the south exit.

The fire was extinguished, and the Flint Fire Department tore down the duct work to ensure no embers existed. After 1 hour and 15 minutes, the Flint Fire Department called "all clear" and the employees could return. This was approximately 5:00 p.m.

Water was still pouring down over the motor line and many people helped remove material

and shut off equipment. This continued for a few hours, which was strange, because when the all clear was called we went upstairs and there was no standing water. Turns out the contractors had removed part of a sprinkler system including the monitoring panels, so security had no idea a fire line was still pumping water right down on to the motor line. About 9:00 p.m., this was discovered and shut off. The water stopped and clean up began.

Third shift came next and did a great job putting everything back in place and started production back up. In addition to all the people on second and third shifts who helped clean up and put the line back together, Scott Pickler was critical to aiding the fire department with controlling the sprinkler system and helping get fans to remove the smoke.

Shop Committeeman-at-Large Scott Crosby was a leader in the midst of the chaos from start to finish, even staying well beyond his work hours to make sure everything was put in place and people were safe. I can't tell you how much I appreciate everyone's help dealing with this crisis and keeping our people safe.

We did learn a few things from this evacuation and we are making plans to improve. First, we never had a contingency plan for evacuation when we can't go to our usual marshalling areas. Second, the alarm went off in the new paint shop, which really didn't need to be evacuated. But a fire alarm in a paint shop is a big deal, so we can't have mixed messages. Since we will be in different buildings in the future, we are figuring out how to handle this issue.

If I forgot anyone, please credit

it to my head and not my heart.

I would like to welcome our new Brothers and Sisters from Flint Metal Center, Lansing Delta Township, and Lansing Grand River. We have received a total of 223 members who were laid off, reporting as "Seniority Temps" and replacing temporary workers on full hours.

The plant is starting from the least service time and going up the list of full time temps to convert them to part time hours. I know this is difficult, but it is necessary and I believe the first quarter of next year this will be resolved. Your supervisor will contact you if you are affected.

In addition, we put in a req for 20 full-time seniority people, which will be generated from the volunteer list under Appendix A. I have not received the roster yet.

The term seniority temp is creating a good deal of confusion. This is a condition that only has existed for a relatively short time. During the 2009 bankruptcy, the Union and Company negotiated the 2009 addendum to the 2007 National Agreement, which was ratified by the membership. In this agreement, the company suspended the Jobs Bank and limited unemployment SUB pay and health care benefits. This put members in a position where they were out of work and had exhausted their limited benefits.

The Company and Union resolved this by assigning them to work that was historically performed by temporary workers. Temporary workers are the flexibility the company needs to transition through changes and perform certain tasks, because seniority members under seniority agreements are not flexible.

In addition, local Chairmen were not happy with bringing in seniority people who would over-populate their plants. So they came up with "seniority temps." These folks have corporate seniority, but gain no seniority at the plant where they are performing the temporary work. This means they get all the national benefits, but have no rights under Local Seniority Agreements, which protects the current seniority workforce from over population and gives the Company the flexibility they need.

We have recently added a couple

of voluntary Sundays. The process to determine who works has been in place since last year, but I think it would help to clarify.

Unfortunately, it only works to run production on first shift since it doesn't butt up against a shift already running. This gives the first shifts the right to accept the overtime. Generally, everyone ends up getting an offer, but it does effect some departments and certainly job assignments.

Once first shift is canvassed, any remaining need is split between second and third. Every seniority member, on every shift, in a department including seniority temps must be asked before that department can ask any non-seniority temps.

The Shop Committee has had much discussion about how to rotate this opportunity to other shifts just to be fair. We have been unable to come up with an alternative. On my website, I discussed this very thing, and I received a couple of good ideas that we can explore to try to create fairness. It is too late to change course in June, but we will see if we can make either of them work for the next time.

Another request from our members was to start the Sunday shift at 6 a.m. instead of 7 a.m. This presents a problem for our second shift brothers and sisters, since they are leaving work after a nine-hour shift on Saturday at midnight. This is already very difficult to make 7 a.m., let alone an hour earlier. So, we are going to maintain the 7 a.m. start.

The news recently ran a story that GM is hiring 3 day a week temps for their Flint Area plants. This created much concern and confusion. Let me clear it up. The company opened the window of application again with the intent to replenish our pool. The plant is maintaining a pool of 100 approved candidates that we can quickly call on if we need to replace temps that have quit.

Last but not least, I would like to thank former UAW International Financial Secretary Ruben Burks for taking time out of his busy schedule to perform the swearing-in ceremony. To be sworn in by our most distinguished retiree meant a lot to everyone who was in attendance. Thank you, Ruben, you're the best.

EYE OPENER DEADLINE

FOR OUR JULY 2017 ISSUE.

All ads and articles must be submitted by **FRIDAY, JULY 14th** for consideration.



ARAMARK UNIT CHAIR'S REPORT

By Debra Bruton



Seeing Changes

Hi Everyone!
 Congratulations to everyone who won their election! And thank you for all your support in my own election. I promise to work very hard for the members.

I have already been working on the things we talked about during my own campaign. Management has agreed to hire more part-time people, to help with the weekend work. This will enable some members who want or need to get a weekend off, while having a full crew or close to it here, to cover the jobs. This is a great win for sanitation.

And, not to worry my members in the paint shop and facilities, I haven't forgotten you. I am still working on getting all of you on 3 traditional shifts Monday through Friday. So, if you are needed

to work Saturday and Sunday, you get compensated accordingly. I know a lot of you have worked weekends for years, for straight time, and had to either use a vacation day or were written up just to spend a Saturday or Sunday with your family. Quite frankly, I think that's *BULL****!* While I would like this to happen tomorrow, these things take time. So, please bear with me as I work it out. I would also like to see more people hired in those departments as well. I believe that very soon we will be seeing a lot of changes around here for the better.

I want to welcome back our members who were unjustly suspended! We are glad to have you back!

UAW LOCAL 598

G-3293 Van Slyke Road, Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 238-4605

www.uawlocal598.org



- Ryan Buchalski.....PRESIDENT
- John Jackson III.....VICE PRESIDENT
- Judy Mosier.....RECORDING SECRETARY
- Chad Fabbro.....FINANCIAL SECRETARY
- Brian Langdon.....SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
- Leonia Lowe-Valley.....GUIDE
- Kathy Elsner.....TRUSTEE
- Stephanie Riley.....TRUSTEE
- Mike Welch.....TRUSTEE
- Janet Woodson.....RETIREE CHAPTER CHAIR

CHAIRMAN, SHOP COMMITTEE
Eric Welter

SHOP COMMITTEEMEN-AT-LARGE
Scott Crosby, Eddie Pickett

SHOP COMMITTEE (DISTRICT)
Dustin Culhane / Rick Hager / LeRoy Shinabarger

- DISTRICT COMMITTEEPERSON / ALTERNATES
- Gerald Scott / D'Andre Jackson
 - Rick Hager / Sean Meachem
 - Monroe Murphy / Shane Herriman
 - Dustin Culhane / Jason A. Morse
 - Nick Dekalita / Adam Conley
 - Leroy Shinabarger / John Galant
 - Michael Kocsis / Chris Velez
 - Joe Dontje / Jeremiah Alsup
 - Bob Scott / Maurice A. Purches

- ARAMARK BARGAINING COMMITTEE DISTRICT COMMITTEE / ALTERNATE
- Debra Bruton / Glen Shimmel
 - Orlandis McNeal / James Smith
 - Tony Beaugard

ADAPT REPRESENTATIVE
Jerry Regan, Denise Denam

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Rosalyn Morse

QUALITY NETWORK REPRESENTATION
Ralph Lupu

LOCAL 598 BENEFIT REPS.
Cindy McLean, Chris Dungerow, Adam Prieur

HEALTH & SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES
Tony Robinson, Mike Dankert, Winston Ruffin

JOINT ACTIVITIES REPRESENTATIVE
Mike Robinson

JOINT TRAINING REPRESENTATIVE
Dave Groulx

WORK & FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES
Jayne Atwell, George Washington, Leonard Neely

598 APPRENTICE CHAIR
Doug Taylor

598 CAP CHAIRPERSON
Jim Hatfield

EDUCATION/PUBLICITY COMMITTEE
Debi Kirchner, Brandon Bellinger, Tom Duplanty, Jennifer Coon, Bill Wineland

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Debi Kirchner, Robin Stayton-Diehl

POLICY OF THE EYE OPENER

TO OUR READERS: This paper is the voice of our Local and International Union. This is our only 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 that 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: 238-4605.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Due to the increased number of want ads/services we are receiving, ads must be submitted monthly and will be run on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Limited to ads/services submitted in a Local 598 member's name only.

FOR SALE

HOUSE: Clean, security safe, 3 BRs, 1 bath, full basement, new carpet & more. No pets and tenant pays all utilities. For sale or rent / Section 8, \$440 plus security deposit with background check. Call: 810-730-2105.

MISC: Kawai digital piano PV10, \$500. 20 acres with newer home/barn in Fife Lake area. Call for details at 989-823-1045.

HOUSE: Carman Schools, 4 BRs, 4 full baths plus 1/2 bath, family room, fireplace, wet bar, study, living room, formal dining room. Oak floors and shelves in family rm, study and hallway, Corian countertops and oak floors, shelves in kitchen and breakfast area. Ceramic tiles in all baths and foyer, 3 car garage, 38x15 deck, basement, 2 furnaces, 2 A/Cs and 2 water heaters. Call George at 810-908-8483.

AMANA: side by side, Model SQD26V, beige, excellent condition, new ice maker. Measurers: H67", W35 3/4", D32 1/4" \$75.00 or BO. Call Sandy at 810-695-0742.

JAZZY ELECTRIC WHEEL CHAIR: 2 new batteries, great condition \$1,500 will deliver. Call: 810-625-2603.

HOME: 2 bedrooms, 1 bath home completely updated. New electrical throughout, new kitchen and new bathroom and all brand new appliances, one car garage, 60x30 fenced lot, shed. Come see it at 3620 Huggins Ave. Flint, MI 48506. Call: Jim at 810-444-5878 for more details.

SERVICES

SKIN-TIGHT FENCE: residential chain link fence, over 40 years' experience, install and repair. Call 810-845-7211 today for a free estimate.

LUNCH DELIVERY SERVICE: "Delivered on Site" from select local restaurants who open early exclusively for KIMMY'S DELIVERY, to service the 1st shift employees at Flint Truck and Bus. For more information, call or text 810-287-5819.

TWA FENCE: All types of fences, residential and commercial, 20 year's experience, and free estimates. Call Terry Atwell at (810) 691-4454.

NEED HELP GETTING YOUR LICENSE BACK? Why wait to restore your freedom? Sign up for Sobriety 101 and get started today. Call: Bob at 810-620-6064.

UAW LOCAL 598 CLASSIFIED AD EYE OPENER

Circle One: For Sale Wanted Service Free For Rent Trade Thank You

Limited Ad Please:

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Send ads to: **UAW LOCAL 598, EDITOR**
 G-3293 Van Slyke Rd., Flint, Michigan 48507

Circle one: RETIRED LAID-OFF ACTIVE

Your Name: _____

Dept. No.: _____

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By John Jackson III



Welcome 598 Members

Starting my role as Vice President is an exciting time, and I appreciate all the support I have received up to now and during the recent election process.

I would like to welcome our Brothers and Sisters from Lansing. We are glad to have them as a part of our Local 598 family. I hope they are having a positive transition in the plant.

I also would like to thank everyone for depositing your pop bottles

and cans in the red and white Santa cans. That contribution goes to the Old Newsboys to help buy holiday boxes, plus shoes and boots to deserving children. A

special thanks to Randy Newell, 2nd shift paint shop; Tom Duplanty, 1st shift material; Debra Bruton and Glen Shimmel of Aramark for helping with emptying those cans.

Hope everyone has a happy and safe summer.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

By Chad Fabbro



Local 598 Golf Outing

Hope everyone is enjoying summer and beating the heat on these hot days. We have a lot of new Union brothers and sisters in the plant from other Locals and we would like to welcome them to Local 598.

I know the summer is a busy time for all of us in the plant, but I want to make sure everyone who wants to participate in the Local 598 Golf Outing saves the date – Sunday, August 13, 2017. The outing will be at the Lapeer Country Club. The cost is \$35 per golfer and \$140 per team, so stop by the Hall to reserve your spot. We have enough spots for 36 teams and it will fill up fast. The deadline is July 31st for registration.

We also need your shirt size as well. That's why we have to cut back the deadline to make sure we have everything ordered for everyone who shows up. It will be a great time for sure and I hope to see you there!

Our first month in office has been a busy time, and the transition is going smooth. We had some problems with Huntington Bank so we made the switch to Financial Plus Credit Union.

Financial Plus also agreed to come into the plant and help with anyone needing to consolidate debt and help with your banking needs. We are excited about the change and hope the membership uses the benefits they have to offer. *Yours in Solidarity!*



4-PERSON SCRAMBLE

Open to Members and Their Families

golf tournament



SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH

LAPEER

COUNTRY CLUB

3786 Hunt Road • Lapeer, MI

REGISTRATION:
6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.

SHOTGUN START:
8:00 a.m.

\$35⁰⁰ MEMBER **\$140⁰⁰ TEAM**

Includes: 18 Holes of Golf with Cart, Prizes, Refreshments, Lunch at Turn, and Meal Following.

Entry forms will also be available in the Work Center or at the Union Hall.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES at the Union Hall is Monday, July 31, 2017 (or until first 36 teams are registered)

Don't delay- limited openings.

Must have a GMIN # in order to verify membership.

UAW LOCAL 598 4-PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT

List of Players

NAME (*denotes captain)	Phone Number	Shirt Size
*1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

Date entry fee received _____ Receipt number _____

ENTRY FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE LOCAL 598 UNION HALL BY JULY 31, 2017.

Payment of entry fees must accompany forms.



17th Annual UAW/GM Local 659 & 598

Chipping in for children Golf Outing Fundraiser

SATURDAY, JULY 29TH

8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

Registration at 7:30 - 8:15am

The Jewel of Grand Blanc Golf Course

5270 Perry Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK AND THE UNITED WAY

Help the good people from General Motors, UAW locals 659 & 598 by Sponsoring the 17th Annual UAW-GM Chipping in for the Children Golf Fundraiser



Includes 18 holes with cart, dinner, prizes and contribution to the charities

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Tony Prevost
236-1599

Robin Stayton-Diehl
236-8180

Paul Norman
236-9443

Deadline: July 10th, 2017

Registration at 7:30 - 8:15am

**Cost: \$340 per team
LIMIT to 1st 32 PAID**

4 Person Scramble

Name

Location/Local

Please make entry fee checks payable to Local 659

4549 Van Slyke Rd., Flint MI 48507



**UAW Local 598/
GM Flint Assembly**

2017 SHOP COMMITTEE



ERIC WELTER
Chairman Shop Committee



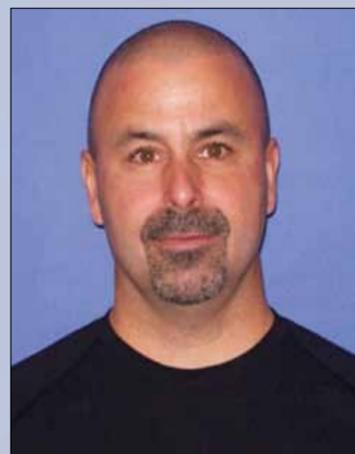
EDDIE PICKETT
Shop Committee-at-Large



SCOTT CROSBY
Shop Committee-at-Large

Areas covered under District A, B, C (number represents the Shift)
District A = Body Shop & Trim, Door Fit, Weld Monitors
District B = Chassis, Final, Paint, Stores, Mechanical & Paint Repair
District C = Material, Skilled Trades, Quality & Sequence

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES



GERALD SCOTT
Committee Rep. District 1A



D'ANDRE JACKSON
Alt. Committee Rep. District 1A



RICK HAGER
District Shop Committee District 1B



SEAN MEACHEM
Alt. Committee Rep. District 1B



MONROE MURPHY
Committee Rep. District 1C



SHANE HERRIMAN
Alt. Committee Rep. District 1C



DUSTIN CULHANE
District Shop Committee District 2A



JASON MORSE
Alt. Committee Rep. District 2A



NICK DEKALITA
Committee Rep. District 2B



ADAM CONLEY
Alt. Committee Rep. District 2B



LEROY SHINABARGER
District Shop Committee District 2C



JON GALANT
Alt. Committee Rep. District 2C



MIKE KOCSIS
Committee Rep. District 3A



CHRIS VELEZ
Alt. Committee Rep. District 3A



JOE DONTJE
Committee Rep. District 3B



JEREMIAH ALSUP
Alt. Committee Rep. District 3B



BOB SCOTT
Committee Rep. District 3C



MAURICE PURCHES
Alt. Committee Rep. District 3C

VETERANS REPORT

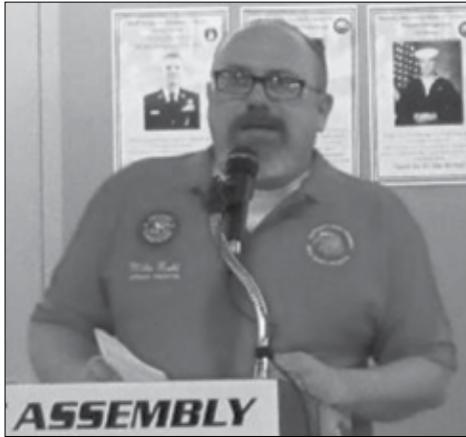
By Jason Clouse

Congratulations to Senior Airman (E-4) MICHAEL RUHL

Senior Airman (E-4) Michael Ruhl was recently named the recipient of the Berlanga Memorial Service Award 2017-3rd Quarter. Mike served in the US Air Force from 1988-94 as a Security Policeman. He graduated from the Military Police Academy and Air Base Ground Defense School. He was stationed at K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI, where he performed security for the Strategic Air Command.

He was honored to serve with our Flint hero, Chief Duane Hackney, the most decorated NCO in Air Force history.

Mike also served with the USAF Auxiliary-Civil Air Patrol from 2003-13 and received an Appointment to the grade of Major. The highlight of his career was receiving the national "Brewer Aerospace Education Award" and the Aerospace Education "Officer



of the Year Award" for the Great Lakes Region.

Mike was the Chairman of our Veterans Committee from 2012-17 and worked on the behalf of UAW Veterans and their families. He said, "I am honored to receive recognition for my military and UAW community service."

Mike, on behalf of the UAW Local 598 Veterans Committee, "Welcome home, and thank you for your service."

Notary Services available at the Union Hall

**AVAILABLE TO ALL
UAW LOCAL 598 MEMBERS**

Call Recording Secretary Judy Mosier
to schedule an appointment

238-4605, ext. 17



IN MEMORIAM

*The Officers, Representatives and Members of Local 598
extend their deepest sympathy to the families
of our recently deceased members.*

Philip M. Barette (Retired)
Gene W. Crawford (Retired)
W.A. Gray (Retired)
Gloria J. Gregoire (Retired)
Robert E. Haga (Retired)
Joe Hubbard (Retired)
Sammie L. Kimbrough (Retired)
Kanasha Shanae Thomas (Active)

Leslie Leake (Retired)
Thomas Robinson (Retired)
Thelma F. Rosen (Retired)
Corbitt "Dale" Sigmon (Retired)
Lloyd G. Stamm (Retired)
Max L. Watson, Jr. (Retired)
Emil L Zeglevski (Retired)

...Young Workers Conference...

Sisters & Brothers...

I recently attended the young worker's conference at Dearborn-UofM Center for Labor and Community Studies. I can laugh and chit chat with the best of them. But when it comes to speaking in front of a crowd I get very nervous. So, I took the public speaking and communications class. We learned that everyone gets nervous before it's time for them to speak. We also learned that you must know the subject that you are talking about. If not, you will lose your crowds interest.

I also attended the Women Workers Conference, where I took the Local Union class. For me, going to these conferences are steps to take in order to start learning about how our union is supposed to function. We get caught up with being concerned about what someone else is doing or where they are going. But, you have the same opportunities. If you would like to be involved, I encourage you to go to at least one conference. These are paid for you through the UAW-GM Tuition Assistance Plan (TAP) program.

- DIA PATTERSON-HARRIS

CIVIL RIGHTS CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

By Rosalyn Morse

June is "PRIDE" month. Diversity is celebrated in June, and the enduring commitment to equality for our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community is renewed. Our nation was founded on the principle that regardless of who you are, or what your preferences may be, all individuals should be treated with dignity and respect.

The fight for dignity and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) people is reflected in the tireless dedication of advocates and allies who have strived to forge a more inclusive society. These individuals have spurred sweeping progress, by changing societal hearts and minds, and by demanding equal treatment under our laws, from our courts, and within our political system.

Last year's landmark Supreme Court decision, which guaranteed marriage equality in all fifty states, was a historic victory for LGBTQ Americans, ensuring dignity for same-sex couples and providing recognition for these couples

across state lines. Each partnership that was not previously recognized under the law, and each American who was denied basic civil rights, received new hope. This monumental ruling, affirmed the belief that when treated equally, individuals are instilled with a sense of freedom.

So, as "PRIDE" month is observed and the progress of a more inclusive and accepting attitude towards the LGBTQ community is celebrated, take time to reflect on what has been attained. The rainbow colored flag that was designed as a symbol of LGBTQ pride and their social movement. The flag consists of six colored stripes with the colors: red (life), orange (healing), yellow (sunlight), green (nature), blue (serenity), and violet (spirit).

The flag is commonly flown horizontally, with the red stripe on top, as it would appear in a natural rainbow. So join me in recognizing the impact that lesbians, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

30th Annual International UAW Chaplaincy Conference 2017

By **Tim Clements & Terrence Redmond**

This year's Chaplaincy Conference was held at the Walter and May Reuther Family Education Center on June 4-9. The theme of the Chaplaincy Conference was "We're Stronger Together" One Voice! First of all, we would like to thank this great Union (the UAW) and the best Local on the planet, Local 598. We considered it an honor to attend this year's conference and represent our Local.

The conference began with discussion of the foundation of the UAW Chaplaincy Program. It is built on Article 41, Section 2 of the UAW Constitution 2. It shall be the duty of each member to render aid and assistance to brother or sister members in cases of illness, death and distress, and in every way, acquit her/himself as a loyal and devoted member of the International Union.

We further discussed the "Chaplaincy Mission Statement." The Chaplaincy program was established to provide a method of comfort, encouragement and assistance as best we can to our fellow workplace employees and their immediate family members at no cost.

Purpose: Is to reflect Godly Integrity, Honesty, Accountability and Responsibility as Chaplaincy members, while we represent the Workplace Chaplaincy program in our International Union. We will maintain "confidentiality according to the law." By creating an atmosphere of confidence in the individual, our community, and the members and their family members. While presenting the Chaplaincy program in the best possible light for the welfare of all.

The schedule for the conference was both well-defined and rigorous. President Williams addressed the Chaplains on Thursday with an encouraging message regarding the success and growth of the UAW Chaplaincy program and a message of hope for the future. It created a great deal of excitement.

The conference days began with the oversight of Chaplain Chairman Elder Herb Taylor, an opening prayer, the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, the honoring of the Veterans and the singing of the National Anthem. It was heartwarming to see the looks on the faces of the Veterans, as we acknowledged them for their service to this great country. A portion of UAW Constitution Article 41 was read daily to remind us of why we were there – to serve the membership.

We had a group of special speakers with presentations and workshops designed to equip the Chaplains to better serve the membership.

There was a presentation by Senior Chaplain Margie Maddox on Chaplaincy certification.

The leadership discussed setting up classes for certification, and trying to get them paid for by TAP.

There were several other presentations, one by Paul Silverman, a Zen Buddhist and founder and director of Integra Workshops illustrating techniques for disaster services. Chaplain Dennis Jones did a presentation on Critical Incident Stress Management, with a mock demonstration of the techniques. Chaplain Delores Jackson spoke on healing of the Chaplain, stressing the importance of being most effective to help others, when you are whole yourself. We had Amy VanBibber from the International Union give a presentation on the LUIS reporting system with demonstration.

We had a meeting with the Chaplains from Region 1D, and met our regional coordinator, Ken Kenyan, and discussed plans.

We had a community outreach event, with the inviting of students from Martin Luther King, Jr. Senior High School, and the Inland High School Band & Choir. We had dinner and fellowship with the students, and they performed a concert for us. We had a great time of sharing love and encouragement with them.

We believe this conference was an excellent experience and provided valuable training for us as Chaplains, and to help us form a firm foundation to create a successful Chaplaincy Program for the service of the members of Local 598. Thank you again for allowing us to attend.



DETROIT TIGERS

vs Chicago White Sox

BUS TRIP

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Presented by **UAW Local 598 Recreation Committee**

TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round trip motor coach transportation to Comerica Park in Detroit
- Ticket to the Game (Upper Box Infield Seating)

\$70⁰⁰ PER PERSON

(Limit of 56 Tickets)

ITINERARY:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3:00 p.m. | Depart from UAW Local 598 Hall, Flint |
| 4:30-9:30 p.m. | Comerica Park |
| 11:00 p.m. | Return to UAW Local 598 Hall, Flint |



Full Payment Due Upon Sign-Up: Registration Deadline 08-02-17

**For reservations, please contact Kathy Elsner
Phone: 810-265-5010 | Email: kelsner598@gmail.com**

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UPCOMING

EVENTS



RETIRED WORKERS CHAPTER

- **MONDAY, JULY 3** – Great Lakes Loons Baseball Game and Casino Trip. Contact Ron Perkins at Region 1D (810) 767-0910
- **JULY & AUGUST** – Summer Break
- **FRIDAY, AUGUST 18** – UAW 598 Retiree Golf Outing at Fenton Farms, Fenton, MI
- **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14** – Retiree Chapter Meeting, at 12:00 noon
- **OCTOBER 1-7** – Region 1D Myrtle Beach Show Trip & Charleston, SC Trip. Contact Bobbie Weatherford at (810) 931-1743 Final Payment due July 25, 2017
- **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12** – Retiree Chapter Meeting, at 12:00 noon
- **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24 & WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25** – Fall Casino Trip (one night)

CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OUR RECENT RETIREES

The Officers, Staff and Members of Local 598 extend sincerest thanks and congratulations for the many years of dedicated service by these recent retirees. We wish you the best and assure you...*YOU WILL BE MISSED!*



Dan Newman is congratulated on his retirement by President Ryan Buchalski.



Recently Retired Laura Hammers and husband Tom.



(On right) President Ryan Buchalski congratulates Ralph Lupu and his wife, Vickie, on Ralph's upcoming July 1st retirement.



Sharry Fearon-Beatty and President Ryan Buchalski

Stop by the Benefits Office or Union Hall to get your picture taken to appear in an upcoming issue of the EYE OPENER.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!
Terry A. Henika May 1, 2017
Ricardo S. Cortez June 1, 2017



RETIREE REPORT



by Janet Woodson, Retiree Chair

We're on break!! We know that as UAW members we're never on break. There is always something to do, if not for the membership, it's something for the community. I will be here during our break, and if you like, you can pay more on our October trip during the summer. We now have enough for a bus and that makes me very happy.

Agenda for Little River Trip on October 24th and October 25th, 2017:

LITTLE RIVER OVERNIGHT

OCTOBER 24, 2017

- 7:30 a.m. Gates open at Union City Fields
- 8:30 a.m. Bus (load)
- 9:00 a.m. Depart for Little River
- 10:30 a.m. Stop at West Branch
- 1:30 p.m. Arrive at the Turtle Creek Casino
Receive \$10.00 in free play Senior Day, \$2.00 food voucher
- 4:30 p.m. Leave for Little River Casino
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive at Little River Casino
\$20.00 in gaming credits, \$10.00 food voucher

OCTOBER 25, 2017

- 10:45 a.m. Check out and load bus
Enjoy Little River Casino Senior Day!
- 1:00 p.m. Leave Little River
- 2:45 p.m. Rest near Clare
- 3:00 p.m. Leave for Bay City
- 4:00 p.m. Bay City – Dinner at Krzysiak's House
1605 Michigan Ave., Bay City, MI
\$15.00 per person (*everything included*)
- 6:30 p.m. Estimated time in Flint

Any questions, call me at 810-238-4605, ext. 18 (Janet or Thurman)

To sign up for our August 18th Golf Outing, call me or Thurman here at the Hall. The deadline is July 31, 2017. Can't wait to spend the day with you guys! We could use some help on that day, I will be at the Golf Club at 7:00 a.m. Thanks in advance. Have a wonderful summer!

GENERAL MOTORS CALL-IN SYSTEM

1. Dial 1-800-222-8889
2. Enter your 9-digit GMIN number (you cannot enter your Social Security number)
3. Choose an absence reason (1-7) from the list at right...
4. Enter pound sign (#) if correct or asterisk (*) if wrong.
5. Record your call-in sequence number
6. Stay on the line until you hear that your call has been successfully completed and recorded in GMTKS.

- Press 1 - Late
- Press 2 - Sick
- Press 3 - Sickness/
Accident in Family
- Press 4 - Car Trouble
- Press 5 - Injured
- Press 6 - Death in Family
- Press 7 - Personal Time Off



What's in it for me?

The ads in *The EYE OPENER* help pay for the printing and mailing of the newspaper you are reading. The businesses running the ads are union supporters. The offers they make are often only available to members of our union. It is in our own best interest to spend our valuable union dollars with union-friendly businesses.

Support those who support us!
IT'S THE UNION WAY.

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH

23RD ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2017 SOBERFEST

of Recovery



Union City Ball Fields

4151 Torrey Road Flint, MI



- **M.O.S.T. Softball Tournament**
- **Union City Trout Pond - 11:00 am**
- **Horseshoes - 12:00 pm**
- **Magic & Escapes Entertainment - 1:00 pm**
- **Euchre Tournament - 2:00 pm**
- **Michigan Wrestling Organization - 3:00 pm**
- **Art for Recovery**



**Box lunches,
raffles, dancing and
much, much more!**

8AM TO 5PM RAIN OR SHINE

CLEAN SOBER FUN!



TROUT POND



FREE BIKE RAFFLES



MAGIC & ESCAPES ENTERTAINMENT



M.O.S.T. SOFTBALL



MWO WRESTLING

For more info please contact:
(810) 236-6834

