

August 2021



## President's Praise

### *DOWNTOWN UAW NEWS*

UAW International President Rory Gamble announced his retirement starting July 1, 2021. Ray Curry, who had been the International Secretary-Treasurer on the International Executive Board (IEB), was elected by the IEB as Gamble's replacement on June 28, 2021. Curry will hold the remainder of Gamble's vacated position until June 2022.

Frank Stuglin, who previously served as Region 1 Director, was elected by the IEB to fill the position of Secretary-Treasurer. An election will be held for the Region 1 Director on August 26, 2021.

The four Local 160 members who were elected as Constitutional Convention Delegates in 2018 will be voting for the Region 1 Director position. All of the above referenced positions will expire in June 2022 during the next Constitutional Convention.

Notices have gone out that Local 160 will start up all union meetings in September. However, this week we received notice of another mask-up directive from the COVID Task Force made up of Big 3 CEOs and top International UAW Leadership. We will hold our course on September meetings unless new guidelines are directed by the COVID Task Force.

We are also working hard to once again fire up events at Local 160. Our first scheduled event is our Local 160 Golf Outing on Sunday, August 29, 2021. See our website or stop by the Hall for more information.

If guidelines change, you will be notified.

*In Solidarity*

*David Small*

President of Local 160

# MOMENTS IN LABOR HISTORY

## Detroit newspaper strike of 1995-1997



### *Setting the stage*

In 1995, a bitter and sometimes violent strike dominated labor news in Detroit. It was provoked when Detroit's two major bourgeois papers, the Detroit News and Detroit Free Press, began to unilaterally impose new conditions of work after the old contracts expired. The old contracts had covered 2,750 workers organized in six different unions, according to their particular jobs.

From the beginning, the Detroit Newspaper and the Detroit Free Press presented a single, unified stance to the unions, not only demanding sizeable concessions, but also replacing the strikers and threatening to make this permanent.

Of course, the union movement has grown used to companies' demanding concessions; over the last decade and a half, many unions have themselves argued to the workers that it was necessary to accommodate these demands so as to ensure the "health" of "their" company. In fact, the unions at the two newspapers had already given up a range of concessions when the two newspapers proclaimed that their continued existence depended on it. In 1989, the unions agreed to changes which ended up costing them 1,000 jobs. In 1992, they agreed to a "temporary" 3-year wage freeze. But when 1995 came along, the papers were rolling in profit; nonetheless, they continued to demand even greater concessions.

The papers refused to reinstate the annual raise geared to seniority for the 500 editorial employees represented by the Newspaper Guild – the writers and other people working in and around the newsroom. In its place, the papers proposed to institute a system of merit raises. Management would decide each year who deserved a raise – and how much they deserved – and who didn't deserve any raise at all. In the event that any worker might have taken "merit" at face value, the papers quickly dispelled that illusion; they unilaterally instituted "merit" raises and then gave out a few. To be more exact, they withheld raises from many people, including from a Pulitzer-prize-winning journalist. The janitors are also represented by the Guild. The papers proposed to subcontract out all 100 of their jobs to a low-wage employer.

As for the 2100 workers who make up the bulk of the papers' employees, those who work in the printing plants and those who prepare and deliver the papers for distribution – the newspapers proposed a series of rule changes which would have resulted in increased intensity of work, further big decreases in the number of jobs, and the reduction of many full-time jobs to part-time, with a cut of \$8 in their hourly pay rate.

There were specific demands which affected one group of workers or another, but what was constant in all of them was the high-handed, take-it-or-leave-it manner in which they were presented. The papers made it clear that effectively their first "offer" was their final offer.

The papers dragged out negotiations until the old contracts expired in April. The unions set a new deadline for July, and workers continued working, effectively under the old contracts. But as the July deadline approached, the newspapers refused to extend them further. They began unilaterally to impose some of their earlier "proposals."

On July 13th, the workers finally walked out. Months before the strike started, it was clear the newspapers were preparing for a long strike. Some believe the events that took place were planned all along to weaken all labor unions as a whole. In the coming editions of "All Things 160" we will explore more about the Detroit Newspaper Strike and these theories.  
Stay tuned.

CELEBRATING THE  
◆ WOODWARD ◆  
**DREAM CRUISE**  
26  
YEARS  
*Cruise History*

Did you know that the Woodward Dream Cruise actually started as a small fundraiser to raise money for a soccer field in Ferndale, Michigan.

In August 1995, Nelson House and a group of volunteers looked to relive and recreate the nostalgic heydays of the 50s and 60s, when youth, music and Motor City steel roamed Woodward Avenue, America's first highway. That year, 250,000 people participated—nearly ten times the number expected. The rest, as they say, is history.

Today, the Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event, drawing 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic cars each year from around the globe—from as far away as New Zealand, Australia, Japan and the former Soviet Union. North American cruisers from California, Georgia, Canada and all points in between caravan to Metro Detroit to participate in what has become, for many, an annual rite of summer.

### *Drivin' from Drive-In to Drive-In*

Ted's, Totem Pole and The Varsity, Hollywood, Wigwam and Suzie Q's, and, of course, Big Boy. These old-time drive-ins and restaurants that dotted Woodward Avenue were the places to see and be seen during an era remembered perhaps most famously by Hollywood in *American Graffiti* and *Happy Days*. These locations were the turnarounds, stopping points and social hangouts for the cruisers of the era.

Michigan's first drive-in was located near Square Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills. Ted's Drive Inn became a hangout and one of the avenue's most popular destinations. It had begun in 1934 as a lunch wagon/trailer and was known for "the world's largest hot dog," priced at 35 cents.

The Totem Pole opened in Royal Oak in 1954 and featured a 16-foot totem pole hand carved by Ojibway Chief White Wolf of St. Ignace. The restaurant introduced the "Teletray," a 2-way speaker through which customers could order the popular Big Chief Burger.

At these locales and others, roller-skating waitresses sporting white bobby socks and serving trays delivered hamburgers and milkshakes to duck-tailed greasers in leather and beauty queens sporting class rings and letter jackets. The real attractions, though, were the cars. Hot rods and muscle cars. Convertibles and hard tops. Oversized tires and custom-painted flames. These marvels of machinery were cool and hot; street machines that cruised Woodward emanating vintage rock and roll from the AM radio coupled with the rumble of a big block V8.

# Woodward Dream Cruise®

## August 20th-21st 2021

Woodward Avenue Event Route Map  
It will include participating communities

Presented by **Ford**  
Go Further

**Royal Oak**  
Cruise in Shoes & Fun/Walk at Shrine High School  
Performance Park Classic Car Show  
WOMC 104.3 FM 84.5 J066

**FERNDALE**  
Emergency Vehicle Show & Lights & Sirens Cruise  
Classics & Cruise Legends  
Rock'n Live Entertainment  
Mustang Alley

**Pontiac**  
Pontiac Classic Car Fest  
Pontiac Classic Car Show  
Pontiac Pit Stop

**City of Birmingham**  
Birmingham Cruise Event  
Classic Car Show  
WKYZ Channel 7

**City of Berkley**  
Friday, August 20  
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM: CruiseFest Classic Car Parade

Logos: abc WKYZ, 104.3 WOMC, UAW, NEWSPAPERS CLASSIC, CRUIS'N NEWS

### City of Birmingham

Saturday, August 21:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Birmingham Cruise Event & Classic Car Show, and Chevy Display

### City of Ferndale

Friday, August 20 @ Nine & Woodward.

1:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Ferndale Emergency Vehicle Show & Ford Motor Co.

1:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Piquette Vintage Auto Show

1:00 PM - 9:30 PM: Rock'n Live Entertainment Stage

5:30 PM: Lights & Sirens Cruise

### City of Pleasant Ridge

Saturday, August 21

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM: Official Woodward Dream Cruise Merchandise Tent, Memorial Park

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM: Ford Classic Car Show, Greenbelt Park



# Welcome to our new Local 160 Members!

**This month we welcomed 15  
new Local 160 Members.**

Welcome, Brothers and Sisters, to the UAW  
Local 160 Family and to the General Motors  
Global Technical Center.

- Darren Jones
- Daniel Lewandowski
- Corey Clemons
- John Cramer
- David Roy
- James Young
- Daniel Nance
- Matthew Kozlowaki
- Angela Brooks
- Rachel Erkfritz
- Christopher Lint
- Michael Fletcher
- Duane Kleehammer
- Kevin McCartney
- Will Swanson





**Dear Rosie,**

When will Local 160 Union meetings start back up?  
-Meeting Mike

**Dear Meeting Mike,**

We are anticipating having our first meetings back in the month of September. September 9th for GM Unit, September 23rd for Aramark Unit and September 25th for the General Membership Meeting. Can't wait to see you there!

*In Solidarity,*  
**Rosie**

American Made Product of the Month

**BACKPACKS  
USA** ★

WHOLESALE  
**BACKPACKS**

FREE SHIPPING ON ALL WHOLESALE BACKPACKS.  
PERFECT FOR DONATIONS AND BACK TO SCHOOL!



All the cool kids buy American. Let your kids sport the best styles while supporting the American economy.

Backpacks USA is a division of A.M.D.A. - David's Wholesale of Dallas, Texas and Miami, Florida. They specialize in importing high quality, low priced wholesale products. Backpacks USA has been in business for more than 22 years.

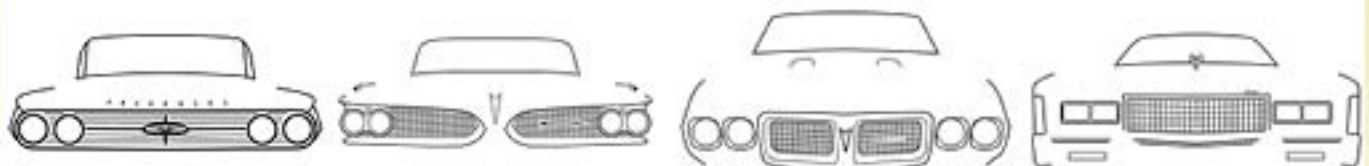
They carry the best style value and selection in wholesale backpacks and accessories. Our goal is to provide our customers with quality products for a great price with superior service.

Visit them at : <https://www.backpacksusa.com/>

# SUMMER VACATIONS PAST



# SUMMER VACATIONS PRESENT



**All Things 160 is Brought to you by:**

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**LUCA**



Local Union Communication Association  
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