

# REPORTER

## President's Report

by **MARK CARUSO**

### Welcome to transferring members

**I hope you find your stay here at Saline is an enjoyable one.**

Hope all of you had a wonderful, fun and patriotic 4th of July! There are lots of things happening at Local 892 during the summer. Take a minute to look over the calendar of events in this issue.

For those returning to their home plant, I wish you well. It was good to get to know you and discuss how each plant has their differences. Remember, get involved with your Union!

As for those transferring into Saline, welcome! I hope you find your stay here at Saline is an enjoyable one. I also encourage you to sign up for our *Digital News Release* to stay in tune with what's going on at Saline.

For those of you interested in getting involved in one of our standing committees, please contact me at (734) 429-5140, ext 12.

*Enjoy the summer; spend it with family, friends, brothers and others!*



# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATE! You Did It!

President Mark Caruso and Plant Chairman Tom Kanitz presented Alethea Corry's daughter, Lareshia Jordan, with a book of inspirational comments along with money from members of the Local at the June 5th membership meeting. Lareshia graduated from high school and received her associate's degree. Congratulations Lareshia, we are proud of you!

(L-R) President Mark Caruso, Alethea Corry, Lareshia Jordan and Plant Chairman Tom Kanitz



*Congratulations!*

## what's inside...

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Food, Fun, Prizes

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898/892/  
Region 1A

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# Chaplaincy

# REPORT

by Sister Monique R. Griffin-Gonzales

## Summer is a time for sharing with family and friends.

Don't be a doohickey at a function and not interact with someone just because they may not meet your standards – meaning the way they look, dress, eat, talk, or habits they may have. People need people and you may be the one to plant, water, or flourish a seed in a person that will cause a change in their life.

Do you remember who did that for you? Do you remember the change that occurred in your life at some point (may not have been suddenly – could have been after 40 years in the wilderness)? So enjoy yourself “(2 Peter 1:5-7) giving all diligence, add to

*your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.”*

EXEMPLIFY: Nine Fruits of the Spirit (Ephesians 5:9). 1) **Love** is patient, love is kind. 2) **Joy** is your strength. 3) **Peace** overflows with hope. 4) **Longsuffering** is patience, with all lowliness and meekness, forbearing one another in love. 5) **Kindness** is gentleness. 6) **Goodness** is worthy, righteous, and truth. 7) Faithfulness is strength inside you. 8) **Gentleness** if a man be overtaken in a fault, restore him in the spirit of meekness. 9) **Self-control** is temperance.

# EXECUTIVE STAFF PHONE DIRECTORY

## EXECUTIVE STAFF LOCAL 892 MAIN NUMBER 734 429-5140

- PRESIDENT**  
Mark Caruso..... Ext. 12
- RETIREE PRESIDENT**  
Jim Van Loon
- VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Theresa Martinez ..... Ext. 12
- RECORDING SECRETARY**  
April Bau..... Ext. 14
- FINANCIAL SECRETARY**  
Russ Creech..... Ext. 11
- TRUSTEES**                      **GUIDE**  
Mark Ochoa                      Lee Murray  
Antwuan Riley  
Ray Ramos
- SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**  
Shawn LaMonde

### IN-PLANT STAFF

- PLANT CHAIRMAN**  
Tom Kanitz..... 734 429-6379
- PRODUCTION BARGAINING REPS**  
Brandon Keatts ..... 734 429-6515  
Jason Schiffman ..... 734 429-6386
- PRODUCTION DISTRICT COMMITTEE**  
Jason Heath..... 734 429-6380  
Brian Brandvold..... 734 429-6388  
Dennis Debreczeny ..... 734 429-6387  
Travis Zietlow ..... 734 429-6591  
Eric Triplett..... 734 429-6817  
Dan LaMonde ..... 734 429-6866
- PRODUCTION ALTERNATE COMMITTEE**  
Brooks Rodriguez..... 734 429-6381  
Mike Casey  
Angela Cole  
Jamey Sanders

- SKILLED TRADES BARGAINING**  
Walt Disbrow ..... 734 429-6385
- SKILLED TRADES ALTERNATE**  
Gary Chitwood..... 734 429-7034  
Basil Kittell

### NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- UAW / FORD BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE**  
Monica Bass ..... 734 429-6383
- UAW / FORD EMPLOYEE RESOURCE COORDINATOR**  
Scot Matthews..... 734 429-6702
- UAW / FORD QUALITY REPRESENTATIVE**  
Miguel Flores ..... 734 429-6719  
JoAnn Graham (Alternate)
- UAW / FORD HEALTH & SAFETY**  
Ed Zietlow ..... 734 429-6325  
Darvene Wright..... 734 429-6384  
John McMiller (Alternate)
- UAW / FORD JOB SECURITY**  
Eric Wurster..... 734 429-6858

- UAW / FORD ESSP**  
Wendy Graham ..... 734 429-6984

### LOCAL APPOINTMENTS

- TRAINING COORDINATOR**  
Alethea Corry ..... 734 429-6656
- SAFETY TRAINERS**  
Don Fair ..... 734 944-7018
- ERGONOMICS REPRESENTATIVE**  
Ken Baisch ..... 734 429-6337
- UAW FIRE MAINTENANCE OFFICER**  
Bob Blumenauer ..... 734 429-6974

In Plant Emergency Number: 5-6666  
Security: 734 429-6900  
Absentee Hotline:  
866 893-0576 866 272-0516  
FMLA: 734 429-6960

## On the (union) road again...

# An ALL-UNION Vacation

With the onset of summertime, plans turn to vacation, travel and adventure. And, don't forget, it was the labor movement that brought vacations to the world of work. So, why not take some time when you're planning your vacation this year to make sure that the vacation you take will help other union folks? For families on tight budgets, "stay-cations" are a good opportunity for short forays of a couple of days, or day trips to amusement parks and nearby resorts that offer good values for your hard-earned vacation dollars.

The American Federation of Musicians represents thousands of performers in city symphonies and concert bands. Go to: [www.afm.org](http://www.afm.org) for tips on union music in the cities on your route.

Sports venues – baseball stadiums, hockey and basketball entertainment – it's all available with a union label. If you've got a city in mind, check the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council there for the most up-to-date lists, as well as for information about union restaurants, theaters and points of interest.

See the USA in your Chevrolet (or other UAW-made GM, Ford or Chrysler vehicle). Thinking about car rentals: Avis, Budget, Hertz and Na-

tional are staffed by union members. If you're going to buy tires for your own car before you go, Goodyear is a good union choice.

And, if you're looking for an all-union travel agency, try: Union Vacations at [www.unionvacations.com](http://www.unionvacations.com). For a union source to buy those all-important beach books? Try Powells online or Union Communications Services (UCS) – both are all union.

Look for union hotels...visit the UNITE HERE website for tips – [www.unitehere.org](http://www.unitehere.org).

Most of the men and women who manage state and federal parks are union members – maintenance personnel, rangers and administrative workers at scores of state parks are represented by AFSCME. Many federal park workers are represented by the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) of the IAM.

And, of course, millions of families will visit the all-union Disney Parks in Orlando, Florida, or Anaheim, California. WHEREVER YOU GO, WHATEVER YOU DO THIS VACATION SEASON, KEEP IN MIND THAT SUPPORTING UNION WORKERS HELPS US ALL AND OUR COMMUNITIES.

– LABEL LETTER, MAY-JUNE 2010

# PICNIC

SUNDAY • AUGUST 8, 2010

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

UAW LOCAL 892 UNION HALL

601 WOODLAND DRIVE

FOOD, SNACKS & BEVERAGES

DOOR PRIZES AND KARAOKE

MOON WALK AND GIANT SLIDE

INFLATABLES FOR ALL AGES

CAKE/TREAT WALK

OBSTACLE COURSE



**UAW Locals 1284 / 898 / 892**  
**Region - 1A**  
**INVITES YOU TO OUR...**



**ANNUAL CHARITY RUN**  
**Saturday, August 14, 2010**  
**EVERYONE IS INVITED**

*Portion of the proceeds donated to  
Arbor Hospice of Ann Arbor  
(Washtenaw County)  
\$15.00 Entry Fee Per Person  
Registration 11am - 1pm*

*All Riders back to Brighton Harley Davidson by 6pm*

*Start at American Harley Davidson  
5436 Jackson Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48103*

*End at Brighton Harley Davidson  
5492 Whitmore Lake Rd. Brighton, MI 48116  
Rain Date August 21, 2010*

**PRIZES 1ST 2ND & 3RD Place**

*1st 50 bikes receive a free Harley T-shirt*

**50/50 DRAWING FOOD MUSIC**

**DOOR PRIZES**

*For further info contact:  
Ron Overall (734) 484-8601  
Greg Stoey (734) 475-5232  
Mark Caruso (734) 429-5140 ext. 12*

# How Auto Workers Have Helped U.S. Car Makers Dig Out

While much of the media has focused on the trillion dollar Wall Street bailout, little attention has been paid to the “other bailout” – the \$62 billion the federal government made available to Chrysler and General Motors when two of America’s big three automakers were forced to file for bankruptcy. With the help of substantial concessions by the United Auto Workers (UAW) as well as a relatively small infusion of federal funds, both companies have since returned to profitability.

The third member of the trio, Ford, took no federal funds but did insist on major concessions by its UAW-represented workers, and the company continues in its role as the most profitable of the big three. In 2009, Ford earned \$2.7 billion and another

\$2 billion in the first quarter of 2010.

Besides rising sales figures, public sentiment has changed significantly in favor of U.S.-made autos. In an *Associated Press* poll taken in March of this year, 38 percent of respondents said they favor U.S. brands, while 33 percent said Asian cars are better. By comparison, when that same poll was taken four years earlier, 46 percent of Americans said Asian autos were the best while 29 percent favored U.S. brands. More telling, 56 percent of respondents said they own U.S. brand autos.

Concessions, including wage and benefit cuts by workers at Ford and General Motors, have been crucial to the industry’s turnaround. Reminding auto executives that rank-and-file auto workers have contributed from \$7,000 to \$30,000 each in concessions

to return U.S. car makers to profitability, UAW President Bob King recently said: “I am proud of the tremendous success of UAW workers and Ford in working together to keep good manufacturing jobs in the U.S.”

Ford recently announced plans to invest some \$135 million in two Michigan plants to concentrate on electric vehicles. Bolstered by a \$62.7 million grant from the Department of Energy, Ford’s investment will create 170 jobs. The real significance of Ford’s strategy is not the number of initial jobs created, but the fact that these are jobs that are returning from offshore. Ford says that the two new ventures in Michigan will include building battery packs for its electric vehicles – a job it had been outsourcing to Mexico; and building transmissions for those vehicles, a task now

performed in Japan.

King’s kind words about Ford notwithstanding, there has been some friction between the union and Ford over decisions to reward salaried personnel more generously than union workers. The UAW filed a grievance after the company gave its salaried workforce a 3 percent “merit pay” salary bump and began contributing again to the management 401k plans.

King said the union expects all the car companies to “match the rewards of other stakeholders.” King said the union’s gain sharing expectations are the same for each of the big three companies. “When there is equality of sacrifice, there has to be equality of gain. We just want to make sure when things turn around, we share the upside.”

– LABEL LETTER MAY/JUNE 2010

## MARY ALEXANDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### RETIRED MEMBER WINNER

#### What I Can Do Now That Will Help Retirees In The Future

By Jordan Maddox

When it comes to retirement, there are plenty of things we can fix to help retirees in the future. But as the United States is undoubtedly in a state of all-time low debt, we have to be realistic about what we can afford to change. Here are three things that our country can meet the expenses of.

First off, we cannot force retirees to sell at the bottom. When you save in a traditional IRA or 401(k), you do not pay taxes on the money you add and your venture earnings are protected from taxes during your working years. Once you reach the age of 70½, though, the IRS comes knocking. This rule is essentially forces retirees to sell at the worst possible moment. Obama and McCain both proposed temporarily eliminating RMDs for two years. It is a great idea and should be one of our top priorities.

Secondly, we should not encourage workers to attack their 401(k)s. Obama once said that all workers should be allowed to withdraw up to \$10,000 of their 401(k) balances in 2008 and 2009 without paying the usual 10% early-withdrawal penalty. This would most definitely help people pay for daily necessities in hard times. However, this is one idea that President Obama should back away from. The rate of early withdrawals is already far too high. Offering extra inducements is certainly dangerous.

Lastly, we need to eliminate ridiculous retirement myths. We should encourage and provide Social Security education so that people can make better decisions for themselves. At age 62, you become eligible to begin collecting Social Security benefits. But if you keep working, your check will be reduced by 50 cents for every dollar you earn above \$13,560. This is completely bogus. Once you reach retirement age the size of your check is actually increased to make up for any benefit reduction you have had in the past. But the Social Security Administration is not going to inform retirees of this, they are expected to figure that out on their own.

Ultimately, we need to encourage people to continue working in order to get the most out of their retirement. Work for as long as you can. It may not seem worth it at first, but it will pay off in the long run. Do what you can to prevent yourself from selling at the worst time period and get educated. Knowledge overpowers everything, and it will save you from getting scammed later on in life. This is exactly what we can do and should do to benefit our retirees in the future. Let us hope we can change soon, it will be worth it.

### ACTIVE MEMBER WINNER

#### Ways To Help The Economy

By Emily Hildebrand

One of the major problems in our country today is our economy. It has been slowly getting worse for some time now. This has affected many lives within this country, along with our country’s place in global economy. In order to fix the economy, we need to get better educations, spend the money that we do have, within the states, and not be afraid to take chances.

As Americans, we need to get better educations. First, everyone should have to at least graduate from high school. This will make our people more intelligent in general. We should also make college more affordable. There are plenty

of jobs available in the U.S., but most people just aren’t qualified for them. If college was more affordable, some of our unemployed would go get that college degree and be able to fill those jobs.

Next, we need to spend our money within the states. Spending money does boost the economy. Some people don’t realize though, that spending their money on foreign goods doesn’t help our economy! For example, Toyota does have factories in America. When a person buys a Toyota, some of that money goes to assemblers in the U.S. However, most of the profits from that sale go to the Toyota headquarters, which are in Japan. If people would buy American goods, instead of foreign, it would give the U.S. a great jolt.

We need to not be afraid to take chances. If people want to start businesses, they should. If they want to build or buy a new house, now is the time. People are so afraid to invest in anything right now, that we are at a stand still. If they would take the chance, it would trickle down through many people. For instance, when someone has a house built, chances are that they hire a carpenter, plumber, and electrician (among others). They also need to deal with a bank, and people in retail, who would use the money. Then, hopefully they would continue to circulate it throughout the country in some way or another.

We need to get better educations, spend our money within states, and not be afraid to take chances. These things are all boosts that our economy desperately needs. If everyone were to step in and start doing even some of these things, our economy would be back where it once was, and possibly be even stronger.





# Ergonomics REPORT

submitted by Ken Baisch

## Ergonomics Lifting Technique Guidelines

**Lifting is very much a part of our everyday jobs.** And, because it is something we do so often, we tend to do it without thinking, or at least we do until we strain a muscle, or worse, hurt our backs. Here are some lifting guidelines that should be followed when lifting is required.

- Know what (weight, size) you're lifting and where you are going to put it. Be sure your path is free from tripping hazards.
- Stand with your feet shoulder width apart.
- Kneel or squat with the low back slightly curved inward (pushing out buttocks and chest).
- Tighten your abdominal muscles just before and throughout the lift
- Lift the load as close to your body as possible.
- Lift with correct posture using your legs, not your back.
- Get help from a coworker or use a lift assist if the load feels too heavy or if there is discomfort with lifting.
- Never lift and twist the back or knees. Always lift your feet and turn your body to avoid injuring your back or knees.
- Put the load down with the same proper technique used while lifting.



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# Memoriam

The Officers, Representatives and members of Local 892 extend their deepest sympathy to the following.

- Gordon Brighton ..... Father
- Don Fair ..... Mother
- Retiree Hugh Michael Williams Sr.

# 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JULY

- 5 Independence Day\*
- 6-9 Shut Down
- 12 Retiree Meeting

## AUGUST

- 8 Local 892 Picnic
- 9 Retiree Meeting
- 9-14 Shut Down
- 14 Annual Charity Motorcycle Run (21st Rain Date)
- 28 General Membership Meeting

## SEPTEMBER

- 6 Labor Day\*
- 13 Retiree Meeting
- 18 Local 892 Golf Outing
- 25 General Membership Meeting

## OCTOBER

- 11 Retiree Meeting
- 30 General Membership Meeting

## NOVEMBER

- 2 Election Day\*
- 8 Retiree Meeting
- 15 Veterans Day Observed\*
- 25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday\*

## DECEMBER

- 4 General Membership Meeting
- 13 Retiree Meeting
- 24-Jan. 1 Christmas Holiday\*

\*UAW negotiated holidays

Saline Instrument and Plastics Plant and Total Fitness Concepts

# REPORTER

"A STRONG VOICE FOR WORKING FAMILIES."

Proud Members of the United Auto Workers Local 892

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- Editorial ..... (734) 429-5140, ext. #13
- Internet ..... [news@uaw892.org](mailto:news@uaw892.org)
- Web site ..... <http://www.uaw892.org>

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

- President ..... Mark Caruso
- Vice-President ..... Jim VanLoon
- Plant Chairman ..... Tom Kanitz
- Recording Secretary ..... April Bau
- Financial Secretary ..... Russ Creech

**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**  
Editor ..... Kristin Fitch

**EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**  
Lee Murray and Raul Arriaga

The views and opinions expressed by members that appear in the columns of the paper are not necessarily those of the administration of Local 892, UAW.

# DIGITAL NEWS

*Come along with us for family fun at Cedar Point!*

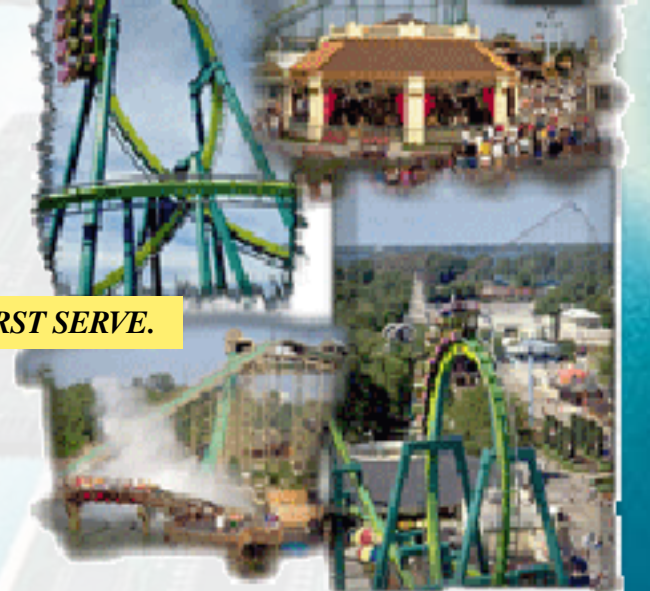
Your Presidents have negotiated a huge discount for their members. Be sure to take advantage of this limited offer. **Thank you for your continued support!**

REGULAR TICKETS: **\$23<sup>00</sup>** each (Savings of **\$22.99 ea.!**)

**Junior / Senior each \$18.00** (Savings of **\$1.99** each)  
(Ages 3-61 and under 48' tall in shoes or 62 and older)

**CALL FOR AVAILABILITY FOR JUNIOR / SENIOR TICKETS**

**Cedar Point**



**CASH ONLY! NO CREDIT CARDS OR CHECKS ACCEPTED. NO RESERVE/FIRST-COME, FIRST SERVE.**

Tickets available for the following dates, from the following locals:

**UAW Local 174**  
(August 2 thru August 8)  
29841 Van Born Road  
Romulus, MI 48174  
President: John Zimmick  
Phone: 734-728-7600

**UAW Local 245**  
(August 2 thru August 8)  
1226 Monroe  
Dearborn, MI 48124  
President: Keith Brown  
Phone: 313-561-7500

**UAW Local 372**  
(July 19 thru July 25)  
4571 Division Street  
Trenton, MI 48183  
President: Vince Precopio  
Phone: 734-676-9060

**UAW Local 387**, Woodhaven  
(July 5 thru July 11 & August 9 thru August 15)  
24250 Telegraph Rd.  
Flatrock, MI 48134  
President: John Moore  
Phone: 734-782-2771

**UAW Local 600**  
(July 5 thru July 11 & August 9 thru August 15)  
10550 Dix Avenue  
Dearborn, MI 48120  
President: Bernie Ricke  
Phone: 313-842-5350

**UAW Local 723**, Monroe  
(July 5 thru July 11 & August 9 thru August 15)  
281 Detroit Avenue  
Monroe, MI 48162  
President: Robert Cebina  
Phone: 734-241-6320

**UAW Local 735**  
(July 5 thru July 11)  
48055 Michigan Ave.  
Canton, MI 48188  
President: Don Skidmore  
Phone: 734-482-5620

**UAW Local 845**, Sheldon Rd.  
(July 5 thru July 11)  
8770 North Canton Center Rd.  
Canton, MI 48187  
President: Alison Hug  
Phone: 734-453-1240

**UAW Local 892**  
Saline Plant  
(July 5 thru July 11 & August 9 thru August 15)  
601 Woodland Drive  
Saline, MI 48176  
President: Mark Caruso  
Phone: 734-429-5140 ext. 11

**UAW Local 898**, Rawsonville  
(July 5 thru July 18)  
8975 Textile Rd.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
President: Donnie Enersen  
Phone: 800-521-7152

**UAW Local 931**  
(July 12 thru July 18)  
17000 Oakwood Blvd.  
Allen Park, MI 48101  
President: Dave Pagac  
Phone: 313-845-5713

**UAW Local 1284**  
(July 19 thru July 25)  
3700 S. M-52 Hwy  
Chelsea, MI 48118  
President: Jake Richardson  
Phone: 734-475-5452

**UAW Local 3000**  
(July 5 thru July 11)  
22693 Van Horn Rd.  
Woodhaven, MI 48183  
President: Tom Spears  
Phone: 734-676-9060

## Labor Day Parade

This is a reminder that this year's **Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Labor Day Parade** will be held **Monday, September 6, 2010.**

Once again, Local 892 will provide bus service for our members and their families. We will be leaving at 7:00 a.m. from the Local 892 Union Hall. The deadline to sign up to ride the bus is Saturday, August 28, 2010. Bus seating will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Also, if you plan to attend and are not riding the bus you still must sign up to receive your shirt. (All shirts will be handed out at the parade line-up.)

Please sign up for the bus and shirts at the Local 892 Union Hall in person or call (734) 429-5140, ext. 10.

More information will follow regarding departure times and staging area.

*Hope to see you there!*

## V-CAP Items Available for Pick Up!

Century Club members may pick up their V-CAP items at the Local 892 Union Hall. Please pick up items as soon as possible. The Union Hall is open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. during shutdown).

**ALSO, PLEASE NOTE:** No Substitutions Will Be Made. The item and size you requested when you filled out your V-CAP card will be the item and size you will receive.

In Solidarity,  
Mark Caruso, UAW Local 892 President  
Pauline Castro, UAW Local 892 V-CAP Chair

