

ONLINE HEADLIGHT



The Light of Freedom, Family, Fellowship, Solidarity, Leadership & Education

Women's HISTORY MONTH



The month of March is a time dedicated to reflecting on the often-overlooked contributions of women to U.S. history. From Abigail Adams to Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth to Rosa Parks, the timeline of women's history milestones stretches back to the founding of the United States. The National Women's History Alliance designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2025 theme, "Moving Forward Together," celebrates "Women Educating and Inspiring Generations." This theme celebrates the collective strength, equality, and influence of women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership, shaping the minds and futures of all generations.

The actual celebration of Women's History Month grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

A few years later, the idea caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

A Timeline for... **WOMEN** in **AMERICAN HISTORY**

1647 – Margaret Brent was the first American woman to demand the right to vote.

1756 – Lydia Taft was the first woman known to vote legally in Colonial America after her husband died and son left her; she was granted permission to vote through a Massachusetts town meeting.

1776 – Margaret Corbin was the first woman to assume the role of soldier in the American Revolutionary War and receive a pension for it.



Victoria Woodhull
(c1870)

1812 – Lucy Brewer was one of the first American women to join the United States Marine Corps.

1850 – Harriet Tubman was the first American woman to run an underground railroad to help slaves escape. Some scholars label her the "Queen of the Underground Railroad".

1865 – Mary Surratt was the first woman executed by the federal

government of the United States; she was hanged for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

1870 – Louisa Swain was the first woman in the United States to vote in a general election, after the women of New Jersey lost the right to vote in 1807; she cast her ballot on September 6, 1870, in Laramie, Wyoming.

1872 – Victoria Woodhull was the first woman to run for President of the United States.

1911 – November 7 – Jeannette Rankin became the first woman elected to a national office; she represented Montana as the first woman in the U.S. House of Representatives or either chamber of U.S. Congress.

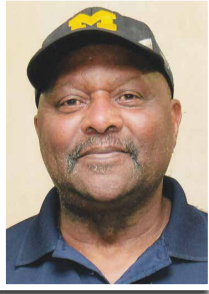
1925 – Nellie Tayloe Ross became the first woman elected governor of a U.S. state. She was nominated for the unexpired term as governor of Wyoming upon the death of her husband.

1928 – Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic ocean.
Hattie Caraway was the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate.



[SEE MORE WOMEN IN HISTORY ON PAGES 5-6](#)

Harriet Tubman
(c1885)



by Jessie Collins

*Hello My Sisters & Brothers,
I hope all is well with you and your family.*

We Honor One of Our Own: C.L. Anderson During Women’s History Month

I am honored to pick one of our very own Local 599 members, who worked in Plant #36, in celebration of Women’s History Month – the late C.L. Anderson (born January 3, 1929), affectionately called “Candy Lady” by her family and close friends. C.L. was a resident of the city of Flint her entire life. She was employed by Buick Motor Division in 1969, and became an active member of Local 599.

C.L. attended Flint schools, including Mott adult classes, Mott Community College, Baker College, Detroit Institute College (Detroit, MI), and Cass Tech Graphic Arts (Detroit, MI). She also attended colleges in Iowa, Colorado, Nebraska, Ohio, and overseas. C.L. said, “if there was a class to be taken, she would take it,” and stressed the importance of a good education.

She was a member of Christ the King Church of Flint, and attended Church no matter where she lived. She said, “God comes first.” It was in 1994 that she used those words, amazing.

I would like to share some of her personal history with you. C.L. was a...

- Recipient of the UAW Walter and Mae Reuther Distinguished Service Award
- Charter member of Unity for Justice, which supported minority views and education for all members of UAW Local 599
- Founding member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) Women’s Council of UAW Region 1C/1D
- Member of VFW Post #8256
- Disabled Veteran United Air Forces
- Staff Sgt. United States Air Force
- Earned the Airforce Commendation Medal
- Member of NAACP, A. Philip Randolph (Sergeant-at-Arms)
- Member of Michigan Democratic Party,
- International Masons, Order of Eastern Stars
- Precinct Delegate
- Charter Member of Labor Museum, Flint
- VA Hospitals visitor
- 2½ ton Truck Driver for the U.S. Post Office
- 18 wheel Truck Driver Detroit
- MTA driver for the City of Flint

CL also contributed to four organizations in the USA and two overseas for needy children, and prided herself on being able to help and serve humanity; not only on a Local level, but throughout the world.

This was just a small portion of what she contributed. Thank You, C.L. Anderson, UAW Local 599 Pioneer.

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by MARY SIMMONS

We Miss You, Grover

Brothers and Sisters,

I first want to say I am going to miss a great guy. We had a relationship most people didn't understand. Someone said to me at his service they never heard anyone say anything bad about Grover, except me. I told them that we were fuss buddies. He would fuss at me, and I would fuss at him. But, at the end of the day, we were just good friends. Rest in love, fuss buddy. You will be missed.

February was Black History Month, and we might want to treasure those days, because this might be the last one we get to celebrate because of the "orange man's" mission to erase all black facts and people from history and our minds forever.

Holy Father, how is this our world and reality now? I will never, never believe that Musk with his Starlink Company didn't steal the election from Harris. He certainly had the time and money to do it.

I mean, I can't be the only one that sees how Musk (aka Rasputin) is manipulating Trump, even to letting his son, Lil X, embrace and destroy his manhood in front of the world. If that doesn't say he's owned, nothing does.

I just hope Congress comes to their senses and tells Trump they are not going to continue to let a person who has not been elected to any position or vetted for any job tell the American people what to do and continue to pry into our personal

information and finances.

Wake up Congress and do what the Constitution tells you what you can do for the people who voted you all in office and also to a man who wants to be a dictator or king. He's already throwing hints around about third term. *Hell to naw!*

Well, now that I have really depressed myself, I'm going to stop and think good thoughts and keep hoping something major will happen to Trump or the Supreme Court will come to their senses and evict Musk and Trump tomorrow.

So, until next edition, try to stay positive. Peace and love.

P.S. To all of you who voted for Trump, don't start crying now. You knew he was a liar when he was in office the first time. You reap what you sow! It's just starting to get bad and I think the worst is yet to come.

UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREE CHAPTER

HEADLIGHT

The Light of Freedom, Family, Fellowship, Solidarity, Leadership & Education

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The HEADLIGHT is the voice of the Retirees Chapter of UAW Local 599. The purpose of this paper is to inform and educate the membership of issues of our Chapter and the community in which we live. Articles from members and stories about members are welcome. While your contributions are welcome, they should be constructive. At no time shall the Editor tolerate any defamatory remarks regarding policies of our Chapter, International Union, or UAW person or persons. The Editor reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and/or length. Opinions reflected in signed articles do not necessarily reflect the position or opinions of the Chapter.

HEADLIGHT Editor

Gene Ridley




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by GENE RIDLEY

Women's History Month

Well, March is Women's History Month and, under our new President, our government will no longer recognize these events. It is sad that he doesn't want to recognize the accomplishments of those who made our country the greatest in the world.

There are many of the accomplishments and firsts that women have contributed since the 1700s listed in this *Headlight*, and the full list is even longer. I could not get them all in this issue.

There have been many women who have contributed to the success of our Local Union and the UAW. I am just naming a few – Shirley Prater, C.L. Anderson, Mary Shumpert, and Joyce Green – along with those who are still serving our retirees – Mary Simmons, Liz Melchor and Barb Young. Thank you, ladies, for your accomplishments in serving your fellow Union brothers and sisters.

On the political front... Well, I hate to say I told so, but look what the president is doing dismantling our government so that he can have all the power, and the Congress is allowing it to happen. For someone who didn't know about Project 2025, he is surely following it to the letter. Doing away with the Education Department, cutting personnel at the Social Security Administration along with the IRS, these are just a start of what is to come with President Musk and Vice President Trump.

I am disappointed in our Democratic Senators for going along with the Republican's spending bill. It is time to take a stand for the people of this country. It is time to stop worrying about getting re-elected and do the right thing for our country.

It is time to take to the phones and flood the White House, U.S. House, along with the Senate telling them you're not happy with what they are doing. Flood them with phone calls with you're displeasure with what the White House is doing.

We must stop alienating our allies with all these tariffs and talk of taking them over becoming part of The U.S. This country cannot exist by itself. We need the other countries to survive also. We may be big and powerful, but you can't keep bullying everyone else to get your way all the time.

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- *NO outside food or beverage permitted except bottled water. You are welcome to bring your own shade source and bring your own lawn chair(s)
- * Price of snacks, lunch, and beverages NOT included in entry fee



A Timeline for... WOMEN in AMERICAN HISTORY

(continued from Front Page)

1942 – Anna Leah Fox was the first woman to receive the Purple Heart, which she received for being wounded in the attack on Pearl Harbor.

1944 – Cordelia E Cook was the first woman to receive both the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart.

Ann Baumgartner was the first woman to fly a jet aircraft, the Bell YP-59A on October 14, 1944.

Sara Christian was the first woman to compete in a major-league stock car race, competing in NASCAR's inaugural Strictly Stock (now NASCAR Cup Series) event.

1953 – Toni Stone, also known by her married name Marcenia Lyle Alberga, was the first of three women to play Negro league baseball, and thus the first woman to play as a regular on an American big-league professional baseball team.

1964 – Jerrie Mock, flying solo in 1964, became the first woman to fly around the world

1966 – Roberta Louise "Bobbi" Gibb was the first woman to run the entire Boston Marathon.

1967 – Kathrine Switzer was the first woman to run the Boston Marathon as a numbered entry.

1970 – Diane Crump was the first woman in America to ride in the Kentucky Derby, she placed fifteenth.

Patricia Palinkas was the first woman to play professionally in an American football game.

1972 – Tonie Nathan was the first woman in America to receive an electoral vote for vice president in a presidential election.

1973 – Shirley Muldowney was the first woman to receive a NHRA license to drive Top Fuel dragsters, the highest level of the drag racing sport.

Shirley Muldowney was the first woman to win a NHRA national event.

1977 – Janet Guthrie was the first woman to compete in the Daytona 500 and the first woman to lead a NASCAR Series race.

Janet Guthrie was the first woman to compete in the Indianapolis 500 event.

1979 – Susan B. Anthony was the first woman in America depicted on a coin (the Susan B. Anthony dollar).



Georgia Neese
Clark Gray



Jerrie Mock
Aviator



Sally Ride
NASA Astronaut

1981 – Sally Ride was the first American woman to become an astronaut.

Sandra Day O'Connor became the first woman to serve as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and as such the first woman ever to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court.

1984 – Geraldine Ferraro was the first woman in America to run for vice president on a major-party platform.

Kathryn D. Sullivan was the first American woman to conduct a spacewalk.

1986 – Ann Bancroft was the first woman to reach the North Pole by foot and dogsled, "... she became the first known woman to cross the ice to the North Pole."

1988 – Dr. Lenora Fulani was the first female (and first African-American) presidential candidate to secure ballot access in all 50 states; she also secured the most votes ever gained by a female candidate in a presidential election until 2012.

Shawna Robinson was the first woman to win a NASCAR-sanctioned stock car race, winning in the Charlotte/Daytona Dash Series at New Asheville Speedway.

1997 – Madeleine Albright, born in Prague, became the first woman to serve as Secretary of State; she served under President Bill Clinton.

2000 – Spring – Kathleen A. McGrath became the first woman to command a U.S. Navy warship at sea.

July – Lucille "Pam" Thompson became the first African-American woman to serve as a U.S. Coast Guard Special Agent; she served in this capacity until July 2004

(continued on Page 6)

(continued from Page 5)

2001 – January 3 - Hillary Clinton was the first and only former First Lady of the United States to serve in the U.S. Congress; she was elected to represent New York in the U.S. Senate, making her the first woman to hold that office.

2002 – January 15 – Nancy Pelosi became the first woman elected House whip, making her the first woman to hold such a position in either chamber of U.S. Congress.

2003 – January 3 – Nancy Pelosi became the first woman elected House floor leader and minority leader, making her the first woman to lead a major political party in either chamber of U.S. Congress.

2005 – Danica Patrick was the first woman to lead the Indianapolis 500.

Rosa Parks was the first woman to lie in honor in the Capitol.

2006 – Effa Manley was the first woman inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

2008 – Hillary Clinton became the first woman to win a major party's presidential nominating contest for the purposes of delegate selection when she won the New Hampshire Democratic primary on January 8.

Danica Patrick was the first woman to win an IndyCar Series by winning the 2008 Indy Japan 300.

Sarah Palin was the first female vice presidential nominee of the Republican Party.

2009 – January 3 – Jeanne Shaheen became the first woman to hold the offices of U.S. Senator and state Governor, being elected as governor of New Hampshire from 1997 to 2003 and U.S. senator for New Hampshire since 2009.

January 21 – Hillary Clinton was the first former First Lady of the United States to serve in a presidential cabinet; she was appointed Secretary of State under President Barack Obama.

2010 – Nikki Haley was the first female governor of South Carolina and the first person of an ethnic minority to serve as governor of South Carolina.

2013 – Danica Patrick was the first woman to win a pole in the Daytona 500 and a NASCAR Cup Series race.

Danica Patrick was the first woman to lead the Daytona 500.



Hillary Clinton



Nancy Pelosi

Speaker of U.S. House of Reps



Janet Yellen

Federal Reserve Chair



Kamala Harris

U.S. Vice President

Vanessa O'Brien became the first woman to climb the highest peak on each continent (The Seven Summits) in the shortest period of time (295 days), resulting in a Guinness World Record.

2014 – Official portrait of Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen,

2015 – February 3 – Janet Yellen became the first woman to serve as Chair of the Federal Reserve.

Becky Hammon became the first full-time female coach in the NBA – and the first full-time female coach in any of the four major professional sports in America – as an assistant coach for the San Antonio Spurs.

Katie Higgins was the first female pilot to join the Blue Angels, the U.S. Navy's flight demonstration squadron.

2015 – Jennifer Welter became the first American woman hired to coach in men's pro football when the Texas Revolution of the Champions Indoor Football league announced that Welter was hired to coach linebackers and special teams.

2016 – July 26 – Hillary Clinton was formally nominated at the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, becoming the first woman nominated for president by a major U.S. political party.

Hillary Clinton became the first woman to win the popular vote in a United States presidential election and one of the two first women to receive an electoral vote for president.

2020 – August 19 – Kamala Harris of California was formally nominated by the 2020 Democratic National Convention as the Democratic candidate for vice president of the United States, becoming the first woman of color, the first African American, the first Asian American, the first person of South Asian descent, the first person of Indian ancestry, and the first person of Jamaican ancestry to be nominated on a major party ticket.

November 7 – Kamala Harris became the first woman elected as Vice President of the United States.

2021 – January 20 – Kamala Harris inaugurated as the first woman to serve as Vice President of the United States, making her the most powerful woman in America's political history, first in the line of succession to the U.S. Presidency.

January 20 – Kamala Harris became the first woman President of the United States Senate in U.S. history.

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

are held at
UAW LOCAL 651 UNION HALL

on the last Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

If you need assistance, call Chairman Jessie Collins at 810-287-6612 or Recording Secretary Gene Ridley at 810-516-1773

If you have Benefits questions, call UAW Local 659 Benefit Rep. at 810-232-4130, ext. 213

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Region 1D Retired Workers CONFERENCE

Greetings,

We are pleased to announce this year's Retired Workers Conference will be held at the UAW Family Education Center at Black Lake from May 27 to May 30, 2025.

Please read this notice carefully. There have been some changes made since the previous conference.

All retirees will be roomed with their spouse or double-housed this year. If an attendee uses oxygen, it is their responsibility to notify their oxygen company to deliver to Black Lake. Attendees need to list on their registration form if they have any handicap needs. There are only a few handicapped-accessible rooms available at the center. Those in wheelchairs, walkers, or Amigos will be considered first. We ask that each retiree who has been selected by their Chapter or IAC to fill out this registration form and mail it back to the Flint office **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025.**

We encourage anyone who has never attended a Retired Workers Conference at Black Lake to do so. There is a 3-year No Repeat Policy, excluding Region 1D Council Executive Board Members, Chapter Chairs and the Region 1D Council Recreation Committee.

At right is a registration form to be filled out by the retiree, and/or their spouse, selected to attend. Allotment is based on delegate allocations per Chapter or Council. This allotment total includes spouses. Housing is based on double occupancy, this could be couples, or two delegates who would be sharing a room.

You must be a dues-paying retiree, dues-paying spouse, dues-paying surviving spouse, or associate member to be eligible to attend this conference. There will be NO CHARGE for retirees, their spouses, surviving spouses, or associate members if they are dues-paying members.

Retiree delegates who show up to the conference unregistered and unannounced will be turned away.

Please return forms as soon as possible to assure your members rooms, as we are short on housing. If you have any questions regarding the conference, please contact Scott Zuckschwerdt at 810-787-0910.

In Solidarity,

STEVE DAWES
Director

SCOTT ZUCKSCHWERDT
Assistant Director

MIKE BIEBER
Retired Worker Chair

UAW REGION 1D RETIRED WORKERS CONFERENCE

Tuesday, May 27 thru Friday, May 30, 2025

- ✓ Please return to the Regional Office no later than Friday, April 18, 2025
- ✓ NO EXCEPTIONS – AFTER DUE DATE, THEY WILL BE SENT BACK

Local Number: _____

First-Time Attendee

Your Name: _____

Male Female (circle one)

Address: _____

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Spouse's name (if attending): _____

Please list any medical needs, such as dietary restrictions: _____

Please list special housing requests or use of walker, wheelchair, or mobile device: _____

There will be no charge for dues-paying retirees, dues-paying surviving spouses or associate members. However, if you are registered and cannot attend, you must call Region 1D UAW and cancel prior to May 16, 2025, or your Local Retiree Chapter will be charged for your stay.



UAW LOCAL 599 RETIREES CHAPTER MEMBERS ONLY, please return this application form to be authorized by **APRIL 18, 2025** to:

UAW LOCAL 651
Attention: JESSIE COLLINS
3518 Robert T Longway Blvd., Flint, MI 48506