2017

A Calendar of Labor Events

2017 includes a number of anniversaries of labor-related events connected to the auto industry and other sectors of society. This calendar, which includes both commemorative and other labor history events, will be updated as events are scheduled. Feel free to send information about your events for listing to michlabor@aol.com.

The MotorCities National Heritage Area, which is funded in part by the National Park Service, is cooperating in publicizing auto labor events. You can learn more about the Heritage Area at its website: MotorCities.org.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017
MLHS labor history bus tour of metro Detroit area for educational representatives of the International Union, UAW. 8:30 a.m. from Solidarity House, 8000 E. Jefferson.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017
The 80th anniversary of the Flint Sit Down Strike at General Motors will be observed with a White Shirt Day luncheon at UAW Region 1-D in Flint, followed by a program including a video of the sit-down accompanied by an original song about the strike by local artist Mamasol. (Invitation only.) The Sloan Museum, 1221 E. Kearsley St., has a gallery exhibit on the sit-down strike that is open to the public during regular museum hours (but not on February 10).

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017
MLHS will lead a walking tour of labor history sites along Woodward Ave. from Grand Circus Park to Hart Plaza, Detroit, for students from the SEED organization, University of Richmond, Va. Limited space available for others. Meet at 4:00 p.m. at the Hazen Pingree statue at Grand Circus Park (southwest corner, Woodward and West Adams).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2017
MLHS will conduct a labor history bus tour of metropolitan Detroit for the national convention of the United Association for Labor Education. Leaving from Book Cadillac Hotel, 9 a.m. (Information: Gayle Hamilton, ghamilton@wayne.edu). A Woodward Ave. walking tour is also planned during the convention.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017
Labor’s International Hall of Fame will hold an induction ceremony for Matilda Rabinowitz Robbins, an IWW organizer who helped lead the first recorded auto strike in the U.S at Studebaker Corp. UAW-GM Center for Human Resources, 200 Walker St., Detroit. Other inductees include Sam Fishman, a former director of the UAW.
Community Action Program, and Maida Springer-Kemp, a former representative of the AFL-CIO International Affairs Dept.

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2017
Commemorative activities for the 80th anniversary of the Lansing Labor Holiday general strike will include short addresses, music, and classic car display at the Lansing City Hall Plaza beginning at 1 p.m. Memorabilia from the event will be included as part of an exhibit on the year 1937 at Lansing City Hall, organized by the Lansing Historical Society.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, OCT. 19-21, 2017