



CALENDAR

Wed., Apr. 20

- BY-LAWS COMMITTEE MEETING, 5:30 p.m., Rm. 226, Seattle Labor Temple

Wed., Apr. 27

- MEMBERSHIP MEETING, 6:15 p.m., Hall 6.
- POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE, 5:30 p.m., Hall 6.
- NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION, 5:30 p.m., Rm. 238.

Sat., Apr. 30

- BOWL-A-THON FOR FREMONT PUBLIC ASSOCIATION, See back page.

COMING UP IN MAY:

Sat., May 21

- FINANCIAL & RETIREMENT PLANNING WORKSHOPS, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Seattle Labor Temple.
- MEMBERSHIP ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Seattle Labor Temple.

Building for Our Future

Members Approve Historic Changes

With the historic task of redesigning our representation structure, nearly 40 members worked hard over March 5 and 6 to hammer out a plan to recommend to Local 8 members. At the March 23 General Membership Meeting, members unanimously approved recommendations from the two Workgroups as follows:

The Statewide Representation Workgroup, facilitated by Business Manager **Suzanne Mode**, had the goal to expand the Executive Board to allow for greater participation from members living outside of the King County area. The Workgroup recommended adding four Regional Executive Board Members and Alternates. Two would be from Snohomish County north, one from Pierce County South and West and one from East of the Cascades. Members who live in the particular region will nominate and vote for their Regional Executive Board Representative(s). A special election will be held for these positions in early 2006 for a one-year term. All officers will be up for election in 2007. The recommendations also call for some mandatory on-site attendance with calling-in for remaining meetings. *(Cont'd. on page 3)*



Members from all over the state met in Tokeland to plan how to increase membership representation and involvement.

Executive Board

Verlene Jones
President

Marie Cook
Vice President

Cindy Schu
Secretary-Treasurer

Evelyn Bowles
Recording Secretary

Guy Brook

Jaime Martinez

Kellie McGuire

Tommy McLean

Kathi Scott

Kerry Warner

Karen White

Staff

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Cindy Schu

Organizing Director

Shelby Mooney

Organizer

Ligia Velázquez

Union Representative

Mary Maloy

Union Representative

Shelley Pinckney

Union Representative

Benita Hyder

Union Representative

Shannon Halme

Union Representative

Colleen Shelton

Office Manager

Libby Alejandro

Administrative

Secretary

Betty Devereaux

Secretary/Receptionist

Nora Galvin

Secretary/Desktop

Publisher

Mary Silver

Billing Clerk

MEMBERS IN ACTION

HOME CARE WORKERS lobby in Olympia to support quality care for clients and improved compensation for workers. Lloyd Williams, Rosa Williams, Rosa Granados, Representative Dean Takko (D.-19th District), Ruth Admire, Colleen Stern and Jeri Wynn.



Delegates to King County Labor Council Elected

At the March 23 Membership Meeting, the following Local 8 members were elected to be our delegates to the King County Labor Council: Verlene Jones, Joan Weiss, Marie Cook, Rich Feldman, Suzanne Mode, Tommy McLean, Shelley Pinckney, Alan Wolfson and Guy Brook (Alternate). Delegates attend monthly meetings to represent and support Local 8. Delegates report back to the membership at Local 8 monthly Membership Meetings. Local 8 also has delegates at the Snohomish County Labor Council: newly appointed Joe Chartier, Jackie Cody and alternate Patty Bowen and the Olympia Labor Council: JoAnne Kaye.

Retirees, Semi-Retirees & Soon-to-be-Retirees:

Want to stay young? Stay active!

By Maureen Bo, Norma Kelsey, Marie Cook and Will Parry

Yes, nutrition and exercise work in making your health and youth last. But recent studies also show that involvement with other people in social, political and community activities also play a strong part in maintaining mental and physical health. So we have a deal for you!

We are launching a **Local 8 Retiree Action Committee**, to work in coordination with Local 8's new Membership Action Committee, to continue and expand our work for social and economic justice. We have much work to do to preserve past gains and further our goals and we need volunteers!

Please join us in a brief meeting on **Saturday, May 21 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** after the Local 8 Retirement and Financial Planning at the Seattle Labor Temple from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Call the Local 8 office for more information.

Building Our Union *(continued from page 1)*

The Membership Involvement Workgroup, facilitated by President Verlene Jones and Organizing Director Cindy Schu, developed six plans to increase and improve membership participation. To prioritize and carry out the plans the Workgroup recommended reinstating the Membership Action Committee. The first MAC meeting will be Saturday, May 21 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. after the Retirement and Financial Planning Workshops (see calendar). Watch for more details in the May Newsletter and Local 8 website at www.opeiu8.org.

The success of this year's statewide meeting was once again due to the tremendous support of members: Brenda Barquero, Colleen Barker, Annie Bergquist, Charlie Best, Angela Boehlke, Evelyn Bowles, Joe Chartier, JoAnn Christen, Marie Cook, Kim Freewolf, Robin Gaylord, Audrey Gunderson, Carol Haythorne, Danine Henry, Jane Hines, Benita Hyder, Shannon Halme, John Iles, Christina Jensen, Verlene Jones, Cathy Kahn, Michael Maddux, Mary Maloy, Maribel Martinez, Tommy McLean, Suzanne Mode, Shelby Mooney, Shelley Pinckney, Cindy Schu, Kathi Scott, Sandra Smith, Patty Stansberry, Colleen Stern, Kathy Taylor, Kerry Warner, and Lori Wienecke.

Internet Resources for Union Members

www.unionplus.org

Type in OPEIU's name to get a full list of all the special benefits offered to OPEIU members through this AFL-CIO sponsored program just for union members.

www.wslc.org

The Washington State Labor Council's website is a great place to go for daily labor updates. Click on to WSLC Report's Today for a summary of labor-related news reports from press all over the country. The webmaster of this award-winning site is Local 8 member, David Groves.

www.aflcio.org

Want to learn more and participate in the debate over the direction of the AFL-CIO? Go to the AFL-CIO's website for more information.

Need A Change? Our Bylaws Do

Members Needed for Bylaws Committee

Commitment? Two Evening Meetings (1½ hours long)

First Meeting is Wednesday, April 20 at 5:30 p.m.

in Room 226 at the Seattle Labor Temple

In order to act on the recommendations set forth by the Statewide Representation Workgroup and approved by members, we must change our Local 8 Bylaws. Any Bylaws changes must be read before our General Membership twice, voted on and approved by the Membership and also approved by the International OPEIU. If we want to hold to our early 2006 election timeline, we must start the Bylaws review process now. If you're interested in shaping the future of your Union, please volunteer to be on the Bylaws Committee. Contact Cindy Schu at cindy@opeiu8.org or 206-441-8276.

"I realized at our Statewide Meeting how successful Local 8 has been in organizing new members. We doubled our membership since 1995. At a time when other unions remain stagnant, such results are graphic and impressive."

—Kathi Scott,
IBEW Local 46

"The work we did was historic for our Union. Local 8 has always been at the forefront of progressive change. I'm proud to be a part of this Union and am ready to help lead us into the future."

—Tommy McLean, King County Dept. of Assessments

Strike Out Hunger

Raise funds for
Fremont Public
Association's
Food Security
for Children
Program



- What:** A Fun Fundraiser to support the work of the Fremont Public Association and feed hungry kids throughout Seattle via the Food Security for Children Program
- When:** Saturday, April 30, 2005
from Noon to 5:00 p.m.
- Where:** Leilani Lanes Bowling Center,
10201 Greenwood Avenue North

Local 8 represents the workers at FPA and is sponsoring a Bowling Team from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Get pledges from neighbors, friends and colleagues and help FPA raise money to feed the kids who rely on food banks for full tummies. Want to join us? Contact **Shelby Mooney** at (206) 441-8880, ext. 107.

Local **OPEIU** Journal

OPEIU Local 8, 2800 First Ave., Rm. 304, Seattle, WA 98121-1114

Address Service Requested

Office & Professional Employees
International Union Local 8's
Meetings are held at the Seattle Labor
Temple at 2800 First Ave. (between
Clay & Broad Sts.) Free parking under
the Ellington Condos for
Membership Meeting only.
On the monitor by the garage door,
punch in: *011213#.

Email: opeiu8@opeiu8.org
www.opeiu8.org

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