



# Local 8 OPEIU Journal

www.opeiu8.org

Vol. 21, No. 10

Oct./Nov./Dec. 2006

## CALENDAR

### Wed., Oct. 25

- 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. 244.

### Tues., Nov. 7

- Election Day.

### Wed., Nov. 15

- Membership Meeting
- Political Action Committee
- New Member Orientation  
(see Oct. 25 for times)

### Sat., Dec. 2

- Shop Steward/Activist Training, see page 4.

### Wed., Dec. 20

- New Member Orientation, 5:30 p.m., Rm. 244.

## Holiday closures

Nov. 10: Veteran's Day,  
Nov. 23-24: Thanksgiving,  
Dec. 22-26, Jan. 1-2: Holidays.

## Don't Forget to Vote on Tues., Nov. 7

*Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO Endorsements:*

**NO ON I-920.** It would cut taxes for the multi-millionaires—but not for you. And your children would pay the price. Bankrolled by a few of the state's richest families, I-920 would repeal their estate taxes by cutting \$100 million a year from the Education Legacy Trust, which pays for K-12 school improvements, smaller class sizes and college enrollment slots.

**NO ON I-933.** It would force taxpayers to pay developers to obey the law. I-933 creates a "pay or waive" system where taxpayers pay millions of dollars for irresponsible land development, or must exempt owners and corporations from land-use laws. It will cost millions of dollars just to administer I-933.

**YES ON I-937.** It promotes the use of clean, renewable energy resources. I-937, the Clean Energy Initiative, guarantees that 15% of the electricity from Washington's largest utilities comes from plentiful, home-grown renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar, by 2020. I-937 will create new family-wage engineering, construction and design jobs, and provide crucial income to rural landowners.

For a list of candidates endorsed in your Legislative District, go to [www.wslc.org](http://www.wslc.org) or call the Local 8 office (see contact information on page 4).

U.S. Senate: Maria Cantwell  
U.S. House of Representatives:  
1st District – Jay Inslee  
2nd District – Rick Larsen  
3rd District – Brian Baird  
4th District – Richard Wright  
5th District – Peter Goldmark  
6th District – Norm Dicks  
7th District – Jim McDermott  
8th District – Darcy Burner

9th District – Adam Smith  
State Supreme Court:  
Position 2 – Susan Owens  
Position 8 – Gerry Alexander  
Position 9 – Tom Chambers  
U.S. District Court of Appeals:  
Div. 1, Dist. 3, Pos. 1 – Mary Kay Becker  
Div. 2, Dist. 3, Pos. 1 – Joel Penoyer.



## Local 8 Mourns the Loss of Two Exceptional Shop Stewards

### Executive Board

Verlene Jones  
*President*  
Marie Cook  
*Vice President*  
Cindy Schu  
*Secretary-Treasurer*  
Evelyn Bowles  
*Recording Secretary*  
Valancy Blackwell  
Guy Brook  
Brandi Eyerly  
Audrey Gunderson  
Jaime Martinez  
Kellie McGuire  
Carmen Paez  
Kathi Scott  
Kathy Taylor  
Karen White

### Staff

Suzanne Mode  
*Business Manager*  
Cindy Schu  
*Organizing Director*  
Shelby Mooney  
*Organizer*  
Ligia Velázquez  
*Union Representative*  
Mary Maloy  
*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*



*JoAnn Kaye (above, right) with Union Representative Benita Hyder.*

**J**oAnn Kaye, Shop Steward at Olympic Community Action, died on September 6. JoAnn first became a Local 8 member in 1994, when she was instrumental in organizing a union for the first time at her workplace. She remained an active member of Local 8 over the years as a Shop Steward, Bargaining Team member and a frequent visitor to Olympia to raise awareness about home care workers and the need to improve their working conditions. Her activism extended throughout the state.

When workers in Longview picketed during a first contract struggle, JoAnn rode her Harley all the way from Port Angeles to show support. Just last summer, she shared her experiences as a union member to help workers in eastern Washington organize a union for the first time.

JoAnn and her husband Dan were both very active in Combat Veterans International and devoted motorcycle riders. JoAnn will be missed by many of us at Local 8 who appreciated her commitment to her fellow union members and her willingness to fight for justice in the workplace. Donations can be made to: Olympic

Community Action Memorial, Attn. Robin Gibson, 228 W. 1st St., Suite J, Port Angeles, WA 98362-2640. Write “for Home Care, in honor of JoAnn.”

**A**ndy Turkovich, Shop Steward at Sea Mar Bellingham, died on August 12 at the age of 62. He was born in Jamestown, New York, served in Vietnam (first as a combat engineer and then as a registered nurse), got married in Honolulu in 1969, raised a family, and retired from the Army in 1993.

In 1999 he moved to Washington where he continued his nursing career and, in 2001, became a member of Local 8. He served as a Shop Steward and on the Bargaining Team — his fellow team members remember his incredible dedication to being a part of negotiations: he came to meetings even after working the night shift.

Our sincere sympathies to his wife Carolyn, their three sons and grandchildren. Andy will be missed by his friends and co-workers at Sea Mar. Memorials may be made to Whatcom Hospice Foundation, 800 E. Chestnut St., #1C, Bellingham, WA 98225.



# MEMBERS IN ACTION

Local 8 sent a delegation of eight Leaders to this year's **Washington State Labor Council Convention** held in Wenatchee. The convention sets forth labor's platforms and positions for the upcoming year. Pictured here are (standing) **Charlie Best**, Worker Center, **Carol O'Neill**, Sprinkler Fitters & Apprentices Local 699, **Verlene Jones**, President, **Kellie McGuire**, Executive Board member (IBEW Local 77) and **Suzanne Mode**, Business Manager. Seated: **Ligia Velázquez**, Union Representative, and **Marie Cook**, Vice President. Not pictured is Local 8 Organizer **Shelby Mooney**.



**GENTLE WARRIOR AWARD** Congratulations to Local 8 President **Verlene Jones** for receiving the prestigious A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum "Gentle Warrior" Award. Verlene won the award in honor of her commitment to the labor movement and excellence in labor education. The "Gentle Warrior" awards are given each year to deserving African-Americans who exemplify the quiet gentle warrior spirit for which A. Philip Randolph was known throughout his career. He organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in 1925 and then in 1955 was elected the first African-American Vice President of the AFL-CIO.

*Union Plus scholarship forms are available now on line.*

## ***First Local 8 Union Plus Scholarship Winner!***

Washington, DC—**Sarah E. Strole**, daughter of Local 8 member **Barbara Strole** of Spokane, was selected to receive a \$2,000 Union Plus Scholarship award for 2006. She is one of 108 students from 44 unions who have won.

She also received a \$36,000 a year academic scholarship to Georgetown University—one of the top 25 colleges in America.

Raised by a single mom, she's indeed involved in a wide range of community service organizations—from a women's shelter and a food bank to tutoring Head Start kids and participating in a Medical Partnership Mission trip to Romania, while also working 20 hours per week at a fast-food restaurant.

While her specific career goal is not yet shaped, her life mission is. "My passion is for the poor who are most exploited in the world, especially children," she says, and continues, "I want to dedicate my life to helping the poor and people living in injustice."

For those of you who'd like to try for the 2007 Union Plus scholarships, the deadline to apply is January 31. Applications can be downloaded from [www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships](http://www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships).



*OPEIU scholarship forms will come out in mid-November.*

*Last Shop Steward/  
Activist Training of  
the year:* Sat., Dec. 2,  
10 a.m.–1:00 p.m.,  
at the Seattle Labor  
Temple. “Hostile  
Work Environment &  
Harassment.”

Call the Local 8  
office at:  
(206) 441-8880 or  
1 (800) 600-2433.

## Labor/Neighbor

It's not too late to put on your walking shoes or make phone calls for the November 7 general election. Join other union members in educating our Union brothers and sisters about the upcoming elections. We need to ensure that worker-friendly candidates get elected, and workers get the facts about the initiatives. Don't let this Election Day pass you by — later you'll wish you had done something to affect the outcome. Volunteer today!

There are opportunities available around the state. To find out where to volunteer, go to the Washington State Labor Council website at [wslc.org](http://wslc.org) or call **Shelby Mooney** at (206) 448-2615 or 1 (800) 600-2433, 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](mailto:opei8@opeiu8.org)

[www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

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