



Wed., June 18

- **Advanced Grievance Handling**, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Benton County PUD Auditorium, 2721 W. 10th Ave., Kennewick.

Wed., June 25

- **Membership Meeting**, 6:15 p.m., Hall 8, Seattle Labor Temple, 2800 First Avenue. *Agenda: Nomination and Election of Washington State Labor Council delegates; Labor History speaker.*
- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Room 310.
- **Political Action Committee**, 5:30 p.m., Hall 8.

Wed., July 23

- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Room 310, Seattle Labor Temple.

Sun., August 3

- **Unity BBQ**, 1:00-3:00 p.m., American Legion Memorial Park, Everett.

Sun., August 24

- **Unity BBQ**, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Leslie Groves Park, Richland.

Wed., August 27

- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Room 310, Seattle Labor Temple.

Remember, Monday, Sept. 1 is the annual free Labor Day celebration.

Open Delegate Positions to the Washington State Labor Council Convention

Every two years, Local 8 Elects new delegates to the Washington State Labor Council Convention. The WSLC is considered to be the “voice” of labor in our state. This year Local 8 has 8 delegate positions open. The Convention is an exciting event where decisions are made about labor movement policy and direction as well as important political endorsement decisions. It’s also a great way to socialize and meet other union activists.

This year, the convention will be held from August 4–7 in Vancouver, Washington.

Local 8 will pay for the registration, transportation and a per diem but can’t reimburse for any time loss. Members will need to use personal leave time. Come to the next Local 8 Membership Meeting on Wednesday, June 25 for the nominations and election of the delegate positions. If you’d like to be nominated but can’t attend the meeting, you can have someone nominate you, but you’ll need to submit a letter to the Local 8 office saying you accept the nomination.



May Day March for Worker Rights

AFL-CIO Political Action Training, Seattle, June 4-6

Local 8 is sponsoring active members to attend this exciting training to prepare for our upcoming get out the vote activities. If you’re interested send a one page application to Local 8 by May 28 explaining why you’d like to attend. Contact **Cindy Schu** for more details at cindy@opeiu8.org.

M E M B E R S . . .

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APALA Report

*By Paul Lee, Shop Steward at
Low Income Housing Institute*

It was my pleasure to represent Local 8 at the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA) Organizing Institute in Los Angeles on May 2-4. These three days of intense training included labor history with an Asian Pacific Islander perspective, a solidarity action with the United Steel Workers, principles of organizing, and finally graduation.

I want to truly thank you for the opportunity to learn the principles of organizing. Whether internal, external, or community organizing, I am confident of the skills needed to effectively change people's lives through growing the Union. I never knew that as a Korean-American I come out of such a rich history of labor activism and leadership. Many times throughout this training I felt the hot tears of injustice flow down my face as I understood the struggles that my forefathers faced on my behalf.

This training focused on learning the principles of organizing through role plays. In addition, we were taught the particulars of organizing API folks (Asian Pacific Islanders) or immigrants in general. We learned that there are profound issues that immigrants or undocumented workers face.

Because of the intense and transformational nature of these three days, many of the participants left with the sentiment that we were collectively a new generation for the labor movement.

My pledge to you is that I will continue the good work that has been wrought within me. I will work with the goal of reporting back to the body and educating you all about the needs of your API brothers and sisters. From the bottom of my heart, I wanted to extend to you a "deep bow" of gratitude.



Union Solidarity Night!

Everett Aquasox vs. Tri-City Dust Devils

Wednesday, August 6, at 7:05 p.m. in Everett.

Sponsored by the Snohomish County Labor Council. The first 1,000 kids aged 14 and under will receive a free Glowing Baseball. Free tickets available for Local 8 members and families. To get your ticket, contact the Local 8 office.

. . . I N A C T I O N

Labor Neighbor Volunteers Needed

There is a lot at stake locally and nationally in the November elections. You can help by holding Voter Registration in your workplace. We also need you to get involved in the Washington State Labor Council Labor Neighbor program in your area.

Volunteers are needed evenings and weekends starting in June for canvassing, phone banking, voter registration and a variety of other projects that fit your skills and talents.

You will be rewarded for your time! Local 8's Political Action Committee will be rewarding prizes for your volunteer time of 4 hours, 8 hours and 12 hours or more and a Grand Prize to the member who volunteers for the most hours by election day in November. We will also be having monthly drawings for those who have volunteered that month. We need to ensure working families are a priority in our state and in our country!

To volunteer, contact **Shelby Mooney** at (800) 600-2433 ext. 107 or email shelby@opeiu8.org.

JOHN MCCAIN: What You Should Know

As union members, regardless of our political party or affiliations, we need to know how candidates stand on working family issues. John McCain calls himself a “maverick” and a “straight talker” but what does he really stand for? Here's a look:

- **Will Increase Health Care Costs and Reduce Access.** McCain's plan undermines existing employer based health care and pushes workers into the private market to fight big insurance companies on their own. He will make health care premiums part of taxable income, essentially creating a new tax for working families. His plan will reduce benefits, increase costs and leave many with no health care at all. (*CBPP, 4/5/06; Health08.org, Forum, 10/31/07; Los Angeles Times, 11/20/07; Commonwealth Fund, 6/2005*)
- **More of the Same.** McCain supported President Bush's positions 95 percent of the time in 2007 and an average of 89 percent over Bush's two terms in office. (*Congressional Quarterly Voting Study, 110th Congress*)
- **Opposes Our Right to Bargain.** McCain voted against the Employee Free Choice Act, which would level the playing field for workers trying to form unions, and for a national Right-to-Work-for-Less law that would attempt to eliminate unions altogether. (*H.R. 800, Vote #227, 6/26/07; S. 1788, Vote #188, 7/10/96*)
- **Jeopardized Our Retirement Security.** McCain supports privatizing Social Security, putting our retirement at risk, and raising the Medicare eligibility age. (*SCR 83, Vote #68, 3/16/06; SCR 18, Vote #49, 3/15/05; S. Amdt. 144 to SCR 18, Vote #47, 3/15/05; SCR 86, Vote #56, 4/1/98; SCR 86, Vote #77, 4/1/98; S. 947, Vote #112, S. Amdt. 445, Vote #115, 6/25/97*)



*May Day March for
Worker Rights*

*No
Membership
Meetings
in July
and
August*

COMING SOON:

Receive your
Local 8 news
electronically. Go to
www.opeiu8.org
and sign up for
Email Action Alerts.

Stewards Corner

by Mae Taylor, Registered Health Information Technician and Shop
Steward, Valley Medical Center

Too many absences? Serious health condition? For employees who work for an employer with greater than 50 people, the federal Family and Medical Leave Act or the Washington State Family Care Act may benefit you. These laws provide protected leave of twelve weeks to care for serious health conditions for yourself and/or your family members. Your leave can be set up to be used intermittently or for a consecutive twelve weeks. You may need to provide certification from the provider and it is your responsibility to keep your employer updated. Check with your Union Representative to see if you can protect your absences from work with one of these laws. Website: www.Ini.wa.gov/WorkplaceRights/LeaveBenefits/FamilyCare/LawsPolicies/FamilyCare/default.asp.

"Taco Bar" at June Meeting

Tacos and all the fixings plus a few surprises are on the menu for our June Membership Meeting—all for just \$5.00. Proceeds will go to benefit Local 8's Political Action Fund.



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 Meetings only. After
5:00 p.m., punch in *011213# on the
monitor by the garage door.

Email: opeiu8@opeiu8.org

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