



Local

OPEIU Journal

www.opeiu8.org

Vol. 23, No. 5

October/November/December 2008

Wed., Oct. 22

- **Membership Meeting**, 6:15 p.m., Hall 8, Seattle Labor Temple, 2800 First Avenue. *Agenda: Vote on Proposed By-Laws and Strike Policy Changes.*
- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Room 310.
- **Political Action Committee**, 5:30 p.m., Hall 8.

Tues., Nov. 4

- **Election Day.**

Sat., Nov. 15

- **Leadership Training**, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Olympia.

Wed., Nov. 19

- **Membership Meeting**, 6:15 p.m., Hall 8, Seattle Labor Temple, 2800 First Avenue. *Agenda: Last meeting of the year.*
- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Room 310.
- **Political Action Committee**, 5:30 p.m., Hall 8.

Sat., Dec. 6

- **Leadership Training**, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tukwila.

Wed., Dec. 17

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

No Membership Meeting in December.

Thanks to our Labor Neighbor Volunteers

Voter Registration winds down, but Labor/Neighbor continues. Don't let November 4th come and go without doing your part to make sure candidates who will look after workers and their families in our country get elected. As of Sept. 1, we reached 325 volunteer hours, more than three quarters of the way toward meeting our goal of 400 hours by Election Day. Join these Local 8 heroes who have done their part either through workplace voter registration or volunteering for the Labor Neighbor program and let's exceed our goal and make a difference in the November 4th election: Paul Bigman, Maureen Bo, Angela Boehlke, Lily Wilson-Codega, Marie Cook, Corinne Cosentino, MJ Davidson, Craig Davis, Cathy Harger, Shannon Halme, Kamaria



Local 8 members Rebecca Johnson and Angela Boehlke visit fellow union members to talk about the upcoming election.



Hightower, Ruthie Jacobs, Jeff Johnson, Benjamin Lawver, Paul Lee, Mary Maloy, Kellie McGuire, Suzanne Mode, Shelby Mooney, Lori Province, Tracy Reeves, Carol Rozumalski, Amanda Saylor, Cindy Schu, Kathi Scott, Robby Stern, Anna Strahan, Ligia Velázquez, Joan Weiss, Ruby Wellbrock and Alan Wolfson.

Local 8 Executive Board Member Kathi Scott phone banking for Labor/ Neighbor.

Executive Board

Verlene Jones

President

Marie Cook

Vice President

Cindy Schu

Secretary-Treasurer

Evelyn Bowles

Recording Secretary

Valancy Blackwell

MJ Davidson

Mike Gimlin

Audrey Gunderson

Ruthie Jacobs

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

Paul Bigman

Union Representative

Amanda Saylor

Member Support

Representative

Colleen Shelton

Office Manager

Libby Alejandro

Administrative Secretary

Betty Devereaux

Secretary/Receptionist

Nora Galvin

Secretary/Desktop

Publisher

Lori Risteyn

Bookkeeper

Mary Silver

Billing Clerk

Summary of Proposed Local 8 Bylaws

Local 8's Executive Board approved changes to our Bylaws, a summary of which is below. As required under the Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws, any proposed changes to the Bylaws must first be read at a Membership Meeting prior to the vote.

The proposed Bylaws changes below were read at the September 24 Membership Meeting and members will be discussing and voting on the changes at the October 22 Membership Meeting.

Thank you to our Bylaws Committee: Executive Board Members **Kathi Scott, Karen White, Valancy Blackwell**; Vice President **Marie Cook** and Secretary-Treasurer **Cindy Schu**.

1. Increase Special Initiation Fee from \$10 to \$20—*The OPEIU International now requires local unions to pay a minimum of \$10.00 to the International.*

2. Eliminate 25% rebate for initiation fee—*Only Seattle members can take advantage of this rebate. We want to revise this in the future so it is fair for members statewide.*

3. Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Board Member to serve as fourth check signer if one of three primary signers not available—*We're eliminating stamp signatures as recommended by the Department of Labor.*

4. Eliminate petty cash fund—*As recommended by the Department of Labor.*

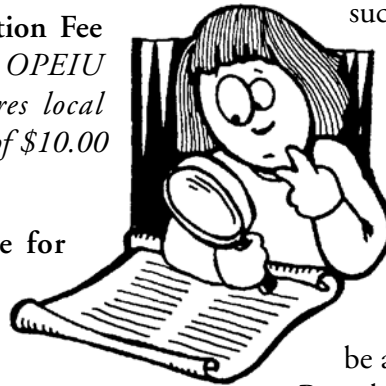
5. Increase reinstatement fees from \$10 to \$25—*To be in compliance with the OPEIU International requirements.*

6. Change KCLC to Martin Luther King Jr. County Labor Council—*To reflect correct name.*

7. Add email as another way to provide notice of nominations and elections (in addition to first class mail)—*To reflect the increased usage of electronic mail.*

8. General election polls shall close at 6:30 p.m.—*Instead of 7:00, as recommended by the Election Committee.*

9. Changes to the Strike Article as follows: First, steps outlined in the Local 8 Strike and Defense Policy to prevent, assess, and mediate a potential strike must be taken. Next, a STRIKE AUTHORIZATION VOTE must be taken with members of the impacted bargaining unit. The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot at a meeting(s) called for such a purpose. In order to move to the next step of strike preparation, at least 70% of eligible voters in attendance at a meeting(s) called for such a purpose must vote to authorize strike preparations. Before taking a FINAL STRIKE VOTE within the impacted bargaining unit, the strike must be approved by the Local 8 Executive Board, the Local 8 membership, the appropriate central labor council(s), and the International President of OPEIU. Only after the steps outlined above have been completed can a FINAL STRIKE VOTE be taken. The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot at a meeting(s) called for such a purpose. The FINAL STRIKE VOTE must be approved by at least 70% of eligible voters in attendance at a meeting(s) called for such a purpose. In rare situations and only with the Business Manager's approval, proxy, absentee or mail ballot voting may be allowed, otherwise members must be present in order to vote.—*To bring the Bylaws in sync with the OPEIU Local 8 Strike and Defense Policy; previously Bylaws required a simple majority vote for a strike to take place.*



GREGOIRE WORKS for us!

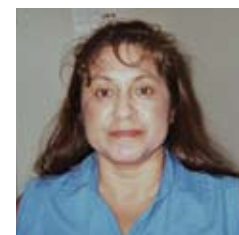
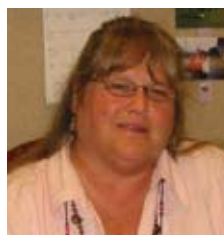


OPEIU 8 members (clockwise from top left) Cynthia Fuller of King County Dental from Auburn; Ruth Admire of Lower Columbia Community Action Program from Castle Rock; Audrey Gunderson of Providence Everett Medical Center from Arlington; and Carmen Paez of Sea Mar Community Health from Mt. Vernon.

Gov. Chris Gregoire WORKS for OPEIU Local 8 members!



- ✓ **IMPROVED HEALTH CARE** — In her first term, Gregoire expanded coverage to 84,000 more children, on track to achieving her goal of covering every child in the state by 2010. (SB 5093-'07) She also helped prevent 17,000 adults from losing coverage. (HB 5930-'07)
- ✓ **HIGHER MINIMUM WAGE** — Supported indexing our state minimum wage for automatic increases. (Rossi opposes.) (I-688)
- ✓ **PAID FAMILY LEAVE** — Established a paid family leave program for working parents upon the birth or adoption of their children. (SB 5659-'07)
- ✓ **RESTORED BENEFITS** — Raised unemployment benefits to levels before Dino Rossi-backed cuts in 2003. (SB 6885-'06) Granted benefits to injured workers during appeals. (HB 3139-'08)
- ✓ **PROMOTED AFFORDABLE HOUSING** — Increased the Housing Finance Commission's authority to help more low- and moderate-income families buy their first homes. (Gov. News Release, 9-15-08)



OPEIU Local 8 members (from left) Michelle Ruiz of Group Health Cooperative from Tacoma; Paul Lee of the Low Income Housing Institute from Seattle; and Betty Pacheco of Community Health Center La Clínica from Kennewick.



2008 Local 8 Statewide Meet-ups

Tuesday, Oct. 21

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

BELLINGHAM

Garden St. Methodist Church,
1326 N. Garden St.,
Fireplace Rm.

Saturday, Nov. 8

10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

ABERDEEN

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church,
400 E. 1st St., in the Great Hall.



Don't forget to vote Nov. 4

Check out: <http://www.wslc.org/cope/index.htm>
for labor-supported candidate endorsements.



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.

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