

CALENDAR

Go to www.opeiu8.org
for latest details
or contact Local 8

Monday, Jan. 18

- Marching to the Dream
28th Annual MLK, Jr.
Day March Monday,
January 18. Check
www.opeiu8.org for
details.



*"Injustice anywhere is a
threat to justice everywhere.
We are caught in an inescapable
network of mutuality tied in
a single garment of destiny.
Whatever affects one directly,
affects all indirectly."*

— Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Saturday, Jan. 23

- Membership Assembly:
Seattle Labor Temple, Hall 8
2800 First Avenue
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Parking code: *011213#
Social Hour: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

*Reminder: The Membership
Assembly and Chapter Meetings
will take the place of our previously
scheduled Membership Meetings.
Watch for schedule in the next Journal.*

Thursday, Feb. 11

- Washington State Labor Council
2010 Legislative Conference,
Olympia (www.wslc.org)

Notice of 2010 OPEIU Local 8 Nominations and Elections

In accordance with Article 14 of Local 8's Bylaws, this is notification that Nominations and elections will take place at the January 23 Membership Assembly. The Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws, which describes the duties and responsibilities for each position, can be found on the Local 8 website at www.opeiu8.org under "About OPEIU Local 8" or call the Local 8 office for a copy. The Bylaws also explain in detail the election process. *See inside for complete details of the 2010 nominations and elections.*

Historic First Membership Assembly January 23rd

Last May nearly fifty members gathered from all over the State to forge a new governance model for our Union. The Voice of the Membership Assembly unanimously approved bringing the new model to the Local 8 Membership for a vote. Members overwhelmingly voted to adopt the new structure. The vote took place over four specially called Membership Meetings throughout the summer. Ballots were mingled and tallied at the final meeting in Aberdeen on July 28, 2009.

As reported in previous Journals and elsewhere, Local 8 has expanded Membership Meetings and the Executive Board to be more inclusive and responsive to members throughout the State. The new model will begin in 2010 with our first Membership Assembly on Saturday, January 23 in Seattle. In accordance with our new model, future Membership Assemblies (the next one will be September 25) will be held in other parts of the State on a rotating basis.

Members can also get a refresher on the new structure by going to www.opeiu8.org. Look under New Governance Model Guide (#2 on the rotating headline) or call the Local 8 office to be sent a Guide.

See inside for a tentative Agenda for the first Membership Assembly. Check back on the website under "What's New" for updated information about the Assembly. The Assembly will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at approximately 3:00 p.m. (followed by a social event at 4:00 p.m.). Lunch will be provided to participants.

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Members

Notice of 2010 OPEIU Local 8 Nominations and Elections

Executive Board

Verlene Jones
President
Kellie McGuire
Vice President
Cindy Schu
Secretary-Treasurer
Evelyn Bowles
Recording Secretary
Valancy Blackwell
Mike Gimlin
Audrey Gunderson
Ruthie Jacobs
Carmen Paez
Kathi Scott
Kathi Taylor
Karen White

Staff

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager
Cindy Schu
Organizing Director
Ligia Velázquez
Union Representative
Shelby Mooney
Union Representative
Mary Maloy
Union Representative
Benita Hyder
Union Representative
Amanda Saylor
Union Representative
Colleen Shelton
Office Manager
Libby Alejandro
Administrative Secretary
Betty Devereaux
Secretary/Receptionist
Lori Risteyn
Bookkeeper
Mary Silver
Billing Clerk

Project Organizers

Blanca Garcia
Josie Lopez

Social Work Interns

Kevin McGill
Kendra Gritsch

In accordance with Article 14 of Local 8's Bylaws, this is notification that nominations and elections will take place as follows:

Saturday, January 23, Membership Assembly 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (nominations and elections at the morning session)

Seattle Labor Temple, 2800 First Avenue, Hall 8

Nominations and election of an Election Board of seven (7) members, including two (2) alternates for a three (3) year term.

Nominations and election of two (2) Trustees to finish serving three (3) year terms vacated by Rose Schuler and Lily Wilson-Codega. Four (4) Trustees will be nominated and elected to serve three (3) year terms at the September 25 Assembly. Trustees meet quarterly to review and audit Local 8's financial records.

Nominations and election of twelve (12) Delegates to the Washington State Labor Council Convention to serve a two (2) year term. The 2010 Convention will be held August 9-12 in Tacoma, Washington. Local 8 pays for registration, and transportation, per diem and lodging in accordance with Local 8 policy, but not time loss. The Business Manager is an automatic Delegate.

Nominations and election of four (4) Delegates to the OPEIU International Convention to be held June 28 through July 1 in San Francisco, California. Local 8 pays for registration, and transportation, per diem and lodging in accordance with Local 8 policy, but not time loss. The Business Manager is an automatic Delegate.

Nominations and election of open Central Labor Council positions. Delegates to Central Labor Councils (including the MLKCLC) will be held January 2011; however several vacant positions are open around the State. Go to the Local 8 website under "What's New" for a list of open Delegate positions needing to be filled.

Nominations for Business Manager, President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, sixteen (16) Regional Executive Board Members, and sixteen (16) Executive Board Alternates.

The sixteen (16) Regional Executive Board members shall be nominated and elected only by those members who reside in the same region as the Regional Executive Board members. The President, Vice-President, Business Manager, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary are at-large positions and voted on by the entire membership.

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Historic First Membership Assembly January 23rd

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Tentative Membership Assembly Agenda:

- Nomination and Election of Officers and Delegates
- Review and approval of the 2010 Budget
- Review and approval of the Shop Steward Recognition Program (reimbursement policy)
- Decide annual donations, including Political Action Committee endorsements
- Decide location and dates of New Chapter Meetings
- Decide Annual Leadership Education Program
- Discuss establishment of a New Hardship Fund for Members
- Discuss establishment of Diversity Committee
- Discuss Local 8 priorities for 2010

A Social Event will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Executive Inn, Seattle.

The Membership Assembly is open to all members. Stipends for lodging, meals and transportation will be available for a limited number of members to attend throughout the State. Please notify Cindy Schu at cindy@opeiu8.org right away if you need assistance to attend.

i n A c t i o n

Continued from page 2

The four (4) Regions and how the sixteen (16) positions are distributed are as follows in accordance with the formula defined in Section 1(c) of Article 14 of the Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws:

NORTH REGION: Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, San Juan and Island Counties shall nominate and elect four (4) Regional Executive Board Members.

CENTRAL: Martin Luther King Jr. County shall nominate and elect six (6) Regional Executive Board Members.

SOUTH/WEST REGION: Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Gray's Harbor, Thurston, Pierce, Pacific, Lewis, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Clark and Skamania Counties shall nominate and elect three (3) Regional Executive Board Members.

EAST REGION: All other Washington State Counties shall nominate and elect three (3) Regional Executive Board Members.

Members who reside outside of Washington State shall be included in the four (4) Regions as follows: Members who reside in Hood River County, Oregon and all Oregon counties west shall be part of the South/West Region. Members who reside in Oregon counties east of Hood River County, Idaho and all other states shall be part of the East Region.

Eligibility: Members must be in continuous good standing for at least twelve (12) months prior to an election for any officer position. Members must be in continuous good standing for at least six (6) months prior to an election for delegate positions.

Nomination Process: Nominees must be in attendance at the meeting where they are nominated or declare in writing their willingness to accept the nomination. Written declaration must be presented before the close of nominations.

Election: Election process for officers will be by mail ballot in accordance with the OPEIU Local 8 Election Policies and Procedures and with the Local 8 Constitution and Bylaws. Both of these documents are available by contacting Libby at the Local 8 office. Ballots will be tallied on Wednesday, February 24 at a time decided by the Election Board.

A big
THANK YOU
to **Rose Schuler**
and to **Lily**
Wilson-Codega
for serving as
Local 8 Trustees

Shop Steward Committee Recommends New Recognition Program

The Shop Steward Committee met three times over the last several months and submitted a proposal to the Local 8 Executive Board which was approved on November 11. The next step will be for members to vote on the revised policy at the January 23 Assembly. If approved, the new policy will be effective January 1, 2010.

The Committee looked at a survey of how over a dozen other unions provide incentives/recognition to Shop Stewards. The research, done by our Student Intern **Kevin McGill**, showed most unions don't offer any kind of dues reimbursement to Stewards and those that do generally offer much less than what Local 8 provides. However, the Committee

recommended keeping our current policy intact as much as possible. The Committee also recommended re-evaluating the policy starting next August to look at the impact of the new governance structure. Many thanks to the following Stewards who worked hard on developing the new policy: **Anthony Forte, David Olivera, Carmen Paez, Joan Weiss, John Latimer, Tony Sosa, Joann Christen, Terry Hall, Tony Nordin, Anita Clarey, Alan Wolfson, Audrey Gunderson, Elizabeth Matthews, Maria Michaels, Robin Sullivan, and Lisa Arce.**



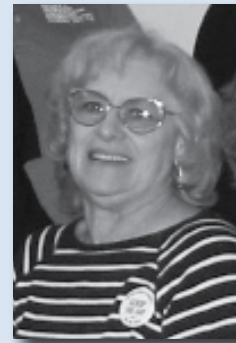
Shop Stewards Lupe Bolanos, Eileen Grimnes and George Newton



SeaMar Leaders at the Dec. 5 Leadership Training

Vice President Marie Cook Retires

If you've ever attended a Local 8 Membership Meeting or participated in labor political action, then you've met Marie. Marie Cook has been a Local 8 member nearly 20 years and became our Vice President in 1995. She has worked tirelessly over the years to ensure the voices of working people get heard in Olympia and in Washington D.C. Besides presiding as our Union's Vice President, Marie coordinated several successful Political Action Committee auctions and other fund-raisers, chaired the Trustee meetings, served as an International, WSLC and MLKCLC delegate and provided countless volunteer hours to our Local and for the Political Action Committee. Marie recently retired from Painter's District Council 5. We wish Marie the best in her retirement and hope she continues to be an active labor participant. Congratulations Marie!



Marie Cook

Local 8 Eastern Washington Job Opening

Local 8 has a **full-time** salaried Union Representative position open based in the Tri-Cities area. Duties for the position include but are not limited to:

- Serve as chief spokesperson in labor negotiations.
- Prepare contract proposals, formulate bargaining strategies.
- Administer contracts, resolve grievances, counsel and advise members and Shop Stewards.
- Prepare and present educational or informational programs.
- Participate in legislative, political, labor and community affairs.

This position requires long hours with frequent evening and weekend work. Some travel is required within Washington State. Fluency in Spanish is highly desired. Salary depends on experience. A comprehensive package of benefits is provided. For the full job description, please call the Local 8 office at 206-441-8880 or 1-800-600-2433.

Submit your resume and letter of application by **Friday, January 22** to OPEIU Local 8, 2800 First Ave. #304, Seattle, WA 98121-1114 or email libby@opeiu8.org. Fax: 206-441-0207.



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

Address Service Requested

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

Local 8 Journal



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