



Check out www.opeiu8.org for the most up-to-date calendar!

Tues., September 14
Shop Steward Training
en Espanol

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Via Zoom

Sat., September 18
Training on Roberts Rules

9:30 am - 11:00 am
Via Zoom

Sat., September 25
Membership Assembly

10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Via Zoom

Fri.-Sun., October 1-3
International Education
Conference

Via Zoom

Sat., October 23
South/West Regional Meeting

9:00 am - 9:30 am
New Member Orientation
9:30 am - 11:00 am
Organizing Virtually in the Workplace
Via Zoom

Tues., November 9
Advanced Shop Steward Training

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Via Zoom

OPEIU Local 8 by phone:

206-441-8880
800-600-2433

Membership Assembly

Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Official Local 8 union business is conducted and decided by members at two Membership Assemblies held on the fourth Saturday of January and September each year. All members are welcome.

Agenda

- Nominations and election of (2) Executive Board Members from the North Region.*
- Nominations and Election of (2) Trustee positions.
- Nominations and Election of any vacant Central Labor Council Positions.
- Approval of the Education Curriculum for 2022 Regional Meetings.
- Approval of the donation(s) to be collected at Local 8 meetings & trainings in 2022.
- Meetings of the Shop Steward, Race, Equity and Social Justice, Political Action, Communications and Public Sector Organizing Committees.
- Review for approval any new Union business.
- Membership reports and announcements.

* Nominees attend the Assembly or declare in writing their willingness to accept the nomination. Written declaration must be presented before the close of nominations and must be in the form of a hard copy email or other written material that clearly identifies the nominee and includes a date. Text messages and emails from an electronic device without written hard copy provided will not be accepted. Self-nominations are allowed. Nominations do not need a second.

Executive Board Members shall be nominated and elected only by those members who reside in the same region.

A 50% rebate on your Initiation Fee will be given if you attend the Membership Assembly within one (1) year of your date of hire or the Shop Steward Incentive Program will apply for attending (initiation fee rebate not available to members paying a \$20 or waived Initiation fee).

To participate, please RSVP by Tuesday, September 21 to Sally@opeiu8.org, or online: <https://forms.gle/Xukear2pMETpFmot7>

Executive Board

Kellie McGuire
President

John Adams
Vice President

Suzanne Mode
Business Manager

Cynthia Schu
Secretary-Treasurer

Shannon Mains
Recording Secretary

Anthony Forte
Central

Sara Jimenez-Orozco
Central

David Olivera
Central

Shana McCann
Central

Elizabeth Maass
North

Paul Bender
South/West

Elaine Carlson
South/West

Becky Mowry
South/West

Karen White
South/West

Barb Cameron
East

Rick Nesbitt
East

Robin Sullivan
East

Trustees

David Evans
Trustee

Lois Jamieson
Trustee

Joan Weiss
Trustee

New Local 8 Public Sector Organizing Committee

The source of our union's strength is our members. Your membership and the membership of your colleagues demonstrates to management and policymakers alike that we are committed to standing together in unity to fight for higher wages, improved benefits and better working conditions.

However, during the pandemic, it's been especially challenging to connect with newly hired prospective members and talk to them about the benefits of joining their union. To address these challenges, we have formed a new committee of Local 8 members to reach out to prospective members and encourage them to join the union. Our goal is to build our union power and communication across our membership. We are looking for members to join this committee and dedicate a small amount of time to these efforts. If you are interested in helping with this outreach, contact Organizing Director Corinne Cosentino at corinne@opeiu8.org to learn more, or try out this committee at the upcoming Membership Assembly.

Union Affiliate Organizations

Union Members are not a monolith. We come from different backgrounds and identities (socioeconomic, racial, educational, etc.) yet we join together to make up a diverse and inclusive family of working people. The AFL-CIO has important constituency groups that help do research and outreach in the community to build solidarity and grow and strengthen the labor movement across our varied and intersecting interests.

OPEIU Local 8 is proud to partner with groups that share our values. By becoming a member of one of the following organizations, you can attend their meetings, trainings, actions, and conferences and then bring that information back to Local 8 to help connect us with other union workers and leaders who are organizing to advance equity, diversity and justice within the Labor Movement.

Are you interested in joining one of the groups listed below? Please contact Valarie at valarie@opeiu8.org or Tara at tara@opeiu8.org. If spaces are available, Local 8 will cover the annual membership costs! For a full description of each group and when they meet, go to <https://www.wslc.org/afl-cio-constituency-groups/>.

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA)

A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI)

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU): Puget Sound Chapter

Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW)

Labor Council on Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)

Pride at Work

Union Veterans Council

WA State Alliance for Retired Americans (WSARA)

Special Upcoming Events:

Entrenamiento para delegados sindicales en español Martes, 14 de septiembre de 2021, 6 p.m. a 7:30 p.m. Entrenamiento a través de Zoom.

(Spanish Shop Steward Training)

Obtenga más información sobre lo que se necesita para ser delegado sindical de su sindicato y sus derechos como miembro del sindicato. Acompáñenos para una noche de educación y conversación.

Confirme su asistencia con Nallely por correo electrónico nallely@opeiu8.org

Shop Steward Highlight:

Alan Wolfson

Alan Wolfson was several years into his career at the King County Department of Assessments when he and his coworkers decided they needed a union. They interviewed several unions and decided OPEIU Local 8 was the one for them. When it was time to pick a Shop Steward, Alan's coworkers decided he would be good for the role. As a Shop Steward, Alan felt he needed to be informed about his union, so he started attending the monthly meetings and over time took on more and more roles. "If you don't get involved with your union, you're not going to reap the full benefits," Alan said. "It can be hard to navigate at first, but if you go to the meetings, you can learn how your union works on the local level and then go from there."

When Alan was asked to be the local's Chairman for Elections he accepted, and the first election he conducted was quite contentious and turned out to be on the day of the Nisqually earthquake in 2001. They still held the election. Alan also became a delegate to his local Central Labor Council (CLC) in ML King County, served on the Bargaining Team for every contract after the first, and the Joint Labor Management with the Coalition of Unions at King County. Fellow Local 8 members who have attended the General Assemblies may remember him for his role as Auctioneer many times at the PAC Auction during the social hour. More recently, Alan decided to step back from some of these roles to make space for other members who may want to get involved. "I think if I can turn the reigns over on one thing or another, someone else can learn," he said.

After 30 years at the Department of Assessments working with many different Assessors and Deputy Assessors, Alan retired in June 2021. He hadn't originally planned it that way, but he contracted Covid-19 in March 2020 before anyone knew what it was and has suffered with long-hauler symptoms since. Retirement will enable him to focus on his recovery. "Get vaccinated if you haven't. Don't hesitate to wear a mask if you feel like you should," he said. "You don't want to go through what I went through with this illness."

Reflecting on his time and various roles as an active union member, Alan remembered a few other highlights such as having guest speakers like then-Representative Inslee at union events, and the ML King County CLC Labor Day Picnics at Woodland Park Zoo. "For anyone with an interest in being heard, it's always nice to be active in these organizations and take advantage of the opportunity," he said. At these events, he got to chat with elected officials from all different levels, from city council members to King County Executive Dow Constantine and Senator Patty Murray.

We wish Alan the very best in his retirement and are glad he's keeping his OPEIU membership as a Retiree.

Roberts Rules of Order Training sponsored by RESJ Committee, Saturday, September 18, 9:30am-11:00am via Zoom

OPEIU President Richard Lanigan will be joining us for this special training on using Robert's Rules of Order. This training is intended to increase accessibility for members to participate fully in the democratic processes of union meetings on all levels.

Please RSVP by Sept. 16 online; <https://forms.gle/Xukear2pMETpFmot7>
or by emailing sally@opeiu8.org



Staff

Suzanne Mode

Business Manager

Corinne Cosentino

Organizing Director

Nallely Flores

Organizer

Erin Adamson

Union Representative

Diane Arnold

Union Representative

Phoebe Feldsher

Union Representative

Ida Kovacic

Union Representative

Leslie Liddle

Union Representative

Shelby Mooney

Union Representative

Valarie Peaphon

Union Representative

Patrick Pedersen

Union Representative

Tara Powell

Union Representative

Angie Wedekind

Union Representative

Mike Maloney

Office Manager

Libby Alejandro

Administrative Secretary

Joan De Leon

Bookkeeper

Lynn Brown

Billing/Dues Clerk

Sally Mitchell

Graphics Specialist/Secretary

more Special Upcoming Events on back page

Did you know? Washington Cares Fund

Washington State is the first in the nation to develop a way to make long-term care affordable for all workers in the state as we age. The Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program (referred to as the “LTSS Program” or “WA Cares Fund”) is a new fund which will provide access to long-term care when we need it.

The LTSS Program will be funded by premium assessments collected by employers through payroll deduction. Starting January 1, 2022, all Washington employee wages (those employees who work in Washington, receive wages reported on a Form W-2, and work at least 500 hours per year) are subject to a 0.58% premium assessment (for example, \$0.58 premium assessment on every \$100 of eligible wages).

Starting January 1, 2025, proceeds of this premium assessment will be used to provide long-term services and supports benefits to Washington State residents who have paid into the LTSS Program for a specific amount of time and who need a certain amount of assistance with activities of daily living.

Employees’ have a one-time opportunity to opt-out if they have comparable private long-term care insurance that meets the qualifications and was purchased before November 1, 2021.

For more information please visit <http://www.wacaresfund.wa.gov/> or <https://www.opeiu8.org/Local8Journal/tabid/236/Default.aspx>.

Special Events continued

2021 OPEIU All-Regions Educational Conference, October 1-3, 2021 via Zoom

Fri., Oct. 1, 1:00-3:00 pm PT; Sat., Oct. 2, 9:00-2:00 pm PT; Sun., Oct. 3, 10:00am-12 noon PT

With the theme, “Meeting the Challenges of a Changed World,” the agenda will include a look at some of the technological tools available to help meet these challenges, how we can best organize new members and meet our representational responsibilities in a changed workplace landscape, and the union’s role in the fight for economic and racial justice for all working families. This conference, hosted by OPEIU International, is open to all members.

Please RSVP by Sept. 16 online: <https://forms.gle/Xukear2pMETpFmot7> or by emailing sally@opeiu8.org.



Address Service Requested

OPEIU Local 8, 2900 Eastlake Ave. E. #220, Seattle, WA 98102-3012

