

Union information at your fingertips

Check out Local 8's "refreshed" website coming by the end of April!

Our website, launched last spring, is designed to help members best utilize our Union's resources. Never looked at it? Well, here are just a few resources you'll find that might be useful to you:

- Voter registration
- Scholarship information for you or family members
- Latest call to action
- Membership Meeting and Shop Steward Trainings Schedule
- Weingarten Rights, FMLA, ADA and many other workplace rights defined
- How to contact your Union Representative or Union Officers
- The current and past Union Newsletters—the Local 8 Journal
- Union dues—where does the money go?
- Local 8 Steward Manual
- Ways to make your Union strong
- Negotiations updates
- Links to many useful labor related websites
- And much more.



www.opeiu8.org

 Local OPEIU Journal

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

Address Service Requested

Meetings are held at the Seattle Labor Temple: 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

www.opeiu8.org

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Wed., Apr. 28

- **Membership Meeting**, 6:15 p.m., Hall 6.
Agenda: Election and Nomination of Delegate and Alternate to King County Labor Council.
Special Guests: Deborah Senn and Mark Sidran, both campaigning for State Attorney General.
- **Political Action Committee**, 5:30 p.m., Hall 6.
- **New Member Orientation**, 5:30 p.m., Rm. 236.

Sat., May 1

- **International Workers' Day** began here in the U.S. in the 1880s when workers joined together to fight for an eight-hour work day. Nowadays, people march for Immigrant's Rights on this day.
- **First Recognition Pin Party**, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Carpenters Hall, 209 Vine St., Seattle

You're invited to Local 8's first Recognition Pin Party

Saturday, May 1, 2004

5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Carpenters Hall, 209 Vine Street, Seattle

Local 8 will be honoring members with 20 or more years of continuous membership and Local 8 shop stewards and activists at this first ever celebration. If you're a member with 20 or more years, a Local 8 activist or shop steward, or any member who would like to attend and didn't receive an invitation by mail, please be sure to call the Local 8 office right away at 206-441-8880.

We'll also have a silent auction to benefit Local 8's Political

Action Committee at the Recognition Party. It should be a wonderful evening, so we hope you can attend.

If you can't attend but would like your years of service membership pin, please let us know.

At left, Home care workers from Longview who have been fighting for a fair contract for over a year get some encouragement from the Building Trades Council of Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Counties: Tom Harris, Jeff Smith, and Caregivers Phyllis Reynolds and Nancy Morgan.



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Executive Board

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Cindy Schu
Secretary-Treasurer
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Libby Alejandro
Administrative Secretary
Betty Devereaux
Secretary/Receptionist
Nora Galvin
Secretary/Desktop
Publisher
Mary Silver
Billing Clerk



At left, members **Charlie Best** and **Christina Jensen** staff the OPEIU table at International Women's Day.

Teresa Fesler (not shown here) and **Maribel Martinez** (opposite, below right) also helped reach out to the community.

The future of working families is in your hands— GET INVOLVED: Register people to vote, volunteer, donate, VOTE!

The outcome of the upcoming general election in November can have a negative or positive effect on working families. We prefer the latter! In November we will not only be deciding on a President, and a new Governor, but our U.S. and State Representatives will be up for re-election along with some Senate seats. We may not have the financial resources to compete with corporate America, but by mobilizing our 4,000 members we can have an impact on the upcoming election. Local 8 has identified **three steps** to get ready for election 2004.

1. Register to Vote. We need to register co-workers, family members, friends and clients to vote. Half of Local 8's membership is not registered to vote.

2. Volunteer to Get Out the Vote. The Labor to Neighbor program is a state-wide grassroots union member powered program to Get Out the Vote. You can help by recruiting Local 8 members to become a Labor to Neighbor volunteer.

3. Strengthen Our PAC Fund. Our PAC fund is used to help candidates that are committed to supporting working families. Union dues cannot be spent on political contributions. The PAC money comes from member donations and fundraising events.

To get involved, fill out the enclosed flyer. We hope we can count on you to get ready for the 2004 elections. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact **Shelby Mooney** 1-800-600-2433 ext. 7 or 206-448-2615 or shelby@opeiu8.org.

ELECTION AND NOMINATION OF KING COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE With the resignation of delegate Dave Westphal, Local 8 now has one delegate and one alternate delegate position to nominate and elect at the April Membership Meeting. Delegates are expected to attend meetings of the KCLC on the third Wednesday of each month at the Seattle Labor Temple. Labor Council meetings provide a forum for union action in political issues, strikes, organizing and labor community actions.

M E M B E R S I N A C T I O N

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY PRESENCE: **Ligia Velázquez** has been confirmed as the newest member of the King County Labor Council Executive Board, representing Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLLA). Also, Local 8's President **Verlene Wilder** has been honored as the Board Chair of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. Congratulations, **Ligia** and **Verlene**.



KRONOS/TARDY POLICY AT GHC OPEIU Local 8 and Unions United have sent a demand to bargain to Group Health over a tardiness policy it wants to implement. We will keep you updated of any new information as it happens. This policy is to go along with the implementation of the Kronos timekeeping system.

Kronos is rolling out at Factoria in the coming weeks. Please see your Shop Steward with any questions.



MAJOR VICTORY at Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) where Local 8 has been negotiating for a fair and equitable contract since 2002. When CAMP laid off several employees last fall without bargaining with the Union, we filed charges, and recently the National Labor Relations Board found them guilty of Unfair Labor Practices. CAMP will have to give workers a back pay settlement of over \$26,000 and take them back to work. Now we're sure that CAMP will take the Union very seriously.

SEA MAR CARE CENTER employees won a 3% increase, retro to Dec. 1, in their wage opener this year. Good job!

Next Statewide Meeting postponed until Mar. 5-6, 2005

On March 10, Local 8's Executive Board voted unanimously to postpone our next Statewide Meeting until March 5-6, 2005. We'll still be able to use the facilities in Tokeland. The meeting was originally planned for late September, but because of this important election year, everyone agreed we'll need to devote all possible resources to getting out the vote. The Planning Workgroups have been moved from March to this May (see below).

Connecting for Our Future, Part II

Workgroups planned for Saturday, May 22, Seattle Labor Temple, Hall 8

Last October, 41 Local 8 members from all over the state met in Tokeland, Washington to plan how we make our Union as democratic as possible. Two workgroups were formed to hammer out details to be presented to the Local 8 membership before the next Statewide Meeting. The first group will address ways we can improve membership involvement and communication within the union and the second group will establish a plan to include greater regional representation on the Executive Board.

The Workgroups will meet all day Saturday, May 22 at the Seattle Labor Temple. If you're interested in making union history, please contact Business Manager, Suzanne Mode or Organizing Director, Cindy Schu at 206-441-8880.

*Why vote?
Does it make
a difference?
What does
it affect?*

*Answer:
Everything
Workers'
rights. How
much money
you take
home. Health
care. The
environment.*

*The 1960
race was
won by less
than ONE
vote per
precinct.*