



WHITE COLLAR

OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO, CLC

No. 516

Issue 1, Spring 2012

Governor Scott Walker Defeated Again as Workers Vote for Local 95!

Local 95 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, has won elections in two units, Community Care of Central Wisconsin (CCCW) and Portage County, overcoming Governor Scott Walker's Act 10 legislation requiring recertification by annual secret ballot vote. Since these elections, the court has ruled the recertification requirement is unconstitutional. These two victories, which took place on February 22, 2012, follow an earlier win in December 2011 at the Port Edwards School District, where workers voted to recertify the union.

Of the 133 eligible voters at CCCW, 83 voted Yes for the union, with only 12 No votes. At Portage County, of the 92 eligible voters, 65 voted Yes with only 4 No votes.

"Local 95 has once again defeated Governor Scott Walker and his program to end collective bargaining for public employees," said International President Michael Goodwin. "These election victories are even more profound in Wisconsin since the right to bargain on terms and conditions of employment have been eliminated, and it sets the stage statewide for workers to fight back and win.

"Local 95 showed these workers in the bargaining units the importance of staying with the union to fight another day, and that day will come when Gov. Walker is recalled, the State Senate comes under Democratic control and the Act 10 legislation is completely reversed," said Goodwin.

(Continued on page 6)



Local 95 President Jeff Jester and Portage County Unit Chair Barb Saddison are all smiles after their election victories on February 22, 2012.

Wisconsin Governor Recall Election Set!

The recall effort against anti-worker Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker has passed its most important milestone, collecting more than 900,000 names on petitions calling for a gubernatorial recall election! This far exceeds the 540,208 signatures needed to trigger the recall election.

Governor Walker's recall election is

scheduled to take place on June 5, 2012, with a Democratic primary on May 8, if necessary. It has also been announced that enough valid signatures have been collected to trigger recalls against three Wisconsin state senators — Sens. Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau), Van Wanggaard (R-Racine), and Terry Mouton (R-Chippewa Falls). A fourth state senator, Pam Galloway (R-Wausau),

also was set for a recall election but resigned on Saturday, March 17 from the seat she has held since her November 2010 election, saying she was resigning in order to deal with family issues. A special election will be held to fill her vacant seat with a May 8 primary and June 5 election; a primary will not be held if only one candidate enters the race.

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Who Would Have Guessed?

By Michael Goodwin, International President

On the rare occasion when I am at home, I always enjoy catching *The Rachel Maddow Show*. She's great at correcting the numerous misrepresentations that come over the air on Fox News.

Recently, she discussed an analysis of presidents and members of Congress by political party to measure their level of liberal or conservative actions and votes. The analysis she referred to is the work of a pair of political scientists at the University of Georgia, Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal and their research assistant Christopher Hare, and can be found on voterview.com. (See charts on page 3.)

Do you know who the most conservative Democratic president was since Harry Truman? No, it wasn't JFK or LBJ; it wasn't Carter or Clinton. Astonishingly, it is Barack Obama! Who would have guessed? As you know, President Obama has been accused of all sorts of things, such as being a socialist or even worse. The fact that he is the most conservative president since Harry Truman boggles the mind!

On the Republican side, every Republican president, with the exception of George H. W. Bush, has been more conservative than the one before, with President George W. Bush being the most conservative over Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Bush 41!

When you look at the drift in a conservative direction, President Obama doesn't stray too far to the right, notwithstanding that he is the most conservative of all Democratic presidents since 1945. The Republican presidents, however, have gone to extremes to try and be the most conservative of all time, taking quantum leaps further and further to the right. Republican presidents have increased their conservative actions at twice the rate of their Democratic counterparts.

When it comes to the voting records of members of Congress measured as liberal or conservative, Democrats have been essentially voting the same way since 1879! On

the other hand, Republicans have been voting the same way since 1879 too, but that ended in 1981 with a precipitous move in a conservative direction, taking the same quantum leaps further and further to the right as their Republican presidential counterparts. Republican members of Congress have also increased their conservative actions at twice the rate of their Democratic counterparts, the same as Republican presidents.

You see, the country has been moving in a more conservative direction over time and that helps explain why the middle class is shrinking. Conservative policies don't help the middle class grow, but actually work to shrink it. More and more of the economic pie is going to the ilk that we have come to know as the 1 percenters. The 99 percenters,

“Watching the Republican candidates express what they would do if elected president is scary. It's frightening to think of what would happen to the middle class if any one of them were elected president.”

which includes us, are finding it harder and harder to meet our financial obligations every day.

President Obama's initial approach to “talk” Republican members of Congress into supporting legislation designed to rebuild the middle class was like talking to a brick wall. Republicans were not interested in anything that President Obama had to say that would make him look successful. They vowed to do everything they could to impede progress and were focused on what their leader in the Senate, Mitch McConnell (R-KY), expressed as the main goal — to make President Obama a one-term president. McConnell has been so obsessed with his goal that he has orchestrated filibuster after

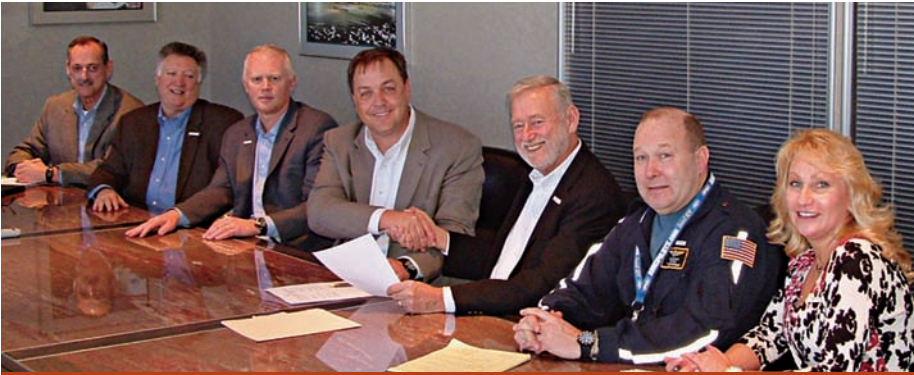
filibuster in the Senate to block good legislative ideas, even ideas previously supported by Republicans.

Fortunately, last September President Obama realized that it was futile to try and “sweet talk” the Republicans into doing the right thing for the American public and finally reversed his approach and came out fighting for jobs and the middle class. We are very pleased with his new approach and happy to anticipate that he may lose his status as the most conservative president — a designation I'm sure he would be happy to shed.

President Obama's multiple proposals on rebuilding the middle class are working. Many of the initiatives that he was able to accomplish early on in his presidency are finally taking hold as Americans understand that the recovery from the greatest recession in history is slowly but surely underway. We are witnessing month by month job creation in the private sector, and the unemployment rate is on its way down. Notwithstanding his success, the president is facing a tough re-election campaign, which is expected to be close. The election is complicated by the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the Citizens United case allows individuals to contribute millions of dollars to super PACs, without any accountability as to where the money is coming from, which could include money from foreign countries.

As an example, the multimillionaire owner of The Sands Hotel in Las Vegas has announced his commitment to contribute \$100 million to a super PAC to defeat President Obama. The Democrats cannot compete with individuals contributing millions of dollars. But we can compete with boots on the ground and people fighting to save the middle class. Watching the Republican candidates express what they would do if elected president is scary. It's frightening to think of what would happen to the middle class if any one of them were elected president. Perish the thought!

EMS Pilots at Air Methods Corporation Ratify Agreement



On February 10, 2012, the new collective bargaining agreement was signed. Pictured are International President Michael Goodwin (third from right) and AMC CEO/Director and Head of Investor Relations Aaron Todd shaking on the agreement. Also pictured left to right are OPEIU Senior International Representative Paul Bohelski, OPEIU Director of Organization and Field Services Kevin Kistler, AMC Vice President Mike Allen, OPEIU Local 109 President Dan McDade and AMC Director of Employee Services Joann Bailey. Also present but not pictured was Local 109 Vice President Dean Mischke.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) helicopter pilots, members of Local 109 employed by Air Methods Corporation (AMC) based in Denver, Colorado, have ratified a new collective bargaining agreement covering more than 1,000 pilots. AMC operates in 45 states, transporting close to 100,000 patients annually as the nation's largest provider of air medical emergency transport services and systems.

The agreement was reached after strenuous negotiations conducted over two and a half years under the auspices of a mediator provided by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. The contract was ratified by a wide margin. The secret ballot ratification vote was conducted by Ballot Point.

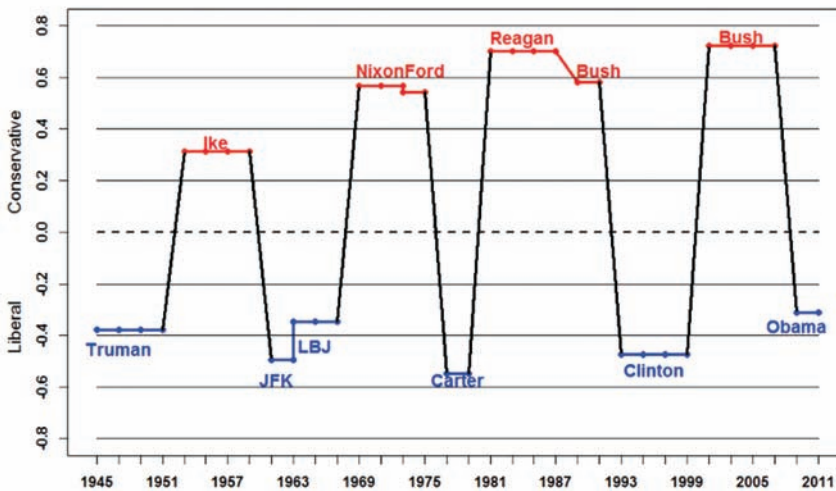
The new agreement provides for wage progression increases based on length of service and cost of living increases based on work location that provide area wage adjustments as well as other considerations.

"I'm pleased with the results and look forward to working cooperatively with the company. This agreement demonstrates an improved cooperative relationship between the company and the union," said Local 109 President Dan McDade. AMC recently acquired Omniflight, which employs more than 300 helicopter pilots. Discussions on the conditions of their inclusion in the AMC bargaining unit are underway.

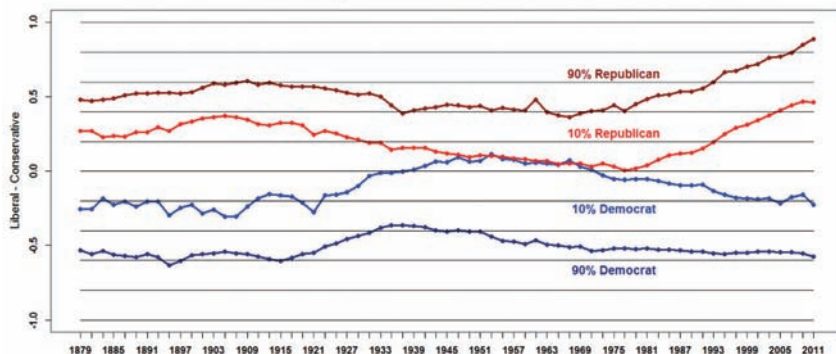
Local 109 is affiliated with the Professional Helicopter Pilots Association International (PHPA), a council within OPEIU that brings together its 3,000 helicopter pilots with one voice. (Read more about PHPA on pages 11 and 12.)

Who Would Have Gessed?

Presidents: 1945 - 2011
DW-NOMINATE Common Space 1st Dimension



House 1879-2011
10-90% Ranges of Parties on Liberal-Conservative Dimension



Charts by voteview.com

WHITE COLLAR

Official Organ of
OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
affiliated with the AFL-CIO, CLC
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MICHAEL GOODWIN
President

MARY MAHONEY
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Letters to the Editor



OPEIU reprints letters from our members on various issues. We invite our readers to continue to share their opinions with us, whether in support of or in opposition to our own. Debate is healthy and welcomed in this union. Letters are edited for length only, not content. Remember: Anonymous letters will not be printed.

You can also reach us on the web: opeiu.org

Dear Secretary-Treasurer Mahoney:

Thank you very much for helping me get approved for [the Romeo Corbeil/Gilles Beauregard Memorial Summer] Camp this year. I had a wonderful/awesome time with the camp counselors and other kids like myself.

Devon Robinson
Alameda, California

Dear Secretary-Treasurer Mahoney:

I wanted to thank you for all the work you did to assist us with financial support during negotiations. I know from my own Local that the Secretary-Treasurer is the one who writes the checks and we can't thank you enough for doing that for our group.

As I know you are aware, the negotiations were challenging and, at some points, seemed like they would never end. The support the International gave to us allowed us to continue working to a resolution. We are pleased with the outcome and our membership voted 2-1 to approve.

I also wanted to thank you for being the driving force behind the relationship with our Locals. We look forward to continuing our work together.

Thank you very much.

In Solidarity,
Michael A. Crosbie
Local 1295
Woburn, Massachusetts

Dear OPEIU:

I wanted to give you a quick update on where I am. I just finished up my first semester at MIT in the Technology and Policy Master's Program and am currently researching large water infrastructure design. Thanks again for helping me financially during my undergraduate studies!

Regards,
Melanie Wong
Clarksburg, MD
University of MD
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Grad '11

Dear President Goodwin, Members and Staff:

I so wish I could have gone to your Nurses Council meeting. I want a report at some point. I'm sure it was great. The Hawai'i Nurses' [HNA/OPEIU Local 50] are fortunate to have you as their representative. I hope to be in touch and if I ever can be of assistance, let me know.

As Always,
Ann Converso
President, United American Nurses (UAN)

Dear President Goodwin and Staff:

Thank you all so much for the great Nurses Council meeting, and for trusting me to give an educational piece to the nurses and all of you. And for being so extraordinarily generous. I am honored. If you ever need another presenter, just call or email!

My Sincerest Regards,
Robin Tanner
HNA/OPEIU Local 50

Henderson B. Douglas Award Winners Announced

OPEIU is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2010 and 2011 Henderson B. Douglas Memorial Award, the union's highest award for organizing. The 2010 award is given to International Vice President for Region V and Local 30 Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer Walter Allen Jr., for the integral role he played in affiliating the 4,000-member Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA)/OPEIU Local 50.

International Vice President for Region II and Local 32 Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager Allen Byron, who passed away in February 2012, has been named posthumously the winner of the 2011 award for his work in affiliating the 500-member independent union, IAIW Local 1.

For more information about OPEIU, visit our website at opeiu.org

Political Report—Election 2012

Crusaders For The Bottom

Submitted by Walter Allen Jr., OPEIU Region V Vice President and Local 30 Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer

There was a time in this country when Americans worked together to build things for the common good. From a strong infrastructure to protect its citizens to programs and benefits to ensure a happy life, America worked for the people. The notion was that the better some did, the better all would do. John Kennedy once said, “A rising tide lifts all boats.” And, it did for quite a while in America.

Unfortunately, today the plan has shifted. It now appears that those without a boat would prefer to simply drain the bay, leaving all boats at the bottom. Whatever happened to people comparing themselves to others and then demanding the same higher quality of life that others have? If workers, for example, in one factory got health insurance from their employer, workers at the factory down the street wanted the same. The top always brought the bottom up. Once again, today things are different.

When did we as a people start to accept this new approach of the bottom bringing the top down, and why? It really makes no sense at all to have less and then demand that others have less too. In the first place, no one should ever be satisfied with less. Especially when the less we are really talking about is pay, health care, retirement benefits, and the protections of government, and more especially at a time when those with an abundance of all those things have more now than ever before, proving that there really is enough to go around.

As Americans, throughout history we have been a very benevolent people, helping those around the world who are starving, or suffering from disease and abuse. We have provided assistance to the third world in the hopes of raising its peoples’ standards of living, and for all the right reasons. Yet at home we have begun, and now seriously advanced our own march toward a third-world standard of living where wealth is concentrated in a very small portion of the citizenry and the vast majority must fend for themselves. All of which creates this new perverse competition to make sure that others have less than you do.

Need proof? Next time you leave the gro-

cery store and the people out front gathering signatures on a petition to end public employee pensions accost you, just ask them if they have a pension plan to retire on? I bet the answer is no, and there you have their motivation. Or maybe to the guy with the petition to end fair wage laws on construction projects, ask the same question, and get the same answer — they don’t have it so why should someone else? When did we turn into these kinds of people?

There is no doubt that there are a lot of very serious issues that need to be addressed in these difficult times. But when the changes are discussed it always starts with the sacrifices the middle class must make. It is always about the schools the middle-class kids go to, or the programs that the middle-class people need, or the public safety services more important to middle-class people. It’s always the same group of people when it comes to the bad news. I guess that’s at least partly because there are more of us than there are of them. Wait a minute, there ARE more of us. How did they manage to convince middle-class Americans

that we are to blame? How did they manage to make this all our fault? And why do we, even a minority of us, believe them?

There is nothing wrong with middle-class Americans demanding more from our government, or from ourselves. There is nothing wrong with wanting a fair and equitable system that takes care of those who cannot care for themselves. And there is certainly nothing wrong with making those at the top pay their fair share. Americans should once again work together to be the best, to have the best, and to make the middle class strong. The solutions to our problems lie in the middle class, and making sure that they have jobs and pensions and security is the only way to get this country back on track. It is time to stop believing that the middle class is to blame for everything that goes wrong in America, and it is well past time for us to stop pulling each other down. There are plenty of groups out there working hard every day to make sure they have more by making sure we get less. We don’t have to help them.

Notice to All Local Unions Regarding Form 35

All Local Unions are reminded that they must comply with Article XIX, Section 10 of the OPEIU Constitution regarding procedures for check-off of contributions to the J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate Fund (VOTE). Section 10 reads:

“Effective July 1, 2010, all Local Unions in the United States shall ascertain whether any employer(s) with which the Local Union has a collective bargaining agreement allows its stockholders, executives, or administrative personnel to contribute to an employer Political Action Committee Fund (PAC) through payroll deduction. Any employer which allows any such payroll deduction must be required to permit employees in the bargaining unit to utilize the same procedures for check-off of contributions to the J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate Fund.

In all collective bargaining negotiations which begin on or after July 1, 2010, each Local Union in the United States must vigorously pursue agreement with the employer(s) to a provision permitting check-off of contributions to the J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate Fund.

All Local Unions in the United States shall be required to use a standard form(s) approved by the International Union Executive Board for check-off of dues, fees and/or J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate Fund contributions.”

The International has prepared **Form 35** and made it available to all Local Unions for this purpose. OPEIU also urges all Local Unions to include a discussion of the J.B. Moss VOTE Fund on all membership meeting agendas, and to make Form 35 sign-up cards available at all meetings.

Governor Scott Walker Defeated Again as Workers Vote for Local 95!

(Continued from page 1)

“Local 95 will now take these votes of confidence from our members and use them to fight for restoration of collective bargaining rights for all public sector employees in Wisconsin,” said Local 95 President Jeff Jester.

The Local 95 CCCW unit, chaired by Amy Cisewski, consists of professional employees such as registered nurses and social workers in the central Wisconsin counties of Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Portage and Wood. The Local 95 Portage County unit, chaired by Barb Saddison,

consists of similar professional Portage County employees, as well as computer programmers. The Local 95 Port Edwards School district unit consists of clerical employees working as support for the staff at the schools, including secretaries and food service employees.



OPEIU Supports Nick Mattiacci in Pennsylvania Race

Nick Mattiacci, son of International Vice President for Region II and First National Guild for Healthcare Providers of the Lower Extremity/OPEIU Guild 45 President John Mattiacci, D.P.M., is running for State Representative in Pennsylvania’s 153rd District. Mattiacci is a strong supporter of workers’ rights and would make an excellent addition to the State House. OPEIU is putting its support behind Mattiacci in the Republican primary, being held April 24, 2012. Results will appear in the next issue of *White Collar*.

International Representative French Receives Humanitarian Award

OPEIU International Representative Susan French has been honored by the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) with its Cindy Horan Humanitarian Award at its 2012 Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet

held in San Francisco, California, on February 27, 2012. Among the honorees also was U.S. Representative Mazie Hirono (D-HI), who received the Edward M. Kennedy Award for her efforts on behalf of organized labor.

Send Us Your Email Address and Fax Number!

OPEIU continues to update its membership email and fax lists!

If you haven’t already, please email, fax or mail this form to:

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80 Eighth Avenue, 20th Floor (entrance 265 W. 14th St.), New York, N.Y. 10011

Name _____

Local Union _____

Email Address _____

Fax Number _____

HNA/OPEIU Local 50 Welcomes International Executive Board to Hawaii

Displaying the Aloha spirit, members of the Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA)/OPEIU Local 50 graciously welcomed the OPEIU Executive Board to Hawaii for its semi-annual board meeting held January 30–February 3, 2012, in Honolulu, Hawaii.



HNA/OPEIU Local 50 President Joan Craft leads a delegation of HNA members for a special presentation to the OPEIU Executive Board on Monday, January 30. A reception hosted by OPEIU was then held in their honor. Pictured are some of the HNA delegation with Secretary-Treasurer Mary Mahoney (second from left) and International President Michael Goodwin (center). Left to right are HNA's Dawn Asano, RN; Secretary-Treasurer Elayne Schwartz, RN; Director Terilyn Carvalho Luke, RN; Director Anna Giunta-Togo, RN; and Director Peter Fong, RN.



Local 50's Lehua Avilla-Livsey opened the Board's meeting by delivering a traditional Hawaiian blessing. Avilla-Livsey is a Kuma Hula, a position of great honor in the Hawaiian culture.



Lehua Avilla-Livsey pictured with International President Michael Goodwin and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Mahoney. Avilla-Livsey gave each member of the Board and attending staff a fresh flower lei as a greeting and welcome to the islands.

HNA/OPEIU Local 50 Welcomes Inte



The HNA/Local 50 delegation also joined the Executive Board at a reception attended by Governor Neil Abercrombie (D) held in their honor at the Governor of Hawaii's official residence, Washington Place, a mansion that was once a minor royal palace of Queen Lili'uokalani and her husband, Prince Consort John Owen Dominis. Governor Abercrombie spent the evening meeting and speaking with everyone at the reception. Pictured is Governor Abercrombie (center with beard), with members of HNA, from left to right, (Front row) Eddie Akau, Jr, LRS; Sharon Chun, RN; Kathryn Chung, RN; Abercrombie; Jane Hamel, RN; Sydney Kawana, daughter of Tim Kawana; Tim Kawana, LRS; Petrocelli Kesi, LRS; (Back row) Director Terilyn Carvalho Luke, RN; HNA Director of Field Services Bruce Hom; HNA President Joan Craft, RN; HNA Secretary-Treasurer Elayne Schwartz, RN; HNA Vice President Chris Broussard, RN; HNA Director Anna Giunta-Togo, RN; and Daryl Hokoana, RN.



U.S. Representative Mazie Hirono (D-HI) took time from her busy reelection campaign to visit the board meeting and thank OPEIU for its continuing support. The pro-labor candidate is pictured with Secretary-Treasurer Mahoney.



Congresswoman Hirono is pictured with (left to right) International Vice President for Region III and ITPE Local 4873 National President John Conley, International President Goodwin, Local 50 President Craft and Secretary-Treasurer Mahoney.

International Executive Board to Hawaii



Governor Abercrombie welcomes OPEIU to Hawaii with International President Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer Mahoney and HNA/OPEIU Local 50 President Joan Craft.

International Vice President for Region IV and Local 277 President and Business Manager Becky Turner, Governor Abercrombie and International President Goodwin.



The OPEIU Executive Board and staff pictured with several HNA/OPEIU Local 50 officers and members.

HNA/OPEIU Local 50 Welcomes International Executive Board to Hawaii

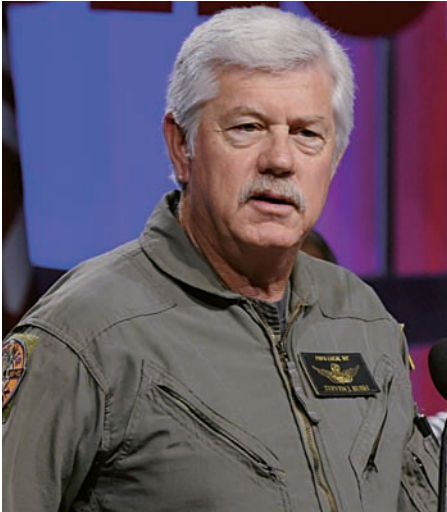


The OPEIU Executive Board and International staff members. Pictured (from top of stairs) are Assistant to the International President Colleen Pederson; Director of Local 153 Health, Pension & LTD Fund George Bueno; Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer Juliet Casey; Director of Organization and Field Services Kevin Kistler; OPEIU General Counsel Melvin Schwarzwald; Director of Communication, Education and Research Nicole Korkolis; HNA/OPEIU Local 50 President Joan Craft; International Vice President for Region III Green P. Lewis; NAPAA/OPEIU Guild 17 President Robert Isacsen; International Vice President for Region VII Joseph Marutiak; International Vice President for Region III and ITPE/Local 4873 National President John Conley; International President Michael Goodwin; International Vice President for Region VII Theresa Kandt; International Vice President for Region II Richard Lanigan; International Vice President for Region II John Mattiacci, D.P.M.; International Vice President for Region II Dan Dyer; International Vice President for Region VII Aaron Sanders; International Vice President for Region V Walter Allen Jr.; International Vice President for Region VI Suzanne Mode; ITPE/Local 4873 Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Arrington; Secretary-Treasurer Mary Mahoney; International Vice President for Region V Christine Page; International Vice President for Region IV Becky Turner; International Vice President for Region III Greg Blackman; Secretary-Treasurer Emerita Nancy Wohlforth; International Vice President for Region V Tamara Rubyn and International Vice President for Region II Patricia Priloh.



United Farm Workers (UFW) President Arturo Rodriguez (right) attends the meeting to update the board about his union's activities. He is pictured with his wife, Sonia, and International Vice President for Region II and Local 153 Secretary-Treasurer Richard Lanigan.

Steven Rush Elected President of the Professional Helicopter Pilots Association International (PHPA)



Steven Rush

The Professional Helicopter Pilots Association International (PHPA) elected Steven Rush to serve as president at its board meeting in Dallas, Texas on February 12, 2012. PHPA is a council within OPEIU that brings together all of its 3,000 helicopter pilots located throughout the United States and Canada.

Rush is a founding member of the PHPA council, and a force behind its establishment in 2002. He is also president of Local 102, one of the original Local Unions affiliated with the council, and has served as a council member since 2002.

“As one of the founders of PHPA, I’m very pleased to have the opportunity to have an even bigger role in our efforts to protect the interests of helicopter pilots, working to improve air safety, security, training and opportunities available to pilots throughout the world,” said Rush.

With a flight career that spans four decades and includes more than 12,000 aircraft hours and 8,000 hours in flight simulators, Rush began his career in the Army in December 1970. After flight training at Ft. Rucker, Alabama, he served in Korea for a year and returned to Ft. Rucker to serve as a military flight instructor until 1977.

After departing active duty, Rush traveled to Alaska to fly 135 ops for the Alaska Pipeline and then returned to Ft. Rucker to work as a civilian flight instructor on the Flight Training Contract for 32 years.

During that time he also spent 16 years in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Rush succeeds Butch Grafton, who has served as PHPA president since its establishment in 2002.

Also elected to the PHPA council were Ken Bruner as vice president, and Bill Sykes as secretary-treasurer. Bruner has served as president of Local 107 for seven years, another Local Union within the

PHPA, but chose not to run for reelection this year. Pete Catalano has been elected to serve as Local 107 president.

Also elected were officers to the International Professional Helicopter Pilots Association (IPHPA), a global group of helicopter pilot unions of which PHPA is a founding member. Rush was elected to serve as president/chair, Jeff Smith as vice president/chair and Bruner as secretary-treasurer.

Online Deals

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You work hard for your money. Your OPEIU membership rewards you with special online discounts that help you **save**—and give you **top value** for every dollar you spend. Take advantage of the wide-ranging benefits available right at your fingertips.

Car Rental Discounts

Save up to 25% when you rent from Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz or National. Whether it's a car, van or SUV, working families can drive in style for less. And ordering online in advance also means you pay less than at the counter.



Travel Center Deals

Save a minimum of 5% on selected Hawaiian cruises. Additional cruise savings may be available on Norwegian Cruise Lines. Book the best flights through the largest airfare search engine on the Internet. Get union-member discounts on hotel rooms, vacation condo rentals, international travel packages and more.



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Get an annual subscription at 27% off. Find non-biased Product Reviews, Product Ratings and Buying Guides, compiled by union workers—a great help in making smart decisions!

Union-made Clothing

Take up to 10% off comfortable, quality apparel union-made in the USA. Wide selection for all ages and sizes—everything from jeans, tees, sweats and socks to dresses, shirts and pants. Look and feel great as you wear your union pride! Gift certificates also available for friends.



Retirement Planning

Whether you're 18 or 60, rich or not, there are steps you can take to plan for your retirement...starting today! Learn about important issues that will affect your family. Get help to find financial advisers and useful Web links. Learn how to enjoy your retirement without worrying whether you will outlive your financial resources.



Entertainment Discounts

Save up to 40% on movie tickets, theme parks, sporting events, restaurants, and more.



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Check out the bargain prices and great selections of new and used books at this unionized internet bookseller. Great source for student textbooks too!



Coupon Center

Find quick, easy savings at the Union Plus Coupon Center!

Find savings coupons for: Money and Insurance, Home Discounts, Health, Auto Assistance, Travel, Entertainment and more.



For details about ALL the Union Plus benefits available through your union, visit

UnionPlus.org

Local Union News

Missouri Nurses Join OPEIU!



The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has upheld an election held February 9, 2012, wherein a unit of thirty full-time and part-time nurses at Humana, Inc., in Kansas City, Missouri, voted for representation by Local 22. The Humana nurses voted 23-7 for Local 22 representation, and bargaining for a contract has already begun!

Pictured left to right are Organizing Committee Member Becky Deardorff, OPEIU International Representative Shelia Peacock and Clarice Stacker, organizing committee chair and former president of the Missouri Nurses Association (MONA) Unit.

Nurses in Michigan Vote for OPEIU Local 459

In a National Labor Relations Board election held February 15, 2012, Registered Nurses at McLaren Greater Lansing hospital in Lansing, Michigan voted for Local 459 by a wide margin. Local 459 was challenged by an independent group, the Ingham Professional Nurses Association (IPNA).

The vote was 236 for Local 459, 144 for IPNA and 8 no union.

“These registered nurses have shown that they know Local 459 can best represent their interests at the bargaining table, and is knowledgeable on issues that affect their profession such as staffing levels, safety concerns and

patient care,” said Local 459 Service Representative Joe Marutiak. “We are pleased they voiced their approval for Local 459, and we will work diligently to protect their interests.”

OPEIU represents nurses throughout the United States under the umbrella of the OPEIU Nurses Council.

Local 107 Member Captain Jay Slagel Named HAI's Helicopter Pilot of the Year

Local 107 member Captain Jay Slagel has been awarded the Helicopter Association International (HAI) Pilot of the Year award. The award was given at HAI's Heli-Expo 2012, held February 12–14 in Dallas Texas. Local 107 is a member of the PHPA, OPEIU's helicopter pilot council.

Captain Slagel was recognized for his role

in safely landing an S-92 helicopter with 18 people aboard after a tail-rotor failure – an extremely difficult maneuver. Captain Slagel is quick to point out he didn't do it alone, giving credit to his co-pilot and fellow Local 107 member, Captain Chuck Melton.

“Helicopter pilots face some of the most dangerous situations known in aviation, and

as Captains Slagel and Melton proved, they are among the most skilled and professional in the industry,” said PHPA President Steven Rush. “PHPA is extremely proud of Captains Slagel and Melton, and all of our pilots, for the tremendous job they do every day ensuring the safety of their passengers, crew and the general public.”

AMLU Guild 322 Elects New Secretary-Treasurer

The Association of Minor League Umpires (AMLU)/OPEIU Guild 322 recently elected Ryan Bealo to a three-year term as secretary-treasurer. A former AMLU steward, Bealo's term will expire on December 31, 2014.

“Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Dan Oliver chose not to seek reelection as his career as a professional baseball umpire ended at the conclusion of this past baseball season,” said Guild 322 President Shaun Francis. “He thought it was in the best inter-

est of AMLU that a currently active umpire fill that role. Dan was an asset to AMLU and we wish him the best in his career after baseball. We are also very pleased to have Ryan on board and helping to further the interests of minor league umpires.”

OPEIU Mourns Vice President Allen Byron

OPEIU is mourning the loss of International Vice President Allen Byron, who died February 10, 2012, at the age of 62. Byron represented OPEIU Region II and served as Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager of Local 32 in Union, New Jersey since 2006. He had served on the OPEIU Executive Board since January 2010.

At a very crowded funeral attended by many members of the Local 32 Executive Board, as well as officers and staff of the International Union, President Michael Goodwin spoke about Byron, calling him a caring and dedicated trade unionist who had served the members of Local 32 well. "He was a very important member of the OPEIU Executive Board and I will miss his counsel and friendship greatly."

Local 32 President Mary Short also spoke at the service and praised Byron's dedication to members, and how it was a pleasure and honor to work with him, fighting for higher wages and better working conditions for all Local 32 members.

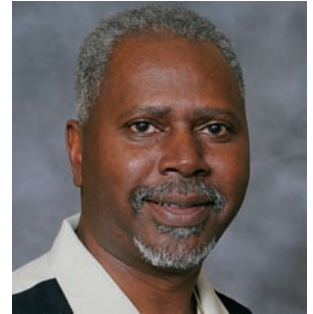
OPEIU has announced that Byron was the posthumous recipient of OPEIU's 2011 Henderson B. Douglas Memorial Award, the union's highest award for organizing, for his work with Local 32 Business Representative Lois Cuccinello in affiliating the independent union, IAIW Local 1, and its 500 members. "Allen understood that organizing new members is the lifeblood of our organization and the only way the labor movement can stay rele-

vant and powerful," said Goodwin. "He wasn't satisfied with the status quo, and made it his top priority to bring the benefits and protections of a union to as many new workers as possible."

Byron was a senior computer operator at the Newark Housing Authority (NHA) in November 1979 when he was selected to serve as a member of the contract negotiating committee for the union representing the workers, SEIU Local 617. After a promotion to supervising computer operator, he joined OPEIU Local 32 and became president of the NHA Association, as well as full-time union representative and chief shop steward.

Upon his retirement from NHA in May 2005, Byron became a Local 32 business representative, going on to serve as secretary-treasurer/business manager until his death. He also served as a vice president of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO.

A lifelong resident of Elizabeth, New Jersey, Byron is survived by his wife, April Byron, nine children and nine grandchildren, as well as his parents Elizabeth Glover and Edmond Lion and six brothers and sisters.



Allen Byron

Vice President Emerita Anita Roy Will Be Missed

After a long illness, OPEIU Vice President Emerita Anita Roy has died at the age of 66. Roy was one of the first women elected to the OPEIU Executive Board, where she served as vice president from 1996–2007. She was a longtime business manager of Local 12 in Roseville, Minnesota, and retired in 2005.

International President Michael Goodwin, Vice President for Region II Dan Dyer, and Director of Organization and Field Services Kevin Kistler represented the International when attending a memorial service for Roy held in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Saturday, February 11, 2012.

"We never know the time or hour of our death, but for whatever length of time that is, we are accountable for how we live it," Goodwin told the gathered mourners. "Anita Roy lived a life doing good works that brought happiness and reward. She dedicated all of her energies to improving the quality of life for workers and was truly a progressive and forward-thinking person."

He talked about the impact that she had on the changing face of the OPEIU Executive Board. At one time, men on the Executive Board outnumbered women by a 10 to 1 margin. Noting that OPEIU membership was made up of 70 percent women, Roy believed that this needed to be changed, and fought strenuously for diversity. In her efforts to accomplish this, Roy was elected to the Executive Board in July 1996. She was reelected at three successive conventions in 1998, 2001, and 2004.

Roy went on a national search to save the Local 12 Pension Plan, which was in deep financial trouble, prior to the general financial col-

lapse of U.S. pension plans in 2008. She found the Local 153 Pension Plan and convinced the trustees to merge the plans together, thereby ensuring that all participant benefits were preserved. To this day, those pension benefits continue to be paid.

As a member of the OPEIU scholarship committee, she was part of the development of the program from 2 cents per member per month contributions, providing small scholarships, to today's benefit of 12 scholarships of \$6,000 each, fully paid by the end of the first year.

"Anita never wavered from her deep belief that a woman's place was not just to be in her union but to be part of the leadership and to be heard," said International Secretary-Treasurer Emerita Nancy Wohlforth. "Above all else, Anita loved her union and worked tirelessly to build it and help her members."

"Anita was a big force in the union," said Lynn Shegstad, Local 12 office manager. "She lived and breathed union... She was well-liked and everybody respected her."

Goodwin stated that he was not surprised that Roy mentioned "hope" and the "labor movement" in her final words to the family. "She was a wonderful woman who dedicated her life to the



Anita Roy

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Work and Health

MRI and Breast Cancer: Is New Technology Really Better?

Submitted by Jeffrey S. Freed, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NYC, and OPEIU Local 153 Health Fund Medical Director

During the last four decades, the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer has markedly changed. We are able to identify patients with breast cancer earlier and we have been able to spare patients from having to undergo mastectomy, with its physical and emotional consequences. Technology continues to improve and MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) has been proposed as a worthwhile addition to our armamentarium of tools to improve diagnosis and treatment.

MRI was initially introduced in the preoperative staging (i.e. extent of disease) of the affected breast in women newly diagnosed with breast cancer, because the technique does not use radiation and detects additional areas of cancer besides the known

cancer that has usually been diagnosed with mammography or physical examination. The increased findings of additional breast cancer are thought to be as high as 16 percent, which led to a great deal of enthusiasm for MRI.

In spite of this early enthusiasm, more recent studies have shown that although MRI changes surgical management in a significant number of women, there is no evidence that it improves surgical care or the cure rate of breast cancer.

Emerging data indicate that MRI does not reduce the need for a second surgery and more importantly can give evidence of a tumor that is not there, a false positive, requiring unnecessary surgery. Overall there is little high-quality evidence at present to support

the routine use of preoperative MRIs. Randomized controlled trials are needed to establish the clinical, psychosocial, and long-term effects of MRI and to show a related change in treatment from standard care in women newly affected by breast cancer.

Anyone diagnosed with the possibility of, or actual breast cancer, should discuss at length with their physician what measures the doctor plans to undertake for diagnosis and treatment of their tumor. They should undergo diagnostic and surgical procedures that have high-level evidence that will guarantee they are receiving the best possible care available at this time.

Jeffrey S. Freed, M.D., P.C. specializes in general surgery/proctology. He can be reached via email at jsfmd@aol.com.

Vice President Emerita Anita Roy Will Be Missed

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union and was loved by all who knew and worked with her. She will be sorely missed," Goodwin said.

The OPEIU Executive Board adopted a Resolution in April 2007, which Goodwin said captured so much of what Roy's life was about. It said, in part, that "Anita Roy has served the

members of OPEIU, Local 12 in Minneapolis, Minnesota with distinction as Executive Board Member, Steward, Trustee, President, Business Manager, and... that her work in negotiating, organizing and servicing the members of Local 12 has improved the quality of life for thousands of working families in the greater Minneapolis, Minnesota area. Therefore, be

it resolved that the OPEIU officers, members and staff hereby express their sincere appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to Anita Roy for her lifetime of dedication and service to the cause of improving hours, wages, and working conditions for American workers."

She is survived by her husband Robert, three children and five grandchildren.

Remembering One of Labor's Finest Advocates

One of the labor movement's greatest advocates, attorney Robert Manning, died on February 8, 2012, at the age of 85. Manning assisted OPEIU and many of its Local Unions, including Local 6 in Boston, Massachusetts for many years and his counsel was extremely valued.

Manning was a senior partner at Boston's distinguished law firm, Angoff, Goldman, Manning, Pyle, Wanger & Hiatt. The son of Stanley Manning, a former Worcester labor leader, Robert Manning practiced for more than six decades and became one of the most highly regarded and trusted union labor lawyers in the country.

An advocate for social justice, Manning believed in the principle that working men and women deserve good wages, decent working conditions and fair treatment. He represented some of the largest and most influential unions in New England and the country, including serving for many years as the General Counsel of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.

Manning is survived by his wife, Cathleen, their sons Jeffery and Brian, and two children from his first marriage, Judith and Robert.



Robert Manning



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AFL-CIO-CLC



Marching for the Rights of Workers!



Secretary-Treasurer Emerita and Pride at Work (PAW) National President Emerita Nancy Wohlforth (right) joined thousands of marchers to retrace the steps of the historic 1965 march from Selma, Alabama's Edmund Pettis Bridge to Montgomery, Alabama to protest efforts in the state and around the country to take away voting rights and the rights of workers and immigrants. Also among those marching was OPEIU International Vice President for Region III Green P. Lewis.

The five-day, 54-mile journey was held March 4-9, 2012 and ended with a rally at the steps of the Alabama State Capitol. "Together we are one. Together we will make change," AFL-CIO Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker told the crowd. She told them they were "the beginning of a renewed, bigger and stronger movement." Also pictured is Pride at Work Executive Director Peggy Shorty.



Thousands crowd the Alabama State Capitol at the end of the five-day march.