

# DELEGATE

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013

## MICHAEL GOODWIN REELECTED INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT Delegates Also Elect Mary Mahoney As Secretary-Treasurer



To the sounds of thunderous applause, blue and gold balloons, a downpour of colorful confetti and Fleetwood Mac's classic, "Don't Stop," the delegates to the 26<sup>th</sup> OPEIU Convention on Monday unanimously reelected Michael Goodwin to his seventh term as International President of the Office and Professional Employees International Union.

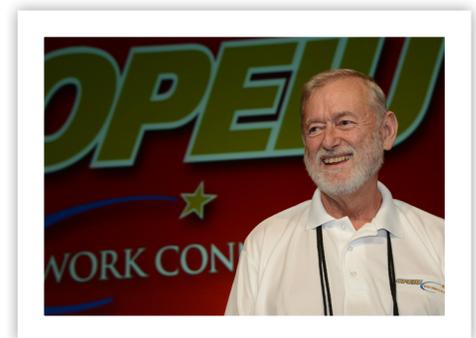
Moments later, Mary Mahoney was also reelected, as Secretary-Treasurer. The energy and outpouring of excitement swept through the hall as International President Goodwin and Secretary-Treasurer

Mahoney left the podium to join the delegates on the Convention floor—many a hand outstretched to congratulate them on their respective reelections. All in all, a monumental moment for OPEIU. ●

## PRESIDENT GOODWIN SAYS, "WORK CONNECTS US ALL"

Proudly looking out at the sea of OPEIU delegates seated before him, President Goodwin said, "I'm pleased to report the state of our union is well, strong and something you should be proud of."

Goodwin stood before a packed house of Convention delegates and spoke enthusiastically about OPEIU's innovative tactics, its growth and its place within the labor movement.



*Continued on page 4*

## Hawai'i Governor Proudly Stands With OPEIU Delegates



The always enthusiastic Honorable Neil Abercrombie, Democratic Governor of Hawai'i, flanked by members of Hawai'i Nurses Association (HNA)/OPEIU Local 50, captivated Convention delegates with a rousing speech about the extreme importance of supporting OPEIU, organized labor as a whole, the need for political involvement and the pursuit of the American dream. "OPEIU is right there in the forefront," said Gov. Abercrombie. "I'm proud to be with you." Speaking about Washington gridlock and voter frustration, an excited Abercrombie had this to say: "I've been in 34 elections and I've learned one thing—every vote counts!" To rapturous applause, he went on, directly addressing delegates, "You represent a constituency just like I do, representing people who want a better life for themselves. You gotta elect people who will get things done!"

Hawai'i Governor Neil Abercrombie

## San Diego Welcomes OPEIU!



## Today's Forecast\*

 66°  61°

\*Subject to Mother Nature!



## Convention Fun Fact!

The **first** person to drive over the landmark San Diego Coronado bridge, which opened in 1969 connecting downtown San Diego with Coronado, was **Ronald Reagan!**



## Convention Celebrates Strike/Lockout Victories!



*Heroes of Local Unions 212, 459 and 4873 accept awards for their respective fights and victories against Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Western New York, the American Red Cross and Yellow Checker Star Transportation (YCS) in Las Vegas, Nevada.*

With incredible enthusiasm and to a standing ovation, President Goodwin proudly introduced members of Local 459 of Lansing, Michigan, Local 212 of Buffalo, New York, and Local 4873 of Las Vegas, Nevada, who marched into the Convention hall wearing strike/lockout t-shirts and hats, holding flags and signs, with hands raised in triumphant displays. Representatives from each, along with President Goodwin, spoke passionately about their respective fights and their amazing victories—all becoming emotional when recounting their struggles

and emphasizing how instrumental the partnership between the Local Union and the International was in their struggles at Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Western New York, the American Red Cross and Yellow Checker Star Transportation (YCS) in Las Vegas, Nevada. Afterwards, these heroes were presented with a plaque by Goodwin and congratulated on their perseverance, each an example to all of how solidarity can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. ●

**San Diego Mayor Robert Filner:** "I will fight to get San Diego cab drivers classified as employees so they can organize!"



**Michael Buffer**  
Gets Delegates On Their Feet!



Region V Vice President and Local 30 Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer Walter Allen Jr. welcomes delegates to San Diego.

## Hotel del Coronado "Some Like It Hot" Beach Party



Members of Local Unions 6 and 453 of Boston, Massachusetts enjoy the party.

## "WORK CONNECTS US ALL"

*Continued from page 1*

"We've found a way to grow," said Goodwin, drawing a clear distinction between OPEIU's continued growth and the shrinking memberships and anemic recruitment numbers plaguing other labor unions, "by pioneering new ways to organize." One of the ways is through membership benefits, Goodwin said and then announced a \$2,000 life insurance and \$2,000 accidental death and dismemberment benefit for all OPEIU members and their families.

"We're in the top third of AFL-CIO unions, with 103,000 members," said Goodwin, "and we've added 3,372 net new members in recent years." He also addressed the many challenges facing organized labor, highlighting the passage of so-called "right-to-work" laws in Michigan and other states. "We need to

stop the craziness of the Right Wing and Tea Party," said Goodwin, who then went on to describe how radical lawmakers are currently trying to cut benefits, such as overtime pay, and destroy unions as a whole. "With a stroke of the pen, everything you've worked for can be thrown out the window."

As he urged delegates to take a stand for their union, Goodwin received huge applause when he said, "We refuse to let them turn back the clock 100 years." Pointing toward the future, Goodwin also highlighted how important it is to engage the next generation of OPEIU members, its Rising Stars, to ensure the legacy of our union. "As long as we have a voice," he said, "anything is possible." ●



Rules Committee Co-Chairs Dennis Arrington and Patricia Priloh present the Convention Rules, which were approved by unanimous consent.



Secretary-Treasurer Emerita Nancy Wohlforth handles the election for the office of President as Chair Pro Tem.



Local 30 Delegate Kathleen Doyle reviews the Election Rules.



Local 153 Delegate and Region II Vice President Richard Lanigan nominates Michael Goodwin for President of the International Union.