

DELEGATE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013

AFL-CIO PRESIDENT RICHARD TRUMKA SAYS,



AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka

“This is OUR America!”

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, in a powerful speech about both the opportunities *and* many challenges facing America’s organized labor movement, told Convention delegates, “It’s time for us to stop wishing the world were different. It’s time to make it different.”

Heartfelt and passionate, Trumka tackled the issues facing OPEIU and the labor movement head-on. “America’s working people need a strong labor movement,” said an animated Trumka. “Union density in the private sector is less than seven percent...and the attacks on us just keep coming,” he said. “We’re faced with a choice. We’re either going to make excuses, point the finger of blame, or we’re going to take the responsibility on ourselves to do something about it.”

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RADIO HOST STEPHANIE MILLER SAYS, “OPEIU IS STRONG AND GETTING STRONGER”

The always hilarious Stephanie Miller, host of *The Stephanie Miller Show* on Sirius/XM Radio, delivered a funny—but *incredibly insightful*—speech about the labor movement, the Right Wing agenda and what needs to be done to protect America’s workers. Nothing was off-limits for the colorful comedian. When she wasn’t commenting on New Jersey Governor Chris Christie’s new figure, she was skewering Michele Bachmann, Rush Limbaugh and postulating that Sarah Palin thinks Plymouth Rock is located in North Carolina.

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Radio Host Stephanie Miller

OPEIU Vice Presidents Elected

Candidates from five Regions were nominated unopposed, and therefore elected as Vice Presidents. The newly elected Vice Presidents are:

Region I

Darshan Nair

Region II

Richard Lanigan
John Mattiacci, DPM
Patricia Priloh
Dan Dyer
Mary Short

Region III

Greg Blackman
Dennis Arrington

Region IV

Becky Turner

Region V

Walter Allen Jr.
Tamara Rubyn

Region VI

Suzanne Mode

Elections to be held today

Three candidates, Aaron Sanders, Duane Spencer and Shanon Taylor, were nominated for the position of Vice President from Region VII. An election will be held today to determine the winners of the two seats.



Charles Ponti Sr. celebrates his 100th birthday with delegates, family and friends.

A 100-YEAR-OLD CHARLES PONTI SR SAYS, "YOU GOTTA FIGHT!"

Convention delegates sat in awe as a 100-year-old Charles Ponti Sr., a 76-year OPEIU member, delivered a feisty speech about organizing and his union experiences—dating back to 1937. "I like to tell organizers, if you do not fight, you're no organizer," said Ponti. With humor and an indomitable spirit, Ponti said, "As one person, you can't do anything. But, when you organize, you can do anything!"

Then, President Goodwin asked Ponti's family to join them on stage and, as 500 cupcakes were wheeled into the hall, delegates delighted in singing *Happy Birthday* to a much-surprised Ponti. 🍩

Today's Forecast*

☀️ 66° 🌙 61°

*Subject to Mother Nature!



Convention Fun Fact!

The Giant Dipper, a classic, wooden roller coaster in Belmont Park, along Mission Beach, is **one of only two** ocean-side coasters on the West Coast. Built in 1925, it is also the **only** roller coaster in the U.S. to have National Landmark status and to be on the National Register of Historic Places.



AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka: “This is OUR America!”

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With hands raised in defiance, a fiery Trumka spoke about the needs of workers who have been shut out of the labor movement by inadequate laws and ruthless employers. “We’re going to do better. We have to do better. And if you want to see political power, wait until we have 20 million members instead of 12 million!”

“We’ll work for it. We’ll fight for it. We’ll stand together! We’ll win together!”

—AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka

On what we, America’s labor workforce should expect, Trumka said, “Here’s what I want you to tell people—expect wins!” Adding, “Expect a day soon—we’ve got to work for it—when America starts creating the good jobs again, and wages and benefits begin to climb...when workers are recognized again for the contributions we make to our society, our economy and our communities.”



AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka energizes Convention delegates.

President Trumka ended his speech to tremendous applause. “We’ll bring out the best in our country, and in ourselves, to build the future we know we can have. And together, we will win—for our children, for our families, for our future, for our country!” ●



Stephanie Miller speaks about politics, unions and the Right Wing.

STEPHANIE MILLER SAYS AMERICA NEEDS LABOR UNIONS

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Miller took a break from the comedy, however, while taking a question from a delegate about how to balance the political spin in the media. “It’s a solid wall of union bashing on the right,” said a serious Miller.

“You have Rush Limbaugh on 500 stations, espousing hate on a daily basis,” she said. “That’s why it’s so important that we support progressive media,” who will report on organized labor victories and challenges facing workers. But, Miller also pointed out that all that hate

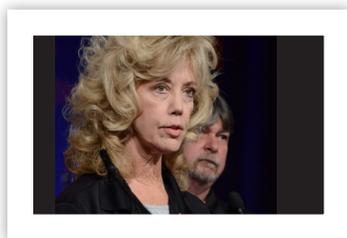
talk “isn’t helping them win elections, is it?” Miller left delegates with this message: “Continue fighting the good fight.” Delegates accepted her challenge with cheers and a standing ovation. ●

OPEIU RECOGNIZES LONG-SERVICE MEMBERS

Convention delegates paid tribute to those with 40 years of service or more to OPEIU.

Charles Ponti, Local 153, New York, N.Y.	(76 yrs)
John Conley, Local 4873, Savannah, Ga.	(65 yrs)
Patricia Priloh, Local 457, Centerville, Pa.	(43 yrs)
Louis C. Wolf, Local 2, Washington, D.C.	(43 yrs)
Michael Richards, Local 11, Portland, Ore.	(43 yrs)
Jearlean Fleming, Local 391, Chicago, Ill.	(42 yrs)
Rosalinda Rae, Local 319, Tuscan, Ariz.	(42 yrs)
Paul Mari, Local 73, Jacksonville, Fla.	(41 yrs)
Randy Groger, Local 98, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisc.	(41 yrs)
Kathy O'Kray, Local 494, Jacksonville, Fla.	(41 yrs)
Wilma Artua-Banda, Local 153, New York, N.Y.	(41 yrs)
Steve Turkeltaub, Local 153, New York, N.Y.	(40 yrs)

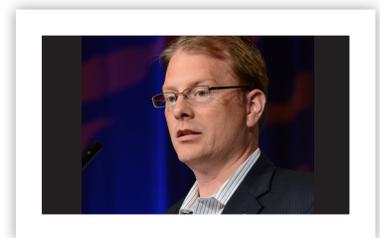
Check out the OPEIU Historical Exhibit located outside the Convention Hall



Resolutions Committee Co-Chairs Christine Page and Aaron Sanders share Resolutions for consideration by the Convention.



Constitution and Laws Committee Co-Chairs Richard Lanigan and Becky Turner review Constitutional Amendments.



Tim Sullivan from Local 6 and Chair of the OPEIU Rising Stars Program delivers a report to the Convention.