

OPEIU LOCAL #9

Newsletter

For Bulletin Board Posting

APRIL 2013

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PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATION

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2013
6:00 p.m.
Wisconsin State AFL-CIO
6333 West Bluemound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53213

Upcoming Elections:

Local 9 Elections

Nominations for President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recording Secretary, three Trustees and six Executive Board members will take place at the regular membership meeting on April 16, 2013. The meeting begins at 6 pm at the WI State AFL-CIO office as listed above. If anyone is interested in running for a position but is not able to attend the meeting, please send a notice of intent to run and specify the position via letter or email to either President Candy Johnson at (local9candy@sbcglobal.net) or Secretary-Treasurer Dawn Martin at (local9dawn@sbcglobal.net), by noon on April 16th so your name can be placed in nomination. If there is only the required number of candidates for the position(s) the election shall be dispensed with and the candidates shall be declared the winner(s). Should an election be necessary for any position(s) a mail ballot election will be done as required under the constitution.

No person shall be elected to an office unless they have been a member in good standing for at least the preceding twelve months.

OPEIU Convention Delegates

The OPEIU 26th Convention will be held June 3-6, 2013 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, San Diego, CA. The Executive Board has determined that the Local will send two delegates to the convention. The President is automatically one of our delegates per the Constitution. This means that one delegate position will be filled at the April 16th membership meeting. The nominations and election will occur at the April meeting. In order to be eligible to be considered for a delegate position you must have been a member in good standing for at least the preceding twelve months.

Chicago Federation of Labor Delegate Positions Available

We are still looking for individuals to serve as Local 9 representatives to the Chicago Federation of Labor. Anyone wishing to serve as a delegate to the CFL should contact President Candy Johnson by May 1st, 2013. In the event there are more volunteers than positions open, there will be an election.

Online Steward Training

The UCS Online Steward Training Course is a course designed to cover all the basics every steward must know. It is a course that is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cost is just \$20 per person and those members who enroll and successfully complete the course will be reimbursed by

Local 9. To enroll in the course you go to unionist.com and sign up. You must pre-pay in order to be able to complete the course. The entire course takes students an average of 8-15 hours to complete—and you are awarded a Certificate of Completion at the end. The opportunity is open to all Local 9 members.

Milwaukee Area Labor Council Fundraising & Volunteer Opportunity

The Milwaukee Area Labor Council is working on a new fundraising effort by staffing a concession booth at the Bradley Center during the months of September through May. This would be an on-going commitment and 15-20 individuals willing to work a given shift for each assigned date are needed. Shifts would include weekday evenings, weekend days and evenings and run between 5-7 hours per shift depending on the event. Volunteers are needed to cook, distribute beverages, take and fill orders and handle the cash register. No experience is necessary. You will be trained. Anyone interested in volunteering or if you have questions, please contact Robin at the Labor Council offices at 414-771-7070.

South Central Federation of Labor Scholarships Available

The South Central Federation of Labor is offering four \$1000 scholarships, by lottery drawing among the eligible applicants. Members and children of members who live in the six county region covered by the SCFL, have not yet received a post-secondary degree and have not previously been awarded a SCFL scholarship are eligible to apply. Deadline for filing is June 26, 2013. Applicants can download the form at the SCFL website, www.scfl.org, complete the application and email it to Sharon@SCFL.org. Results will be posted on the website by July 8, 2013.

Right to Work—What Does it Mean?

Many people do not understand what Right to Work means. They think it gives them a right to a job when in reality it means giving employers a great right to set all of the working conditions without regard to what their workforce wants or needs. One only has to talk with Union leaders in states that are “Right to Work” to learn the true results: that their bargaining power has eroded, how poorly the employer treats its employees and how little influence the union has in the work place. Everyone has a right to be treated with dignity and respect, to work in a safe environment and to be paid a fair wage. There needs to be a balance of power and collective bargaining provides that balance of power.

Collective bargaining helps to level the playing field. It helps protect wages, pensions and benefits of all working families. Workers everywhere gain because of wages, benefits and working conditions; and safety procedures laid out in union contracts become industry standards. Collective bargaining established a standard work week, a minimum wage, and health and safety standards. It also creates a two-way street that can benefit both sides. It can bring new ideas and cost saving measures to the table. It is because of collective bargaining that we have a middle class in this country. We must continue to do everything within our power to maintain these rights.

As always if you have any problems do not hesitate to call or email the office.

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