



# OPEIU LOCAL #9

## Newsletter



For Bulletin Board Posting

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### **PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATION**

**General Membership  
Meeting  
Tuesday, February 21, 2012  
6:00 p.m.**

**WI STATE AFL-CIO  
6333 W. Bluemound Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI**

### **Reclaim Wisconsin Tour & March**

The Wisconsin AFL-CIO and community partners are fueling up the Recall Express and hitting the road to talk with Wisconsinites across the state about the local effect of Gov. Walker's disastrous agenda.

The "Reclaim Wisconsin" tour will discuss the impact of this Governor's policies on working people including the loss of family-sustaining jobs, the loss of employment protections and benefits, the continual transfer of wealth to Wisconsin's 1% and the hammering of quality public services and education. The Tour will be making stops in Milwaukee, La Crosse, Wausau, Eau Claire, Green Bay, Racine and Madison.

The "Reclaim Wisconsin" tour will culminate in statewide candlelight vigils on Friday March 9<sup>th</sup> and a "**Reclaim Wisconsin March**" in Madison on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. These events will mark the one year

anniversary of when Gov. Walker and Senate Republicans rammed through the collective bargaining bill, illegally, in the dead of night.

Please plan on attending rallies in your area, participating in the candlelight vigils and joining the march in Madison. We will post information on our website as it becomes available.

### **Sad Days for Indiana**

On January 26<sup>th</sup> the Indiana House passed "right to work (for less)" legislation. Gov. Mitch Daniels, who once had said that he did not wish to add a "right to work" provision to the state's labor laws did just that on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, only hours after the State Senate speedily voted in support of the bill.

The legislation, which bars union contracts from requiring non-union members to pay fees for representation, makes Indiana the first state in more than a decade to enact right to work legislation and the only one in the Midwest to have such a law.

For more than a month this issue had loomed over Indianapolis, and many hundreds of union members crowded, day after day, into the Statehouse halls trying to persuade legislators to not enact this bill. Democrats, who hold minorities in both legislative chambers, had refused at times to go to the House floor, hoping to block a vote on the matter, which they argued would weaken unions and lower pay and wages for workers.

Following the signing of the bill, more than 10,000 working people marched from the Statehouse to the site of the Super Bowl to remind legislators of the November elections

and massive mobilization that will be undertaken to take the state back for workers.

### **On a Positive Note**

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn has stated that he opposed the right to work legislation being considered, then passed, and now signed into law in Indiana. He pledged that there would be no such legislation enacted in IL.

### **Wisconsin Labor History Involved in Two Projects:**

#### **Labor History Essay Contest Deadline Approaching**

The deadline for entries in this year's Wisconsin Labor History Society Essay Contest is February 17, 2012.

This annual contest invites Wisconsin students in grades 9-12 to write on the topic: "Unions have been important to my family because. . . Up to \$1,500 in prizes will be awarded in this year's essay contest and will include a \$500 first prize, \$300 second prize, \$200 third prize and up to five \$100 prizes for honorable mention.

Essays will be judged on understanding of the material, writing style and significance of the topic. Each should be approximately 750 words in length, typed, double-spaced on white paper. Two copies must be submitted. The cover sheet must list the title of the essay, the student's name, address and home phone number and name and address of the school and grade. If applicable list family member's union affiliation. Completed essays should be sent to Professor Harvey J. Kay, Center for History and Social Change, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI 54311. Essays must be postmarked by February 17, 2012.

### **Labor History in the Schools Outreach**

The WI Labor History Society is also working with the WI State AFL-CIO to implement Wisconsin's new state law to teach labor history in the schools. For more information on this project or to provide financial support go to [www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinlaborhistory.org).

### **Chicago Federation of Labor Scholarships**

The Chicago Federation of Labor, through the 2012 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Award, will offer five academic-based scholarships and five random-drawing scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each to students graduating from a Chicago or suburban high school. Students may apply in only one of the two categories. The period for submitting applications is January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications are available on line at [www.chicagolabor.org/scholarship](http://www.chicagolabor.org/scholarship).

To be eligible, the student or one of his or her parents must be a member of a local union affiliated with the Chicago Federation of Labor. All applications must be signed by one of the top two officers of the local union to which the student or parent belongs.

Completed applications must be returned to the Chicago Federation of Labor, William A. Lee Scholarship Committee, 130 East Randolph Street, Suite 2600, Chicago, IL, 60601. All applications must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2012.

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

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