



OPEIU LOCAL #9 Newsletter



For Bulletin Board Posting

JANUARY 2018

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PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATION

**General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, JANUARY 16, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

**Milwaukee Professional Firefighters
Local 215
5625 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53213
(Enter through door in parking lot)**

UPCOMING UNION MEETINGS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER

January 16, 2018 – Membership Meeting 5:30 PM
Milwaukee Professional Firefighters, Local 215
5625 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

February 20, 2018 – Membership Meeting 5:30 PM
Milwaukee Professional Firefighters, Local 215
5625 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI

March 20, 2018 – Membership Meeting 5:30 PM
SEIU HCII
2229 S. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL

OPEIU IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION

The identity theft protection is FREE for all members. OPEIU members will have a proactive, comprehensive defense against identity theft provided by InfoArmor. If you do become a victim of identity fraud, InfoArmor's trained experts will help you restore your identity as best possible to what it was before the incident. Activate your benefit for FREE at www.opeiuidprotect.com or if you have questions, you can call 855-990-0994. For more information, please visit www.opeiu.org and click on member resources.

CONTRACTS NEGOTIATED & RATIFIED FOR THE YEAR 2017

The Previant Law Firm, S.C.
SEIU Health & Welfare Fund
UFCW Midwest Benefits Fund
Wellpoint, Inc.
Bakery, CT Workers & Grain Millers, Local 300
Painters & Allied Trades, District Council 7

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to wish all OPEIU, Local 9 members a Happy New Year from the Officers, Executive Board, and staff. We hope you enjoyed your time off throughout the holiday season with family and friends and are rejuvenated to start the New Year.

At the October 2017 Executive Board meeting, it was agreed to start having a quarterly newsletter. Therefore, newsletters will be published in January, April, July, and October of each year. If there is ever any breaking news or scholarship information, it will always be posted on our website. Our website is www.opeiu9.org. Also, for those members that go on Facebook, Local 9 Vice President, Kaitlin DeCero has created a Facebook page and updates it on a regular basis. Once on Facebook go to search and type OPEIU Local 9.

Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen District Council
Brewery Workers, Local 9
Inter-Local Pension Fund, GCIU
Workers Organizing Committee of Chicago
IBEW, Local 158
UFCW, Local 1473
Great Lakes Organizing Project – AFT
Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund
Boilermakers, Local 107
North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
Lewis University
IAMAW District 10
Wisconsin State AFL-CIO

If I missed anyone, I apologize.

OPEIU, Local 9 Year in Review

In late 2016, Manitowoc Crane announced that they were closing the facility in Manitowoc, WI and moving all operations to Philadelphia. At the time, we had approximately 35 members working at the facility and in January 2017 we had approximately 20. After several effects bargaining negotiations, the members received more than what the Agreement allowed and by June 2017 all members were laid off.

March 2017 brought good news for Local 9. Benefit Plan Administration (BPA) contacted the local to inform me that they were bidding on a new fund and wanted Local 9 to represent the members at that facility. After investigating, I found out that OPEIU, Local 12 did represent the current employees working at that facility. Through discussion with Local 12 and BPA being awarded the work, it was agreed that Local 9 would be best suited to represent the members at the new Laborers BPA. Meetings were held with the members and BPA and the local reached an agreement on a new contract for the twelve individuals that were working at the health fund for the Laborers. Because the wages were substantially lower in the old agreement, BPA and Local 9 agreed to raise the wages to be more in line with other current BPA Agreements. This amounted to approximately a 7 ½% increase in just the first year.

The new fund is now up to fourteen members and I would like to wish all of them Welcome to OPEIU, Local 9.

In October 2017, I was contacted by a group of Organizers who were referred to Local 9 from another member that Local 9 represents. After just one meeting with the group, they signed authorization cards. The employer (Chicago Teachers Union) recognized the group as wanting to be part of Local 9 and agreed after some discussion on the unit clarification. Bargaining dates for the new agreement will start in mid-January.

NEW YEARS THOUGHT

Happiness depends upon your outlook on life. – Find the good in all situations

Attitude is just as important as ability. – Keep your attitude positive

Passion find yours this year! – Do what you love and you will never work

Positive thoughts make everything easier. – Stay focused and stay positive

You are unique, with special gifts, use them. – Never forget you have talent

New beginnings with a new year

Enthusiasm a true secret of success

Wishes may they turn into goals

Years go by too quickly, enjoy them. – Wisdom from your elders, listen

Energy may you have lots of it. – Take care of yourself
Appreciation of life, don't take it for granted. – Live each day

Relax take the time to relax in this coming year. – Keep a balance in your life

Author: Catherine Pulsifer

As always, if you have any concerns or issues, please contact the union office at 414-771-9730 or Business Manager, Dave Rehberg at local9dave@sbcglobal.net.

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