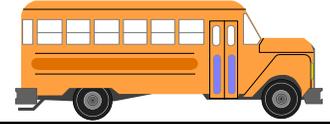




OPEIU LOCAL #9

Newsletter



Candy Johnson, President - local9candy@sbcglobal.net
David Rehberg, Business Manager - local9dave@sbcglobal.net

September 2015
414-771-9730 FAX: 414-771-9732

PLEASE NOTE
MEETING LOCATION
General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Milwaukee Professional Firefighters
Local 215
5625 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53213

(Enter through door in parking lot)

Refreshments will be served

FALL IS UPON US

Preseason football is underway, so you know that summer is coming to a close and old man winter is right around the corner. Whether you're a Packer fan, Bear fan or just enjoy watching college football enjoy and cheer on your team. Some schools are already open and others will be opening soon, so please watch your speed and be ever so watchful of children darting out into the street.

Since the last newsletter I have been busy with negotiations and/or ratifications of Collective Bargaining Agreements. Some of them are:

City of Kankakee

Operating Engineers, Local 139

Building Trades United Pension Trust Fund

GCC/IBT Fox Valley Local 77-P

Carday & Associates

GCC/IBT National Pension Fund

Great Lakes Organizing Project

Illinois Nurses Association

Operating Engineers Skill Improvement

Steamfitters Union 601

Zenith American Solutions

PIN CEREMONY TO TAKE PLACE AT SEPTEMBER MEETING TO HONOR LONG-TIME MEMBERS

At the September 15th meeting those members who celebrate either their 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th or 50th anniversary as an OPEIU member this year will receive an OPEIU pin. These individuals have been sent a personal invitation to attend this meeting where they will be honored for their length of membership in OPEIU. Please plan on attending the union meeting to congratulate those individuals that attend for their years of service.

LABOR DAY AND WHAT IT MEANS

On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took paid time off to march in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S history. This parade was to mark the beginning of recognition of the working class men and women whose physical and manual labor built this country. During the late 1800s, it was a dismal time for working men and women who would be forced to work 12-hour days seven days a week, unsafe working conditions, limited or no sanitary facilities, and no breaks. After several years, the federal government declared in 1894 the first Monday in September to be a legal holiday. Today many Americans see it as the end of summer, the last long weekend, and the start of back-to-school season. I see it as a day to remember our forefathers in the Union movement that gave in some cases their lives for what we enjoy today in our Collective Bargaining Agreements. Take a

minute or two on September 7th this year while you're barbecuing, swimming, or watching fireworks and look up to the stars and thank those men and women that gave us this freedom in our Collective Bargaining Agreements.

LABORFEST

This year the Milwaukee Area Labor Council will be holding their annual parade starting at 11:00 am. After the parade, the Summerfest Grounds will have numerous Exhibitors, live music, and children activities from 12 noon till 5:00 p.m. Advance food and beverage tickets are being sold at the Milwaukee Area Labor Council, 633 South Hawley Road, Suite 110, Milwaukee.

Kenosha Laborfest will be at the St. Therese picnic grounds, Kenosha from 11 am till 5:00 p.m.

Racine Laborfest will be held at the Caledonia/ Mount Pleasant Park from noon till 5:00 p.m.

Green Bay Annual Labor Day Picnic will be held at Bay Beach (Shelter #2) from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm.

KEEP ACCURATE RECORDS, THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK

We have had several incidents happen to our members that show the importance of keeping accurate records from your employer, be it for your time, your travel, whatever record-keeping they require of you. Any falsification of these records is considered fraud and is cause for discipline up to and including termination. Be accurate and keep any supporting documentation you have for the records you submit.

We also have found that sometimes members get frustrated with their situation at work. It could be with their managers/supervisors, the company as a whole, co-workers, it does not matter. You must be extremely cautious about what you say when in your work environment.

POLITICAL NEWS

The time has come for our next Presidential Election. In all my years of being involved in watching the political world, I have never seen so many individuals running for the President's position. After watching the first Republican debate, the remainder for the next 8-10 months should be very entertaining. The flip flopping statements made or supposedly not made, and the attacks on one another as to what and wasn't said is funnier than watching a comedy show. Once it's all worked out and the top two (three) move on at this time next year, then it should get interesting. As I always say, vote for the person that supports the labor movement and your wallet.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

If you believe it will work out, you'll see opportunities.

If you believe it won't work out, you will see obstacles.

As always, if you have any concerns or issues please call or email the office.

/gb, dalu 24111, afl-cio