

# A NEW MODEL FOR A **NEW UNION** **DELEGATE**

RICHARD LANIGAN, PRESIDENT

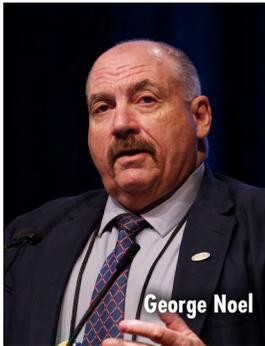
MARY MAHONEY, SECRETARY-TREASURER

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019

## A New Model: **Organizing**



Linda Bridges



George Noel



Corinne Cosentino



Kathryn Bartlett-Mulvihill



Luiz Morizot-Leite



Tyler Turner

### Local Unions Share with Delegates Their Organizing Successes

Organize, organize, organize was the theme of today's general session, highlighted by representatives from Locals 2, 6, 8, 39, 100 and 277 sharing their recent organizing success stories. While they all had differing circumstances and challenges, each shared a commitment to making organizing a top priority and the courage to step out of their comfort zones and try new approaches, and, in some cases, to participate in the OPEIU Apprentice Organizer Program to build strength and power at the local union level.

*"The fierce urgency of now. We must organize."*

— International Executive Board Vice President and Local 40 President Lisa Blake



### On Today's Program

**MOBILIZING FOR A STRONGER UNION:** Convention delegates will hear from an array of speakers from around the labor movement who will discuss how member mobilization is the key to organized labor's success in meeting the challenges posed by today's anti-union forces. Stephanie Bloomingdale, the first woman elected president of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO and Noah Karvelis, a leader in the #RedForEd movement in Arizona, will share their personal stories of success engaging and mobilizing their members to make change. Most importantly, we'll hear from OPEIU local unions that are mobilizing and engaging their members to make a difference in their communities and their local unions.



Lynn Rodenhuis, the AFL-CIO's organizing director, kicked off the day's discussion by saying that a commitment to organizing and member engagement is key to the future of America's labor movement. "With a passion to organize, we can grow OPEIU and the labor movement," she urged, adding, "The labor movement needs you in this fight."

*"The only way we will help working people improve their lives is to organize."*

— Lynn Rodenhuis

Noting that 49% of nonunion workers support labor unions, organizing and collective bargaining, Rodenhuis drove home the point that "the time is right" for us to take action. It's all about building relationships, she underscored, because relationships build trust. "Union organizing doesn't happen at the national headquarters," she said. "It happens in the community." Relationships are critical to mobilizing, igniting change and bending the trend.



*"Something is brewing at OPEIU. New energy. New excitement."* — Patrick Scott

Like a fresh cup of coffee first thing in the morning was how Patrick Scott, executive director of AFL-CIO's Organizing Institute, described what he's seeing in OPEIU's organizing efforts. "Your leadership has been noticed throughout the labor movement," he said.

Touching on the opportunities outlined by Lynn Rodenhuis, Scott posed a simple question to the attending delegates: "What is OPEIU going to do to capture this moment?"

The delegates responded with a one-word answer: ORGANIZE! Scott ended his speech on a note of great optimism. "We're gonna tool up, organize and win the day."

## OPEIU Vice Presidents Elected!

- Region I:** Steve Pettie
- Region II:** Linda Bridges, Myra Hepburn, Mike Bodinsky, Mary Short and John Mattiacci, D.P.M.
- Region III:** Dennis R. Arrington, Greg Blackman
- Region IV:** Tyler Turner
- Region V:** Tamara R. Rubyn, Marianne Giordano
- Region VI:** Suzanne Mode
- Region VII:** There will be an election tomorrow for Region VII. Candidates are: Aaron Sanders, Sharon Taylor and Dina Carlisle, RN
- Region VIII:** Dan Ross



## The Apprentice Organizer Program is breathing new life into OPEIU

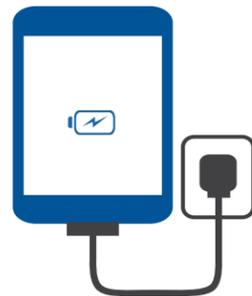
by placing young and energetic apprentices into our local unions to organize the next generation of professionals. From locals across America, these future labor leaders brought a fresh spirit and excitement to the delegates — pointing out that young people are overwhelmingly in favor of labor unions. It's imperative, they all said, to educate and activate millennials to ensure there's a bright future for America's workers. All of these young apprentices are devoted to organizing to change working people's lives for the better.

*"Organizing is our path to thrive and survive."*

— Haylee Hilton, apprentice organizer, Local 12

## Las Vegas Fun Fact!

At 1,459 feet, the Stratosphere is the tallest observation tower in the United States and the second tallest free-standing structure west of the Mississippi River.



## Remember to charge your tablet tonight

so you have access to important convention materials tomorrow.

## Tonight:

The Beatles LOVE Cirque du Soleil at 7 p.m. at The Mirage, just a short walk away.



## Organizing Awards

### Henderson B. Douglas Organizing Award (Local 2):

The Henderson B. Douglas Organizing Award has been awarded at each OPEIU Convention since 1968 and is given to the local union and organizer(s) or local union representative(s) who organized the most people into their local or the International that year. The 2018 recipient, Local 2 in Silver Spring, Maryland, led by President Dan Dyer, has attained significant success organizing the employees of the National Democratic Institute, Partners Global and Kaiser Permanente.

### Gold, Silver and Bronze Organizing Awards:

**GOLD** (Local 8, Seattle, Washington): Organized Northwest Justice Project, Casa Latina and Kaiser Permanente in Spokane.

**SILVER** (Local 6, Boston, Massachusetts): Organized the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers, Worcester Registry of Deeds and Fee Payers, and was also recognized for its work combatting the effects of the *Janus* ruling.

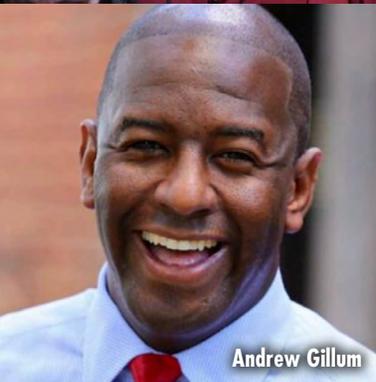
**BRONZE** (Local 277, Fort Worth, Texas): Organized BookPeople, the largest independent bookstore in Texas, in addition to their commitment to organizing through the OPEIU Apprentice Organizer Program.

### Organizing Recognition Awards:

Locals 101 and 40 were recognized for their enthusiastic commitment to making organizing their approach to unionism. They know an organizing-first mentality is the best way to bolster the strength of their locals.



Local 2 receives the 2018 Henderson B. Douglas Organizing Award.



Andrew Gillum

## On the Schedule for Tomorrow

### An address from the Honorable Andrew D. Gillum

The former mayor of Tallahassee and the Democratic nominee for Florida governor in 2018 will address convention delegates on the importance of getting involved in the political arena to elect pro-worker candidates at all levels of government.

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