The 27th OPEIU Convention may have come to a close, but we're just getting started!

As President Richard Lanigan brought the 27th OPEIU Convention to a close, delegates left with more than fond memories of exciting elections, inspirational speeches and good times with their union sisters and brothers. This year's delegates left feeling fired up and empowered to make a lasting impact on the future of our nation and the life of every American worker. This convention set the tone for the excitement and energy that we will use to ensure we have a pro-labor, pro-working families and pro-OPEIU (madam!) president.

"This convention is just the beginning!"

— President Richard Lanigan
Van Jones brings down the house with important (and often hilarious) insights into the 2016 election

CNN political commentator and activist Van Jones delivered one of the most exciting and empowering speeches of this year's convention, using humor, political acumen and personal anecdotes to shed a bright light on the seriousness of the November presidential election. "We can't sit back and just hope Donald Trump will lose. We have to make sure he loses," said Jones. "Let me tell you something: Donald Trump is going to go into neighborhoods and say, 'I'm rich. I can make you rich.' And people are going to believe it. We can't let his lies become a reality." His speech ended with delegates vowing to knock on doors, energize young people and make sure Hillary Clinton is elected in November.

"Donald Trump must lose."
— Van Jones

"The American people have about had it! Don't believe the lies they're saying about American workers." — Ron Baker

Ron Baker, strategic campaign coordinator for The Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM), addressed the convention as part of the Nabisco 600 Tour, a campaign to spread the word about the laid-off BCTGM Local 300 members from the Nabisco bakery in Chicago, whose jobs were offshored to Salinas, Mexico, by parent company Mondelez. Learn more at www.fightforamericanjobs.org.

"Hard-fought union wages weren't won because of the good will of employers." — Brea Ellis

Brea Ellis, Union Privilege representative, told delegates about the many benefits available through Union Privilege. Check out www.unionplus.org for more info.
And the winners are...

The convention presented the 2016 J.B. Moss VOTE Fund Awards, the 2015 Henderson B. Douglas Memorial Award, Organizing and Special Recognition Awards for outstanding service on behalf of OPEIU.

2016 J.B. Moss VOTE Fund Awards

2015 Henderson B. Douglas Memorial Award

Organizing Awards

Gold
ITPEU, OPEIU
Local 4873

Silver
John A. Mattiacci, D.P.M.

Bronze
Local 8

Bronze
Local 459

See page 4 for more winners
OPEIU vice presidents elected

Pictured are President Richard Lanigan, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Mahoney and the International vice presidents as they are sworn into office. Administering the oath of office is Secretary-Treasurer Emerita Nancy Wohlforth.

Region I
Bruce Wade

Region II
Michael Goodwin
Dan Dyer
John A. Mattiacci, D.P.M.
Mary Short
Michael Bodinsky

Region III
Dennis R. Arrington
Greg Blackman

Region IV
Becky Turner

Region V
Walter Allen Jr.
Tamara Rubyn

Region VI
Suzanne Mode

Region VII
Aaron E. Sanders
Sharon Taylor

Diversity
Christine Page
Lisa Blake
Maureen Meehan-Golonka

View convention photos and videos at www.opeiu.org and click on Member Resources.

Special Recognition Awards

Federation of Catholic Teachers (FCT), Local 153
Local 306
Florida Nurses Association (FNA)/LERC, Local 713