



AFL-CIO, CLC

WHITE COLLAR

OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO, CLC
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Special *White Collar* Issue Celebrating the OPEIU 25th Convention in Washington, D.C., June 21-24, 2010



Previous Convention Held in Las Vegas, Nevada
June 18-21, 2007

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Aaron E. Sanders
Region VII



Becky Turner
Region IV



Judith Zenk
Region VI

Local 6 Trial Court Employees Win \$30 Million Back Pay

Members of Local 6 are celebrating a landmark victory, as an arbitrator ruled they are entitled to \$30 million in back pay—the largest settlement of its kind in Massachusetts history.

On May 7, 2010 an arbitrator ruled that the Trial Court of Massachusetts breached its contract with Local 6, which represents more than 3,300 state court workers, by refusing to pay the union members the negotiated 3 percent wage increase since July 1, 2007. This arbitration award will compel the state to fulfill their contractual obligation of \$30 million in back pay.

In January 2008, Chief Justice Robert Mulligan signed two three-year labor agreements (one for the clerical unit, the other for the professional unit). In August 2008, the State Legislature funded the first year of the agreements and the employees received a retroactive payment for that year. But the Trial Court refused to increase the workers' wages to the negotiated amount. For the last three years these court workers' wages have been frozen at the 2006 levels.

"This is an important victory," said Robert S. Manning, Local 6's General Counsel. "It is, however, sadly ironic that court workers have had to bring a case to force the judicial system, which enforces agreements against individuals and corporations on a daily basis, to obey the contract signed by its own Chief Justice."

Citing a lack of funding, the Trial Court claimed an inability to pay its contract. The union denies, however, that is a justification for failing to pay people their wages for work performed. "These workers also have contracts they must honor," Manning said, "from mortgages to tuition bills to taxes, and they cannot break them by claiming they were underpaid. In order to do business, the state must honor its contracts just as every other citizen does. The arbitrator in this case has simply enforced a contract that was signed and later broken."

According to Local 6 Business Manager Donna Barrette, the workforce impacted by this decision consists of a variety of clerical and professional workers, who on a daily basis maintain and keep the cases of the court system flowing. They are the backbone of the courts, assisting the judges, clerk magistrates, and probation officers. Their job duties range from docketing cases, to maintaining the courthouses, to providing interpretative services and transcribing trials, to researching the law, and assisting judges. The vast majority of this workforce—more than 75 percent—are women whose average salary is \$37,000 a year. "Despite what some may assume, our members are often the head of their household who, with attrition at the work site, have been forced to do more with less—both at work and at home," said Barrette.

Sharron Grafton Makes Local Union Quilts

OPEIU extends deep appreciation to Sharron Grafton, wife of PHPA President Butch Grafton, for her beautiful craftsmanship in making a quilt for each of OPEIU's Local Unions. The quilts, made by her Willow Tree Quilt Company, will be displayed at the OPEIU 25th Convention and then sent to each Local Union.



Sharron Grafton

Special Supplement

Convention season is a good time to review the history of OPEIU, as well as to become better acquainted with the officers and staff. Included in this issue of *White Collar* is an exciting chronology of union and historical events.

Take a look back in time when Elvis topped the charts, Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier and OPEIU was founded with just 22,000 members.

This special supplement begins on page 19, and contains detailed biographies of OPEIU elected officials and International Representatives.

Look for complete coverage of the 2010 convention in the next *White Collar*.

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Editorial

Back to Basics Unionism

By Michael Goodwin, International President



Even with health insurance reform and a new member of the National Labor Relations Board who actually believes in protecting workers' rights, these are confusing times for American unions.

Fifty-eight percent of working Americans would join a union if they could, according to a recent survey by Peter D. Hart Research Associates. But union membership is declining among the very Americans who need unions most — private sector workers who have been suffering wage freezes, increases in their workloads, and cuts in their health and pension benefits.

Public esteem for unions is declining, most likely because Americans distrust large institutions of all kinds. In August 2009, a Gallup poll found that only 48 percent of Americans approve of unions, but, in a hopeful sign, the most favorable are people under 30, 53 percent of whom feel positively about unions.

So how can unions appeal to working Americans, especially the coming generation, who are having a hard time, but aren't sure that we can help? By going back to the basics of unionism.

Even before unions had the right to bargain with their bosses or engaged in political action and lobbying, workers organized in order to enjoy the advantages of mutual assistance, from offering benefits to providing training and setting standards for quality work. Now the economy is going back to the dark days that gave rise to the earliest unions, when workers had to rely on each other for a helping hand in hard times.

Providing collective benefits at no cost to the member is always a winning formula, and OPEIU is proving it works!

Even before the current recession, only 55 percent of American workers received health coverage through their employers, and only 18 percent had defined-benefit pension plans at work, while an additional 31 percent had defined contribution plans, according to the Economic Policy Institute. With the massive layoffs during this recession and the growth of part-time and temporary employment, the erosion of employment-based benefits has accelerated. In a survey last fall, the AFL-CIO found that 44 percent of low-income young workers do not have health insurance, and only 27 percent have pension or retirement plans on the job.

Most workers will change jobs at least ten times in their life-

times and need to keep updating their skills and getting new degrees and certificates. Today's workers are looking for something they can count on, and that something just might be a union, if we reinvent ourselves to meet their needs.

Providing collective benefits at no cost to the member is always a winning formula, and OPEIU is proving it works! In New York City, the New York Hotel Trades Council negotiated comprehensive medical services at healthcare centers in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens that cover employees and their families even into retirement.

Using our combined purchasing power, OPEIU provides a PerksCard to all members nationwide, which makes available discounts to shopping at big retailers like Overstock.com, Lowes and Home Depot, restaurants, and other services online and in stores. In several cities, OPEIU members receive death benefits, disability benefits, free towing and roadside assistance and discounts for medical and dental care, equipment and other purchases through Careington International. In Las Vegas, Nevada, OPEIU and the United Steelworkers (USW) together represent more than 5,000 taxi drivers and provide membership benefits to all union drivers under the banner of the "Alliance." Since the inception of this program, the unions have brought into membership more than 2,000 drivers.

Now as in the past, job training, job placement, and standards of occupational excellence are also strong motivating factors for workers to join together. Among the guilds and professional associations within OPEIU, helicopter pilots advocate for safety standards, nurses have gone on strike to improve patient care, and pharmacists have negotiated guarantees in their collective bargaining agreements that their professional judgments will not be overruled.

These instances of mutual help and professional standard-setting are models for what many more unions should be exploring as we strive to organize unrepresented workers as well as the more than two million workers who are covered under union contracts, but have not yet joined unions.

Working Americans want what we can offer. But we have to offer more of what workers want. That's the secret for unions seeking to survive, grow and make a difference in an economy where individual workers are being ground down, but groups of workers can still move forward together! OPEIU is proving this works, and will continue to use the membership benefits program to attract workers and strengthen the union.

ITPE/Local 4873 President Conley Awarded Ellis Island Medal of Honor

International Vice President and ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873 President John Conley has received the prestigious 2010 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for outstanding service to his community.

At a ceremony held on May 8, 2010 on Ellis Island in New York City, Conley remarked that he is “honored to be included among these distinguished individuals. It is very humbling to be chosen from more than 10,000 deserving nominees, people that have distinguished themselves in both their work and personal lives.”

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor was created in 1986 to pay tribute to the immigrant experience and individual achievement, and is awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds. The honorees are awarded for showing outstanding qualities in their personal and professional lives, yet maintaining the richness of their particular heritage. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is recognized by the United States House of Representatives and the

Senate, and as such the names of all winners are listed in the Congressional Record.

“We are very pleased that John has been honored for this great award,” said President Michael Goodwin. “John has been fighting for working people since 1948. Racial and gender equality, fair wages, benefits for working men and women — this is what John works for every day, and no one is more deserving of this award.”

Honorees typically include U.S. Presidents, Nobel Prize winners, leaders of industry, and gifted artists, performers and athletes. Conley will join the growing list of notable medalist recipients that includes Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, President Bill Clinton, Frank Sinatra, and Donald Trump.

President Goodwin also was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1995, as was Local 153 Secretary-Treasurer Richard Lanigan in 2004 and Director of Organization and Field Services Kevin Kistler in 2009.



International Vice President and ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873 President John Conley receives the 2010 Ellis Island Medal of Honor on May 8, 2010.

ITPE Holds Convention in Savannah



The Industrial Technical Professional Employees Union (ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873) held its convention on March 22-24, 2010 in Savannah, Georgia, and delegates gathered to hear from a number of speakers on the topics of organizing, conflict resolution for union leaders, shop steward training, among many others. Pictured is ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873 President John Conley addressing the delegates. Also pictured left to right are Secretary-Treasurer Dennis R. Arrington, Vice President Paul Harvey, and OPEIU President Michael Goodwin.



The ITPE officers pictured are (seated, left to right) Vice President Paul Harvey, President John Conley, Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Arrington and (standing, left to right) Representatives and Executive Board Members-At-Large Cindy Diehm, Dennis Conley, T. Ruthie Jones and Lena Bailey.

Letters to the Editor



We reprint letters from our members on various issues. We invite our readers to continue to share their opinions with us, whether in support of or in opposition to our own. Debate is healthy and welcomed in this union. Letters are edited for length only, not content. Remember: Anonymous letters will not be printed.

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WHITE COLLAR

Official Organ of
OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES
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MICHAEL GOODWIN
President

MARY MAHONEY
Secretary-Treasurer



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Dear President Goodwin:

I want to thank you for the International's support in bringing Paul McCarthy to the Oberlin College campus April 15. We gained insight on bargaining strategies I believe will help us immensely as we negotiate a new contract in the upcoming weeks.

Local 502 appreciates your past and current support a great deal. Thanks again.

Sincerely yours,

Suzanne Overstreet

President, Local 502

Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio

Dear President Goodwin:

This is to inform you that Daniel I. Wadle, a member of OPEIU Local 9, has been selected by the Greater Green Bay Labor Council as the AFL-CIO Community Services Liaison for the Brown County United Way.

We are pleased to welcome Dan to the vital work of helping union families and building stronger unions through humanitarian service.

We appreciate your support, and that of OPEIU members everywhere, of the AFL-CIO Community Services Program.

Sincerely,

Mike Cavanaugh

Deputy Director, AFL-CIO Field Department

OPEIU Local 459 Members Lead Nationwide Strike Against American Red Cross

Local 459 in Lansing, Michigan joined workers in six states in a three-day multi-union strike against the American Red Cross (ARC) over unfair labor practices, June 2-4, 2010.

"The strike is the result of mismanagement at the American Red Cross," said Local 459 Service Representative Joe Marutiak. "ARC has been fined by the Food and Drug Administration, had unfair labor charges brought against it by the National Labor Relations Board, unilateral-

ly cut benefits, and shipped jobs overseas. All of this puts the blood supply at risk and abuses employees and the donors.

"With this strike, we're hoping to bring attention to the problem and end this mismanagement, and finally begin good faith bargaining," Marutiak continued.

Strike sites in Michigan were Lansing, Flint, Kalamazoo, Muskegon and Petoskey. Strikes also occurred in Farmington, Connecticut; Huntington, W.Va.; Buffalo, N.Y.; Toledo, Ohio; and Pomona, Calif.



Local 459 members strike the American Red Cross in Lansing, Michigan over unfair labor practices.

CLUW Honors Wohlforth for Extraordinary Career Achievement

In honor of Women's History Month, the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) on March 19, 2010 presented its first annual Working Women's Awards to former OPEIU Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth and 10 other women who have left their mark on and helped build the labor movement.

The ceremony, at the AFL-CIO in Washington, D.C., honored the women for their extraordinary achievements, leadership, and for being exemplary models for working women who seek to advance in their workplace, union and community.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler, who received one of the awards, said it was thanks to the work and success of many of the women in attendance that she has been able to walk down the path they pioneered.

"Take a look around this room," Shuler told the crowd. "Wow, what incredible talent, what incredible commitment to working women there is right here. As you all know, this celebration is all about Women's History Month...but you don't just celebrate women's history—you make it yourselves. I owe a lot to you. It's because of you that I can stand here tonight."

AFL-CIO Executive Vice President Arlene Holt Baker, another honoree, said women's workplace rights have come a long way, but the struggle to close the pay gap between men and women still continues. "If I could grant one right to working women, it would be pay equity," Holt Baker noted.

The other women honored were National Association of Letter Carriers Secretary-Treasurer Jane E. Broendel; UAW Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Bunn; Change to Win Chair Anna Burger; AFL-CIO Executive Vice President Emerita Linda Chavez-Thompson; Alliance for Retired Americans President Barbara J. Easterling; CLUW Presidents Emerita Gloria T. Johnson and Joyce D. Miller; and American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Vice President Augusta Thomas.



Former OPEIU Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth receives the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) Working Women's Award on March 19, 2010. Pictured left to right are CLUW President Karen See, American Rights at Work Director of Finance and Development Alicia Daly, and Wohlforth.

OPEIU Celebrates the Life of Lillian Kaplan Cohen

Longtime OPEIU member Lillian Kaplan Cohen died on May 4, 2010 at the age of 98, after a life committed to social justice, civil rights and peace for all. Her swift mind and political activism continued until the end of her days.

"She was an inspiration to so many whose lives she touched, and we know how inspired she was to remain active in the union," said her nieces, Janis Collado and Alice Nayer.

Kaplan Cohen moved to New York City in 1932 where she

led labor-organizing efforts, managed the office of the United Optical Workers Union and was very active in OPEIU Local 153. A resident of Palm Beach County since 1984, she worked with the Martin Luther King Coordinating Committee, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the National Organization of Women, the Peace and Justice Coalition, Pax Christi and El Sol Resource Center in Jupiter, among many others.

President Goodwin Honored by LCLAA



President Michael Goodwin was honored on May 7, 2010 for outstanding leadership to the labor movement and the community by the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA). LCLAA is a national organization representing the interests of more than 1.7 million Latino/Latina trade unionists throughout the country and Puerto Rico. Founded in 1973, it is America's premier national organization for Latino workers and their families, and advocates for the rights of all workers seeking justice in the workplace and their communities. LCLAA is also a constituency group of both the AFL-CIO and Change to Win Federation. Pictured left to right are Ray Ithier, 1199 SEIU; Sonia Ivany, NYC LCLAA; Santos Crespo, DC37, AFSCME; Goodwin; Ed Vargas, Workers United, SEIU; Aida Garcia, 1199 SEIU; and Ed Cordero, United Latinos, UFCW.

APMA Honors President Goodwin for Advancement of Podiatric Medicine



President Michael Goodwin is honored by the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) with its Presidents Award on March 27, 2010 in recognition of his significant contribution to the advancement of podiatric medicine. Pictured are President Goodwin and then-APMA President Ronald Jensen, DPM at the APMA House of Delegates 90th Regular Session.

Schwarzwald Honored by Cleveland State of Israel Bonds



OPEIU General Counsel Melvin Schwarzwald was honored by the Greater Cleveland State of Israel Bonds in Cleveland, Ohio at a tribute reception and dinner on April 15, 2010. President Michael Goodwin, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Mahoney, Former Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth, Local 17 Secretary-Treasurer Cathy Wittenbrook, Local 17 President Tammy Hess and six other members of Local 17 attended the event, which paid tribute to Schwarzwald for exemplifying the strong enduring bonds of friendship between American labor and the State of Israel. Pictured are Goodwin, Mahoney, Schwarzwald and Wohlforth.

Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions Conference Encourages Delegates to "Spread Change!"

More than 600 Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions (CKPU) delegates gathered on March 12 at the 2010 Union Delegate Conference, and attended various sessions that stressed the conference theme, "Spread Change!"

The conference opened with a tribute to AFL-CIO President Emeritus John Sweeney, who was instrumental in the establishment of the Coalition. The delegates then learned more about what it means to be part of a unit-based team, how to communicate correctly as a team, and how to step up as a leader, regardless of your position on the team.



Delegates to the 2010 Union Delegate Conference of the Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions.

LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Senate Passes Sweeping Financial Reform Bill

In response to public outrage and pressure from organized labor, the Senate on March 20, 2010 passed the most far-reaching restraints on big banks since the Great Depression.

In a vote of 59-39, the Senate passed the massive bill aimed at preventing another near-meltdown of big Wall Street investment banks that led to the worst economic recession in decades and that cost millions of Americans their jobs, homes and retirement savings. At press time, the bill was scheduled to be reconciled with a House version that passed in December 2009. According to House officials, the legislation is expected to reach President Obama's desk for signature before the Fourth of July.

"Our goal is not to punish the banks but to protect the larger economy and the American people from the kind of upheaval that we've seen in the past few years," Obama said, noting that the financial industry had fought the new regulations "with

hordes of lobbyists and millions of dollars in ads."

Two Democrats, Senators Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Russ Feingold (D-WI), voted against the bill. Four Republicans, Sens. Scott Brown (R-MA), Olympia Snowe (R-ME), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Chuck Grassley (R-IA), voted in favor of the bill.

Organized labor was at the forefront of the movement for financial reform, organizing more than 200 rallies and demonstrations throughout the country, many of which were attended by OPEIU members.

"For the tens of thousands of Americans who marched on Wall Street and rallied on K Street, and for the tens of millions of working families who lost jobs, homes and income at the hands of the big Wall Street banks, today's Senate vote for Wall Street reform is a sweet victory," said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka in a statement. "It is reassuring that the Senate took this step to protect consumers,

despite the swarms of finance industry lobbyists who converged on Capitol Hill and outlays of \$1.4 million a day to block reform.

"Now the legislation should be strengthened when the Senate and House begin conference negotiations, particularly when it comes to regulating derivatives, along with private equity and hedge funds — which function as a huge, unregulated shadow financial system," Trumka continued. "Wall Street will continue to push to weaken reform, and elected officials must continue to march in the other direction."

"We encourage House and Senate leaders to move quickly to pass this crucial reform measure, and get it to President Obama's desk as quickly as possible" said President Michael Goodwin. "Working families have suffered immeasurably by the reckless and often fraudulent behavior of Wall Street. It's time for this industry to face stricter regulation, and to do its part to create some of the millions of jobs lost as a result of their actions."

Local 100 Members Join AFL-CIO Good Jobs Now March!



Members of Local 100, Government Supervisors Association of Florida (GSAF), participate in one of the more than 200 "Good Jobs Now, Make Wall Street Pay" actions that took place on March 25. The rallies and marches demanded that the Big Six Wall Street Banks—Bank of America, Citibank, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan Chase, Morgan Stanley and Wachovia-Wells Fargo—pay their fair share to restore the jobs their actions destroyed, stop their multimillion-dollar lobbying blitz to kill financial reform, and start lending to communities, small businesses and others starved for credit.

Local 32 Members Rally for Sestak



Local 32 members came out in force at U.S. Representative Joe Sestak's (D-PA) election night headquarters, as Sestak won the Democratic primary in his bid for Senate. Sestak handily beat incumbent Arlen Specter (D-PA), who was hoping for a sixth term after taking the risky step of switching from the GOP. Sestak is a retired Navy Vice Admiral who has represented a suburban Philadelphia district since 2007.

Garamendi Wins Congressional Primary in California

Thanks to Local 29 members for their hard work in the successful primary re-election bid of John Garamendi (D-Calif)!

Voters of the 10th Congressional District elected a tireless advocate and proven champion for working people in Representative Garamendi. This important primary victory puts them a step closer to rebuilding the economy, both in California and nationwide.

As one of his first acts in Congress, Rep. Garamendi served as a critical vote in support of comprehensive healthcare reform, providing vital leadership on what has been a signature issue throughout his career. Additionally, Rep. Garamendi has vowed to continue his lifelong advocacy for workers' rights by being a leader in the effort to pass the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) in the coming year.



Local 29 supports Garamendi for Congress. Pictured with the members are Local 29 Organizer Bill Klinke (far left), Secretary-Treasurer/Representative Patricia Sanchez (second from left) and President/Business Manager Tamara Rubyn (third from left).

OPEIU Member Mobilization Supports Bill Halter for Senate



OPEIU's Member Mobilization team supports labor-friendly Arkansas Lieutenant Governor Bill Halter (D-AK) in his bid for U.S. Senate. Unfortunately, Halter lost a primary run-off on June 8 for the seat currently held by two-term incumbent Blanche Lincoln. Despite the loss, this primary demonstrates how OPEIU supports candidates that stand with labor on our issues, and will not support those that vote against working families. Pictured left to right are: Mike Neuman, Communication Workers of America (CWA); Karevin Barnes, volunteer; Seth Goldstein, Local 153 Business Representative and Member Mobilization Team; Halter; Allen Byron, International Vice President and Local 32 Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager; and Domingo Roman, Local 153 Special Representative and Member Mobilization Team.

Local 8 Changes Governance Structure



New members are sworn in at Local 8's first Statewide Membership Assembly on January 23, 2010. Members of Local 8, Seattle, Washington, voted to change the union's governance structure to enhance membership involvement and better reflect its statewide representation.

Local Union News

Local 30 Buys New Home

Local 30 is proud to announce the purchase of a building in San Diego, California that will serve as home to the union for years to come. The two-story office building, which is just blocks from the space the Local Union rented for more than 15 years, allows Local 30 to reduce its rent costs in the future through rental space that generates income and helps to pay the mortgage.

“The time was right to take advantage of a down market with opportunities that did not previously exist,” said Local 30 Executive Director/CFO Walter Allen Jr. “Just two years ago commercial property here was far too costly for us to consider.

“Finding the right building at the right price was the first step, but this opportunity would not have worked out for us had it not been for the OPEIU loan program,” Allen continued. “The ability for Local Unions to have access to short-term loans, free of interest, makes it possible for OPEIU Local Unions to own, rather than rent, and help them become stronger financially. We thank President Michael Goodwin for all his support through this program.”

“We are very grateful to President Goodwin for his support,” said Local 30 President Marianne Giordano. “We have very carefully managed our finances over the years just to be able to take advantage

of an opportunity like this. But even with prices lower than before, the money needed to buy the building and then make the needed improvements adds up to more than most Local Unions can afford. The loan program made this work for us and, as a result, Local 30 has a new home of our own.”

“This is an encouraging example of a Local Union growing and expanding and building new union halls in a time when some segments of the labor movement are experiencing declining memberships,” said President Michael Goodwin. “OPEIU’s loan program was established to help make this kind of expansion possible.”

Local 30 Wins New Unit in Arizona

When the women and men employed at Veolia Transportation Company in Tempe, Arizona decided to join a union, they chose OPEIU. And on April 29, 2010, the workers voted overwhelmingly to join Local 30 in San Diego, California!

Business Agent Mark Baily reports that the workers’ issues included wages, benefits and work hours, but their most important concerns centered around their job duties, safety and a desire for greater respect and dignity on the job.

“These workers provide support and some oversight for the bus drivers in the Tempe unit,” reported Bailey. “Until now, they were the only workers who were not unionized and as a result were paid less, had fewer benefits, and faced numerous issues with their managers with no right to contest any decisions made.”

“We had a united vote that made the company take notice,” said Local 30 Committee Member Vernon Van Patten. “We now have to stay united to get a meaningful contract in place.”

“Nothing is impossible when you are persistent,” said Committee Member Evelyn Brown.

“We are delighted that these employees have chosen Local 30 to help them improve their situation and look forward to having them be part of our union,” said Local 30 Executive Director/CFO Walter Allen Jr.

Bargaining for this new group begins in June. Other committee members included Robert Bean, Donnell Adams, Franklyn Robertson, Perren Robertson, among others.

Berkeley Heart Lab Employees Join Local 29

On February 16, 2010, Local 29 won a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) supervised representation election for 21 Clinical Laboratory Scientists at the Berkeley Heart Lab, a division of Celera Corporation.

This election victory followed a month of attacks upon Local 29 by the employer and its hired counsel. The employer unleashed an anti-union campaign, in which they alleged that Local 29 would force members to go on strike, and onerously tax them with dues, initiations fees, and fines. They used their supervisors to pressure the employees to vote against the union.

The employees could not be fooled by management’s misleading statements and insinuations. They stood strong and they remembered why they wanted a union. “We want a voice, but a voice in solidarity to speak as one,” said member Nathaniel Nakpil.

The employees at Berkeley Heart Lab spoke loudly and clearly on Election Day and said “Union Yes!” No doubt they will continue to raise their collective voice as they win their first contract. Congratulations to the Clinical Laboratory Scientists and welcome to Local 29!



Clinical Laboratory Scientists at the Berkeley Heart Lab join Local 29. Pictured left to right are (front row) Bill Klinke, Norma Jovero, Gean Millare, Evangeline Canedo, (back row) Robin Levin, Louis Wall, Jayrold Lomadilla, Nat Nakpil and Julia Jung.

Local Union News

Members Ratify Contract at Anthem/Blue Cross

Local 29 members at Anthem/Blue Cross voted to accept modifications to their collective bargaining agreement that means an 8 percent wage increase over the term of the agreement.

The bargaining committee, comprised of Holly Carey, Debbie Krausch, Debbie Copeland, Lorrie Jauch, Vicky Vasquez and Cindy Batieste represented the membership with due diligence. During the 14 bargaining sessions, Anthem/Blue Cross presented some devastating takeaways to the contract, but the committee fought back, specifically to a change to new hire accruals for paid time off.

As noted, wages were increased 8 percent over the term of the agreement, with a potential escalator in the second and third year. Other improvements included participation in the company Incentive Plan and a \$1,100 signing bonus.



Local 29 Anthem/Blue Cross bargaining committee members, pictured left to right are (front row) Lorrie Jauch, Debbie Copeland, (back row) International Vice President and Local 29 President Tamara Rubyn, Cindy Batieste, Debbie Krausch, Vicky Vasquez and Holly Carey.

Dameron Employees Vote Yes To New Contract!

Bargaining unit members at Dameron Hospital overwhelmingly ratified a new three-year collective bargaining agreement that includes 8 percent wage increases during the contract term, increased shift differentials, new standby and on-call rates.

Employees who have health insurance from another source will be paid a 20 percent wage rate premium. The tax deferred annuity account had some setback for new hires. New hires will have a two-year vesting period. The employer will now match the employees' contribution into their annuity program.

The bargaining committee, comprised of Julianne Harris, Pam Hardy and Ruben Ruiz worked diligently to secure the contract benefits. Local 29 congratulates them for their hard work on behalf of its members!



Pictured with bargaining unit members at Dameron Hospital is Local 29 Shop Steward Ruben Ruiz (second from right).

Local 179 Ratifies Contract with Coca Cola Bottling

Local 179 members ratified a new three-year agreement with Chattanooga Coca Cola Bottling Company, effective May 1, 2010. The agreement covers Chattanooga Coca Cola's employees who are engaged in production of its beverage lines, forklift drivers, tractor trailer drivers, loaders, plant and garage maintenance, and all sales route merchandisers.

The agreement provides for a 2 percent

wage increase in the first year of the contract, 3 percent in the second, and 3.24 percent in the third.

Additionally, the contract was modified to allow for improvements in the manner in which lay-offs are conducted, Production and Forklift Departments use of vacation days, how production crews are assigned work, and commission rate improvements on specific beverage packaging, along with

other housekeeping items.

The negotiating committee consisted of Local 179 President Bill Earp, Vice President Mike Chism, Marlon Hancock, David Warren, Chris Edwards, Roger Corder and Jim Hamilton. Senior International Representative Faye Headrick also assisted Local 179 in the negotiations. "The successful outcome of this contract is due to the hard work and dedication of the negotiating committee," said Headrick.

Local Union News

Hollywood Union Survives in Difficult Times

Chartered in February 1946 for the Hollywood studios, Local 174 in Burbank, California continues to maintain its position in an ever-changing landscape for the unionized worker. Today, entertainment companies are likely to be global corporations and no longer directed by studio titans but, rather by a board of directors whose decisions are shaped by the shareholder's demand for ever-increasing returns, according to International Vice President and Local 174 Business Representative Christine Page.

Yet, Local 174 continues to weather the storms in spite of these challenges. Representing the major studios of Fox, Warner Brothers, Disney and Universal and the largest record company in the world, Universal Music, Local 174 continues to maintain health and pension benefits for its members. The additional entities of the Motion Picture Industry Pension and Health

Plans, the administration of Local 600 Cinematographers, as well as the exchanges of Deluxe and Technicolor, are also protected by Local 174 membership for these crucial benefits, says Page.

Successful three-year contracts were recently ratified for 20th Century Fox and Sony Pictures Entertainment. Upcoming contracts will be negotiated this summer that will look to further secure protection against the rising costs of medical benefits, while still protecting the continued employer pension contributions.

In spite of these successes, there are very serious threats to job security, says Page. One of the key areas of contention is outsourcing of union jobs to foreign entities (known as offshoring). "A one-way mindset to auction American jobs is not good for the local economy, the tax base of the state or the overall economic health of this country," says Page. "Unemployment has

a significant impact on an individual or family and can set into motion a devastating chain of events, especially in a down economy." Strong language is being considered for all Local 174 collective bargaining agreements that will make it difficult for employers to send union jobs overseas.

"There is a social struggle going on between management and labor with the push to maximize the fruits of labor and then to pit workers against each other in an international market," says Local 174 President Manny Ortiz. "We need to lead the fight to save American jobs and to not allow for the controlled demolition of this nation's economy."

Both Page and Ortiz agree that change is not the problem and in fact, change has created new avenues of job opportunities. Change can and should be implemented, however, in a manner that is not destructive to the lives of the American union worker.

How Important is Your Contract?

By Melanie Humphries, Local 1

Fighting for what is right and fair is what a union should stand for. Those of us that are fortunate enough to have a collective agreement to govern our jobs should consider themselves blessed. With this blessing comes a lot of responsibility, endurance, struggle, boldness, knowledge and loyalty. We at Solidarity Community Federal Credit Union, Kokomo, Indiana have been a union shop (OPEIU Local 1) for nearly 32 years. We've endured everything from strikes, intimidation, abuse of power, and we are always dealing with that timeless "Because We Can" attitude from management.

In April 2009, a full-time position became available. Through our bidding process, all five part-time union employees put their bid in for the position. The company promoted the least senior of the part-time employees. Our contract states that promotions will be made on the basis of seniority and qualifications. These qualifications are in-house training and experience, ability to perform the work required and past performance. All of our part-time employees have the same relevant qualifications so seniority should have been the deciding factor, but the company used outside experience as their deciding factor in spite of what our con-

tract stated.

The most senior part-time employee, Michelle Beam, along with Stewards Melanie Humphries, Whitney Steltenkamp and Judy Childs, filed a grievance for contract violation. The grievance was taken through every step of the grievance process through to arbitration.

The arbitration was held August 2009. The union stewards, the grievant and Local 1's Business Agent Jim Hensley presented the facts and stood on the language of the contract, while the company embellished and flat out lied about the facts of the case. Finally by September 2009, the Arbitrator made his ruling in favor of the Union. Beam was awarded the full-time position, back pay and all benefits that were due to her as a full-time employee. By not respecting the letter of the contract or the Union, the company's loss was close to \$10,000.

Your contract is like your bible for the workplace. What it says should be enforced regardless of intimidation and power abuse. It is more than just words on a page. Know your contract, make sure it is enforced, stay strong and always stick together in unity.

Local Union News

MAGE-OPEIU Local 2002 Members Rally at State Capitol

Thousands of state employees gathered on the steps of the Michigan State Capitol to contest the latest concessions being forced on State of Michigan workers. MAGE-OPEIU Local 2002 President Dale Threehouse, along with other leaders of state employee unions, Michigan AFL-CIO President Mark Gaffney and Senator Alma Wheeler-Smith, among others, addressed the crowd.

“From 2003 to 2005, state employees accepted banked leave time and furlough days, saving the state \$275 million,” said Threehouse. “Beginning in 2008, the health insurance premiums of state employees doubled, saving the State another \$300 million.

“When is enough, enough?” continued Threehouse. “The State promised our members a 3 percent raise, then reneged on that. The State promised us decent retirement benefits and now they are going to renege on that. I say enough is now, and state employees have done their share!”

Rally attendees then proceeded to the State Senate where testimony was given regarding retirement legislation.



MAGE-OPEIU Local 2002 President Dale Threehouse speaks against continuing employee concessions at the State Worker's rally on the steps of the State Capitol in Lansing, Michigan.



MAGE-OPEIU Local 2002 members rally at the State Capitol in Lansing, Michigan.

Local Union News

OPEIU Local 32 Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield Ratifies Contract

An overwhelming 97 percent of Local 32 Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield workers approved a contract that will give them a pay raise of 7.5 percent over the next three years.

The contract erased fears that the workers, most are customer service workers—would strike once their previous contract expired. The contract covers approximately 1,160 employees represented by Local 32.

Horizon Blue Cross is based in Newark, New Jersey and is one of the biggest insurance companies in the nation with 3.6 million members. It covers about 72 percent of the individual market and 52 percent of the small business market, according to state figures.

“The dynamic duo, Juanita Ray and Lois Cuccinello did a great job with the contract,” said International Vice President and Local 32 Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager Allen Byron. “The contract was better than the administration proposed, since the majority of the original proposals were withdrawn.”

Among the provisions, employees will receive a 2 percent increase in 2010, 2.5 percent 2011 and 3 percent in 2012. They will maintain their health insurance cover-

age, and the company will freeze employee contributions at their previous levels for the life of the contract. “Horizon can’t reduce the level of benefits,” said Byron.

“Horizon and Local 32 are still having dialogue that could bring several hundred more members into the bargaining unit by the first quarter of 2011.”

Local 32 Marches for Health Care!



Local 32 members join the Health Care Rally in Washington, D.C. on March 9, 2010. With public pressure mounting, Congress passed health insurance reform on March 21.

Union Hypnotists? Yes, It's True!

What if someone told you that you can lose weight, stop smoking, eliminate anxieties, and maintain a better quality of life?

All these positive results can be accomplished through hypnosis, according to Dr. Dwight F. Damon, President of the National Federation of Hypnotists, OPEIU Local 104. Damon is also the president of the National Guild of Hypnotists, the oldest and largest organization of its kind in the field of hypnosis.

Local 104 Secretary-Treasurer Sharon Morris has nothing but high praise for their affiliation with OPEIU. “Since we received our union charter in 1994, we have had the backing of OPEIU and state AFL-CIO federations in our legislative endeavors as we became a separate and distinct profession,” said Morris. “When we have been faced with restrictive legislation that favored other professions’ attempts at putting our members out of business, we have been able to count on the union’s strength and experience to help us in our battles. OPEIU has always come through for us in the U.S. and Canada.”

“This relationship has allowed Local Unions wellbeing programs to use union hypnotists to provide group sessions in smoking cessation, stress and weight management for their members,” said President Michael Goodwin. “We encourage OPEIU members to always ask about practitioners’ union affiliation when looking for a well-qualified consulting hypnotist, including Local 104 and Hypnotherapist’s Local 472.”

The practice of hypnosis has been officially sanctioned by the American Medical Association since 1958.

AMLU/OPEIU Guild 322 Umpires Meet Olympic Champion!



AMLU/OPEIU Guild 322 President Shaun Francis (second from right) and his umpiring crewmates, Eric Loveless (left) and Dixon Stureman (right), are pictured with Olympic gymnastic champion Shawn Johnson. Johnson is the 2008 Olympic women’s balance beam gold medalist, the individual all-around silver medalist, the 2007 all-around World Champion, and the 2007 and 2008 U.S. all-around champion.



WASHINGTON WINDOW

Speaking Truth to Power

There's a standard drill when a foreign leader addresses the U.S. Congress. He or she praises "warm relations" between the leader's country and the U.S., throws in some bromides about "shared goals" in pursuit of whatever the topic of the day is and adds other appropriate platitudes, sometimes invoking contributions by natives of that country to U.S. history and culture....blah, blah, blah.

Somebody forgot to give Felipe Calderon the script.

The Mexican president got up on the House podium to address senators and representatives on May 20, and read them the Riot Act. By the time he was done, the Radical Right was steaming.

Calderon went after Arizona's law ordering police to stop anyone who looks like they may be undocumented—read "Hispanic"—and demand instant proof of legal citizenship or residence, with the threat of instant arrest, detention and possible deportation.

"I strongly disagree with your recently adopted law in Arizona. It introduces a terrible idea: Using racial profiling for law enforcement," Calderon said. He wasn't done.

Mexico has a huge drug-lords-and-gangs problem, especially along its northern border, abutting the U.S. Thousands of police, gang members and innocent civilians have been killed as the gangs fight back against Calderon's war on them. He's had to send in the military against the heavily armed drug lords, whose minions wield everything from AK-47s to grenades to the more-than-occasional bazooka. (We're waiting for the hand-held rockets.) And guess where all those munitions come from.

Right. Calderon said arms flow to the

drug lords rose geometrically — and the violence did, too—after the then-Republican-run Congress let our assault weapons ban expire during the GOP Bush government in 2004. He did not mention party affiliations.

Calderon said the border is lined with 7,000 gun shops on the U.S. side, and more than 80 percent of the weapons his troops seize from the drug lords come from the U.S.

"These weapons are aimed by criminals not only at rival gangs but also at Mexican civilians and authorities. With all due respect, you do not do enough to regulate (firearms and munitions) sales, and nothing guarantees these criminals will not decide to challenge American civilians and authority," Calderon declared.

Needless to say, the Radical Right was irate over both statements, which come from a president who represents Mexico's most-conservative, pro-business party. But that's not our point. Our point is Calderon spoke truth to power. The Arizona law is racist. The AK-47s, bazookas and grenades that blow away Mexicans come from here.

And what Calderon did is what the labor movement should be doing, too:

- If the capitalist "system" is rigged to work only for the big capitalists and against the rest of us, say so, loudly and clearly. Ditto for so-called "free trade."

- If the Arizona law and federal immigration raids target people because of the color of their skin, say so, loudly and clearly.

- If "corporations foreign and domestic" can buy elections with unlimited amounts of cash, thanks to Bush-named Supreme Court justices, say so, loudly and clearly.

- If Bush's No Child Left Behind education law, now up for renewal, was written to trash public schools and put taxpayer dollars in the hands of private schools—like thinly veiled segregation academies that leave African-American, Hispanic and other racial and religious minorities on the outside looking in — say so, loudly and clearly.

- If corporate moguls claim they have great safety records, as Massey Energy's Don Blankenship did, just two months after his company's deliberate safety violations led to the explosion that killed 29 West Virginia coal miners, name those potentates as liars, loudly and clearly. Then demand their prosecution.

- If the Obama administration won't lobby to help workers gain their right to organize—and if congressional Democrats won't pass the bill because it's too "controversial"—say so and agitate for it, loudly and clearly.

Then go beyond words. Calderon did: The Mexican government has issued a "travel advisory," a notice governments usually put out when terrorists or rampant crime threatens their traveling citizens. Mexico's travel advisory is for Arizona.

We can also go beyond words. Put our dollars to good use, boycotting employers that work against us, yanking our pension money out of banks that lobby against financial reform, demanding our unionized employers not buy Massey's coal, withdrawing business from Arizona, and so on. There are alternatives to those options: Union employers, worker-friendly financial firms, unionized coal companies, and other states for conventions. Those ideas are just for starters. You can come up with more.

In these ways, vocal, moral and financial, unionists, like Calderon, will speak truth to power.

Work and Health

What Is Informed Consent For A Surgical Procedure?

Submitted by Jeffrey S. Freed, M.D.

**Associate Professor of Surgery, The Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NYC
OPEIU Local 153 Health Fund Medical Director**

Informed consent, a concept that has evolved since World War II, really speaks to what you should be told about what is going to be done to you in a health care setting (e.g. surgery, spinal tap, etc.).

Prior to any surgical procedure or any procedure that potentially can alter your health or wellbeing, a person should involve in what we call an informed consent process. It is a misconception that it is a piece of paper with every positive and negative possibility written on it. Rather, informed consent is a process in which qualified individuals discuss the nature, the indications, the benefits, and very importantly, the risks of the treatment you will receive if you agree to undergo that particular procedure. It also tells you any alternatives that might exist, and what would potentially happen to you if you decided not to go through with the procedure.

The elements of the informed consent you should discuss with your physician or health care provider proposing any treat-

ment are myriad. There are certain issues, however, that should be covered.

First and probably foremost, one should be informed and understand the potential risks involved in the therapy. It is these that you need to know to decide whether the benefit of any procedure is worth the potential harm it might do.

Second, you should be given a clear description of the proposed treatment, care, medication, service, intervention or procedure, in language that is understandable to you.

Third, the information should be such that any reasonable person in your position knowing the risks would be able to make the same or similar decision to yours. In other words, the decision should be obvious once the upsides and downsides have been clearly identified for you.

Fourth is the description of alternatives. You should know if there are choices, not only in procedures, but in persons capable of doing the procedure. If there is a signif-

icant difference in outcome of the procedures in different peoples' hands, you should be made aware of that.

It is the responsibility of the person doing the procedure or prescribing a treatment or medication to inform you about the nature of the proposal, the risks, benefits and alternatives. This person does not necessarily have to be the one who has you sign the consent form, but is the one who does the informing, as outlined above.

It also must be understood that a consent form does not replace a discussion of all the above issues, including an opportunity for you to ask any questions you might have regarding any of the issues described. It is that opportunity to ask questions and receive answers you can understand that really completes the informed consent process. Less than that is not informed consent.

Jeffrey S. Freed, M.D., P.C. specializes in general surgery/proctology. He can be reached via email at jsfmd@aol.com.

OPEIU Terminates Relationship with MMR

OPEIU has terminated its relationship with MyMedicalRecords.com (MMR) due to underutilization. If you are a member currently utilizing the service, MyMedicalRecords.com will notify you via email that you have the option to continue to use your account at a reduced rate of \$79.95 per year, or to terminate your account. If you choose to terminate, you will then have 90 days to remove your records from the website.

Send Us Your Email Address and Fax Number!

OPEIU continues to update its membership email and fax lists! If you haven't already, please email, fax or mail this form to:

White Collar

Attn: Nicole Korkolis

OPEIU

Email: frontdesk@opeiu.org; Fax: 212-727-3466

80 Eighth Avenue, 20th Floor (entrance 265 W. 14th St.)
New York, N.Y. 10011

Name _____

Local Union _____

Email Address _____

Fax Number _____

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Special Supplement

Celebrating More Than Six Decades of Solidarity



Howard Coughlin (second from left, standing) and George Meany (third from left, seated).

We are nurses, engineers, computer programmers, secretaries, librarians, accountants and clerks. We work in universities, hospitals, offices, insurance companies, shipping firms, county and city government offices, manufacturing, on the land, air and sea. We are healthcare professionals, podiatrists, hypnotists, pharmacists, teachers, helicopter pilots, umpires, clinical social workers and many others. We are a diverse group, and we are members of the Office and Professional Employees International Union.

Sixty-five years ago we received our charter as the union for white-collar workers from the American Federation of Labor.

Through the years, we have repeatedly demonstrated to clerical, professional and technical employees a commitment to their needs and the advantages of being represented by such a vital, strong and democratic union.

Through OPEIU, we have struggled in the streets, the boardrooms, the halls of Congress, wherever there was a need to represent working people, and especially, OPEIU members. Sisters and brothers have united and stood shoulder-to-shoulder to fight injustice, discrimination and greed.

Just a few of our struggles are depicted here in the following timeline, as well as a few of the brave women and men who have led the way.

We are the Office and Professional Employees International Union. We're strong and we're proud!

Special Supplement

Who's Who in OPEIU

Office of the President

All communication, education, and research, organizing and bargaining, legal and constitutional analysis work takes place in the Office of the President. It's also where all final decisions are made about strikes, policy setting, legislation, political activity, relations with other unions, and more.



Michael Goodwin
President

Michael Goodwin has served as International President of the Office and Professional Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC since his election in 1994.

Goodwin joined OPEIU in 1960 as a mailroom clerk working for the Seafarers Vacation Plan. Rising in the ranks of OPEIU's New York Local 153, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer in 1977 and Business Manager in 1994. Serving as an International Union Vice President since 1979, he was elected International President in 1994. Goodwin was elected to the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO in 1995.

Goodwin also holds the following positions:

- President, The American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark
- Director, AFL-CIO Union Privilege Program
- Secretary-Treasurer, New York Hotel Trades Council, AFL-CIO
- Vice President, NYS AFL-CIO and a member of the Executive Committee
- Vice President, New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

—Secretary-Treasurer, Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions

—Member, Board of Directors, America's Agenda: Health Care for All

At the 1974 OPEIU Convention, Goodwin received the Henderson B. Douglas Memorial Award—the Union's highest award for organizing.

Goodwin, a native of Staten Island, New York, lives with his wife, Patricia Hoffman, and two children, Christopher 23, and Anne 19, in Rutherford, New Jersey. He also has four children from a former marriage, Donna, Patricia, Cherylyn, and Karen, and ten grandchildren, Melissa, Anthony, Brittany, Paige, Camryn, Claire, Penelope, Gianna, Axel and Jordyn, with an eleventh grandchild expected.

Hoffman served as an OPEIU Local 153 Union Representative since 1978, and was a Senior Business Representative when she retired in 2009.



Kevin Kistler
Director of Organization
and Field Services

Kevin Kistler, the former Pennsylvania state director of the AFL-CIO, is OPEIU's Director of Organization and Field Services, a position he has held since 1998. This position enables the International to increase supervision of field representatives and communication with Local Unions.

Kistler brings more than 30 years of full-time union and political experience to the International. Prior to his position with the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, Kistler served as a senior staff member at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C., supervising servicing, state legislative and organizing activities.

Kistler began his union career in 1967 when he joined the Seafarers International Union while working in the engine department of a freighter. He later became a member of the Service

Employees Organizing Committee while serving as a Washington, D.C. police officer.

In 1973, Kistler was appointed a representative of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International, where he was actively involved in organizing, bargaining and strike coordination. Two years later, he joined the AFL-CIO as a field representative, coordinating political and legislative activities.

Kistler has been an officer of numerous community organizations. He is also a member of the Founding Class of Maryland Leadership and former board member of the Montgomery Leadership Corp.

In 2009, Kistler received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor Award, one of the highest non-military honors bestowed upon American citizens.



Nicole Korkolis
Director of Communication,
Education and Research

Nicole Korkolis has spent her career helping the labor movement communicate with its members and constituents.

Prior to joining OPEIU as Director of Communication, Education and Research, Korkolis was Managing Director of the Carmen Group, Inc., overseeing the firm's public relations division with clients that included international and local unions, and non-profit, educational, business and financial entities.

Korkolis helped these various organiza-

tions achieve their communication goals through media relations and crisis communication strategy, marketing and advertising, image awareness and branding, video production, large-scale event planning, and website development.

Previously, she served as a Senior Vice President with The Kamber Group, at the time one of the nation's largest unionized public relations firms.

Korkolis is also an accomplished television writer.



Gary Kirkland
Assistant to the President

Gary D. Kirkland joined OPEIU in 1969 and has served for more than 40 years.

He was hired as a Business Representative for Local 11 in Portland, Oregon and was appointed as an International Representative in 1973.

Kirkland was elected as an International Vice President in 1975 and served for 25 years, before being awarded the title of Senior International Vice President, a position he held for another four years. He was also elected as Executive Officer/Secretary-

Treasurer of Local 11.

Kirkland has also taught labor relations to labor/management committees under the auspices of the United States Department of Labor.

He currently serves as Executive Vice President of the Union Labor Retirement Association (ULRA), a non-profit organization that builds and provides housing for retirees.

In 2002, Kirkland was appointed as assistant to the OPEIU International President.



Melvin Schwarzwald
General Counsel

Melvin Schwarzwald is a Principal and the President of Schwarzwald & McNair, a Legal Professional Association in Cleveland, Ohio. Schwarzwald specializes in the representation of international and local labor unions that serve employees in both the public and private sectors. He also specializes in the representation of pension and health and welfare funds administered jointly by labor and management trustees or sponsored by unions.

Since 1995, Schwarzwald has been General Counsel of OPEIU. He is also a member of the Lawyers Advisory Panel of the AFL-CIO, which meets monthly to advise the AFL-CIO General Counsel on strategy in legal matters. Schwarzwald also served on the Board of Directors of the Lawyers Coordinating Committee of the

AFL-CIO, which is responsible for educational and communications services among labor union lawyers across the country. Schwarzwald and his firm also represent the Cleveland AFL-CIO Federation of Labor.

Schwarzwald has also made presentations at national, regional and local seminars on labor law issues. Many of his papers have been published by the AFL-CIO, labor unions, bar associations and other groups sponsoring these seminars.

Since 1983, Schwarzwald has been listed for his representation of labor unions and individuals in employment matters in all editions of Best Lawyers in America. In addition to being admitted to practice before all Ohio courts, Schwarzwald is admitted to practice before numerous federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court.



Robert McGlotten
Lobbyist

Robert McGlotten of McGlotten and Jarvis serves as a consultant and lobbyist for OPEIU. McGlotten was appointed AFL-CIO Legislative Director in 1986 by then-President Lane Kirkland. As Director, he oversaw an eight-member staff of professional legislative representatives presenting the views of American labor to the U.S. Congress. He served that same department as Assistant Director from 1980 to 1986 and as an AFL-CIO legislative representative from 1974 to 1980.

In 1967, McGlotten joined the AFL-CIO Department of Civil Rights and went on to serve the federation in a variety of positions. He also was assigned to serve in the U.S. Department of Labor as Special Assistant to Secretary of Labor Peter J. Brennan in early 1973.

From June 1970 to March 1972, McGlotten was Executive Director of the Human Resources Department Institute, AFL-CIO. In that position he directed a field staff of AFL-CIO employment and training specialists in 50 cities and 30 states seeking to increase union involvement in such programs. From April 1967 to June 1970, working with the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Department, McGlotten negotiated Apprenticeship Outreach contracts with various community organizations, Building Trades Councils and the Labor Department in which 6,500 minority workers were brought into apprenticeship programs of the building and construction trades unions.

McGlotten is a member and former staff representative for the Transport Workers Union. His tenure in the labor movement has included assignments with the American Federation of Teachers and the United Steelworkers of America. He attended the University of Pennsylvania and St. Joseph's College for Industrial and Labor Management. He served in the U.S. Army and is married to the former Cheryl Goode.



Suzanne Fenech
Communication Specialist

Suzanne Fenech is a Communication Specialist in the Communication, Education and Research Department under the director, Nicole Korkolis. She joins OPEIU with more than six years of public relations experience assisting international and local unions as well as non-profit groups.

Prior to joining OPEIU, Fenech was an Associate for the Carmen Group, Inc., and The Kamber Group, at the time one of the nation's largest unionized public relations firm.

A native New Yorker and an avid hockey fan, in her spare time you may find her at Madison Square Garden cheering on the New York Rangers during the hockey season.

Office of the President – Administrative Staff

The administrative staff in the Office of the President makes sure that everything runs smoothly, helps answer member inquiries, assists in research and organizing, maintains records and much more.



Sandra Jorge
Administrative Assistant
Date of Hire – March 2, 2004



Judith Kaufman
Administrative Assistant
Date of Hire – August 16, 2004



Colleen Pederson
Assistant to the President
Date of Hire – March 2, 1994



Victoria Tirado-Roman
Administrative Assistant
Date of Hire – October 3, 1980

Office of the Secretary-Treasurer

The Office of the Secretary-Treasurer administers all International Union accounts, financial reporting requirements for the International Union, pension and welfare programs for the union, strike benefit and defense fund, scholarship programs, relief funds, all detailed records

management for the International Union, J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate (VOTE) Fund, convention fund and many more duties.

The Secretary-Treasurer's office prepares detailed quarterly and annual cash receipts and disbursements reports, which are sub-

mitted to the principal Officers of all Local Unions and the International Union Executive Board. In addition, the Executive Board is given comprehensive financial reports for the period between each meeting. The International Union uses conventional and widely accepted accounting practices.



Mary Mahoney
Secretary-Treasurer

Mary Mahoney was sworn-in as Secretary-Treasurer of the Office and Professional Employees International Union in January 2010. She served as an OPEIU Executive Board Vice President for Region II since 2001.

Mahoney has been a member of Local 6 for more than 30 years, and has served as President since 1995. During her time as a member, she was an employee of the Massachusetts Trial Court, which is Local 6's largest bargaining unit. She began as a Steward for Local 6, and later became an Executive Board Member, and was eventually elected to the position of Executive Board Vice President, as well as a member of a number of labor-management committees. She became

Business Manager of Local 6 in 2001.

Mahoney also serves as a Vice President to the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and received that organization's highest honor in 2006, the Samuel Gompers Award. She is a member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), and serves on the Executive Council for the Greater Boston Labor Council as well as a number of central labor councils in Massachusetts.

Raised in a union family in Somerville, Mass., Mahoney was the youngest of three children. Her father was a union firefighter, and her mother was a member of UFCW Local 1445. Mahoney has three nephews, ages 19, 18 and 16 and a niece, age 17. She currently resides in Stoneham, Mass.

Office of the Secretary-Treasurer Administrative Staff



Michelle Campbell – *Per Capita Tax Audit Transaction Clerk*
Date of Hire – March 12, 2001



Juliet Casey – *Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer*
Date of Hire – January 17, 1983



William Hinnant – *Inventory Control Clerk*
Date of Hire – September 4, 2001

Office of the Secretary-Treasurer Administrative Staff



**Tina Roberson –
Senior Bookkeeper**
Date of Hire – March 9, 1988



**Heather Rose
Bookkeeper**
Date of Hire – June 2, 2008



**Shanda Van Allen –
Office Administrator**
Date of Hire – October 10, 2001



**Nancy Wohlforth
Former Secretary-Treasurer**

Nancy Wohlforth is a lifetime activist who has marched, organized and been arrested for civil, human and worker rights since the age of 16 when she went down South to conduct voter registration. She has always been a passionate and tireless advocate for social and economic justice.

Wohlforth was elected a Vice President of Local 3 in 1983 and Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer in 1986 and negotiated sexual orientation non-discrimination clauses into all of Local 3's collective bargaining agreements, which now include gender identity and expression. As the leader of Local 3, she negotiated domestic partner health and pension benefits for both same sex and opposite sex partners.

Wohlforth was the National Co-President of Pride at Work until 2010. In 1980, she was a founding member of

the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance, the forerunner of Pride at Work. She was a primary mover in seeing that PAW received official status as a constituency group of the AFL-CIO in October 1997.

In 1996, Wohlforth was elected to both the executive board of the San Francisco Labor Council and as a Vice President of the California State Federation of Labor. She continues to serve as a State Federation of Labor Vice President.

Wohlforth was elected as International Vice President at the 2001 OPEIU Convention. She was elected to the position of International Secretary-Treasurer in January 2003 and was unanimously re-elected at the June 2004 International Convention, a position she held until her retirement in December 2009. She was the first openly gay International officer in any union. In July 2005, Wohlforth was elected to the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO.

Members of the OPEIU Executive Board

Vice Presidents



Walter Allen Jr.
Region V

Walter Allen Jr. is the Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer for the OPEIU, Local 30 in Southern California. Allen started his career with OPEIU in 1984 at Local 6 in Boston, Massachusetts where he served as a Business Agent, Assistant Business Manger, and finally as Business Manager. He was first elected International Vice President in 1995 from Region II.

Allen came to Local 30 as a Trustee in 2001 and was elected to his current position in 2002. He was elected International Vice President from Region V in 2003.

In his role as OPEIU Vice President, Allen is a member of the Finance Committee and the J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate (VOTE) Fund. He currently serves on the Executive Council of the Arizona AFL-CIO, the Executive Board of the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council.

Allen has a long history of involvement with the labor movement on both coasts. He currently serves on the Executive Council of the Arizona, AFL-CIO, the Executive Board of the San Diego/Imperial Counties Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He is also a longtime member of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and Pride At Work (PAW).



Allen Byron
Region II

Allen Byron was a senior computer operator at the Newark Housing Authority (NHA) in November 1979 when he was selected to serve as a member of the contract negotiating committee for the union representing the workers, SEIU Local 617. After a promotion to Supervising Computer Operator, he joined OPEIU Local 32 and became President of the NHA Association, as well as full-time Union Representative and Chief Shop Steward.

Upon his retirement from NHA in May 2005, Byron became a Local 32 Business Representative, and in 2006 became the Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager. With the support of the OPEIU, he was appointed Vice President of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO. In January 2010, Byron was elected Region II Vice President.

Byron is a lifelong resident of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

John F. Conley
Region III

ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873 President

John Conley's interest in labor relations began in 1948 when he joined the National Maritime Union (NMU). He began by serving as a delegate (shop steward) on the majority of the vessels he sailed



on, which took him all over the world for the next 20 years. In 1968, he was appointed to a dispatcher's position at the NMU office in the Port of Boston and later that year Conley was transferred to the NMU's office in the Port of Seattle, Washington as the Union's patrolman (representative). In 1973, he became involved with the NMU's shoreside division – Industrial, Technical and Professional Employees Union (ITPE). His first assignment with ITPE was the organizing of 300 food service workers at Fort Lewis, Washington.

In 1978, he was transferred to Savannah, Georgia as the NMU Port Agent. Conley was assigned as the Area II Coordinator for ITPE contract sites in the Southeastern section of the United States. In 1988, the NMU merged with another union – Marine Engineers Beneficial Association (MEBA).

In 1991, a referendum was approved restructuring the ITPE, after which it became a separate division within MEBA and elected its own officers. Conley was elected as the Chair of the ITPE Division. In 1993, the ITPE became fully autonomous, adopted its own constitution and changed the officer's titles. Conley has held the highest office in ITPE since 1991, having been re-elected every three years.

In June 2001, the ITPE disaffiliated with MEBA and on July 1, 2001 affiliated with OPEIU. ITPE is now OPEIU Local 4873.

In addition to being President of the Local, Conley serves as co-chair on three of the ITPE benefit funds. In May of 2007, Conley received the Labor Leader of the Year Award by the Georgia State AFL-CIO. In May, Conley was the recipient of the 24th 2010 Ellis Island Medal of Honor in New York City for outstanding service to his community.



Dan Dyer
Region II

After receiving his B.A. in Economics, Dan Dyer taught school for seven years. In 1974, he became a research economist with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. While at the IBEW, he served as OPEIU, Local 2 Chief Shop Steward. In 1975, Dyer was elected to the Local 2 Executive Board and in 1984 as First Vice President of the Local. In 1985, he became a full-time Staff Representative of Local 2, and in 1993 was elected President of the Local. At the 21st OPEIU Convention, Dyer was elected Vice President of Region II.

In addition to serving as President of Local 2, Dyer serves as a Vice President of the Maryland State and D.C. AFL-CIO, as a member of the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Unions, AFL-CIO, and a Chairman of the Board of the AFL-CIO Credit Union.

Cindy Jeffries
Region VII

Cindy Jeffries has served on the OPEIU Executive Board representing Region VII since June 2007.

Jeffries began her career in the labor



Theresa Kandt
Region VII

movement in 1976 when she organized a group of school bus drivers she worked with, and was elected to the bargaining committee for their first contract. She soon became Chief Steward for the new unit.

After a brief break to begin a family, Jeffries rejoined the workforce at a local community owned hospital in Lansing, Michigan. In the early 1990s, the hospital merged with another local hospital represented by OPEIU Local 459. Recognizing that the unorganized workers needed the same benefits and protections offered by Local 459, Jeffries joined the organizing committee for the paraprofessionals in 1995. Despite a difficult campaign that included facing a union-busting firm hired by the employer, the workers prevailed!

Jeffries was elected Steward for her department and then appointed Chief Steward for the 750-member bargaining unit. In 1997, she took a temporary leave of absence to work full time at the Local 459 offices, while continuing to serve as Chief Steward for the unit. During that time, she became a Service Representative, and has since progressed from Entry Level Representative to a Senior Service Representative. Her duties include grievance handling, arbitration, contract negotiations, political action involvement at a local, state and federal level, and mentoring new staff and stewards. She has also developed conflict resolution programs for employees that have been very successful.

Jeffries has attended the National Labor College and taken labor studies courses at Michigan State University. She has also taught classes in all areas of labor relations.



Theresa Kandt's involvement in union activism began at an early age when her mother, a CWA member, was involved in a right-to-work campaign in Oklahoma. She became involved with OPEIU in 1983 when she was the first person to sign a union card at her UAW Legal Services Plan office located in Detroit, Michigan. Her leadership continued over the years as she has held several positions on her Local Union Executive Board: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Legal Services Unit Representative and Trustee. She has been the Secretary-Treasurer of OPEIU Local 42 since 1999. She was hired as the Local Union's Business Agent in 1987 and continues in that capacity today. She is also a National Vice President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women. Kandt was elected OPEIU International Vice President in 1998 in Chicago and has continued to devote her efforts to servicing and organizing.

**For more
information
about the
OPEIU,
visit our
website at
www.opeiu.org**



Richard Lanigan
Region II

Richard Lanigan became a member of the retail clerks union in 1971 working in a department store while attending high school. Lanigan put himself through college as a member of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union while working for Harry M. Stevens at Roosevelt Raceway.

Upon completing his Bachelor of Arts degree in History at SUNY Stony Brook, Lanigan joined OPEIU Local 153 as an Organizer in February 1980.

After working as an Organizer he was promoted to Business Representative. As a Business Representative he gained experience in negotiating contracts, handling of grievances, conducting arbitration hearings and he continued organizing.

In 1987, Lanigan enrolled as an evening student in New York Law School. In March of 1988, he became an assistant to the OPEIU International President. After completing his studies and being admitted to the New York State Bar, he was then promoted to OPEIU Associate General Counsel. In that role he assisted OPEIU General Counsel in the litigation work of the International Union, represented Local Union members in grievance arbitration hearings and represented OPEIU in jurisdictional disputes with other International unions under the AFL-CIO Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure. He continues to represent OPEIU in such jurisdictional hearings to this day.

In 1994 he was elected Secretary-Treasurer of Local 153 and Vice President of the OPEIU. As Local 153 Secretary-Treasurer he manages the day-to-day affairs

of the Local and negotiates contracts on behalf of Local 153 members employed by firms such as Emblem Health, the Depository Trust and Clearing Corp., the New York Stock Exchange, the Archdiocese of New York and Legends at Yankee Stadium.

As OPEIU Vice President, Lanigan assists OPEIU Local Unions on issues relating to organizing, bargaining, strikes, raids, jurisdiction and other facets of representation as well as constitutional issues. He also represents several OPEIU Local Unions in negotiations under a master agreement with Horizon Lines, Inc.

In 1998 he won the OPEIU Henderson B. Douglas Award after 3,500 Catholic-school teachers of the Archdiocese of New York became members of the OPEIU. Local 153 has won other organizing awards since.

He is a Vice President of the New York State AFL-CIO and the Long Island AFL-CIO. He is a Trustee of the Perishable Food Industry Pension Fund, the OPEIU Pension Fund and the Local 153 Pension, Health and Long-Term Disability Funds. Lanigan is a member of the New York State Bar Association.

In 2004 Lanigan received the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom. He has been honored by the NAACP and the Boy Scouts. He lives with his wife Nancy and son Patrick, age 21, in Fort Salonga, New York.



Green P. Lewis
Region III

Green P. Lewis was elected Vice President of Region III in 2004, and served as an International Representative since 2001. Prior to that, he had a long career with the AFL-CIO, serv-

ing as field representative, director of Region V, assistant national director of the Field Service Department, and director of Community Services.

Prior to his union service, Lewis was a science teacher and assistant football coach. His education includes a degree from Fort Valley State University, advanced studies at American University and the Southern Labor School, as well as Florida International University's Institute for Labor Research and Studies.

He is married and lives in Columbus, Georgia.



John Mattiacci, DPM
Region II

John A. Mattiacci, DPM, has been the Dean of the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine since 1998. A 1970 graduate of the former Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine, Dr. Mattiacci was previously in private practice for podiatric medicine and surgery for 28 years. He served as the director of Northeastern Hospital's podiatric surgical residency program from 1997 to 2004, and served as the director of Neumann Medical Center from 1990 until 1999.

Dr. Mattiacci is currently the President of the OPEIU National Guild of Medical Professionals chartered in 1996. He has been an International Vice President of OPEIU since 1998. He is extensively involved in the leadership of the podiatric medical profession and serves as chairman of several committees of the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association. He was president of the association in 1993, and chairman of the department of podiatric surgery at the North Philadelphia Health System

from 1988 to 1990. From 1985 to 1994, he served on the Hershey Surgical Seminar Committee of the William L. Goldfarb Foundation, and is currently an oral examiner for the foundation's surgical review course. He has lectured extensively on podiatric medicine and surgery topics and is often quoted as an expert in the media. Dr. Mattiacci is board certified in podiatric surgery and is a fellow of the American College of Foot Surgeons.



Christine Page
Region V

Christine Page joined OPEIU in 1978 with Universal Studios in Hollywood, California. Having worked in various positions throughout a fifteen-year career with Universal while holding various positions on the Local 174 Executive Board, including its President, she left the studio in 1993 to join the Local's staff in Burbank.

Under her leadership as Business Representative, the Local has organized and gained contracts for Warner Brothers, Warner Brothers Studios Facilities, the Cinematographer administrative staff, and Citiwalk. An additional world-recognized studio, Disney Pictures and Enterprises, was added to Local 174 through a successful endorsement of its members.

Page was elected to the OPEIU Executive Board in January 2006.

Phillip Pope
Region III

Phillip R. Pope began his involvement in the labor movement as a job steward for the Pulp and Sulfite Workers



Union (now USW) in 1966. He later belonged to the Sheet Metal Workers Union and was fired for union activities during a Steelworkers organizing campaign in 1970. Pope was hired by AFL-CIO's Industrial Union Organizing Department (IUD) and in the same year, 1970, he began employment as an International Representative for UNITE. While serving as an organizer assigned to the IUD, he was successful in organizing more than 10,000 new union members in the southern states, where organizing is difficult due to right-to-work laws.

Pope joined OPEIU, Local 268 (now Local 2001) as the Business Representative in Knoxville, Tenn. in 1988. Upon full retirement in June 2010, Phillip will become an arbitrator listed with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS).



Patricia Priloh
Region II

An OPEIU International Representative since 1983, Patricia Priloh was born and has worked in Brownsville, Pennsylvania most of her life.

It is where she married and had three daughters, one stepdaughter and nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Plus, it's where she leads OPEIU Local 457.

Priloh graduated from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing in Pittsburgh in 1959. While working as a registered nurse at Centerville Clinic in Centerville, Pa., she joined Local 457. Ultimately, she was elected in 1980 to the position of President, a title she still holds today.

Over the years, Priloh has worked as a volunteer on many OPEIU organizing campaigns, mostly involving hospitals and health care workers.



Tamara Rubyn
Region V

Tamara R. Rubyn serves as the President/Business Manager of OPEIU Local 29, located in Alameda, California. Rubyn has been a Local 29 member for 29 years and has served on the leadership staff for the past 19 years.

Rubyn serves as a Trustee for the OPEIU Local 29 Health and Welfare Taft-Hartley fund and a Pension Committee Member on the Anthem/Blue Cross Bargaining Unit Pension Plan.

While preserving the rights of workers, negotiating meaningful collective bargaining agreements and representing the members, Rubyn and her leadership team mentor and coach members to attain the skills needed to be the future leaders of Local 29.

The road to our future includes change to be successful and an open mind to embrace change.



Aaron E. Sanders
Region VII

Aaron Sanders was born in Lansing, Michigan. He joined the Air Force as a Crew Chief on A-10s, then attended Lansing Community College and received a certificate in Corrections and studied toward becoming a paralegal. Once Sanders was employed with OPEIU Local 512, he returned to Lansing Community College to take classes that would better assist him with field labor relations and contract negotiations.

In May 1987, Sanders joined the Michigan Department of Corrections. In October 1995, he was injured in the line of duty defending an officer from a prisoner assault, resulting in a surgery to repair his hand.

In 1996, while convalescing from his injury, Sanders volunteered with Local 512. He later became employed with Local 512 as a Labor Representative. Sanders is currently employed with Local 2002 as a Labor Representative, but has remained as a member of Local 512.

He has arbitrated approximately 300 cases as an OPEIU Labor Representative in front of the Michigan Department of Civil Services and AAA.

While serving as a member with Local 512, Sanders has held positions of Trustee, Recording Secretary and OPEIU Vice President. He is currently the President. In 2004, Sanders was elected to the position of Vice President representing Region VII. He has been married for more than 20 years to Karilyn and has four children.



Becky Turner
Region IV

Becky L. Turner was appointed Region IV Vice President to fill the unexpired term of J.B. Moss upon his death. She has been a member of Local 277 at General Dynamics as a Grammatical Editor for technical publications. While employed at General Dynamics and later at Lockheed Martin, Turner was elected as committeeperson for Local 277 in the Logistics Department in 1980 and served as such until she was appointed as Chief Steward in 1991 for that department.

In 1985, it was her privilege to be elected to the Step III Grievance Committee for Local 277 and also served in that capacity until she took a leave of absence in 1995 to work full time for Local 277 as the first female Business Representative. She served as a Trustee for Local 277 from 1985 until being elected to Vice President in 1994 and held that office until succeeding to the Presidency of Local 277 in 2001. She has been on the negotiating team for Local 277 since 1987. Turner is the current elected President of Local 277 as well as the Business Manager.

Born and raised in Texas, Turner currently resides in Weatherford, Texas. She is married to Dennis M. Turner and they have two sons, Scott and Tyler. They are also the proud grandparents of Mackenzie, Devin and Hayden Turner. Turner is a graduate of the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Arts degree.



Judith Zenk
Region VI

Judith Zenk was elected a Vice President for Region VI in 2003. In 1980, Zenk became an Assistant Business Representative for OPEIU Local 23. In 1981, she became Local 23's Business Representative and also served as a Labor Trustee for Western States Office and Professional Employees Fund.

Zenk has also been the Co-Chair Trustee for Cascade Regional Blood Services Pension Plan since 1998. As a labor member, Zenk has served various Community Boards, including the YMCA, Pantages Theater, Tacoma Community College and the Governor's Commute Reduction Board.

Local 2009 Wins Election at COBRA Source

On June 11, 2010, OPEIU Midwest United Local 2009 won an election at COBRA Source, a third party administrator for COBRA benefits located in Grayslake, Illinois. The unit consists of 40 clerical employees. All non-management employees are included in the bargaining unit.

Local 2009 is now electing a bargaining committee and hopes to begin negotiations within a month, according to Council Coordinator Christian Hains.

International Representatives and Organizers



Paul Bohelski

Paul joined OPEIU Local 277 on April 2, 1997 and serves as an International Representative based in Region IV. He brings more than twenty years of experience in the labor movement, and has been instrumental in organizing helicopter pilots and flight instructors into OPEIU.

Bohelski began his labor career as a job steward for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) in Chicago, Illinois and continued involvement in the labor movement with IBT, moving to San Antonio in 1980. After a company merger, the surviving union was the Union of Transportation Employees (UTE), an independent labor union. Under Bohelski's leadership, UTE affiliated with the OCAW. He was elected to two four-year terms as Business Representative with OCAW Local 1996 and was President from 1994-1997.

In his time with OPEIU he has negotiated contracts with Air Logistics for Gulf helicopter, Dresser Valve, ANICO, and Texaco Employees Credit Union in Port Arthur, Texas. He is also now assisting several locals in Region IV with their organizing efforts.

In January 2007, Bohelski was promoted to Senior Representative.

Ed Darcy Jr.

Ed Darcy Jr. is a third generation union activist. His grandfather and grandmother were both activists in the 1940s, and his father began his involvement in the movement in the early '70s.

Darcy began working at Local 100 in



1988. At first, he assisted the stewards in the processing of grievances and conducting of internal organizing. In a few years, he was working in Tallahassee, Florida, accomplishing lobbying work for the Local as well as leading organizing efforts.

In December 1998, Darcy became an OPEIU Organizer. He has been involved in many successful organizing efforts, including the 1,100 Professional Employees of Broward County. In 2000, he received the Henderson B. Douglas award for organizing. Currently, he is immersed in organizing efforts around the Sunshine State.



Larry Kopechanski

Larry Kopechanski was employed in the pulp and paper industry for 31 years, serving five years as Vice President and, since 1980, as President of Local 386.

He took early retirement in December 2004, but has continued to serve as President of Local 386, along with serving

as an OPEIU International Representative.

His union parents instilled the union doctrine from an early age. After taking weekend and weeklong courses for several years, he attended the Labour College of Canada, an intensive two-month residential program at the University of Ottawa.

He has had organizing, servicing, and negotiating experience throughout Northwestern Ontario in pulp and paper, education, credit unions, hospitals, crisis centers, and youth counseling centers.

Since joining the International Union, he has been involved in organizing, servicing, and negotiations in the aviation sector in Canada, along with continuing to service the pulp and paper industry.

Besides his Canadian duties, Kopechanski has been involved in a number of organizing drives in the United States.



Josué Montijo

Josué Montijo, Ph.D. candidate (University of Puerto Rico) and writer was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He began working on 2001 as a Project Organizer with OPEIU's Puerto Rico office.

Now, as organizer, he has been involved in diverse and successful campaigns for the General Services Administration, Milk Industry, Council for Higher Education, Head Start Avance among others.



Gary Nuber

Gary Nuber began his career in the labor movement in 1981, when he became a Steward for his bargaining unit represented by the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW). He went on to become the Chief Steward and a Bargaining Committee member. In 1987, after several years of attending the University of Wisconsin on a part-time basis, he enrolled as full-time student. In 1988, Nuber received an Associate of Arts Degree. In 1990, he completed his Bachelor of Arts degree, with a major in Sociology. Finally, in 1992, he was awarded a Master's of Industrial and Labor Relations degree.

In January 1993, Nuber began to serve as Business Agent for OPEIU Local 95 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. The five-year experience gave him exposure to both private and public sector collective bargaining, as well as grievance handling, mediation, preparation and presentation of arbitration cases, legal and arbitral research, union operations, and all aspects of membership servicing.

For more than twelve years, Nuber has been an International Representative servicing the membership in Region VII. In January 2007, Nuber was promoted to Senior Representative.

Faye Headrick

The Council of the Tennessee Valley Authority/OPEIU hired Faye Headrick in January 1977. When the Council was abolished in 1982, she worked for OPEIU Locals 273 and 119 in Tennessee until June 1984, when she was hired by the International Union as a Representative. Since then she has assisted locals throughout Region III (the Southeastern United States) in servicing members and adminis-



tering collective bargaining agreements.

Headrick has also served as President of OPEIU Local 179, Vice President of the Tennessee AFL-CIO, and Chairperson of the Salary Policy Employee Panel, which negotiated for the thousands of white collar employees of TVA. She currently serves as a Senior International Representative.



Paul Huertas

Administrative Assistant/Organizer

Paul Huertas is an International Representative and Administrative Assistant who oversees the benefits and organizing program to the Alliance Program in Las Vegas, Nevada. Huertas also conducted contract negotiations for CHC Global for Local 103 and aided in the Benefits Program Assistance to OPEIU Local 100/GSAF in Florida.

Raised in Elmhurst then Dobbs Ferry, New York, Huertas worked for the Grand Union Grocery Stores until drafted in 1969. He served as an Aviation Warrant Officer in the Army in Vietnam, and Fort Hood Texas, where Huertas met his wife Jana and was married in 1973. In 1974, after Huertas was discharged from the Army, he and his wife returned to Ossining, New York. In

1978, Huertas, Jana and their daughter Dawn moved to Texas where he worked for the Safeway Stores and joined the Army reserve to get back to flying. Huertas started working for Armadillo Airways in Houston, Texas keeping busy flying charters and short trips to Houston Airports until 1984.

From 1984 through 1988, Huertas started working with petroleum helicopters, flying offshore until he was offered a job with Chevron Aviation department in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In 1992, Huertas was contracted to work for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Aviation and was offered a full-time position in 1996 when the department was shut down and employees were offered retirement or new employment with Petroleum Helicopters Inc. (PHI). Working the same job at PHI with half the pay was the inspiration Huertas needed for a unionization effort. In 2000, Huertas ran a newsletter and a webpage where, after a third attempt, he became a Shop Steward and webmaster for Local 108. In 2006 he was a Trustee and was elected to Recording Secretary for Local 108, just before they went on strike. While on strike, OPEIU put Huertas to work helping with the Membership Benefits program presentations, and handling a personnel change in Las Vegas. After leaving PHI, President Goodwin added him to the staff on a permanent basis.



Shelia Peacock

Shelia Peacock has been on staff with the International since March 2000 and has a long history in the labor movement. In the 1970s, she was the youngest person ever elected to serve as Chairperson of her local in the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) in Kilgore, Texas. After moving to Houston,

she became active in OPEIU Local 129 and served in various positions on the local executive board including President of the Local for fifteen years.

As a ROC Representative, Peacock has successfully assisted Local Unions with negotiating contracts throughout Region 4, including Dresser Industries, Alexandria, Louisiana, St. Vincent Hospital, Little Rock, Ariz., Diamond Group at NASA-Houston, and International Paper Company, Pine Bluff, Arizona, among others. She also assists Local Unions with arbitrations and internal organizing and with encouraging results.

Peacock comes from a family of union activists. Her father was strong in the OCAW in the 1940s and '50s and her mother was a charter member of the ILGWU local in Kilgore.

Peacock lives in Houston with her son, Joshua, the light of her life. She is active in her church and local charity projects.



Iram Ramirez

Iram Ramirez was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. In 1999, he began working for OPEIU Local 402 as a first as volunteer organizer and later as a part-time organizer, while still a student at the University of Puerto Rico. With studies in the Instituted of Labor Relations, Ramirez graduated Magna Cum Laude in the summer of 1999. Ramirez also has a Master's Degree in history, with a concentration in 19th and 20th century labor movement history, from which he graduated Summa Cum Laude in the summer of 2004. Ramirez also has a Doctoral degree (Ph.D.), from which he graduated Summa Cum Laude in the summer of 2009.

Ramirez is an associate professor of the

faculty of the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Puerto Rico, where he teaches night courses at the Instituted of Labor Relations to union members and future labor leaders. He is also Vice President of the Local State Labor Federation.

Ramirez has successfully organized and negotiated contracts for the employees at Administration of General Services, Milk Industry, Council for Higher Education, Head Start Archbishops of San Juan, Head Start Avance I and Head Start Avance II.

He has also negotiated contracts for J&J and QSI in Ft. Buchanan for ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873.



Jeff Rusich

After college, Jeff Rusich began his labor career as a member of the Cabinetmakers, where he worked for 10 years and completed an apprenticeship.

Rusich also served 15 years as an OPEIU member, five years as a local Executive Board member and Chief Steward. He has now worked for 20 years as an International Organizer. At one time, Rusich worked for five years as a phone counselor and community educator at a crisis and suicide prevention agency in California. He has also worked on various grassroots campaigns, including working to defeat a measure to increase residential growth in his local community.

Rusich is married to Patricia Mitchell Rusich.



Donna Shaffer

Donna Shaffer began her career in the labor movement in May 1978 and became an OPEIU member in Phoenix, Arizona. In 1986, Shaffer reached out to help organize more than 1,000 employees at a hospital in Prescott, Ariz. This is when she became a dedicated volunteer organizer.

She was soon hired on the International staff in May 1987 as a full-time Organizer. Shaffer has always been fond of orchestrating health care campaigns. She has spent much of her time assisting many Local Unions throughout the U.S. with their internal and new organizing campaigns.

Shaffer resides in Tombstone, Arizona and has been married to Lonny for 26 years. She has three grown children and ten grandchildren that include two pair of twins!

The Role of an International Representative and Organizer

OPEIU International Representatives and Organizers are assigned by the International to special projects, and to assist Local Unions in circumstances that require additional resources for important representation, bargaining and organizing.

New Affiliate Leadership



Joan A. Craft, RN
President

Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA)/
OPEIU Local 50

Joan Craft is a twin and the eldest of eight children. She was born in California and raised in Hawaii. She and her husband are both RNs and they have an eight-year-old son.

Craft received a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from NYU in 1992 and worked as an RN at the NYU Medical Center for five years.

After eight years in New York, she returned to Hawaii and continued her nursing career at Queens Medical Center in Honolulu, where she has worked as an RN for the past thirteen years.

She is a certified Critical Care Nurse and certified Neuroscience Nurse.

Craft has been an Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA) member since 1997 and the seven-week strike of 2002 triggered her involvement with union activities. The focus was maintaining and protecting the defined benefit pension plan.

She has served HNA as Steward, Chief Steward and negotiator for Queen's Medical Center.

She was also the Collective Bargaining Committee Chair, Vice President and currently is President of HNA/OPEIU Local 50, AFL-CIO, CLC. She was the Vice President of the United American Nurses (UAN) prior to the formation of National Nurses United (NNU).

Craft's two-year term as HNA President runs through December 31, 2011.



Shaun Francis
President

Association of Minor League Umpires
(AMLU)/OPEIU Guild 322

Shaun Francis began umpiring professional baseball in 2001 after attending Jim Evans Academy of Professional Umpiring and graduating as an honor graduate. He spent the 2001-2003 seasons in various independent professional leagues, gaining much-needed umpiring experience before he began his affiliated minor league career in 2004 in the New-York Penn league. Francis is currently umpiring in the AAA classification Pacific Coast League.

Francis became President of the Association of Minor League Umpires in 2007 while in the Florida State League and was re-elected to a second term as President in 2009. Francis holds an Associate Degree from Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, New York, is currently continuing his education studying Political Science at the State University of New York, and is taking labor skills courses in labor leadership at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, Maryland. Francis led the AMLU into affiliation with OPEIU in 2010.



James Whately
President

Global Helicopter Pilots Association
(GHPA)/OPEIU Local 103

James Whately is the interim President of the Global Helicopter Pilots Association (GHPA)/OPEIU Local 103, which represents more than 200 pilots employed by CHC Global — one of the world's largest helicopter companies, is based in Vancouver, British Columbia, and operates in more than 30 countries around the world.

A career helicopter pilot, Whately has been flying helicopters since 1977. He has been with CHC Global for more than 23 years, and has more than 12,000 helicopter flight hours. Whately is currently the base manager and a pilot for the CHC base in Manila, Philippines. He has been working overseas since 1998, mostly in Thailand and the Philippines. Prior to his international work, he spent nine years on a 24-hour air ambulance service in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. GHPA is negotiating its first collective bargaining agreement with CHC Global.

Whately and his wife, Christine, have been married for 31 years and have three adult children. They live in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Norm Robichaud
Second Vice President
Global Helicopter Pilots Association
(GHPA)/OPEIU Local 103

Norm Robichaud has been a commercial helicopter pilot since 1976, involved with helicopters his entire career. With 25 years of service with CHC Global (formerly Canadian Helicopters and Okanagan Helicopters), he is currently involved with offshore flying of AS365N3 Dauphins and AgustaWestland AW139s. With more than 12,000 hours of helicopter flight time, he is preparing for a retirement from active flying within 5-8 years.

Directly Affiliated Groups



Darshan Nair
Unit Chairman

Canadian Helicopter Limited

Darshan Nair was born in South Africa and moved to Toronto, Canada at the age of 6. He attended the University of Toronto before acceptance into the Canadore College, a flight college in North Bay, Ontario.

He began his aviation career as an aircraft re-fueller to pay for flight school, and was trained to fly airplanes before he learned to fly helicopters. His first helicopter job was flying in the Arctic north coast of Canada.

Nair was a first officer on the Sikorsky S76 aircraft and promoted to captain in 1998. He has flown international operations supporting offshore oil production in Southeast Asia, and is currently flying as S76 captain on Air Ambulance operations in Ontario, Canada for the province's service.

Nair was involved in the initial organizing drive for EMS helicopter pilots working for Canadian Helicopters Ltd. He was a member of the bargaining committee for the first-ever collective bargaining agreement for helicopter pilots employed in the private sector in Canada. He acted as a base representative for the Toronto operation, and accepted the nomination for Unit Chairman in 2009.



Alan Morden
Unit Vice Chair

Canadian Helicopter Limited

Al Morden is the current Vice Chair of the Canadian Helicopters Limited EMS rotary wing bargaining unit. He has been involved with the unit since the beginning of the organizing and certification effort.

Morden has been involved in union activities since he started his first full-time job in 1988 after graduating college as an electrical engineering technician. He accepted a position as an electrical operator with the Ontario provincial government electrical utility, formerly known as Ontario Hydro. He quickly became involved with the Power Workers Union, formerly CUPE Local 1000, as a shop steward. He acted in that role for nine years, until he switched employers in 1997.

Morden then worked in a sawmill in Ear Falls Ontario, and was elected as the President of the Communication, Energy and Paper Workers Union Local 105. He served until the spring of 1999, when he started his aviation career at the age of 32 years young, and accepted his first flying position in Northern Manitoba.

He continued to fly various VFR jobs in the Northern Manitoba and the Arctic until 2003, when he accepted a position with Canadian Helicopters Limited as a First Officer with the Ontario Air Ambulance program, flying an SK76A. He was upgraded to Captain in 2006, and continues to fly the S76A for CHL in that capacity today.

Morden is based in Kenora, Ontario, Canada, his hometown. He has been happily married to Marie for 20 wonderful years, and has two children, Devon and Claire.



Jerome Groten

President and Business Agent
Independent Association of
Pari-Mutuel Employees (IAPME)

Jerome Groten has been the President and Business Agent of the Independent Association of Pari-Mutuel Employees (IAPME) for 20 years. Groten began working at the racetracks in 1975, and as a member in good standing ran for the board and became a Sergeant-At-Arms in 1984. In 1990, Groten was elected Business Agent, a position he holds today.

Since 1953, the Independent Association of Pari-Mutuel Employees has represented the pari-mutuel employees in Florida. Currently, there are 140 members employed at two racetracks, Gulfstream and Calder. IAPME is currently in contract negotiations with both employers.

Council Leaders



Christian Hains
Council
Coordinator
OPEIU Midwest
United Local
2009

Christian Hains began in the labor movement in 1998 as an Organizer for SEIU Local 880 in St. Louis, Missouri. While attending the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign pursuing his Ph.D.

in Russian History, Hains became active in his Graduate Student Union, the G.E.O. — IFT/AFT Local 6300, and was a member-organizer for the humanities.

After finishing his Ph.D. coursework, Hains was an organizer and service representative for SEIU before joining OPEIU Local 39 in 2006. He served on his bargaining committee and as one of Local 39's delegates to the South Central Federation of Labor, where he also served on SCFL's Education Committee. He left SEIU, and took a position as a Business Agent for OPEIU Local 35 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Hains currently serves as the Chairperson, Council Coordinator and as a Business Agent for OPEIU Midwest United Local 2009, and as a Business Agent, Executive Board member, and delegate to the Milwaukee Area Labor Council for Local 35. He is active in the Chicago labor community as well, and attends meetings of the Chicago Federation of Labor. He also serves as one of OPEIU's representatives on the AFL-CIO Youth Initiative Committee.



Butch Grafton
President
Professional Helicopter
Pilots Association (PHPA)

Butch Grafton went through Army Flight School from 1969-1970. In 1970/1971, he served as a U.S. Army Helicopter Pilot in Vietnam with the 61st Assault Helicopter Company.

In 1971, Grafton was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in Vietnam. From 1972-1979, he flew for a private helicopter company in Memphis, Tennessee.

In 1980, Grafton started teaching instrument flying at the U.S. Army Flight School at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. He has been teaching there for the past 30 years and has taught the following courses: Initial Entry Rotary Wing Instrument Course, Rotary Wing Instrument Qualification Course, Methods of Instruction Instructor Pilots Course and is currently teaching the Rotary Wing Instrument Flight Examiners Course.

In 2000, Grafton started work on forming the OPEIU-affiliated Professional Helicopter Pilots Association and with the help and tremendous support of OPEIU, PHPA was launched in 2002. Grafton was the first elected President of PHPA and still holds that office today.

Executive Directors



Patt A. Gibbs, Esq.
Executive Director
Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA)/
OPEIU Local 50

A labor attorney and former union president, Patt Gibbs is currently the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA/OPEIU Local 50) a position she has held since December 2008.

Gibbs earned her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law. Since 1989 she maintained a civil and legal practice in California and Texas. Her primary areas of practice are labor and employment law, Title VII, con-

tracts and bankruptcy. Gibbs is admitted to practice in California and before the U.S. Federal District Courts of California, and the Northern and Eastern Federal District Courts of Texas and the United States Supreme Court.

Gibbs has more than four decades of experience in the labor field and represented several labor unions, providing legal services and expertise for collective bargaining, interest based bargaining, union organizing, mediation and arbitration. She is a certified mediator and has been a guest lecturer as a labor attorney and leader. She was founding president of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, representing the American Airlines flight attendants and currently resides in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Michael Q. Davis
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical
Association (PPMA)

Michael Davis has been the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association (PPMA) at Camp Hill, Pennsylvania for more than ten years. He



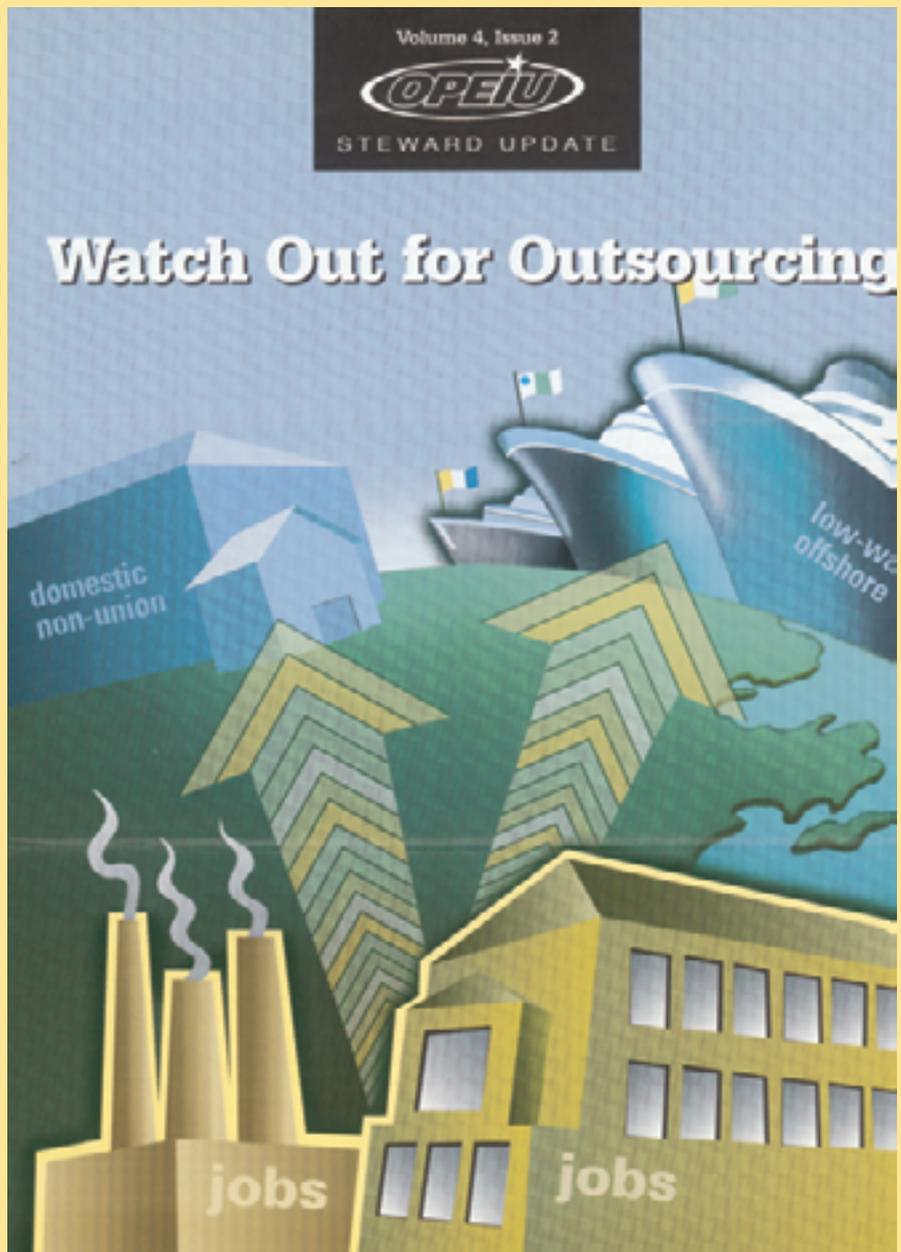
is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, in South Bend, Indiana and the Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Davis practiced law for twenty years as a partner in two firms prior to taking the position of Executive Director. He has been instrumental in the creation of Professional Liability Insurance programs for the Association, and spoken in front of the Pennsylvania legislature numerous times on the issues of Professional Liability Law reform, Workers Compensation Law reform, and various insurance matters.

Davis has worked with his Association in the creation of the First National Guild for Medical Providers, OPEIU Guild 45.

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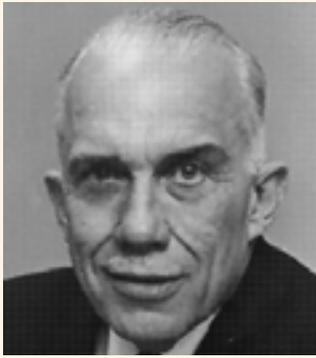
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Name _____

Local Union Number _____ Employer _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____



Paul Hutchings
1945-1953



Howard Coughlin
1953-1979



John Kelly
1979-1994



Michael Goodwin
1994-present

OPEIU TIMELINE

1906 Henry Ford begins manufacturing the Model T (available in any color, as long as it's black)

First clerical federal charter issued by AFL to a local union: Stenographers, Typists, Bookkeepers and Assistants, Federal Labor Union No. 11587 (became OPEIU Local 1, Indianapolis).

1933 President Roosevelt's first Fireside Chat is broadcast on radio. These chats are an attempt to calm people during the tumultuous years of the Depression. Roosevelt's New Deal passes the National Recovery Act, giving employees the right to organize and bargain collectively. The act was later declared unconstitutional. Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany. Dachau concentration camp opened. Stalin begins the great purge of the Communist party in the U.S.S.R. He arrests, imprisons and executes many old Bolsheviks. The purge continues until 1939.

Office Employees, Federal Labor Union No. 11773, in St. Louis sends out a call for a national union for the first time.

1934 Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad buys a diesel-powered passenger train, the Burlington Zephyr, which sets a speed record for the trip from Denver to Chicago. Lines begin to adopt diesel powered locomotives because of their speed, relatively low noise levels and cleanliness compared to steam engines, which virtually disappear by 1960. "Tender is the Night" by F. Scott Fitzgerald is published. A strike in Woonsocket,

R.I., part of a national movement to obtain a minimum wage for textile workers, results in the deaths of three workers. More than 420,000 workers ultimately go on strike.

1935 *The Wagner Act is passed, making collective bargaining part of U.S. labor policy; it is declared constitutional in 1937. The Social Security Act is passed.*

1936 *Germany invades the Rhineland, which it had lost to France in WWI. The Spanish Civil War is fought. Many Americans volunteer, including novelist Ernest Hemingway. The perfusion pump, the first artificial heart, is invented by scientists at Rockefeller University in New York. The National Guard prepares to assault strikers at the General Motors (GM) plant in Flint, Michigan. At the last minute Walter Knudsen, head of GM, agrees to recognize the United Auto Workers Union.*

The first resolution calling for an international union of office workers is presented at the AFL convention in Tampa (referred to the Executive Council), introduced by Mollie Levitas from Chicago.

1937 *Amelia Earhart is lost at sea. Steel and auto gain first big contracts. First coast-to-coast radio broadcast is a report of the Hindenburg disaster. The Hindenburg, a transatlantic lighter-than-air floating passenger ship, crashes and explodes upon landing in New Jersey. "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck is published.*



Union National Bank, St. Louis, Missouri.

In June, a new federal charter is issued for Federal Labor Union No. 20940 in New York City. One of its founding members is Howard Coughlin, then working for IBEW Local 3. Many other locals are chartered this year, including those that become Local 29 in Oakland and Local 30 in Los Angeles. But chapters are also lifted from locals in New York and Chicago that join the CIO. A new charter is given to Chicago's Federal Local 20732, later to become OPEIU Local 28.

The AFL, at its convention in Denver, creates the American Federation of Office Employees International Council—a paper organization—to maintain a loose liaison with the newly chartered locals.

On December 11th, George Firth, Harry Beach and others form the Pacific Northwest Conference of Office Employees, which eventually develops into an international council.

1938 *A national minimum wage is enacted in the United States. Germany invades Czechoslovakia. President Roosevelt sends private memo-*

randa to Britain, France, Germany and Czechoslovakia recommending arbitration of the Sudetenland crisis. This sets the stage for the Munich Pact (Sept. 29). Neville Chamberlain, British Prime Minister, declares “peace in our time” after Hitler agrees to sign the non-aggression pact. Orson Welles broadcasts an adaptation of the H.G. Wells’ book “War of the Worlds.” Hysteria ensues across the country, especially in New York and New Jersey, as many listeners mistake the dramatic play for the actual news coverage of an alien invasion of the United States. The Wage and Hours (later Fair Labor Standards) Act is passed, banning child labor and setting the 40-hour workweek. The Act goes into effect in October 1940, and is upheld in the Supreme Court on February 3, 1941.

Howard Coughlin elected President of the New York Local Union (Federal Union 20940).

1939 Hitler invades Poland. France and England declare war on Germany. The first regular transatlantic passenger air service begins when Pan American Airways (PanAm) flies 22 passengers from Long Island to Lisbon, Portugal. The trip lasts 23 hours, 52 minutes.

On April 2nd, the West Coast locals meet and form the Pacific Conference of Office Workers.

On June 25th, Harry Beach drowns in a boating accident. J. Howard Hicks succeeds to the leadership of the Portland local.

1940 France, Norway, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands fall to the German blitzkrieg. Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of Great Britain. Richard and Maurice McDonald of Glendora, California open a drive-in near Pasadena selling hamburgers. FDR is elected to an unprecedented third term. Radios are in 30 million American homes.

An organizing campaign begins for clericals at the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Henderson B. Douglas, then with the Washington Local Union and working on the AFL staff, is sent there to help.

1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The U.S. officially enters World War II. The AFL pledges that there will be no strikes in defense-related industry plants for the duration of the war.

1942 In the U.S., sugar, gasoline, and coffee are rationed. Sales of new cars and trucks are banned. Joe Louis successfully defends his heavyweight



The first Director of Organization, Henderson B. Douglas, “on the stump” organizes for the Union in 1941.

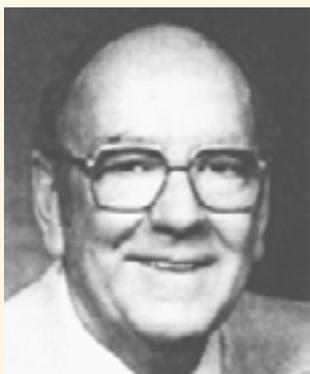
OPEIU Secretary-Treasurers



J. Howard Hicks
1945-1973



William Lowe
1973-1983



Romeo Corbell
1983-1986



Gilles Beauregard
1986-2002



Carol Dupuis
2002



Nancy Wohlforth
2003-2009



Mary Mahoney
January 2010-Present

boxing title for the twentieth time. Mass murder of Jews, by gassing, begins at Auschwitz extermination camp. First Japanese-Americans sent to U.S. "relocation camps." The Battle of Midway occurs. The Bataan Death March in the Philippines kills 5,000 American POWs. U.S. troops in the Philippines surrender to Japan.

A new federal charter is issued on January 28th to the American Federation of Trade Union Office Employees, Federal Union No. 23076, which split off from Local 20940 and was to be a union of "trade union employees." This new local union would become OPEIU Local 153 and the largest of the union's locals.

Forty-six locals convene in Chicago to establish a formal international council, the first step towards an international union. AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany convenes the conference and AFL President William Green addresses it. "The International Council of Office Employee Unions" establishes a constitution and by-laws and elects Howard Hicks its President and Paul Hutchings its Secretary-Treasurer.

1943 *German invasion of Russia turned at Stalingrad. German and Italian troops in North Africa surrender to the Allies. Italy falls to U.S. troops and declares war on Germany. Essential workers are frozen in their jobs by the federal government. Salvage drives produce 255,513 tons of tin cans, 43,919 tons of fat, 6 million tons of waste paper and more than 26 million tons of iron and steel scrap collected for use in essential industries.*

Toledo Edison Co. signs a first contract with Local 19 (headed by Robert Daugherty).

The International Council opens its first office headquartered at 827 Fourteenth St., NW, Washington, DC. The first issue of *The Office Worker* appears in March 1943 with a lead story on an organizing victory in the Seattle shipyards.

Major organizing successes proceeded in the shipyards throughout the country: led by John Kinnick in California, George Firth in Washington State, and Oscar Bloodworth in Florida, among others.

At the Detroit Convention Howard Coughlin gains his first elected office as Council Vice President.

1944 *Allied Forces invade Normandy. Liberation of Paris. U.S. recaptures the Philippines. D-Day. President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the Army to seize the executive offices of Montgomery Ward and Company after the corporation failed to comply with a National War Labor Board directive regarding union shops. Penicillin mass-produced.*

Hicks, Hutchings, and Coughlin — with Larry Nygren (Minneapolis) and Mildred Erickson (Seattle) — meet with the AFL Executive Council to discuss the issuance of a charter to organize office workers. Jurisdiction was the primary issue. When denied, they begin a campaign through the state federations and central labor councils — where no jurisdictional problems had arisen — to gain the charter.

1945 *President Roosevelt and Chancellor Hitler die in April. Truman becomes President. Germany (May 7) and Japan (Aug. 14) surrender to Allied Forces. U.S. drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. George Gallup conducts a poll, including the questions: “Do you know what television is?” and “Have you ever seen a television in operation?”*

On January 8th, AFL President William Green issues charter to Office Employees International Union, which begins with 22,000 members, at a convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ninety delegates attend from 54 Local Unions. Original dues were minimally \$1.00 with 45 cents in per capita payments; conventions were annual; and officers held two-year terms of office. Paul Hutchings became the first President and Howard Hicks the secretary-treasurer.

1946 *Strike this year involves 4.6 million workers and cost 116,000,000 hours of labor. Strike by 400,000 mineworkers begins; other industries follow. In a famous Canadian arbitration award, Justice Yvan Rand rules that all employees in a bargaining unit must*



Howard Hicks (second from right) and Howard Coughlin (front left).

pay the equivalent of union dues, whether or not they are union members. The award settles a bitter strike involving Ford Motor Co. in Windsor, Ontario and the United Auto Workers. The landmark decision has come to be known as the “Rand Formula” and provided a new form of union security.

Hollywood studio unions (Film Office Workers Guild and the Screen Office Guild) merge and affiliate with OEIU as Local 174. Wall Street’s stock exchange local joins OEIU and is chartered as Local 205.

The first Canadian Conference is held in Toronto. Nine local unions send representatives. The first major contract for OEIU in Canada is signed with International Paper Co. during the conference.

At the March convention in Milwaukee, there is a call for a “Million Dollar Fund” to organize clerical workers. The fund – to be raised by the AFL and other unions – never materializes.

Organizing: Electric Boat (Groton, CT, Local 106); 20th Century Fox (Local 174); Kimberly Clark of Canada (Kapuskasing, Ont., Local 166).

1947 *Jackie Robinson breaks baseball’s color barrier. Overriding President Taft’s veto, Congress passes the Taft-Hartley Act, eliminating the unconditional right to strike. The Taft-Hartley Labor Act, curbing strikes, is vetoed by President Truman. Congress overrides the veto.*

Howard Coughlin challenges Paul Hutchings to the presidency at the

Convention held in Chicago. C.H. Attebury of Tacoma challenges Howard Hicks. Delegates narrowly reelect Hutchings and Hicks. At that same convention, Marcel Francq of Montreal convinces the delegates of a need for a Canadian vice president, and Region V is created.

1948 *Israel declares independence. Bell Labs invents the transistor, paving the way for computers and portable stereo amplifiers. House Committee on Un-American Activities starts looking everywhere for communists. Gandhi is fatally shot by a Hindu fanatic in New Delhi. The term “Cold War” becomes widely used to describe the U.S. relationship with the U.S.S.R.*

OEIU Local 205 strikes the New York Stock Exchange, Curb Exchange, and several brokerage houses.

Because of financial constraints, by local union referendum (the first ever conducted), it was decided to dispense with the 1948 convention.

Organizing: Gales Products Co. (Galesburg, IL, Local 221); Blue Cross (Newark, NJ, Local 32).

1949 *The Soviet Union detonates its first nuclear device. United Nations headquarters are dedicated in New York City. The United States and Western European countries establish the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for collective security.*

Union holds its convention in St. Louis, MO. Lucien Bruneau of Local 191 becomes



Roméo Corbeil, 1977-1983



Fred Trotter, 1983-1986



Michel Rousseau, 1986-1989



Anne Harvey, 1989-1990

the first Canadian officer of the International Union.

1950 *U.S. Army seizes all railroads on Truman's order to prevent a general strike. Truman orders troops to South Korea to participate in a UN force that will help repel North Korean troops from the country, is the start of U.S. involvement in the Korean War. Nine percent of homes own TV sets. By 1979, 98 percent of U.S. homes have a television. The first National Basketball championship is played. The Minneapolis Lakers defeat the Syracuse Nationals.*

Organizing: Sandia Corporation in Albuquerque organizes August 30th under Local 251; gains first contract in 1951. Blue Cross (Buffalo, Local 212); Harry Stevens at Yankee Stadium (New York, Local 153).

1951 *Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are sentenced to death for wartime espionage. Fighting ends in Korea. The Japanese Peace Treaty is signed.*

The first written International Union contract is reached with the Tennessee Valley Authority. International Union convention held in Toronto, Ontario.



Michel Lajeunesse, 1990-2004

Editor's Note:

Jerri New from Local 378 in Vancouver, British Columbia also served as Canadian Director from April 2004, but led the Canadian sector members out of OPEIU on June 20, 2004.

Following the 2004 Convention, New was turned out of office by the members of Local 378 in 2005 and denied re-election as President of the newly formed Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union in 2007.

Organizing: Consolidated Vultee Aircraft; AG Spaulding (Chicopee, MA, Local 269); Blue Cross (Milwaukee, Local 9); 1300 administrative employees in the New York city hotels (Local 153); Maidenform (Bayonne, NJ, Local 20); St. Regis Paper and Consolidated Paper (Quebec, Local 256); Curtiss-Wright Propeller & Electronics (Patterson, NJ and Buffalo, NY); Twin Cities Arsenal (Minneapolis, Local 12); Lone Star Ordinance (Texarkana, TX).

1952 *Television transmission begins in Canada. U.S. seizure of the nation's steel mills is ordered by Truman to avert a strike; ruled illegal by the Supreme Court.*

Education conferences are held to train local union staff and officers.

Organizing: City of Hope (Los Angeles, Local 30); Federal Cartridge (Minneapolis, Local 12); Southern Union Gas (Galveston, Local 27); Cutter Labs (Oakland, Local 29); Pantex Atomic Plant (Amarillo, Local



A happy member.

306); C.W. Sweeney Insurance Consultants (San Francisco, formerly Local 36); McKellar General Hospital (Ft. William, Ontario, Local 81); Pacific Intermountain Express (Oakland, Local 29).

Local 153 in New York City established the first local union defense fund in July.

1953 *OEIU gains its first nationwide insurance contract with Insurance Co. of Texas Group (then Local 45). The Korean War ends after three years. U.S. casualties total 37,051; 25,604 of those result in death. 7,955 soldiers remain missing after the war. Dwight D. Eisenhower is inaugurated as President. Republican Senator Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin is investigated by the Senate Privileges and Elections subcommittee, which finds his political activities to be motivated by self-interest. Sen. McCarthy leads the congressional investigation of hundreds of accused dissidents. These investigations center around the perceived threat of communist infiltration into United States society. General Electric announces that all communist employees will be discharged.*

Organizing: Day & Zimmerman (Texarkana, TX, Local 303); B.C. Electric Co. on Victoria Island (affiliation, became Local 300); Kaiser Engineering (Hanford, WA, Local 100); CBS Studios (Local 174); Pacific Intermountain Express (Emmeryville, Local 29); Navajo Freight Lines (Albuquerque, Local 251); Toledo Credit Bureau (Local 19).

At the June 1953 convention in Cleveland, Ohio, Howard Coughlin is elected OEIU

International President. Henderson B. Douglas becomes Director of Organization in August. The first of several organizing conferences begins. A major organizing offensive begins as well. Alastair MacArthur becomes the first full-time OEIU Canadian representative.

1954 *Nautilus, the first nuclear-powered submarine, is launched in Groton, CT. The U.S. Supreme Court issues its landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, stating that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional. French forces withdraw from Vietnam. The country becomes partitioned into northern and southern states. Elvis Presley joins Sun Records and what would come to be called Sun's "Million Dollar Quartet" – the foursome that also included Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash. By 1955 Elvis records five songs and gains some popularity in the South. By 1956 Elvis achieves national fame*



Secretary-Treasurer Howard Hicks raises General Counsel Joseph Finley's hand in a sign of victory after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in OEIU's favor and overturned the NLRB's refusal to assume jurisdiction over labor unions.

by making appearances on such television shows as "The Ed Sullivan Show." Forty-five percent of Americans smoke at least one pack of cigarettes a day. Ninety percent of adults drink 3-4 cups of coffee a day. America's favorite meal is fruit cup, vegetable soup, steak and potatoes, peas, rolls with butter, and pie a la mode.

The first issue of *White Collar* is published.

Local 1 in Indianapolis celebrates its 50th anniversary as a directly chartered local of the AFL, as does Local 2 in Washington, D.C.

Organizing: Elk River Coop Power Association (Minneapolis, Local 12); St. Regis Paper Co. (Three Rivers, Quebec, Local 265); GHI (New York City, Local 153).

1955 *Rosa Parks refuses to give her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, AL, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations merge to form the AFL-CIO with a combined membership of 15 million. George Meany becomes the new AFL-CIO president. Disneyland opens. Foreign aid to South Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos is begun by the United States. The Salk vaccine against polio is introduced.*

The union holds its convention in New York City, where the International Union headquarters are moved. Another office is maintained in Washington D.C.

Organizing: Credit Bureau of Tacoma (Local 23); Pierce County Industrial



Producing labor materials.

Medical Bureau (Local 23); B.C. Office Employees Association (affiliations with Local 378, Vancouver); Knights of Columbus Insurance (New Haven, CT, Local 329); reach a first contract after a four day strike; Vancouver membership of B.C. Electric affiliates with Local 378.

1956 *Soviet troops suppress democracy movement in Hungary. The Canadian Labor Congress forms as a result of a merger of the Trades and Laborers Congress of Canada and the Canadian Congress of Labor. It has a membership of more than one million.*

CIO local unions begin to merge with OEIU. For example, the United Bank Employees Local Industrial Union establishes the OEIU Welfare Plan, providing health benefits, life insurance, and accidental death and disability insurance.

For the first time OEIU invokes Article XX

(the no-raiding clause) of the AFL-CIO Constitution against the Newspaper Guild in a campaign for the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

OEIU conducts the first nationwide Blue Cross and Blue Shield organizing campaign. The union already had Newark, Buffalo, and Seattle under contract. AFL-CIO president George Meany joins in supporting the campaign.

Organizing: Metro Transit Authority (Boston, Local 6); Amalgamated Bank of New York (Local 153); West Coast Drug (Seattle, Local 8); Oregon Physicians Service (Portland, Local 11); Yarrows Ltd. (Victoria, Local 15); Canadian Car and Foundry (Montreal, Local 57); Sarnia General Hospital (Sarnia, Ontario, Local 347); and numerous paper companies in the U.S. and Canada.

1957 *The Soviet Union launches the first satellite, Sputnik, into orbit around the earth. U.S. Congress approves the first civil rights bill since Reconstruction to protect voting rights. The Eisenhower Doctrine, given in a message to Congress on January 5, 1957, states the United States will use armed forces upon request in response to imminent or actual aggression from Communist forces in the Middle East. The Doctrine is applied in Lebanon that year, justifying American intervention. Little Rock, Arkansas is in the middle of the American Civil Rights Movement, when the Central High School is racially integrated in September 1957.*

OEIU wins Supreme Court case guaranteeing the right to bargain on behalf of

employees in labor unions in May. The case was argued by OEIU General Counsel Joseph Finley.

The 7th annual convention is held in Minneapolis in June. The union membership passes the 50,000 mark. An International Union Pension fund is created.

Organizing: Joy Manufacturing (Franklin, PA, Local 352); Brown Co. (Berlin, NH, Local 345); Cudahy Bros. Packing (Milwaukee, Local 9); Blue Cross (Milwaukee, Local 225); Remington Rand (Buffalo, Local 212).

1958 *OEIU changes the Interpreters Guild. Jimmy Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, writes to propose joint organizing campaigns.*

Canadian membership reaches the 5,000 mark.

Organizing: East Bronx and Brooklyn Medical Group, D.C. Andrews and Yonkers Raceway (New York, Local 153); Quebec Natural Gas Corp. (Quebec, Local 57); RCA Service Co. (Los Angeles, Local 174); International Paper (South Carolina, Local 233).

1959 *The Landrun-Griffin Act passes, restricting secondary boycotts, particularly Labor union refusal to handle hot cargo, unfair union election practices, and picketing when a union is organizing.*

1960 *John F. Kennedy becomes the first Roman Catholic elected President of the U.S. The National Front for*

the Liberation of Vietnam or National Liberation Front is known to American and allied soldiers in Vietnam as the Viet Cong. The Civil Rights Act (1960) enables federal judges to appoint referees to hear persons claiming that state election officials denied them the right to register and vote. The act is ineffective and therefore it is necessary for President Lyndon B. Johnson to persuade Congress to pass the Voting Rights Act (1965).

Organizing: R.L. Polk Co. (Cincinnati, Local 388); Roosevelt University affiliates (Chicago, Local 391); Metropolitan Hospital and Clinics (Detroit, Local 42); three more shipping companies (New York, Local 153).

1961 *The U.S. serves as diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba. The "Invasion of the Bay of Pigs" to overthrow Castro fails. Yuri Gagarin*



President Howard Coughlin and New York City Central Labor Council President Harry Van Arsdale Jr. with Gov. Nelson Rockefeller signing a labor-supported bill.

becomes the first human in space, making one almost-complete orbit of the earth. Comdr. Alan Shepard mans the first U.S. sub-orbital space flight. The Berlin Wall is constructed.

The union's political action fund — Voice of the Electorate (VOTE) — is established.

Organizing: Detroit Federal Credit Union (Local 42); more shipping companies (Local 153); Blue Cross sales representatives (New York, Local 153); Mueller Co. (Chattanooga, TN, Local 179); Banco Obrero and Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company.

1962 *Lt. Col. John Glenn becomes the first American in orbit. The Cuban Missile Crisis results in Soviet Missile withdrawal from Cuba after a U.S. quarantine of the island. Rachel Carson's*

Silent Spring launches the environmental movement.

The 9th OEIU convention is held in Kansas City. Former U.S. President Harry Truman addresses the delegates.

Organizing: B.C. Hydro (Local 378); Consolidated Freightways (Denver, Local 5); SeaLand (Puerto Rico); Saskatchewan Government Insurance affiliates (Regina, Local 397).

1963 *The Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. delivers his famous "I have a dream" speech to nearly 500,000 civil rights marchers in Washington, D.C. President Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas. Lyndon Baines Johnson becomes President. Betty Friedan's Feminine Mystique ignites the women's movement. The longest newspaper strike in*



Secretary-Treasurer Howard Hicks (back row, fifth from the left) and AFL-CIO President George Meany (seated, first from the left) attend the White House Conference on Non-Discrimination with President John F. Kennedy and Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson in September 1963.

U.S. history ends. The nine major newspapers in New York City stopped publication more than 100 days before. Congress passes a law mandating equal pay to women.

The 200 salespeople at Yellow Pages of Bell Canada join OEIU Local 57 (Montreal). This is the first CLC affiliate to win certification for a group at Bell.

Organizing: SeaLand (Oakland, Local 20); shipping (Local 153); Blue Cross (Montreal, Local 57).

1964 *Universal Old Age Pension adopted by the Canadian Parliament. President Johnson signs into law the omnibus civil rights bill, barring discrimination in jobs, public accommodations, etc. U.S. Congress passes the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution authorizing Presidential action in Vietnam. Congress passes the War on Poverty. Twenty-fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution prevents any rights from being abridged due to failure to pay poll tax or other tax. Thirteen years after it was proposed and nearly two years after the measure had been passed by the United States Senate 77-16, the 24th Amendment is ratified on January 23, 1964.*

OEIU wages campaign for the four-day work week.

Organizing: Standard Register (Philadelphia, Local 14); Midwest Manufacturing (Galesburg, IL, Local 221); San Diego Health Association (then local 139); several bakeries and Bakke Steamship Co. (San Francisco, Local 3); Chicago Pneumatic Tool (Ft. Worth, Local

277); Riverview Hospital (Wisconsin Rapids, Local 95).

A Time of Change . . .

1965 *Malcolm X is assassinated in New York City. Canada and the U.S. sign the Auto Pact, providing largely free trade in motor vehicles and parts. The first U.S. combat forces arrive in Vietnam. The Medicaid program in the United States, created on July 30, 1965 provides health insurance for the poor. The Medicare Program is a set of amendments to Social Security, first passed on July 30, 1965, that provides health insurance for the elderly.*

At the 10th convention in San Francisco, OEIU changes its name to the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU). The delegates vote to create an International Union strike fund. Quebec locals form the Eastern Canadian Council for organizing.

Organizing: Owens-Illinois Glass (Waco, Local 277); several credit unions (Detroit,



Workers express joy at passage of Civil Rights legislation in 1965.

Local 42); Inland Gas Co. (Vancouver, Local 378); Picatinny Arsenal (Dover, NJ, then local 142); several credit unions (Hamilton, Ont., Local 290); Ladish Co. (Kenosha, WI, Local 336); more hotels (New York, Local 153); medical technologists at various hospitals (Oakland, Local 29); Chicago Pneumatic (Franklin PA, Local 352); R.L. Polk (Kansas City, Local 320); Grinnell Corp. (Portland, Local 11).

1966 *Race riots ignite in Detroit, Michigan and Newark, New Jersey. Miranda v. Arizona 384 US 436 1966 is a landmark case in United States Supreme court history, dealing with the rights citizens of the United States retain when arrested. National Organization for Women (NOW) an American feminist group, is founded on June 30, 1966 in Washington, D.C. by women attending the Third National Conference of the Commission on the Status of Women.*

OPEIU cited as leading Canadian white collar union.

Organizing: American Income Life Insurance (Waco, Local 277); Crittenton Hospital (Detroit, Local 417); Avis (Philadelphia, Local 14); Baton Rouge Water Works; Bristol Township schools (Bristol, PA, Local 426).

1967 *Canada celebrates its Centennial (100th) birthday. The first Super Bowl is played. Twenty-fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution is ratified on February 10, 1967 and provides more details regarding the succession of presidents.*

Organizing: Montreal City & District Savings Bank (Quebec, Local 434); Hudson United Bank (Union City, NJ, Local 142); New York Hilton (Local 153); Continental Oil Co. (Ponca City, OK); Fordham University (New York, Local 153); Cowlitz General Hospital (Portland, Local 11).

1968 *Soviet troops suppress a democracy movement in Czechoslovakia. The "Tet Offensive" is launched as North Vietnamese troops attack Saigon. Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. Robert F. Kennedy is assassinated in Los Angeles, CA. Peace talks begin in Paris on Vietnam. Canada implements Medicare. British Columbia and Saskatchewan are the first provinces to join; all other provinces soon follow. President Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1968 discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of housing.*

The union holds its convention in Philadelphia. Arthur Lewandowski becomes Director of Organization.

Organizing: Canadian membership passes 11,000; Trust Co. of New Jersey (Local 142); American Linen Supply (Minneapolis, Local 12); R.L. Polk (Los Angeles, Local 30); Kaiser Medical (San Diego, Local 443).

1969 *Neil Armstrong becomes the first man to set foot on the moon. The Woodstock rock festival draws more than 500,000. President Richard Nixon introduces his policy of 'viet-*



Then International Representative William Lowe (who later became Secretary-Treasurer) shows a picket sign in support of swing shift hours.

namization.” *The plan is to encourage the South Vietnamese to take more responsibility for fighting the war. It is hoped that this policy will eventually enable the U.S. to withdraw gradually all their soldiers from Vietnam.*

OPEIU International Executive Board creates the Henderson B. Douglas Award (Doug Award) to be given annually to that individual or the Local Union that organizes the most new members.

Organizing: Lakehead University (Lakehead, Ont., Local 81); Purolator (Toronto, Local 131); U.S. and Canadian paper companies; Institute for the Blind (Regina, Sask., Local 397).

1970 *U.S. forces enter Cambodia. U.S. National Guardsmen kill four Kent State students protesting the war in Vietnam. President Richard M. Nixon names the U.S.’s first two female generals. United Farm Workers forced California*

grape growers to sign an agreement after a five-year strike.

Organizing: Stelco Credit Union (Toronto, Local 343); Northwest Natural Gas Co. Medical Group (New York, Local 153); Savannah Electric Power & Gas; Centerville Clinics (PA); Group Health Association (Washington DC, Local 2); Springhill Bank & Trust Co. (Springhill, LA, Local 411); Blue Cross (Milwaukee, Local 9).

1971 *The 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, lowering the voting age to 18.*

OPEIU holds its convention in Miami. A committee is appointed to study strengthening Canadian autonomy and representation.

Organizing: City of Ellensburg (Seattle, Local 8); Clark County, WA (Local 11).

1972 *Nixon visits the People’s Republic of China and begins normalization of relations. The Equal Rights Amendment is approved by the*



OPEIU Local 205 President John Kret organizing on Wall Street.

Senate and sent to the states for ratification. U.S. troops begin to withdraw from Vietnam. Nixon makes the first U.S. Presidential visit to Moscow, gaining a strategic arms pact. The Watergate burglars are arrested.

Associated Unions of American (AUA), an independent union representing 3,000 offices, technical, and clerical employees (Northwest Mutual Life Insurance, Cutler Haramer, Ladish, etc.), merges with OPEIU.

Organizing: Long Island University, Brooklyn (Local 153); school boards and districts and Caisse Populaire, St. Gregoire (Montreal, Local 57); Blue Shield (San Francisco, Local 3); San Francisco Museum of Art (Local 3); National Bank of Washington (Local 2); Brooklyn Polytechnic University (Local 153); Brownsville General Hospital (Centerville, PA, Local 457); Victoria Hospital (London, Ont., Local 468); Community Health Care Center (New Haven, CT).

1973 *In Roe v. Wade, the U.S. Supreme Court declares the laws prohibiting abortion during the first three months of pregnancy are in violation of the 4th Amendment. The Vietnam Peace Pact is signed. North Vietnam begins releasing American P.O.W.s. The end of the U.S. military draft is announced. America's first space station, the seven-ton Skylab, is launched May 14, 1973 by a two-stage version of the Saturn V booster (the SL-1 mission).*

Hypnotists Local 469 chartered in Pittsburgh, PA.

Organizing: Pacific School of Dentistry

(San Francisco, Local 3); several school boards (Montreal, Local 57); Pratt Institute (New York, Local 153); security guards in New York City's hotels (Local 153); Clark Steamship Co. (Montreal, Local 57); University of San Francisco (Local 3).

1974 *Congress prepares for impeachment proceedings against President Nixon. Nixon subsequently resigns. President Gerald Ford gives Nixon an unconditional pardon.*

The Union's convention takes place in Miami Beach. Romeo Corbeil is elected Canadian Director of the International Union.

Organizing: Muskegon Heights Board of Education (Local 353); Delaware Housing Authority (Local 14); Tacoma Housing Authority (Local 23); Hypnotists Local (Philadelphia, Local 476); University of Southern California Central Library System (Local 30); school districts (Locals 12 and 39); Kimberly Credit Union (Vancouver, Local 15); Camas police and city employees (Portland, Local 11); Hofstra University (New York, Local 153); Clark County Sheriffs (Local 11); Sydenham District Hospital (Sarnia, Ont., Local 347); Insurance Corp. of B.C. (Local 378).

1975 *U.S. civilians evacuated from Saigon. Bill Gates and Paul Allen start an informal software partnership called Microsoft. The Ebola virus first appears in Zaire.*

Organizing: Detroit Osteopathic Hospital (Local 417); Teacher's Credit Union (Memphis, Local 367); Richland Police



Left to right are William Lowe, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and Howard Coughlin.

Dept. and Ft. Vancouver Regional Library (Portland, Local 11); National Council of Senior Citizens (Local 2).

1976 *The U.S. celebrates its Bicentennial (200th) birthday. Parti Quebecois wins a majority of seats in the provincial parliament and raises the possibility of Québec seceding from Canada. CLC Day-of-the-Protest against wage controls is supported by more than one million trade unionists in Canada. OPEIU membership support is very strong.*

New York's Local 205 — the Wall St. local —merges with Local 153.

Organizing: Western Clinic (Tacoma, Local 23); Spring Lake Park Special District (Local 12); C.W. Post campus of Long Island University (Local 153).

1977 *Jimmy Carter becomes the 39th President of the United States of America. Egyptian President Anwar Sadat speaks to the Israeli Knesset, signaling an end to almost three decades of hostilities.*



Local 2 members signing contract with Local 2 President John Cahill (seated, second from the right).

The 14th OPEIU Convention takes place in Los Angeles. Voice of the Electorate President's 100 club is launched. It is composed of those members, staff and officers who contribute \$100 or more annually to the union's political fund.

A U.S. court rules that the General Dynamics plant in Fort Worth, Texas is a "federal enclave." This in turn means federal law supersedes the state's right-to-work law, and Local 277 can negotiate agency shop.

Organizing: Shامانيا County Employees (Portland, Local 11); Blue Shield (Milwaukee, Local 9); Seton Hall University (New York, Local 153); Blue Cross (Oakland, California, Local 29).

1978 *Al Gore coins the phrase "information highway." The U.S. signs a treaty with Panama, pledging to turn over control of the Panama Canal in 1999. The longest coal strike in U.S. history ends on the 110th day. The Camp David Accords are signed by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin on September 17, 1978,*



Local 30, San Diego, California, members protest City of Hope administration's union-busting practices.

following twelve days of secret negotiations at Camp David.

Organizing: Caisse Populaire Offices (Montreal, Local 57); Oberlin College (Local 502); Ocean County, N.J. (Local 14); Georgetown University Community Health Plan (Local 2); Group Health Association of Northeast Minnesota (Local 12); Bank of Nova Scotia (Vancouver, Local 15).

1979 *The first major nuclear reactor accident occurs at Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania. Iran's dictator, Muhammad Reza Pahlavi, is overthrown in a revolution led by Shi'ite Muslim clergymen. Militant students storm the U.S. embassy in Tehran, capturing more than 52 Americans, and holding them hostage for 444 days.*

The first convention of the Canadian division of OPEIU is held in Ottawa. Delegates establish the Canadian Consultative

Committee to assist the Vice Presidents. Howard Coughlin retires and the union's executive board elects John Kelly as International President.

Organizing: Group Health Insurance, Florida (Local 153); Wesleyan University (Local 153); Saginaw, Michigan County Employees, East Tennessee Baptist Hospital (Knoxville, Local 475); American Red Cross (Lansing, Michigan, Local 459); Passaic County Employees (Local 153); Lafayette College (Philadelphia, Local 14); Oberlin College and Professional Employees (Oberlin, Local 502).

1980 *Ronald Reagan is elected President. A gunman shoots and kills John Lennon. IBM introduces the IBM PC, starting the personal computer revolution. Mount St. Helens erupts in Skamania County, Washington, killing 57 people. U.S. boycotts Summer Olympics in Moscow to protest the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. U.S. hockey team beats the U.S.S.R. in the Winter Olympic games, the first time since 1960.*

OPEIU holds its 15th Convention in New York City. John Kelly is elected International President by the convention. OPEIU membership reaches 125,000.

Delegates of Convention adopt a resolution thanking Canada for sheltering six Americans and saving their lives in Tehran, Iran (1979).

1981 *Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. Inflation*



Canadian workers rally at nation's capitol in Ottawa, Ontario.

in the U.S. hits 14 percent. First U.S. Secretaries Day. Federal air traffic controllers begin a nationwide strike after their union rejects the government's final offer for a new contract. Most of the 13,000 striking controllers defy the back-to-work order, and are dismissed by President Reagan on August 5.

OPEIU Local Unions throughout the United States travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in Solidarity Day.

Organizing: Golden Gate University (Local 3); Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (Local 2); Dowling College and Fairleigh Dickinson (Local 153).

1982 *Great Britain and Argentina go to war over the Falkland Islands. E.T. is released in American theaters. A boycott is initiated by the Industrial Association of Machinists against Brown & Sharpe, a machine, precision, measuring and cutting tool manufacturer, headquartered in Rhode Island. The*

boycott is called after the firm refuses to bargain in good faith and forced the union into an unwanted and bitter strike, during which police spray pepper gas on some 800 IAM picketers at the company's North Kingston plant. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) subsequently charges Brown & Sharpe with regressive bargaining, and of entering into negotiations with the express purpose of not reaching an agreement with the union.

Local 251 wins historic agency shop in right-to-work state of New Mexico. Employees of Sandia Laboratories vote two-to-one to ratify contract. Members of Local 434 in Montreal gain agreement providing a breakthrough in maternity leave.

Organizing: City of Richmond Police Department (Local 11); Coca-Cola (Local 179).

1983 *Three hundred U.S. and French troops are killed in Beirut, Lebanon when a suicide bomber*



OPEIU General Counsel Joseph Finley (second from left) appears before the U.S. Supreme Court with his attorney daughter Lucinda Finley (far left) to argue for women to collect discrimination awards tax-free. Also pictured are President John Kelly, Business Representative Faye Orr, Vice President Jim Sheridan and Secretary-Treasurer Gilles Beauregard.

drives a truck filled with explosives into their barracks. The United States invades Grenada in a military campaign called Operation Urgent Fury.

International Executive Board elects Romeo Corbeil to the office of Secretary-Treasurer by a unanimous vote. Corbeil had a long history as an Organizer, Representative, Vice President and Canadian Director.

Canadian Labor movement launches Solidarity Day protesting reactionary legislative proposals. Solidarity Day III is conducted in Vancouver, B.C. Some 50,000 trade unionists participated, including members of Locals 378 and 15.

1984 *The U.S. Center for Disease Control announces that a*



AFL-CIO Solidarity Day 1981.

newly isolated virus called H.I.V. is the cause of AIDS. The Soviet Union and most of Eastern Europe boycott the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. Ronald Regan is re-elected in the U.S. presidential election.

OPEIU sues the TVA for sex discrimination on behalf of its female members. TVA had implemented pay schedules that would lead to higher increases in male-dominated job titles.

Howard Coughlin, founder and builder of the International Union, passes away after a lifetime of service to the OPEIU. Coughlin served on the presidential advisory commissions on education and equal opportunity. He also served as a chair of the American Arbitration Association.

1985 *Scientists discover a hole in the ozone layer. Mikhail Gorbachev calls for glasnost and perestroika in the Soviet Union.*

Local 2 achieves first contract with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Thousands of members strike Local 153 Depository Trust on Wall Street, the hotel industry in New York City and East Nassau Medical Group. Local 153 successfully resolved all three strikes, winning major gains for its members.

Local 12 members take on employer Minnegasie in a shareholder proxy battle and emerge victorious when OPEIU activist John Shand is elected to Diversified Energies' Board of Directors.

Organizing: Monmouth College (Local 32).

1986 *The largest nuclear accident in history occurs at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union. The Space Shuttle Challenger explodes shortly after take-off, killing all aboard. The Irangate scandal breaks. 1,700 female flight attendants win an 18-year lawsuit (that included \$37 million in damages) against United Airlines, which had fired them for getting married.*

Local 57 conducts a major bank strike at 26 Caisse Populaire locations. After a lengthy strike, a successful settlement is reached.

International Secretary-Treasurer Roméo Corbeil retires after a long career of service to the OPEIU. Gilles Beauregard is elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Delegates to the 1986 convention establish a scholarship fund for members and their dependents and adopt a policy statement stating the union's mission and philosophy.

Organizing: Ozaukee County (Local 35).

1987 *Pay equity legislation is passed in Ontario. A West German pilot lands unchallenged in Moscow's Red Square. Black Monday,*



Local 153 members on strike on Wall Street in 1985.



OPEIU float in support of solidarity.

October 19, 1987, the Dow Jones Industrial average fell 22.6 percent, the largest one-day decline in recorded market history.

OPEIU begins participation in Union Privilege Program, paving the way for the OPEIU MasterCard. OPEIU participation continues to this day.



Local 3, San Francisco, California and Local 29, Northern California/Nevada, at a march.

As a result of a settlement of a lawsuit filed by OPEIU, thousands of OPEIU's female members at the TVA receive a total of \$5 million in pay equity raises.

OPEIU conducts an education conference, where participants learn how to lobby on behalf of members and their families.



OPEIU members and their families at Family Day, Washington, D.C.



Local 153 members on strike against the Trust Company in New Jersey.

San Diego Hospital workers win their first contract. OPEIU members at the New York Stock Exchange strike for improved pension and health care benefits. Local 1 celebrates its 80th anniversary.

Organizing: Highway Traffic Board (Local 39).

1988 *George Bush is elected President of the U.S. Canada and the U.S. reach a free trade agreement (NAFTA). Pan Am Flight 103 explodes from a terrorist bomb over Lockerbie, Scotland.*

OPEIU rallies with thousands to bring about legislation sympathetic to the needs of working families. Members throughout the U.S. travel to Washington, D.C. for Family Day.

Winners of OPEIU's Howard Coughlin Scholarship competition are announced.

1989 *Chinese troops open fire on students protesting for democracy in Tienanmen Square. The Exxon*

Valdez oil spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound is the largest in U.S. history. Its remote location (accessible only by helicopter and boat) makes government and industry response efforts difficult and tests existing plans for dealing with such an event.

OPEIU rallies its support for Eastern Airline workers at LaGuardia and Miami international airports.

1990 *The Berlin Wall falls. Iraqi troops invade Kuwait.*

Local 8 wins an election to represent American workers at Sea Mar. The election is a monumental achievement as Sea Mar is only the second group in the state of Washington to be represented.

1991 *U.S. led military blitz expels Iraq from Kuwait. A coup*



Newly elected CLUW National Vice President Gwen Wells, OPEIU Education and Research Director (second from the right, standing), appears with the other members of the CLUW Officers Council. Also pictured is the former CLUW President Gloria Johnson (far right, seated).



Local 15 convention delegates support Eastern Airlines strikers in Miami, Florida.

attempt against Mikhail Gorbachev fails, but precipitates the collapse of the Soviet Union.

OPEIU again rallies its activists to participate in Solidarity Day II. Activists travel from as far away as California to stand up for American working families. OPEIU members brave 97-degree temperatures to make a statement to George Bush and House Republicans about workplace fairness and striker replacement.

1992 *Riots rock South Central Los Angeles following the Rodney King verdict. Fifty-three people killed and \$1 billion dollars in damage is caused.*

OPEIU backs William J. Clinton in his victorious presidential race against George Bush. OPEIU delegates convene at the 19th convention of the OPEIU under the banner, “Solidarity Works.” They develop policies on sexual harassment, free trade and striker replacement.

1993 *Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organization*

accept the Oslo Accords as a framework for negotiating a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. World Trade Center bombing by a car bomb that is planted in an underground garage below Tower One. Six are killed and 1,040 injured.

Trade unionists travel by bus throughout Canada to participate in a mass demonstration on Parliament Hill known as “Festival for our Future.”

Organizing: Teledirect (Local 57).

1994 *For the first time in decades, the Republican Party seizes control of both the U.S. House and Senate.*

International President John Kelly passes away. Kelly, who started his career as an organizer, steered OPEIU through the turbulent '80s and developed programs on education and organizing.

The International Executive Board elects Michael Goodwin to succeed Kelly. Goodwin, who also began as an organizer, rose through the ranks of Local 153, serving as its Business Representative, Secretary-Treasurer and, ultimately, its Business Manager.

1995 *The O.J. Simpson murder trial becomes the media event of the century. Following the 1994 elections, Republicans gain control of both the House and Senate for the first time since 1955. Sixty-eight people killed in the Oklahoma City bombing, at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.*



A young Michael Goodwin (seated, left) who would become International President in 1994, at a contract signing in 1969.

OPEIU celebrates its 50th birthday.

Urging OPEIU delegates to “invest in their future,” International President Michael Goodwin launches a coordinated, nationwide organizing program. Goodwin is elected Vice President of the National AFL-CIO. OPEIU establishes the Models Guild.

OPEIU names a scholarship fund in honor of John Kelly. Roméo Corbeil passes away after a lifetime as the architect of the Canadian sector of OPEIU.

OPEIU Regional Director Ed Darcy and local organizers win representation rights for a bargaining unit of 1,100 in Florida by a two-to-one margin.

1996 *Bill Clinton is re-elected President of the United States. He later appoints Madeline Albright as the first female Secretary of State.*

OPEIU activists rally to support the AFL-CIO’s “America Needs A Raise” campaign.

Two-thousand members participate in a rally in Manhattan’s financial district.

Caravans of women in cars and buses converge on Ottawa to take part in rallies intended to focus attention on the need for job creation, job training, national day care programs and an increase of the federal minimum wage.

OPEIU Registered Nurses march on the Capitol to alert the public to the dangers of a volatile health care environment.

1997 *Hong Kong returns to Chinese rule. Scientists are able to successfully clone sheep. President Clinton bars federal funding for any research on human cloning.*

Thousands of podiatrists join OPEIU, forming the First National Union for Doctors. The Federation of Catholic



International President Michael Goodwin energizes union members from a number of New York City labor unions.

Teachers (FCT), comprised of 3,000 teachers affiliates with Local 153.

1998 *The U.S. House of Representatives impeaches President Bill Clinton. Terrorists bomb the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, killing 224 people.*

Eleven thousand members of the National Federation of Clinical Social Workers affiliate with OPEIU. The Pennsylvania Nurses Association affiliates with OPEIU, adding 2,500 new members.

1999 *A war erupts in Kosovo. The U.S. Senate acquits President Clinton in his impeachment trial.*

2000 *George W. Bush is elected President of the United States. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports 265,000 new union members in 1999, bringing the total to 16.5 million, which is the largest increase in two decades.*

2001 *September 11, 2001 (9-11), a series of coordinated suicide attacks against targets in the U.S. that involve hijacking four commercial airliners. The jets are used as flying bombs, killing 2,995 people at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field. In addition to the loss of life, the twin towers of the World Trade Center and five other buildings in NYC are destroyed or partially collapsed, and a portion of the Pentagon are also severely damaged. Because of the attacks, the United States, with support from the United Kingdom and*



Children join in support of a Federation of Catholic Teachers' new contract.

the Northern Alliance, invades Afghanistan in October 2001 as part of its "War on Terrorism."

OPEIU reaches landmark 100,000 members in the U.S. A celebration is held at the AFL-CIO building in Washington, D.C. on May 7.

2002 *Department of Homeland Security established. It is a department of the federal government of the United States concerned with protecting the American homeland and safety of American citizens.*

OPEIU issues charter to the Michigan Association of Governmental Employees (MAGE)/OPEIU Local 2002, thus completing the affiliation of more than 1,300 state employees working in managerial, supervisory or confidential classifications.

OPEIU Secretary-Treasurer Gilles



President Goodwin calls the OPEIU's organization of 100,000 members in the U.S. "a triumph," and says he looks forward to reaching 200,000 members in the future.

Beauregard dies. Carol Dupuis is named new Secretary-Treasurer, and tragically, is killed in a car accident on December 31.

2003 *Republicans take narrow control of Senate following 2002 elections. Space Shuttle Columbia disaster, killing the entire seven member crew. This is the second loss of a space shuttle. Invasion of Iraq begins on March 20, 2003, when forces belonging primarily to the United States and the United Kingdom invade Iraq, leading to the collapse of the Ba'athist Iraq government in about three weeks and the start of the U.S.-led occupation of Iraq. Saddam Hussein is captured alive, on December 13, 2003 in a raid near Tikrit.*

Nancy Wohlforth is named OPEIU Secretary-Treasurer.

Organize and We All Win!

2004 *Martha Stewart convicted on all counts of obstructing justice and lying to investigators about a well-timed stock sale. Discovery of "planetoid" Senda, 84 million miles from the sun.*

OPEIU Canadian delegation announces independence from OPEIU on June 20, 2004, just prior to the Convention.

In a major victory for OPEIU, nearly 1,000 Prudential Insurance Company of America representatives in 40 states vote to join Local 153.

2005 *Hurricane Katrina, one the nation's deadliest and costliest in the nation's history, strikes the Gulf Coast. 1,836 people lose their lives in the hurricane and the subsequent flooding. Civil rights leader Rosa Parks dies on October 24. In April, Pope John Paul II dies and the first German, Pope Benedict the XVI, is elected to succeed him. Several unions break away from the AFL-CIO and form the "Change to Win" coalition, namely the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union (HERE), the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), and the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees (UNITE). The Teamsters and the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) later join the coalition.*

OPEIU Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth elected to the AFL-CIO Executive Council. OPEIU now has three seats on the Council — International President Michael Goodwin, Wohlforth, and AFL-CIO President and OPEIU member John J. Sweeney.

2006 *Scientists decide Pluto is no longer a planet. On December 30, Saddam Hussein is executed by hanging for his role in the 1982 Dujail massacre, in which 148 Iraqis were killed after a failed assassination attempt against the then-Iraqi president.*

The first helicopter strike in history begins on September 20 involving hundreds of pilots employed by PHI, Inc. in Lafayette, Louisiana. The pilots are members of Local 108.

On October 10, the Alliance Membership Benefits Program is launched for taxi and limo drivers in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Alliance is a partnership between OPEIU and the United Steelworkers (USW). The organizing drive is a tremendous success, and plans are made to expand the program to other cities throughout the United States.

It Pays To Belong!

2007 *The housing bubble bursts as lenders file for bankruptcy, unable to collect on loans because people simply cannot afford them. Hillary Clinton announces she will run for president, the first woman ever to do so. On April 16, the nation's deadliest gun massacre occurs on the campus of Virginia Tech, with 33 killed and 20 wounded. Proving it pays to buy American, more than 20 million toys made in China are recalled for containing lead paint or loose magnets.*

President Michael Goodwin is re-elected International President and Nancy Wohlforth is re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Local 6 in Quincy, Massachusetts prevails in an attempt by the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE) to steal 3,600 trial court members.

OPEIU makes great strides toward bringing worker protections and a living wage to workers in Puerto Rico as more than 180 clerical workers from AIG (Administracion de Servicios Generales) are organized.



The first helicopter strike in history begins on September 20, 2006 involving hundreds of Local 108 pilots employed by PHI, Inc. in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Yes, We Can!

2008 *A good news/bad news year for working families. On the good side, working families mobilize to turn America around and give the pink slip to President Bush, electing Barack Obama, the first African-American President of the United States, and ending eight years of the most anti-worker administration in U.S. history. Hillary Clinton is named the first female Secretary of State. On the bad side, however, the appalling policies of the previous administration that allowed Wall Street to run amok catch up with us. As a result, millions of working Americans receive their pink slips as the economy tumbles following the collapse of Wall Street, plummeting home prices and a surge of foreclosures. The federal government spends more than \$1 trillion in various rescue and stimulus packages, in an effort to get the economy back on track.*

The Federation of Catholic Teachers (FCT/OPEIU Local 153) overwhelmingly ratifies a new four-year contract with the



International President Michael Goodwin meets with President Barack Obama in the Blue Room of the White House immediately following the president's signature on three Executive Orders on January 30, 2009. The president invited all national presidents of AFL-CIO unions to attend the signing.

Archdiocese of New York's Association of Catholic Schools (ACS).

OPEIU joins AFL-CIO talks with Kuwait Labor Unions to help develop bilateral talks between the U.S. labor movement and Kuwait labor unions.

OPEIU endorses Barack Obama for President and OPEIU members mobilize at the grassroots level to help get him elected in November 2008.

2009 *The Norwegian Nobel Committee awards the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize to President Obama. America still feels the effects of the previous administration's bad policies and is now in the worst recession in decades – unemployment soars to 10.2 percent. The Obama administration injects massive sums into the sagging economy with a stimulus package and incentives like Cash for Clunkers. Health insurance reform tops President Obama's agenda, yet vast debate from both sides slows the process. November 5 sees the deadly assault on a U.S. military base, killing 13 people including 12 troops, and wounding more than 30. On June 25, the death of pop sensation Michael Jackson rocks the world. The H1N1 virus, better known as the Swine Flu, kills more than 4,000 Americans and infects more than 1 million people worldwide.*

Alliance members in Las Vegas, Nevada avert a strike when the drivers' union, ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873, accepts a settlement proposal made by a federal mediator.

Kevin Kistler, OPEIU Director of Organization and Field Services and Local

153 member receives the 2009 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, one of the highest non-military honors bestowed upon American citizens.

Local Unions 35 and 39 in Wisconsin and Local 391 in Chicago, Illinois agree to share resources, staff and organizing energies to create OPEIU Midwest United Local 2009, representing more than 2,500 members who work in a variety of professional, technical and clerical positions in Midwest states.

Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Wohlforth announces her retirement from OPEIU. Wohlforth served as Secretary-Treasurer for seven years.

Diversity is Our Strength!

2010 *The year is off to a tragic start when an earthquake in Haiti leaves hundreds of thousands dead and an estimated 1 million homeless. New Orleans Saints win the Super Bowl. The Winter Olympics are held in Vancouver. Historic health insurance reform legislation is signed into law by President Obama. The worst oil spill in American history occurs when a BP oil well explodes on April 20.*

On January 1, Mary Mahoney is sworn in as Secretary-Treasurer, following the retirement of Nancy Wohlforth.

Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA) affiliates with OPEIU, adding 4,000 nursing professionals to our ranks. They are now known as OPEIU Local 50, as Hawaii is the 50th state.



On February 29, 2010, Association of Minor League Umpires (AMLU) President Shaun Francis (seated, second from left) and OPEIU President Michael Goodwin (seated, second from right) sign an affiliation agreement between AMLU and OPEIU, forming AMLU/OPEIU Guild 322. Also pictured are (standing left to right) Tom Clarke, AMLU Recording Secretary; and Justin Vogel, AMLU First Vice President; (seated, far left) Jeffrey Klinghoffer, AMLU Secretary-Treasurer; and (seated, far right) Kevin Kistler, OPEIU Director of Organization and Field Services.

The Association of Professional Minor League Umpires (AMLU) votes overwhelmingly to affiliate with OPEIU. They are known as Guild 322 (3 balls, 2 strikes, 2 outs!).

ITPE/OPEIU Local 4873 President John Conley is awarded the prestigious 2010 Ellis Island Medal of Honor.



Pictured after signing affiliation documents between the Hawai'i Nurses' Association (HNA) and OPEIU in Honolulu on January 16, 2010 (left to right) are OPEIU Director of Organization and Field Services Kevin Kistler; HNA President John A. Craft, RN; OPEIU International Vice President for Region V and Executive Director/Chief Financial Officer of Local 30 Walter Allen Jr.; HNA Vice President Robin Tanner, RN; HNA Treasurer Elayne Schwartz, RN; HNA Executive Director Patt A. Gibbs, Esq.; and HNA Secretary Marina Robinson, RN.



International Union headquarters is located at 80 Eighth Avenue (entrance 265 West 14th Street), New York, NY 10011.

The OPEIU President's Office is on the 20th floor, and the Secretary-Treasurer's Office and Local 153 will share space on the 6th floor. Together they will occupy more than 15,000 square feet, encompassing the entire 6th and 20th floors.

OPEIU also houses AMLU/OPEIU Guild 322 and Workers Independent News Service (WINS) on the second floor.

The union has been a tenant in the building since 1937. The President's Office can be reached at:

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