

“WORD”

WE ARE the union of all rank and file staff who perform the representational, organizing, legal, accounting, communications, printing and government affairs work for CSEA and its four affiliates: SEIU Local 1000, CSUEU/SEIU Local 2579, Association of California State Supervisors, and CSEA Retirees, Inc. We are now about 238 strong, from Eureka to San Diego.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Three critical challenges face us in the next nine months:

The Contract!

Our contract expires on January 31, 2009. Last negotiations, the employer went after virtually every right and benefit in the contract, including our wage structure, retirement, health care, and seniority rights. We fought back with many actions and demonstrations, and in the end, enlisted the assistance of the central labor council and supportive legislators to make sure the employer did not renege. It is a new day. We must be determined to defend and expand our rights and working conditions!

Stop Outsourcing!

SEIU Local 1000, which fights against outsourcing of state jobs, is considering a proposal to outsource our representational intake work to a call center in Pasadena. As we have told the employer, such action would be an outright violation of the UAW Local 2350 contract. Local 1000 advertised that calls would be taken by “dedicated Local 1000 organizers,” when these people will actually be neither employees nor members of Local 1000.

Moreover, the call center’s staff union has no contract as yet, and a call center worker has filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board because he was interrogated about talking with UAW Local 2350 - and fired. We hope that there will be serious reconsideration of the cost, efficiency and principles (or lack thereof) of this proposed outsourcing. UAW Local 2350 has filed to arbitrate the issue under Article 1.6.

Decent Treatment and Conditions!

While most managers treat their workers decently, there are some managers who do not – some who are careerists and bullies. In fact, we as workers should strive to be the “best of the best,” and we have the right to expect the same from our managers. We need to support each other and make sure that destructive management practices do not continue.

On June 19, UAW Local 2350 will hold elections for all our officers and negotiating committee. Participate, run, vote. We, the members, run this union. We all need to work together.

- Lois Kugelmass

ON-GOING BARGAINING ISSUES

Print Shop JLMC – Brenda Kokotan and yours truly have met with CSEA management (Janis Mickel-Szichak and, initially, Lee King) and PS Administrator Rommel Hernandez several times since the contract was signed. The JLMC discussed various work and personnel issues, ways to improve customer service, and the profitability of the print shop. Some early results include: expanded services to CSEA, the affiliates and outside businesses; two (2) proposed new job classifications (Salesperson and Print Shop General Worker). There’s still work to be done. The JLMC is working out new job classifications, and the impact of new equipment on personnel and services.

UAW negotiated several new positions/classifications since the contract was ratified:

-Political Community Organizer (entry level position) - assists in the implementation of the Union’s political, community co-

lition and legislative programs.

-Program Specialist - Programmer (Membership): reviews, analyzes & modifies CSEA’s programming systems.

-Computer Support Technician I & II.

-Senior Research Analyst: performs the most difficult and complex analytical and research functions in the Research Analyst classes.

Hardship Leave Account: New contract language allows members to contribute sick leave (previously vacation only) to this account. The hours in this account are to supplement the sick leave balances of employees whose SL balances are exhausted. (Committee members: Sally Lorber, Jenny Ballin, Brandy Johnson and Vicki Goodrich.) Details and eligibility requirements can be found on the CSEA Intranet under “UAW.”

- Nancy Yamada

STATEWIDE ELECTIONS ARE COMING

The following offices are on the ballot:

President

Executive Vice President

Area Vice Presidents - Five (5)

(Sacramento, Central, Coastal, Southeast/Rancho, Southwest/LA)

Trustees - Three (3)

Recording Secretary

Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Sergeant at Arms

Guide

Bargaining Team Members - Five (5)

Alternate Bargaining Team Member - One (1)

Delegates to the UAW

International Convention - Two (2)

Alternate Delegate to the

UAW International Convention - One (1)

ELECTION DAY – JUNE 19TH

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Places: 1108 O Street, Sacramento
1808 14th Street, Sacramento
10600 Trademark Parkway North, Ste 405,
Rancho Cucamonga
4421 Wilshire Blvd, Ste 388, Los Angeles
1433 Webster Street, Ste 200, Oakland
1551 E. Shaw Ave, Ste 139, Fresno

Absentee ballots: All eligible voters who will be absent from the above polling place on the date of the election while conducting business for CSEA, a CSEA affiliate (ACSS, CSUEU, Retirees or SEIU Local 1000), or Local 2350, are entitled to vote by mail. A request for an absentee ballot must be in writing (*e-mail is acceptable*) and certify that the person requesting the ballot will be away from the polling places as described above. Requests for absentee ballots must be made to the Chair no later than June 16, 2008. Absentee ballots must be **RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JUNE 19, 2008.**

Questions: e-mail Tracy Hightower - thightower@seiu1000.org

If you know you're going to need an absentee ballot, DON'T WAIT! Request it now; not at the last minute!

CALENDAR

05.27.08 Candidate Nominations Closed

06.12.08 Newsletter #2 Published

06.16.08 Deadline to request Absentee Ballots

06.19.08 Deadline for Absentee Ballot submission

06.19.08 ELECTIONS! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

*Be sure to bring your ID!

07.12.08 Newsletter #3 Published

01.31.09

UAW 2350 Contract Expires

For this first edition of the new UAW 2350 newsletter, we've used the title "Word." It's a hip expression; it's what we're putting on the page; it's straight-forward and simple.

However, if you have suggestion for a new name for our tome, send it to:

UAW2350news@live.com

Use this e-mail address for all comments, story ideas, photos (please send UAW-related photos), any communications regarding "Word."

-Cyd Evans

The Members of UAW 2350 send our condolences and support to Delores Mittlemark on the recent passing of her husband. We're with you in spirit, Sister.

! BLACK FRIDAYS !

Be sure to REPRESENT and wear your UAW Shirts and Pins!

It's important to make ourselves visible.

If you need shirts or pins, please contact Joe Wildman - jwildman@seiu1000.org

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