

STATE OF THE UNION

Monroe County Federation of Social Workers, IUE-CWA 381

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"History is a great teacher. Now everyone knows that the labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them."

[Martin Luther King Jr.](#)

Labor history: 4/4/68 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is assassinated in Memphis, where he was supporting a sanitation workers strike. In the wake of the tragedy, riots break out in many cities, including Washington, DC.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Ed Charny as the newly elected Steward for the 6th, 7th & 8th floors at Westfall Rd.

Thank you to all the nominees: Lucy LoBue, Jillian Evans, and Shamara Alston.

To Lindsay Kendall (daughter of Alan Kendall) and Lexi Schollnick (daughter of Jodi Schollnick) our 2009 ED Grabowski scholarship winners. All applications were reviewed independently by Pulse Marketing Group.

UNUM IS COMING

May 18 - CSEU noon - 1:30pm

May 18 - Children's Center 2 - 4 pm

May 19 - St Paul St, RM 231 9 am - 4 pm

May 21 - Westfall Rd, RM 472 9 am - 4 pm

TEST PREP STUDY GROUP DATES

If you would like assistance studying for the Senior Examiner and Senior/Supervising Caseworker Exams, FSW has the following study prep dates set up with a trainer. Please call the union office to sign up for one of the sessions. All sessions will be held at the union office. The classes are held in 2 parts, 3 hours one day & 3 hours another: Select one session either the Saturday or Tuesday session.

These dates are for all exams, information will be for all Supervisory/Senior exams

Saturday classes

DATES May 2 & May 16

TIME 9:00 AM - noon

Evening Tuesday classes

DATES May 5 & May 19

TIME 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

In addition to taking the 2 sessions above, **those taking the Senior/Supervising Caseworker exams must attend one of the following 90 minute sessions**, which will be specific to casework staff:

Saturday May 16 - 12:30 - 2 PM or

Tuesday June 2 - 5:30 - 7 PM

SAVE THE DATES

CHASE Corporate Challenge - 5/28/09. Deadline for entries are 5/15/09.

FSW Corporate Challenge - T-shirt design contest entries due in the union office by April 20, 09 at 5 pm. For information on Corporate Challenge or T shirt design contest contact Ed Wawrzaszek -753-5989

May 30, 2009 - Alyssa's Angels Dancing in the street 4 - 8 pm on River St (near Charlotte). Tickets are \$10, we will be getting the tickets to the Steward by the end of April.

August 9, 2009 - Golf Tournament at Webster Golf Club

September 25, 2009 – FSW 50th Anniversary Gala
Will be held at the Rochester Convention Center. The date was changed due to a conflict with Rosh Hashanah.

USE OF COUNTY EQUIPMENT

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE

Remember that County equipment including the Email system, copier (paper), cell phones and all computer systems are County property and should be used for County business only. **DO NOT USE COUNTY EQUIPMENT FOR PERSONAL BUSINESS.** If your friends and/or co workers want to send you jokes, pray filled messages or funny photos please have them send them to your home email address.

UPDATED MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Your team captain will be asking you to provide the local with your current home mailing address, email address and phone number. This is the only manner in which we can collect this information. It is important to keep the union office notified of these changes to be sure you receive the latest information on potential changes to our contract and to view new capabilities on our website for members only.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

We held the first membership meeting of 2009 on 3/17. Although the room was full of attendees, the majority of the attendees were Stewards and Executive Board members. I want to thank the 12 members that attended who were not Executive Board members or Stewards. All of you made a conscience decision to actively participate in the process, rather than ask just sit back and ask “what has the union done for me lately”. Remember we all are the union and everyone must participate to make it successful. The 12 members who attended came with questions, suggestions and solutions. In return they were given information on COPE, negotiations, FSW financials and the CWA 2009 national convention. In addition, they all participated by nominating and voting for the delegates who will represent FSW in Washington D.C. in June at the national convention. Thank you to Maggie Ho, Mary Coffey, Betsy Lefler, Sandy Diciaccio, Ed Thomas, Ed Wawrzaszek, Lisa Pugliese, Judy Bentley, Nina Ruffin, Treva Warren, Monica Jones, and Leslie Andino.

Please congratulate our FSW convention delegates for 2009 Kathy Gowans & Pearlie Myrthil.

RED SHIRT SOLIDARITY THURSDAYS

Are you aware that Thursdays are solidarity day? We ask that you wear a red shirt (shirt/blouse/fleece/jacket) on Thursdays. When you wear your red shirt be sure to see your team captain or floor steward for a raffle ticket. At the end of each month each steward will draw a winner. There is one winner per steward. So, there will be 13 winners per month. For the month of April each winner will receive 2 movie passes.

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

The FSW negotiation team last met with the County negotiation team on 3/3/09. The County spent sometime costing into our last proposal. Then let us know that our proposal was too costly for the County. The FSW team will be requesting some additional information from the County team. Once the information has been received and reviewed by the FSW team, we will request another meeting with the County team.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Many of you have expressed an interest in FSW becoming more active in the community. Please call the union office to let us know what you interests are. We will put together a group to be involved in one or more of these activities; Habitat for Humanity, Adopt a school, Adopt a highway, or a bike helmet gives away.