

Weekly Word



Monroe County Federation of Social Workers, IUE-CWA 381

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2008 Federation Golf Tournament

On Sunday August 17, for the third consecutive year, the Federation will be sponsoring a golf tournament for the benefit of the Ed Grabowski Memorial Scholarship Fund, Christopher's Challenge and Alyssa's Angels.

Christopher's Challenge is a local nonprofit organization that does bone marrow screening. They will be doing screenings, which simply involves completion of a questionnaire and swabbing of the cheek, the day of the golf tournament. Peg Capuano's husband Mike was this past spring the first donor selected from Christopher's Challenge. Alyssa's Angels is a local foundation formed by FSW member Lorie Bruno and husband Chris following the death of their daughter, Alyssa. Both foundations strive to help others in need through the money the foundations receive. The money that goes to the Ed Grabowski scholarship fund helps FSW member's children/grandchildren with \$1000 scholarships.

The tournament will be held at the Webster Golf Club and is not only open to members and retirees but also the public. Golfers of all levels are welcome and co-ed teams are encouraged. It will be a scramble format meaning all four players in a foursome hit their tee shots. They then select the one they want to use. This process continues until the ball is in the hole on each hole. So each foursome essentially has four tries on each shot.

The cost is \$85 per person or \$320 for a foursome. The cost includes green fees, cart, lunch and dinner. Come out and participate in this fun event and help these three worthy causes. Entry brochures are available now... you can phone or email Joyce at the FSW office at 328-7170 or fswmessage@aol.com (if you send an email to the office, an entry brochure can be sent to you via email attachment).

So form your teams and join in this great event!

Contract Prep Update

Now that I have your attention...we recently did a mailing in an effort to be sure home addresses were up to date in our system so that when we have to do a mailing on a vote issue (e.g. contract stuff, elections that are coming this December) we will be sure that you have the opportunity to participate.

There are so many things to remember during a move so it's easy to forget letting us know, but it would be

helpful to get those changers in as soon as possible so we don't waste money on stamps and staff time trying to be sure no information is lost.

Let me also take this time to remind anyone that has moved recently or that plans to move before Election Day, that a new voter registration form needs to be completed. We have critical national elections this November that you won't want to miss the opportunity to participate in.

Scholarship Money

It was brought to my attention recently that there was no notice about the Ed Grabowski scholarships for 2008 and for that I apologize. Because of this, we will be accepting scholarship applications until August 15, 2008. If you need an application, please call the office or email to the address above and we will send one out to you. Members, as well as their children/grandchildren are eligible to apply. Two \$1000 scholarships will be selected.

The Real Contract Article

Your negotiating team has had four planning sessions and we are moving through the contract quite well. We have finalized the questionnaire that will be sent to you so we can hear your issues.

I had mentioned previously that we were hoping to do this all electronically, but County administration has failed to open up internet access at work so that we can streamline your ability to voice your opinion. I'll try not to read into why there is reluctance on the County's part.

As a result, we will be mailing questionnaires to your home (hence the need for accurate addresses). You can respond in writing or by visiting the web address identified in the questionnaire.

We have also set up some dates to meet face to face at your worksite and I will shortly publish those dates when we have the rooms all set up. We're hoping to have the site visits completed by mid-September.

The critical component of negotiations I will stress once again: it is not the folks that sit at the table. From the Union's perspective it is each and every one of you who will make the difference. This is your time to be recognized via contract for the valuable work you do everyday. You need to be active in pursuit of fulfilling your needs when contract issues arise. Take charge!