

OPEIU LOCAL 11 NEWSLETTER

Volume 11

January/February 2021

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We extend to you an invitation to a General Union Membership meeting to be sworn in and welcome to OPEIU!!!!!!

Rosie Carey, Nicola Cook, Julie Larocco-Harms, Katy McCallister, Sumona Gomes, Sandy Young, Kathleen Donaldson, Marissa Davis, Sarah Evans, Jamie Sverdrup, Kirsten Watkins, Emily Stanio, Tammey Zalewski, Tami Dykes, Gabriel Burns, Ashley Greer, Brian Ellison, David Hubbard, Justin Miller, Cody Norbury, Nathan Nowak, Henry Ramirez, Stephen Rice, Kevin Sawyer, Richardo Serrano, Adam Thompson, Nathaniel Aghili, Shawn Hunt, Ryan Palek, Michael Pastori, Nole Williams, Adrian Wriighthouse, Tristan Yeates, Miriam Adams, Jaleesa Uzoma, Ashlynn Brown, Terra Ahuna, Maria Escamilla-Vasquez, Taylor Evens, Zachary Sharp, Charlene Clark and Jaimie Helus



REMINDER

The International scholarships are open for application (posted on the Local 11 website), so be sure to get your documents in to me for signature before the 31st of March and those are the:

John Kelly
Labor Studies Scholarship
and the
Howard Coughlin
Memorial Scholarship

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER

~Maureen Goldberg~

On a personal note I recently read an article about staying positive during this most challenging time in our Country; talking about the importance of gratitude, community support and quality time; which really spoke to me. This past year has been very difficult for everyone and even though we all are doing our best to try and make life as normal as possible, the simplicity of gratitude and quality time can be a challenge.

Sharing with you that early on in the pandemic we basically stuck to just our household; with limited office time. Taking dinner to my Pops; instead of him coming to my home; giving a wave and blowing a kiss to him from a distance. As the months rolled by into May, he opened the door for my normal drop off, looking at me sad; asking if he was okay; and him asking if he could hug me. Of course, I went right in and gave a BIG squeeze. Late that evening he sent a text telling me that it was the best day ever as he got to hug me. During this pandemic when we are asked to socially distance, I knew in that moment he needed to know that I was grateful for him, supported him and that we could spend much-needed quality time together to keep him lifted up.

In looking at our Union members during this pandemic, I have to say that ALL of you have just been amazing on how you have endured and proven to your Employer that you're there, staying strong and keeping systems going so that nothing falls to the wayside. We know how difficult working remotely and Zoom meetings can be, but it does keep us connected and hopefully we can get back to some kind of normalcy with vaccines becoming available and eventually herd immunity.

Until then we can still show gratitude from a distance, show support within our communities by giving where we can and spending quality time with those close to us; whether via a Zoom happy hour or a socially distant cup of coffee in the park. Let's make that happen.

"Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy."

~Thich Nhat Hanh~

Notice of Nominations

for the

Office & Professional Employees International Union, Local 11

On Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm

VIA AN OPEIU LOCAL 11 VIRTUAL MEETING
GENERAL UNION MEMBERSHIP ZOOM MEETING

Nominations to be Accepted for the Following Positions:

President (*3-year Term*) – Incumbent Barbara Melton

Recording Secretary (*2-year Term*) – Incumbent Autumn Sailer

Utilities (*2-year Term*) – Incumbent Lori Ricketts

At-Large (*2-year Term*) – Incumbent Kayleen Williams

At-Large (*2-year Term*) – Incumbent Sue McMerrick

Trustee (*1-year Remaining in a 3-year Term*) – Vacant

Nominees must be present to accept, or have written acceptance of nomination submitted at this meeting.

Nominations will be held in accordance with Article VII, Section 1 and Article VIII, Sections 1-4 of the Constitution of the Office & Professional Employees International Union, Local No. 11.

As provided by our Constitution, no person may be nominated, appointed or elected, unless he or she has been a member of this Union in continuous good standing for at least twelve (12) months preceding the election.

No member shall be a candidate for more than one (1) office.

Those members, who by virtue of geography are unable to either attend or have other members from their area attend to place their name in nomination, may notify the Union office of their desire to be nominated. The Executive Secretary Treasurer shall nominate or cause to be nominated those same members. The members, who are not present at the nomination meeting to accept the nomination, must have their acceptance of the nomination in writing, available at the nomination meeting. Only those candidates who accept the nomination shall be considered valid candidates.

Except as provided for above, write-in nominations or nominations by proxy shall not be allowed.

***Only members that reside outside of Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington Counties in Oregon, and in Washington may utilize the geographical exception above.



GENERAL UNION MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

WHEN: MARCH 9, 2021
AND
APRIL 13, 2021

WHERE: OPEIU LOCAL 11
3815 COLUMBIA STREET
VANCOUVER, WA 98660

TIME: 7:00PM

These meetings are for Union general membership information and actions of the Union.



The PRO Act is about guaranteeing democracy and civility in the workplace. It protects workers who are trying to organize a Union — a right they have by law — and penalizes Employers for interfering in their right to form a Union.

One of the most significant bills to strengthen workers' abilities to organize in the past eighty (80) years and the latest sign of momentum for the labor movement and weaken "right-to-work" laws.

Take action and go to <https://actionnetwork.org/> to write your member of Congress in support of this bill.

OFFICE CLOSURES

- April 2nd – Good Friday
- May 31st – Memorial Day
- June 18th – Juneteenth Recognition
- July 5th – Independence Day Recognition

IN THE KNOW

VOLUNTEER: The NW Oregon Labor Council is sponsoring a Workers Helping Workers Food Drive on Sunday, March 14th and are looking for another group of amazing labor volunteers to help get the boxes packed and ready to go!

The schedule is Thursday March 11th – Friday March 12th – Saturday March 13th for filling boxes and Sunday March 14th for deliveries. Location is at LiUNA Local 737, 17230 NE Sacramento Street, Portland 97230 and go to

<https://www.workershelpingworkers.com/volunteer-signup> to volunteer and enter all requested information and pick your shift.

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**OREGON:** The Oregon Homeownership Stabilization Initiative (OHSI) has a COVID-19 Mortgage Relief Program – Mortgage Payment Assistance Benefit and is temporarily available for homeowners receiving unemployment insurance. This program will make mortgage payments for up to six (6) months and bring the account current if it is delinquent, for eligible applicants. Applications are being accepted through March 14, 2020 and for a full list of program requirements and to apply visit [www.oregonhomeownerhelp.org](http://www.oregonhomeownerhelp.org) or contact OHSI at [Homeowner.Help@oregon.gov](mailto:Homeowner.Help@oregon.gov) and (503) 986-2025 to speak with them directly.

**WASHINGTON:** If you can't pay your mortgage or can only pay a portion, contact your mortgage servicer immediately.

Homeownership counseling and assistance is available to Washington residents and may call DFI's number (877) 746-4334 to talk to get assistance in how best to contact their mortgage servicer, and to learn more about their options. To speak with a housing Counselor, call the Washington Homeownership Hotline at (877) 894-HOME or log onto [Mortgage Assistance, Education, and Resources \(wa.gov\)](http://Mortgage Assistance, Education, and Resources (wa.gov)) for additional services:

- COVID-19 Mortgage Assistance and Relief
- Foreclosure Assistance and Information
- Mortgage Refinancing Basics
- DFI's Guide to Home Loans

