

Solidarity Update

A publication of the Alaska State
Employees Association AFSCME Local 52, AFL-CIO



END OF
YEAR
2015

Notice Of Nominations And Elections For ASEA/AFSCME LOCAL 52

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ASEA Local 52 will be accepting nominations for seven (7) positions on the State Executive Board and six (6) seats on the Judicial Panel.

Positions to be filled are for the following term of **April 2016 through March 2019**.

POSITIONS TO BE FILLED ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ARE AS FOLLOWS:

• **PRESIDENT** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.A, the President shall be elected from all ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 members.

• **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.C, the Occupational Board Members shall be elected from the members in the following State GGU occupational group; Administrative Support Employees.

• **CLASS I REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.C, the Occupational Board Members shall be elected from the members in the following State GGU occupational group; CLASS I Employees.

• **PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.C, the Occupational Board Members shall be elected from the members in the following State GGU occupational group; Professional Employees

• **NORTHERN REGION REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.B.1, the Northern Region Representative shall be elected from all ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 members in the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

• **RURAL REGION REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.B.4, the Rural Region Representative shall be elected from the ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 members that are on a road system and not including the Central, Southeast and Northern Region.

THE FOLLOWING POSITION WILL BE FILLED FOR THE REMAINDER OF TERM:

April 2015 through March 2018

• **CENTRAL REGION REPRESENTATIVE** - ASEA Constitution 7.02.B.2, the Central

Region Representative shall be elected from all ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 members in the Municipality of Anchorage.

JUDICIAL PANEL POSITIONS

The nominee who receives the most votes will be the primary member and the nominee with the next highest votes will be the alternate.

POSITIONS TO BE FILLED AND TERMS OF OFFICE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

• **JUNEAU MEMBER & ALTERNATE**

April 2016 through March 2019

• **ANCHORAGE MEMBER & ALTERNATE**

*April 2015 through March 2018
(Remainder of Term)*

• **RURAL/BUSH MEMBER & ALTERNATE**

*April 2014 through March 2017
(Remainder of Term)*

ELECTION TIMELINE / DATES

DECEMBER 16, 2015

Notice of Nominations mailed to members

JANUARY 22, 2016 at 12 NOON

*Deadline for receipt of Nomination Petitions and
Official Candidate Statements*

FEBRUARY 18, 2016

Ballots mailed to members

MARCH 22, 2016

Election Date - Ballots are counted

**Ballots MUST BE RECEIVED BY 8:30 a.m.
on this date.**

**ONLY Ballots returned through the
U.S. Mail will be counted**

APRIL 11, 2016

*Officer Run-off election ballots mailed out,
if needed*

MAY 12, 2016

*Officer Run-off Election Date -
Ballots are counted*

Call To Convention

The 16th Biennial Convention of ASEA/AFSCME Local 52, AFL-CIO, will be held at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage AK, March 9-13, 2016.

CRITICAL DEADLINES:

Chapter delegate certification and delegate/alternate credentials **must be received** at ASEA Anchorage Headquarters **no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 27, 2016.**

Proposed constitutional amendments and resolutions **must be received** at ASEA Anchorage Headquarters **no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 27, 2016.** Resolutions may be introduced thereafter by Convention Committees through the Resolutions Committee or on the Convention floor with consent by a two-thirds vote of the seated Convention delegates.

Solidarity Update

Did You Know?

Did You Know That:

That the 1st bill introduced in the United States Senate was the Judiciary Act of 1789. That act divided the country into 13 judicial districts organized into three circuits: East, Middle and Southern.



Did You Know That:

For 101 years the Supreme Court was made up of one Chief Justice and five Associate Justices. For a period of time in the early 1800s the Justices held court twice a year in each judicial district.



Did You Know That:

The number of Justices on the Supreme Court has changed six times before settling on the current number of nine Justices in 1869. There have been 112 Justices in all.



Did You Know That:

Thomas Edison created the first set of string electric lights that were used during the Christmas season of 1880 and were hung around his Menlo Park Lab. Edward H. Johnson put the very first string of electric Christmas tree lights, which were red, white, and blue light bulbs wound together on his tree in 1882.



Did You Know That:

Albert Sadacca and his brothers organized the National Outfit Manufacturers Association (NOMA) which became NOMA Electric Co. and they cornered the Christmas light market in the 1960s.

Women's Conference Experience AFSCME STRONG Training

Five hundred (500) union sisters came together from all over the country for this year's AFSCME Women's Conference this past October in Indianapolis.

Two WIC members attended this year's Women's Conference themed, "AFSCME STRONG WOMEN." There was AFSCME STRONG training and networking with Sisters and Brothers about how to get our members active and engaged by getting back to the grass roots of talking one-on-one and into our respective union happenings through these meaningful one-on-one conversations.

The conference started with motivational speakers which included President Lee Saunders speaking on how we are reaching across bridges and partnering with other unions that we have never partnered with in the past so that we can all work toward what is best for our families as we serve the public in our jobs. Secretary-Treasurer Laura Reyes spoke along with a panel of National Union Presidents who told their stories of rewarding union work for members and the challenges of being women leaders.

There were over 20 workshops that focused on building our union leadership skills, as well as workshops to help us with personal empowerment.

All attendees were then put into AFSCME Strong Activist training based on their experience or non-experience in being an AFSCME Strong activist, where we learned to

talk with our members about what matters to them and what would drive them to become more involved in their Unions. We watched "We Were There: Women in Labor History," a skit which outlined women in various labor forces throughout history who paved the way and have shown us how to overcome adversities by sticking to their goals to do what's right for all involved. You can view "Women In Labor History" on our Pink Link www.afscmelocal52.org

There was a Community Action part of the conference in recognition of World Hunger Action Month. We partnered with Stop Hunger Now. All attendees gathered in the ballroom and for two plus hours formed an assembly line to package food for 25,000 meals for communities in need. Then they took part in a Strong Public Service, Strong Communities rally at the Indiana State Capitol building in support of the Strong Community's Pledge.

Day two opened with a session on the PEOPLE program, what it means to members, how to get involved and why it is important. Next was the PARTNERS UNION PANEL - Lily Eskelsen Garcia, President National Education Association (NEA), Mary Kay Henry, President Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and Randi Weingarten, President American Federation of Teachers Union (AFT). These women shared their stories of success through the ranks and how they still continue to work for the members of their unions. They are now partnering with AFSCME so we will have a stronger bond to show America we are all united together for working families through collective bargaining.

From the 20 workshops to pick from we chose the following:

Talking the Talk and Walking the Walk

This workshop showed how to build an effective communication network in our areas. It was all about identifying key co-workers to mobilize. The attendees were given the chance to learn and practice ways to recruit individuals that can help you the most.



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Women's Conference Experience

AFSCME STRONG Training (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

Super Woman? Or Super Stressed Out Woman?

Are you exhausted from trying to keep too many balls in the air—on the job, in the union, and at home? Would you like to gain some tools and tips for setting priorities and getting more done with your scarce time?

Learning how to increase personal productivity at work, on the home front and especially as a union leader was enlightening.

Speaking Up When Oppression Happens

As our union becomes more diverse we all must make sure that our words, actions and values are inclusive for all people.



Lily Eskelsen Garcia
NEA (above)



Randi Weingarten,
President AFT (below)

A discussion took place on how to recognize and interrupt oppressive behavior when it occurs in our workplaces and unions. We learned leadership and activist tactics for changing the environment in our workplaces and unions.

The different types of oppression are racism, classism, elitism, self-image, gender and sexism.

Retirement Security For All

This workshop discussed the basics of retirement plans and the advantages provided by defined benefit pensions. They discussed how it is more important than ever to fight for retirement security and the importance of everyone to learn about retirement.

There are 42 AFSCME retiree chapters nationwide with three (3) new chapters in the works. Between chapters and subchapters there are over 260 different AFSCME retiree groups.

After lunch on the last day Donna Brazile, Vice Chair of the Democratic National Committee spoke. She is a speaker who energized us. She gave reassurance that the work we are doing makes a difference. Our voices matter and our votes count at the polls. President Saunders declared Ms. Brazile an honorary AFSCME member.

The closing session was an AFSCME Women Community Meeting themed, "Our Voices 2016 and Beyond," where members at the conference took part in a community meeting and then discussed how to move forward and apply what we had learned. Everyone took part in survey questions using Keypoint interactive technology, reviewing the results immediately and comparing those results with information gathered a year ago. We then focused on how to move forward to make positive changes.

All of the things that we learned will be shared with the WIC committee so we can continue to focus on encouraging members to be involved in their chapter and with their members.



**ASEA HEALTH
TRUST NEWS**

Contact The ASEA Health

Benefit Trust Securely

Communicate Online with Confidence

Now you can communicate online with the ASEA Health Trust Administrator - and be confident that your personal information remains secure.

The new 'Contact Us' feature protects the personal information often required to identify your account. It also keeps your questions about your benefits and claims confidential. Log in on aseahealth.org with your secure password and then click "Contact Us", to use this feature.

You'll get a reply within two business days (except weekends or holidays). Watch for an email telling you to log into your account on aseahealth.org to view the response. As an added plus, a history of your messages and the Administrator's responses are permanently stored with your account, so you can always go back to review them.

Haven't Registered on the ASEA Health Trust Website Yet? Three More Good Reasons to Do It Now!

Go to aseahealth.org, click on Website Registration under Quick Links and register to gain access to the **secure** portion of the website where you can:

1. Easily enroll during Open Enrollment in less time than it takes to drink a cup of coffee!
2. Review your health and HCRA claims!
3. Directly access the Caremark website to start or refill a prescription!

Important Dates

December 16, 2015 - Notice of Nominations were mailed to members - Watch Your Mailbox

February 8 - 9, 2016 - State Executive Board Meeting in Juneau

March 9 - 13, 2016 - ASEA 16th Biennial Convention in Anchorage

March 22, 2016 - ASEA State Elections

May 17 - 18, 2016 - State Executive Board Meeting in Homer

Famous Words of Solidarity

-The most persistent threat to freedom, to the rights of Americans, is fear - George Meany

-There is only one standard - free trade unions for working people everywhere! - President Jimmy Carter

-My proposal is very simple. Amend the Civil Rights Act of 1991, and add, as a civil right, the right to join a union without being fired— Thomas Geoghegan

Solidarity Update

Happy New Year!

2015 A Year In Pictures

