

ASEA In Action



Anchorage Chapter Accepting Applications For 2017 College Scholarship

To those Anchorage chapter members with high school seniors heading to college or already in college and Anchorage chapter members who are themselves planning to take college courses while continuing their State employment, the ASEA Anchorage Chapter Local 52 scholarship program is for you! There are two types of scholarships:



- 1) Dependent scholarships for the children of members
- 2) Member scholarships for members wishing to advance their education and careers

Both programs are described on the ASEA Local 52 website and applications are posted now. Details are available at: <http://anchorage52.net/>

These programs are funded by the Anchorage Chapter, ASEA Local 52, to benefit our members.

Applications are due May 26th. Please be sure to follow all Instructions completely.

President's Message - Spring Is In The Air

Brothers and Sisters,

April has arrived, Spring is in the air and Easter is here, Alaska's legislators will soon be wrapping up their work in Juneau and many events are happening in our communities. Students will soon be graduating from school and whether it's kindergarten, middle school, high school or college, it's an important event for families. Some of our ASEA Chapters offer SCHOLARSHIPS to members and their children! Contact your chapter to find out if scholarships to help you and your family further your/their education are being offered. As members of ASEA/AFSCME Local 52, we pride ourselves in offering benefits that will help all of our members and their families. Check out the AFSCME International website <http://www.afscme.org/members/scholarships> for additional AFSCME scholarships and for information about the AFSCME Free College Benefit Program <http://freecollege.afscme.org/> that AFSCME announced in July 2016.

I am pleased to report that Basic (April 5th) and Advanced Steward (April 6th) Trainings were held in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. Our new Stewards learned about the importance of being a steward and how to represent you, our members, on issues that protect members' rights and bring fair and decent treatment to our workplace. Our experienced stewards were reminded of benefits in our contract such as Article 35— Educational Advancement, ASEA's leave banks, legislative updates and workplace bullying and disruptive behavior. In the near future, ASEA union representatives will be bringing these topics to worksite meetings, so when you get BREAKTIME READING emails, I encourage you to read them and to attend a worksite meeting so you get all the information being offered. Our goal is to make sure every member knows what their UNION has to offer and what it DOES for them! Thank you Stewards for your service and for all you do.

Browse ASEA's webpage and/or contact your local Chapter President to find out about statewide and chapter committees and about other Union opportunities so that YOU can become involved and engaged in YOUR UNION. Take the time to get to know your Union— we are ASEA/AFSCME STRONG and we will NEVER QUIT.



In Friendship and Solidarity,

*Dawn Bundick, State Executive Board
President ASEA/AFSCME Local 52*

An Update From The ASEA Pride Committee

Hello Brothers and Sisters of ASEA Local 52,

At the last ASEA state convention it was decided unanimously to create a committee for "ASEA members who identify with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) community." The ASEA Pride Committee "stands for legal equity and fair treatment for all employees and its purpose is to identify opportunities and to recommend solutions for advancing these ideals."

This effort to combine opportunities and solutions with increased awareness for the unique issues faced by ASEA's LGBTQ workforce is also a necessary recognition of the points where we find common cause in our pursuit of justice and fairness for all Alaska's workers. This intersectionality of interests and experience leads all of us to the inevitable conclusion that worker's rights are human rights and that our LGBTQ brothers and sisters are equal partners in the struggle for economic democracy.

To strive for fairness and equality for ONE means that fairness and equality must be for ALL.

The ASEA Pride Committee held its inaugural meeting in late February and will meet regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Interested in serving on the ASEA Pride Committee? We currently have committee vacancies in the Northern and Southeast Regions. Please contact ASEA Headquarters via phone (907) 277-5200 or email (ASEAHQ@afscmelocal52.org) to indicate your interest and for instructions on applying.

Finally, for Anchorage ASEA members, this year's PRIDE festival is from June 17-24, 2017. As our inaugural activity, the ASEA Pride Committee will have a table at this year's festival. If you're interested in helping, please contact ASEA Pride Co-Chairs Michael French or Lawrence Camp.

Keith Heim
Brandon Nakasato
ASEA Pride Committee Members



Unions Supported A Successful Municipality Election Supporting Working Families

The April 2017 Municipal Election was a successful election for working families. Six (6) candidates that Labor Unions supported won! Kim Hays posted on the Alaska AFL-CIO Facebook™ page, ...the "phenomenal turnout" for weekend neighborhood walks generated conversations with "thousands of members" about candidates who support working family values.

Thank you to ASEA Anchorage Chapter members Amber Barney, Imeda White and Chuck Stewart for volunteering their time and participating in the political process.

