Midnight Sun Chapter Picnic

The Annual picnic was held on July 27th at Pioneer Park and, despite the downpour right at starting time, it was a success! Jake Metcalfe, ASEA Executive Director joined us and we had 150 members and their families join us. There was free food, door prizes, free train & carousel rides, as well as face painting and a magician! Thank you to those that came out to show your support; we hope to see you and more fellow members next year!

Midnight Sun Chapter Announces 2018 Scholarship Winner

The MSC gave out two $1500 scholarships for the 2018 fall semester. The scholarship is awarded yearly and is open to all Midnight Sun Chapter members and their dependents. As always, we received some great essays and it was a hard decision to choose the winner. Congratulations to ASEA MSC member Laura Sample & member dependent Patrick Woolery on receiving the 2018 scholarships!

President’s Message

Sisters and Brothers,

Labor Day has come and gone, there were parades and ceremonies to culminate the fruits of our Labor all across the country. Everyday we as public service members give our best in supporting the services we provide to communities in our State. I’m sharing another convention with you, the AFL-CIO Biennial Convention which was held in Fairbanks, Alaska, August 23-24, 2018, and your Alaska delegation: Dawn Bundick-State Chairman, Jake Metcalfe-Executive Director, Stephanie Maltez-Midnight Sun Chapter President, Robert Kinnard-Midnight Sun Chapter member and CLC member, Chuck Stewart-PAC chair, Bernice Wilson-Anchorage Chapter President, Jody Morris-Mat-Su Chapter President, and Kelly Ferguson-Sitka Chapter President participated in all the proceedings and they were marvelous. There were 102 delegates in attendance from all the union affiliates under the AFL-CIO umbrella. The first day we had welcoming remarks from Representative Gut tengen, a myriad of speakers: Labor Commissioner Drygas, Congressman Young and U.S. Congress candidate Alyse Galvin. We participated in six different committees: Grievance, Organizing, Constitution, Resolutions, Legislative and Finance where 21 resolutions were worked through and finally put forth for discussions. Later Thursday we participated in a Rally to support our Firefighters. The rally made the Fairbanks Daily News Miner.

After the rally there were presentation of achievement awards and our former Executive Director, Jim Duncan was awarded the Robert McFarland Award for achievements and dedications to the labor movement. Friday, the last day of the convention Governor Walker signed HB155-OMNIBUS WORKERS’ COMPENSATION, “An Act relating to workers’ compensation; relating to the second injury fund; relating to service fees and civil penalties for the workers’ safety programs and the workers’ compensation program. There were candidate speeches for Governor and the U.S. Congress, the 29th legislative briefing, 2017 AFL-CIO National convention update from President Beltrami, discussion on endorsements for Governor and U.S. Congress, election of Officers, and then the selection of the 2020 Convention, which will be held in Anchorage.

We discussed Ballot Measure #1, had a panel discussing the Janus Update and how its affecting union affiliates and their members and what union affiliates are doing to educate our members of the effects of Janus on all unions. Vince Beltrami was re-elected as President, our Executive Director, Jake Metcalfe was elected the new Secretary Treasurer, and the Vice-President was elected by the AFL-CIO convention delegation.

I continue to meet new members every day and I hear the challenges that we are having and the successes we are having. Speak up and speak out and let your elected legislative leaders know who you are, who we are and be proud! Your union is here to support you.

Brothers and Sisters, I can’t thank you enough for the work that you do. – ASEA IS THE BIGGEST UNION IN OUR STATE. Market our UNION Statewide. – In Friendship and Solidarity, Dawn Bundick, ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 President