

Communications Workers of America



Local 4501 Communicator

Third Quarter, 2012

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Local 4501 Officers

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Local 4501 Communicator

Michael Secrest msecrest@cwa4501.org Editor/Contributor. Writes all articles not specifically attributed to others.

President Richard Murray contributes a quarterly message and oversight Dennis Woodson and Sheila Collins keep our Facebook current and serve with Lolita Thomas, Mae Adams, Lee Paul and Michael Secrest on the Communications Committee.

Cynthia Stewart cstewart@cwa4501.org writes political and voter empowerment articles and more

WHAT THE SAM HILL IS GOING ON IN YOUR AREA? Tell us

Will you give up without a fight?



President Murráy

Will you give up without a fight?

September 17 was Constitution Day and July the 4th was the celebration of the ratification of the Declaration of Independence.

This was the initial expression of our democratic desires and of our struggle for the right to govern ourselves. The second line declares that our creator endows us with “certain inalienable rights”, including life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Which of these rights do we feel we should give up? The first 10 amendments to our constitution, our bill of rights, guarantees us the right to freedom of relig-

ion, speech, press, assembly and petition. Any of these we want to lose? The right to bear arms, due legal process, have legal council, jury trial, no cruel and unusual punishment and many others. You should read them all, then tell us which we should give up.

And just as we have a constitution to protect our rights as citizens of this country, we have had unions to fight for and protect our rights as workers.

An eight hour day, a forty hour week, weekends, a living wage, Worker’s Compensation, retirement plans. Any of these you want to sacrifice on the altar of the conservative agenda. All of these will go away if unions go away. Not immediately, of course, as they were not

achieved immediately by unions. If they were to disappear immediately, unions would come back immediately and stronger than ever. But your rights will erode.

Right now, we are seeing movements all over the country to do what they can to weaken workers and suppress voters, just two of the many arms of this Conservative Monster.

All of this cutting taxes for the rich is nothing to do with job creation. It is part of the Conservative conspiracy to bankrupt

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We Must Fight to Keep What Others Fought to Earn

President, from page 1

our government to turn the working class against the poor and disenfranchised. And it is blooming and starting to bear fruit. Just look at Scranton, Pa, where the city reduced pay for

teachers, police and fire fighters to \$7.25 an hour until the state loaned the city money to fix the situation. But there was a tax increase involved, which won't set right with many Conserva-

tives.

Make no mistake, the conservatives want to take these rights away. Let's face it. The right wants to take your rights and treat you wrong.

Steward training, August 5 and 6, 2012



Presenters: 4501 CWA President Richard Murráy, Attorney Michael Moses, Vice President Kevin Kee and Staff Member Terryl Davis

The contract between 4501 CWA and OSU calls for your stewards to be released two days each year for training and informational meetings. Stewards are problem solvers, and though they represent the union, the university recognizes the need for good problem solving, and the best weapon for solving problems is information. Stewards are given the same advice I am constantly giving you. Know your contract. GET informed! STAY informed, ACT informed. Only informed action is positive action. All else is a personal step backwards. Don't go there.

formed, ACT informed. Only informed action is positive action. All else is a personal step backwards. Don't go there.

August 5 was training for stewards on OSU main campus. August 6 was for the branches, the Secretary of State's Office and Pickaway County Jobs and Family Services. During these meetings, President Murráy informed stewards on the general pitfalls a steward can fall into and contrasted them with the proper way to handle themselves. Attorney Moses informed them of their legal rights and went over some of the forms they most often need, and Kevin Kee instructed stewards on the 7 steps of just cause to determine whether a proposed disciplinary action is firmly and fairly grounded and Terry trained the stewards in communication and good note taking.



Soon the 4501 CWA Communications Team will send a Photographic record of OSU stewards to be posted on your union bulletin boards so you will know who they are. Our other units are small enough that we are sure you know your stewards

District 4 Vice President dies unexpectedly

Seth Rosen, vice president of Communications Workers of America District 4, representing 50,000 active and retired members in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, died tragically in a drowning accident in North Carolina on Friday, July 20, 2012. He was 55.

Rosen was dedicated to CWA and to building a movement of



working people. This past week, he was working to finalize a tentative agreement for CWA members at AT&T Midwest; the bargaining committee was determined to reach a fair tentative

“All of CWA today feels a tremendous loss. Seth spent his life with us in the union he loved. His commitment to every aspect of our union life cannot be matched. To honor his memory, we will complete and carry on that work, and never give up,” said CWA President Larry Cohen.

Rosen was elected CWA vice president in 2005, and was a leader in organizing, bargaining and many areas of the union. He headed the CWA Executive Board Committee on Organizing and this determination to help workers gain a voice on the job was a constant throughout his life, from his work with Jobs with Justice to every campaign he developed.

served as administrative director to then Vice President Jeff Rechenbach after having served brilliantly as the district organizing coordinator. Prior to joining CWA’s International staff in 1989, Rosen had been an officer, chief steward and steward of CWA Local 4309, while employed by the Ohio Bell Telephone Co.

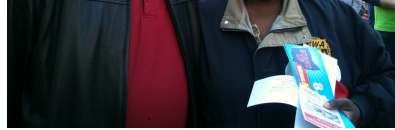
A musician, Rosen played guitar and mandolin with the Sethro Quartet and Gene’s Jazz Hot.

All of CWA join his wife Kathi, daughter Amanda and son Josh in mourning the loss



gaining committee was determined to reach a fair tentative agreement to honor Rosen and his lifetime of work on behalf of CWA members.

every campaign he developed. Before his election as vice president, Rosen



and son Josh in mourning the loss of a great union leader and a great man.

Union contract ratified



With over 500 members voting, your contract was ratified by a five to one margin.

Linda Hinton sworn in to replace Seth Rosen

Cleveland, OH -- Communications Workers of America **President Larry Cohen today swore in Linda Hinton as the new District 4 vice president.** The President recommended and the Executive Board approved the appointment of Hinton to the position following the tragic death of Seth Rosen who had served as vice president since 2005. Rosen died in a

drowning accident in North Carolina on Friday, July 20, 2012. He was 55. Hinton, 60, has served as assistant to Rosen since 2005. She has served the union in many capacities over the years, most recently directing the district's legislative and political programs and building a strong movement of workers and allies throughout the Midwest, most recently, the Stand

Up for Ohio coalition. District 4 covers about 50,000 CWA members in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

CWA local union leaders and staff were in Cleveland attending a contract explanation meeting about the tentative agreement reached with AT&T Midwest.



IN MEMORY

Give them rest with the devout and the just, in the place of the pasture of rest and refreshment, of waters in the paradise of delight; whence grief and pain and sighing have fled away.

In late May, **Diane West, Student Life** line cook and **Helen Harris, retired**, lost their mother *Mary Elizabeth Jamison*. *Ms Jamison* herself was a retiree of OSU.

At the end of July we lost a fighter. **Darlene Calloway**, a **Unit Clerical Associate at OSUMC and a CWA union steward**. I remember **Darlene** as a vital cog in our wheel during our strike of 2000. She was always at the front of the hospital contingent leading the way and the cheering as we marched to assemble in various places. I particularly recall one of our assemblies outside the Administration Building. As I stood there in front of the building I heard a roar from the Southwest long before I saw the source. Then, eventually, there was an army of folks entering The Oval and leading them, yelling the loudest and moving with the most infectious energy, was **Darlene**.

In early August **John Fletcher, OSU Airport** lost his son *Shaun C. Flecher* and **Roxanne Harrington, Student Life Dining** lost her sister *Anita Harville*. *Ms Harville* was a retiree of **OSUMC Distribution**. And mid August saw the loss of two of our members, **Grady R. "Dickie" Kelly** and **Andrea J. "Josie" Marzett**, both of **FOD**.

Prayer for the grieved: *"May the LORD bless you and keep you; May the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."* Numbers 6:24-26

Union Cards

If you haven't already picked up your union card, you can come to your union hall and get it. Or you can call the hall with your current address and we will mail it to you.

On **Wednesday, September 26**,
from **6:00pm to 8:30pm** Local

MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT

4501 CWA Voter Empowerment Committee will present it's annual evening to Meet the Candidates. The meeting place will be **Metro High School at 1929 Kenny Road** (at Kinnear). This will be a nonpartisan event.

We have partnered this year with *NAACP Columbus branch, CWA 4310, the League of Women Voters of Metro Columbus, Campus Part-*

ners, Ohio Nurse's Association, the Coalition of Black Trade Workers, Shaun Frame and CWA 4502,

Smyrna Missionary Baptist Church, the A. Phillip Randolph Institute, and the Columbus Impact Corporation-Coalition for Responsive Government.

High school student volunteers will be on hand for **voter registration** and to help locate precinct polling places.

Also, we have involved some Ohio high school teens in a "**This**

Is How Democracy Works" contest for posters and a non partisan voter registration rap-off. First, second and third place **winners will be recognized at this event.**

Questions: Call your Union office at 614-294-5265 and speak with Administrative Secretary **Sheila Collins** (scollins@cwa4501.org) or Office Manager **Lolita Thomas** (lthomas@cwa4501.org).

As you know, we have pulled the cream of the political crop for other Candidate's Nights, and this year's should be the biggest ever; educational and entertaining.

