



The bottom line

July 2024
Issue # 168

WE CAN
WE WILL
WE MUST

**CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HOSPITAL
AND
WASHINGTON HOSPITAL CENTER**

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY: MICHAEL JETER



Hello brothers and sisters of Local 722 We can We will We must reach out a helping hand to each other if we strive to achieve collectively.

We are really into the hot summer season, so please stay hydrated and stay cool. Make sure you as well as the family are drinking plenty of water.

Both Children's Hospital and Washington

Hospital Center have received their annual pay increases.

Be mindful that both contracts are scheduled to end June 30, 2025. Let's start bonding together as a union , so we can fight for higher raises and fairness. June will be here before you know it . We need to start getting our minds together on things we want to change and things we do not want to give up. Remember, when we work together and fight collectively We Win Together.However, divided we accomplish less.

Speaking about reaching a hand out to others; On Jun 22, 2024 some of our union members helped an organization called No Child Hungry make and packed over 30,000 meals for hungry children. Everyone who participated had an awesome time blessing others. There are a lot of things that we take for granted in life like food. Many people waste food all the time., Maybe it's because we know where our next meal is coming from. But there are people all around the world less fortunate than we are. They have no idea when and where their next meal is coming from. This project focused on some kids who are not that fortunate and we found it important to lend a hand.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Membership meetings will be held from 2pm - 4pm the third (3rd) Saturday of every month. We are back to our in-person meetings. So come out an be engaged with your union

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continue on page 6

THE PLUS OF JOINING A RETIREMENT OR ANNUITY PLAN FROM YOUR EMPLOYER

Greetings Union Members,

I wanted to share a piece of advice to each Local 722 member of Washington Hospital Center and Children's Hospital regarding each of us joining a retirement or Annuity plan once we get hired into these facilities. This opportunity is given to you upon hiring, however, many do not take advantage of it. I am headed for retirement soon and I am very glad I join the Retirement Plan offered by my employer. This will help me to navigate a lot better through my Golden Years, with an extra bit of revenue to enjoy. A Retirement fund may seem like something that we don't need when we are in our twenties and thirties, but I am glad I got some contributions in for a few years after coming to Children's when I was in my Thirties.

It may seem like something you don't need when you first get hired, but it will benefit you in the end of your working journey. Many of us make excuses as to why we can't afford to make contributions, or complain about not making enough now to save for retirement; but saving for a rainy day is imperative. As life happens for us all you may need a little help along the way. Being in this fund can help you accumulate a lump sum of money so when life challenges happen you have some money to borrow from if you need it for an emergency (but not advisable for non-emergencies). And if you do borrow, be responsible and pay the money back to yourself don't default on this, because this is your retirement plan. Many say that social security won't be there when you retire, but I believe it will. It is a blessing to be able to add to your Social Security as we age. But also, if it's not here when you retire, this employer retirement plan will be the only hope if social security is gone.

Our Union have fought for our rights to have a retirement plan when lots of jobs do not have this option. The way the world is forever changing you need an extra lining to support yourself as we go through our working journey. It is very necessary in these days and time to address this issue as we enter the workforce. Start saving a little each pay period and you will not miss it as time goes on, and some employers will match your money and this will help it grow faster and is free money. Unfortunately, you can't get the free money until you commit some of your money. As the world changes some things remain the same, economics will always be challenging if you don't have a plan. you'll find yourself working longer than you may want to.

Young people get involved and start a plan, you will be excited to see your money grow and to know you have a nest egg when needed. And you more seasoned workers, you are never too old to begin a plan if you are not currently participating. For anyone currently not participating, I encourage you to Invest in you and your future now.

Your retirement plan is for you to navigate your life in your golden years. Yes, plan that journey as you see fit. But be prepared to enjoy your retirement to the fullest. None of us want to work forever but if we don't have a plan we will find ourselves still working through our retirement age. Set yourself up for success and get in a retirement fund today not tomorrow, so you can enjoy life with friends and family after earning your retirement.

Blessings and Peace,

Debra Davis



LOCAL 722 FISHING TRIP

Many of our members, families, and friends participated in this years fishing trip. Below are just a few pictures of them celebrating their catch. Who's invited to the fish fry ?????



PARTICIPATION NEEDED

Many of you are aware and I'm here to make everyone else aware that both the Washington Hospital Center and Children's National Collective Bargaining Agreement (Contract) expire June 30, 2025. That said, it's not too early to start thinking about things you may want your negotiation teams to consider once the process starts to get a new contract.

This year you have a lot to consider. This is also an election year for the country as well as for Local 722. The way to maintain our democracy is to participate and VOTE. The way to have a positive Executive Board is to participate and VOTE. The way to achieve a positive and successful contract is to participate and VOTE. I hope that you are enthusiastically planning & discussing with family friends & coworkers what your actions will be around all of these issues.

As we embark on what the next several years will look like in the workplace, it will take all workers to unite and build more worker power into our contracts. We can't take things personally. We are a collective body of workers and must share our vision with our teams for the next contract. We must keep in mind we will never get everything that we want, so let's be realistic about what we can achieve. And know that if we are divided, we will achieve less than if we are united. Yes our charge as workers: is to demand what we deserve to win the future we're ALL fighting for, but we must know that it comes with a price. Are we collectively prepared to pay a price for our demands?

People in control of our economy possess outsized money and power which means they have too much control over our lives. On top of that, they try to divide us and have rigged the rules so it's nearly impossible for workers to move forward and change the system for the better. So we don't need to help them by engaging in divisional activities ourselves. Our union is not perfect, but we try to accomplish as much as we can for as many as we can. But we have to do it together. We can only build worker power through SOLIDARITY. No one person can do it alone, it has to include all of us.

While some unions are engaged in an active fight against corporate union-busting, other unions are losing worker power to members spreading misinformation, pushing unachievable agendas, causing conflicts between union members etc... that causes union-busting. Do not buy into the rhetoric. Be an independent thinker, research the facts, ask questions, engage your leadership and then make your own decisions. Elect leaders to your union that you believe will make a positive difference for all. Sometimes that will mean "You" stepping into those positions. If that's you, join the race. to make a better situation for the needs of all Local 722 members.

There are plenty of challenges ahead of us, but together we should be able to win victories. When we join together, there's not much we can't do and that's why we need you to start preparing now.

***** This article shared by a long term union member who wish to share her thoughts with others**



SEIU LOCAL 722 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The officers of this Local Union shall consist of President, a Vice President, a Secretary, Treasurer-Business Manager, four (4) Trustees, and eight (8) elected members of the Executive Board. The eight (8) members shall be candidates nominated and elected by each unit where this Local Union is the exclusive bargaining representative as set forth in Article IX Section 25.

This Local Union shall elect its officers by secret mail ballot once every three (3) years. All officers shall be members of this Local Union.

Nominations for officers shall be made at the November membership Meeting in 1982 and every three (3) years thereafter. Elections, if required, shall be conducted within sixty (60) days but no less than Fifteen (15) days thereafter.

The secretary shall, at least thirty (30) days prior to the holding of the Nomination meeting, give notice through the Local Union newspaper to the membership of the time, place, date, the officers for which nominations will be accepted, and the method of making nominations.

The positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer – Business Manager, and (4) Trustees are all At – large positions and candidates can receive votes from all members.

The following eight Executive Board members elected must be employees in the bargaining units for which Local 722 is the exclusive bargaining representative:

Washington Hospital Center -five (5) Executive Board Members

Children's Hospital - three (3) Board Members ****This is an increase****

Bio-Medical Applications - one (1) Executive Board Member

These eight candidates can only obtain votes from members at the exclusive institutions where they are employed.

Nominations

Nominations must be made from the floor at the nominations meeting or by certified mail which must arrive at the Local Union office before the nominations of that Particular office have been closed. All nominations and seconds to the nominations must be made in person. The person making the nomination as well as seconding the nomination must be a dues paying member at the time of the nomination meeting. Candidates must accept nominations at the time made, either in person, or if absent, by certified mail to the Local union office by five o'clock on the third business day following the day in which the nominations meeting took place.

Election

If necessary, there will be a secret mail ballot process conducted in December. Please make sure that the union has your correct mailing address and send in your return ballot as soon as you get it. Ballots will only be mailed to the address the union has on record for you.

SEIU LOCAL 722

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continued from page 1

Millions of children in America and all over the world do not have food to eat on a daily basis, so volunteer to help these organizations when you can. Local 722 is also affiliated with two other organizations that has been helping our members when they were having a little rough time out of life. Prayers for Pennies and The Community Services Agency of the Washington Metropolitan Council , AFL-CIO (The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations) which is a group of labor unions in the United States and Canada. They both have volunteer opportunities that you can participate in as well as make monetary contributions to. Again, reach out and lend a helping hand to others. You never know when you may be in need yourself. Every little bit helps.

If you are a Local 722 member and you need some help please contact the Union office. We might not have the resources to help you, but we can lead you in the right direction where help might be available.

We can We will We must reach out a helping hand !!!!!