

AFSCME LOCAL 448



Newsletter

Phone: 520-4576

Fax: 815-284-4801

Email: PRESIDENTAFSCMELOCAL448@gmail.com

September 2022



Labor Day Parade and Picnic

Bring your families and come walk in the parade 9-5-22. We will meet in the parking lot across from the old post office on South Main St at 8:00 AM where school buses will take us to our parade lineup spot. After the parade join us at the picnic. Food and drink tickets will be given out on a 1st come 1st serve basis starting with those walking in the parade.

The True Meaning of Labor Day

Labor Day was created to honor the American worker, but sometimes it seems the meaning and purpose of the holiday has been forgotten

Labor Day is coming up on Monday September 5. That means a holiday that most of us get off work and usually spend it barbecuing with family and friends, maybe sitting around doing nothing or even out shopping taking advantage of sales. However you choose to spend the holiday is, of course, your decision. Whatever it is you are doing on this upcoming September 2, take some time to remember to original purpose behind the Labor Day holiday.

According to the [U.S. Department of Labor](https://www.dol.gov) website, Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement and "is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country."

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday September 5, 1882 in New York City following the plans of the Central Labor Union. Labor Day was also held September 5, 1883. The following year, the holiday was celebrated on the first Monday in September.

It wasn't just the date that was specified for the holiday. The first proposal of the holiday outlines that a street parade should be held to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community. Following the parade should be a festival for the "recreation and amusement" of workers and their families.

Remember, Labor Day isn't just another day off — it's a deeply rooted historical holiday honoring the American Worker and everything he or she has done to make our lives what they are today. So thank you all for every thing you do!





Membership meetings are held at least quarterly and always on the 1st Thursday of the month.

Food will be served (when allowed) beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Next Membership Meeting
9-1-22

IN PERSON
212 S. 1st St
Rockford
2nd floor



Board Meeting

Executive board meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month. If a membership meeting is being held that month, the Eboard will meet the Thursday before the membership meeting. Any member who wishes to address the Board regarding a particular issue may do so by submitting a request in writing to an Officer. The request must state the reason you wish to address the Board. You will be notified of your agenda time to address the board.

8-25-22

Zoom

10-6-22

TBD



Please advise your local steward or Local President Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com if you are planning on moving or have moved with your new address. We want you to remain informed of any union related issues. It's important as we continue to receive many newsletters back each month due to incorrect addresses.

Don't forget to check out our website at www.afscme448.org and follow us on



- ✓ Lowers prescription drug prices
- ✓ Fights climate change
- ✓ Makes largest corporations pay their fair share of taxes

On August 16, 2022, President Joe Biden signed the historic Inflation Reduction Act.

As gas prices fall and wages continue to rise, and with unemployment matching its lowest level in 50 years, this new law is the latest huge step forward for working families.

The Inflation Reduction Act will bring down outrageous prescription drug prices, so Big Pharma can no longer gouge seniors who need life-saving medications. It will also lower health care costs for 13 million Americans, make unprecedented investments in fighting climate change and create hundreds of thousands of new, good-paying jobs.

It also cracks down on gimmicks and closes tax loopholes that the wealthiest Americans have used to game the system. Under the Inflation Reduction Act, they will start paying their fair share in taxes.

Workers Rights Amendment

This fall, Illinois voters will have the opportunity to vote yes for the Workers' Rights Amendment.

WHAT IS THE WORKERS' RIGHTS AMENDMENT?

It's an important step to add protection to the state Constitution that will make it much harder for current or future politicians to limit your voice on the job, weaken your union or take away your right to collective bargaining.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

With the Workers' Rights Amendment in place, politicians couldn't simply change the law to take away wages, benefits, workplace safety protections or other provisions of your union contract — the state Constitution would stand in their way.

WHAT WILL THE BALLOT QUESTION LOOK LIKE?

At the top of your ballot, vote Yes on this question:

WHEN IS THE ELECTION?

Early voting starts Sept. 28. Election Day is Tuesday, November 8. Even though we have had election day as a state holiday in our contract for many years. For the first time, Election Day is an official state holiday..

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

The campaign supporting the amendment is Vote Yes for Workers Rights. Their web site is WorkersRights.com.

President: Alice Sutherland – 520-4576

Vice President: Diane Ritter-263-6673

Secretary: Tina Wren-590-9350

Treasurer: Laurie Scudder-987-7509

Chapter Chairs

Tanya Burns: DCFS-987-7542

Marie Reck: Revenue-209-5405

Donna Wellman: DHS-990-7806

Jennifer Strock: DOT- 677-0842

Members at Large

Aaron Sockwell: DHS-670-5283

Robin Aebly: DCFS-908-9664

Tom Soresie: DCFS-973-2857

Trustees

Dawn Chavez: IDES-441-9467

Jeff Bergstrom: DHS 901-2969

Greg Duffy: DCFS-994-0502

People Chair

Laurie Scudder: Revenue-987-7509

Staff Representative

Chris Hooser: -815-968-0447

Reminder: State Conference Board Delegate Nominations AND Elections to be Held 9-1-22

As stated in the August newsletter we will be electing representatives for state contract negotiations on 9-1-22. We will elect 1 representative to represent the RC 62/63 bargaining units and 1 to represent all other bargaining units.

Anyone wishing to be nominated as a delegate for contract negotiations should attend this meeting. If you wish to be considered but cannot attend, you must send your intent in writing to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com **PRIOR** to 6:30 PM on 9-1-22. You must indicate that you would accept the nomination if you were to be nominated for State Conference Board Delegate and what bargaining unit are in.

All locals can submit proposals to change current contract language or add new language for consideration by the Conference Board delegates. It is these delegates who will carefully screen the submissions and determine the final proposals that will be made at the bargaining table.

All contract proposals submitted for consideration by the full Conference Board must first be reviewed and approved by the relevant local union executive board. All proposals for consideration it must be sent to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. All proposals must be received **NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM** on Thursday October 6, 2022.

Get to Know Your Contract

Each month in this segment I would like to bring your attention to one or two sections of the contract. I hope this will make everyone a little more familiar with our contract and where to find things. If you would like me to discuss a specific Article or have questions about specific items let me know. Send your questions to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com.

This month let's continue our look at **Article I Recognition** picking up where we left off with section 3.

Section 3. Integrity of the Bargaining Unit

- A. The Employer recognizes the integrity of the bargaining unit and will not take any action having the effect of eroding bargaining unit work. Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, the Employer will continue to endeavor to assign bargaining unit work to bargaining unit employees. The hiring of temporary or emergency employees to supplement bargaining unit employees' work on a temporary basis or provisional employees appointed under Personnel Rule 302.150 or the use of an individual on a light duty assignment which has been agreed to by the Union shall not be considered erosion of the bargaining unit.
- B. Emergency, temporary and provisional appointments shall be made in accordance with Section 8(b)(8); 8(b)(9); and 8(b)(10) of the Personnel Code. The Union shall be notified in writing within 10 business days of the appointment by the Agency and on a monthly basis by the Department of Central Management Services of the name, agency, title and position allocation number of all emergency, temporary and provisional appointments made to bargaining unit positions.
- C. In the event that a back-to-back emergency, temporary, or provisional appointment, or a combination of appointments, is operationally necessary, upon timely request the Union will be provided with the rationale for such back-to-back appointment. The provision of rationale to the Union will be made in a timely fashion.
- D. Unless Agency operational needs so require, no emergency, temporary, provisional or contractual employee shall be assigned to work a schedule of hours or days off if there is an employee in the same position classification and work location who desires such a schedule of hours and days off.

So, what does that mean? Basically that these are our jobs and only we can do them. Bargaining unit work needs to be done by bargaining unit employees. While there may be times we need to use temporary or emergency workers our staff get preference when it comes to schedules. And each agency has to identify all temporary or emergency workers and why they are needed. They cannot use temporary or emergency workers to permanently fill positions.

Recipe of the Month

Raspberry Truffle Fudge

3 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
salt to taste
1/4 cup heavy cream
1/4 cup raspberry flavored liqueur
2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

Spray a 9x9 inch pan with non-stick cooking spray, and line with wax paper.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine 3 cups chocolate chips and sweetened condensed milk. Heat in microwave until chocolate melts, stirring occasionally. Be careful not to let it scorch. Stir in the vanilla and salt. Spread into pan, and cool to room temperature.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine cream, liqueur, and 2 cups chocolate chips. Heat in microwave until the chocolate melts; stir until smooth. Cool to lukewarm, then pour over the fudge layer. Refrigerate until both layers are completely set, about 1 hour. Cut

AFSCME LOCAL 448
1302 Institute Blvd.
Dixon, IL 61021

