

September Newsletter

AFSCME LOCAL 448

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September 2021

President: Alice Sutherland
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Secretary: Taquisha Santos-Teague
 973-2857
Treasurer: Laurie Scudder-987-7509

Chapter Chairs

Tanya Burns: DCFS-987-7542
 Marie Reck: Revenue-209-5405
 Jennifer Lavoisier: Lottery 773-330-0566

Members at Large

Aaron Sockwell: DHS-670-5283
 Robin Aebly: DCFS-908-9664
 Tom Soresie: DCFS-973-2857

Trustees

Tina Wren: DCFS-590-9350
 Jeff Bergstrom: DHS-901-2969
 Greg Duffy: DCFS-994-0502

People Chair

Laurie Scudder: Revenue-987-7509

Chris Hooser: Staff Representative-815-968-0447

Meeting Dates

Membership Meeting	Thursday September 2
Executive Board Meeting	Thursday October 7
All Membership meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.	

MEETING REMINDER

Just a reminder that our next membership meeting will be in person. The meeting will be held at the Rockford Labor Temple 212 S. 1st Street in Rockford on 9-2-21 beginning at 6:30 PM.

The official convention call was included in the August newsletter, however, I wanted to remind everyone that this year AFSCME Council 31 will be holding its bi-annual convention in Springfield. The convention dates are 10-14-21 through 10-17-21. We will be electing 3 delegates and 5 alternates to attend the convention. Both delegates and alternates will attend the convention in person.

Elections will be held for those interested in attending the convention at our 9-2-21 membership meeting. Those interested in participating in the convention should be at this meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting, you need to send an email to Alice Sutherland at the following email: presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com indicating that you are interested in attending the convention.

All emails must be received prior to the beginning of the meeting which will be 6:30 PM 9-2-21. If it is received after that time, the sender will not be eligible to be included in the election. Please indicate in your email if you wish to run as a delegate or alternate or either.

LABOR DAY PICNIC IS CANCELED

A majority of the picnic participants have voiced increased concerns related to the rising Covid-19 infection rates and the spread of the Delta variant. At this time, the Labor Day picnic committee has decided to cancel this years event.

BAD ADDRESSES

We continue to experience several return newsletters due to bad a bad address. Please contact your local union steward for your updated address or contact your President Alice Sutherland via email at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com.

Labor Day Parade Monday 9-6-21!!

Don't forget our local will be participating in the parade. We need as many volunteers as possible to march in the parade and help give out candy!! This is a family event so bring the kids and have some fun.

Our division lines up on 7th street and 6th Avenue. If you want a ride to the lineup site meet in the parking lot on the corner of South Main and Green Streets, just north of the old post office. The building with the mural. The Rockford School Bus drivers will give you a ride. Rides start at 8:00 AM and the last ride out will be at 8:30 AM.

We have all worked extremely hard since Covid began. We deserve to take a day and celebrate. Unfortunately, there will be no Labor Day pageant this year. However, anyone who would like to represent the princes, miss, or queen category is welcome to ride along in the parade with our local.

BIG NEWS!!! Our own Tamara Shorter will be this year's MC!! Hope to see you there!!

At this time the parade is still moving forward. A final decision will be made at our next meeting. Watch our Facebook page and our website for updates.

Labor Leaders Meet with Congresswomen Cheri Bustos and Robin Kelly

On August 16th I attended a meeting with Congresswomen Cheri Bustos and Robin Kelly. Robin Kelly is also the new Democratic chairperson for Illinois. Both women were looking to labor leaders to find out what issues are important to us. I told them that for state employees our biggest issue, at this moment, is staffing in all agencies. We are so short staffed that it is putting the people we serve as well as our members at risk.

Governor Mandates Covid-19 Vaccine in 24/7 Facilities

I am sure by now you have all heard that the Governor has mandated that all employees who work in 24-hour facilities be full Covid-19 vaccinated by 10-4-21. AFSCME Council 31 leaders are currently in negotiations with CMS regarding this mandate.

While our leaders believe in, and advocate for everyone to be vaccinated, they do not believe it should be mandated. Everyone should have the right to make their own decision.

Know Your Right to Union Representation: WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

Don't be bullied into something you don't wish to do. If you are being asked to meet with management and you feel the conversation could lead to discipline you have the right to request union representation. Respectfully state the following.

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated or have any effect on my personal working conditions, I respectfully request my union representative, officer or steward to be present at this meeting. Without union representation, I choose not to participate in this discussion."

If they do not let you have union representation DO NOT be insubordinate or refuse a direct order. Comply and contact your steward to file a grievance.

Activities Survey

Now that our Spring Forward Together events are over, our entertainment committee is looking for ideas as to what other types of activities you would like to see our local provide. Send an email to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com with your ideas.

LEMON SOUR CREAM POUND CAKE

Ingredients

Sour Cream Pound Cake

- ◆ 8 ounces of unsalted butter room temperature
- ◆ 2 cups granulated sugar
- ◆ 3/4 cup sour cream room temperature
- ◆ 5 large eggs
- ◆ 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- ◆ 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ◆ 1 medium lemon squeezed (about 3 Tablespoons)
- ◆ 1 Tablespoon freshly grated lemon zest
- ◆ 2 teaspoons vanilla extract or almond extract

Lemon Glazed Icing

- ◆ 1 3/4 cups powdered sugar
- ◆ 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- ◆ 1-2 teaspoons salted butter
- ◆ The zest of one lemon
- ◆ 1 Tablespoon water

Instructions

- ◆ Pre-heat the oven to 325 degrees. Grease a 10 inch tube pan generously with cooking spray and set aside.
- ◆ Cream together the butter and sugar at high speed in a stand mixture until it's fluffy and starting to look white, about 5 minutes, add sour cream and mix for another minute
- ◆ Stir in the eggs, a little at a time, beating the mixture well between each addition. Sift in the flour and baking powder into the batter, and then add Lime Zest and juice, vanilla and or almon extract.
- ◆ Stir well until everything is fully combined. Scrape down the sides of the mixing bowl.
- ◆ Pour batter into a greased cake pan. Tap pans on work surface to eliminate any large air bubbles.
- ◆ Bake at 325 degrees until a tester inserted into the center comes out clean, 55-60 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack and let it cook before glazing.

Lemon Glazed Icing

- ◆ In a small pan combine confectioners sugar, lemon juice and zest, almond extract, melted butter and adjust with water as needed to achieve desired consistency. Gently whisk until mixture is smooth.
- ◆ Adjust consistency of glaze if desired. It should be pourable and thick.
- ◆ Spoon glaze over the top of the cake, letting it drizzle down the sides.

Enjoy!!

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