

AFSCME LOCAL 448

APRIL

Newsletter

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2024

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Tanya Burns: DCFS 815-987-7542
Jeff Bergstrom: DHS 815-901-2969

Jennifer Stroock: DOT 815-677-0842
Diane Ritter: Lottery 630-234-1162
Troy Morse: IGB 815-976-2585
Marie Reck: Revenue 815-209-5405

Members at Large

Aaron Sockwell: DHS 815-670-5283
Tom Soresie: DCFS 815-973-2857
Greg Duffy: DCFS 815-994-0502

Trustees

Kristina Steele DCFS 779-772-1364
Dawn Chavez: IDES 815-441-9467
Emilie Hanson IDES 715-379-4806

People Chair

Laurie Scudder: Revenue 815-987-7509

Staff Representative

Erik Thorson 815-993-1377

2024 Saul Valley Diversity Alliance Gala Update



This year's attendees to the Sauk Valley Diversity Alliance Gala had a great time. A big thanks goes out to those who participated this year!!

This year's fundraiser raised a total of \$3,225.00 for the Sauk Valley Diversity Alliance.

We sponsor this event every year, so keep your eyes peeled to info about the 2025 Gala in the January 2025 Newsletter.

ATTENTION GOLFERS!!

Once again we will be participating in the AFSCME Golf outing to benefit the Autism program at Kreider Services. Those of you who have participated in the past know what a fun outing this is. Our local will be sponsoring up to 10 teams of 4. To sign your team up please send the names of your team members to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com ASAP. Slots fill up fast and are on a first come first served basis. Last year this Event sold out so don't wait to sign up!!

Even if you want to golf but don't have a team, sign up we will find you a team!!!

Help Is Just A

Call Away!

We wanted to take a moment to remind

you that if you are experiencing excessive stress, depression or anxiety, help is available through the AFSCME Personal Support Program. It's now even easier to access the help you need as PSP services are available via Telehealth.

You can call 1-800-647-8776 for assistance.





So now that the contract is ratified lets take a look at some of the changes that were made. We are now up to Article VI. The text in **red** is the new language in each section.

ARTICLE X Vacations

Section 5. Vacation Schedules
 Subject to Section 6 and the Employer's operating needs, vacations shall be scheduled as requested by the employee in writing. The Employer shall respond to vacation requests within five (5) work days. Where current practice provides for a quicker response, such practice shall continue. Once scheduled vacation is approved it will only be canceled if the Employer's operating needs require that employee's services. The necessity of an overtime assignment shall not be a consideration in the cancellation of approved vacation. **Employees selected for promotion shall not have scheduled vacation time cancelled solely due to the promotion.** In any event, upon request, vacation time must be scheduled so that it may be taken no later than twenty-four (24) months after the expiration of the calendar year in which such vacation time was earned. If an employee does not request and take accrued vacation within such twenty-four (24) month period, vacation earned during such calendar year shall be lost. Except that the period of time an employee is on an approved leave of absence pursuant to Article XXIII, Leaves of Absence, shall not count toward the twenty-four-month period.

So what does that mean? This was a huge pick up for us. This means that once your have had a leave request approved either by the annual schedule of vacations by seniority or another request submitted after the seniority based period no longer applies, if you promote to a different position you will not lose the vacation request you were granted.

Previously if you were granted a vacation request in your current position but then accepted promotion, you might not get that request honored in your new position, now you will.

Contract Books

We are still waiting for the new contract books to be printed. Rest assured, that as soon as we know something we will let you all know!

Membership meetings are held at least quarterly and always on the 1st Thursday of the month.
Food will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning promptly at 6:30 p.m.

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Next Membership Meeting | <u>Date to be determined</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|



Unless otherwise noted, Executive board meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month. 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.

4-2-24 **In Person**



UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com or complete the Contact Us form at www.afscme448.org if you are planning on moving, have moved, need to update your email address or cell phone number with the new information. 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.

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| <p>Don't forget to check out our website at www.afscme448.org and follow us on</p> |   |
|---|--|



Don't miss your chance to win a \$25.00 gift card by submitting the correct answer to presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. Winners will be selected by random drawing from all correct answers received by 4-15-24.

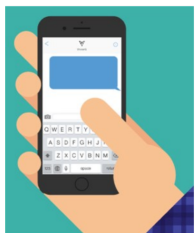
What were the Great May Labor strikes of 1886 all about?



To our March winner Ayesha Horton! Ayesha knew that in 1954 the percentage of unionized workers was 32.7%. The highest percentage ever.



OR



Want to stay up to date via email or text?? If so, make sure we have your home email address and personal cell phone number. Currently we only have this information for about one half of our members.

You can send your information to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com and we will get you added to the email and text list.

Just so you are aware, even if you request to receive your newsletter via email you will still also receive it in the mail.

This is because for meeting notices, nomination meeting or election meeting, we are required to notify all members in writing to their last known address at least 15 days before those events.



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This years event will be held on Saturday May 11, 2024 at Silver Ridge Golf Course 3069 N. Hill Road Oregon, IL with a 10:00 A.M. shot gun start. Registration starts at 9:00 A.M.

ASCME International Convention

The ASCME International Convention will be held this year the week of August 11th through August 17th in Los Angeles, California. Start thinking about if you would like to attend this convention. Elections for Delegates, Alternates, and Guests will be at an in person membership meeting which will beheld either May 2, 2024 or June 6, 2024 depending on when we get the convention call.

Those elected to represent our local will be paid 37.5 hours lost wages for Monday through Friday provided you attend all convention sessions and required workshops.

Transportation and hotel expenses will be covered by the local and members will be paid per diem for each day of travel.



Almond Flour Peanut Butter Cookies (Keto)

With just 6 ingredients and 1.4g of net carbs per cookie, these peanut butter almond flour cookies are the perfect keto treat! This super easy recipe is going to make it on your regulars list!

Ingredients

- 1 cup almond flour
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup granulated sweetener
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- sea salt, for sprinkling on top (optional)



Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 Fahrenheit.
2. Put all ingredients in a bowl and stir together with a fork until a dough forms.
3. Form a large ball and cut into 8 slices.
4. Make 2 dough balls from each slice and put on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
5. Flatten each cookie dough ball into 1 cm thick / 5 cm diameter disks using a fork, making a crisscross pattern. Sprinkle with sea salt.
6. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool completely before touching.

For cookies with a soft center, bake 8-10 minutes. For crunchy cookies, bake up to 12 minutes. Make sure the peanut butter is soft and runny and contains plenty of oils. Old, hard peanut butter is not suitable for this recipe

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