

April Newsletter

AFSCME LOCAL 448

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APRIL 2022

President: Alice Sutherland
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

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

Chris Hooser: Staff Representative-815-968-0447

Meeting Dates

Membership Meeting IN PERSON	Thursday 5-5-22
Executive Board Meeting	April 7, 2022
All Membership meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.	

UNION SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Union membership helps workers build a better future for their families. AFSCME members and their families benefit from annual scholarship opportunities to pursue their education goals.

AFSCME Council 31 is accepting applications for its annual Larry Marquardt Scholarship through April 22. **Children of AFSCME members under the age of 25, as well as members in good standing who plan to attend school full-time are eligible to apply.**

Two winners will be awarded \$2,000 each. The scholarship honors Larry Marquardt, the first executive director of Council 31 and a tireless union organizer who dedicated his life to improving the lives of working people. To get more information about this scholarship; go to AFSCME31.org and click



**REMINDER OF THE MEMBER APPRECIATION
EXTRAVAGANZA**

The date is set!!! **April 23, 2022**, we will be hosting our Member Appreciation Party at the Hoffman House in Rockford!!! Don't forget to book your room!!!

We have a block of rooms set aside at the Holiday Inn which is connected to the banquet facility. Room rates are \$100.00 Per night +Tax you can book your room now by calling the hotel directly at 815.398.2200. You will need to mention that you are a part of the AFSCME Local 448 block and provide the group code: AFS.

Congratulations to Sherry Burks and Kim Berg our first two room winners. Sherry and Kim won their rooms by attending the March membership meeting.

There will be weekly drawings for a free Hotel room for the night of the party from the RSVP's received. The faster you RSVP, the more chances you will have to win! The 1st RSVP to be received will automatically win a room so watch for you invitations in the mail!! You must attend the party to receive the prize.

AFSCME ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The annual gold outing to benefit Kreider Services will be held on Saturday May 14th at Silver Ridge Gold Course. Those interested in participating should send an email to presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. Please include your name, cell number, personal email address, agency, work location and the names of up to 3 additional team members. It was approved to sponsor 40 golfers which is equivalent of 10 teams of 4 people. If you want to golf but don't have a full team, we can combine you with others that might not have a full time. **There are only 12 spots available at the time of this writing. So contact us immediately if you want to play.**

PLEASE DO NOT SEND THE EMAIL FROM YOUR WORK EMAIL. We don't need anyone getting in trouble for inappropriate use of state email.

AFSCME CALLS FOR PENSION FUND DIVESTMENT FROM ASSETS LINKED TO RUSSIA



Standing with the people of Ukraine against the brutal assault on their nation and their democracy, AFSCME Council 31 calls on public pension funds to take appropriate steps to divest all assets linked to Russia.

The union sent letters on March 7 to the Illinois State Board of Investment, which governs investment policy for the State Employees' Retirement System, as well as to other public pension funds in Illinois in which AFSCME members participate, calling for the prudent divestment of pension fund assets with ties to Russia.

"AFSCME strongly condemns Putin's shameful assault on the nation of Ukraine. Each of us must do our part to support the valiant resistance of the Ukrainian people in their struggle to protect their democracy," Council 31 Executive Director Roberta Lynch said. "This is truly a global emergency that compels all freedom-loving people of conscience to take urgent action to support the people of Ukraine."

Soon after, Brian Collins, executive director of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, replied to AFSCME's letter, stating: "Please rest assured that we have been examining our portfolio for investments in Russia and will be discussing the matter with our full Board at our March 24-25 meeting."

Earlier in March, the AFSCME International Executive Board passed a resolution expressing our solidarity with the people of Ukraine, including the call for public pension fund divestment from assets linked to Russia.

"Ukrainians are demonstrating extraordinary courage and resolve in standing up to a violent autocrat," AFSCME President Lee Saunders said. "Their defense of their country is nothing short of inspiring. AFSCME's belief in human rights—wherever in the world they may be threatened—demands that we do what we can."

BAD ADDRESSES

If you move, don't forget to let your steward know your new address or send an email to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. Each month we get several newsletters back because members have moved and we don't have an updated address. Member's if you know of someone who has moved, make sure to reach out to them and let them know they need to update their address with us and their agency as well. We want everyone to stay informed.

PEOPLE CONFERENCE IN APRIL 2022

This year's spring PEOPLE conference will be held virtually on 4-30-22. Anyone interested in attending should send an email to presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. Once conference information is received it will be forwarded. While the conference is much different in person, for those who have never attended a PEOPLE conference, you will still get an idea of how our political endorsement and legislative process works.

NO BAKE STRAWBERRY ICE BOX CHEESECAKE

Ingredients

- 2 pounds of strawberries, cleaned and dried off
- 20 ounces of cream cheese softened
- 3 cups of heavy cream
- 1 3/4 cups of powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- 1 (14.4 ounces) honey graham crackers

Preparation

- Rinse, [hull](#) and pat-dry your strawberries. Reserve whole berries for the top of your cake (about 16 small berries or 8 large berries) and slice the remainder.
- Using a stand mixer, or a large bowl with an [electric hand mixer](#), stir cream cheese until smooth.
- Gradually stir in about half of the heavy cream. Stir until smooth, pausing once to scrape down the sides of the bowl.
- With a mixer on medium-low speed, gradually add the remaining heavy cream.
- Increase speed to medium-high and beat until mixture begins to thicken (about one minute).
- Pause to scrape the sides and bottom of the bowl, and add powdered sugar and vanilla
- Stir again, gradually increasing speed to high. Beat until a thick, fluffy whipped cream texture is achieved.
- Cover the bottom of a 9 x 13-inch pan with an even layer of graham crackers (about 9 sheets—break graham crackers as needed to best fit).
- Spread about 1/3 of the cheesecake mixture evenly over the graham crackers.
- Place another layer of graham crackers over the cheesecake layer, evenly spacing as needed and gently nestle them into the first layer.
- Spread half of the remaining cheesecake over the graham crackers. Top with sliced strawberries, distributing strawberries evenly over the cheesecake layer.
- Evenly space another layer of graham crackers over the strawberries, using the graham crackers to press the strawberries snugly into the cheesecake layer.
- Top graham crackers with remaining cheesecake mixture and spread evenly.
- Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours before serving. This will soften the graham crackers and give them a cake-like texture.

ENJOY!!

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