

## Executive Director's Report

Walter Allen, Jr.



Providing the best service and delivering the best contracts possible is the central focus of our Union and to that end, constantly improving on what we do and how we do it is critical. Our members deserve our constant commitment to be there when they need us but also to do the things that add value to their union membership through additional benefits and events which include not only our members, but their families as well. I urge all our members to check our website from time to time to make sure nothing is missed. Local 30's 'Members Only' benefits can provide valuable savings and should certainly be reviewed.

One of the areas under constant review for improvement is our communications plan. With technology changing so rapidly and new opportunities to more conveniently and immediately inform members, we are always updating and offering new ways to receive the important information members need from their union. As we continue the process of bargaining for our Kaiser National Agreement we will continue to provide updates along the way so that members know more about what is being discussed and where still more information can be obtained. We are sending text blasts out to those members for whom we have a personal cell phone and using personal emails to keep members up to date as well. If you would like to receive either or both of these please go on our website and fill

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## President's Report

Marianne Giordano



2018 has been a busy year so far with contract negotiations on behalf of our members in a variety of units and locations. We began the process of bargaining our Kaiser Permanente National Agreement at the end of March which covers more than 4,500 Local 30 members. That bargaining is done with the Coalition of KP Unions. However, as the process was about to begin with Kaiser Permanente Management a number of unions decided to leave the Coalition in protest and form another Coalition of their own. The parties continue to work to resolve the issues and up to date information will be provided as it becomes available.

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## Women's March San Diego



On January 20, 2018 OPEIU Local 30 joined hundreds of thousands of participants across the United States and around the world in rallies and a march. This year's theme is "Power of the Polls." The mission of the Women's March is to harness the political power of diverse women and their communities to create transformative social change. ■



## Vice President's Report

Cathy Young



There has been a lot going on starting with our annual Toy Drives in the various regions of our union. Toys were collected from generous members and donated to the AFL-CIO offices in Denver, Phoenix, and Los Angeles for distribution. Our Toy Drive in San Diego supports the United Way program that provides toys and food to families in need at the Holidays. Once again Local 30 was the largest contributor of toys to this wonderful effort to bring smiles to the

faces of the children of these families. My thanks and congratulations to our members for your thoughtfulness and generosity, as always.

We conducted our shoe distribution recently to the children at the Perkins School in San Diego as the result of our Shoe Drive late last year. In all we provided over 625 pairs of new shoes and nearly 2,000 pairs of socks. Each student at the school walked away with a pair of new shoes and three pairs of new socks. The smiles alone made all

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## Recipients of the 2017 Local 30 Scholarships Are...



Richard A. Knapp Recipient (right) Mark Bailey, Business Agent



Shyla Valdez Recipient (left) Christopher Gonzales Local 30 Member (right)



Vanvan Nguyen Recipient Local 30 Member



John Ranier Bueno Recipient (left) Salvacion Adcock Local 30 Member (right)



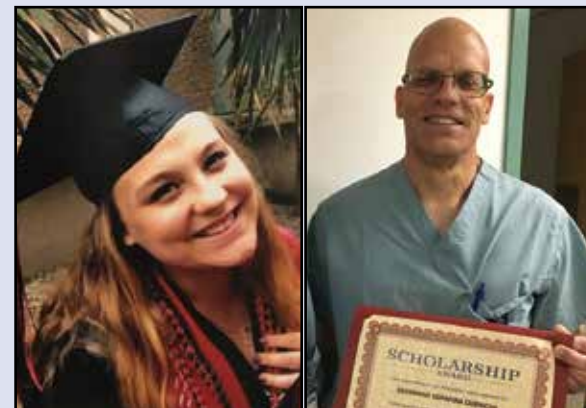
Maya Ybarra Recipient (left) Marcos Ybarra Local 30 Member (right)



Ashley R. Peterson Recipient Local 30 Member



Norell Martinez Recipient (left) Bernardette Martinez Local 30 Member (right)



Savannah S. Dubnicka Recipient (left) David Dubnicka Local 30 Member (right)



## President's Report

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While our Kaiser membership does make up the majority of our total membership at Local 30, we represent many other groups as well and their contracts are certainly just as important. I recently spent time in Arizona bargaining contracts for our members at the IBEW, Ironworkers Union, and Operating Engineers there. Additionally, Linda Winters, Arizona's Executive Board Member and I planned a member event for Arizona. On Saturday, July 14 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

our members and families will turn out for bowling, yes bowling. As always, our goal is to add value for our members with good contracts with good wage increases and benefit improvements.

In addition to all the bargaining that we do, and the representation work of course, we continue to train and activate more of our members to be involved in the many projects and events Local 30 sponsors and is involved

in. Being active in the Labor movement through our labor councils and state AFL-CIO's, and in our communities is important for our organization and for working families everywhere.

I hope you will join with us in some of these efforts. Just choose the thing that excites you and bring your passion. I am sure you will find it both rewarding and fun. ■

## Vice President's Report

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the effort worthwhile. Again, thank you to all our members who helped to make this effort so great.

The Local 30 Steward's Holiday party was also a great success this year. Stewards from units across the union attended and enjoyed the food, the dancing, and each other. A great time was had by all.

Local 30 members in Denver conducted their annual event recently and by all accounts it too was a success. Members from the many units in Colorado attended and enjoyed their time together as well as the food and fun.

All these events, and especially the pictures from them are in the pages of this edition. Please enjoy them.

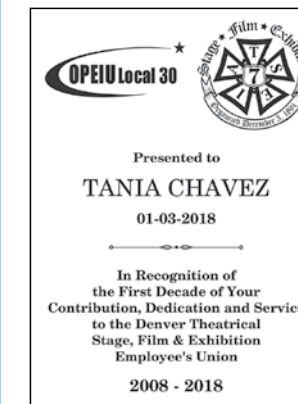
Coming up, the 2018 Family Fun Day in San Diego, and the 'Day At The Races' in Los Angeles. The Family Fun Day event will once again be held at the San Diego Zoo but with a twist. This year the event will be held later in the day and include the night zoo. And, the Los Angeles event will be held this Fall. More information on both of these events will be coming soon. Don't miss out.

Again, thank you to all our members for always supporting our charitable work in our communities and for your generosity. I am always very proud of the work we do, and certainly proud to be a Local 30 member. ■

## Congratulations Tania!

*By: Philip C. Hester*

At the general meeting of I.A.T.S.E. #7 - the stagehands - we proudly presented Tania Chavez with a plaque recognizing ten years of her incredible contribution and service to our Union and its members, referents and contractors.



Tania has a knowledge base, work ethic and aptitude that has made her an integral member of our office, its functionality and efficiency. We hold Tania in the highest regard and cannot compliment her equal to her merit.

Tania was lured to the meeting thinking she was there to help honor and acknowledge our treasurer, who was being recognized for a remarkable twenty-five years - and continuing - of elected office. They each thought they were

there exclusively for the others acknowledgement. Both were sufficiently surprised! ■

## Taking Care Of Our Own

My name is John Freund. I'm an x-ray tech. at the Kaiser clinic in La Mesa. I ran into Annette a few weeks ago and she asked me to send this picture of our son with his date Jackie at Prom last year. She said she would like to put it in the next issue of the Local 30 newsletter. Back in August 2003 Jason was diagnosed with Leukemia. He spent 4 1/2 months in the hospital. He went into remission with chemotherapy and has been cancer free since.

At that time Local 30 made a very generous donation from the Charity Fund to our family to help with our everyday expenses. We will always be grateful.

My wife, Griselda and I would like to share our story with other Local 30 members to show one of the many ways the union is there for us.

Thanks for everything.

John Freund



## Hey! Check Out My New Shoes

There were smiles everywhere on the campus of the Perkins Elementary School in Barrio Logan, San Diego on the day Local 30 officers and members showed up to fit the children with their new shoes. The result of the Local 30 Shoe Drive held last year was so successful that the union was able to fit all 550 kids with a pair of new shoes and three pairs of socks. The event was very exciting and even caught the attention of the local television news channels.

"I cannot think of a worthier cause than to help these kids with such a basic need as new shoes," declared Marianne Giordano, President of Local 30. "How often do we even think about shoes in our everyday lives? I guess we would think about it more often if we didn't have a decent pair to wear."

"This drive is perhaps the best one we have ever had at Local 30. Everyone pitched in and

thanks to the generosity of our members and so many friends in Labor we accomplished, in fact exceeded our goals to help these children. I am so proud of our organization, even more than usual," said Local 30 Vice President Cathy Young.

The Executive Board of the union decided to help this school when they learned about their unique circumstances. The student population of Perkins is about 550 children from pre-school through grade 8. More than one third of the students are homeless, and many others live a tentative existence between shelters. When the union approached the administrators of the school to offer to help they asked what need they could fill. The answer was shoes.

"When I was young and in grade school the only thing I had to focus on was my school work, I never thought about my clothes or

shoes," said Walter Allen, Executive Director of Local 30. "After I heard the stories about these kids and how difficult their lives were, I realized that learning under those conditions had to be beyond difficult. This was the very least we do for these families. Giving back is a wonderful gift for both those we help and for ourselves."

In the end the union accumulated more than 625 pairs of shoes, 2,000 pairs of socks, and had enough money left over to give the teachers a donation for school supplies which are also in short supply at Perkins. Local 30 members should be proud of themselves and their union.

Please take a moment to review the photos and see what your wonderful contributions made possible. ■



## Working Peoples Day of Action

On February 24, OPEIU, Local 30 joined thousands of working people and our allies across the nation to stand up for our freedom. We came together as strong unions to fight for equitable pay, affordable health care, quality schools, vibrant communities and a secure future for all.

Now wealthy special interests want to further rig the system in a Supreme Court case called Janus v. AFSCME Council 31, which attempts to divide working people and limit our power in numbers because unions give workers a powerful voice in speaking up for themselves, their families and their communities. When we join forces and come together in solidarity, we are unstoppable. Fifty years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. joined striking sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee, as they fought for the freedom to join in a strong union and for dignity and respect on the job. ■



Angela Jensen, Jacqueline Gilbert, Todd Gloria, Assemblymember and Carolina Aceves



Angela Jensen, Jacqueline Gilbert, Linda Winters and Carolina Aceves

## Denver Member Event

By: Gayle Noon, Executive Board Member & Lead Steward

Local 30 members in Colorado gathered in February for their annual "After Christmas Dinner" and enjoyed another great event.

Among the causes of celebration, the union recognized Thelma Riedel as she retired from her position at Fringe Benefit/Benesys

after 36 years of service. Congratulations to Thelma, and to all our members in Colorado who attended the event. ■



Thelma Riedel, 36 year OPEIU member, accompanied by both of her daughters.



From left to right LaWanda Jones, UFCW Local #7, Gayle Noon, Executive Board Member and Lead Steward Building Trades Union, Cindy Bruchard, Union Taxi, Lorraine Banzie, United for a New Economy.



Left to right Denise McKnight, Bricklayers Local 7, Colleen Callan, IBEW Local 111, Cindi Duran, Boilermakers Local 101



Left to right April Martinez, Colorado AFL-CIO, Sarah Hamilton, Colorado AFT



Tessa Malmgren, SMART – Sheet Metal Workers Local 9 and her husband Kevin.



From left to right Rhoni Pirtle, DJEATC, Natalie Williams, and Erin Sandholm, IBEW Local 68, Tami Isaacs, DJEATC



Left to right Toni McGowan, Shiloh McGowan, Jodi Distel, Operating Engineers Local 9, and her date Chad.

## To Be Union or Not To Be

By Lolita Babaran, Business Agent

To be union or not to be – that is the question. But for many American workers, being unionized means money taken out of their hard-earned paycheck or protecting the lazy workers. Really? Does that mentality still exist today? Sadly, yes.

Many workers do not link their benefits such as vacation, retirement, wages, and health insurance to the Union. They believe it is out of the goodness and kindness of the company's heart that these benefits are given to them – Baloney! Don't be fooled into believing this. The only time these benefits are guaranteed is when you work under a Collective Bargaining Agreement, and that can only happen if you belong to a Union.

In my youthful days, I remember my dad always telling me that I should try to get a Union position. He believed in Unions

because in his infinite wisdom, he knew Unions fought for working families. I was too naive to understand. But now that I'm older and wiser (some may disagree lol), my dad was right.

Throughout my career, I have held union and non-union positions in various companies. The difference between being a Union member versus non-union is quite substantial. I recall a time when I was supposed to get a pay raise, or at least I was told I was going to get a pay raise. When that time came, I noticed there wasn't any difference in my paycheck (what the heck!). Because I was young, I was too embarrassed to ask my boss. But it was really bothering me, so I gathered enough gumption to ask. His answer to me was, "oh yeah, that didn't work out." Huh? That's all you got? That's my answer?

On the other hand, when I got my first Union job, the Collective Bargaining Agreement said that I would get my first step pay increase after completing six months. And guess what? I did; but if I didn't, I know I could contact my Union, and my Union Rep. would do all the talking for me.

When you work under a Collective Bargaining Agreement, Union members do not have to fear the loss of their health insurance; retirement; pay increases; and guaranteed vacation time. The Union dues that are supporting the Union is just that – it supports their efforts in fighting for Union workers and their families in all aspects from ensuring a decent wage to guaranteeing benefits.

So, I ask again – To be Union or not to be? I think the answer is quite obvious. ■

## Executive Director's Report

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out the pop-up card. It's that easy. As usual, your personal information is confidential and cannot be shared by the union. And, you will NOT receive any junk mail from us either, just updates and information regarding your contract. Check it out today.

In other news, check out the articles in the following pages and see the great work that our members are doing. You will read about the contracts that we have settled, the events we have held, and the incredible charity works our members have led in our communities. Naturally there is also important information about benefits we offer to our members and a story or two from our staff of Business Agents with the good advice every member needs.

I invite you to be as involved in our union as you are able, always have the most up to date information about your contract and benefits, and certainly be aware of all upcoming events. Watch the website, follow us on Facebook, and enjoy the News & Views. ■



By Carolina Aceves

Generation Next welcomes and congratulates this year's Chair, Carolina Aceves, Co-Chair, Ana Rebecca Sanz, and Recording Secretary, Ezequiel Diaz. This year more than ever staying connected is a top priority spreading the importance of the Labor Movement & Community Partnership. Whether it is in support of local political representatives that support labor or volunteering within the community.

Most recently GenNext! participated in Assembly member Todd Gloria's Easter Basket Drive benefiting the Imperial Court of San Diego, a free community Easter Egg Hunt in Trolley Barn Park. If you are interested in an opportunity to actively spread the importance of the Labor Movement by connecting with community partners or gaining knowledge in Labor Studies join us at any of our regular meetings.

GenNext! meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. ■

### UPCOMING DATES

June 19, 2018	August 21, 2018	October 16, 2018	December 18, 2018
July 17, 2018	September 18, 2018	November 20, 2018	



Todd Gloria's Easter Basket Drive with members of GenNext!



Carolina Aceves, Anna Rebecca Sanz and Ezequiel Diaz

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If you have a suggestion, a story, or any jobsite photos we should consider for the newsletter, please contact the Union office at (619) 640-4840 or email: [info@opeiulocal30.org](mailto:info@opeiulocal30.org).

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