



BOTTOMLINE

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SEIU LOCAL 722 (202)483-6221
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PRESIDENTS REPORT

by: DANIEL FIELDS JR



By the time that you receive this newsletter hopefully we will have concluded our negotiations with the Washington Hospital Center, and have reached an agreement. If this is so, then it is time for us to focus our attention on the upcoming elections. Especially for the position of the Presidency of the United States of America. As it is well known we have endorsed Barack Obama for the presidency. Many of you have asked how can you participate in helping to elect Mr. Obama. Well, one way is to volunteer a Saturday to go to Virginia to hand out leaflets and to door knock. In this area Virginia is one of the swing states in this election. A swing state is a state where the “political experts” cannot determine which of the candidates will win the state, and Virginia is one of the states up for grabs. Some of our affiliate organizations, such as our State Council and the Washington Metropolitan Council of the AFL-CIO, are providing buses to Virginia to door knock and to leaflet for Mr. Obama. This will be going on for every Saturday up to election day, November 4, 2008.

Another way to volunteer is to take one day and participate in a phone bank at the AFL-CIO. The AFL-CIO is providing the use of telephones to call Union Households throughout the country and especially the swing states to drum up support for the democratic ticket. The AFL-CIO have talking point papers and issues comparisons that make conversing with the member easy. The phone banks are available up to 8:00 p.m. each day for volunteers.

Local 722 is going to select one day to take members to the phone banks. If you are interested in participating on the day that we are going to participate call the Union Office and let us know.

A third way to participate is to make sure that you, your relatives, and friends are registered to vote and that you go vote. They are anticipating a record number of newly registered voters. We need to make sure that we are in that group and that we assist the voters in getting to the polls. Local 722 will also have volunteers at a few of the election sites in this area. We have also endorsed Kwame Brown for D.C. Council Member at Large, and Council Member Marion Barry (Ward 8), Council Member Muriel Bowser (Ward 4) and Council Member Yvette Alexander (Ward 7). If you are a D.C. voter please consider voting for these candidates.

The best way to help will be to sign up for our Committee on Political Education (COPE). COPE is the Union’s fund raising arm. The goal of COPE is to raise “hard money” for political goals. Goals such as putting worker friendly politicians in office, whether they are Democrat or Republican, or Independent. We have negotiated in the Washington Hospital Center’s and Children’s Hospital’s contracts the authorization for you to donate money to COPE, through payroll deductions. If we all just start out donating at least \$2.00 a pay period we can make a world of a difference. We are hoping that many of you decide to join COPE. Be on the lookout for our COPE campaign that will be starting soon.

Remember, Get Out and Vote.



Don't forget membership meetings the 3rd Saturday of every month

Bring a friend with you !!!



Mark your calendar

2pm till 5pm

Auditorium

Oct	18	CNMC
Nov	15	WHC
Dec	20	CNMC

Benefits for SEIU Members

As an SEIU member or retiree, you're entitled to such programs, rates, discounts and special features as the following:

www.unionplus.org/computers. Discounts on computers and accessories from Dell

www.unionplus.org/entertainment Save on movie tickets, movie rentals, theme parks, theater, museums, aquariums, sporting events, and skiing.

www.unionplus.org/legal Free and discounted legal assistance. To search for an attorney online or call 1-888-993-8886 for a referral by phone.

www.unionplus.org/education Provides information about education services: loans and scholarships; how to select a college and prepare for college entry tests; buying books from a union-organized online bookstore; and much more.

www.unionplus.org/pets Cut the cost of owning a pet. Save 25% on veterinarian services, 10% on pet health insurance premiums, and much more.

www.unionplus.org/flowers Save 15% when you send flowers.

www.unionplus.org/health-clubs.cfm Get discounts on new health club memberships at over 1,500 health clubs including Bally's Fitness, Select World, and Gold's Gym across the country.

www.unionplus.org/autoinsurance Members who purchase this insurance save an average of \$350 on their auto insurance bill.

www.SEIUCard.com An AFL-CIO-endorsed credit card, with an average rate 2 percent below the national average, no annual fee, and a unique, valuable Member Advocacy Program.

www.unionplus.org/creditcounseling Offers high-quality confidential financial guidance, free consumer credit counseling services, and debt management assistance.

www.unionplusloan.com Competitive-rate, personal and home equity loans. Ideal for debt consolidation.

www.unionplus.org/travel Discounted international travel packages.

www.unionplus.org/carrentals Save up to 25% on car rentals.

www.unionplus.org/goodyear Save up to 10% when you service your car or buy tires, and support union workers who make many Goodyear tires.

www.unionplus.org/cingular Save up to 10% on cellular phone service with a unionized wireless phone company.

www.unionplus.org/books Save on new and used books and textbooks at this discount unionized Internet bookseller.

Www.Unionplus.org/ATT Get unionized wireless service

Get Out The Vote

Big Kudos to all the union Brothers & Sisters who have been turning out to conduct labor-to-labor walks in Virginia for Barack Obama, Joe Biden, Mark Warner, Jim Moran, Judy Feder and Gerry Connolly !!! We are hoping to get many more of you involved every weekend between now until election-day. So of course we need your help to get our union friendly politicians elected. Please contact your family and friends and encourage them to volunteer. There are only a few weekends left till the General Election. We need our members to walk in Fairfax and Prince William counties this Saturday and we will continue to canvass every Saturday leading up to Election Day. Coffee, juice, doughnuts and bagels will be available. Please meet us at 4536-B John Marr Drive at 9am. For more information and volunteer opportunities, please contact Alya at 202-974-8222.

Five to seven days a week you will find SEIU members out doing their share to get citizens involved in the voting process. Thousands of unknown volunteers whose work outside the limelight has already altered the basic arithmetic of the November election.

We're all feeling the crunch

of lost jobs, home foreclosure, high tuition, a failing healthcare system and a sagging economy; but people are feeling empowered. They're feeling like, they actually hold a little bit of power in this. Our members are making a difference. They are getting involved in the process. They are finding a cause larger than themselves. Something that benefits the good of everyone.

Both political parties have been reaching out to citizens with what they think you want to hear. But have you been telling them what you want them to hear? Have you been talking about it with your family and friends? Have you been participating in community organizing? Have you let anyone know your concerns? It's never too late to get involved in the process.

Nationwide, there are about 42 million registered Democrats and about 31 million registered Republicans, according to statistics compiled by The Associated Press. But we all know that there are

many who do not come out and vote as well as many who are not registered. This must change. We all need to participate in the process. Change starts with each of you.

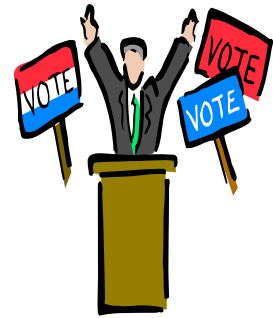
Right here in Washington D.C. many of our SEIU members helped get out the vote in the recent D.C. election by knocking on doors, assisting seniors get to the polls, phone banking and even working the poll stations.

November will be the most historic political event of all time. Are you prepared to participate? We encourage you to help get each other to the polls. Get our youth mobilized, for their future insist that they get involved.

Contact the Local 722 union office at:

202-483-6221

We will assist you in the process.



AFL-CIO Phone
Bank operation in
support of Barack
Obama & Joe
Biden
Mon - Fri 10 - 4
Sat 10 - 5
815 16 th St N.W.
Contact
Alya Mbamba
202-974-8222

Support Employee Free Choice



FASTWEB HAS BEEN PROMOTED IN / ON ALL OF THE BELOW LISTED PROGRAMS AS BEING A GREAT RESOURCE FOR SCHOLARSHIP SEARCHES

Tens of thousands of workers are fired every year for trying to form unions. And even more are faced with illegal intimidation and coercion from corporations.

In fact, 60 million workers in America say they would like to have a union but can't because of employer interference. When some workers are denied a voice on the job it violates the American ideal of fairness and equality. And it prevents them from being able to share in

the prosperity they have done so much to create.

Workers Who Join Unions...

... earn **30 percent** higher wages
... are **63 percent** more likely to have health-care

There's a bill in Congress that will make sure all workers get a fair chance at achieving the American

Dream. The bipartisan Employee Free Choice Act would ensure that when a majority of employees in a workplace decide to form a union, they can do so without the obstacles employers use to block their right to unite together. This law would level the playing field so all workers have a fair chance to win a voice on the job and a shot at the American Dream for their families.

See your union rep or call the union office for more info.

Free Scholarship Search

With the economy failing Americans, many of us as well as our students are trying to find a way to pay for college. We can't rely on our politicians for help, our families are struggling to survive and our children see the American dream farther and farther away. Well Help is just a click away.

Recommended by over 15,500 high schools and 3,500 colleges, **Fast-Web** is the nation's largest, most accurate, and most frequently updated scholarship database online.

Free Scholarship Search

Personalized Scholarship Matching

Side-by-side College Comparison

Financial Aid and Student Loan Tips

Part-Time Jobs and Internships Search

Start your **FREE** search today, and find out how fast and easy it is to pay for your college education!

WWW.FASTWEB.COM

From Jena To Denver

A Personal Journey By Marchel Smiley

**6:30 am Thursday
September 20, 2007
Jena, La.**

My plan was to be at the LaSalle Parish Courthouse at day break. I'd left Jackson, Ms., at 2:00am for the 180 mile drive to Jena. La. From Jackson, you take I-20 for about 60 miles; exist to local US Highway 165 for about 60 miles followed by 40 miles on US 84. I was driving alone through Mississippi and Louisiana Counties, where just forty years ago, a Black man could be arrested or simply disappear. I'm old enough and have studied enough, to know of the struggles for justice in Rankin, Hinds, and Madison Counties, along with Vicksburg, Mississippi and Monroe, Louisiana.

There is excitement in the air as ten's of thousands of protesters descend on Jena, La. People of good will are here to say no to judicial injustice and discrimination. About two and one-half miles out-

side Jena, the traffic toward the town is at a stand still. Everyone is parking on the side of the road, and walking into town. As we got closer to Main Street, I could hear singing, drumming and cheers.

Turning on to Main Street, there was several thousand people already surrounding the Courthouse Square and spilling over into the streets. As we approached the Courthouse, a local DJ with a PA system asked from what destination protesters had traveled. As the DJ made the announcements, the gathered crowd cheered. I told him I was from Washington, DC, he announced DC is in the house and the crowd roared. I was fighting back tears and losing the fight.

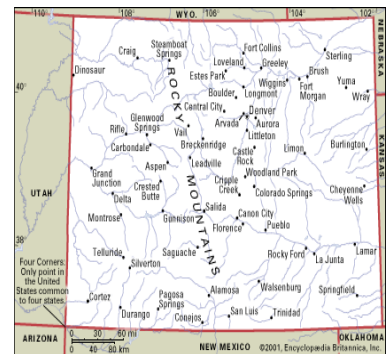
The speeches have now ended and it's time to march. We are marching from the Courthouse to Jena High School. The narrow streets of Jena are full of Black people, marching in peace and

demanding justice. Not since the Million Man March had so many traveled to take a stand and make a statement. My spirit had moved me to come. I came not just for myself, but for my children and grandchildren. I came not just for myself but for my friends, co-workers and colleagues. I came not for myself but for my deceased parents and grandparents. I came not just for myself but for all those who love justice and all those who lost their lives and freedom in pursuit of it.

**6:30 pm Thursday
August 28, 2008
Denver, Co.**

There is excitement in the air. Tonight Sen. Barack Obama will accept his nomination for President of the United States.

Please join me for our next newsletter as I share my Journey to Denver to witness the historic nomination of Sen. Obama.



Secrets to Always Having a Job

.Never before have Americans been as responsible for keeping themselves skilled and employable as they are today. Now-a-days people should expect to have as many as three different careers in their lifetime. In short, for those who don't keep a focused eye on their abilities to adapt and grow with the changing workplace, a day could come when it becomes tough to find a "good job." Here are a few secrets to staying employable.

1. Keep your definition of a "good job" reasonable. As we progress professionally, we acquire skills and experiences that often afford us greater opportunities in terms of salary and benefits. The problem lies in making the assumption that once we are offered a larger compensation package, it becomes the starting benchmark for any job we take in the future. Smart workers know each job opportunity provides criteria that must be weighed differently against our wants

and needs. Staying employable means simplifying our list and planning for the day when we won't have the same level or type of perks. This keeps job options more plentiful and movement to new positions easier.

2. Use the "3x3x3 rule" to create and implement your own professional development strategy. Forget about waiting for your annual review; smart workers take the review process into their own hands. Assess your professional strengths and weaknesses. By building a game plan to leverage the first and minimize the second, you can identify how you plan to stay employable. I encourage individuals to follow the "3x3x3 rule" for skill development:

- A. Choose three skills you want to enhance.
- B. Identify three ways in which you could learn and grow each skill.
- C. Articulate three examples of how you can demonstrate your enhanced skills in this area to your employer.

By taking professional development into your

own hands, you remain focused and in control of your employability.

3. Be the "go-to" person for something employers need. Like depositing into a retirement fund, employees use the early part of their careers to develop skills to accumulate professional wealth. Sadly, after a decade or so, some employees believe they've earned the right to live off of the interest accrued from their efforts. Midlife often brings about changes in how an employee wants to allocate his or her time (ie. wants more time with a spouse, family, home, hobby, etc.). Smart employees know this doesn't have to diminish the quality of the time they put into their careers. To stay employable, focus on being the "go-to" person for a particular problem, task or technique. Building subject-matter expertise in a specific area that's in demand within the workplace will create a personal insurance policy that ensures you'll always be the "go-to" employee who's in demand.

4. Create a board of advisers for your company

o f o n e . Smart individuals don't do surgery on themselves, pull their own teeth or represent themselves in legal matters. They defer to professionals who have the training and expertise that gets the best results. Smart employees do the same with their careers. In an age where employees are in essence a company of one -- responsible for keeping the services they deliver in demand -- doesn't it make sense to seek the counsel of those who can help you make the best career decisions? Smart employees solicit the advice of individuals they think approach career success in a manner they admire. Whether it's a relative, co-worker, former manager or even a professional career coach, seeking advice from those who know more than you will give you the perspective needed to be proactive and successful at staying employable.

SEIU LOCAL 722 WEBSITE

The SEIU Local 722 website is up and running. There are many new features on the site. I'd like to encourage our members to log on and leave your email addresses. Doing so will give us another way of communicating with you.

We'd like to start send-

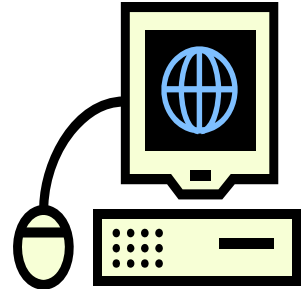
ing this newsletter via the internet. There will be opportunities to vote on issues, give feedback or suggestions about the picnic or other events sponsored by the local. Share your issues about your worksite or your community. Read about what other SEIU members are doing .

You have other suggestions, let us know. This is your union, so make sure you participate. Take ownership of it.

Log in at:

WWW.SEIU722.ORG

Let us hear from you on what we are doing to better communicate with you.



Time and Attendance

I hope that everyone enjoyed all of the wonderful festivities over the summer. There were plenty of things to do such as bike riding, fishing, swimming, plays, concerts in the park, family reunions and much more.

One would hope that your time off was a mixture of your scheduled days off and your scheduled vacation.

The winter weather brings out many more sicknesses than the summer weather. With such a wonderful sum-

mer, who knows what winter will bring.

Flu season, several inches of snow, respiratory issues like asthma and bronchitis are just a few of the things that keep us away from the job during the winter.

Please keep track of your time and attendance. You should know how many call-ins you have used and how close you are to being disciplined.

I caution all of our members to pay attention to your absence and tardiness. There

are far too many of you getting disciplined for this.

If you or your dependents have a chronic medical condition see your doctor about getting covered by F.M.L.A. It may be your only safeguard to maintaining your employment. Let's not abuse it, but know that it's there for you if your situation meets the criteria.

Again, pay attention to your time; you know your manager is paying attention to it.

"Progress always involves risk.

You can't steal second with your foot on first.

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Moving Forward on A Peaceful Mission



There may be days when you get up in the morning and things aren't the way you had hoped they would be. That's when you have to tell yourself that things will get better.

There are times when people disappoint you and let you

down. But those are the times when you must remind yourself to trust your own judgments and opinions, and to keep your life focused on believing in yourself.

There will be challenges to face and changes to make in your life, and it is up to you to accept them. Constantly keep yourself headed in the right direction for you. It may not be easy at times, but in those times of struggle you will find a stronger sense of who you are.

So when the days come that are filled with frustration and unexpected responsibilities, remember to believe in yourself and all you want your life to be. Because the challenges and changes will only help you to find the goals that you know are meant to come true for you !!!

When you get tired of doing it alone. Tired of all the pain. Tired of all the challenges. I suggest you just Let Go & Let God see you through. It's really his mission. He will keep you moving on his peaceful mission.