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Local 23’s meetings are held in our office located at: 2602 N. Proctor St., Ste. 203 in Tacoma.

Map and directions can be found on our website: www.opeiulocal23.org

### General Membership:

**Tuesday**—9/14, 10/12, 11/9
(No General Membership Meetings in Jul, Aug, or Dec.)

Meeting begins at 6:00 p.m.

**Executive Board:**
**Tues.**—7/13, 8/10 6:00 pm
9/14, 10/12, 11/9 directly following General Membership meeting.

### 2010 OPEIU International Convention

Allan Jacobson attended the 25th OPEIU International Convention in Washington, DC on June 20th-24th. Michael Goodwin was re-elected to a sixth term as International President. Former International Vice President, Mary Mahoney was elected as Secretary-Treasurer, a position she was appointed to in January following the retirement of Nancy Wohlforth. Suzanne Mode, Business Manager of Local 8 was elected as Vice-President for the NW Region, a position held by Judith Zenk for many years. Judith was bestowed the title of "Vice-President Emeritus" in honor of her many years of service.

Delegates passed several resolutions and amended OPEIU’s Constitution. The following are some of the resolution highlights:

- Be it resolved that OPEIU supports helicopter safety.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU supports local unions in its efforts to gain fair contracts for American Red Cross workers.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU stands against corporations that steal jobs from the U.S. and offshore them to third world countries.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU will support full marriage equality for same-sex couples.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU requests that the United States Congress amend the law so that it would afford security officers on service contracts the same rights and protections under the NLRB as all other service contract employees.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU supports the efforts of Doctors of Podiatric Medicine to be defined as physicians in the Title XIX of the Social Security Act.
- Be it resolved that OPEIU affirm support of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

The following are some of the constitutional amendment highlights:

- Amendments that reflect changes in OPEIU Canadian Locals.
- An Amendment that increases the per capita collected by the local unions.
- An Amendment that requires local unions to vigorously pursue collective bargaining contract provisions that allow members to use payroll deduction to make voluntary political contributions to the J.B. Moss Voice of the Electorate (VOTE) Fund.

Convention delegates volunteered to brave the 97° heat degree in D.C. and march in demonstration in front of the National Headquarters of the American Red Cross. Hundreds of OPEIU delegates joined with other unions and community activists demanding that American Red Cross bargain in good-faith and agree to a fair contract for its employees.
Metropolitan Development Council

After months of negotiations and Mediation sessions, members at Metropolitan Development Council finally have a new contract. OPEIU Business Representatives Marcia Petersen and Cari Trussell, and MDC Bargaining Committee members; Doris Tucker, Tonia Hess, Lori Edson, Peggy Smith, and Tom Wynn began meeting with management in September 2009. Negotiations lasted for ten (10) months, proceeded through two sessions of Mediation and charges filed by both parties with the National Labor Relations Board. On June 17th after ten (10) hours in Mediation the parties finally came to a tentative agreement that represented compromises on the both sides and could be brought to the membership for a vote. The agreement was ratified on July 9th by a 90% margin of approval. Members agreed to some hard choices in order to try and help MDC stay fiscally stable.

Members were very pleased with the settlement of the Board Charges. MDC will be reimbursing all out-of-pocket expenses incurred 1/1/10 to 7/31/20 due to the inappropriate change of the medical plan that went into effect on January 1st.

Jerry Beckendorf Bowling Tournament

The Local 23 Executive Board is looking for interested members to participate in the '7th Annual Jerry Beckendorf Community Services Scholarship Bowling Tournament'. The tournament raises scholarship funds that are awarded each year to college-bound students in our community. This year's tournament will take place on Sunday, September 19th at Pacific Lanes in Tacoma.

Please contact the Local 23 office if you are interested in participating at (253) 472-8712.
Bremerton Housing Authority—
The contract is now open and surveys have been sent to our members. We are asking for volunteers to be members of the Contract Action Team during negotiations and are also seeking an additional Shop Steward that will participate on the bargaining team.

Behavioral Health Resources—
The employer and Local 23 have agreed not to open the contract for the purposes of bargaining wages and healthcare. SEIU finished bargaining without across-the-board increases for its members due to the state’s budget crisis. Local 23 believes that BHR does not have the resources to bargain any pay increases at this time. Local 23 does have a “me too” clause in its collective bargaining agreement that allows OPEIU members to receive the same gains that SEIU members receive. If SEIU is successful in getting pay increases in their next contract, our members will enjoy the same. SEIU and OPEIU are preparing to lobby the Legislature for better funding for BHR next session.

Carpenters Local 470—
The 2nd day of contract negotiations took place on 7/14.

Cascade Regional Blood Services—
An agreement has not been reached for the mid-contract wage opener. Both parties will continue Mediation.

Group Health Cooperative—
The agreements for the new PCR classification and Transcriptionists have been ratified. The financial piece of the Transcription agreement has been tabled until January 2011 when training has been completed. Bargaining for the Tardy policy continues. OPEIU Locals 23 and 8 will soon be negotiating a new float pool for temporary part-time workers.

IAM District Lodge #160—
Members successfully ratified their new agreement with pension contributions covered and guaranteed money on wages for each year of the contract.

Pacific NW District Council of Carpenters—
Members ratified a three (3) year agreement with wage increases each year.

Safe Streets Campaign—
Parties are still in the process of negotiating the first contract. The employees within the bargaining unit met with OPEIU representatives on July 16th to discuss the progress of negotiations.

WA State Council of Fire Fighters—
The first date for negotiations begins on August 3rd.

Bargaining is set to begin for:

- Central Pierce Fire Dist. 6
- SE Thurston Fire & EMS
- Communitas
- Kitsap Applied Technologies (wage/benefits)

Group Health—PCR’s Reclassified as PAR’s

Earlier this year OPEIU Locals 8 and 23 PCR/PAR Bargaining Team members proudly negotiated an upgrade for Patient Care Representatives (PCR’s) impacted by EPIC Practice Management to become Patient Access Representatives (PAR’s). Since “go-live” of EPIC PM software on November 1, 2009, some PCR’s had been performing the additional responsibilities and accountabilities of a PAR. The Union requested to bargain over this change and began meeting with Group Health in April. On June 23, 2010 OPEIU reached a tentative agreement with Group Health to upgrade all PCR’s affected by EPIC PM. Now that the agreement has been ratified, effective June 20 PCR’s impacted by EPIC will receive the following:

- Job Title Change
- New Pay Scale Group 6a ($15.01-$22.97)
- 1.5% increase for upgraded PCR’s and then placement to new Group 6a wage scale resulting in a 1.6%-3.9% increase.
- Lump sum of $300 for regular employees pro-rated by FTE on employee’s July 24th paycheck.
Moved Recently?
Please keep your contact information updated with the Local 23 office so you don’t miss any important updates or correspondence!
Call or use the link on our website, click on Local 23 Member Resources | Update Contact Information.

Welcome to our newest Executive Board Member:
Sue Laguana, PAR
Group Health, Silverdale
We are glad to have you!

Solidarity Day XXX
Sunday, August 1, 2010

Cheney Stadium
Game Time: 1:30 pm
General Admission Seating is FREE with coupon from Local 23’s office. The GA seating fills up quickly and upgrade tickets can be purchased at the stadium on game-day.

Gates open at Noon. Join us for pre-game activities such as face painting, balloons, promotional give-aways & lots of union family fun!