

8:00-9:00 am

LGBT CaucusStanley
 Come and meet other lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender workers. Share your stories, make connections, build our work together! Join us for coffee and juice; bring pastries from the Grand Foyer or other food from the coffee shop.

Facilitator: Donna Cartwright, Pride at Work

Ain't Misbehavin': Confronting Management's

'Blame the Worker' Safety ProgramsStearns
 Management blames workers for safety problems, through safety incentive programs, injury discipline policies, post-injury drug testing, and behavior-based safety observation. These programs discourage reporting of injuries, focus attention away from the real hazards, and undermine union solidarity. Learn how to prevent or abolish harmful programs; and redirect the focus toward holding management accountable.

*Facilitator: Nancy Lessin, United Steelworkers' Tony Mazzocchi Center

Black Workers and Workplace Organization

.Stanley
 Come discuss how black workers organize on the job, and what changes this requires in our unions and the labor movement as a whole.

Nathanette Mayo, United Electrical Workers Local 150 and Black Workers for Justice

Malik Miah, Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association Local 9

*Tim Schermerhorn, Transport Workers Union Local 100

Sarah White, UFCW, Mississippi Workers Center for Human Rights

Facilitator: Nichele Fulmore, Steward, Teamsters Local 391

Building Alliances between Unions and Workers

Centers (§)Regency B
 Workers centers are a fixture in today's labor movement, often going where unions are unable or unwilling to go. From national agreements to local coalitions, unions and workers centers are finding new ways to partner that strengthen organizing across the movement. Hear from workers center activists about the successes and stumbling blocks in creating alliances that work.

Julian Gonzalez, Make the Road New York

Eric Rodriguez, Latino Union, Chicago

Representative, New York Taxi Workers Alliance

Facilitator: *José Oliva, Interfaith Worker Justice National Workers' Centers Network

Member-Driven OrganizingCord

Whether it's a local organizing drive or a coordinated national campaign, members are key to new organizing. Presenters will discuss the advantages—and challenges—of building an organizing program around existing or soon-to-be union members.

Cindy Vines-Harrity, CWA District 4

Tenaya Lafore, UNITE HERE Local 2

Glenna Swinford, UAW Local 3520/Freightliner Five

Contract Campaigns (§)Regency A
 In the first of two workshops on contract campaigns, learn how to build a member-focused campaign long before your contract expires. Member mobilization, campaign escalation, creative tactics, and other building blocks of a good campaign will be discussed.

*Dave Reardon, IBEW Local 2222

David Poklinkoski, IBEW Local 2304

Howie Coling, CWA Local 1298

Bill Henderson, CWA Local 1298

Facilitator: *Steve Early, CWA District 1, retired

Fighting Raids and No-Match Letters (§) . . .Bugatti
 Workplace raids and “no-match letters” are the latest employer tools in the fight to squash immigrant worker organizing. What's labor's response? Some unions have failed to protect immigrant members, while others want to respond, but don't know their options or good strategies. Using on-the-ground work in Chicago and Milwaukee as examples, this workshop will discuss how to set up a rapid response system in your area to beat back harassment of immigrant (and non-immigrant) workers. If you're in a union or community organization representing immigrant workers, or are an immigrant worker yourself, this workshop is for you.

Mark Meister, United Electrical Workers

Jorge Mujica, March 10 Coalition, Chicago

Martin Unzueta, Chicago Workers Collaborative

Christine Neumann-Ortiz, Voces de la Frontera, Milwaukee

Assertive Grievance HandlingRegency D
 Fighting grievances isn't only about how well you argue your case. It's about organizing members to build pressure on management. This workshop for stewards and union reps will focus on how to win creatively without going to arbitration—or sometimes without even filing a grievance. We'll discuss the do's and don'ts of settling grievances as well.

Gary Brooks, Steward, Teamsters Local 705

*Sandy Pope, President, Teamsters Local 805

Immigration and the Building Trades (§) . . .Steamer
 Join us for a roundtable discussion addressing the cooperation and tension between the immigrant rights movement and the building trades unions. How do immigrants and native-born unionists build unity on construction sites? With a huge range of unions, contractors, and job classifications, as well as different immigration statuses among workers, we'll discuss how to build solidarity.

Andres Puerta, Carpenters, New York

Romeo Sosa, VOZ Workers' Rights Education Project, Portland

Gabe Haywood, Carpenters Local 247, IWW

Jason Maguire, Carpenters Local 247

Joe Ettesvold, IBEW Local 48

Antonio Rico, IBEW Local 48

Facilitator: Yanira Merino, Laborers' International Union

International Solidarity to Promote Organizing:

Focus on Asia (M)Desoto A
How do unions and worker groups in Asia use international ties to support their work? As the site of so much of the world's low-wage work, the strategies and connections developed by workers in Asia affect us all. Hear about organizing in Vietnam's fast-growing private sector, about workers' successes against heavy odds in Sri Lanka, and about grassroots workers centers in China, and how they have built strategic international solidarity networks as an organizing tool.

Diana Beaumont, Asia Monitor Resource Centre, Hong Kong
Chao Nhat Binh, Vietnam General Confederation of Labor
Chen Mingyu, Xiao Chen Hotline, Qingdao, China
Anton Marcus, General Secretary, Free Trade Zones and General Services Employees Union, Sri Lanka
Facilitator: Kent Wong, Director, UCLA Center for Labor Research and Education

Labor and Politics (§)Desoto B
Labor's electoral machine is already in high gear in 2008, but will it ultimately help rebuild our political strength? How can unions close the gap between what we put into elections and what comes out the other end? What kinds of political action make the labor movement stronger—or weaker? These questions and others will be tackled in our panel discussion.

Geri Jenkins, California Nurses Association
*Stephanie Luce, University of Massachusetts Labor Center and the Joseph S. Murphy Institute, CUNY

Patients' Rights, Workers' RightsPierce
Health care workers can play a powerful role in advocating for their patients. HMO-style health care has reshaped our work as patient loads have increased and staffing levels plummeted. What new avenues have opened to challenge management? The nation faces a shortage of nurses and other health care workers. How can we use this leverage—and our passion for care—to improve both work conditions and patient-care standards?

Mary Broginski, CWA Local 1168
Danielle Magaña, National Nurses Organizing Committee
Helen York Jones, United Healthcare Workers-West, SEIU
Facilitator: Julie Barton, Michigan Nurses Association/UAN

Pumping Up the Public SectorRoyale
Public sector unions have enjoyed growth in recent years, but involving members can be a challenge. Now, fresh rounds of budget cuts loom as the economy slows. How can we defend vital services, build alliances with those our work touches, and make the case to the public? Learn how workers across the country are addressing these issues.

Nicolas Galepides, French postal union
Joan Gallagher, WFSE/AFSCME Council 28
Cherrere Horazuk, AFSCME Local 3800
Angaza Laughinghouse, United Electrical Workers Local 150
Facilitator: Vanessa Rhodes, United Healthcare Workers-West, SEIU

Solidarity Under Attack: Fighting Management's Plans to Isolate and Divide Workers on the JobKnight

Using new technologies and work restructuring programs, management is creating a workplace where workers don't see each other, can't talk with each other, and don't have time to get to know each other. From long shifts and forced overtime; to GPS, active badges and other forms of monitoring; to homeworking and telecommuting; to lean production and management-by-stress, the new workplace is making solidarity harder to build. What can we do to fight back?

Facilitator: *Charley Richardson, University of Massachusetts-Lowell Labor Extension Program

Tony Mazzocchi and Lessons from Labor's Recent HistoryRoyce
What can we learn from the life of Tony Mazzocchi, the most important labor leader most workers have never heard of? And what can we learn from the 1968-74 upsurge of worker resistance that happened in both the U.S. and Britain?

*Sheila Cohen, National Shop Stewards' Network, Britain, and author, *Ramparts of Resistance*
Les Leopold, the Labor Institute and the Public Health Institute, and author, *The Man Who Hated Work and Loved Labor*

Trends in Auto: Concessions, Two-tier, and Fighting Back (P)Regency C
For years labor looked to the auto industry and the United Auto Workers to set the bar on wages and benefits. Now auto workers in the U.S. are setting a trend in the other direction, with huge wage cuts for new hires. Are there implications for the rest of labor? Hear from Bill Parker, who stood against two-tier for Chrysler workers, and from Cathy Austin, president of the Canadian Auto Workers local at a GM-Suzuki joint venture.

Cathy Austin, President, CAW Local 88, CAMI
*Bill Parker, President, UAW Local 1700

**Appears in A Troublemaker's Handbook 2*

Language Key

- §: Spanish/English interpretation.
- §-E: Session conducted in Spanish, with English interpretation.
- M: Mandarin/English interpretation.
- P: Portuguese/English interpretation.