

Labor Educators Swap MeetCord
Looking for some new ideas? Have some gems you want to share? Join labor educators from around the country for a swap meet of field-tested training materials, curricula, and experiences.

Young Workers and ActivistsSteamer
Young people are getting involved in the labor movement in a myriad of ways—from campus labor solidarity to rank-and-file unionism to holding jobs as union organizers. In a changing movement, youth are figuring out where they fit in. In this meeting, youth involved in many types of labor activism will come together to talk about challenges and opportunities facing young people engaged in fights for worker power.

VidaViva Health & Safety Meeting (P)Regency A
VidaViva is a project that has united over 130 unions in Brazil in an effort to improve working conditions and gain power inside and outside of the workplace through the innovative use of health and safety strategies. VidaViva is based on the understanding that health and safety issues brought on by work are equal matters of concern for family and community. Through this approach they have managed to build a rank-and-file movement in industries such as banking, information technology, transportation, and food processing. This project has now spread to Mozambique, Germany, France, and Mexico—and hopefully, soon, the United States.

Canadian LabourRegency B
Canadian workers continue to face the major challenges of manufacturing job loss, privatization of public services, stagnant union density, and the reelection of neoliberal provincial and federal governments. At the same time, important differences have emerged within the labour movement over how to meet these challenges. This meeting is an opportunity to take stock of our strategies, discuss what kinds of activism are working, and think about what kinds of activism we need. Topics will be shaped by the participants, but will include strengthening cross-union networks of activists, and preparing for the upcoming CLC convention, as well as what role Labor Notes might play in supporting this work.

Facilitators: Sarah Declerck, Communications, Energy, and Paperworkers Union
Stephanie Ross, Labour Studies Programme, York University

RetireesRegency C
With the daily assault on pensions and health benefits, who knew the golden years would be so much work? What role can retired union members play in rebuilding labor's power? Join retirees from across the union movement to share experiences and ideas.

Workshops E, Sunday

10:45 am - 12:30 pm

Organizing in a Multiracial Workplace (§) ...Stearns
Management uses divide-and-conquer tactics to keep unions from getting a toehold. How do workers and organizers overcome divisions and build unity in an organizing drive?

*Gene Bruskin, Justice@Smithfield Campaign Director, UFCW
Marti Garza, United Healthcare Workers-West, SEIU
Fekkak Mamdouh, Restaurant Opportunities Center United

Contract Campaigns and Bargaining Table TacticsDesoto B
Learn key skills and strategies that will help your members and your bargaining team win a strong contract. Issues include preparing for bargaining, finding pressure points, planning timelines, balancing different interests among the membership, two-way communication during bargaining, and confronting demands for concessions.

*Sandy Pope, President, Teamsters Local 805
Louie Rocha, President, CWA Local 9423

It's a Dangerous Job: Health and Safety for

Immigrant Workers (§-E)Bugatti
Learn how to identify the many obstacles to workplace safety, deal with health and safety violations, and navigate resources for injured workers. Designed for immigrant workers but open to all who want to learn about the rights immigrants have at work.

*Marisela Garcia, Southeast Michigan Committee on Occupational Safety and Health
Anel Gonzalez, Regional ADA Center of the University of Illinois at Chicago
Dennis Soriano, New Orleans Worker Center for Racial Justice

Building International Solidarity (§)Steamer
Learn about several important campaigns uniting workers across borders. The Farm Labor Organizing Committee won the right to represent guest workers in Mexico before they enter the U.S. to pick tobacco and cucumbers. The U.S. Labor Education in the Americas Project is working with Untraflores, the Colombian flower sector union at Dole plantations, to win union recognition and improve working conditions. Public sector unions across Europe have joined together in a militant network to protect public services and defend public sector workers.

James Daria, Farm Labor Organizing Committee
Charity Ryerson, U.S. Labor Education in the Americas Project
Dora Acero, Untraflores, Colombia
Nicolas Galepides, European Public Services Network, France
Facilitator: Robin Alexander, Director of International Labor Affairs, United Electrical Workers

Untangling the Web of Private EquityCord
Is the company you work for owned by another company that really calls all the shots? In an era of corporate restructuring, refinancing, and backdoor deals, how can labor respond? Learn more about the mechanisms of private equity, and how you can be better prepared if your company or union is affected by corporate restructuring. Hear from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, who during their campaign against Burger King (whose principal shareholders include Goldman Sachs, Bain Capital, and Texas Pacific Group), had to learn a new bag of tricks.

Coalition of Immokalee Workers
Heather L. Slavkin, Senior Legal and Policy Advisor, AFL-CIO
Office of Investment

Dealing with the MediaRoyale
 How do you get your story told in the way that you want it told? Lay the groundwork (instead of waiting for crisis). shape your message. and get members talking.

- *Craig Merrilees, Communications Director, ILWU
- *Rand Wilson, labor communicator

Social Movement Unionism and Black

Political ConsciousnessRegency D
 African Americans are more pro-union than any other group and among the most progressive on worker issues. How can we use the politics of the black community (community and social movement organizations, and campaigns) to build workplace organizations and a class movement?

- Ashaki Binta, United Electrical Workers International Worker Justice Campaign, and Black Workers for Justice
- Nichele Fulmore, Teamsters Local 391
- Sandra Jaribu Hill, Executive Director, Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights
- Leonard Riley, Jr., International Longshoremen's Association Local 1422, South Carolina Labor Party
- Facilitator: Malik Miah, Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association Local 9

Democracy Is Power (§)Desoto A
 We want to change our locals so that members are involved, committed to unionism and solidarity, and willing to lead others in rebuilding the union. Hear the experiences of locals where members run the show and get results. If you are taking over a local that has kept members on the sidelines, where can you begin to make changes?

- Alfredo Gomez, Teamsters Local 743
- Lisa Kermish, University Professional and Technical Employees, CWA Local 9119
- Stan Lyles, United Healthcare Workers-West, SEIU
- Chair: Martha Gruelle, co-author, *Democracy Is Power*

Passing the Leadership Torch: Mobilizing Younger MembersRegency C

We all know it's true—the labor movement just ain't getting any younger. From how to build younger member involvement through youth committees to discussing how to overcome obstacles that newer generation workers may face in getting involved in their unions, this workshop is for both new and older generation workers who are ready to pass the leadership torch to the next generation.

- Cathy Austin, President; John Bridges and Angela Kerr, Youth Committee, CAW Local 88

Taking Control of the Workplace: A "Continuous Bargaining" Approach (§)Stanley

Is management introducing new technologies, policies, and work restructuring that hurt members and weaken your union? Are your contracts ineffective at protecting against these changes? Is the employer claiming "management rights" and saying that you have no rights? "Continuous bargaining" is a strategic approach to dealing with management-initiated workplace change. It builds on existing legal rights while focusing on a strong, active, member-involved union response.

- *Nancy Lessin, United Steelworkers' Tony Mazzocchi Center
- *Charley Richardson, University of Massachusetts-Lowell Labor Extension Program

*Appears in *A Troublemaker's Handbook 2*

Workers Centers: Building Power for Low-Wage

Workers (§)Regency B
 Across the United States, workers centers and low-wage worker organizations are today's laboratory for organizing the unorganized. Workers centers are mobilizing a new generation of activists in a multitude of sectors from restaurant and retail workers to day laborers and temporary—among immigrant and poor communities. Workers centers from around the country will discuss how they combine education, direct action, and organization to fight for their members and communities.

- Tona Cravioto, Casa de Maryland
- Saru Jayaraman, Restaurant Opportunities Center United, New York
- Valerie Henry and Ashley Huffnagel, United Workers, Baltimore
- Marie Thompson, Mississippi Poultry Workers for Equality and Respect
- Representative, Mississippi Workers Center
- Facilitator: Joann Lo, Enlace International

3:00-5:00 pm

Global Unionism: The Prospects for International

Grassroots Solidarity (§M,P)Desoto B
 There is much talk of global unions, but few unions walk the talk. Several examples of international grassroots labor solidarity will be highlighted, with time for in-depth discussion of long-term prospects, challenges, and opportunities. Efforts such as Conlutas in Brazil to build an ambitious network of Latin American and Caribbean unions; Transnational Information Exchange (TIE) projects such as Ex-Chains, uniting retail and garment workers in Asia and Europe; and VidaViva's promoting of a radical use of health and safety strategies to strengthen unions in Latin America, Africa, and Europe will be highlighted. Also to be featured: the Latin America Project, uniting workers centers and unions across Latin America in a common process of education and renewal, and the European Network for Public Services, established at the European Social Forum.

- Nicolas Galepides, European Public Services Network, France
- Mara Lira, SindiAlimentação, VidaViva Platform Brazil
- Anton Marcus, FTZGSEU, ExChains, Sri Lanka
- Dirceu Travesso, Conlutas, Brazil
- Daniel Ximenez, TEL, Argentina
- Chair: Teofiló Reyes, Transnational Information Exchange, U.S.



Credit: Rand Wilson.