



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

The NWPA ALF's jurisdiction covers 19 Pennsylvania Counties: Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Venango, Warren and Westmoreland. We produce this newsletter for the members of our affiliates.

Any comments or questions about this newsletters or its contents should be sent to the NWPA ALF is located at 1276 Liberty St. Ste. 2 in Franklin, PA 16323.

<https://unionhall.aflcio.org/nwpaalf>

www.Facebook.com/nwpaalf

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NWPA ALF News

February 2021 Edition

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Call your member of Congress and tell them to pass the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act now!

Working people fought to elect pro-worker lawmakers to the Senate, House, and White House. They gave us their word they would make the PRO Act a top priority.

It's time for them to keep that promise.

[Call Your Congress Member](#)

The PRO Act is the cornerstone of the AFL-CIO's Workers First Agenda. If it passes, it would:

- Empower workers to organize and bargain.
- Hold corporations accountable for union-busting.
- Repeal "right to work" laws, which were created during the Jim Crow era to keep White and Black workers from unionizing together.

Stronger unions mean higher wages, safer working conditions and dignity for all people who work. Passing the PRO Act will be our first step in getting there.

Raise the Wage Act of 2021 (H.R. 603)

source:

HR 603 would gradually increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 over five years. Thereafter, the federal minimum wage would be indexed to median wage growth. The legislation also guarantees that all workers are paid at least the full federal minimum wage by gradually phasing out the sub-minimum wages for tipped workers, youth workers, and workers with disabilities.

Congress has not increased the federal minimum wage in more than a decade

"Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the \$7.25 federal minimum wage was economically and morally indefensible. Now, the pandemic is highlighting the gross imbalance between the productivity of our nation's workers and the wages they are paid. Many of the essential workers who have braved a public health crisis to keep food on the table and care for our loved ones are still not being paid enough to provide for themselves or their families.

The Raise the Wage Act is a critical step toward lifting hardworking people out of poverty, addressing income inequality, and building back a better economy where everyone can succeed."

Public Sector OSHA Bill Introduced Again!

On April 27, 2017, Rep. Pat Harkins introduced HB 1082 to ensure OSHA coverage for our public sector employees. It did not receive the support from our legislators at that time.

These workers are our brothers, sisters, essential workers, and heroes. Many do the same work as private sector employees who are covered by OSHA. We need to work together and influence our legislators to support public sector OSHA as is reintroduced this session. One group that exerted opposition before was the County Commissioners Association of PA. When reaching out in support of this legislation that is long overdue, we should include our county commissioners as well as our state legislators. If they are not supportive, consider replacing them with more union friendly elected officials, when their term end. Labor can ensure the passage of public sector OSHA, if we work in Solidarity. Will you join us?

NWPA ALF MEETING

Meeting 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 31st
 Our E-Board Meets at 6:00 PM
 AFSCME DC 85 HALL
 Invitations to join us via ZOOM will be
 sent via email and postcards.
 Special speakers: TBD
 For more info call 814-360-8336 or
 email; nwpaalf@gmail.com

CLC Meetings in NWPA ALF:

Beaver-Lawrence CLC:
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Monday, Feb. 15th
 IBEW 712 Hall
 217 Sassafra Lane Beaver 15009
 For more information call 724-971-7473.

Butler County CLC:
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, March 3rd
 UAW 3303 Hall
 112 Hollywood Rd. Butler, PA 16003
 For more information call 724-285-4883,233

Clearfield-Elk-Cameron-Jefferson CLC
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 4th
 Via ZOOM
 For more information call 814-937-2208.

Erie-Crawford CLC:
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, March 3rd
 USW 3199 Hall
 703 French St. Erie 16501
 For more information call 814-823-9940.

Greater Westmoreland CLC:
 Meeting 7:00 PM on Monday, Feb. 22nd
 VIA ZOOM
 For more information call 724-600-6266.

Indiana-Armstrong CLC:
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, Feb. 25th
 via ZOOM
 For more information call 724-479-0923.

McKean-Potter CLC:
 Meeting 7:00 PM on Monday, TBD
 Fox's Pizza Den
 51 N Main St. Port Allegany, PA
 For info email jbarnett85@gmail.com.

Mercer County CLC:
 Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, Feb. 18th
 USW 1660 Hall, 1028 Roemer Blvd. Farrell
 16121
 For more information call 724-854-0605.

Venango-Clarion Chapter:
 Meeting 6:30 PM on Thursday, Feb. 11th
 IAM 1842 Hall
 24 Front St. Franklin 16323
 For more information call 814-671-4420.

Warren-Forest CLC:
 Meeting 6:00 PM on Thursday, March 4th
 IUOE 95 Hall,
 116 Dobson Ave. Warren 16365
 For more information call 814-730-7558

NWPA ALF Correspondences and Events

Every year we ask our affiliates to update their Local Union Information with us and mail them their;

- Current per capita billing and arrearages if applicable,
- An Information Update Request Form which is designed to obtain information that will enable us to do a better job, effectively and strategically plan events and educational programs that will truly assist our affiliated Local Unions and their members. please correct and return the information update form ASAP.
- If you have a Map of your jurisdiction, we would appreciate a copy to use as a visual aide.

Mark the following dates in your calendars for our NWPA ALF Meetings via ZOOM and when possible to do safely in-person at the (AFSCME DC 85 HALL in Franklin), Please;

- 1st Quarter meeting Wednesday, March 31st
- 2nd Quarter meeting Wednesday, June 30th **
- 3rd Quarter meeting Wednesday, Sept. 29th
- 4th Quarter meeting Wednesday, Dec. 15th

Watch our newsletter, Facebook page, website and emails for information about the speakers for meetings.

** This meeting is our Annual Meeting and this year we will be not required to have a Convention as the Election of our Officers and Executive-Board is not until 2022.

The NWPA ALF traditionally plans the following annual events;

- Scholarship Essay Contests for the membership of our affiliates (this year's scholarships have been mailed and emailed to our affiliates, are available in this newsletter, on our website and Facebook page. The deadline for the receipt of applications and essays is May 7th),
- Flag Day Celebration on June 14th,
- A Series of Educational Classes, this year they will be via ZOOM see the article on page 16 of scheduled classes.
- Our annual meeting in June,
- The Labor Day Parade in Erie on (Monday, Sept. 6th),
- Our Annual Golf Outing on the last Friday in September (the 24th), and
- A Christmas Project TBD.

Note: Please note, the dates above may be subject to change based on COVID restrictions and concerns for the health and safety of our members.

We are proud of our record of Guest Speakers for each of our NWPA ALF Meetings, and hope you will join us for our quarterly meetings and/or at our events!

Workers' Compensation Lump Sum Settlements

**Prepared by Rudberg Law
Offices, LLC**

Workers' Compensation is a benefit for all Pennsylvania employees which covers wage loss, medical and specific loss benefits whenever an employee has an injury in the course and scope of employment. The injury can be a traumatic or repetitive injury, a disease process from an exposure or an aggravation of a pre-existing condition. The injury does not have to be the fault of the employer just one that occurred while the employee was furthering the employer's business.

If the employee can no longer do their time of injury job due to the injury for whatever medical reason, benefits will have to be paid by the employer. It should be simple; however, the workers' compensation system is not a simple system to maneuver and often employees who should receive benefits do not receive benefits or even know that they are entitled to receive benefits. This is, in part, because they are relying on the employer to provide the information to them which will determine if they receive benefits. Many cases that would otherwise lead to a settlement or other benefits, will never be filed due to an uninformed employee. The lack of information is not the fault of the employee who is often misinformed by the employer or insurance company that would

pay the workers' compensation benefits.

Once an employee receives workers' compensation benefits, if they are not able to go back to the same physical activity of their job and there is not another job provided by the employer, that injured worker may be in a position to settle their case for a lump sum.

It is possible to resolve your case for a lump sum if you are not physically able to return to your time of injury employer. If you are on total workers' compensation, the employer may try to either shorten the time you are on workers' compensation benefits or the amount which you receive:

- Your employer can bring you back to work in a light duty job and pay partial workers' compensation if there is a reduction in your wages.
- Your employer can hire a vocational counselor to find job opportunities based on the parameters of the insurance company's doctor or provide funded employment such as phone survey work performed in your home.
- Your employer can claim your disability is for a non-work-related condition, for example, claim your injury is not as extensive as it is and due only to arthritis or the natural aging process

In any of these scenarios, a workers' compensation judge may be required to adjudicate any conflicting issues and determines whether your benefits should be stopped, decreased or shortened.

In any type of lump sum settlement many factors need to be considered such as public healthcare benefits, child support, pension benefits etc. Usually, a lump sum payment is based on the amount which the employer/insurance company is paying weekly in workers' compensation benefits. It is not unusual to resolve a case for between three and five years of benefits based on the particular circumstances in each case.

For more information, please contact a skilled Pennsylvania workers' compensation attorney with Rudberg Law Offices, LLC at 1.866.306.2667 or info@rudberglaw.com



Main Office: 2107 Sidney Street,
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Branch Office:
215 S. Main Street,
Zelienople PA 16063
1.866.306.2667 – 412.488.6000
www.rudberglaw.com

Know Your Rights! Protect Your Rights!



WORKERS COMPENSATION LITIGATION IN THE TIME OF COVID

**by Barb Holmes-
Blaufeld, Schiller & Holmes LLP**

Some injured workers may be wondering whether they should even report an injury or file a claim because of concerns that COVID is interrupting the workers' compensation litigation system. **THAT WOULD BE A MISTAKE!** The Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation and its stakeholders—which includes injured workers—have adapted exceedingly well in this pandemic time, and no injured worker should ignore a work injury for this reason (or any reason, frankly!).

First, late notice is not going to be waived because of the pandemic. Notice still must be given in a timely fashion, which as you know from reading prior articles is within 21 days to be paid from the first day of disability, if the claim is accepted/awarded and **NO LATER THAN 120 days** from the date of injury! The injured workers must still provide notice when s/he knows or has reason to know of a work injury. If there is some concern about how to give notice because the HR department is working remotely, or supervisors are not on the premises as much, then any and all available options should be utilized—computer, certified mail, filling out the injury log, telephone calls. Any way to provide notice, and more than one if possible, should be used.

Because the Bureau has a computer system to which employers and/or carriers report injuries, the information can be keyed into the system so as to generate the appropriate reports to the Bureau and the appropriate Bureau documents, such as a Notice of Compensation Payable, a

Notice of Temporary Compensation Payable or a Notice of Denial. So long as the claims handler/adjuster/appropriate employer representative has computer access to the Workers Compensation Automation and Integration System (WCAIS) the necessary data regarding any injury can be uploaded. Additionally, as many insurance carriers have been working “paperless” for some time, medical bills can be processed and paid, and other applicable functions undertaken. COVID has not stopped the processing of claims, although it may delay them at times, if companies have downsized or remote workers can only log on during certain hours.

Insofar as filing claims are concerned, attorneys also have access to WCAIS, and we can view the claim file (once we represent an injured workers) and file the appropriate petitions online. Again, we must have permission from the injured worker to do so, but it is easy to file a Claim Petition or file an Answer to any employer filed petition, once we enter our appearance. As a practical matter, litigation claims are processed very quickly in WCAIS. For example, if we file a Claim Petition today on behalf of an injured worker, the claim usually is assigned to a Workers' Compensation Judge within 48 hours, and a hearing is scheduled to occur in several weeks' time. Therefore, as we have discussed in many prior articles, evaluating a claim and getting medical evidence lined up before filing is essential!

Hearings now are held via telephone or video, rather than in person. There may be an opportunity for an in person hearing, depending on the case, but it is not required, and there needs to be some basis provided to support the need for an in person hearing because Judges have very limited in person availability due to the need for cleaning the hearing room and social distancing. Disfigurement/scar claims may be done in person;

some hearings with multiple witnesses, particularly where there is a controversy over a factual issue may be in person; some hearings where an interpreter is required may be in person. However, telephone/video hearings operate the same as an in person hearing (except for the in person part): there is still a court reporter, there is still testimony taken, there are still exhibits uploaded into WCAIS, and a Judge still presides, listens and makes rulings.

Additionally, the parties have adapted to handling other litigation requirements remotely as well. Depositions are being done by telephone and/or video. Vocational evaluations as precedent for labor market surveys/earning power assessments are being done by phone. Defense medical exams and impairment rating evaluations, however, are done in person, but under COVID protocols, with doctors providing pre-exam information concerning safety, and operating under the same COVID requirements as treating doctors.

Even in this pandemic, the Bureau of Workers' Compensation system has worked to achieve a system where there is no excessive delay in moving forward with claims. We have had cases in the office that were filed, litigated, completed and decided since last March; the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and its participants have become very efficient! No injured worker should delay reporting a claim or consulting counsel because he/she believes the system is “on hold”—nothing could be further from the truth!

BLAUFELD SCHILLER & HOLMES LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SAMUEL S. BLAUFELD
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810 PENN AVENUE • SUITE 600 • PITTSBURGH, PA 15222
412 391 0775 / 800 343 9384 / FAX 412 391 7194



2021-2022 Scholarships Essay Contest



NWPA ALF Scholarship

*(2021 Graduating
High School Senior)*

David A Bielski Scholarship
(Post secondary student)

Dr. David Ferster Scholarship
(Graduate Student)

**Note: See additional eligibility
requirements inside**

2021-2022 Scholarship Sponsors

Butler County CLC
IAM 2448
IBEW 272
IBEW 712
Insulators Local 2
IUOE 66
IUOE 95
USW 10-0607
Venango-Clarion CLC
2021-2022 Scholarship Judges
Andrew Harkulich Laurie Fisher
Anthony Modaffare Lee Williams
Daryl Busch Lisa Alexander
Dave Conklin Mike Kalpich
David Foor Pattie DeMichele
Frank Telesz Phil Lasky
James Cassidy Rich Barrett
James Kunz Rick Galiano
Jeff Hapke Ron Buechel
Jim Nuber Shane Clark
Jim Saeler Susan Lemmo
Ken Vybiral T J Sandell



For more information
call 814-360-8336.

Please PRINT legibly:

Name _____ Student ID # _____ Name of the School that you will attend _____

Address of Student _____

Phone Number for student _____ E-Mail Address _____

Name and address of school you are currently attending? _____

Union Affiliation /union name and Local # _____ union member _____ relationship _____ phone number for the union member _____

I am applying for the following: ☐ NWPA ALF Scholarship ☐ David A. Bielski Educational Scholarship ☐ Dr. David Ferster Educational Scholarship

Complete: this application , a 500-word essay in MS Word (on the appropriate question) and mail to NWPA ALF 1276 Liberty St. Ste 2, Franklin, PA 16323 or email copies of both to nwpaalf@gmail.com . *The deadline for the receipt of the essay and application is Friday, May 7th.*

Essay Contests for 2021-2022 NWPA Area Labor Federation Scholarships

The NWPA ALF offers three (3) different scholarships. The purpose of our Scholarships is to offer an opportunity for a member and/or their dependents and grandchildren of affiliated local unions of the NWPA ALF to earn a scholarship by winning one of the essay contests. Our questions are designed to make the applicants learn more about the labor movement and plan for their place in society after graduation from college.

What Are The Eligibility Requirements?

All award recipients must be a union member, dependent of a union member or grandchild of a union member in good standing of a local union affiliated and in good standing with the NWPA ALF. Award recipients must be a full-time student furthering education for the 2021-2022 school year.

NWPA ALF Scholarship applicants must be a Graduating High School Senior who is a full time student furthering their education.

David A. Bielski Educational Scholarship applicants must be a full-time Post-Secondary Student.

Dr. David Ferster Educational Scholarship applicants must be a Graduate Student.

Scholarship Awards

The winners of all three scholarships receive an award of \$500.00.

How Can You Apply?

To apply, you must complete the application form and write a 500 word essay on the topic specified in the section of this brochure titled "Essay Topics" for the Scholarship you are eligible to receive.

- ◆ **Essays must be typed in MS Word and void of identification.** Your essay must address the question for your scholarship, as it appears in this brochure. (Tip: use the question as your title to keep you focused.)
- ◆ **Email your MS Word file containing your essay** and a scanned in PDF copy your **completed application form** to nwpaalf@gmail.com or mail to the address below. Email confirmations will be sent to confirm receipt of your application and essay.
- ◆ Essays and applications **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the deadline of **Friday, May 7th**
- ◆ Presentation will be at our June 2022 Meeting.

Direct Questions & Send Your Essay To:

*Rosann Barker, Director
NWPA Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
1276 Liberty St. Ste. 2
Franklin, PA 16323*

Phone: 814-360-8336
E-mail: nwpaalf@gmail.com

Essay Topics

NWPA ALF Scholarship
(Graduating Senior)
How has COVID impacted your education and plans for the future?

David A. Bielski
Educational Scholarship
(Post Secondary student)
Do you believe all essential workers should receive "additional pay for additional risks", why or why not?

Dr. David Ferster
(Graduate Student)
Educational Scholarship
Union Community Service Projects
address the needs of others, Describe the benefits of one such project & the lasting impact. Did you or your union participate?

Note: A Post Secondary Student is someone continuing their education past their first year of continued education. (i.e. Sophomore in college until graduation from college with their Bachelors degree)

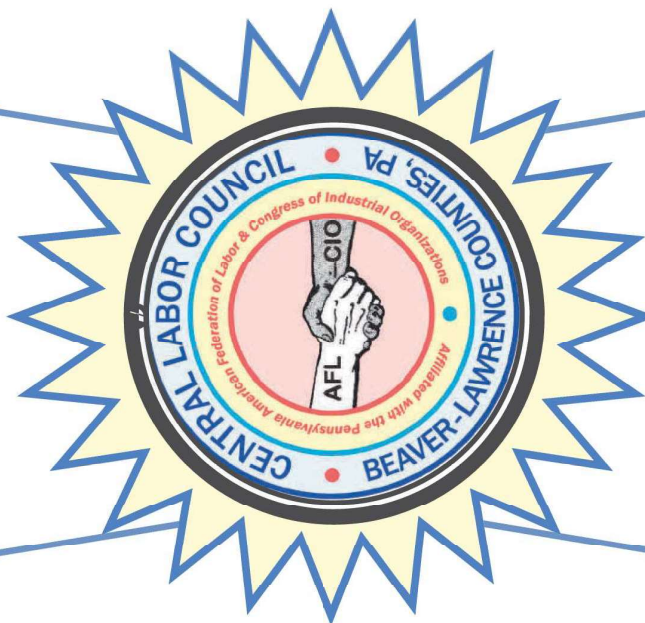
A Graduate Student is someone continuing their education past their 1st degree (Bachelor's Degree to their Master's Degree).

For the purposes of eligibility, Continued Education includes Colleges, Universities, Apprentices Programs, and Trade Schools as long as they are accredited programs.

BEAVER-LAWRENCE CENTRAL LABOR

COUNCIL

2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



We are proud to sponsor (2) two scholarships essay contests for graduating Seniors; **The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Scholarship** and the **Donald McNutt Memorial Scholarship**.

Students can apply for one or both scholarships ...

I understand as a graduating Senior I can apply for both scholarships. I have checked the scholarships I am applying for:

☐ The Beaver-Lawrence CLC Scholarship **"WHAT IS THE AFL-CIO AND WHAT DO THEY DO?"**

☐ Donald McNutt Scholarship **"What impact does buying "American-Made Union-Made" products have on our economy?"**

Student's Name _____ Phone _____ Email: _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

High School _____ Address _____

Post -Secondary Institution _____

Name & phone number of Union Member _____ Union Affiliation _____

Circle Relationship of Union Member (Grandparent / Father / Mother / or Self)

(Local Union Name & Number)

Local Union Official's Signature _____ Title _____

Printed by the NWPA Area Labor Federation as a service to the affiliates of the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council.

Both Scholarships have the same award, eligibility, purpose and length of Essay. please note the topic is different for each scholarship make sure you write your essay on the appropriate topic.

AWARD - \$1,000.00

ELIGIBILITY

Student who will graduate from high school in 2021. Award recipient must be accepted or registered as a full-time student in a post-secondary program. The applicant must be a union member, or a dependent child of a union member, or grandchild residing in the home of a union member in good standing of a local union affiliated with the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

PURPOSE

To foster an understanding of the Labor Movement's vital contributions to this nation's economic, social and political fabric.

TO ENTER

Submit a 500-word essay on the appropriate topic:

Beaver-Lawrence CLC Scholarship topic is: WHAT IS THE AFL-CIO AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

Donald McNutt Memorial Scholarship topic is: What impact does buying "American-Made Union-Made" products have on our economy?

Essays must be typewritten (in Blue or Black Ink), double spaced on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, and void of identification. Please attach this completed scholarship application form to your essay and mail to:

Beaver-Lawrence CLC Scholarship Trust Fund
PO Box A
Beaver, Pa. 15009

Submission deadline: Friday, May 21, 2021
Presentation: Winner will be notified by mail.

The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council (CLC) is one of nearly 500 state and local labor councils of the AFL-CIO and are the heart of the labor movement. Our officers and Executive Board are democratically elected. The Delegates and Alternates of our affiliates who serve on our Central Labor Council are dedicated to represent the interests of all working people at the state and local level.

We have 49 affiliated locals unions in the Beaver and Lawrence Counties of Pennsylvania. We mobilize our members and community partners to advocate for social and economic justice and we strive daily to vanquish oppression and make our communities better for all people—regardless of race, color, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or ethnic or national origin.

Our members have not only worked to help the workers in our region with many community projects but have looked toward the future. One way to help improve the lives and opportunities for anyone is through continued education. They began efforts to establish a scholarship fund at our council in early 1980's. We have awarded more than 60 scholarships to-date. We currently offer two scholarships and look forward to reading the essays every year..

We want all the students applying for our scholarships to know how proud we are of them. We congratulate you for demonstrating how determined you are to obtain the necessary funding to further your education. You have shown more initiative than most of your peers, and we wish you well.

BEAVER-LAWRENCE CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP



Chartered on March 27, 1961, the Labor Council of Beaver County, Pennsylvania, AFL-CIO began serving both its membership and the local community. After nearly 45 years as a stand-alone CLC, the AFL-CIO asked the council to expand their jurisdiction to include Lawrence County. At that time, the council formally changed their name to The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council.

Education was a major concern of leadership of this council and they began by educating their officers, delegates and the affiliated local union members. Always having an eye on the future and realizing our children are our future the leadership here decided to create a scholarship program. The program is used two-fold; the questions chosen are designed to educate the applicants about unions through their research. The scholarship offers additional funding to assist with the continued education of a dependent of an affiliated local union who wins the essay contest. This scholarship is awarded to a senior beginning their journey into the system of higher education.

DONALD E. MCNUTT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Donald E McNutt began his service to his community and nation when he enlisted in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. This veteran returned home and his passion to serve continued as he worked far into retirement. Don was a union activist and caring individual. He was a member of the International Association of Machinists Potomac Air Lodge Local 1976 for 35 years. While living in Washington County, he was inducted into the Washington County CLC Labor Hall of Fame for his many years of union service. He later moved to Beaver County.

Don understood the importance of Solidarity and Education. For many years he was on the Executive Board of the Beaver-Lawrence CLC and each month provided information on the "Union Label". Don understood that looking for the union label and the Made-In-USA label was something all members of organized labor should do. He knew this would assure we bought quality products, preserved good paying family sustaining jobs and our economy. He always discussed what union households should or should not buy. Don was also one of the founders of the "The Union Bug", a monthly newsletter that the Beaver-Lawrence CLC published.

Don McNutt was excited when we offered our first scholarship and he was a part of the decision to make sure we developed a two-fold program. In honor of his dedication and service the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council has decided to name this scholarship in his memory. This scholarship is awarded to a senior beginning their journey into the system of higher education.

Mercer County Central Labor Council

"Anna J. Rickert 2021 Memorial Scholarship"

The Mercer County Central Labor Council (MCCCLC) of PA will provide one \$1,000.00 scholarship each year to a High School Senior planning to extend his or her education at a college, university or accredited secondary school. The applicant must be the child or step child of a Union Member in good standing from one of the Mercer County, PA Central Labor Council's participating Unions. The participating Union must be in good standing with the MCCCLC at the time of application.

Those applying for the scholarship must complete the attached application and must comply with the application process. The application process is as follows:

- 1.) Applicant must fill out the attached application and submit it to the Recording Secretary along with an essay as described below by April 30th.
- 2.) The essay must be based on : **"What do you think a Union should do for its Members?"**. The essay must be typed in black or blue ink and must be double spaced on 8 ½" x 11" white paper. The essay must be at least 500 words in length and should be void of any identification.
- 3.) Applicant must request the high school guidance counselor send a letter of recommendation to the Recording Secretary of the MCCCLC. The letter should include the

applicant's grade point average, extra curricular activities, and any other pertinent information.

- 4.) Three (3) letters of recommendation from teachers, pastors, coaches, employers, etc. must be received by the Recording Secretary by the application deadline.
- 5.) All required materials must be received by the Recording Secretary no later than April 30th of each year for the applicant to be eligible.
- 6.) The President of the MCCCLC shall appoint a "Committee" of at least three (3) delegates to review all applications and conduct the screening and evaluation. It will be the responsibility of the Committee to select the winner of the Anna J. Rickert Memorial Scholarship. The recipient of the scholarship will be announced at the June meeting.
- 7.) A scholarship check will be forwarded to the college, university, or accredited secondary school in the name of the recipient. No checks will be given directly to the recipient.
- 8.) The Mercer County Central Labor Council reserves the right to adjust or to refuse to award the scholarship in any given year. The decision of the Delegates of the MCCCLC is final.
- 9.) The recipient must remain a student in good standing for a period of one (1) year, or the scholarship must be returned to the MCCCLC.

2021 Anna J. Rickert Memorial Scholarship sponsored by Mercer County PA Central Labor Council



**Mercer County, PA
Central Labor Council
Officers:**

**President - Andy Harkulich
Vice President - Lonnie McFall
Treasurer- Todd Clary
Secretary - Bob Rice**

Anna J. Rickert

2021

Memorial Scholarship



The Mercer County Central Labor Council of PA is proud to offer the Anna J. Rickert Memorial Scholarship for the 2021 school year. The purpose of the scholarship is to offer financial assistance to the sons and daughters of affiliated local union members. Anna Rickert was a strong union member who believed in and gave much of her time and energy to her union and to the union movement in general. She held many positions at her local union and at the Mercer County Central Labor Council. Anna passed away on June 3, 2015 and is greatly missed by all who knew her. One of Anna's goals was to educate our members and the public on the advantages of getting involved in and having a strong union. This scholarship is being offered as a way to honor Anna's strong belief in education. Through this scholarship, Anna's goal to educate will continue.

Send completed applications to:

Secretary Bob Rice
3950 Ivanhoe Rd
Sharpsville, PA. 16150
Ph. (724)-815-7194

Mercer County Central Labor Council

"Anna J. Rickert 2021 Memorial Scholarship"

APPLICATION

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ Date of Birth _____

(cell) _____

School currently attending _____

Date of Graduation _____ School Phone # _____

Union Member's Name _____ Local Union # _____

Union Members Address _____

Relationship to Union Member _____ Phone (union member) _____

Signature of Union Member _____

Signature of Applicant _____

This application must be signed by the President or Secretary of the Local Union verifying that the Union Member is a member in good standing of the Local Union.

UNION NAME: _____

UNION OFFICER:

Signature and title _____

PURPOSE

To foster an understanding of the Labor movement's vital contributions to this nation's economic, social and political fabric.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Tom Wagner Memorial
&
Theo Sabin Meyer Memorial:

Students who will graduate from high school in 2021 Award recipient must be accepted or registered as a full-time student in a post-secondary program. The applicant must be a union member, or a dependent child of a union member, or a grandchild residing in the home of a union member in good standing of a local union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

John "David" Dever
Memorial Scholarship:

Recipient of this scholarship must be an incoming freshman of undergraduate student in 2021 at Gannon University, who is either a member of or dependent of a member of a union affiliated with the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO and maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. All applicants shall be required to apply for all other forms of financial aid available at Gannon University.

ESSAY QUESTION

The labor movement in the United States was born in the early 20th century to protect workers from unfair and unsafe working conditions. Please describe the impact of unions and any relevant laws in one of these areas: (choose one)

- Aid to injured workers
- Living wages
- 40-hour work weeks
- Job protection
- Workplace safety
- Health benefits
- Support for retired workers

APPLICATION PROCESS

To enter please submit a 500-word essay answering the topic above. Essays must be typewritten (in Blue or Black Ink), double spaced on 8 1/2" X 11" white paper, and void of identification. Please attach the completed scholarship application form to your essay and mail to:

Erie-Crawford CLC, AFL-CIO
32 West 8th St. Suite 604
Erie, PA 16501

Essays can be emailed (if typed in MS Word) to eriecrawfordclc@aol.com but the original printed essay & application form with signatures must still be mailed for verification of union affiliation.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021

PRESENTATION:

Saturday, May 1, 2021

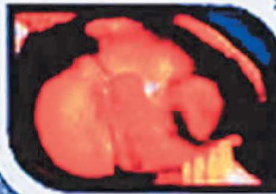
Erie-Crawford
Central Labor Council
AFL-CIO



Tom Wagner,
Theo Sabin Meyer
&

John "David" Dever
Memorial Scholarships
Application

**Tom Wagner
(1952-2010)
Memorial Scholarship,
Award-\$500**



Tom Wagner, served as President of Local 101 of the International Association of Machinists (IAM) - which is now part of IAM 1008.

Wagner, shortly after becoming a delegate to the Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council (CLC), demonstrated his willingness to advocate on behalf of all labor by serving as Erie-Crawford CLC's Corresponding Secretary. Passionate in his support of Community Service, Wagner served as that committee's Co-Chair. A "kid at heart" Wagner's favorite Community Service activities were the annual Christmas programs for children, which included the distribution of dozens of wrapped presents. Due to his college study in communications, Wagner served capably as the editor and publisher of the Erie-Crawford CLC newsletter. His hours of effort to perfect the publication (including many late nights) were not known beyond a few members of the CLC. However, his skilful writing attracted readership beyond CLC membership and helped the wider community understand the important role labor plays in the region. Wagner's death, after a short illness in March 2010, was a sad loss for the Erie-Crawford CLC and the region.

**Theo Sabin Meyer
(1890-1986)
Memorial Scholarship,
Award-\$750**



Educator Theo Sabin Meyer, after her marriage to Ludwig G. Meyer, left teaching and began organizing.

Her success in founding the Erie, PA chapter of the Women's International League, attracted the attention of leaders in the AFL and the CIO. Meyer was recruited to use her skills to advocate for

labor beyond northwestern Pennsylvania. Meyer helped coal miners organize in Aliquippa, PA, and fought for women's rights. She challenged the practice of sending children to jobs, instead of to school. She was also a spirited and courageous speaker. It is reported that she delivered remarks to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, while he led the United States through the great depression and World War II (1933-45). Meyer's 20th century efforts to champion the rights of workers, women and children inspires social justice reform today.



**John "David" Dever
(1942-1981)
Memorial Scholarship,
Award-\$500**

In 1960, after graduating from Cathedral Prep, Dever attended Gannon, then joined Fenestrat Corporation and USWA 3872. Dever's photographic memory, love of debate and commitment to labor led him to serve as a

union steward. Dever served for 12 years as USWA 3872 President before becoming Staff Representative & Organizer. Willing to collaborate with others, Dever served as delegate to both the Central Labor Union and Industrial Union Council, AFL-CIO. A member of the United Labor Leaders, Dever served on the executive board of the United Way Labor Leaders. Aware of labor's growing struggles during the latter part of the 20th century, Dever encouraged community support through public service. Leading by example, Dever served as a member of the Community Service Committee with both his local and the council organizations; he worked with the State Police of Erie and Crawford County for 27 years, served as a National Guard Reservist for 14 years and volunteered with the PA Public Interest Coalition. Dever's efforts were both pragmatic and symbolic - Dever advocated for a labor monument. Because he died at 39, Dever never saw the monument dedicated in Perry Square. Though his life was short, Dever "made a difference."

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM LEGIBLY AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR ESSAY

NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

PHONE #:

HIGH SCHOOL NAME:
HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS:

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION:

NAME OF

UNION MEMBER:

RELATIONSHIP TO

UNION MEMBER:

APPLYING FOR:

☐ JOHN-DAVID DEVER

☐ THEO SABIN MEYER

☐ TOM WAGNER

LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL'S TITLE:

LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE:

2020 Contest Winners

CATEGORY I

GRADUATING SENIORS

1st Place

MATTHEW NIEDBALA

Steamfitters Local UA 449

2nd Place

SARAH HECK

Insulators Local #2

3rd Place

KIMBERLY WILSONCROFT

UFCW 1776KS

"Almost 150 years after the first major American union was formed, unions are still an effective method of improving the lives of our workers. Union workers still get better benefits, higher wages, and work under better conditions than non-union workers."

- MATTHEW NIEDBALA

CATEGORY II

POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

1st Place

FAITH GONGAWARE

PSEA

2nd Place

JOSEPHINE PARSONS

SEIU 668

3rd Place

JACQUELINE SCOBONIA

AFSCME 462

"This dedication to continual improvement is the key to success. The exponential growth of information and the ever-changing world requires agility and adaptation in the workforce, regardless of someone's chosen path. Basic skills and knowledge aside, whoever is ready to put forth the effort is the one who is ready for success."

- FAITH GONGAWARE

2020 Scholarship Sponsors

USW Local 14693 Steamfitters Local 420

AFSCME Local 3101 IBEW Local 81

JNESO DC 1, IUOE IBEW Local 712

Allegheny Labor Council NE PA Trades Council

Education Committee Members

Jerry Jordan
Chairman
AFT

Ron Oliver
Erie CLC

Gregory Vogt
Vice Chair
IBEW

Ann Marie Ruggiero
JNESO, IUOE
District 1

Tara Wilson
Secretary
AFSCME

Catherine Scott
AFSCME

Dennis Andrews
USW

Byron Shane
ATU

Craig Bialek
CWA

Arthur Steinberg
AFT

Sylvia Hovington
UFCW

Nina Visgitis-Esposito
AFT

Rich Howell
IAM

Ronald Webb
IBEW

Jim Irwin
AFSCME

Donna Welch
APWU

Richard W. Bloomingdale
PRESIDENT

Frank Snyder
SECRETARY-TREASURER



NAME

ADDRESS

HOME PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

UNION AFFILIATION & LOCAL

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL (if known)

PLEASE STATE THE NAME & ADDRESS OF THE SCHOOL AND/OR PROGRAM YOU CURRENTLY ATTEND

☐ I agree to provide proof of school acceptance or enrollment, should I become a scholarship recipient

SIGNATURE OF CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OR LOCAL UNION

2021 ESSAY QUESTIONS

CATEGORY I

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

COVID-19 and Unions: A Historical

Perspective

One of the primary purposes of unions throughout history has been to defend workers' rights, health, and safety. How has the presence of unions manifested throughout the pandemic? Health benefits, hazard pay, sick pay/leave, PPE, etc.

CATEGORY II

ALL POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

Government and Unions: Effects from COVID-19

The Labor Movement has been responsible and contributed to creating many government agencies and worker-friendly legislation, such as OSHA, FMLA, and overtime provisions. How were these and other protections tested and vital to the well-being of the country throughout the pandemic?

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

FIRST PLACE	\$2,000
SECOND PLACE	\$1,000
THIRD PLACE	\$500

WHAT IS THE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST?

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Scholarship Essay Contest is a chance for students to learn more about the importance of Organized Labor in America. For over a decade, we have awarded thousands of dollars to students furthering their education.

Scholarships are available exclusively to Pennsylvania AFL-CIO affiliated union members and their families.

Scholarships are offered to students in two categories: graduating high school seniors (Class of 2021), and all post-secondary students.

HOW TO APPLY

- Essays must be a minimum of 1,500 words on the topic in your respective category. Essays less than 1,500 words will be disqualified.
- Essays must be typed and neatly prepared.
- Titles must be kept as they are on the brochure.
- Entries must be formatted as a PDF file and emailed to president@paafcio.org.
- Your application form must be included in essay PDF file, or attached to your email as a separate PDF.
- Entries must be emailed by February 28, 2021.
- A PDF version of this brochure is available online at paafcio.org.

President Biden's Executive Orders

Below you will find an updated list of links to each of the Executive Orders signed by President Biden to date. (Source: [whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)). Included are links to AFL-CIO statements issued in response.

Executive Order on Protecting Worker Health and Safety

- [**Biden's Executive Order on Emergency Safety Protections Will Save Lives**](#)
- [**Twitter Statement**](#)

Executive Order on Ensuring the Future Is Made in All of America by All of America's Workers

- [**Biden's 'Buy American' Executive Order Will Boost Economy**](#)
- [**Twitter Statement**](#)

Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

- [**Family-Supporting Union Jobs Major Component of Biden's Climate Actions**](#)
- [**Twitter Statement**](#)

Executive Order on the Revision of Civil Immigration Enforcement Policies and Priorities

- [**Fixing the Systems that Have Failed Working Families**](#)

Executive Order on Protecting the Federal Workforce

Executive Order on Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers

Executive Order on Reforming Our Incarceration System to Eliminate the Use of Privately Operated Criminal Detention Facilities

Memorandum Condemning and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States

Proclamation on the Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Non-Immigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting Coronavirus Disease

Executive Order on Enabling All Qualified Americans to Serve Their Country in Uniform

Executive Order on Economic Relief Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Executive Order on Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats

Executive Order on Improving and Expanding Access to Care and Treatments for COVID-19

Executive Order on Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel

Preserving and Fortifying Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Executive Order on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery

Executive Order on a Sustainable Public Health Supply Chain

Memorandum to Extend Federal Support to Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 and to Increase Reimbursement and Other Assistance Provided to States

Executive Order on Ensuring a Data-Driven Response to COVID-19 and Future High-Consequence Public Health Threats

Executive Order on the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology

Reinstating Deferred Enforced Departure for Liberians

Proclamation on the Termination Of Emergency With Respect To The Southern Border Of The United States And Redirection Of Funds Diverted To Border Wall Construction

Executive Order on Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Personnel

Modernizing Regulatory Review

Executive Order on Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation

Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis

Executive Order on Ensuring a Lawful and Accurate Enumeration and Apportionment Pursuant to the Decennial Census

Executive Order on Revocation of Certain Executive Orders Concerning Federal Regulation

Executive Order on Organizing and Mobilizing the United States Government to Provide a Unified and Effective Response to Combat COVID-19 and to Provide United States Leadership on Global Health and Security

Executive Order on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing

Proclamation on Ending Discriminatory Bans on Entry to The United States

Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

Regulatory Freeze Pending Review

A National Day of Unity

NWPA AREA LABOR FEDERATION OFFICERS

Chair	Andrew	Harkulich
S_T	Philip	Lasky
V-chair	Gary	Bittner
V-chair	Julie	Barnett
V-chair	J David	Henderson
v-chair	Richard	Galiano
V-chair/Trustee	Frank	Telesz
Rep -GMP/trustee	Anthony	Modaffare

Rep -WCLC/Trustee Walter (Pat) Geiger

Executive Board Members

Rep AFSCME	Shane	Clark
Rep APSCUF	Andrea	Wyman
Rep ATU	Pattie	Demichele
Rep HFAIW	James	Cassidy
Rep IBEW	Jim	Nuber
Rep IUOE	Rich	Barrett
Rep IUPAT	Giles	Grinko
Rep OPEIU	Jeffrey	Hapke
Rep PA JBWU	Linda	Gomaa
Rep PSEA	Mike	Kalpich
Rep Roofers	Jack	Lee Jr.
Rep SEIU	Mike	Butler
Rep UA	Dennis	Pry
Rep UBC/ M CLC	Lonnie	Mcfall
Rep UFCW	Daryl	Busch
Rep USW	Paul	Pelc
Rep B&CTC	Darrell	Niemenski
Rep B CLC Rep	Jim	Saeler
Rep B-L CLC	Kerrienne	Theuerl
Rep CECJ CLC	Jeff	Miller
Rep EC CLC	Rosanne	Gangemi
Rep I-A CLC	Jerry	Shull
Rep W_F CLC	Archie	Graham
Rep V-C	C.J. Pete	Kluck
EMPLOYEE		
Director	Rosann	Barker

The AFL-CIO offers training to our CLC's and leaders, we hope you will take advantage of this training.

AFL-CIO DIGITAL TRAINING SCHEDULE

UnionHall Training

The AFL-CIO uses UnionHall, a powerful website-building tool, for state and local organizations. Please RSVP for the training below that you wish to attend. After you RSVP for a training, you will receive an auto thank you email with login information, A reminder email will be sent on the day of the training.

UnionHall Webinar Training:

Feb. 11th, 1 p.m. Eastern Time:

[Click here to register](#)

UnionHall Training Videos:

- Full UnionHall training (1:29:44)
- You've got your login email, what do you do now? (12:25)
- Logging In and Creating New Admins (2:48)
- Article Creation (25:51)
- Adding Articles and Featured Content (17:31)
- Social Properties (4:47)
- Updating the "About Us" Section and Officers Bios (8:46)
- The Event Calendar (5:15)
- The Menu Bar (15:39)
- Creating Actions (11:15)

Action Network E-Activist Training:

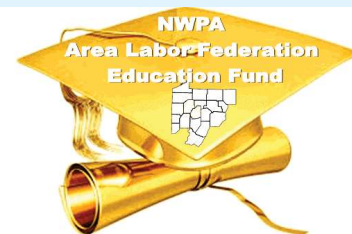
- Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Eastern Time:
[Click here to RSVP](#)
- March 2nd, 3 p.m. Eastern Time:
[Click here to RSVP](#)

Webinars for Union Leaders

The AFL-CIO hosts occasional webinars to train new union officers and designees.

New Officer Training:

- Feb. 9th, 3 p.m. Eastern Time:
[Click here to RSVP](#)
- Feb. 10th, 11 a.m. Eastern Time:
[Click here to RSVP](#)



Education Classes in NWPA ALF

We will be holding the following classes **via ZOOM**, with the assistance of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services (FMCS) commissioners who will teach them.

Stewards Training -

March 10th from 5-8 PM

Labor Law -

March 24th from 5-8 PM, and

Effective

Communications - April 14th from 5-8 PM,

We want to thank Tim McNamara our regional FMCS Commissioner for coordinating these classes.

Internal Organizing

Charles Handel Lundy from the AFL-CIO Organizing Department is working to coordination an Internal Organizing class for our CLCs and another Internal Organizing Class for our affiliates.

Our goal is to hold both classes via ZOOM during the months of February or March. These classes will require the assistance of many individuals with busy schedules and that is why at this time we DO NOT have the schedule set. We will keep you informed as soon as possible.

