



LABOR COUNCIL OFFICERS

- **President:**
Richard Galiano
- **Ex. Vice President:**
Dan Onuska
- **Recording Secretary:**
Lisa Alexander
- **Secretary-Treasurer:**
Eric Martin
- **Vice Presidents:**
 - John Howard Thompson
 - Bernie Hall
 - Linwood Alford
 - Mark Benkart
 - Kerri Theuerl
- **Trustees:**
 - Jan Carpenter
 - Laurie Fisher
 - Rev. Kevin Lee
 - Jody Kohser
 - Alicia Craig
 - Sara Dudash
 - Tom Flook

“PAYCHECK PROTECTION” DEFEATED IN PA. STATE HOUSE; JANUS V. AFSCME THREAT LOOMS

By Christine Kuzma
Western Beaver Education
Association, retired

Pennsylvania Senate Bill 166, the so called “Paycheck Protection” bill, was defeated by a vote of 102-90 in the State House of Representatives on December 12th. The bill would have prohibited public sector employers from deducting political contributions authorized by union members from their paychecks.

Unfortunately, public sector unions in Pennsylvania and throughout the nation now face a greater threat in the form of the US. Supreme Court case of JANUS V. AFSCME.

Mark Janus, who works as a child support specialist at the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, contends that mandatory payroll deductions of service related fees violate his First Amendment rights.

At present, he is required to pay previously negotiated “fair share fees” that cover the expenses of the union that represents the workers employed by his agency to negotiate wages, benefits, and working

“this fight isn’t about fairness or common sense. It’s about anti-union forces trying to silence working class voices like ours.”

conditions. The union is obligated by law to represent all employees in his agency, even those who do not pay union dues.

The heart of the matter, Janus and his backers contend, is that

because all public-sector employees are government workers, the contracts that they negotiate affect the allocation of public resources and tax dollars, and therefore all public-sector union activities are inherently political.

In 1977, in the case of ABOOD V. DETROIT BOARD OF EDUCATION, the U.S. Supreme Court made a distinction between two kinds of mandatory payments. It ruled workers need not pay for the political activities of unions and determined that it would promote peaceful labor relations to permit a union and an employer to conclude an agreement requiring employees who obtain the benefit of union representation to share its cost. Thus the “fair share” fee to prevent free-loading.

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2018-2019 Executive Board Elected And Installed

The following were elected and installed at the December delegates meeting for the positions next to their names. They will serve two-year terms until the next Executive Board elections in December, 2019.

President –

Rick Galiano, USW

Executive Vice President –

Dan Onuska – IBEW

Recording Secretary –

Lisa Alexander, AFSCME

Secretary-Treasurer –

Eric Martin - IUOE

Vice Presidents - (5 to be elected)

1. Howard Thompson, AFSCME
2. Kerri Theuerl, SEIU
3. Mark Benkart, IBEW
4. Linwood Alford, LIUNA
5. Bernie Hall, USW

Trustees – (7 to be elected)

1. Laurie Fisher, AFSCME
2. Alicia Craig, AFSCME
3. Sara Dudash, SEIU
4. Jody Kohser, SEIU
5. Jan Carpenter, SEIU
6. Tom Flook, IUPAT
7. Rev. Kevin Lee, IBEW

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The opinions expressed in Union Bug articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council or its officers.

President's Report

By Rick Galiano
Labor Council President

*Thank you to all union members and friends of the Labor Movement who contacted their state representatives and urged them to vote against Senate Bill 166, the so-called "Paycheck Protection" bill. All state representatives with districts including parts of Beaver and Lawrence Counties voted against the bill, excepting Aaron Bernstein (R-10), Jim Christiana (R-14) and Park Wentling (R-17). According to Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomindale, who attended and spoke at our December Labor Council meeting, the bill has been sent back to committee while the Republican House leadership attempts to change the votes of those Republican representatives who voted against the bill, including Beaver County representative Jim Marshall (R-14).

*Michael Cicconi was sworn in as a Labor Council delegate representing IAMAW Lodge 1976 at the December Council meeting. Mike serves as Lodge 1976's legislative chairperson.

*Congratulations to the Labor Council Executive Board members elected and installed at the December Labor Council meeting. Forty-nine union organizations were affiliated to the Labor Council as of December and eligible to appoint the Council delegated who elected the Executive Board. The 49 organizations are as follows:

- AFSCME 248
- AFSCME 1483
- AFSCME 1816
- AFSCME 2105
- AFSCME 2353
- AFSCME 2367
- AFSCME 2602
- AFSCME 2902
- AFT 3975
- AWIU 2
- BAC 9
- CWA 13000
- IAFF 160
- IAFF 3539
- IAM 1976
- IBB 173
- IBB 154
- IBEW 29
- IBEW 201
- IBEW 272
- IBEW 459
- IBEW 712
- IBT 205
- IBT 261

- IRON 3
- IUOE 66
- IUPAT 530
- LIUNA 833
- LIUNA 964
- NALC 84
- OPCMIA 31
- OPEIU 277
- ROOFERS 37
- SEIU HC PA
- SEIU 668
- SMART 12
- TWU 2035
- UA 449
- UBC 268
- UBC 922
- UFCW 23
- USW 256L
- USW 623
- USW 1211
- USW 1212
- USW 8183
- USW 9305
- BEAVER CO. BUILDING TRADES
- LAWRENCE CO. BUILDING TRADES

*Best wishes to Nick Johanningmeir as he begins his new job as an organizer with IAMAW District 98. The Labor Council will miss his service to

Continued on page 4



Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomindale (front, right) administering oath of office to newly elected officers at December Labor Council meeting. Front row, L-R: Sara Dudash, Laurie Fisher, Mark Benkart, Rick Galiano, Dan Onuska, Lisa Alexander, Howard Thompson, Tom Flock and Rev. Kevin Lee. Back row, L-R: Linwood Alford, Alicia Craig, Jodi Kohser, Jan Carpenter, Kerri Theuerl and Bernie Hall. President Bloomindale also reported to the Labor Council on the legislative issues confronting the Labor Movement in 2018.

“Paycheck Protection” Defeated; Janus Decision Imminent

Continued from page 1

Dolores McCracken, president of the Pennsylvania State Education Association issued the following statement related to the JANUS case: “It’s called fair share because common sense tells you it’s basic fairness to be able to collect fees for services unions provide. But this fight isn’t about fairness or common sense. It’s about anti-union forces trying to silence working class voices like ours.”

So who are the people who are trying to silence our voices? In the case of JANUS V. AFSCME the plaintiff is backed and bankrolled by the National Right-To-Work Foundation and the Liberty Justice Center, which are part of a larger Koch brother-backed network. This network includes The Fairness Center, the Mackinac Center of Public

Policy, the Commonwealth Foundation, the State Policy Network, the Madison Group, the Alabama Policy Institute, the Heritage Foundation, and the South Carolina Policy Council, to name a few; all funded or have ties to the Koch brothers.

So how does that affect you? Basically, it means significantly lower wages, fewer benefits, including health insurance and retirement, and less say in policy. Stronger unions equate to a stronger middle class but the greed in Washington does not want that and is doing everything it can to weaken the middle class to its own profit.

To add further insult to injury, on December 7, 2017, Neal Francisco, the Trump administration’s Solicitor General, reversed the Obama administration’s support of the ABOOD decision and filed an amicus brief in

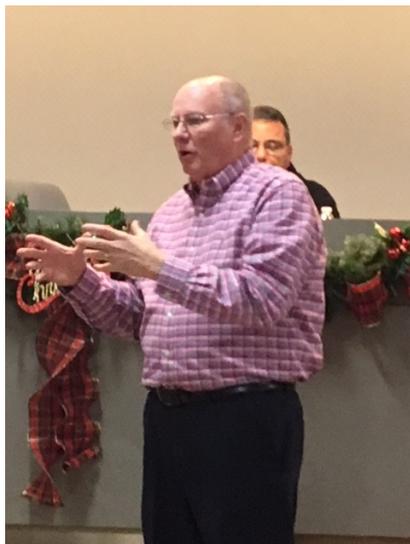
support of Janus and his backers. Francisco issued a statement saying, “The government’s previous briefs gave insufficient weight to the First Amendment interest of public employees in declining to fund speech on contested matters of public policy.”

It is expected that JANUS V. AFSCME oral arguments will be made this month and the Supreme Court will issue a decision by April, but no later than June 2018. With the appointment of conservative judge Neil Gorsuch, it is expected that the Court will rule in favor of Janus, thus weakening public sector unions by making it harder to compel workers to join and pay union dues.

What can you do to help? Support your unions, run for office, and use your voice and vote to overcome those that would silence you.

President’s Report

Continued from page 3



Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomindale addressing December Labor Council meeting.

the Labor Movement in Beaver and Lawrence Counties as an NWALF staff representative. We hope that Nick will have time to attend our meetings and events in the future. Good luck Nick.

*The food and refreshments for the December Christmas Labor Council meeting were provided by the Labor Council.



Michael Cicconi, IAM Local 1976 (l), being administered new delegate oath of office by Labor Council President Rick Galiano. Mike is Local 1976’s legislative chairman. Looking on is Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomindale.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Chairman

Another year is upon us. December was the time to be with our friends and family.

** On Christmas day, the Beaver Falls Christian Assembly put on its 24th Christmas dinner, toy, and clothing give away. They fed more than 1100 people. The menu consisted of ham, kielbasa, sweet and white potatoes, green beans, rolls, salad, and of course, many wonderful desserts.

ciated by the attendees because some of them would not be able to afford the wonderful meal, let alone the toys and clothing.

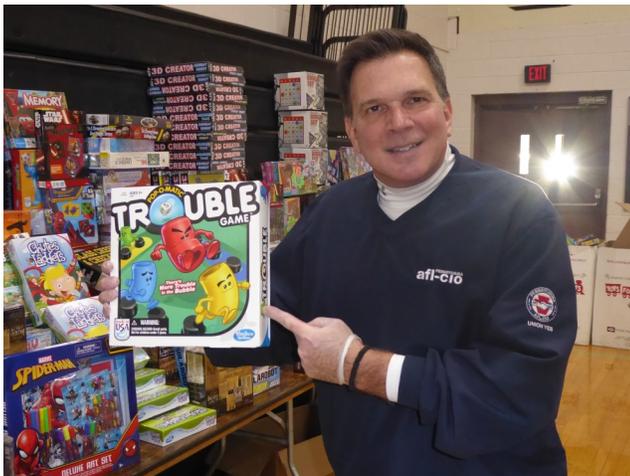
Once again the Labor Council participated with many volunteers helping out. A special thank you to

Vice-President Kerri Theuerl for her help in running the dessert section. Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder, a former Labor Council officer, participated by serving ice cream.

crats and Peace Links, have some activities planned for 2018. If you are interested and would like to learn more and participate, we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM, at IBEW Local 712 Union Hall. You also can call me, Mark Benkart, at 724-312-4387 or e-mail me at: benkart-house100@comcast.net. Also, please visit our Facebook page at moralmonday-pennsylvania.



Labor Council Vice-President Linwood Alford, dressed up as Santa Claus, with WTAE cameraman.



Pa. AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder helped distribute toys.

The Assembly prepares for this event all year. They receive toys from many groups and individuals, including department stores and the Marines Toys for Tots program.

Each child attending the dinner is permitted to pick four toys. This is appre-

** Moral Mondays of Pennsylvania, a coalition consisting of Labor, Beaver County NAACP, Southwest PA Chapter NOW, Progressive Demo-



Donated toys.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



We're on the Web:
pa.aflcio.org/349

Calendar of Events

- 01/14 14 Dr. Martin Luther King Dream & Birthday Celebration; VFW Banquet Hall, 5:00 PM, 179 Virginia Ave., Rochester, Pa. 15074
- 01/15 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; IBEW 712, Vanport.
- 02/13 Moral Mondays meeting: 7:00 PM; IBEW 712 Hall, Vanport.
- 02/20 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; PSEA Bldg., New Castle.
- 03/23 Beaver-Lawrence CLC Scholarship application deadline. See application form attached at the end of this issue of the Union Bug.

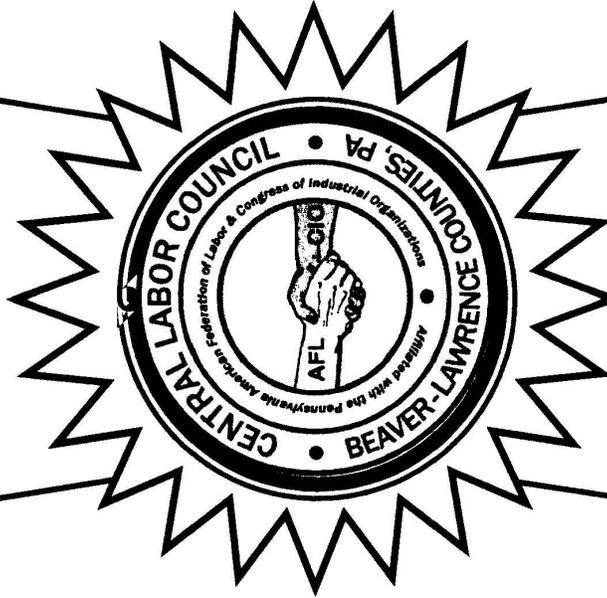
THANKS NICK



Nick Johannmeir, NWALF staff representative, announcing at December Labor Council meeting that he has accepted an organizer position with IAMAW District 98. Nick began working with the NWALF in January, 2014, and will begin working for District 98 on January 2nd. He is a former member of USW Local 9305. He was given a round of applause from the delegates in attendance for his excellent service to the Council.

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on February 9th to be considered for publication in the February 2018 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.

**BEAVER-LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL
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 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 2018. 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 8½" 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, March 23, 2018
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 75 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.