



SOLIDARITY NEWS

Communications Workers of America Local 7019

CWA LOCAL 7019 LOUD AND PROUD

www.CWA7019.org

1615 N. 36th St., Phoenix AZ 85008

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HOURS: 7am -4pm Closed for lunch 12-1pm



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April 28, 2012 Workers Memorial Day

Workers' Memorial Day, a day set aside by the nations' unions to draw attention to the occupational health and safety of workers in the US. The first **Workers' Memorial Day** was observed in 1989.

April 28th was chosen because it is the anniversary of the formation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Every year, people in hundreds of communities and at worksites commemorate **Workers' Memorial Day** as an International Day of Mourning.

CenturyLink Bargaining 2012

It is upon us! Time to shake off the dust from our four year slumber and start to mobilize. This year's contract will be a very important one, and we need the strength and cooperation of every member to send a message to CenturyLink that **WE ARE UNITED!!** By the end of February, a pamphlet will be distributed to every member containing a preparedness checklist. Also, there will be activities and events scheduled in the coming months to raise awareness and bring us closer together as a Union family. If you would like to get involved in these events or share your event ideas, come to a Mobilization Meeting! The next one is scheduled for February 16th, at 6pm at the CWA Union Hall.

Top 10 Reasons to Take Action!

- 10) To show our children we really can change the world, or at least our part of it.
- 9) To remind corporations and elected officials that ordinary people do make a difference.
- 8) Because it's my contract and my standard of living.
- 7) Because it's my Medicare and Social Security.
- 6) Because it's my country too.
- 5) To build a movement to preserve democracy.
- 4) To keep good jobs in my community.
- 3) To get corporations and the wealthy to pay their fair share.
- 2) Because nothing changes if I just sit at home.
- 1) They can't ignore all of us.

Find something that matters to you and do it.



MALF SCHOLARSHIPS

MALF (Maricopa Area Labor Federation) is sponsoring scholarships for High School and College Dependents of Union Members. There will be an application on the website for those students interested in applying. The requirement will be to have the student write an ESSAY of at least 1000 thousand words on a topic that relates to the Labor Movement.

This year the topic will be

"HOW DO WE IMPROVE THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF UNIONS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT YOUNG WORKERS?"

More information will be posted to the CWA Website and E-blasted to our Membership. Scholarship Awards will be awarded up to \$1000.

This is a great opportunity for students to get a little extra cash to put towards their books, lap tops, and other materials for their education. High Schools in Maricopa County have been contacted to get the word out that this money is there.

Applications will have to be in by April 30, 2012. Selections will be made and awarded in May 2012.

2012 Area Rep Elections

2012 is an election year for Area Reps of CWA Local 7019.

Members wishing to run should read the Local 7019 By-Laws (available for downloading from www.cwa7019.org) and familiarize themselves with the duties and responsibilities for the position.

Interested persons should also familiarize themselves with the By-Law requirements for nomination, campaigning and election procedures.

Every active member has a right to run for office. CWA Local 7019 has remained strong due to the involvement of its members who have served as Area Reps in the past and will remain strong through the dedication of those who will serve in the future.

Area Representatives are an integral part of the steward structure within each Unit. They work with the AVP in appointing stewards, coordinating the first step of the grievance process, and are responsible for administration of all union affairs in their area.

No greater right do we possess than to run for office or to vote.

Arizona AFL-CIO 2012 Lobby Day

When: Thursday, February 23

Time: 9am – 10am

Where: Arizona State Capital

Description: Join us for training and lobbying at the Arizona State Capitol.

Last year's Lobby Day proved to be a great experience for Union members across the city.

Come by this year to meet and talk to your State Legislators !



Valley Metro - Possible Work Stoppage

From Associated Press

Amalgamated Transit Union, representing about 1,000 bus drivers in Phoenix and Tempe, say a strike is likely in February unless the contractor, Veolia Transportation Services, agrees to changes.

The Arizona Republic reports that metro Phoenix has been at this point several times in the past two years in which threats of a work stoppage loomed during contentious talks between the union and its employer, Veolia Transportation Services.

Union leaders say it's not an empty threat.

The company has been unable to reach an agreement with bus drivers from both cities.

The two sides have been fighting over wage and benefit terms, such as sick-leave accrual, retirement benefits and health care coverage.

Both sides have said they are willing to keep bargaining, but meeting dates haven't been set.

New AFL-CIO Campaign Highlights How 'Work Connects Us All'

From AFL-CIO.org

Viewers in Austin, Texas, and Pittsburgh are getting the first public look at a new AFL-CIO television spot, "Work Connects Us All: America's Unions."

The evocative ad features members of many unions, from virtually every industry, and is part of a broad campaign that aims to "fly above the tactics and controversies of the day" and connects with people around the values associated with work, according to AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler.

Rounding out the campaign's features are social media and online ads, and a dynamic, interactive website, www.WorkConnectsUsAll.org.

The campaign emerges along with an expanding national awareness of the divide between the 99 percent and the economically privileged, and the recognition that the middle class is declining. Efforts in some states to take away rights of working people to come together in unions have given rise to a growing recognition of the bonds shared by working people.

Key lines from the TV spot, which is airing in English and Spanish, include:

And as work changes, we change with it. Work doesn't separate; it's what binds us together. I teach your kid, you fix my car, he builds my city, she keeps it safe...work connects us all.



About the Communications Workers of America

CWA, the largest telecommunications union in the world, represents over 700,000 men and women in both private and public sectors, including over half a million workers who are building the Information Highway.

CWA members work in telecommunications, broadcasting, cable TV, journalism, publishing, manufacturing, airlines, customer service, government service, health care, education and other fields.

The union includes some 1,200 chartered local unions across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Members live in approximately 10,000 communities, making CWA one of the most geographically diverse unions.

CWA holds over 2,000 collective bargaining agreements spelling out wages, benefits, working conditions and employment security provisions for its members. Among major employers of CWA members are AT&T, Verizon, and other telecom companies; General Electric; the New York Times and Wall Street Journal; NBC and ABC television networks; the Canadian Broadcasting Co.; United, US Airways and other airlines; the University of California system, the state of New Jersey and various law enforcement agencies.

CWA's top officers are President Larry Cohen, Secretary-Treasurer Jeff Rechenbach and Executive Vice President Annie Hill.

CWA was founded in 1938 at meetings in Chicago and New Orleans. First known as the National Federation of Telephone Workers, the union became the Communications Workers of America in 1947.

CWA got its start in the telephone industry, but today it represents workers in all areas of communications, as well as in health care and public service, customer service and many other fields.

CWA is one of America's fastest growing unions and a number of unions have affiliated with CWA because of its reputation for democracy and membership involvement.

- The Association of Flight Attendants merged with CWA in 2003, adding its professionalism and expertise on airline industry issues (CWA has represented airline passenger service employees since 1999).
- The International Union of Electronic Workers merged with CWA in 2000, becoming the IUE-CWA Industrial Division.
- The Newspaper Guild merged with CWA in 1997, as did the Independent Association of Publishers' Employees.
- The National Association of Broadcast Employees and Technicians (NABET) merged with CWA in 1994.
- The International Typographical Union, America's oldest labor union, merged with CWA in 1987.

CWA is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, the Canadian Labour Congress, the worldwide UNI Global Union, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the International Transport Workers Federation (ITWF), and the International Metalworkers' Federation IMF).

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