

# FederationNews

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR • ISSUE 3 • 2018



## New Leadership at the Chicago Federation of Labor

Delegates elect the President and Secretary-Treasurer



**CONTENTS**

**4 Affiliate News**

**6 Cover Story**  
*New Wave of Leadership at the Chicago Federation of Labor*

**8 Feature Stories**

**10 CFL News**



### Union Pride

UNITE HERE Local 1 President Karen Kent (second from left) brought CFL President Bob Reiter (fourth from left) and CFL Secretary-Treasurer Don Villar (far right) behind the scenes at the Marriott Marquis Hotel at McCormick Place to meet members of Local 1.

### President's Report



On Tuesday, May 1, the Chicago Federation of Labor delegates elected me the 19th President of this outstanding organization. I am proud and humbled to serve in this prestigious position, having served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the CFL for the last eight years.

When I look back on the CFL's leadership, I believe the most formative leader was John Fitzpatrick. In the early years, CFL Presidents were elected every six months, causing constant instability within the organization. It was Fitzpatrick's election in 1906 that provided much needed balance. Fitzpatrick and Edward Nockels, who served as Secretary-Treasurer, realized that Labor needed a more powerful political voice. They built a platform on equal rights for women, an inheritance tax, a graduated income tax, a tax on corporate profit, national health insurance and the right to bargain collectively. They also oversaw the massive steel and meatpacking organizing drives, and supported efforts to organize teachers and clerical workers. In an

**CONNECT**

 **FACEBOOK**  
CHICAGOFEDERATION  
OFLABOR

 **TWITTER**  
@CHICAGOAFCLCIO

 **TWITTER**  
@PROUDUNIONHOME

 **YOUTUBE**  
WEAREONECHICAGO





PHOTO CREDIT: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

effort to combat what they called “a bought and purchased press,” the two established a weekly newspaper in 1919, called “The New Majority,” and a radio station in 1926, WFCL, that was broadcast in various languages. Fitzpatrick was a progressive within the movement, pushing the envelope in name of workers rights. I hope that I am able to live up to the standards set by Fitzpatrick more than 100 years ago.

Throughout my life, I am lucky and honored to have had great mentors guiding me along the way. My parents taught me the values of solidarity and social justice while I was growing up. Jim Sweeney, IUOE Local 150’s President-Business Manager, taught me about being a trade unionist while I was working for Local 150. Several of our Board members helped me focus my priorities while I was Secretary-Treasurer and taught me to keep the labor movement in the forefront of everything that I do. I am eternally grateful for their guidance and friendship and will use all of these experiences as the driving force

behind my term as President of the CFL.

Since its inception in 1896, the CFL and the labor movement as a whole continue to evolve and mature to meet the needs of working families. In fact, Chicago is one of the strongest union cities in America. From airline pilots to zookeepers, and everything in between, Chicago unions are comprised of the hardest working people anywhere. Over the last few years, we have seen this movement go through various highs and lows. However, it isn’t over as we continue to battle a U.S. President and Illinois Governor who seek to destroy this movement.

I am always inspired when I meet with and talk to union members. In May, I attended the United Way of Metro Chicago’s annual celebration, where IBEW Local 134 and CFL President Emeritus Jorge Ramirez were honored for their contributions to the community. (Read more on page 4) When the event ended, UNITE HERE Local 1 President Karen Kent brought CFL Secretary-Treasurer Don Villar and me to the back of

house to meet with the women and men who prepared and served the meal. (See photo above) It gave us an opportunity to thank them for the work that they do and also to see the trained and dedicated workforce it takes to put on a luncheon for hundreds of guests.

The labor movement was built on the ideal that a strong and empowered workforce brings about strong and empowered communities. It’s the idea that a stronger middle class is wholly inclusive, not intrinsically exclusive. There is so much good that comes out of the labor movement here in Cook County and being part of it means being part of something that is bigger than any individual person. Thank you for continuing to champion our workforce development programs, giving more families the safety and security they need to succeed and bring about change in their communities.

**BOB REITER**  
PRESIDENT



## Editorial Staff at Chicago Tribune and Affiliated Suburban Newspapers join Chicago News Guild

Throughout its 171 years, the Chicago Tribune, which used to bill itself as the “World’s Greatest Newspaper,” has been a stronghold of anti-union sentiment on its editorial page and in its business practices. Its reporters and editors were never part of a collective bargaining agreement.

But in April, the editorial staffs at the Trib and its suburban papers announced their intention to organize with The NewsGuild-CWA and to join its local, the Chicago News Guild. Organizers reported that more than 85 percent of 280 potential members signed cards authorizing union representation.

With such strong internal support, the Tribune workers quickly notched their first win. In May, Tronc Inc., the owner of the Tribune and other leading U.S. newspapers, formally recognized their employees’ union membership. Tronc’s decision

meant there was no need to schedule an election to certify that the employees wanted a union.

It was a rare concession by a private employer. In most organizing drives, companies opt to schedule a federally run election and use the delay to mount an anti-union campaign. The Tribune workers can skip that and have moved on to requesting information from the company that’s necessary for collective bargaining. They hope to begin negotiations soon.

Organizing drives have been happening at media outlets around the country. Journalists, alarmed by steady layoffs, have embraced unions to strengthen their voice in the workplace and protect wages, benefits and job security. Many also are speaking out against corporate owners who are too willing to sacrifice core newsgathering in pursuit of short-term profits. Tribune staff became interested in the Guild after editorial employees at the Los Angeles Times, another newspaper with a long anti-union history, announced plans to unionize.

## NALC Branch 11 President Named National Trustee

In May, National Association of Letter Carriers President Fredric Rolando appointed NALC Branch 11 President Mack Julion a national trustee. Julion joined the Postal Service as a Letter Carrier in 1997. He became a Steward in 2001 and was elected Sergeant-at-Arms and Auditor of Branch 11 in 2005. He graduated from Leadership Academy’s Class 2 in 2006. In 2008, then-NALC President William H. Young appointed Julion to the post of Regional Administrative Assistant for Region 3 (Illinois). The next year, Branch 11 elected Julion President. He was elected to a four-year term on the CFL Executive Board in 2014 and was re-elected in 2018.

## IBEW Local 134, CFL President Emeritus Honored at United Way Celebration

Labor’s longtime partnership with United Way of Metro Chicago

was recognized through United Way’s annual celebration, which honored IBEW Local 134 and CFL President Emeritus Jorge Ramirez.

IBEW Local 134 was awarded the Leo Perlis Labor Partnership award, recognizing the special impact of Local 134 within the Chicago community. Local 134 recently opened the Terrance P. Allen Community Center at their new campus in Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood as a space where Bronzeville-area schools and community groups can host programs and enjoy free gym time. Local 134 is also a strong partner in the Access United program, helping to support three Access United candidates who are now working as trainees with the union, and are on track to become apprentices.

The UWMC presented CFL President Emeritus Jorge Ramirez with the Community Leadership Award, which he accepted on behalf of the entire Chicago Labor Community. President Ramirez emphasized the work Greater Chicago labor unions are doing to bring about change in their communities, including Access United and the CFL Workforce and Community



PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

MACK JULION, PRESIDENT OF NALC BRANCH 11, PICTURED HERE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THE ANNUAL NALC FOOD DRIVE. JULION WAS APPOINTED A NATIONAL TRUSTEE FOR NALC IN MAY.



PHOTO: IBEW LOCAL 134

HUNDREDS GATHER FOR THE GRAND OPENING OF IBEW LOCAL 134’S NEW CAMPUS IN CHICAGO’S BRONZEVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD.



Initiative. Greater Chicago labor unions have helped support and uplift communities by sponsoring programs like the United Way's United For the Holidays program, and through annual giving to United Way to support their work fighting for Greater Chicago communities.

## President of Plumbers Local 130 Honored with James Connolly Award

On Monday, May 21, the Irish American Labor Council held its annual James Connolly Dinner at IUOE Local 150 in Countryside. This year's James Connolly Awards were presented to James Coyne, President of Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 130 UA. Coyne became President of Plumbers Local 130 and a CFL board member in 2013. The Labor Council also presented the award posthumously to James McHugh of McHugh Construction.

James Connolly was a labor organizer and champion for the working class. He formed the Irish Citizens Army that gave protection to striking workers. He helped found the Socialist Labour Party in Great Britain and the Irish Foundation in New York. In 1916, James Connolly was executed by the British government for helping to plan the Easter Rising.

## Exclusive Offer from the Chicago Sun-Times

A year ago, the Chicago Federation of Labor along with a few of its affiliated unions and other like-minded folks came together to save the Chicago Sun-Times. The motivation was to protect journalism as an institution and the important jobs they represent, and to make sure working people had a voice they could trust that would tell the stories of Chicago. As the hardest-working paper in America, it's a perfect partnership of shared values. There has never been a better version of the Sun-Times than what they are producing today.

Over the last few months, the team at the Sun-Times worked hard to make dramatic improvements to its digital products to keep readers up to speed on the news of the day while on-the-go. For a limited time, you can subscribe to three of the Sun-Times' most popular digital products at one deeply discounted price – \$5.50/month or \$60/year.

VISIT [SUNTIMES.COM/LABOR-OFFER](http://SUNTIMES.COM/LABOR-OFFER) TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS AMAZING VALUE – EXCLUSIVE TO FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR.



**THE HARDEST-  
WORKING PEOPLE  
IN AMERICA  
DESERVE THE  
HARDEST-WORKING  
PAPER IN AMERICA**

**CHICAGO SUN-TIMES**  
*The Hardest-Working Paper in America*

## Submit your stories

Unions and their members are doing great work throughout our communities, and we want to hear about it.

Email your stories (200 words or less) and high-resolution photos (300 dpi or greater) to [info@chicagolabor.org](mailto:info@chicagolabor.org).

The CFL reserves the right to edit stories for content and space allowance.

## Rest In Peace

### Lula Bronson (SEIU Healthcare)

Lula Bronson, former Vice President of the Service Employees International Union Local 880, who played a key leadership role in organizing tens of thousands of homecare, childcare, and health care workers in Chicago and nationally, passed away peacefully in her home on the West Side of Chicago on April 12.

Bronson served in many capacities within the union over her 20+ years, including an organizer, steward, a Board member, an officer, and finally rising to Vice President.

Bronson was also a fighter for justice in her community. In the 1980s when the city of Chicago was trying to force her and her family out of public housing on the west side to make way for the new United Center, she organized with her neighbors. She won relocation assistance and funding to buy a home on the West Side for herself and her family.





# New Wave of Leadership at the Chicago Federation of Labor

Every four years, the delegates to the Chicago Federation of Labor elect leaders to unify the movement across Cook County. On Tuesday, May 1, the delegates elected Robert G. Reiter, Jr. their 19th President. Reiter served as the Secretary-Treasurer of the CFL since July 2010 under outgoing President Jorge Ramirez. Don V. Villar was elected Secretary-Treasurer. Both were installed into their elected positions by the CFL Executive Board on May 8.

“I am honored and humbled to be elected President by the delegates of the CFL,” said Reiter. “These are turbulent times for labor, but Chicago is the hometown of the American labor movement. I believe that while each union has its own unique successes and challenges, the broader issues are universally the same. Our history runs deep, and our labor roots are strong. I know that with the full support of the CFL Executive Board, affiliated unions, delegates, and union members across Cook County, the CFL is poised to continue the fight for all working people.”

Reiter is a third-generation member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150. He grew up in a union household where his parents instilled the values of solidarity and social justice in him from a young age. Reiter holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in political science from Eastern Illinois University, and a Juris Doctor degree from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. He and his wife, Diana, have two children.

“My father worked on many jobs as a union steward or craft foreman and carried

his contract book in his back pocket,” said Reiter. “I learned the value of fighting to protect our way of life from those who think we deserved less. Consequently, my father, along with my mother, instilled the values of solidarity and social justice in my siblings and me. This influence shaped my life and career path, leading me to work as a labor attorney, an organizer and a negotiator at Local 150 before arriving at the CFL.”

Following Reiter’s election, Ramirez stated, “Bob has been my brother in this fight for the last eight years, and I am proud to see him succeed me as President. Bob is an organizer, a strategist and a fighter. His parents showed him the meaning of hard work and the importance of a collective bargaining agreement. I know he will continue to expand on the great work of the CFL, and I wish him well in his tenure as President.”

James M. Sweeney, IUOE Local 150 President-Business Manager, stated, “I can think of no one better to lead working people through the next generation of challenges than Bob Reiter, who I am proud to call a friend and a brother. He doesn’t see this as a job, but a calling, and he has proven himself willing to take the fight to anyone who would do harm to Chicago’s working class.”

Immediately following Reiter’s election, CFL delegates then elected Don V. Villar, President of NABET-CWA Local 41, to the role of Secretary-Treasurer.

Villar is an award-winning veteran broadcast news journalist, union leader, community activist, and attorney. Villar spent 25 years working for WLS-TV (ABC)

Chicago, where he won an Emmy Award for breaking news coverage. In 2010, Villar was elected Vice President of NABET-CWA Local 41—a union representing broadcast news and TV production workers in Chicago—and was later elected President in 2015. In this role, Villar focused on organizing, movement building and collective bargaining. NABET-CWA Local 41’s membership grew under Villar’s leadership, with the successful effort to organize employees at CAN TV. In addition, Villar is President of the CWA Illinois Unified Council and serves on the Campaign Cabinet of United Way of Metro Chicago. He earned his Juris Doctorate at Loyola Law School.

“I am honored to serve as the incoming Secretary-Treasurer of the Chicago Federation of Labor, next to its new President, Bob Reiter,” said Villar. “Through the solidarity that we exhibit, our movement building and union pride, the Labor Movement has become stronger at the various workplaces and shop floors. I look forward to continuing the fight on behalf of the working families across Chicago and Cook County.”

In addition to Reiter and Villar, the “Chicago Labor and Solidarity Slate” was elected to a four-year term.

CFL Executive Officers	CFL Executive Board				CFL Finance Committee
Robert G. Reiter, Jr. President	Thomas Balanoff	Terrence J. Hancock	Karen Lewis	Robert W. O’Toole	Jim Allen
Don V. Villar Secretary-Treasurer	Robert Boskovich	Brian Hickey	Frank T. Libby	John Spiros, Jr.	Terryl Jares
Rosetta Daylie 1st Vice President	Sam Cicinelli	Mack I. Julion	Roberta Lynch	James M. Sweeney	Timothy Keane
James P. Connolly 2nd Vice President	James F. Coyne	Gregory Kelley	Ronald D. McInroy	Rocco Terranova	
Jesse M. Rios Sergeant-at-Arms	Donald Finn	Karen Kent	William W. Niesman	James T. Tracy	





PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR



PHOTO: MOISES ZAVALA



PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR



PHOTO: JIM DIXON

ABOVE: CFL 1ST VICE PRESIDENT ROSETTA DAYLIE (STANDING CENTER) NOMINATED BOB REITER PRESIDENT OF THE CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR AT THE MAY 1 DELEGATES MEETING; MIDDLE LEFT: DON VILLAR AT AN IMMIGRATION RALLY DAYS AFTER BEING INSTALLED AS CFL SECRETARY-TREASURER; MIDDLE RIGHT: NEWLY-ELECTED CFL PRESIDENT BOB REITER (SECOND FROM RIGHT) PICTURED WITH (FROM L TO R) HIS PARENTS, BOB AND PAT REITER, AND HIS WIFE, DIANA; BOTTOM LEFT: CFL PRESIDENT BOB REITER AT A RALLY FOR THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILL.



# Feature Stories

## Chicago Unions Support NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive



PHOTO: SHEET METAL WORKERS' LOCAL 73

Chicago's labor unions, led by National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 11, are celebrating the success of this year's NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. The union-led drive helped collect over 320,000 pounds of food for local food banks. Over the last six years alone, NALC Branch 11 members delivered 2 million pounds of food to local

food pantries each spring ahead of high-demand summer months, when food banks run low on supplies and children no longer receive food through schools.

Labor-affiliated groups hosted various locations for union and community members to drop off donations, including the CFL, Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73, UNITE HERE Local 1, Automobile Mechanics' Local 701, SAG-AFTRA Chicago, the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters, and Roberta Wood's Unity Center.

The CFL and the Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council helped with fundraising and outreach, and many unions, including UFCW Local 1546, IBEW Local 134, Painters District Council 14, Roofers Local 11, Sprinkler Fitters Local 281,

and IAM Local 126, donated to the effort, helping purchase bags which were given to Chicago residents to encourage them to leave donations for their local letter carrier to deliver.

The NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive was started by NALC members in Chicago 26 years ago and has since expanded to NALC branches throughout the country, becoming the largest single-day food drive in the United States.

The Chicago Federation of Labor thanks the men and women of NALC Branch 11, especially Branch 11 President and CFL Executive Board member Mack Julion, for their leadership, as well as all unions and union members who contributed to supporting the drive.

## SNAPSHOTS



PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

CFL PRESIDENT BOB REITER (CENTER) RECEIVED THE LABOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM REV. JESSE JACKSON (LEFT) AT THE ANNUAL RAINBOW PUSH COALITION CONVENTION.



PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

AS PART OF THE ANNUAL RAINBOW PUSH CONVENTION, CFL PRESIDENT BOB REITER (LEFT) PARTICIPATED ON A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH SEIU HEALTHCARE PRESIDENT AND CFL BOARD MEMBER GREGORY KELLEY, CLAYOLA BROWN, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE, AND WILLIAM LUCY, CO-FOUNDER OF THE COALITION OF BLACK TRADE UNIONISTS.

## CFL President Steps Down

On May 8, Jorge Ramirez stepped down as President of the Chicago Federation of Labor. In April, he announced he would not seek re-election when his term expires at the end of June. Ramirez came to the CFL in July 2006 as the Secretary-Treasurer and was elected the CFL's first Latino President in July 2010. Throughout his tenure, Ramirez focused on building the CFL's political and legislative infrastructure as well as bringing together all sectors of the movement around one unified table.

"I feel that the time is right to step back and pass the reigns over to my successor," said Ramirez. "I am proud of everything the CFL has accomplished over the last eight years, as well as the relationships we have cultivated. This movement is only as strong as the working men and women who comprise it. I am honored to have worked for and with so many incredible labor leaders and rank-and-file union members who serve as our delegates. They are the backbone of the CFL."

Over the last eight years, the CFL introduced policies and programs geared toward changing the lives of working families for the better. Among many programs, the CFL introduced Proud Union Home® to promote union solidarity while making a statement within their communities that union pride runs deep. Today, union households across the country are sharing that pride by displaying signs in their own front yards. Additionally, the CFL helped the workers in Chicago's hotel industry reclaim the dignity, respect and safety that they deserve with the passage of the "Hands Off Pants On" ordinance at Chicago's City Council. Chicago was on the leading end of what has become a national conversation to end the culture of sexual assault and abuse in the workplace.

"It was a privilege fighting side by side with Jorge," said CFL's newly-elected President Bob Reiter. "He has become my brother, mentor and confidant. On behalf of the staff of the CFL, I want to thank him for all he did to build this movement and wish him well in his future endeavors."



PHOTO: UNITED WAY METRO CHICAGO



# Longtime Labor Advocate Celebrates Milestone Birthday



Katie Jordan is not like most 90-year olds who spend their golden years living a life of leisure. Unlike her contemporaries, she keeps an active, busy schedule that would put people a fraction of her age to shame. That's why to celebrate reaching the transition from octogenarian to nonagenarian, Jordan surrounded herself with friends and family, and threw a party at her second home, the CMRJB Workers United Hall. At her birthday celebration, Jordan's family and friends reflected on her decades of labor rallies, crashing barriers and glass ceilings, and fighting for social justice.

Jordan has come a long way from Hot Springs, Arkansas. The yearning for something better spurred the single mother of three to take her family to Chicago during the height of the Civil Rights movement. In Chicago, she would find her calling as a leader in the labor movement and the struggle for women's rights. Jordan landed a job at Lytton's Clothing Store in the Loop and became a member of Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union. A short time later, she broke the glass ceiling at the store by becoming the first African-American

woman tailor fitter. She would later break another barrier by becoming the first woman president of her Local.

Jordan's activism stretches beyond her own union and workplace. She is President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, Chicago Chapter. She's active in the Alliance for Retired Americans and Jobs With Justice, and is a fixture at the CFL Delegates meeting. Jordan is also a woman of deep faith. She's an active member of Holy Angeles Catholic Parish in Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood.

As she passes a milestone, Jordan is not showing any signs of joining her contemporaries in retirement. Jordan plans to continue to advocate for workers' rights and social justice, a passion that she has had her entire life.

TOP: KATIE JORDAN HONORED BY GUESTS AT HER 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY; BOTTOM LEFT: KATIE JORDAN AT THE AMALGAMATED CLOTHING AND TEXTILE WORKERS UNION SCHOOL IN 1970; BOTTOM CENTER: KATIE JORDAN WORKING AT LYTTON'S CLOTHING STORE IN 1978; BOTTOM RIGHT: FELLOW UNIONIST BEA LUMPKIN GIVES KATIE JORDAN A HUG AT JORDAN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY PARTY.





## Access United Among Groups Awarded Illinois Tollway Grant

In May, the Illinois Tollway announced that it would award a major grant to a coalition of organizations, including the Chicago Federation of Labor Workforce & Community Initiative and Access United. The grant funds efforts to help prepare minorities, women, economically disadvantaged individuals, ex-offenders and veterans for apprenticeship programs in the heavy highway and transportation-related construction industry.

Access United will work in coalition with the CFL, United Way of Metro Chicago,

the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and other organizations to promote apprenticeship opportunities to diverse candidates throughout the Tollway's 12-county service area. This program will give unions throughout the Northern Illinois region the opportunity to work with community groups in their areas to recruit their future workforce.

Through the program, Access United will onboard 15 new community partners, expand its footprint, reach new people and seek to support 170 new apprentices in the union construction trades.



## Labor, Industry and Community Leaders Speak at City Club of Chicago



PHOTO: CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

THE PANELISTS (L TO R): CHARLES MATTHEWS, PEOPLES GAS AND NORTH SHORE GAS, DARNELL SHIELDS, AUSTIN COMING TOGETHER, AND BOB REITER, CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR. THE PANEL WAS MODERATED BY WENDY DUBOE, UNITED WAY METRO CHICAGO.

CFL President Bob Reiter joined Darnell Shields, Executive Director of Austin Coming Together, and Charles Matthews, President and CEO of Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas, at the City Club of Chicago for a panel titled "Unexpected Allies: When Corporations, Unions and Communities Come Together." The conversation, moderated by Wendy DuBoe, President and CEO of United Way of Metro Chicago, focused on ways unions are working together with businesses and community groups to create community change. Each leader spoke about efforts their organizations are making to collaborate on communal efforts.

The CFL's program Access United was a focus of the discussion. The program partners with Austin Coming Together and 10 other community organizations to support community residents pursuing careers in union construction trades. President Reiter reported on the successes of the program,

including 16 candidates who were accepted into six different trade apprenticeships, with minorities representing 76 percent of program participants.

Reiter also discussed a planned effort to bring together workforce development resources across the city to help community members access high-quality jobs at a central location. Matthews and Reiter both discussed the Utility Workers Military Assistance Program, a partnership between the CFL and Peoples Gas, which places veterans in utility jobs with the company.

Each of the partners discussed the importance of cross-sector collaboration to maximize impact and discussed the role United Way has played acting as a convener of community, business and union organizations. The CFL is committed to working with United Way, businesses and community organizations to uplift the communities in which union members live and work.

## 'Tis the Season for Proud Union Home® Yard Signs

As the 2018 campaign season gets underway, the CFL is once again selling a wide array of Proud Union Home® products. The newest offering is the rally sign: an 18" by 12" double-sided sign. A pack of 50 signs is \$30.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PRICING OR TO ORDER ANY OF THE PROUD UNION HOME® ITEMS, CONTACT LISA CALLEROS AT LCALLEROS@CHICAGOLABOR.ORG.





## CFL and Illinois Labor History Society Host May Day Celebrations, Plaque Dedication

This May Day, the CFL joined the Illinois Labor History Society as well as union members and labor activists at Haymarket Square to celebrate International Workers Day. The event commemorates the Haymarket massacre, its martyrs, and the fight for the eight-hour workday.

Then secretary-Treasurer Reiter spoke at the event, highlighting the historical significance of the massacre in the international labor movement, and praising labor and immigrant rights activists' for continuing the fight for justice. Hundreds attended the event, including union members from across the city.

Laura Garza of SEIU Local 1 and Lawrence Benito of the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights spoke at the event. Both speakers emphasized the importance of solidarity with workers across our movement, including low-income and immigrant workers.

Elmer "Bong" Labog, a Filipino labor activist and Chairperson of the May First

Movement, one of the largest industrial labor federations in the Philippines, also spoke. He dedicated a plaque to be displayed on the monument commemorating the Haymarket Martyrs and expressing international solidarity with Chicago workers and the labor movement in the United States. The site includes similar dedications of solidarity from across the United States and the globe.

The event is organized annually by ILHS and CFL to mark the site and date of the Haymarket Massacre, a protest against the killing of workers and union organizers, and in favor of the eight-hour work day. After an unknown assailant threw a bomb into a crowd of protesters, the ensuing violence and anti-worker trials garnered international attention and galvanized labor activists worldwide. The massacre is memorialized internationally on May 1 as International Workers Day, or May Day.

The story of Chicago is tied directly to the story of the labor movement, and the CFL is proud to support the Illinois Labor History

Society and their important efforts to honor and memorialize this rich history.



CHICAGO LABORERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS MANAGER AND CFL 2ND VICE PRESIDENT JAMES P. CONNOLLY AND SEIU HEALTHCARE PRESIDENT AND CFL BOARD MEMBER GREGORY KELLEY AT THE 2018 MAY DAY CELEBRATION.

## William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the Chicago Federation of Labor awards 10 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships, valued at \$2,000 each, to high school seniors. This year was no exception and the ceremony in which the recipients received their award was held on May 15 at the office of the CFL.

Applicants can apply for only one of two categories: random or academic, although both categories must submit an essay as part of the application requirement. Additionally,

either the applicant or a parent must be a member in good standing of a CFL-affiliated union. Random applicants were drawn during the April Delegates meeting, and the academic winners were chosen by an outside committee.

Thomas Patrick O'Connor wrote about his own experience working as a janitor. He stated, "I worked alongside a staff of full-time janitors. These men all belonged to a union and were inclusive with their discussion of union matters. I learned a lot about the

issues that were settled through their union. At the end of the summer, the union hosted a luncheon. Although the event was mainly to celebrate completion of the summer cleaning, union matters were discussed. I saw the men that I worked with, and respected, voice their opinion on matters concerning vacation time, sick days, and other matter. I witnessed firsthand how powerful a platform these union meetings provide."



THE 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS: (FRONT ROW) BRENDAN HOSTY (LIUNA LOCAL 4), GRACE JOHNSON (CHICAGO FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 2), NICOLE GINARD (CMRJB WORKERS UNITED), THOMAS O'CONNOR (CARPENTER'S UNION LOCAL 80). BACK ROW: CFL PRESIDENT BOB REITER, KEIRAN BURKE (IUOE LOCAL 399), CATHERINE LEHR (IUOE LOCAL 399), KATHLEEN HOGAN (IUOE LOCAL 399), CASSANDRA CABANAS (ROOFERS & WATER PROOFERS LOCAL 11), BIANCA SAVANT (AFSCME LOCAL 505), AND CFL SECRETARY-TREASURER DON VILLAR. NOT PICTURED: VICTORIA BELOTTI (COOK COUNTY COLLEGE TEACHERS UNION LOCAL 1600).





Prudential Plaza  
130 E. Randolph Street  
Suite 2600  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

chicagolabor.org

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
CHICAGO IL  
PERMIT NO 10005



# CFL Delegates' Meetings

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018

Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018

TIME: 6 p.m.

WHERE: Chicago Plumbers Local 130 Hall  
1340 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago

# Labor Day Events

Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018

**Southeast Side  
Labor Day Parade**

LINE UP BEGINS: 9:30 a.m.

KICKOFF BEGINS: 11 a.m.

WHERE: 1120 S. Ewing Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60617

**Friends of Labor  
Labor Day Festival**

TIME: 1-10 p.m.

WHERE: Calumet Park,  
801 S. Avenue G  
Chicago, IL 60617



Delegates must present their current Chicago Federation of Labor membership card or this notice for admission. We look forward to full representation from your local union to assist the Federation in the development of its policies.

**DON V. VILLAR**  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Federation News is a quarterly publication of the Chicago Federation of Labor ©2018

Federation News is owned and controlled by the Chicago Federation of Labor for the education, protection and advancement of organized labor.

Editor in Chief: Robert G. Reiter Jr., President  
Editor: Don V. Villar, Secretary-Treasurer  
Managing Editor: Nora Cay Ryan  
Contributors: Elaine Fleck, Michael Hartge, Andrea Kluger