



# Labor Fax

September 1, 2005

Volume 9, Issue 7

## STRENGTH IN UNITY

By Charles Wowkanech & Laurel Brennan

Labor Day is upon us, and with it the usually slow months of summer come to an end. As the days grow shorter and the weather becomes cooler, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO Labor 2005 program is just heating up!

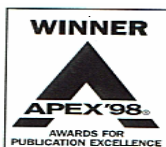
Over the past several weeks, coming off the unprecedented disaffiliation of three of the AFL-CIO's largest unions many questions have been raised about how effective labor can be in this year's elections.

Since 1997 the New Jersey State AFL-CIO has been fielding massive political programs and generating huge results. The endorsement of our state's working families has become an almost necessary component of any candidate's campaign plan. Furthermore, with the election of 328 union members to various offices across the state, we have ensured our voices are heard at every level of government.

Launching these programs has not always been easy and differences of opinion as to how to best build the labor movement have been common. Similar to how a family works out their conflicts, the labor movement has always come together to do what is best for all working families.

More than ever before, all eyes will be on the labor movement in New Jersey as we continue to work together to implement the largest, and most aggressive voter education and GOTV program. With the support of thousands of volunteer union members from across the state, we will continue to run huge phone banks and labor walks in support of Jon Corzine for Governor, endorsed candidates for the New Jersey General Assembly and 54 rank-and-file union members seeking public office.

Once again, we offer you our very best wishes this Labor Day and thank you for all of the efforts you put forth every day to help make our state, nation, and the labor movement stronger.



1998  
Labor Fax  
APEX Award

## Labor Fax Co-Editors:

Charles Wowkanech

Laurel Brennan

President

Secretary-Treasurer

Associate Editor:

Steve Lenox

(609) 989-8730 • [www.njafclcio.org](http://www.njafclcio.org)

## OSHEP CONFERENCE

The Occupational Safety and Health Education Program invites you to attend a Conference for health and safety professionals, activists, and trainers. This conference is perfect for shops stewards, staff representatives and business agents, and members of health and safety committees. Workshops will include PEOSH Updates, Fall Protection, the Highway Watch Program, Motor Vehicle Safety, Improving Training Techniques, Respiratory Protection, Disaster Response for the Building and Construction Trades, and Process Safety Management. The one-day conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at the Brunswick Hilton in East Brunswick. The conference will also feature informational booths from vendors of personal protective equipment, health care professionals, and organizations providing health and safety resources in our state. For more information or to register, please call Laurie Hrebenak at (732) 745-8226.

## LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO will hold their Legislative Conference September 29-30 at the Tropicana in Atlantic City. Confirmed speakers at this conference include Senator Jon Corzine, New Jersey Commissioner of Transportation Jack Lettiere, Assembly Majority Leader Joe Roberts and Assemblyman John Wisniewski. To register for this Conference please call 609-989-8730.

## BROTHER JOE PISCOPO TO HOST COPE LUNCH

Comedian, singer, entertainer, New Jersey native and union brother Joe Piscopo will host the New Jersey State AFL-CIO COPE luncheon on Thursday, September 29, 2005 at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City. To reserve your tickets for this event please call 609-989-8730.

## ELDERCARE AWARENESS CONFERENCE

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO will host their third annual Eldercare Awareness Conference on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at the United Auto Workers Region 9 facility in Edison. Conference discussions will focus on Health Literacy, the manner in which consumers navigate through the complicated maze of health care delivery. For more information contact Nancy Miller at 1-888-923-5246.

## LABOR 2005

The Labor 2005 program is underway. This year's program will be the most aggressive political program implemented by the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and will support the campaigns of Jon Corzine for Governor, endorsed candidates running for the New Jersey General Assembly and 54 rank-and-file union members running for public office at the local, county and state level. This program will only be successful with the support of the thousands of volunteers we will need to staff phone banks and participate in Saturday labor walks. For more information on the Labor 2005 program please contact John Shea, COPE Director, at 609-989-8730.

- NJ State AFL-CIO: The Voice for Working Families in New Jersey -

**ON THE ROAD**

Officers and Staff of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO:

...Addressed delegates at New Jersey Building and Construction Trades Council Conference in Atlantic City.

...Completed a 30-hour OSHA Outreach Course for building and construction workers in Middlesex County.

...Conducted Labor Coordinators meeting for Labor 2005 program.

...Provided OSHA 10-Hour Outreach Courses to Ironworkers in Perth Amboy, and Cement Finishers in Jersey City.

...Trained employees of Gloucester County on the Hazard Communications Standard.

...Taught a Respiratory Standard and Fit-Testing Instruction class at OPCMIA Local 29.

...Led three day Labor Candidate School for 35 rank-and-file union members seeking public office this November

...Met with representatives from New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and Department of Education as well as U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training regarding apprenticeship policy in New Jersey.

...Participated in New Jersey Apprenticeship and Training Directors Meeting.

...Participated in Gender Parity Council Advisory meeting.

...Presented workshop at Eastern Regional Rapid Response Summit hosted by New York Department of Labor

**SUCCESSFUL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY PROGRAM**

On Friday, August 19, 2005 OSHA offered its new Motor Vehicle Safety Curriculum to New Jersey workers in a public training program. The curriculum was piloted at the PSE&G Training Center in Edison in July, through two one-day courses. The public program, also based on the workbook, included a presentation from Gail Toth of the New Jersey Motor Truck Association. Participants included representatives from AFSCME 3247, ATU 540, CWA 1032, MeadowLink Commuter Services, NALC 444, Stallone Electric, Transit Workers International and Local 225 BR-4. If your organization is interested in this training, please call Christine Rampolla at 732 418-3427.

**TAKE THE PLEDGE**

This Labor Day union members can send a message to Wal-Mart Executives by signing a pledge to buy your back to school supplies somewhere else. Wal-Mart is the world's largest retailer, setting the standard for America's workplaces—and it's a standard of low wages, poor benefits and worker abuse that working families cannot accept. Together, we have to stop the Wal-Marting of America's jobs. Let's educate Wal-Mart about how a rich company should treat its workers by pledging to buy back-to-school supplies at other stores this year. To sign this pledge and send it to Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott visit [www.unionvoice.org/campaign/WalMartpledge](http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/WalMartpledge).

**AND THE WINNER IS...**

The New Jersey State AFL-CIO received the 1st place award for achievement in K-12 Education & Training in the Broadcast Television, Video and Radio division from the International Labor Communications Association for their production of "Dreambuilders." "Dreambuilders" is a 17-minute video documenting occupational requirements and advantages for women in the construction and building trades. To receive a copy of this video please contact the New Jersey State AFL-CIO at 609-989-8730.

**Upcoming Events**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| September 14    | OSHEP Health & Safety Conference<br>East Brunswick Hilton   |
| September 29-30 | Legislative Conference<br>Tropicana Casino & Resort<br>Atlantic City                              |
| October 5       | New Jersey State AFL-CIO<br>Retirees Committee<br>Eldercare Awareness Conference<br>UAW<br>Edison |

**LABOR DAY EVENTS**

Several events will be held around the state to mark Labor Day which will be celebrated this year on Monday, September, 5, 2005:

The Southern New Jersey Central Labor Council will hold their annual Peter J. McGuire Labor Day Celebration on Friday, September 2, 2005. The event begins with a breakfast, held at the Clarion Hotel & Conference Center in Cherry Hill beginning at 9:00 a.m. A wreath laying ceremony will take place immediately after the breakfast at the Peter J. McGuire Memorial. For more information on this event call Nicole Nestopoulous at 856-663-1555.

On Sunday, September 4, 2005 the American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark, Borough of Haledon and the City of Paterson will hold their 14th Annual Labor Day Parade. Mr. Thomas Giblin, Business Manager of IUOE Local 68, will serve as the Grand Marshall of this parade which begins at 1:30 p.m. at the American Labor Museum and concludes at the Great Falls in Paterson. A festival with food, fun and entertainment will follow the parade.

The final Labor Day event for 2005 will be held on Friday, September 9, 2005. Sponsored by the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council AFL-CIO, festivities will include a pre-parade program beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Newark City Hall, followed by a parade led by Grand Marshal Gerald W. Owens, President, Essex Chapter- APRI, to St. Patrick's Pro Cathedral on Washington Street, and conclude with a 45-minute Interfaith Observation of Labor Day.

**WORDS OF WISDOM**

"It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership— the American worker"— United States Department of Labor

**ELECTION DAY COUNTDOWN:  
68 DAYS: NOVEMBER 8, 2005**