

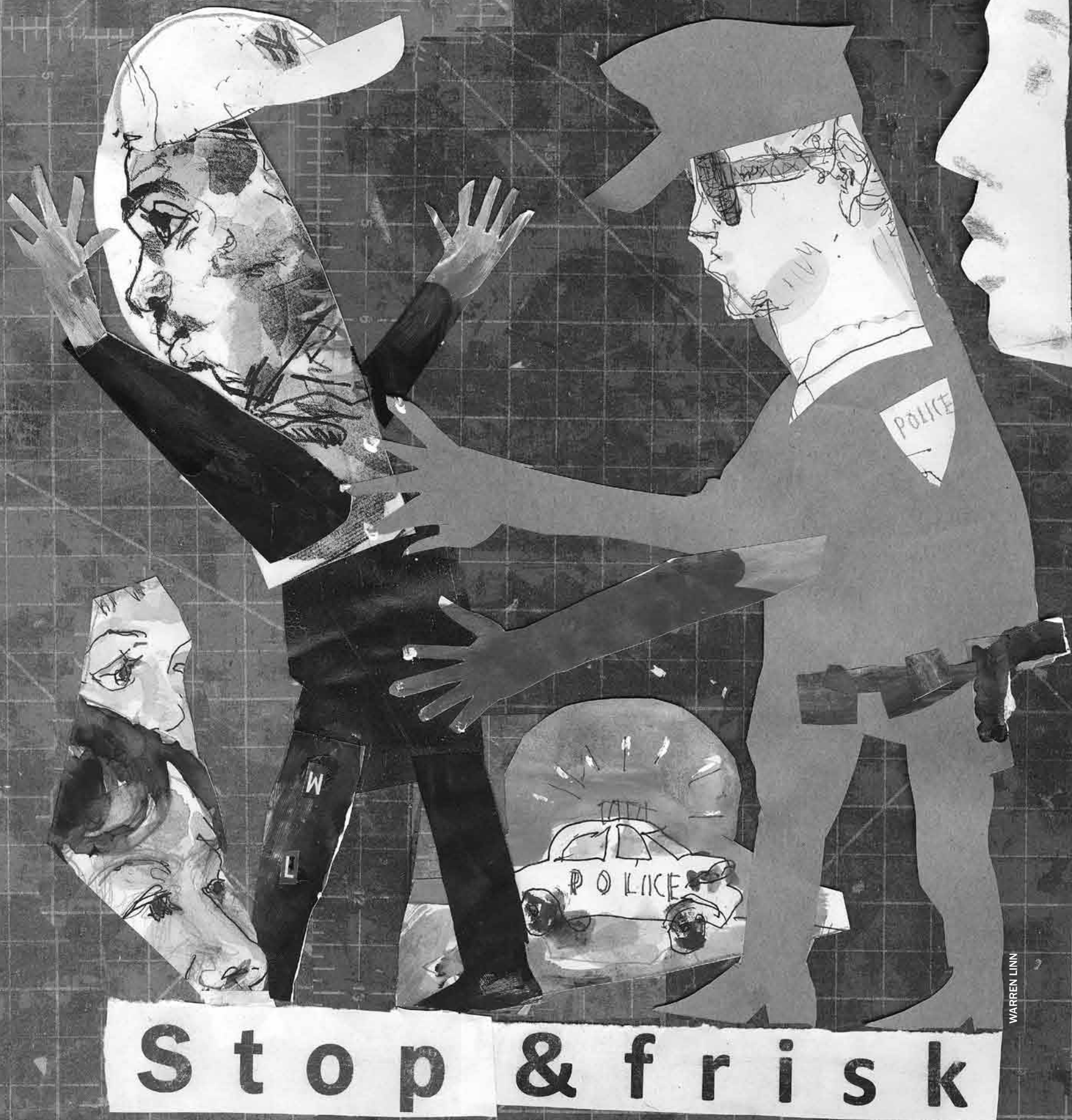


November/December 2011

Communique

A union is a way of doing something together you can't do alone. Utah Phillips (1935-2008)

Local 1180, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO



WARREN LINN

Mothers talk about their sons & daughters

Pages 6-7

ROVING REPORTER ASKS...

What person, alive or dead, would you most like to meet and talk to?



Carolyn Brown
Principal Administrative Associate,
Department of Finance

I would love to speak with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. I would ask him about his fight for peace in the country; did his "I have a dream" speech come true; has racial bias changed or is it the same today.



Leandro Monzon
Coordinating Manager,
Lincoln Hospital

I would like to meet Cesar E. Chavez because he was a big organizer in L.A. He did a lot for the farm workers.

I would like to speak to him on how he organized and fought for the rights of people.

I would ask him how he would help to be an example to the union leaders of today.



Janice Walcott
Principal Administrative Associate,
Human Resources Administration

I would like to meet and speak with the first black elected president, Barack Obama.

I would like to know about his family; how he feels about the country moving ahead under his leadership; what motivated him to run for president.

Helena Crump is the Roving Reporter

Preaching the union gospel

By Gary Schoichet

Zenola Fields
Principal Administrative Associate
Department of Finance

She was going to be a famous gospel singer, traveling the world to sold-out concerts, with CDs stacked in stores and selling as quickly as they could be shelved. She graduated from the High School of Music and Art at 16, went to Hunter College for two years, and at 19 she had a baby. It might have been a stroke of luck being pregnant when she was. Fields had been working on the 27th floor of Tower 4 of the World Trade Center and after the pregnancy and birth, "They wouldn't take me back. I thank God I had this child. She might have saved my life.

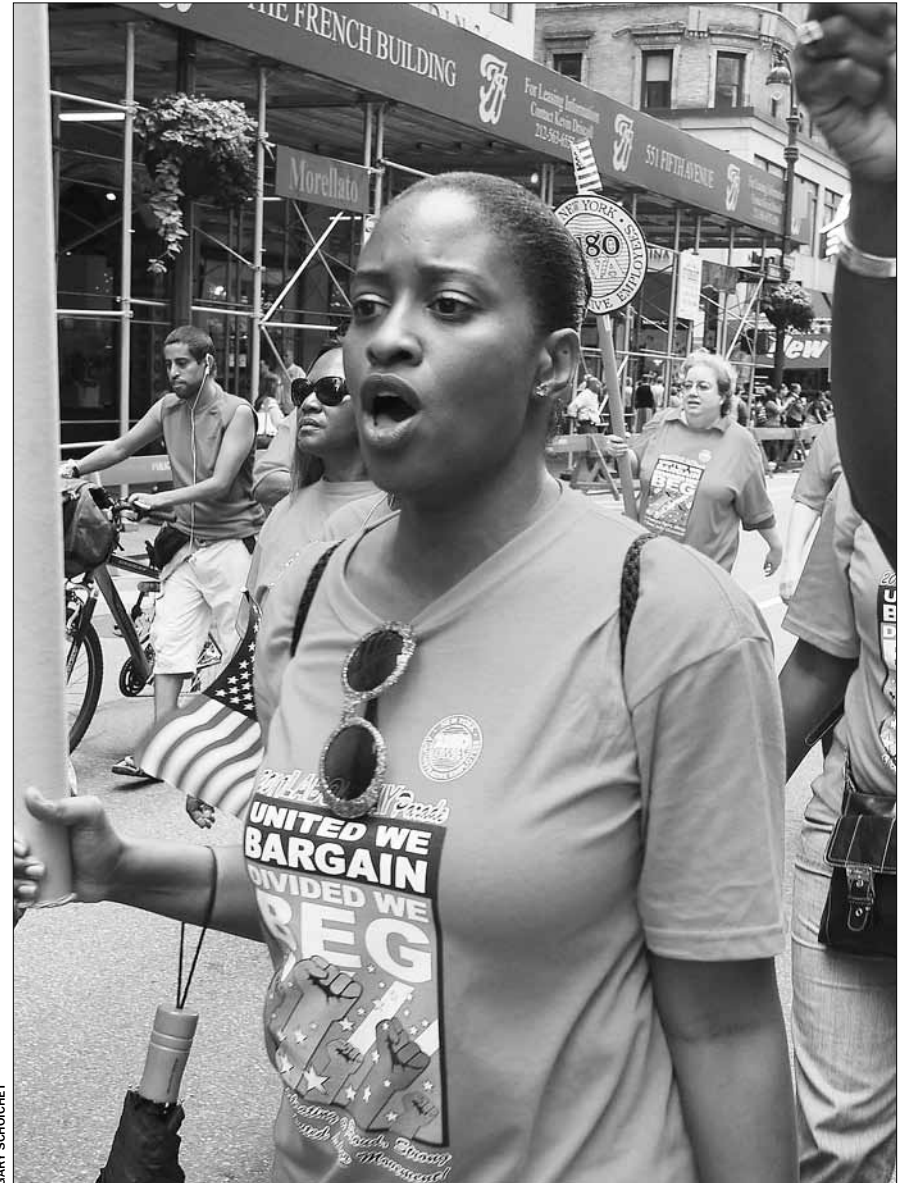
"Having a child in a fast-paced world focused me. I thought late-night rehearsing and clubbing was fun and exciting. But nurturing was joyful," she said.

Ministry in song

There is no reason to feel sorry for her. Zenola Fields is not unhappy that her early dream was not fulfilled. Having a baby was what she wanted. "I channeled all my energies into her." A few months after giving birth she got a job with the New York City Department of Finance – "It came at the right time" – and 23 years later she is still there. She also is still singing, in a community choir that travels from state to state, and at a church on John Street most Wednesdays at noon. It is "a ministry in song," in which Fields is sometimes lead and sometimes backup singer.

Shop stewardship, too, can be a ministry. "As a Christian it's my duty to spread the word to all that will listen. Or just spread the word, period." As a shop steward she is spreading the gospel of union, of educating, empowering the members she represents. "I would go to general membership meetings and get mad about members telling me of bad treatment and the amount of fear some of them had. I knew they didn't know their rights," she said.

Being a steward is, she said, "just like spreading the gospel. You need



Zenola Fields yelling with the best of them at the Labor Day Parade.

to believe in what you're spreading and know what you're talking about. The more I learn, the more I can teach, the more I can help empower so that people are will-

UNION PROUD

ing to say 'No' and use the union, join with the union to make a better workplace."

Find the younger members

In a union, the majority of whose members are 40 and 50 and 60 years of age, Fields thinks it is important to find the younger members and capture their attention and their participation. Members aged 21 to 41 make up 20 percent of Local 1180. More than 300 are under 30. Fields said that in the 1970s, gospel music changed from

the accepted instruments and chords to new instruments being introduced and new chord arrangements, which took away some of the solemnity. It was attacked by some as "too much like party music, not churchy enough. But it succeeded in attracting new listeners and that's what unions have to figure out: how to do it."

As a single mother she could have been as alone as the most alone union member who needs help but who nobody sees. She wasn't. "I had, have, great family support; both parents, a sister, and a younger brother, and an older cousin who told me to make sure I get that city job." The way family does for family is a good model for union member doing for union member and could invigorate organizing in the workplace.

With the amount of fear people had, I knew they didn't know their rights.

51 years and out

By Gary Schoichet

“THIS WAS GOING to be a summer job,” said Carole Daleo, an administrative manager in the Sanitation Department. “It’s been the longest summer of my life.”

What began as a job in a summer youth program in 1960 – “My mother told me, ‘No way you’re staying at home.’” – became a career that she never wanted.

Union got us where we are

“I was going to work for a few years, get married, have a family, and then the economy went downhill and I had to earn a living.”

For 51 years, ending in September 2011, she went from the bottom of

the administrative staff to as high as she could go and still stay in the union. “It’s the union that got us where we are today,” she said.

Local 1180 helped her get her B.A. in child psychology (she graduated cum laude), and she is planning to get her master’s degree after she retires. Daleo, who was married for the second time on October 9 [“I had the worst and now I have the best”] hopes to work with autistic children, her interest spurred by her new husband’s grandson, who has been diagnosed with autism.

Sanitation, like the NYPD and FDNY, is a uniformed department. “Civilians,” she said, “get second-class treatment.” And yet, the



Carol Daleo showing off her engagement ring.

department can’t be run without its administrative staff.

“We don’t pick up garbage, but you can’t run the department without us. We’re the backbone; the wheels can’t turn without the civilian employees.”

The best thing that’s happened in the department in her time? “Women coming into the force in uniforms.” That’s it? “That’s it.”

The last word goes to her friend, fellow administrative manager Eddie Yood: “Carole has not taken any crap in over 50 years on the job.”

A STRIKE STORY IN CENTRAL PARK

Union-busting loses, Boathouse workers win

By Shirley Littman

You could hear the steady drum rolls and the shouts of the striking workers the closer you came to the now-infamous Boathouse Restaurant in Central Park.

Dean Poll, the owner and boss, heard them too, every day, beginning August 9, when dozens of workers walked off the job at lunchtime at the upscale eatery, in support of the 37 workers Poll had illegally fired.

Fired busboys, waiters, dishwashers, and other kitchen staff were joined in the picket space by close to 100 current and former workers. Seventy percent of the workers had signed union cards with the NY Hotel Trades Council and testified that management tried to stifle unionization by firing anyone who was a union supporter. Complaints included sexual harassment, yelling at workers in front of customers, constantly changing schedules so workers never knew when they were supposed to have a day off, low pay, and numerous other abuses.

As the days and weeks passed, from 7:30 a.m. until 10:30 p.m., the chanting strikers, who were penned in near the restaurant, were joined by people eager to show they sided

with the workers. Police, with a watchful eye, were stationed in various spots around the restaurant.

Hundreds of potential customers decided to bypass the trendy restaurant in the park: “I don’t cross picket lines”; “I’m staying away because it’s important to support workers.” A family from Brazil tore up their reservations and walked away. A bicycling group, ready for lunch, shook their heads, turned their bikes around and rode away.

Meanwhile, the NYC Health Department gave the restaurant a scalding “C” rating, citing a slew of violations: “Vermin in kitchen, sewage backup on kitchen floor, live

mice around food areas, contamination...” (NY Post article).

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) indicated it would file a legal complaint, similar to an indictment, stating the restaurant illegally threatened and punished workers for supporting a union and that it would require the restaurant to enter into contract negotiations without a hearing.

Forty-four days later, Poll gave up. Business at the formerly popular restaurant had gone down a “striking” 70 percent. There were no lines of customers waiting to get in.

A contract was negotiated and the Boathouse workers voted unani-

mously to accept it on September 22. Employees now have vacation time, sick days, and family health and dental coverage that will apply to domestic partners. Overtime for cooks and scheduling priority for senior workers as well as a pay increase for one-third of the employees who do not receive tips (from \$7.50 to \$13.50 per hour) are also included in the contract. Pay inequity for workers performing the same duties was erased.

The workers stuck together and they won. Is there a lesson here?

Shirley Littman works at the Department of Homeless Services.



Boathouse Restaurant workers stayed out until they won recognition and a contract.

Labor Day Parade, 9/10



ALL LABOR DAY PHOTOS: GARY SCHOICHT



It's been a holiday since 1882, the first Monday in September, it's the last holiday of the summer, the last day to wear white shoes, the traditional start of the college football season - but most of all, it's a day to honor working people all over the United States.

The first Labor Day was celebrated in New York City on September 5, 1882. Today In New York the parade is held on the Saturday after Labor Day. On that Saturday in September, Local 1180 members and their families joined with thousands of other union members to celebrate themselves and their union sisters and brothers.

African American Day Parade, 9/18



ALL AFRICAN AMERICAN DAY PHOTOS: PAT ARNOW



Known as "The Largest Black Parade in America," the 42nd annual African American Day Parade lived up to its billing. Local 1180's contingent, in bright green T-shirts, walked along Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard, moving to the rhythm of Betty Coleman's drumbeat. Everyone had a grand time.

Occupy Wall Street 10/5/11

Thousands thronged the streets on Wednesday, October 5, marching from Foley Square to Zuccotti Park to join forces with the Occupy Wall Street people who had been camping out and raising the consciousness of the city and then the nation concerning the depredations of the 1%, the Wall Street thugs, aka bankers, responsible for the current recession and all still walking free.

About 50 Local 1180 members, 99%ers all, marched and chanted and knew exactly why they were there.



Marissa Colon-Margolies (left), Nation Institute: Being able to be here and walk in protest with my union is amazing. My dad, who believed in the American dream, got laid off four years ago. He was an engineer and designed some of the first computers; he can't get a job.

The Wall Street people and politicians are demonizing union workers for having too much. It's what everyone should have. There is no real discourse around the issue of so few making so much and not being taxed. Carl Bromley and Onnesha Roychoudhuri are also in the photo.



Abdullah Nazeer, Principal Administrative Associate, Administration for Children's Services: We're here because of what they, the corporate bosses got, and we didn't. They're trying to privatize everything, all the public-sector jobs in the economy. We can't survive the way they are setting the economy up. Real wages have been going down since the 1970s and now they want to cut pay and benefits. They're the only ones who will be able to live here.



Catherine Alves, Assistant Coordinating Manager, Woodhull Hospital: I'm here to prove a point. Publicly, privately, it's all our concern. Everything is being dumped on the middle class. If this continues we won't have a middle class. If we have to walk on the streets again we will walk on the streets again and fight for our rights.



STOP AND FRISK

Breathing while black

By Lorraine Gamble-Lofton

My son is 31 years old and stands a proud 6'3". He graduated cum laude and is now in graduate school. He is gainfully employed. When he borrows from me, he is ethical and pays me back without me having to chase him down. He has no addictions; he doesn't drink, drug, smoke, or gamble. He doesn't wear his pants sagging and baggin' so low that we are forced to look at his underwear.

No, he is just a regular everyday son who doesn't come to fix the door even when you've asked him 15 times, but when you are being honored is right there on the spot, filming and standing behind you.

As far as I and others who know him are concerned, he is just a great kid, respectful, wonderful. I have never gotten a bad report about him from anyone I know. Never had to see a bail bondsman, never had to take an early bus ride with a bunch of others to a facility and be inspected and prodded like so much cattle just so I could see my only son. Never. Never brought me a minute's worth of shame, pain or embarrassment. Never.

Even a NYC councilmember

Yet every day I fear for his life. Because every day, he makes the mistake of breathing while black.

The result can be frightening and horrendous, and can happen even

if you're a New York City elected official.

On Labor Day, in the Brooklyn neighborhood where the West Indian Day Parade was being held, City Councilman Jumaane Williams and Kirsten John Foy, an aide to Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, were on their way to an event at the Brooklyn Museum. They approached what is known as a "frozen zone," but got permission from a high-ranking, white-shirted NYPD officer to proceed to their destination.

As they continued on their way, they were stopped by patrol cops. Councilman Williams presented his official badge, only to have it ignored. What happened next?

Williams and Foy were tackled to the ground and arrested.

The incident won't tarnish their records, but what would the same thing do to my son?

Rest assured that breathing while black does not happen only to young men. Ask Helena Crump about her daughters.

Crump's daughters got lost in the subway and sought help from a token booth clerk, who instructed them to come through the gate. When he finished giving them directions, he allowed them to go back through without paying. A male and a female officer came from behind a closed door and the male officer accused them of trying to sneak onto the subway.

When they tried to explain themselves, he called them liars.

The younger daughter told her older sister, "We need to call Mommy and let him speak to her."

The officer, snatching her phone,



GARY SCHOICHER

Scott Stringer: In 98.8 percent of stops no guns were recovered.

Criminal justice injustice

Interview by Gary Schoichet

Scott Stringer is the Manhattan borough president. In a speech on September 24 he called for an honest re-examination of the New York Police Department's stop-and-frisk policy. This interview was conducted on October 5.

There is a divide in the criminal justice system when it comes to stop and frisk. Eighty-five percent of stops are of African-American or Latino men. The collateral damage is immense. When I talk to the parents of chil-

dren who are repeatedly stopped I hear real fear. It is inconceivable to me that people who look like me but for their skin color have so much fear for their children at the hands of the police.

That's why it's important to me, why it's an obligation to me as a public official and a parent, to be one city, one New York.

The police department says that these frisks are critical for keeping guns off our streets. Last year, in 98.8 percent of all police stops, no guns were recovered.

Most stops are for what is called "furtive movements." We call that

walking, or standing with our hands in our pockets. Treating a whole generation of young people like criminals for the simple act of walking down the street is a moral and constitutional outrage.

There are other ways to deal with these issues. We can be tougher on crime by being smarter on crime. There are programs in Boston and Chicago and Los Angeles that bring people together; that target the people who might escalate violent situations, and let them know that if one person commits a crime all will pay for it. You offer alternatives to the streets. And it works. In Chicago the "call-in" approach brought down homicide rates by 37 percent in targeted neighborhoods, and in Boston by 63 percent in two years.

Ineffective and unworthy

In any large bureaucracy it's hard to change mindsets. We need elected officials to speak out on these issues. I'm working with Hakeem Jeffries (NYS Assembly) and Eric Adams (NYS Senate), whose constituents feel the impact of these stops.

We need to recognize that stopping 600,000 New Yorkers every year – the vast majority for little or no reason – is ineffective and unworthy of our city.

Blatantly unconsti

Interview by Gary Schoichet

Darius Charney is a senior staff attorney in the Racial Justice/Government Misconduct Docket of the Center for Constitutional Rights. He is the lead counsel in *Floyd v. City of New York*, a federal civil rights class-action lawsuit challenging the New York Police Department's stop-and-frisk practices. The lawsuit is scheduled to be tried in April 2012, barring a settlement. This interview was conducted on September 14.

The New York Police Department's stop-and-frisk policy is blatantly unconstitutional and racist, and is not a helpful crime-fighting tool. It makes police work harder because it causes alienation in the community. The PD misses this. One of their major tools is people in a community. If they don't trust you they won't give up bad guys.

The PD says that stop and frisk makes the city safer. There is no evidence that using this practice aggressively reduces crime. The PD says it has been using it for years and crime is down so therefore it must be working. Crime is down nationally. Other cities don't do it. There are more people avail-

said, “No, Bitch, I don’t need to speak to anyone.”

When the clerk came out to inquire about what was going on and confirmed their story, the officer got even angrier. It wasn’t until the clerk threatened to call the Police Department that the two cops desisted and left.

“Later,” said Crump, “I found out that the same officer was under my uncle’s command and that there had been several complaints against him. He even called my house to ask me to drop the charges against him. I was so angry at him calling my house that I reported him again. Then he had the nerve to just straight up lie and say that he hadn’t, and he got caught – they checked his cell phone records.

“Good for him. He was suspended without pay and then fired.

“My girls were traumatized, and behind that mess ... they don’t trust cops anymore.

“I mean, he really pissed me off. I don’t know what he thought he was pulling on my girls – like it was all right. It’s not like they cursed him out or something. All my daughter wanted to do was call me. If people don’t make complaints, it’s like it didn’t even happen.”

Harassing the kids

Crump went on to talk about her son and a friend being harassed by police.

“My son was at a bus stop waiting with his friend to get on the bus, and I was sitting in my car across the street. I saw a police car drive by slow, then back up. One of the officers got out and started talking to the kids, then all of the sudden, he pushed the boys to the fence. They had their school backpacks on their backs.

“The reason he pushed them was because my son said, ‘My mom is not going to like this.’ The officer’s

reply was, ‘I don’t care about your mother, and are you talking back at me? You must have drugs on you.’

“I jumped from my car and ran over asking, ‘What do you think you’re doing to them?’ When I opened my jacket to take out my pen and paper, he noticed my city ID card. His partner had gotten out of the police car to see what he was doing and asked him, ‘What are you doing with these kids?’ and looked at my ID and said, ‘Let’s go, man.’

“By then I had taken both their badge numbers, and later made a complaint. The officer who had pushed the boys on the fence lost pay, got suspended, and had to do anger management training for six months. I ran into him again at a police ball with my family and he apologized. If people don’t make complaints it’s like it did not ever happen.”

Well, thus far, I have been blessed, like I said. No bad reports.

No bail bondsman. No bus rides to Rikers.

But I wonder when men like my son will no longer have to have traveling papers, like they did back in the day, in order to prove who they are. Men who, like any other men, have the right to breathe the same air, dirty or clean, but freely, even if they are black. To speak up for themselves without mothers saying, “Be careful out there,” and when she says it she’s not talking about gangs or stick-up kids but those who have vowed to protect and defend.

Jumaane Williams had an official badge. It didn’t help him.

Are they ever going to be able to walk the street without fear of reprisals, especially in their own neighborhoods, or as they sit on the steps of the home they or their family owns? I am certain that if Councilman Williams’ mother is still living, she has had some restless nights since Labor Day.

tutional and racist

able to stop here. Comparing New York to Los Angeles, Chicago, or Philadelphia, the stops are disproportionately higher here. The police stopped almost 600,000 people last year and got 1,200 guns. This program’s stated purpose is to take guns off the street.

Tom Tyler of New York University has questioned the legitimacy of stop and frisk and how it affects law-abiding communities. Some people wonder why they should follow the law if they are going to be harassed even when they do.

Stop and frisk is clearly being used in a racist and unconstitutional way. They are mostly illegal searches. Hundreds of thousands of the stops are fishing. On their official forms the officers will write or check off “suspicious bulge,” or “actions indicative of drug transaction,” or “furtive movements.” There is no accountability; no one checks if it’s accurate; if it was a legal stop. There is incentive to do a lot of them to show that they are working and getting promotions.

Unless people take legal action there is no accountability. In 2002

there were 92,000 stops. By 2010 the number was 600,000 and 2011 is on pace for 700,000. [In a 2000 interview with the *New York Times* current police commissioner Raymond Kelly said of the Giuliani administration’s policing policies, “A large reservoir of good will was under construction when I left the Police Department in 1994. It was called community policing. But it was quickly abandoned for tough-sounding rhetoric and dubious stop-and-frisk tactics that sowed new seeds of community mistrust.” (4/5/2000).]

It’s about race

Violent crime is not what stop and frisk is about. What it is about is property (trespassing) and quality-of-life (low-level drugs) crime. While whites are 45 percent of the population, they are only 11 percent of the stops. Blacks and Latinos are more likely to be frisked, have force used against them, and be arrested.

Most stops occur in African-American and Latino neighborhoods, and even after adjustments for other factors, including crime rates, social conditions and allocation of police resources in those

neighborhoods, race is the main factor determining NYPD stops.

We want an independent overseer of the NYPD, someone who will look at policies and procedures and mandate changes including better supervision of officers, an explana-

tion of why people were stopped, real discipline for officers who make illegal searches, and a crackdown on quotas, even though the PD denies they exist. We want to end the disconnect between written policies and the action on the street.



Darius Charney: Unless people take legal action there is no accountability.

There is no evidence that aggressively using this practice reduces crime.

At home or across the foam: Raise a glass to the working class

By Dan Cunningham

My pint glass of Guinness is half empty. The creamy white toppings float down inside the glass, blending with the black nectar below. I'll have to nurse it, though. They've raised the price of a pint, and American dollars can't buy shite here anymore. John and I take our pints outside the pub and sit at the café tables. The Kerry countryside expands before us. Mangerton Mountain looms in the distance, its rocky peak peering through the mist. The damn rain finally stops. A rainbow pierces the sky. Sure, but you won't find a pot of gold at the end of this rainbow, not these days, not in Ireland, nor in America – unless you're a bank president.

Monument to greed

[John's wife, Joan, and my wife, Marie, are lifelong friends, having grown up together in these parts, that being Kil Garvan, County Kerry, Ireland. John and I have become

friends during my several visits to Kerry since my marriage.]

Up the bog road we stroll, away from the tiny farming village of Kil Garvan. Halfway home we stop and look at several sparkling new, two-story homes, but not one sold, not one occupied. They look eerily out of place. "There's a monument to greed," says John. "Monumental greed. The greedy bankers kept loaning money to greedy real estate firms and greedy builders. I think U.S. banks invented sub-prime mortgage crime, but our banks took it to a new level. Home loans could be had without putting a nickel down. Then the shiftless bastards would get the suckers to take car loans to go with the home loans; and all for no money down. All adjustable-rate mortgages too. Then they started to squeeze, raising the rates, maximizing profits. It all collapsed when the 'Celtic Tiger' got declawed. People began to lose their jobs and default on the loans. The banks went swimming in their own shite. But we bailed out those bloody wankers anyway. America did the same; am I wrong?"

[The robust Irish economy, dubbed "the Celtic Tiger," roars no more. It's been declawed, defanged, demolished. The unemployment rate is estimated at over 14 percent (higher in poverty-prone areas). It was 4 percent during the boom. One in four houses now stands vacant, mostly new homes built before the crash. Irish citizens emigrate at the highest rate since the 1980s, by far the highest rate in Europe. With no prospects for employment, the best and brightest, and most skilled, leave first. The most popular destination used to be America, but no more. These days, most go to Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East, China,

us drive to the nearby town of Ken Mare, a nice spot overlooking Ken Mare Bay. It's raining, of course, but no bother. On the way back to Kil Garvan we pass a building set off the road by a long tree-lined driveway. "What's that?" I ask. That's the Quill Center," Marie answers. "It's a memorial for Mike Quill, the labor leader who went to America." I had forgotten that Quill hailed from these climes. He was a native son of Kil Garvan. "Let's go in," I say. We enter a picture gallery, and see photos of Quill, many from the NYC transit strikes of the 1960s. His life is a study in conflict, of fighting spirit, of life dedicated to the working class, the downtrodden,

...but now they're waging war on the working class.

South America. I guess those countries have jobs.]

"Yes John, we also bailed out the banks," I answer. "And our big banks get huge tax breaks now as well. And they put the money to good use, doling out multimillion-dollar bonuses to their top execs." John stops walking, and frowns. "It's bad enough they created this muck-up to begin with," says John "but now they're waging war on the working class. They point fingers at unions. They say workers have too much. You heard about my heart attack four years ago. I had to retire on disability. I put in 30 years. My pension just got cut and I have to pay more for health coverage, and higher co-pay for doctor visits. They're cutting services for the elderly. Education and transportation costs are up. You know the price for petrol and food here? Is it like that in America?" "Yes, John," I answer, "It's the same across the Atlantic. It's a global affair, I'm afraid. And we better start fighting back. But let's get going. The ladies promised to cook tonight, it's getting cold, I'm hungry, and it'll be dark soon."

{John worked as an engineer for the Cork County Council for 30 years and is a retired member of SIPTU, Ireland's largest labor union.}

It's my last day in Ireland. I have a late flight tomorrow. The four of

and oppressed. As a young boy, he fought for Irish Independence. Blacklisted as an Irish Republican Army operative and union activist, he scrambled to America in 1926, one step ahead of a bullet. In America he fought for civil rights, and workers' rights. He founded the TWU and became its first president. Mike Quill died shortly after being jailed for breaking the Condon-Wadlin Act.

Quill and King

John and I stop before a picture of Quill and Martin Luther King, Jr. The caption includes words spoken by King in tribute to Quill after his death: "Mike Quill was a fighter for decent things all his life – Irish independence, labor organization, and racial equality. He spent his life ripping the chains of bondage off his fellow man. This is a man the ages will remember."

"We could use the likes of those two today," I say to John. "Then the glass would at least be half-full." "Aye," says John. "We're draining the dregs now. Let's pop over to the pub and drink a toast to Mike and Martin," John suggests.

"And raise a glass to the working class," says I.

Dan Cunningham works at the Department of Environmental Protection



Mike Quill (left) tearing a strike-barring injunction in half during a press conference, 1966.

Solidarity with Occupy Wall Street

For years, our union has spoken out about the threat to our democracy posed by Wall Street and the concentrated wealth in our nation. Nevertheless, we have not been able to bring our members and the public to build a movement in the way Occupy Wall Street (OWS) is doing. I think the genius of OWS is the way it cuts through the distractions created by the corporate media and billionaire-backed political demagogues. OWS sharply focuses the spotlight on inequality and theft of our democracy caused by an economic and political system created by and for Wall Street. This protest resonates with all of us, the 99%, because it reflects the reality we live, not what is portrayed in the corporate media controlled by the 1%.

Wise for their age

At the labor rally supporting Occupy Wall Street, where I addressed the thousands at Foley Square, when I led a chant, "Undo



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Arthur Cheliotis acheliotes@cwa1180.org

Building a social and political movement by and for the people.

the Wall Street Coup – Take our country back," it was clear I had struck a chord. Another union leader stated it well, "We found each other." As our members joined the march from Foley Square to the Occupy Wall Street encampment at Zuccotti Park, we were joined by thousands, while even more cheered us on.

These young people are wise for their age. They are following the principles of non-violent resistance used so effectively by Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. They have the courage and determination to endure arrests, suffer assaults from the police, and protest the abuse by the 1%. We under-

stand that the 1% loves a crisis. For the 1%, a crisis is the ideal time to push through their wish list of more tax cuts, the destruction of unions, the privatization of public services and more deregulation of corporate power. In the midst of this economic crisis, these young protesters are saying: "Enough is enough!" Their courage shows us that if we come together we can fight the rich and powerful by withdrawing our obedience to an unjust economic, social and political system. They have given voice to the 99%.

On Sunday, October 9, Fox 5 reporter Geraldo Rivera invited me to join him on a panel at the OWS encampment. He asked me, "Why

are they protesting?" I explained that the 1% had ripped up the social contract that created the American Dream, because they want it all for themselves. In my closing remarks I repeated the words of former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis: "We can have the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few, or we can have democracy, but we cannot have both."

Building a movement

The media is finally starting to pay attention to the tens of thousands of people demanding Wall Street pay to create jobs, not cuts. This is our chance to push for policies that work for the 99% of us. Whether demanding banks and millionaires pay their fair share, more living-wage jobs, fighting privatization and cuts in public sector jobs, Local 1180 is standing in solidarity with Occupy Wall Street as we begin to build a social and political movement by and for the people that builds economic, political, and social justice for all.

The bargaining climate in the public sector and beyond

The time has long since passed for a sobering look at our prospects for improved compensation in all of our shops. Local 1180 has active negotiations ongoing with four of our employers in the private sector and two public-sector New York state employers, but as most know, the contract with our largest employer, the city of New York, expired more than a year ago, with no prospects for talks on the horizon. The bargaining we concluded in the past year has had mixed results, with some very modest gains and some outstanding settlements.

Issue is economic inequity

The disastrous package agreed to by CSEA sets a horrendous precedent that will actually take money out of state workers' pockets over the next three years, and, if these patterns hold, could affect Local 1180 members.

Into this context, however, charges the Occupy Wall Street movement. Inspired by Tahrir Square in Cairo



2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Bill Henning bhenning@cwa1180.org

The critical issue is economic inequity.

and other events in the "Arab Spring," protesters are giving voice to the frustrations of what they call the 99% left out of the American prosperity.

The critical issue is economic inequity. According to the CIA's own ranking of countries by income inequality, the United States is more unequal a society than either Tunisia or Egypt.

Three factoids underscore that inequality:

- The 400 wealthiest Americans have a greater combined net worth than the bottom 150 million Americans.
- The top 1 percent of Americans possesses more wealth than the entire bottom 90 percent.

- In the Bush expansion from 2002 to 2007, 65 percent of economic gains went to the richest 1 percent.

In 1981, the average salary in the securities industry in New York City was twice the average in other private-sector jobs. At last count, in 2010, it was 5.5 times as much. (In case you want to gnash your teeth, the average is now \$361,330.)

A recent Quinnipiac University poll revealed that New Yorkers back the OWS folks by a 3-1 margin. And by a 61-28 margin, New York City voters back an extension of the state's "Millionaire's Tax," slated to expire at the end of this year, with pronouncements by both Mayor Mike Bloomberg and Governor

Andrew Cuomo that they do not want it continued.

Harnessing that outrage and support for a fairer economic distribution is no mean feat, but harness it we must. We have only to look to the events in Wisconsin and Ohio earlier this year, which galvanized a working-class response to stripping away bargaining rights for unions and their members. A two-week strike in August by 45,000 Verizon workers garnered tremendous support for the CWA and IBEW members who hit the streets. And the massive (un)civil disobedience launched by the west coast longshoremen's union when its existence was challenged last month in Longview, Washington, shows that workers are prepared to defend their interests. Upcoming in January is bargaining for the bus and subway workers, and the commercial building service workers here in the city. It would behoove us to remember that they are our allies, and their victories will be our victories.

Class warfare, indeed. Let's fight back.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JULY 10, 2011

In Attendance: Arthur Cheliotas, Charles Garcia, Linda Jenkins, Alan Goldblatt, Bill Henning, Harlan Reid, Gloria Middleton, Gina Strickland, Gwen Richardson, Clarona Williams, Gerald Brown, Hazel Worley.

Absent: Michael Lamb, Lenora Smith

Guest: Gary Schoichet

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Motion made and carried to accept minutes from the June 15, 2011 meeting with the necessary correction.

President's Report

Arthur reported on the success of the Seven Myths Campaign, which was initiated at the Shop Steward Conference in May and concluded the last week of June. With the passing of the FY2012 New York City Budget, Mayor Bloomberg's threats were not carried out. He made major compromises regarding teacher layoffs, firehouse closings were stopped, and overall, layoffs were tremendously reduced with most going to attrition. Arthur is seeking to have additional Seven Myths training at the worksites and at general membership meetings. The Seven Myths Campaign must continue for the next City and State budget cycle in 2012 for FY2013.

A motion was made to extend The Advance Group's contract for 1 year with the same conditions and terms. The motion carried with 2 abstentions: Henning and Goldblatt.

Arthur advised the Board that Secretary/Treasurer Gloria Middleton has reported that, based on a review of records, Vice President Bill Henning has not submitted weekly timesheets from June 2004 to the present. Arthur then asked the Secretary/Treasurer for Henning's response. She stated that she had received an e-mail response in which Henning wanted to know how accurate she wanted the timesheets to be. The matter was discussed and it was agreed that all delinquent timesheets must be submitted by July 31, 2011.

Arthur reported that Gwen Richardson received an e-mail from Tonya Moore, a shop steward at the Margaret Sanger Clinic. In the e-mail, Ms. Moore advised that members of the bargaining unit are extremely unhappy with the lack of representation from staff rep Bernadette Sullivan. The nearly

40 members at the clinic requested a change in representation. Arthur reported that he discussed the matter with Gwen Richardson and a decision was made to relieve Bernadette Sullivan of her duties at the Margaret Sanger Clinic.

Arthur reported that Bill Henning used the Local's electronic bulletin board inappropriately, promoting his personal political agenda. He noted that Henning crossed the line when he made a statement on the bulletin board in reference to the "Unity Team."

Arthur also said that other matters are being investigated and when the investigations are completed a report will be presented.

Motion was made and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

Linda Jenkins advised that she will give a report at the next executive board meeting.

Second Vice President's Report

Bill Henning reported on bargaining updates for the Non Profit Units which he represents: New York State Unified Court System suffered layoffs and two Local 1180 members were affected, with the loss of one job. The contract at Books & Rattles expires at the end of the year. Currently in the process of getting members to meet and put demands together. The contract at Democracy Now expires at the end of September 2011. At Amnesty International, bargaining is under way, with meetings every couple of weeks. New York Foundation is preparing a counter-offer.

Motion was made and carried to accept Second Vice President's Report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Gloria Middleton reported that account balances will be detailed at the next meeting.

Ballots for the CWA Local 1180 election are schedule to be mailed on October 3 and to be returned no later than October 17. The ballot count will be conducted on October 18, 2011.

Gloria reported that Gwen Richardson received the Eugene Mays Award at the annual meeting of the CWA Minority Caucus. It is one of the highest honors awarded by the Caucus. Members of the awards committee stated they voted for Gwen because she has always shown a very strong commitment for protecting the rights of CWA Local 1180 members.

Gloria submitted the following resolution in reference to Voter

Suppression Laws: A new attack on the right to vote is spreading across the country. This basic right is being challenged through laws designed to make it more difficult to register to vote and to cast a ballot. Electoral gains in 2010 have emboldened some extremist elected officials and their supporters to eliminate collective bargaining, rescind or dramatically reduce healthcare and pension benefits, and gut public services.

To consolidate their power in the 2012 elections, these same forces are proposing and enacting state laws to make it more difficult for certain segments of the population to vote. These laws require voter identification, limit early voting, end same day registration and make it difficult for groups to register new voters.

In 20 states that did not have laws requiring voter ID at the polls at the bargaining of 2011, legislation has been introduced to do just that.

Texas, Kansas, Wisconsin, South Carolina and Tennessee enacted voter legislation this year. Indiana and Georgia already had such requirements. The Maine legislature ended Election Day voter registration. Florida shortened the early voting period and imposed onerous restrictions on voter registration drives. Wisconsin requires a government-issued ID in order to vote. In Texas, the law allows handgun licenses as voter identification, but not student IDs. Minnesota passed a new voter ID requirement this year but it was vetoed by the governor; supporters have voted to pass a new bill next year.

Photo Voter ID requirements fall into these categories:

1. Voters are requested to show a photo ID in order to vote. Voters who do not have a photo ID may cast a provisional ballot, but it is counted only if the voter returns to election officials within several days after the election to show a photo ID.

2. Voters are requested to show a photo ID in order to vote. Voters who are unable to show a photo ID are allowed to vote if they can meet certain other criteria.

Voter ID requirements disproportionately affect students, minorities, senior citizens and those in the lower income brackets. They are reminiscent of darker times in our nation's history when poll taxes, literacy tests and ownership of property were required before a citizen could vote, and were used to intimidate and deny the right to vote to minority citizens and women.

The new voter ID requirements are a poll tax by a different name. In Wisconsin, where the legislature passed one of strictest photo voter ID laws in the nation, a 2005 study by the University of Wisconsin found that 55% of African-America men,

rep position. Thirty-six resumes were received and interviews will start on August 31, 2011.

Motion was made and carried to accept the First Vice President's Report.

Second Vice President's Report

Bill Henning discussed the August 3, 2011 press release from the National AFL-CIO, commenting that it was the strongest statement to date from the AFL-CIO concerning the debt ceiling and the military budget. The statement noted: "There is no way to fund what we must do as a nation without bringing our troops home from Iraq and Afghanistan. The militarization of our foreign policy has proven to be a costly mistake. It is time to invest at home."

Bill reported on the recall election in Wisconsin. Of the six seats, the Republicans won 4 and Democrats won 2.

CSEA (New York State Union) adopted a five-year contract which includes nine unpaid furlough days, three years of no increases, 2% each year in the 4th and 5th year of the contract, and higher health care costs.

Bargaining at the Javits Center – all types of givebacks are being proposed. Amnesty International has another bargaining session scheduled for September. In addition, Books & Rattles and Democracy Now are scheduled to start bargaining. Solidarity with the Verizon strikers is crucial. It appears to be an uphill battle.

Motion made and carried to accept Second Vice President's Report.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Gloria Middleton reported that as of close of business August 16, 2011 there is \$1,013,194.08 in the T.D. Bank Checking Account and as of July 29, 2011 there is \$150,200.81 in the Morgan Stanley Account.

Gloria reported that based on her request last month Bill Henning has handed in Timesheets dated back to 2004. All the timesheets will be reviewed.

Transaction detailed reports for June and July 2011, were distributed. Profit and Loss (Revenue and Expense) report for June and July 2011, were distributed.

Motion was made and carried to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's Report.

Recording Secretary's Report

Gerald Brown reported that, based on the candidate screening conducted by the Political Committee on Saturday, July 30, and the subsequent telephone poll of the Executive Board, the results are as follows: Of the 12 voting Board Members, 11 voted in favor of the recommendation of the committee to endorse the following candidates. Not voting: Jenkins (vacation).

54th A.D. Jesus Gonzalez, 73RD A.D. Dan Quart, 23rd A.D. Phillip Goldfeder, 27th A.D. Michael Simanowitz, 9th C.D. David Weprin

Motion was moved and carried to accept the Recording Secretary's Report.

Gina Strickland's Report

Gina reported that flyers for the September 10 Labor Day Parade and the September 18 African American Parade will be mailed tomorrow. In addition, flyers for both events will also be available at the picnic.

Motion was made and carried to accept Gina Strickland's Report.

Charles Garcia's Report

Charles stated that WBAI has given Arthur an open invitation

49% of African American women, 46% of Latino men and 59% of Latino women don't have a driver's license. A 2006 nationwide study by the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University found that one in four African-American lacks a government-issued photo ID. In Missouri, the secretary of state identified nearly 240,000 registered voters – mostly elderly, disabled, poor and minorities – who lack a government-issued photo ID.

In 2008, African Americans, Latinos and young people voted overwhelmingly for Barack Obama. Is it a coincidence that these voter photo ID requirements and other recently enacted challenges to the right to vote will suppress the vote in these populations? This is the civil rights issue of our times.

Resolved: That CWA educate members on the wave of new voter ID laws and the real intent of these laws: to suppress some citizens' right to vote.

Resolved: That CWA will join with allied groups to expose the true intent of voter ID laws and work with allies to eliminate them.

Resolved: That CWA will make members aware of what they must bring to polling places by state in order to cast ballots and not be denied the fundamental right to vote.

Resolved: That CWA in 2012 will participate with the AFL-CIO and other allied groups in the election protection program and will document abuses and the consequences of these laws on voters.

Motion was made and carried to accept Secretary/Treasurer Report.

Legislative and Political Report

Gerald Brown reported that the committee will conduct interviews later this month for candidates running for office in the five open NYS Assembly Districts. Candidates will be on the ballot for a special election on Tuesday, September 13, 2011.

Harlan Reid reported that he conducted initial training for staff reps in reference to the E-Grievance Form, and that Shop Stewards will receive training at a later date.

Motion was made and carried to accept Harlan Reid's report.

Motion to adjourn was made and carried at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held August 17, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald Brown
Recording Secretary

AUGUST 17, 2011

In Attendance: Arthur Cheliotas, Charles Garcia, Gina Strickland, Linda Jenkins, Alan Goldblatt, Clarona Williams, Bill Henning, Michael Lamb, Hazel Worley, Gloria Middleton, Harlan Reid, Gerald Brown, Lenora Smith

Guest: Nadya Stevens

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the July 10, 2011 meeting. The vote to accept the minutes was a tie (evenly divided for and against). The President voted to break the tie. The President's vote was a yes vote to adopt the minutes of July 10, 2011. Bill Henning and Alan Goldblatt requested to have their no votes recorded.

President's Report

Arthur Cheliotas discussed the Local's support of Verizon workers and their struggle to obtain a new contract. A motion was made and carried to purchase lunch for the Verizon strikers at the lower Manhattan location at a cost of \$8.50 per person for 200 strikers. The period will be each Friday until our next meeting or when the strike ends, whichever comes first.

Since our last meeting, Arthur has dismissed his secretary and will subsequently replace her.

Arthur stated that he spoke to the attorney in reference to the Administrative Job Opportunity Specialist Arbitration. He was advised that the arbitrator should render a decision by the end of summer.

Arthur mentioned that the 1/10 of 1% equity money available at the end of the contract cannot be used for an across-the-board increase. The money must be used for equity issues.

Arthur noted that Mayor Michael Bloomberg has stated that no wage increase will be forthcoming without productivity givebacks. The mayor has put hundreds of millions of dollars in reduced benefits on the table in negotiations with the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC). In addition, Arthur stated that TWU will be the next group to negotiate and we must watch their negotiations very carefully.

Arthur reported the Local's Welfare Fund currently has an 11-month reserve, and the Annuity Fund Statements (\$2.00 a day) were mailed, with a graph showing the excellent performance of the fund.

Motion was made and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

Linda Jenkins reported the following:

OCB**HHC titles – Assistant Director Hospitals and Associate Director Hospitals**

Due to the departure of the HHC attorney, no hearings have been held since June 1, 2011. HHC has assigned a new attorney and hearings are scheduled to resume on August 23.

Principal Administrative Associate List # 8535

Based on information received from the agency or the City Record the following agencies have made appointments from their lists:

NYCERS – 8 on list – appointed 6 – # 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9

Comptroller – 15 on list – appointed 13 – # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14

Teachers Retirement – 3 on list – appointed 1 – # 2

NYPD – 327 on list – appointed 15 – # 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 29, 32, 34 and 36

ACS – 157 on list – appointed 7 – # 2, 8, 15, 16, 19, 26 and 29

HRA – 889 on list – appointed 68 – # 4, 6, 9, 16, 26, 28, 32, 35, 36, 38, 41, 44, 49, 50, 52, 54, 66, 68, 85, 86, 87, 89, 91, 94, 96, 97, 103, 105, 107, 111, 112, 114, 115, 118, 122, 123, 124, 131, 132, 135, 139, 140, 141, 142, 145, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 158, 159, 160, 161, 163, 164, 166, 169, 174, 175, 179, 180 and 182

DHS – 32 on list – appointed 27 – # 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 23.5, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29

FISA – 1 on list – appointed #1

DJJ – 4 on list – appointed 1 – # 2

OPA – 6 on list – appointed 5 – # 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6

DYCD – 9 on list – appointed all 9

HPD – 57 on list – appointed 44 – # 1, 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 25.5, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48.5, 51, 52 and 53

DOHMH – 96 on list – appointed 8 – # 7, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 57

OATH – 9 on list – appointed 6 – # 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8

Sanitation – 68 on list – appointed 26 – # 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33 and 34

Finance – 64 on list – appointed 49 – # 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64 and 65

DOT – 63 on list – appointed 55 – # 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48, 49.5, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62

Parks – 19 on list – appointed 5 – # 3, 9, 11, 13 and 19

DDC – 18 on list – appointed 3 – # 1, 5 and 11

DOITT – 12 on list – appointed 3 – # 1, 7 and 8

DCAS – 32 on list – appointed 20 – # 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 35, 37, 38 and 42

DA-Queens – 7 on list – appointed 5 – # 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7

No information on movement of their lists for the following agencies: OMB, Probation, Education, SBS, CCRB, Buildings, FDNY, DEP, Correction, Consumer Affairs, DFTA DA-Kings, TLC, NYCHA, OLR, NYCTA

The following agencies have provisionals serving as of 5/31/2011 (last date of Quarterly Provisional Report published 7/11/2011):

NYCERS – 16, DYCD – 28, Boro Pres-Bx – 2, Probation – 1, Comptroller – 19, SBS – 20, OMB – 1, HPD – 2, City Planning – 8, Buildings – 68, Education – 15, DOHMH – 88, Teachers Retirement* – 19, OATH – 12, CCRB – 2, DEP – 132, FDNY – 93, Sanitation – 1, ACS – 25, BIC – 2, HRA – 154, Finance – 23, Correction – 35, DOT – 116, DFTA – 1, Parks – 45, FISA – 4, DDC – 27, DJJ – 2, DOITT – 13, OPA* – 2, Consumer Affairs – 3, Landmarks – 2, DCAS – 88, TLC – 15, DA-Kings – 6, OLR – 2, DA-Queens – 1, COMM – 2, NYCHA – 38, NYPD Pension – 8, NYCTA – 123

*agency reported current # of provisionals

Linda reported that an e-mail will be sent to all staff reps listing agencies where there are Provisional PAA's and there is a promotional list in play. The reps should request a Labor Management Meeting to discuss the issue if an agency is in violation of NYS Civil Service Law in retaining provisionals in light of the established date of the promotional list.

Linda advised that the Local is attempting to fill a vacant staff

to be a guest on the radio station. El Diario is hosting a series of events around 9/11.

Motion was made and carried to accept Charles Garcia's Report.

Harlan Reid's Report

Harlan reported the revised guarantee for adults and children at the Annual Picnic is 500.

Motion was moved and carried to accept Harlan Reid's Report.

Arthur Cheliotas and Bill Henning

Both reopened their reports.

Arthur stated that "In the Public Interest" training will start later this year and that Local 1180 will host a Japanese Labor delegation on August 22, 2011.

Bill Henning stated that there will be a NYCOSH Conference in remembrance of 9/11. The conference is titled "How to work safe in a disaster." The conference is scheduled for 9/16/2011.

Motion was made and carried to accept additions to their reports.

Next meeting date is 9/14/2011.

Motion to adjourn carried at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerald Brown
Recording Secretary

COMMUNIQUE

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Executive Board

Arthur Cheliotas, *President*

Linda Jenkins, *Ist Vice President*

William F. Henning, Jr., *2nd Vice President*

Gloria Middleton, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Gwen Richardson, *Recording Secretary*

Members-at-large

Gerald Brown, Charles Garcia, Alan Goldblatt, Michael Lamb, Harlan Reid, Georgina Strickland, Lenora Smith, Clarona Williams, Hazel Worley

Gary Schoichet, *Editor*

Margarita Aguilar, *Design*

Joelle Morrison, *Proofreader*



Printed by Content Critical
800 Central Blvd., Carlstadt, N.J. 07072

Local 1180 executive board and delegates to CWA Convention election results

President Arthur Cheliotos and First Vice President Linda Jenkins were re-elected having run unopposed.

The remainder of the votes for officers and at-large members are in alphabetical order.

2nd vice president

Bill Henning 814
 Georgina (Gina) Phillips-Strickland976

Secretary-treasurer

Hilary Bloomfield 653
 Gloria Middleton..... 1138

Recording secretary

Gerald "Gerry" Brown 1062
 Michael Lamb..... 731

Members-at-large

Lourdes Acevedo..... 1080
 Charles Garcia.....1076
 Lenora Smith.....996
 Denise Gilliam987
 Harlan Reid.....965
 Lisa Lloyd.....939
 Suzanne Polite.....909
 Hazel O. Worley906
 Bernadette Sullivan.....845
 Debra Paylor..... 810
 Tina Lopez 771
 Helena Crump 751
 Esther Kaplan.....682
 George J. Ennis III645
 Lincoln Bonner 631
 Bonnie Sanders.....627
 Herbrena Young.....621
 LaChaune Hackett605
 Michael Walczyszyn 275

Results not official until certified.

PERSONAL NOTES

PASSINGS

Sincerest condolences to the family of **Bernhard Jonas**, a Legal Secretarial Assistant, who passed away in September.

Heartfelt condolences to **Naomi Murphy**, PAA, Department of Homeless Services, on the passing of her granddaughter, Tayshana Murphy.

Sincere condolences to **Veronica White**, PAA, Department of Homeless Services, on the passing of her mother, Mildred Mitchell.

Condolences to **Irene Daniels**, PAA, Department of Homeless Services, on the passing of her mother on August 25.

Heartfelt condolences to **Charles Jenkins**, Human Resources Administration retiree, on the passing of his wife, Edna Jenkins, also a Local 1180 retired member.

Our condolences to the family of **Pearl White** who passed away on October 16, 2011. She was retired from Department of Youth and Community Development.

DOE grinches fire school workers



Floretta Sage and Lilieth Ferguson attended a September 7 rally for the 770 DC 37 Local 372 workers who were laid off by the Department of Education. They are school aides,

health aides, family workers, and parent and community coordinators, the lowest-paid DOE workers, and the ones least able to lose their jobs and continue living in their communities.

CALENDAR

All meetings are at 6 PM unless otherwise noted.

November 1, Tuesday

General Membership
 UFT, 52 Broadway, 2nd floor

November 2, Wednesday

People with Disabilities Committee
 (chair: Alan Goldblatt)

November 3, Thursday

Equity and Civil Rights Committee
 (chair: Gloria Middleton)

Community Service Committee

(chair: Pat Ruffin)

November 8, Tuesday

ELECTION DAY

November 10, Thursday

Hispanic Committee
 (chair: Venus Williams)

November 15, Tuesday

Arts & Entertainment Committee
 (chair: Harlan Reid)

Education Committee

(chair: Linda Jenkins)

Women's Committee

(chair: Bernice Selman)

November 17, Thursday

Retired Members Chapter 12:30
 (president: Adelle Rogers)

November 22, Tuesday

Civil Service Committee
 (chair: Linda Jenkins)

December 1, Thursday

Equity Committee
 (chair: Gloria Middleton)

December 6, Tuesday

Arts & Entertainment Committee
 (chair: Harlan Reid)

December 7, Wednesday

People with Disabilities Committee
 (chair: Alan Goldblatt)

December 8, Thursday

Community Services Committee
 (chair: Pat Ruffin)

Hispanic Committee

(chair: Venus Williams)

December 13, Tuesday

Education Committee
 (chair: Linda Jenkins)

Women's Committee

(chair: Bernice Selman)

December 20, Tuesday

Civil Service Committee
 (chair: Linda Jenkins)

December 22, Wednesday

Caribbean Heritage Committee
 (chair: Gina Strickland)

GARY SCHUCHET

CWA Local 1180

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Inside Communique

BOATHOUSE WORKERS WIN 3

Where the action was: Labor Day and African-American Day parades, and Occupy Wall Street 4-5

Raise a glass to the working class 8

Getting priorities right >>>

Member disciplined for wearing leggings?

Millions of people are unemployed; more are without health insurance, 20 percent of America's children are malnourished, the infrastructure is crumbling, reading and writing is a lost art, and the New York City Human Resources Administration wrote up Sally McMahon for wearing leggings to work in violation of the agency's dress code. She was wearing the leggings, or open-toed tights, under a dress as in the photos. That is not a violation of the dress code, which says leggings cannot be worn as stand-alones. Should have been laughed away. When the union intervened it was.

Can't we just feed the hungry, house the homeless, and protect the children?



PHOTOS: GARY SCHICHIET