



IN STRENGTH & UNITY

COLLEGE STAFF GUILD
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 1521A

On the Web at WWW.LOCAL1521A.ORG

September 2012

Hot Off The Press

SPECIAL EDITION

2012 Membership Meeting

- **NOVEMBER 6 ELECTION:** Your vote is critical. Every vote counts to protect our jobs, protect our voice, support public education, protect healthcare and ensure the right to vote. **Re-Elect President Obama.** A vote for President Obama is a vote to protect working families. **Participate in the Get Out The Vote (GOTV) and remember voter registration deadline is Oct 22nd.**
- **VOTE 'YES' ON PROPOSITION 30:** It is the only measure that will provide billions in funding starting this year – money our colleges need to keep classified and faculty from being furloughed or worse. Without Proposition 30, our schools, colleges and universities face billions in devastating cuts. Proposition 30 will also be used to pay down California's debt. The state's highest earners – individuals earning \$250,000 or couples earning \$500,000 or more – pay more taxes for seven years and a sales tax increase of one quarter of a cent for 4 years. **Vote "YES" on Proposition 30.**
- **VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 32:** Proposition 32 was written to silence the voice of union workers and create special exemptions for corporate interests, giving the wealthy well-connected even more political power to write their own set of rules. The passage of Proposition 32 would severely restrict union members in both the private and public sectors from having a voice in our political process. Therefore, education employees, teachers, nurses, firefighters, police and others would be unable to speak out on issues that impact working families. **Vote "NO" Proposition 32.**
- **1521A - CONFIDENTIAL HOTLINE:** Do you know where LACCD can save money? Do you know where the spending waste is? You can give information and knowledge of where savings and waste are in the LACCD. Call our confidential toll-free number 1-855-876-5821 to help find the money and help identify the waste. Information will be kept confidential and used to address the LACCD budget shortfall.

- **CalPERS Health Benefits OPEN ENROLLMENT:** September 10 - October 5. If you are planning to make any changes, you will need to complete the online process. If you do not plan to make changes, there is nothing to do. You should have received the CalPERS 2012 statement and open enrollment news. If you haven't received this information, contact the Health Benefits Call Center at 888-428-2980.
- **Pension Reform AB340 (Furutani):** On September 12th Governor Edmund Brown Jr. signed AB340 into law. Our state affiliate CFT submitted a letter of opposition to a two tier system, although some reform was needed. Thank you to all union brother and sisters who called our legislators and voiced our opposition to AB340. To review how the reform will affect current and new members, go to www.local1521A.org for details.
- **CalPERS Service Credit "Airtime":** Airtime is additional retirement service credit that can be purchased from CalPERS, only until December 31, 2012. Governor Brown's Pension Reform will prohibit members from purchasing airtime. For additional information go www.MyCalPERS.org
- **Congratulations:** Retirement recognition for service to the Los Angeles Community College District. The following classified employees have contributed significantly toward providing the highest quality of service to our students and the public.

Ray Hicks	Accountant	37	City
Ernestina Higuera	Student Services Asst.	25	Trade Tech

- **Car Wash Campaign:** The LA County Federation of Labor is proud to announce support for the Vermont Car Wash. It is important to support the car wash campaign by using a unionized car wash. Remember ask your local car wash to become **UNION**.
- **Homeless Heroes Walk-a-thon:** HomeWalk is United Way of Greater Los Angeles' annual 5k Run/Walk to End Homelessness. Each year thousands join together to do their part by fundraising and spreading the word that homelessness is a solvable problem. Everyone is asked to come out and support the walk-a-thon on Saturday November 17th. www.homewalkla@unitedwayla.com
- **"Union Label" Fair:** The LA County Federation of Labor will hold a union made product fair prior to their monthly meeting Monday September 17th at the Musicians Union, Local 47 on Vine Street. Buying "union made" protects jobs.
- **AIDS Walk Los Angeles:** Be a part of the LA AIDS Walk on October 2012, join the LACCD team or sponsor by contacting Laurie Green at 213 891-2137.
- **Chicago Teachers Union Strike:** Local 1 is where the AFT was born. AFT President Randi Weingarten states, "that 1.5 million members of the AFT are proud to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in their fight to ensure that every child in Chicago's public schools has access to a great education and that educators and their work are valued." **Local 1521A Stands in Solidarity.** Opeiu: 537 afl-cio/sm HOTP sp ed