

# dialogue



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## When we Fight Together:

# WE WIN



# dialogue

**MARCH 2017**

United Food and Commercial Workers  
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## 2017 SUMMER INTERNSHIP

### DO YOU OR YOUR FAMILY MEMBER HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LOCAL 1776 SUMMER INTERN?

**U**FCW Local 1776's Young Members Summer Internship Program is an eight-week paid educational internship designed to reach out to younger Local 1776 members or the family of members.

After an orientation and training, interns will be placed in a few key areas of the Local such as the Organizing/Field Services and Legislative Departments and they'll also participate in other and representational activities.



**This year's internship program will run from June 12, 2017 through August 4, 2017. The application deadline is April 14, 2017.**

In selecting participants, we look for people who are committed to principles of social and economic justice. Participants must be people oriented, energetic, and willing to work long hours on a sometimes-unpredictable schedule. Applicants must be 18 to 30 years old and a college degree is NOT required.

Apply online at [www.ufcw1776.org/intern](http://www.ufcw1776.org/intern). If you have any questions, please contact your union representative, or Director of Field Operations Len Purnell at 610-940-1822 or [lpurnell@ufcw1776.org](mailto:lpurnell@ufcw1776.org)

# APPLY TODAY!

[UFCW1776.org/intern](http://UFCW1776.org/intern)

# Report from the PRESIDENT



**Wendell W. Young, IV**

The start of a new year always presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities for each of us - and 2017 will not be any different. The leadership team at Local 1776 is excited about the ambitious agenda we have mapped out for this year. We are

prepared to continue fighting for each and every one of the 22,000 members we are proud to represent. I know that, personally, the start of a new year serves as a reminder of the progress our local - and all of organized labor - has made over the years. Unions have helped build our nation's great middle class, and I am proud our Local has been at the forefront of this effort for generations. Still, 2017 presents some daunting challenges in Pennsylvania and in Washington, DC. We know too many Americans have no collective voice in the workplace. We know we are facing strong political headwinds in Harrisburg as some lawmakers try to advance onerous anti-worker legislation.

As I look ahead, I see a tremendous opportunity for Local 1776 to help lead the effort to bring our membership - and by extension our nation - closer together. I believe our diversity is a strength. Our nation's proud history of acceptance and tolerance is what has made us so great. It is incumbent upon each of us to



remember this core value when we come to the workplace or even in our larger communities.

When we stand and fight together - we win. I have witnessed this dynamic countless times over the years and now more than ever, we need to work together. We need to acknowledge that our members do not vote as one monolithic bloc - and we should never expect that to be the case. We need to recognize our differences and work toward understanding why some colleagues supported President Trump and others supported Hillary Clinton or one of the independent candidates. We must remind ourselves each day that we all believe in workplace democracy and democracy simply does not work without mutual respect.





We do share common goals and a set of core values. We all believe in good jobs that pay well with strong benefits and retirement security. This core belief extends across every sector, business and organization where we are proud to represent working men and women. We work to help create new jobs and to make sure all workers have the opportunity to be represented so their rights can be protected.

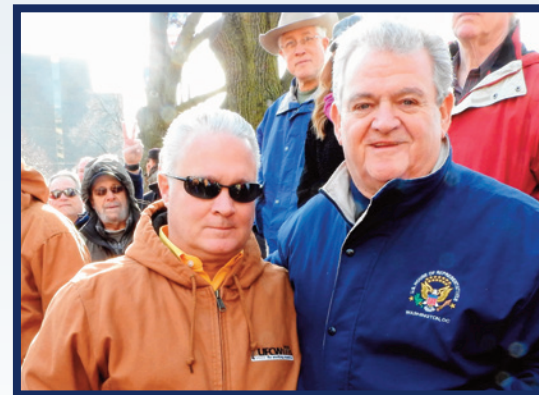
These shared goals and values will drive our on-going efforts in both Washington, D.C. and Harrisburg. The Local's officers and our tremendous staff have made a commitment to work with the Trump administration in a respectful and constructive fashion on those critical issues driven by the federal government. We will continue to work with state leaders in both parties on important workers' rights issues. These efforts run the gamut, from opposing legislation that would restrict your rights to free speech or limit our ability to effectively represent

each and every one of you. We will continue to work closely with advocates fighting to raise the minimum wage because we recognize it is the right thing to do. A higher minimum wage raises the income of millions of Pennsylvanians. A rising tide, in this case, does indeed raise all boats.

As you will read in this issue of The Dialogue, Local 1776 continues to operate the Union Citizenship Action Network (UCAN) a workshop designed to help eligible members become citizens of this great country. We worked closely with our International Union to develop this program and I am proud of the fact that it will serve as a model for all UFCW Locals. The Dialogue includes an update on our efforts to hold Walmart accountable to its workers and to the courts. We welcome two new staff members to the team. Sadly, we look at the closing of the Burlington Coat Factory in Clifton Heights, where our members worked for more than 30 years. We offer a look back at the Presidency of Barack Obama, a friend to Local 1776 and a staunch supporter of workers' rights everywhere. I was especially proud to have spent time visiting with our former President. We owe him our thanks for leading the nation out of a crippling recession that threatened our economy.

Finally, I want to assure you that we remain deeply committed to fighting for good jobs with fair wages and strong benefits packages for each of you. We will never shy away from fighting for your rights to be well paid for a good day's work in a safe workplace. There should be no doubt in your minds that our fight continues.

I want to thank you for your continued support.



# PART 7: (Re) INTRODUCING UFCW LOCAL 1776 STAFF...

As a continuation of our ongoing series, we are proud to highlight four more key parts of the Local 1776 team. Read their bios to learn more about who represents you and your fellow members every day!

## MARY OWENS, REPRESENTATIVE



With more than 30 years working for ACME markets, Mary Owens has a lifetime of experience in a union shop. In that time, she worked at 5 separate ACMEs, joined the Local's Executive Board and became the first woman in the Local to achieve the position of Produce Manager with ACME Markets.

Early in her career, Mary learned the value of getting involved with the union. Faced with losing her health insurance when her parent's coverage ended, Mary was happy to learn she was covered through the union. From that point forward, she was a strong union activist, and she became a shop steward.

Mary is excited to take on the challenges of the union, and to fighting on your behalf.

## JOHN TYNAN, REPRESENTATIVE

John Tynan attributes everything he has to being a member of UFCW Local 1776. Before joining the staff earlier this year, John was a baker at ShopRite for more than two decades. He has also served on the Local's Executive Board.

In the stores, John was a champion for Local 1776 members, and he took advantage of every opportunity to learn more about the union. Soon after being hired, a co-worker quickly identified John as a great candidate for shop steward. John jumped at the opening.

Today, John is even more engaged and enthusiastic than ever. He is thrilled to have joined the staff.



## CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

For more than a year, we partnered with FM radio station 102.9 WMGK to highlight a Local 1776 member every month. Through the program, members from throughout the Local were recognized for their contribution to their worksites and communities.

UFCW Local 1776 is always looking for ways to recognize members who go above and beyond. If you know of a member who deserves a shout-out let us know by calling (610) 940-1878.



**Lisa Sadler, ACME**



**Anthony Jackson, ShopRite**

# NEGOTIATIONS, YOUR VOICE AT WORK

By Mark Jacobs, Bargaining Director



Union members make their gains through negotiations at the bargaining table. Whether you deserve a raise or just plain respect, it all gets worked out through negotiations. The process brings together workers and management to craft the fairest contracts possible. Contracts are typically in effect for 3 years, and they spell out compensation and working conditions. 2016 was busy for the Local's negotiators, and we've already had an exciting 2017 settling several contracts.

Negotiations may sound like a complicated topic, but it's actually a simple process based in democracy and workplace fairness. There are 5 basic steps: (1) tell the union what you want to change about work through questionnaires and contract proposal meetings; (2) a negotiating committee is made up of your coworkers; (3) the negotiating committee and management exchange ideas to come up with a finalized proposal; (4) the finalized proposal is presented to all the employees at a ratification meeting; and (5) either support or oppose the proposal with a secret ballot.

This year, we are working on many contracts, and the members have ratified multiple in recent months. Contracts at Cargill, Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF), Aramark Bloomsburg University and Golden Living Center have all been settled recently and are outlined on the next page. Our team looks forward to representing the members in negotiations and to settling many more contracts in the coming months.



## CONTRACTS: COMPLETED AND UPCOMING

### Recently Ratified

*Agreements reached within the last 6 mos.*

- Chartwells (Pocono Mountain School District)
- Wells Fargo Center
- Citizens Bank Park
- Cargill
- Talen Energy Stadium
- Skyline Healthcare
- Aramark at Bloomsburg University
- Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF)
- Village ShopRite
- Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB)
- Timber Ridge Health Care
- Fresh Grocer

### Upcoming Contracts

*Agreements being negotiated/soon to be negotiated*

- Mission Foods
- Dreshertown Shop N Bag
- Germantown Academy
- Sun Re Cheese
- Salus University
- ShopRite (Hatfield, Zallie, Brown's, R&R, Collins, Ammons, Colligas and Cowhey)
- Birchwood Nursing Home
- Blythe Township
- Borough of West Pittston
- Cedarbrook Nursing Home
- UFCW 1776 Federal Credit Union
- Village of Pennbrook
- Eastern Quality Vending at JBS Souderton
- Cove Shoe
- Northern Cambria Giant Eagle
- Rite Aid

## NEW CONTRACT FOR 700 AT CARGILL

700 Cargill members in Hazleton, PA, ratified a new contract. They produce beef products for sale at supermarkets.

The new five-year contract includes wage increases, a greater investment in personal protective equipment, and language to prevent discrimination based on nationality and sexual orientation. The Cargill membership is quite diverse, and the Local was proud to provide interpreters throughout negotiations.

“For our 700 members that work at the Cargill Hazleton plant, this new five-year agreement will provide fair wage increases each year and quality, affordable healthcare for them and their families at a time when the future may seem uncertain for many workers,”

- **Wendell W. Young, IV.**



## ARAMARK BLOOMSBURG RATIFIED

Earlier this year, Local 1776 members at Bloomsburg University ratified a new three-year deal with Aramark. At Bloomsburg, the members work hard to provide food for students and faculty. They are the sous chefs, cooks and bakers, and they work in receiving, delivery, utility, and in food service.

Members at Bloomsburg overwhelmingly agreed to the new contract which includes

\$1.50 in wages increases, additional vacation time and sick days. Also, Aramark agreed to increase their contribution for employee health care.



## PEBTF GETS A NEW DEAL!

In late January, members at the Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF) in Harrisburg united behind a new contract. The deal guarantees more than 10 percent in wage increases, and the members at PEBTF maintained great benefits as well.

The nearly 50 members at the PEBTF help maintain benefits for 140,000 eligible Commonwealth of Pennsylvania employees/retirees and their dependents. In fact, members at the PEBTF administer the benefits for PA Wine and Spirits employees who are also members of Local 1776.



# REMEMBERING CLIFTON HEIGHTS BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY

By: Tony Zollo

For more than 30 years, the Burlington Coat Factory and the people who worked there were a staple in Clifton Heights, PA. Unfortunately, that all changed late last year when the workers were informed their store would close. Many of the approximately 25 Local 1776 members at Burlington had been there for decades. For this group, Burlington was more than a job and the people they worked with were more than just co-workers. The Burlington Coat Factory members were a family who looked out for one another, and they loved what they did.

For the last 27 years, Augusta Henry has been one of the many



*Shop Steward Augusta Henry working at Burlington Coat Factory in the early 00's*



*Shop Steward Augusta Henry in front of the now closed Burlington Coat Factory*

smiling faces you would find at Burlington Coat Factory. Augusta was not only a hard-working long-time member at the store, she was the shop steward. Shortly after being hired, Augusta stepped up to the role and it didn't take her long to become a fierce worker advocate.

Augusta fostered a kind of comradery missing from many workplaces – especially in retail. Turnover is high at most retail stores. With a lot of new people coming in and out, it's tough to build real bonds. This was not the case at Burlington. Augusta and many of her co-workers stocked shelves, worked in receiving and as cashiers throughout the 80's, 90's and until the store was shuttered.

When asked, Augusta will tell you why she liked being a union steward and why she appreciated UFCW Local 1776. Augusta enjoyed the social

aspects of being a union member. She valued the picnics and social activities like the gatherings at the Variety Club, and she always looked forward to the Labor Day Picnic in Philadelphia. Overall, Augusta enjoyed spending her time with her co-workers. They plan on staying in touch and reminiscing for years to come.

Through negotiations, Local 1776 secured unemployment and severance benefits for most of the displaced members. As a result, workers received thousands of dollars in compensation and many received bonuses. The Burlington Coat Factory in Clifton Heights was one of only two union stores in the country. If the workers in Clifton Heights did not have a union, the employer could have fired all the employees without negotiating with anyone.

In all, Local 1776 is proud to have represented Burlington Coat Factory for more than 30 years. The Local is proud of the decades of hard work of Augusta and her fellow members, and the union wishes all the best to the members in their future endeavors.



**FROM LEFT:** Jamar Hairston, 18yrs. Barbara Macfeat (Retired) 35yrs. Augusta Henry 27yrs. Faustino Conanan (Retired) 20yrs.





# WALMART: PAYS \$241M CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

United Food Commercial Workers recently launched a TV ad campaign to draw attention to Walmart's long and troubling history of engaging in systematic unjust pay practices.

The campaign was kicked off when the company, after a decade of legal machinations and bogus appeals, finally began making payments to more than 187,000 employees who won a \$241.1 million class action lawsuit the company lost.

Walmart finally began making payments to the plaintiffs in a \$241.1 million class action lawsuit that alleged unfair pay practices.

"While we are happy to end this chapter of litigation, it bears reminding that this case is just one piece of evidence pointing to systemic unjust pay practices at Walmart," said Randy Parraz, campaign director of Making Change at Wal-Mart. "It is immensely disappointing that Walmart chose to spend millions in legal fees and interest instead of treating its employees fairly."

Walmart was found to have conducted illegal pay practices including intimidation of employees to complete projects, locking employees in the store overnight, encouraging employees not to log overtime hours, and calling employees back to work after they had clocked out for meal breaks.

The case began in 2002 when Philadelphia worker Michelle Braun filed a class action against all Walmart and Sam's Club stores in Pennsylvania. Two years later, she was joined by Dolores Hummel, a Walmart cake decorator in Reading, Pa. Their cases were combined in 2005, and the action represented the complaints of nearly 187,000 Walmart workers.

In 2006, a jury awarded the plaintiffs \$78.5 million, finding that Walmart "violated state laws and breached their agreement to provide paid rest breaks and to pay for all time that employees worked off the clock."

The court awarded an additional \$62.3 million in statutory damages to the 124,506 members of the lawsuit in 2007.

Walmart appealed the decision to the PA Supreme Court in 2011, and the decision was upheld. After that appeal failed, Walmart filed a request for review and was denied again in the spring of 2016.

After dragging out the process for 14 years, Walmart now owes the plaintiffs an additional \$88 million in interest payments. Starting in December of 2016, workers began receiving settlement checks ranging from several hundred to several thousand dollars.



**Rep. Morgan Cephas** (above) and **Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski** (Right) delivered poignant speeches on the importance of worker's rights and the need for respect at work.



# Welcoming New Americans:

## UFCW Local 1776 Union Citizenship Action Network (UCAN)



By: Chris Snyder

As you may know, Local 1776 developed a union citizenship workshop in partnership with the United Food & Commercial Workers (UFCW) International Union to help eligible members to apply to become citizens. This program started with the training of the Local 1776 Cargill Stewards in the Spring of 2015, followed by our first workshop at the Hazleton One Community Center. In the Fall of 2015, the Local 1776 JBS Stewards were trained on the same program and have since conducted workshops in Allentown, Reading and Philadelphia. In May 2016, several Knouse Foods and Hanover Foods Stewards were also trained, with a first workshop held in south central Pennsylvania in August. Within the last year, this program has aided over 130 eligible Local 1776 members to navigate the citizenship process.

Local 1776 President Wendell Young, IV and the Local 1776 Executive Board recognize the hard work of Stewards in helping fellow members to achieve the American Dream. Local 1776 will continue to provide this resource into 2017 and beyond to aid eligible members and will expand the program to other locations in Pennsylvania.

Additionally, President Young and the Executive Board, in 2016, established the Local 1776 American Dream Fund; a scholarship fund that aids eligible Local 1776 members who successfully complete the UCAN Program and apply [without any qualifying federal assistance] to become citizens. To date, this scholarship program has helped nearly 20 members. This program will continue and we hope to continue to grow in the months and years ahead to benefit members.

If you are interested in a citizenship workshop or have questions about eligibility or how to apply, please contact **Local 1776 at [toll-free] 1-800-635-6994, Ext. 308.**



### Coming Up Next...

Please be sure to check out the workshops below. Keep an eye on the local 1776 website ([www.ufcw1776.org](http://www.ufcw1776.org)) for more information and updates on UCAN workshops scheduled near you.



# REMEMBERING TOM LAZUR



*Tom Lazur (Left) and President Emeritus Wendell W. Young, III (Right)*

## 1951 – 2017

Tom Lazur passed away on February 12, 2017 at the age of 65. Tom was the Recorder of UFCW Local 1776 when he retired in 2003. A negotiator for years, Tom commanded the room and helped advance the mission of UFCW Local 1776.

Tom started as an Acme meat cutter. Living in a rural part of the state, he was a member of UFCW Local 72. Tom eventually stepped up to be a union representative with Local 72. Before Local 72 merged with Local 1776 in 1998, Tom held the positions of Secretary-Treasurer and President of Local 72.

President Wendell W. Young, IV, worked with Tom for years, and he remembers Tom as a momentous figure within the union. Young said, "Tom was a strong leader. Coming from a worksite, he had a perspective which resonated with the membership. Tom had a strong negotiating style which helped workers secure fair contracts."

In 2003, Tom retired. Under his leadership, Tom helped Local 1776 grow into the union it is today. Local 1776 is grateful for the contributions Tom made to the labor movement, and we offer our condolences to the entire Lazur Family.

# Local 1776 Education Update



By Marcy Foseca  
Education Coordinator

2016 was an exciting year for the Education Department. We held our first ever two-day Steward Conference at the Hershey Lodge. The conference was jammed with seminars designed to help Stewards

remain informed about issues that affect workers. The conference workshops provided Stewards the tools they need to represent members in their worksites. The workshops included topics such as Understanding Collective Bargaining, Workers' Compensation, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace, and Strategies for Dealing with Harassment.

We hosted many dynamic and exciting speakers, including Rick Bloomingdale, President of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, Esther Lopez, UFCW International Secretary-Treasurer, and Senator Daylin Leach. For me personally, it was awe-inspiring to see all of our Stewards together, and their showing of solidarity for each other. The conference was well received by our Stewards, and because of the overwhelming positive feedback we received, we have already begun working on the next Steward Conference, which is scheduled for November, 2017.

Throughout last year, we held many Steward Trainings for individual worksites, covering topics such as OSHA Rights, Legal Rights of Stewards, and Grievance Handling. We have continued a program at our ShopRite locations, where stewards are being trained to handle first step grievances.

We also held several educational meetings for our Stewards and members who receive their benefits through the Local 1776 Health & Welfare Fund. The meetings were held to ask for input and review the benefit changes. Twice a year, we host New Steward Trainings, which

are designed to help new stewards who are just starting out.

I am equally proud of our New Member Orientation program. These orientations are tailored to each specific worksite and are designed to address specific issues that workers may encounter.

Members might not be aware of the many benefits and rights they have. For example, Weingarten rights give members the ability to have union representation anytime they are being questioned by management on something that could lead to discipline. Typically, we review a summary of the contract and benefits and how the grievance procedure works.

Making sure members are educated about issues that affect them is one of our top priorities. We work with Union Representatives to identify important issues at worksites, and hold educational membership meetings with the members involved. In January, we held membership meetings with Wise Foods members to review a report about workplace safety. We take the safety of our memberships very seriously, so we immediately put together a plan, and brought in an industrial hygienist to first train our Stewards, and then educate the entire membership.

2017 is looking to be an eventful year. Under the new presidential administration, workers and unions will be faced with many challenges. Through our education programs, we are committed to making sure that you are informed and educated on these issues, and we will continue to hold Steward Trainings and meetings. I encourage you to get involved in our union, attend any scheduled meetings, and keep fighting the good fight!



*I do solemnly and sincerely pledge, on my word of honor...*

## **UFCW Local 1776 Swears in a new Executive Board.**



On December 20, 2016, UFCW Local 1776's New Executive Board was sworn in by UFCW Region 2 Director Al Vincent. The Board is made up of 25 members and staff from throughout the union. Rank and file members from JBS Meats, Cargill, SCHOTT Glass and other manufacturing units are on the board. Also, members who work at ACME, ShopRite, Rite Aid and the Wine and Spirits stores were sworn in. You will also find professional employees and Local union staff on the Board.

The E-Board makes important decisions for the future of the Local as described in the Union's Constitution. They make decisions on whether to authorize a strike, how to spend money and they provide input to assist in guidance of the Union.

Because they are the primary governance structure of the Local, Board members must pledge to support the mission of the Local.

Take a look at this excerpt from the pledge and you'll get an understanding of what your Board stands for.

*"I...do solemnly and sincerely pledge, on my word of honor, before the members and other witnesses here assembled, to faithfully perform and diligently execute, to the best of my ability, the duties and responsibilities of the office of Executive Board member of UFCW Local 1776 to which I have been elected as prescribed by the Constitution and bylaws of the International Union and Local 1776.*

*I pledge that I will, to the best of my ability, **protect and promote the democratic institutions and processes, civil rights and liberties, and the highest traditions of social and economic justice of the United States...***

*...Further, I pledge at all times to bear true and faithful allegiance to this Local and to uphold and support its Constitution and bylaws."*

**-UFCW Local 1776 Executive Board Oath**



# Thanks Obama.

## A Look Back at Eight Years of Change

Back in 2009, no one knew what the 44th President of the United States was going to accomplish, but one thing was certain: Barack Obama was going to be a different kind of Commander-in-Chief. President Obama took office at the beginning of one of the worst economic recessions our nation has ever



faced. The Democrats won power from an immensely unpopular president and change was on the horizon. President Obama had an astonishingly productive eight years as the country enjoyed an epic comeback from the Great Recession. The President signed a stimulus package which prevented an all-out depression. And to provide stability for the future, he passed sweeping reforms to Wall Street which reigned in reckless players in the financial industry.

President Obama signed laws which protected all Americans. In 2010, the Congress passed his landmark legislation – The Affordable Care Act.

Today, more Americans have health care coverage than ever before, skyrocketing health care costs have slowed, and the care provided is more efficient and at a higher quality. He signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in 2009 giving women a better shot at equal pay in the workplace.

Obama's legacy lives on. While in office, two of President Obama's Supreme Court Nominees were confirmed. Justice Sotomayor was the third woman and first Hispanic on the bench, and Justice Kagen the forth. Both Justices have proven to be guardians for workers and their rights to speech and to unions.

The course of history was changed by Obama's Presidency. An economic depression was avoided and millions of Americans have health care because of his actions. UFCW Local 1776 Supported Obama in the primary elections and throughout his eight years in office. The Local stands for social justice and worker's rights. President Obama exemplified these values. Thanks Obama.

Before Obama	Comparison	Now
850.12	<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	2,268.90
7.3%	<b>Unemployment</b>	4.7%
15.1%	<b>No Health Care</b>	9.4%
3.8%	<b>Inflation</b>	1.7%

<http://www.philly.com/philly/infographics/410339245.html>



14 Barack Obama visited with 1776 members at ShopRite in Phila.



Barack Obama toured the Schott Glass plant in Duryea, PA.



Acme shop steward Eileen Fonseca introduced Barack Obama at a rally.



Wendell W. Young, IV met with the President on the tarmac at Phila. Intl. Airport.

# When We Fight Together: We Win



Good Jobs •  
Higher Minimum  
Wage • Invest in  
infrastructure •  
Fix Bad Trade  
Deals • More  
Democratic  
Workplaces •  
Health Care For  
Everyone • New  
Jobs • Strong  
Retirement •  
Respect • Dignity

UFCW Local 1776 is a large union with members from many different backgrounds and with many different ideas. Our diversity gives us perspective, our ideas give us hope, and our bond as workers gives us strength.

Together, we've won better conditions and fairer workplaces, and through democracy, we guide policies to help one another to achieve more. Many on the business-side want to see us earn less so they may expand their bottom lines. Millionaires and billionaires are pouring countless sums into state legislatures to make us powerless. If successful, our voice at work will be diminished.

The 2016 election indicated many of us are sick of watching good jobs disappear leaving our communities with less. Folks voted for Trump because he promised to bring back jobs, negotiate better trade deals and to invest in infrastructure. Let's hold Trump to these promises and work towards a better America.

At the same time, members of Local 1776 will not be fooled. Jobs do not get better by weakening workers. Busting unions will not bring factory jobs back to the US. And, cutting taxes for the rich won't make our lives any better. **We need real change. Workers need more democratic workplaces not so-called "right to work" laws. We should make it easier to form unions, not harder. Let's raise the minimum wage rather than settle for lower standards.** None of this will happen if we are sitting on sidelines.

Our country isn't great because of any one politician; rather, our country is great when we get involved. Across the Local's jurisdiction, members and staff have participated in marches, rallies and they have visited their elected officials to send the clear message: we are together, we make America great, we will win!

over the next few months, you'll receive invitations to join other members and staff to stand up against the millionaires and billionaires. Answer the call. Respond to the emails. Visit your officials. Get involved. Together, we win.



# Snack Workers Get Wise To Health Risks



Safety first at Wise Foods. The union hosted meetings for the workers at Wise Foods in Berwick. The members of UFCW Local 1776 are learning about safety at their plant.



## Taking a SCHOTT on International Solidarity



Late last year in Duryea, PA, SCHOTT Glass members along with Local and International officers met with union officials from Germany to continue a dialogue on international solidarity. SCHOTT is a renowned manufacturer of industrial glass based in Germany. Wolfgang Heinrich is the Chair of the Schott Workers Council, and he is a member of the Schott Board of Directors. In Germany, workers often have representation on company boards where major decisions are made.

The meeting was an important step toward growing worker power in the SCHOTT organization. Wolfgang met with President Wendell W. Young, IV, Secretary-Treasurer Michele Kessler and International Vice President Mark Lauritsen. They discussed Trans-Atlantic solidarity and the importance of the Global Schott Workers Council. Prior to the visit, SCHOTT Stewards and the Local 1776 Executive Board approved and endorsed the creation of the global council. While in Duryea, they toured the SCHOTT facility and met with UFCW members who work there. In the future, UFCW Local 1776 hopes to build on interactions like these to promote global worker's rights and solidarity.





# Recent Retirements:

The members here have dedicated decades to their jobs, and now, they are retiring! UFCW Local 1776 would like to extend congratulations to all of the members who have retired. We wish you all the best and good luck to you in the future.



(Left) **Francis Allegrini** retired after 40 years with the PLCB.f



(Left) Long-term staff member **Rena Devaughn** retired from UFCW Local 1776.



(Right) **Tim Zearfus** retired after 49 years as a Local 1776 member.



(Right) **Eddie Heffron** Retired from Acme after 51 years.

## Join The UFCW Local 1776 Retiree's Club



Will you be retiring soon and looking for something to do with all the newly acquired free time? Join the Local 1776 Retirees Club! The Retirees Club meets five times throughout the year at our main office in Plymouth Meeting. Our club is a place to meet with fellow retirees, and enjoy a nice lunch and good conversation. We also host guest speakers to attend, and discuss issues that are important to retirees. Annual dues are \$10 per individual or \$15 per couple.

For general information, please contact Marcy Fonseca at (610) 940-1847.





**LEGAL QUESTION?  
GET A TWO HOUR  
CONSULTATION.**



**Eric L. Young**

**James J. McEldrew, III**

UFCW Local 1776 members eligible for the Participating Employers Legal Services Plan (generally referred to as the “Legal Benefit”) are entitled to a free consultation with a McEldrew Young attorney for up to two hours every year.

The Legal Benefit provides members with many valuable legal services, including representation in family law matters and the creation of wills, at no cost. Yet, you may not think to call our law firm when you need us the most - in a situation that does not formally require an attorney.

One example where your two hour consultation could be helpful: If you are in debt and unable to pay your bills, you may have to decide whether to pay one creditor over another. The decision potentially implicates both contract law and bankruptcy law, as paying the right creditor may put you in a better financial position if you must ultimately declare bankruptcy. In this event, an analysis of which debt is dischargeable in bankruptcy could be helpful.

Another situation where you might decide to call us is when you are buying a new car. Your insurance agent will ask whether you wish to have full or limited tort. By selecting limited tort coverage, which is the cheaper option, you are giving up

certain rights in the event that you are injured in a car accident in the future.

We would be happy to explain these rights and legal concepts to you so that you can make the best decision for you and your family. If we can help you avoid a future legal issue by providing guidance during your annual two hour consultation, it will be time well spent. An ounce of prevention is indeed worth a pound of cure.

Many of our clients (who aren't UFCW members) don't have access to a free consultation with an attorney. They seek out our services only after they have been injured in a car accident, lost their workers' compensation benefit, or been terminated from their job. Although we fight hard to get them the compensation that they deserve, they might have received more if they had come to us earlier in the process.

We encourage you to take advantage of our long-standing relationship with the UFCW Local 1776 and call us whenever you have a legal question where an attorney would be helpful. To schedule a consultation with a McEldrew Young attorney or **determine your eligibility for the Legal Benefit Plan, please call (215) 367-5151.**



**MCELDREW YOUNG**

**Contact us:**

123 S. Broad Street Ste 2250

Philadelphia, PA 19109

Phone: (215) 367-5151

Fax: (215) 367-5143

Email: [Team@McEldrewYoung.com](mailto:Team@McEldrewYoung.com)

Website: [www.mcelandrewyoung.com](http://www.mcelandrewyoung.com)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 1pm**

UFCW Local 1776, Main Office  
3031 Walton Road  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

**Wednesday, November 29, 2017, 1pm**

UFCW Local 1776, Main Office  
3031 Walton Road  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

## UFCW Local 1776 - Outreach Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2017, 6pm

Join us for a meeting with the union's LGBT constituency group.



**UFCW 1776 Main Office**  
3031 Walton Rd.  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

**For More details:**  
Call Charles Young at 215.510.9759

## Who doesn't love a discount?

On top of the great benefits you get from UFCW membership, did you know you can also **save money on movie tickets and cellphone bills?** More at [UFCW.org/value](http://UFCW.org/value).

## AREA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 6pm**

UFCW Local 1776  
2007 Highway 315  
Pittston, PA 18640

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 6pm**

Comfort Inn  
3189 Rt. 940  
Mt. Pocono, PA 18344

**Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 6pm**

Best Western  
16 Raceway Road  
Monticello, NY 12701

**Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 6pm**

Troy Vets Club  
183 Veterans Drive  
(off Prospect St.)  
Troy, PA 16947

UFCW Local 1776  
3031-A Walton Road  
Suite 201  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# Knoebel's: Save the Date

Summer will be here before you know it. As you get your vacation plans together, don't forget about **the Local's outing to Knoebels Grove scheduled for August 26, 2017**. Buses will be available from the main office. Members look forward to this family-friendly event each year. Details will be communicated as they become available. **Don't miss out!**



## Saturday, August 26, 2017