



Jaymz Schab



Ashlyn Carlson



David St. Pierre



Jason Davis



Seth Carlyle



Uloma Okoro



Taylor Steuben



2016 Scholarship Winners

Dependant Scholarship Awards

4 Year Scholarship Award (\$5,000 per year for 4 years):

In Memory of Wolfram 'Red' Abicht, Past Member of Pierce County, Local 120, Deceased.

Recipient's Name	Member Name	Member is from Local
Jaymz Schab	Kermit Schab	874H Prosser Memorial Hospital

\$2,000 Award

In Memory of Robbie Reddoch, Past Member of City of Bonney Lake, Local 120, Deceased.

Recipient's Name	Member Name	Member is from Local
Ashlyn Carlson	Todd Carlson	120 Pierce County
Hunter Esary	Tim Esary	307VC City of Vancouver
Brittany Newton	Robert Newton	114 City of Bellingham
Hunter Olsen	Judy Olsen	120 Tacoma/Pierce Co. Health Dept.
Dylan Peterson	Carol Peterson	109 Snohomish County Road Dept.
Michael Vitz-Wong	Kathleen Vitz	2083 Seattle Public Library

\$5,000 Award

In Memory of Joseph Weins, Son of Midge Culver, Retired Member of Pierce County Library, Local 3787, Deceased.

Recipient's Name	Member Name	Member is from Local
Amy Bakalarski	Peggy Bakalarski	1308 Kitsap County
Angela Basinger	Edward Basinger Jr.	492 Spokane County
Marianna Furfaro	Steven Furfaro	270 City of Spokane
Nick Novy	Tim Novy	1811A Alderwood Water Dist.
Michelle Pyles	Ted Pyles	1811CA Snohomish County
John Schab	Kermit Schab	874H Prosser Memorial Hospital

\$2,000 Golf Award

In Memory of Michael Maes, Brother of Arlecia Hansen, Member of Pierce County Library, Local 3787, Deceased.

Recipient's Name	Member Name	Member is from Local
Seth Carlyle	Thomas Carlyle	275 Grays Harbor County
Reba Eaton	Dan Eaton	270 City of Spokane
Caitlin Juneau	Kirk Juneau	114 City of Bellingham
Alexander Mullin	Joyce Mullin	3830 City of Seatac
Kavin Nguyen	Xuan Trang Tran	2083 Seattle Public Library
Maggie Novy	Tim Novy	1811A Alderwood Water Dist.
Uloma Okoro	Ojimadu Okoro	109 Snohomish County Road Dept.
Nathan Palmer	Kurt Palmer	211 Issaquah School Bus Drivers
Jesika Smith	Jeffrey Smith	3845 City of Bothell
Taylor Steuben	Michael Steuben	307VC City of Vancouver

Continuing Education Award \$1,000

In Memory of Duane Cooper, Past Member of City of Spokane, Local 270, Deceased; In Honor of Terri Prather, Former Member and Past Local President of LOTT Alliance, Local 618.

Recipient's Name	Recipient is from Local
Theresa Cooper	1845 Island County
Jason Davis	2083 Seattle Public Library
Kaitlin Erickson	1553 Spokane County Courthouse
David St. Pierre III	270 City of Spokane
Christine Weekes	618 Thurston/Mason/ Lewis Area Agency on Aging



Kaitlin Erickson



Amy Bakalarski



Caitlin Juneau



Brittany Newton



Dylan Peterson



Angela Basinger



Hunter Esary



Hunter Olsen

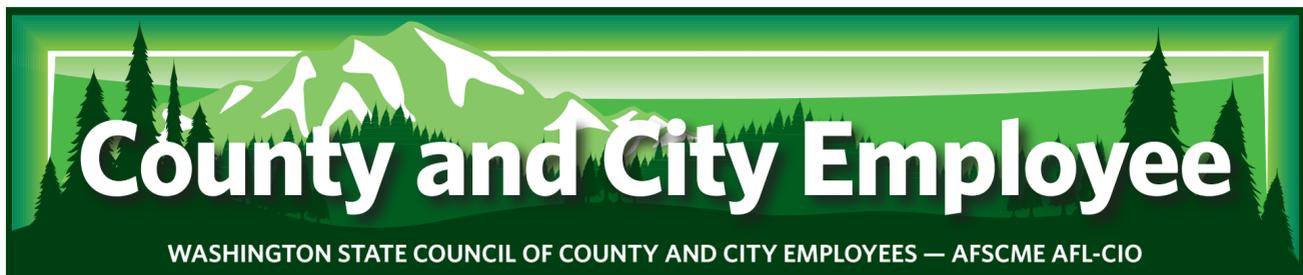
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WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF COUNTY AND CITY EMPLOYEES — AFSCME AFL-CIO



Local 120 Member Gets More Than Expected



In June of 2016 when Local 120 member Jim Moore was let go after 29.5 years on the job as a Field Agent with the Pierce County Budget and Finance Office, he thought his claim to his 30-year pension benefits were lost to him. That's when he reached out to Council 2 Staff Representative Dylan Carlson and it turned out that not only could Moore still qualify for his 30-year pension, but he was actually owed 2.5 years of additional pension credits.

Contacting the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems, the agency that manages the PERS pension system, Carlson requested an audit. With the help of Pierce County Human Resources, they combed through Moore's work history. At the time of his temporary employment, Moore was told that he did not qualify for benefits of any type - including pension credits, but that was incorrect. Reconstructing his work history revealed that Jim Moore was not only entitled to the extra six months he needed for his 30-year PERS2 pension, he qualified for an additional two years of credits on top of that. Washington State Department of Retirement Systems issued the final verdict: If both Moore and Pierce County each paid their share into the pension fund that was owed from his time working as an extra hire, the pension credits would be fulfilled.

"Jim's experience shows that even well-meaning HR departments can make serious errors with big financial consequences. By working with his Union, Jim was able to capture every pension credit he had earned."

Just six-months shy of his full pension, Moore became disabled and was unable to work. Given the nature of his work and the effects of his illness, the Budget and Finance Office had no alternative but to let him go. At 55-years-old, Moore and his wife were still counting on at least six more years of full-time work and benefits from him, so this was a blow that sent them both looking for answers. Moore's wife, Sandy Moore, a Pierce County employee in the Treasurer-Assessor's office began looking for any conceivable way for Jim to work for just six months more. Through her research, they learned that at 29.5 years, Moore's pension was worth less than half as much as it would be at 30 years.

Today Moore is focusing on his health. He still has dizzy spells and cannot drive, but in his words, he is "progressing, and better than [he] was." As for what he's gone through the last several months, Moore says he has no hard feelings against the county. "The county didn't do anything wrong, no one really knew. This took an audit though the Department of Retirement Systems, and HR at the county offices were cooperative. I think they learned something."

This startling fact led Moore to contact his Staff Representative. Reviewing all applicable PERS pension rules and Moore's own work history, Carlson left no stone unturned in his quest to find a way to accumulate the additional six months of needed pension credits. It was not looking good, but that's when Moore happened to mention that years before his full-term employment began, he'd worked as an "extra hire" or temporary employee with both the Treasurer-Assessor's office and the Budget and Finance Office. A light went on for Carlson and he began to piece together how he could help Moore.

Carlson says that "Jim's experience shows that even well-meaning HR departments can make serious errors with big financial consequences. By working with his Union, Jim was able to capture every pension credit he had earned."

If you have or are currently working as an extra hire, please contact your Staff Representative or the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems at 1-800-547-6657 to determine if you are owed unclaimed benefits.

2017 SAVE THE DATE:

- January 19-21** Legislative Weekend
Red Lion Hotel, Olympia
- April 1** Secretary Workshop Training
Davenport Grand, Spokane
- April 8** Secretary Workshop Training
Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac

- June 9-11** Council 2 Convention
Davenport Hotel, Spokane

- October 6-8** Executive Board Meeting
Murano Hotel, Tacoma

- October 20-21** President's Conference
Campbell's Resort, Chelan

Check www.council2.com for upcoming Steward Trainings Dates



This Election Truly Matters—All the Way Down Your Ballot



CHRIS DUGOVICH

By the time you read this column you will have a ballot in your home—and some of you will have already voted! Thank you!

This expression of our basic rights is a critical, and too often overlooked right in our society. But as Donald Trump and his many allies in Congress, State Houses and local offices across the county are making clear: many of the rights we take for granted are not always sacrosanct.

Letter from the President

Many of us never thought we would live in a nation where the Midwestern states that built and defined modern unionism and middle class prosperity adopted "Right to Work" laws, driving down wages and stripping people of the benefits that keep us healthy, and provide security into our retirement.

We never thought hard-won rights to collective bargaining would be under consistent attack, or that powerful corporate interests would dominate our political discourse at the expense of the voices—and priorities of working people.

These issues take a national stage in Presidential years, and never in my lifetime have we seen this type of presidential election. I recall elections where candidates debated on issues of national importance—from foreign policy to federal banking policy—and not resorted to the meanest and most debased personal attacks. Michelle Obama implores us to "go high", but that can be hard when our discourse is held firmly in the gutter.

At our AFSCME International convention this summer, Secretary Hillary Clinton spoke of an America where people come together to solve problems—recognizing the strength in our diversity and our common goals of safe communities, a strong middle class, and a great education for every child. She spoke of her work at home and abroad to advance our American values of hard work, fair pay, and equal opportunity.

Americans have a proud tradition of raucous political discourse, and we may not always agree with our friends, neighbors, families and co-workers, but our shared values have rarely been questioned.

Until this year.

We've seen it coming for years: the draconian anti-worker policies of Governors Scott Walker and Mike Pence, the shutdowns in Congress to cripple government services, massive tax cuts for the wealthiest individuals and corporations, the scapegoating of working people and immigrants by the Tea Party. But now, in Donald Trump, these radical ideas have a new—and I would argue dangerous—voice.

So we must stand true to our values—as union members and Americans—and vote. Not just for President, but all the way down our ballots. Because Donald Trump did not start this effort to erode our rights, and it will not end with his defeat on November 8.

Right here in Washington, we have Republican legislators and candidates openly bragging about anti-union efforts. In Clark County, a GOP candidate is employed by a right-wing organization whose mission is to erode your voice in the workplace and politics. We face local elections where our ability to negotiate a fair contract could be under threat.

So while we all tune out the negativity and nastiness of this unprecedented—and hopefully unique—Presidential election, please remember that our democracy, and our rights as workers and residents of this great land, depend upon all of us casting our votes. Who we choose to represent us in Olympia, in our county courthouses, in our courts are just as important—if not more so, than the person sitting in the Oval Office.

So, don't let that ballot sit on the counter!

First off I would like to thank you and the scholarship committee for picking me as the recipient of this years scholarship award. It will truly make a huge difference for me to achieve my educational goals.

Again on behalf of my family and I we truly thank you for this scholarship.

Sincerely, David St. Pierre

I would like to thank you and Council 2 for providing me with the scholarship to help me achieve my goals.

Thank you, Alexander Mullin

Thank you so much for this opportunity!

Nick Novy

I am honored to have been chosen for the Council 2 scholarship!

Sincerely, Hunter Olsen



Thank you for selecting me for this scholarship! This award will be instrumental in pursuing my career goals.

Kavin Nguyen

Thank you so much for picking me as one of the recipients of your scholarship. I look forward to furthering my education.

Seth Carlyle

Thank you so much for this award. It could not have come at a better time, as my financial situation was looking more and more grim. This scholarship is helping to fuel my drive to become a Mathematics Professor, and it greatly helps ease my mind when I think about my future finances.

This scholarship is helping me more than you can know, and I am truly grateful from the bottom of my heart. Unions are incredibly important establishments, and this is just further proof of that. Helping to fund education for the next generation is one of the most noble acts humanly possible.

Sincerely, Michelle Pyles

I was so happy to hear from you this week that I received the Council 2 scholarship! This scholarship will make a great difference for me, and help me to keep my student loans down. Thank you so much for this honor!

Hunter Esary

I want to thank everyone at Council 2 involved with the scholarship selection process and extend my deepest gratitude for being selected for this award. The scholarship funds will go a long way in helping with the costs of my graduate education.

Thank you again! Kaitlin Erickson

On behalf of the entire Smith family and our daughter Jesika Smith, we want to thank you for the recognition you've given her by awarding her a \$2000 college scholarship for 2016. This is a tremendously generous award and is appreciated beyond words.

Jesika will be attending Western Washington University this fall and because of her hard work and achievement at Woodinville High School, she will be entering WWU as a member of the Honors Program and as a Distinguished Scholar in the Biology Department. In the Honors Program, she is one of 75 invitees. In the Distinguished Scholars-Biology program, she is one of 24 invitees. In addition to this recognition she plans to continue her studies in Spanish and in the Theater Arts.

Again, with humble thanks and appreciation we remain Union strong!

Jeff and Susan Smith

Workshops, Speeches Highlight Summer AFSCME International Convention

Delegates "Viva Las Vegas" at informative, inspiring gathering

There was a lot to celebrate—and a lot of important organizing— at the July 2016 AFSCME International Convention held in Las Vegas. Thousands of delegates from all 50 states, Puerto Rico and elsewhere were reminded by speaker after speaker that our hard-won union rights are not to be forgotten, and progress is indeed being made to protect and rebuild the American middle class.

The diversity of our union—and our nation—was on full and proud display as our Union honored the differences that make us stronger as a movement and a country. The racial and economic inequities at the heart of so much of our national dialogue were confronted in honest and heartfelt ways—again a reminder than when we unite around common values and goals, we can accomplish great things.

Following morning presentations, delegates selected workshops and educational presentations on topics ranging from changes in workplace law, to organizing tactics.

Of course, the keynote by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was a highlight. Addressing not just our delegates, but the national media on the eve of Donald Trump's divisive Republican convention in Cleveland, Clinton spoke of an America united by freedom and opportunity, an America where the rights of working people, women and immigrants from all nations are respected and upheld. She spoke of an American where union strength helps drive an economy powered by middle class jobs, and strong, secure communities.

For Council 2 delegates, the convention was especially gratifying. Whether a veteran convention delegate or first time attendee, all acknowledged the positive energy, clear vision for the future of our Union, and inspiring messages from our next President as reasons to plan for 2018!!



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City of Olympia empowers Local 618 workers to save big

Ask a member of the City of Olympia's Drinking Water Operations crew about the challenges of accessing the city's water valves and you'll likely hear the same thing over and over again: Machines do not work and the manual exercising of valves can lead to injuries. That's what inspired Local 618-O workers Lupe Vazquez and Curt Antill to design and build a customized Automated Valve Exerciser earlier this summer.

The City was considering a version of a valve exerciser that cost \$15,000, but due to issues of the exerciser's mechanical "arm" it could only turn 60 percent of the city's water valves. Vazquez and Antill knew their design could work better and cost much less. They took their idea to their Lead Worker, Ken Witt. After reviewing the specs and the proposed budget, Witt gave the project a greenlight. "It's not the first or only customized version out there," said Vazquez, "but we made it special to fit the valves in City of Olympia." Indeed, field tests show the newly built valve exerciser will access 95 percent of the City's valves.

Overall, Vazquez and Antill's smart thinking and hard work saved the City \$11,500 per machine, doubled the number of valves exercised each day, and saved 80 hours per month of manpower due to the increase in productivity. Their work also won the "Achieving Dreams through Empowered Public Works Teams" Award presented to them at the APWA Fall conference in Spokane in October. Their success has not slowed down Vazquez and Antill's innovation. They continue to work on improvements, including a bank of solar batteries to power the motor of the valve turner.

This is a great example of how the partnership between the cities and union members can really pay off.



Curt Antill and Lupe Vazquez pose with the valve exerciser they invented and built.

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