

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, FRED WRIGHT

AFL-CIO TAKES ON THE KOCH BROTHERS WITH THE KOCH SISTERS: MAKING A POINT WITH SATIRE TO BRING ATTENTION TO THE NON-STOP CAMPAIGN BEING CONDUCTED AGAINST AMERICAN WORKERS AND FAMILIES



A recurring fear among progressive Americans everywhere has long been that a few reactionaries with immense wealth would combine to essentially form their own political party and spend lavishly to achieve their own ends. And now it has happened and happened in a way that is methodical, deliberate, fierce and blanketing the nation coast-to-coast. In the last few years, Charles and David Koch, who have a combined net worth of more than 80 billion dollars, have established a political machine

that state by state is targeting pro-union elected officials for defeat, passing laws that hamper collective bargaining and making it more difficult to register to vote.

Charles and David Koch are the principal owners of Koch Industries, an energy and chemical conglomerate that is the second largest privately held company in the United States. Among its subsidiaries is Georgia-Pacific. Koch Industries has 50,000 employees in the United States and 20,000 more in 59 other countries. Their total operations are estimated to process one million barrels of crude oil a day. In 1980, David Koch was the Libertarian Party's vice-presidential candidate: the Libertarian Party's platform that year stated that Social Security, welfare, minimum wage laws, corporate taxes and OSHA should all be abolished. By 1984, he joined the Republican Party and soon became one of its largest contributors. Charles and David Koch were strong supporters of Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney in 2012. They have been estimated to be tied for the fourth wealthiest people in the United States and tied for the ninth wealthiest people in the world.

Under organizations set up under names such as Americans for Prosperity, the Koch brothers have set up groups in almost every

state that have targeted union workers, particularly unionized public employees, while attorneys in their various organizations have even drafted anti-union legislation that they then make available to far right-wing legislators. They have for all intents and purposes created a virtual political party. They want their umbrella of organizations to be full service stops for the destruction of organized labor.

But under the time-honored maxim that the truth is less expensive, the AFL-CIO has created an advertising campaign that is taking the Koch brothers to task head on. The AFL-CIO has created a campaign called "The Koch Sisters." The campaign features two workers, Karen and Joyce Koch, not related by blood but connected by hard work, a belief in collective bargaining and a love for their communities.

Karen Koch is a mother of two, a college professor and a member of the Michigan Education Association and comes from a proud United Automobile Workers (UAW) family. Joyce Koch, a long-time social worker and one-time administrator of an anti-poverty program, is a mother, grandmother and wife of a retired teacher who was a member of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

Karen and Joyce Koch are working people who share a last name with two of the wealthiest people in the world but they have stood throughout their lives for a living wage, the right to bargain collectively, dignity on the job, adequate healthcare and programs that support communities. They stand in sharp contrast to two individuals with a net worth of between 84 to 100 billion dollars who feel compelled to destroy every last component of the modern safety net that began to develop in the 1930s in response to the greatest economic crisis in history.

Karen and Joyce Koch, steeped in the traditions of trade unionism, know the challenges of raising families without great wealth. Their stories are the stories of tens of millions of Americans working out challenges across the kitchen table. And the AFL-CIO is skillfully employing their experiences to counter the destructive actions of multi-billionaires who are spending fortunes attempting to distort the truth, restrict access to the voting booth and crush the basic freedoms that make collective bargaining possible.

AFSCME Local 1739

Community & Social Service Agency Employees

General Membership Meeting

Date: Thursday, May 28, 2015—**Time:** 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Place: District Council #47, 1606 Walnut Street—Third Floor Auditorium

AGENDA

General Union Business

At the conclusion of the meeting,
there will be a union member participation drawing.

Prize—\$50.00 gift card
(Union members have to be present to win!)

Light dinner will be served.

AFSCME Local 1739

Community and Social Agency Employees
Building Community • Protecting Dignity • Delivering the Future

Fred Wright — *President*

Marie Seldon — *Vice President*

James Baylor — *Treasurer*

Ricky Taylor — *Corresponding Secretary*

Marcella Joc — *Recording Secretary*

1606 Walnut Street • Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: 215.893.3710 • Fax: 215.732.4876

Chapter Reports

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

A new contract between the AFSC and AFSCME Local 1739 was ratified on October 15, 2014. The vote was a resounding 27 – 0 and reflected an enormous amount of confidence and trust in the negotiating committee's great effort. Local 1739 negotiated a very competitive three-year pact which includes wage increases for each year. The contract includes many provisions considering social work in a modern environment. The new agreements will soon be available to all members.

Klein Jewish Community Center (JCC – Klein)

An agreement between JCC-Klein and AFSCME Local 1739 was ratified on August 26, 2014 and includes wage increases totaling 9.75 percent and health benefits designed to provide members with a level of security and comfort. Employees are all now enrolled in Affordable Health Care Exchanges. The new agreements have been distributed.

Kaiserman Jewish Community Center (JCC – Kaiserman)

Contract negotiations were held on October 15 and December 16, 2014 and are on-going. All issues are being discussed and a significant effort is being made to arrive at a comprehensive pact covering wages, health benefits and all issues relevant to the Kaiserman Center and its mission to the community.

JEVS Human Services

An agreement between JEVS Human Services and AFSCME Local 1739 was ratified on October 9, 2014 by the overwhelming margin of 96 – 14: an expression of great appreciation for the negotiating committee's thorough preparation and attention to detail. The pact

is for three years and will cover members through September 30, 2017. The wage increases are the greater of \$10.88 per hour or 2 percent for Pro Bs and Pro As and a 2 percent wage increase for all other employees in year one, an across-the-board 2 percent wage increase and a lump sum payment of one percent of salary (less taxes and other applicable deductions) in year two and an across-the-board increase of 3 percent on January 1, 2017. Local 1739 also successfully negotiated a neutrality clause and a living wage increase (which had been passed by the City of Philadelphia). JEVS, as part of its operation, has been awarded a contract for Career link which will be integrated with the JEVS EARN center. The JEVS Career Link operation should begin around the first of March.

Tenant's Union Representative Network (TURN)

Local 1739's representatives and attorneys have achieved an agreement with TURN management to secure a new 3-year contract. Negotiations will continue in mid-2015 around wages and health benefits. We look to achieve a pact which fully reflects the value of TURN employees and the indispensable services they perform in the Philadelphia community.

Jewish Family & Children's Service (JFCS)

There was an increase in health insurance co-pays but premiums remained the same. The JFCS pact is due to expire on August 31, 2015 and Local 1739 is assembling a negotiating team to go forward with contract talks. We are looking forward to a comprehensive multi-year pact which will reflect the great value of JFCS workers and the great professional service they have performed over many years.

AFSCME LOCAL 1739

NOTICE TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS

Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act gives employees these rights:

- To organize
- To form, joint or assist any union
- To bargain collectively through representatives of their choice
- To act together for other mutual aid or protection
- To choose not to engage in any of the protected concerted activities

Section 8(a)(3) of the National Labor Relations Act states:

It shall be an unfair practice for an employer—

(3) by discrimination in regard to hire or tenure of employment or any term of condition of employment to encourage or discourage membership in any labor organization: Provided, that nothing in this Act, or in any other

statute of the United States, shall preclude an employer from making an agreement with a labor organization . . . to require as a condition of employment membership therein on or after the thirtieth day following the beginning of such employment or the effective date of such agreement, whichever is the later, if such labor organization is the representative of the employees as provided in Section 9(a), in the appropriate collective bargaining unit covered by such agreement when made.

The membership required under a union security clause pursuant to the above proviso is merely the payment of periodic dues, and initiation fees if applicable. While actual union membership is not required, employees choosing not to join the union must make required payments; will not be entitled to attend union meetings; cannot vote upon the ratification of contracts or other agreements between the employer and the union; will not have a voice in the internal affairs of the union; and will not enjoy "members only" benefits.

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

All non-members of AFSCME Local 1739 who are obliged to pay an amount equal to period union dues are hereby notified of the Union's procedure for those seeking a reduction of the amounts to be paid based upon union expenditures for matters other than collective bargaining and contract administration.

Non-members who timely object to the payment of an amount equal to union dues and initiation fees, are charged for expenditures for activities, training, communications, research, legal and administrative costs related to collective bargaining, contract administration, and grievance adjustment; representational activities involving terms and conditions of employment discrimination, pension reform/retirement, social security, employee evaluations, unemployment compensation, overtime and minimum wage provisions, environmental issues which affect conditions in the workplace; union meetings of the membership, the executive board, the district council, and the national convention, if any; administrative expenses including office rent, utilities and supplies; expenses for publication of newspapers or newsletter to the extent that said publications cover chargeable activities; and educational and training programs or conferences for the rank and file or staff on issues relating to negotiations, grievance adjustment, duty of fair representation, and other employment related and governance issues.

Objecting non-members are not charged for expenses, if any, which are paid from dues which support or contribute to political organizations or candidates; voter registration, get-out-the-vote campaign techniques (i.e., training programs designed to prepare leaders, staff and/or members to work in support of candidates for any public office); support for ideological causes not germane to the work of the union in collective bargaining; portions of publications which involve nonchargeable issues; members-only benefits; certain lobbying efforts; certain legal services related to basic representational functions with only a remote theoretical benefit to the unit employees.

You are advised that the Union has established the following procedure for obtaining a reduction of fees. Please follow these following instructions carefully:

1. Non-members who are obligated to pay an amount equal to period dues and initiation fees to the Union may request a reduction to 5% of the regular dues amount by filing an objection. The objection must be made in writing each year during the month of June.

2. Employees who newly become subject to a contractual union security clause after June or who otherwise do not receive this notice, shall file any objection within thirty days after the mailing of the notice of Beck rights. Additionally, members who resign after June must object, if at all, within the thirty (30) days from postmark or delivery date, whichever is earlier, of their individual resignation. Any objection under this provision must be received at the below official address within thirty (30) days window.

3. Objections must be sent to the Union Treasurer, James Baylor, at 1606 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102. Objections not sent to the above address are void.

4. Objections must contain, at least, 1) the objectors name; 2) the objector's address; 3) the name of employer; 4) the non-member's employee identification number (where applicable). Objections must be signed by the objector. This information must be provided in order for an objection to be valid.

5. Objections will be processed as they are received. All properly objecting non-members will receive a detailed explanation of the basis for the fee reduction, if any.

6. The objector fee will be reduced commencing July of the year in which the objection is filed through the following June. For employees electing to object pursuant to the provisions of paragraph two, objector fees will be reduced within sixty days after the expiration of the individual's challenge period ending the following June.

7. Anyone filing an objection that disputes the detailed explanation and calculations may challenge the calculations. Be advised, a challenge is not necessary to reduce your fees. Any challenges to the report; and/or calculations must be specific and made in writing, to be valid, challenges must be received by the Union only within twenty one (21) days after the mailing of the report. Challenges must be sent to the Union Treasurer, James Baylor, at the address listed in paragraph 3 above.

Valid challenges, if any, will then be submitted jointly to an impartial arbitrator appointed by the American Arbitration Association. In the event of such challenge, the reasonably disputed portion of the challenger's fee shall be held in escrow until the challenge is resolved by the arbitrator.

8. Employee's right may further be affected by previously executed check off/authorizations.

9. The request for a reduction must be renewed each year by filing an objection during the appropriate period. The above procedure shall apply to any subsequent requests unless modified.

10. The official Union mailing list as of the date of printing shall be the official receipt of the mailing of this notice.



Union honors are given to Tyrone Pinckney for over 35 years of service to Local 1739 as Delegate and Shop Steward.

PRESIDENT OBAMA DESIGNATES LABOR UNION AND CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT MONUMENT IN CHICAGO'S PULLMAN DISTRICT

HE DESCRIBES SITE OF FORMER PULLMAN COMPANY TOWN AS "THE HEART OF WHAT WOULD BECOME AMERICA'S LABOR MOVEMENT"

America's labor movement created the largest middle class in modern history—a middle class that drove the United States to greatness and dominance in wealth, industrial might and military strength. And yet, monuments and memorials to organized labor are relatively rare and unheralded. In February, President Barack Obama took a large step toward correcting this historical neglect by designating a site in Chicago's Pullman District as a national monument.

In the 1860s, George Pullman created a firm that became one of the largest and most successful railway car companies in the world. But along the way, he turned a section of Chicago's South Side into the type of company town most commonly thought of in connection with mining operations. The Pullman Company's control of its workers was near total. During the recession of 1893, the Pullman tactics became even more severe and the combination of wage cuts and horrible conditions within the company district

sparked one of the first major industrial strikes in American history. The strike spread and federal troops were called out in Chicago. Thirty workers were slaughtered as they struggled for humane living conditions and wages. But amid the carnage and incredible abuse of power on behalf of corporate interests arose the beginning of the labor movement that ultimately resulted in collective bargaining, a living wage, safer working conditions and everything that organized labor eventually achieved.

However, the abuses of the Pullman Company were not restricted to those who built the great profit making sleeping cars but to the porters, many of whom were African-American, who worked on those cars. They were denied labor rights gained by the workers toiling in construction and so in 1925 they named A. Philip Randolph to lead what would become the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Randolph had the advantage of not actually working

for the Pullman Company—they could not threaten him with the loss of his job—and he went to work to gain recognition for his fledgling union. And in 1937, with a great assist from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was recognized and won a collective bargaining agreement. Under Randolph they then went on to combine their trade unionism with a struggle for civil rights and this relatively small union found itself at the center of some of the greatest achievements of the civil rights movement.

And so President Obama, at a site that witnessed some of the worst abuses ever committed against American workers by a company, designated a national monument honoring organized labor and the civil rights movement. He gave recognition to a critically important part of our history. He recognized struggles that helped develop modern American life.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AT THE PULLMAN DISTRICT NATIONAL MONUMENT DESIGNATION

"So this sight is at the heart of what would become America's labor movement—and as a consequence, at the heart of what would become America's middle class. And bit by bit, we expanded this country's promise to more American's. But too many still lived on the margin of that dream. . . . As Americans, we believe that workers' rights are civil rights. That dignity and opportunity aren't just gifts to be handed down by a generous government or by a generous employer; they are rights given by God, as undeniable and worth protecting as the Grand Canyon or the Great Smoky Mountains. And that's why throughout our history, we've marched not only for jobs, but also for justice; not just for the absence of oppression, but for the presence of opportunity."

AFSCME DC47 CANDIDATES ENDORSEMENT FOR 2015 PRIMARY

Mayor — James Kenney

City Commissioners — Lisa Deely, Donna DeRose and Al Schmidt

Register of Wills — Ronald Donatucci

Sheriff — Jewell Williams

Council At Large – 7 (*Choose only 5 Democrats and 2 Republicans*)

Democrats

Republicans

Derek Green	Blondell Reynolds Brown		
William Greenlee	Isaiah Thomas	W. Wilson Goode	Denny O'Brien
	Sherrie Cohen	Helen Gym	Terry Tracy

District Council	1 st District	— Mark Squilla
District Council	2 nd District	— Kenyatta Johnson
District Council	3 rd District	— Jannie Blackwell
District Council	4 th District	— Curtis Jones, Jr.
District Council	5 th District	— Darrell Clarke
District Council	6 th District	— Bobby Henon
District Council	7 th District	— Maria Quinones Sanchez
District Council	8 th District	— Cindy Bass
District Council	9 th District	— Cherelle Parker
District Council	10 th District	— Brian O'Neill

Judicial Candidates

Common Pleas Court — 12 (*Choose only 12*)

Anthony Kyriakakis	Chris Mallios
Vincent Giusini	Abbe Fletman
Wayne Bennett	Marissa Brumbach
Betsy Wahl	Mia Roberts-Perez
Kai Scott	Chris McCabe
Lyris F. Younge	Leon King, II
Jennifer Schultz	Daine Grey, Jr.

Municipal Court — 3

Judge Stephanie Sawyer Christine Hope Joffie Pittman

Commonwealth Court — 1

Todd Eagen

Supreme Court — 3

Judge Kevin Dougherty David Wecht Judge Ann E. Lazarus



Local 1739
1606 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103



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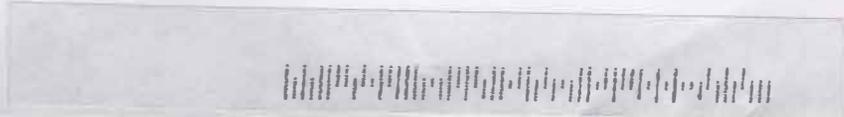


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VOTING RESTRICTIONS

ACCORDING TO THE BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE OF THE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, SINCE THE 2010 MIDTERM ELECTIONS, MORE THAN 350 RESTRICTIVE VOTING LAWS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN STATE LEGISLATURES

Since the 2010 midterm election, the opponents of progressive politics have responded to the electoral success of many candidates backed by organized labor by attempting to block the ballot box. The restrictive measures introduced have covered many areas including voter IDs and early voting, but each measure has in some way targeted the turnout of voting blocs that have consistently supported labor unions, the rights of the elderly and programs for those below the poverty line.

From early 2011 until the 2012 midterm election, more than 180 restrictive measures were introduced in 41 states.

In 2013, 92 restrictive bills were introduced in 33 states.

And in 2014, at least 83 restrictive bills were introduced in 29 states.

Many of these bills have been withdrawn, modified, defeated, overturned by courts or are pending. But the effort to restrict voter turnout over the past four years has been deliberate and constant.

Local 1739 Trustees

Lenore Borowski • Robert Wallington • Felix Johnson

Executive Board Members-at-Large

Marie Askew • Rita Starling-Taylor • Thomas Steele