



**News**  
**September, 2021**

**Local 3634**

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### **LABOR STUDIES PROGRAM**

Sisters and Brothers:

For those of you who are interested in learning more about Unions and the history of the Labor movement, Labor laws and Workers rights, please click on the following link below. LA Trade Tech College has an excellent Labor Studies Program. It is very beneficial to both the novice and experienced labor leaders.

[LATTC | Labor Center | Contact Labor Center](#)

### **Earn your Certificate and College Degrees via AFSCME International**

**Click on the link below**

[The AFSCME Free College Benefit](#)

Labor Day

Labor Day is always observed the 1st Monday in September, the Canadians also celebrate their Labour Day on the same day. Many of us view Labor Day as another day to enjoy friends or family, an accrual of Holiday pay or 8-hours in our TOWP bank, perhaps marks the end of summer, and the reminder we can no longer wear white clothes (LOL).

Labor Day stems from the nineteenth century; a CELEBRATION and recognition of hard work, highlights social and economic achievements that laborers and UNION's have made whereas we enjoy simple liberties like a 40-hour work week and rest days as we leisurely call them our "weekend". Statistics show union works earn higher wages, accrue better benefits, and have better retirement benefits. A lot of blood, sweat and tears have been shed; Happy Labor Local 3634, thank you for your commitment.

-Veronica Gunn Recording Secretary L3634

Today is a good day to have a good day



**Please provide and or update the Local with your contact information**

**Cell and personal email for our records which will allow us to contact and communicate with you in real time.**

# Newsletter

## Union Difference

Life is better in a union. Having a voice on the job means better pay, better health care, a more secure retirement, and so much more. It means having a say in safety, staffing, and other important issues that help AFSCME members do their jobs and keep America running.



## September Monthly Membership Meeting

As a friendly reminder, the September monthly membership meeting will take place on September 18th at 10am. This will also be a nomination meeting for those who are interested in running for office. The meeting will be both in person and via Zoom.

Local 3634 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom membership meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81150367444?pwd=c3YyS2NhOWxqUXQzdWRvcFdEN3RQZz09>

Meeting ID: 811 5036 7444

Passcode: 651054

One tap mobile

+16699006833

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcBnfhod>

The officers will be sworn in October 23, 2021; 10 a.m. at the General Membership meeting.

**Please note the October General Membership has changed from October 15, 2021, due to the District Council 36 Biennial Convention.**

### ***FRIENDLY REMINDERS:***

*Please make sure to update your personal contact information including your alternate contacts with Metro. It is very important in times of emergencies that the employer may need to communicate immediately with you or your family for work and personal reasons.*

*Prosperity, Peace and Good Healthy*

September 8th, 2021

I started coming to Union Meetings because I did not like the way Our Union was being represented by certain Union Officers at the time. This was from the then President to the Executive Board. I decided to run for office because I didn't care for the Officers that were representing the Members in the department, I was working in. This was from the way the Members were spoken to who needed assistance, the way the Officer dressed at work in uniform and most importantly the work ethic...

I was at a Union Meeting when Ernest Waters was President before I ran for any office. Mr. Waters told us a story and I quote, "I was in the elevator with Art Leahy one day and he asked me, you represent those Supervisors?"

Mr. Waters responded yes... **"Art Leahy said you represent the worst of the worst!"**

I was appalled at the statement because not all of us are the worst of the worst. However, after serving as an Officer for the past (6) years Art Leahy was most definitely telling the truth in more ways than one!

For the past (6) years I have served in the capacity of Executive Board Member from 2015-2018 and from 2018-2021 as Vice President. The first (3) years were the worst years as an Officer. I ran again only to attempt to preserve what My Late Husband died signing for, decent wages, health benefits and good working conditions for every AFSCME Member!

I have never in my life worked with so many **entitled, ungrateful, selfish, self-centered, hateful, spiteful, jealous hearted, tattle telling adult human beings**. It seems the more money you make the less work you want to do! It appears that when most of **YOU** are asked to do your job or a little extra there is an immediate disconnect from what **YOU** are paid to do, **"YOUR JOB"** remember the one **YOU** applied for and were hired to do!!!!

Let us all keep in mind every time you make a backdoor deal with Management to assist you in your own needs, your Unions position is weakened and even more so **YOU** harm your co-workers.

This Union negotiated a (2) year extension for your wages and benefits under the current CBA 2017-2022 which takes you to 2022-2024. Nothing was given up or taken away in fact a **7% wage increase** was negotiated and some of You have the nerve to ask for even more...incredible!!!

The only time folks ever come to a Union Meeting is to **"COMPLAIN"** about something that has happened to them! Most Members believe that their issue is supposed to be the way they want it for their own benefit...

My hat goes off to President Cromer for reaching out in every way he felt he could to keep all Members updated and informed on the Unions Day to Day Business. The Union sends a monthly newsletter via email. How many Members actually read the letter or even care what is happening within their Local / Union?

A few folks had the nerve to complain because they don't want the Union to email them on their personal email. This Union does not use Metro's company email unless authorized by Metro for special letters...I just have to say it, I personally would never reach out to most of **YOU** for any reason other than **Union Business**. Your personal email is strictly for **Union Business Only!!**

Since the Pandemic your Union has held monthly Zoom Meetings. You don't have to leave your home and we still did

not get any members to join the meetings! We still had the same few dedicated Members and I want to personally Thank You All for sticking by Your Union!

Approximately (10) percent of the Membership actually care about the Local / Union. To the other (90) percent stay out of trouble!!

As a Union Member it is up to **YOU** to keep up with your Unions positions. It does not matter if there is (1) person or (300) in your classification it is up to **YOU** to come to the meetings, it is up to **YOU** to contact your Local Officers if **YOU** need assistance with Management issues, it is up to **YOU** to contact the Locals Office Secretary if assistance is needed ie...paperwork or dues information, it is up to **YOU** to attend your **monthly** Union Meetings, it is up to **YOU** to send a representative from your department or check the AFSCME Union Board that **YOU** walk by (20) times a day during your shift and did not know it was your Union Board. SMDH... 😞 Remember No One Union Member is better than the other!!

Thanks to the E-Board for their service to the Board and the Membership!

Special Thanks to June, Richard, Ernie, Deacon Stokes & Frank for always believing in me and being a friend and co-worker!

In closing,

I retired after (35) years with a very bitter taste in my mouth towards Metro Employees and Union Members! If you do not like what is happening within your Local / Union, do like I did **RUN** for Office instead of spreading idle gossip about the Union and complaining!

In the words of Timothy Del Cambre, **YOU** are only as good as your last **DEED** and **Union Officers** make **Strange Bed Fellows!**

Darcy Del Cambre

Vice-President

AFSCME Local 3634

MTA Supervisors