

LOCAL 443 News

November 2006 Local 443, Washington Federation of State Employees, AFSCME Olympia, WA

**Local 443
Officers
And
Executive Board:**

President:

VACANT

President@WFSE443.org

1st Vice-President:

Don Vaughan

VicePres@WFSE443.org

2nd Vice-President:

Tee Hall

VicePres2@WFSE443.org

Secretary:

Shellie Savage

Secretary443@aol.com

Treasurer:

Susie Rathke

Treasurer@WFSE443.org

Sergeant-at-Arms:

DeFrance Clarke

Sergeant@WFSE443.org

Organizing Chair:

Joe Nilsson

OrgChair@WFSE443.org

Members-At-Large:

Alanna Gehr

BmaL1@WFSE443.org

Del Jensen

BmaL2@WFSE443.org

Sarah C. Wilson

BmaL3@WFSE443.org

Agency Reps:

**Laura Bradley, BIIA
Bill Longnecker, DIS
Stan Leja, Ecology**

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF LOCAL 443 PRESIDENT

John Geppert our Local 443 President has accepted a promotion and resigned as Local 443 President.

Per our Local 443 Constitution, your Local 443 Executive Board will be accepting nominations and electing a new president on December 6, 2006 at the Local 443 Executive Board Meeting.

You must be present at the Executive Board Meeting to nominate yourself or other Local 443 members who have at least one year of membership in the union prior to taking the oath of office that night.

If you are nominating someone who can not attend the meeting, please provide a letter signed by the nominee stating the nominee's willingness to accept the nomination and serve as President.

Nominations will also be accepted at the Local 443 meeting on November 21, 2006, 6 P.M., at the General Administration Building, 11th and Columbia Street, in Olympia.

The term of office will be from December 6, 2006, until the next Local 443 elections are held in June 2007.

If you plan on attending the December 6 E-board meeting, either as a candidate or nominator please RSVP to secretary443@wfse443.org.

NOTE: This will be a special, final meeting at John's house so we need a head count for food and beverages.

Directions to John's house will be provided to members who RSVP with the Local's Secretary either at the Local 443 meeting or online.

This announcement serves as official notice of this nomination and election process per the Local 443 Constitution.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

www.wfse443.org

Member Educator Training

Submitted by Tee Hall 2nd Vice President Local 443

Local 443 members Tee Hall, Alanna Gehr, Shellie Savage and Lori Harris, along with WFSE Staff Debbie Brookman and Joan Gallagher, attended training for member educators put on by Council 28 for statewide activists in Seattle, October 9-13, 2006.

The training was intense. We had to learn the material used to train Shop Stewards. Sound simple? Wrong! There are 69 flip charts that are used in the training. These need to be made up ahead of time.

We were paired up with other activists and were given lesson plans. You decide who is going to do what part of the training. After your section, you are critiqued by International staff and your peers.

The week flies by and then you are given your assignment. At this point you could be assigned anywhere in the State to do your first Shop Steward training. Once we got our assignments, we headed home for clean clothes, kiss the family and get ready for Saturday and Sunday. I was lucky; I drew Olympia with Alanna and Debbie. We got to sleep in our own beds Friday night.

Saturday morning came. Were we ready? Would we remember? Did we make all the flip charts? Where's my coffee? The training began. We all did great. Our trainer and evaluator were so proud!

This was one of the best things I decided to do. I am proud to represent Local 443 as a Member Educator and can't wait for my next assignment.

Ratify that Contract

Submitted by Matt Grate

We are trying to organize a new type of Rally for Jan. 8th Legislation opening day. We plan on a three phased approach to the Rally involving people taking off either the morning, afternoon, or the entire day to go down and meet your legislators to let them know they need to support our contract and vote to pass it. We are also hoping many of you will turn out at lunch time in organized groups to show support.

Employment Security Department Policy Committee is working hard to complete a Retirement Survey (thanks Karen Gibeau and Dave Lowe for creating the survey!) with the idea the results will be on one side of a card and the Policy Committee member contact information for the legislator on the other side. This way the legislation will know what the top ten retirement issues are and who to contact to discuss them.

There will be a meeting on January 5th to present the organizing strategy for the Legislation opening day on January 8th. We are also planning a BI-weekly strategy to keep meeting with our Legislators to remind them how important our contract truly is. These strategic days will continue through the length of the legislative session. If you would like to participate in the Rallies, contact Matt Grate at your Local 443 meeting to be involved. We are not out of the woods yet and our most important Rally is coming up in a few months so we have to get organized!

ESD Policy Committee Meeting of Oct. 21st 2006
Submitted by Matt Grate

ESD set several records in the election process of its Policy Committee delegates. A record number 69 nominations were made, with a record 130 people participating in the vote, except the record setting 20 people who did not write their name on the outside of the return envelope that the ballot envelope goes into.

There were an unfortunate nine ballots were received late. The entire election process has created confusion for ESD members concerning the US Postal Service, where we also set a record number of mailed but never received ballots. People who received the new CBA (contract) and voted on it did not receive nomination letters or voting ballots during the 20 day voting process. Karen Thorson has asked Mason Petit to take up the issue through his political action committee to see if we can have our US Postal mail sorting staff returned to the Olympia office.

At Policy, ESD set up several sub-committees to address the huge number of concerns expressed by its members. Erik Sackstein is chairing the Attendance Policy Committee, Mason Petit is chairing the Political Action Committee, Matt Grate is chairing the Safety Committee, Sarah C. Wilson is chairing the Parking refund Committee, Wardle Dye is chair the Employee Orientation Committee, and Ginger Bernethy is chairing the Flex hours and Alternative work schedule Committee.

The Union Management Communications Committee will meet on Nov 13th to discuss G-Mapping of Leave, Workload Quality vs. Quantity, and Contracting out among other issues. The committee ran out of energy setting another record for length of committee meetings. ALL other Policy committees had finished at least an hour before ESD. We got a lot of work to do and we are heading in the right direction. ESD also had its largest policy meeting with XX number of people attending.

Minutes	Local 443 General Meeting
	10/17/06 6:15 PM to 8:45 PM GA Building
	<i>Draft</i>

The meeting of Local 443 was called to order by President Geppert at 6:15 pm in the auditorium of the General Administration building in Olympia.

Roll call of officers was taken by Recording Secretary Shellie Savage. All Officers were present with the following exceptions: Excused: Laura Bradley, Stan Leja

The membership performed the flag salute.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S/P (Motion/Seconded/Pass) to adopt agenda.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M/S/P to adopt July 2006 General Meeting Minutes.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

GUEST SPEAKERS

AFSCME speaker on PEOPLE

HOLIDAY TURKEYS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

M/S/P Move that we do two \$40 gift certificates for the November meeting.

M/S/P Move that we do two \$40 gift certificates for the December meeting.

M/S/P Move that we purchase four \$40 gift certificates two for each of the November and December GA meetings.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR FUNDING THE CONTRACT

Welcome back day for the legislature is January 8, 2006.

SHOP STEWARD ELECTIONS - REMINDER

WFSE/AFSCME POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Policy Committee will be held at the Tacoma, Sheraton, 1320 Broadway Plaza, on October 21, 2006 with two trainings available, starting at 8:45 am. One on Flexible Spending Account and Value Plan and the other on How to Talk with New Employees at the workplace (New Employee Orientation).

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Sign Language Interpreter was dismissed for the night at 7:05 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

M/S/P motion for up to \$1500 for both the supervisor and employee bargaining units at Labor and Industries Shop Steward Elections.

M/S/F to suspend standing rule one.

M/S/P motion for up to \$300 for DIS to conduct Shop Steward Elections.

M/S/P motion to send \$1,000 each month to Barb's Family and Friends for both November and December.

M/S/P motion for up to \$1,000 for Employment Security Shop Steward Elections.

M/S/P whereas the ratification of the contract is very important and WFSE 443 Field Office and 443 organizing committee and political action coordinate and organize bi-weekly efforts of lobbying the legislators to take up our agenda and fund the contract.

M/S/P motion for up to \$800 for DOL to conduct Shop Steward Elections.

STAFF REPORTS

Joan Gallagher – conducted a Train the Trainer workshop, 28 new trainers on shop steward training this month.

Dave Pardy – concentrating on ESD and their building issues.

Tana Gann – Shop Steward Training is scheduled for November 18 and 19, 2006.

Joanne McCaughan – working on RIF with ESD which was very difficult. Working on pre-arbitration grievances. A grievance was filed on the lack of Safety Committees at ESD four months ago, resolution came to recognition that there weren't Safety Committees were not in place where they should have been.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Shop Steward Conference Planning Committee – will be meeting tomorrow at Local 443's office,

Communication Committee – Worked on ordering the computer, printer, etc. Will be meeting again next Wednesday at 5:30 pm.

Political Action – recommends the following motions to endorse.

M/S/P to endorse Jim Lowery for Lewis County Commissioner

M/S/F to endorse Jim Powers for Thurston County Judge

M/S/P motion to endorse Steve Garrison for PUD 3 Commissioner, Dixie Smith for County Assessor, Ross Gallagher for County Commissioner 3, Casey Salisbury for Sheriff, Wes Stockwell for Coroner, Liza Frazier, Treasurer, Pat Swartos, Clerk, Robin Hunt, Treasurer, Patricia Costello, Assessor, Gary Warnock, Coroner, Dan Kimball, Sherrif.

M/S/P motion to contribute \$2,500 to NO on I933.

M/S/F motion to endorse Anne Hirsch for Judge.

Scholarship Committee

M/S/P to approve \$100 each for Kathy Major, Bonnie Ward, Morgan Hagquist, Colleen Potts and Laura Carpenter from the Elsie Schrader Scholarship Fund.

Door Prize: John Geppert

PEOPLE: \$27

Adjourned: 8:45 p.m.

SPECIAL NEEDS?

If you or anyone interested in attending a Local 443 meeting should need any ADA accommodations in order to attend please contact the Sergeant At Arms, DeFrance Clarke or email Secretary443@aol.com or call the local message phone at (360) 754-8437.

Committee Contacts

Finance – **Susie Rathke** Treasurer@wfse443.org
Grievance – : **Don Vaughan** GrievChair@wfse443.org
Political Action -- : **Bruce Zeller**
Shop Steward – **Alanna Gehr**
Organizing – **Joe Nilsson** OrgChair@wfse443.org

Diversity -- **Open**
Media – **Shellie Savage** Secretary443@aol.com
Contracts – **Open**
Scholarship : **Michele Elhardt**
Women's & Family Issues – **Open**



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UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6 December 6	Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. @ WFSE Conference Room, 1212 Jefferson Street, Olympia
November 21 December 19	General Meeting @ GA Building, Capitol Campus @ 6:00 p.m. (3rd Tuesday each month)
Nov 15 - OLY Dec 20 - CEN	Thurston-Lewis County Labor Council - Labor Temple, 6:00 p.m. -- 119 ½ N Capitol, Olympia Thurston-Lewis County Labor Council - Carpenter Hall, 7:00 pm, 417 N Pearl, Centralia
Check out Local 443's website at: www.wfse443.org Local 443's Phone Number: (360) 754-8437	



It's important what you think, do and say. **Please write** YOUR newsletter with your comments, reports, and/or articles. Be sure to include your name a phone number where our Editor can reach you for article verification. We will do what we can to put them in print. We look forward to hearing from YOU!!

YOUR COMMENTS, FEEDBACK AND/OR SUBMISSIONS ARE APPRECIATED

Please send to: PO BOX 105, Olympia WA 98507-0105
OR EMAIL: Editor@WFSE443.org **OR PHONE:** (360) 754-8437