

HAPPENINGS

Resurrected Unions for Kids to host poker tournament Oct. 7

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 7, when the non-profit Unions for Kids hosts a Texas Hold'em poker tournament. The event will be held at the IBEW Local 48 hall in Northeast Portland. Proceeds will go to Doernbecher Children's Hospital and Labor's Community Service Agency.

Unions for Kids was formed in 2003 by IBEW Local 48 members Lee and Kathy Duncan, Jerry Bruce, and Luigi Serio. With a 16-person volunteer board of directors from various unions, U4K operated an annual motorcycle poker run.

In 2005, it started a raffle for a new Harley Davison motorcycle. Selling a limited number of tickets, the winner was drawn at the end of the poker run. Over a 12-year period, the organization donated \$465,000 to Doernbecher.

When the Duncans retired in 2014, the motorcycle poker run was discontinued, though Unions for Kids maintained its

non-profit status. Earlier this year, Joe Harris, a union rep for Sheet Metal Workers Local 16, agreed to assume the reins as president. Former U4K treasurer Rob Williamson — recently retired from IBEW and United Workers Federal Credit Union — stepped in as vice president; Emmy Keever, a secretary at Local 16 and member of Office and Professional Employees Local 11, took over as treasurer, and Brooke Robinson-Hoffmann came in as the secretary.

The resurrected Unions for Kids is starting out with a Texas Hold'em poker tournament, but who knows where it will lead? The U4K website says it welcomes any and all ideas on ways to raise money for Doernbecher and LCSA.

For more information about the poker tournament, go to unionsforkids.org, or contact Harris at jharris@smw16.org; Keever at ekeeper@smw16.org, or call 503-254-0123.



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