

OPEU Women's Conference to empower women, March 25-27

Workshops ranging from Stopping Sexual Harassment to Worker Participation Programs to Women in Nontraditional Jobs are featured at the 1994 OPEU/SEIU Local 503 Women's Conference March 25-27.



The conference will be held at McMenamins Edgefield, 2126 SW Halsey, Troutdale, in east Multnomah County.

At a "Power Brunch" on

Sunday, March 27, the conference will host state Senator Tricia Smith, D-Salem, and state Senator Catherine Webber, D-Salem, who

now is running for the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Congress from Oregon's Fifth District. At that time, former OPEU/SEIU Local 503 activist BDan Enos also will be honored.

The featured workshop on Saturday, March 26, is entitled "How to Work with Poops and Still Keep Your Shoes Clean."

Registration for the conference begins at 6:30 p.m., Friday, March 25, and reopens 7:30 a.m., Saturday, March 26. The Welcome is scheduled for 8:30 a.m.

Registration forms are available at all OPEU/SEIU Local 503 offices, and should be returned no later than February 25.

District nominations open in April

Nominations of OPEU/SEIU Local 503 members wishing to run for District Director (a member of the Board of Directors) or Assistant District Director are made during the month of April.

Nominations must be received at OPEU Headquarters in Salem not later than May 2.

Directors and Assistant Directors are elected by the Union members in their District.

Nomination forms will be available from Local Officers, Stewards, members of the current Board of Directors, and all OPEU

offices during the month of April.

District Directors are members of the Union's Board of Directors who, together with the Statewide Officers, conduct the business of the Union between General Councils. Additionally, Directors are the chief Union officers in each of OPEU/SEIU Local 503's six geographical districts. Assistant Directors serve in the absence of the Directors at Board meetings and District functions.

Directors and Assistant Directors serve two-year terms beginning September 25, 1994.

To fight for social justice, against OCA, contact Civil/Human Rights Committee

Our state employee and many local government contracts provide protection from discrimination. These include protection from discrimination due to sexual orientation along with race, color, marital status, religion, sex, national origin, age, and mental or physical handicap.

Protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation has been in Article 22 of our state contract since 1987. Several local government contracts have had it for some time as well.

The contract language guarantees equal treatment for all represented employees — and "special rights" for none. These rights should also be protected in both the Oregon and U.S. constitutions. Social justice is an important issue in the labor movement nationwide.

However, the Oregon Citizens Alliance is beginning its new campaign to deny equal protection to workers based on their sexual orientation. We must continue to oppose the deterioration of our contract protection and rights. *An injury to one is an injury to all, whether it is based on race, age, gender, religion, handicap — or sexual orientation.*

The OPEU/SEIU Local 503 Civil and Human Rights Committee, and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Caucus are working to educate our members about these issues. The Caucus meets on the third Thursday of each month, at 5:30 p.m. at the OPEU/SEIU Local 503 Headquarters in Salem. We also need your help to educate our members and protect our contract rights.

In order to assist in these efforts, please complete the form below and return it to:

OPEU Civil and Human Rights Committee
OPEU Headquarters
P.O. Box 12159
Salem, OR 97309-0159

Earned Income Credit may mean \$\$ for you

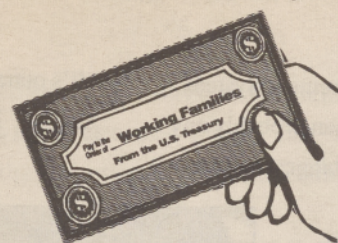
If you worked and earned less than \$23,050 last year, and had at least one child living at home for more than six months, the federal government may owe you an Earned Income Credit of up to \$2,364.

It's a credit for both married and single parents. The child must be under 19 years old, a full-time student who is under 24, or totally disabled and any age, but may also be a nephew, niece, a friend or neighbor's child, or a foster child if they lived with you for 12 months in 1993.

Certain eligibility requirements must be met to receive the maximum credit, but an estimated 14 million families nationwide will be eligible for some EIC benefits.

Getting your Earned Income Credit takes two simple steps:

- File a federal income tax return (Form 1040A or 1040, not



1040EZ), and

- Fill out "Schedule EIC" and attach it to your return.

If you are eligible, you'll either owe less in taxes — or the government will mail you a check. You can get the Earned Income Credit even if you don't owe income tax.

Helping families achieve greater economic security is one of the most direct ways government can help children. The Earned Income Credit is an important way for working families to help pay for day-to-day necessities.

TO: OPEU CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

I would like to help the campaign to educate our members in the following way(s):

- Contact Person:** Make some phone calls and circulate mailings about meetings and news updates.
- Attend Meetings:** Live close enough to attend evening meetings in Salem once a month.
- Mailing List Only:** Receive meeting notices and updates.
- Training:** I need more information to be better informed about the issues.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Local _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____