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BOARD ELECTIONS

DISTRICT DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Ballots will be mailed on March 6, 2006 and must be received at Headquarters by 5:00 p.m. March 27, 2006. Ballots will be counted at Salem HQ on March 29, 2006.

Election results will be on the SEIU hotline 503-581-OPEU (6738) or 1-800-473-6738, posted on the web site, and published in the 503 Voice.

Candidate statements are printed as submitted by the candidate. All photos are used as supplied by the candidates.

Any member may run for District Director and Assistant District Director as a write-in on the ballot. Ballots will accommodate write-in candidates.

Members run and members decide

by Joe DiNicola, President, SEIU Local 503, OPEU

IN EVERY CORNER of the state, members step up and volunteer to represent co-workers. In this issue of *The 503 Voice*, District Director and Assistant District Director candidates tell you about their experience, their goals for our union and issues that matter to every member.

Only members are eligible to run for office. Once elected, members sit on our statewide Board of Directors to govern our union between General Council sessions. During the next two years, the Board will decide how we run our union, what we spend money on and what policies we adopt.

Ballots will be mailed March 6, and only members can vote. Completed ballots must arrive at Salem Headquarters by 5 PM, March 27. The new Directors take office during our upcoming General Council August 23-26 in Eugene.

Do your part and study the candidate statements before you vote. Remember, every vote makes our union stronger.

Be a VOC: have fun and share your experiences

Joining SEIU's member volunteer organizing committee is a wonderful opportunity to have some fun and learn more about organizing, while helping build our union.

The Volunteer Organizing Committee (VOC), is a group of members who volunteer their time to talk to unorganized workers. When members talk to non-union workers about the value of unity, they have enormous credibility. Being a volunteer organizer is a great way to build our strength by building our numbers.

If you have questions or are interested in the program, contact Michael Alexander @ 1-800-527-9374 ext 418.

February 2006

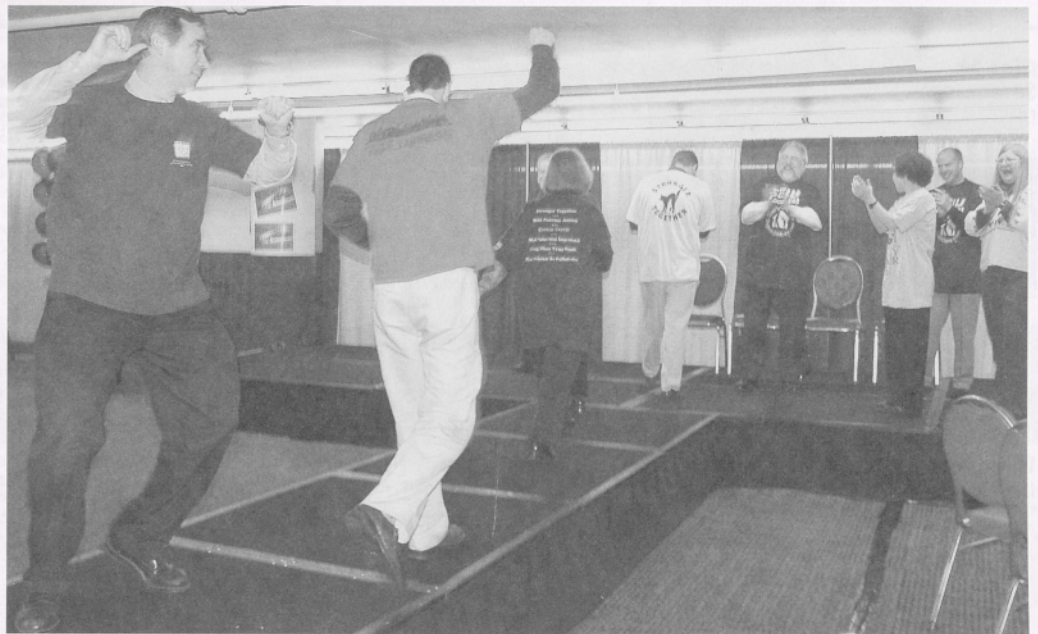
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The 503 VOICE

Vision to Action!

Political Conference a great success...



Elected leaders strutted their stuff on the catwalk at the Citizen Action for Political Education wrap up event at our political conference on January 28. Wearing SEIU vintage T-shirts, L-R are: Jeff Merkley, Larry Galizio, Diane Rosenbaum, Chuck Riley, Dan Gardner, Phil Barnhart, Mary Nolan, Chip Shields, and CAPE chair Rosalie Pedroza. Over 500 SEIU members attended. Keynote speaker was Thom Hartmann from KPOJ. Members participated in panel discussions, a phone call with Senator Edwards, and workshops. Energy was high and folks left with renewed dedication to moving our 2006 political program on the job and in our communities.

Nursing Home workers join SEIU to improve services for clients

WORKERS AT Lincoln City Rehab voted to join our union and became the twentieth SEIU nursing home in Oregon. This home is part of the Pinnacle Nursing Home chain.

Pinnacle mounted an intense anti-union fight, including terminating a union activist. Our union has filed an Unfair Labor Practice charge against Pinnacle for the firing of this worker in retaliation for her union activities.

Despite the intense pressure coming from their bosses, the workers held strong and won the election.

The workers are excited about working to pass the Safe Staffing ballot measure and bargaining their first contract. Their first bargaining date is February 17. They expect a tough fight for "just cause", binding arbitration, staffing, wages, and benefits.

"In the eight years I've worked here, I've seen staffing become a bigger and bigger issue. It makes it hard to stay here. People lose heart when they can't give the level of care they feel they should."

Linda Cave
Restorative Aide
Lincoln City Rehab

