



March 2009

Chapter 65 Newsletter

State Employees' Association of New Hampshire

SEIU Local 1984



Negotiations

It has been a busy 3 months for Chapter 65. We went to mediation in January to discuss our proposals. The only proposal that made it to the table was health insurance. The big sticking point of the insurance is the 34% increase. In March the Bargaining Team will be meeting with the county and the mediator to settle the contract.

Layoffs

On January 4th, forty-three (43) employees were laid off due to the economic situation. Since then, two employees have been called back. In mid January, seven union members attended the Economic Stimulus meeting at the Comfort Inn located in Dover, NH. This meeting provided information on how we can influence our Legislators into voting for the necessary funding. **Brad Asbury, our SEIU Organizer from Concord will be attending our March 5 meeting.** We have set aside time at our meeting to write letters to our state and federal legislators telling them NH counties and municipalities need help in these hard economic times. We ask that all of our members write a letter as well. If you cannot attend, please get your letter to us so we can send it for you.

Elections

In April, you should all receive your ballots for voting on the officers. You will also be voting for three (3) Councilors and seven (7) Alternates. Please be sure to return your ballots as soon as possible so our Elections Committee can get them counted and the information back to you before the end of the month.



Steward Training

In February, five (5) people attended the Steward Training. Attendees are:

- Tricia Jennison
- Josh Gregory
- Kathleen Mayo
- Rodney Woodill
- Brenda Stone

Purple Day

We thank Chris Long for the new purple scrub tops. Purple Day was a huge success!

Winter Blahs Dance

January ended with a bang as we celebrated with a Winter Blahs Dance. It proved to be a great success with nearly sixty (60) people attending. We had a 50/50 raffle which raised \$186.00. Half went to Nicky Guptel. Way to go Nicky! We also raffled off (2) days with pay. Both of these were won by Kathleen Mayo. We would like to take the time to thank Stephanie Adams, whose boyfriend donated his time to be our D.J. We would like to thank all the union and non-union members that came and had fun with us.

Thanks also go out to the decorating committee, Cheryl, Sandy, and Brenda for the beautiful decorations. We would like to say a special thanks to the people in Concord and John from Chapter 41, who made the trip down to attend our dance. We are thinking of planning another dance, "A Summer Blast Off Party," sometime in the month of May or June. If anyone would like to get involved in the planning or attend any of these activities, please feel free to contact Brenda Stone or Rodney Woodill for more information.

UNIONS ARE ONLY AS STRONG AS THEIR MEMBERS!



NEXT MEETINGING

**Thursday, March 5th, 2:30-3:30 PM.
We will meet in the main dining room.**

