



Voices of Labor

The Napa-Solano Central Labor Council Newsletter
Issue XVII - February 7, 2023

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Jon Riley

Executive Director

Upcoming events:

Fr. 2/10 - Mayrene Bates - Memorial of Lights

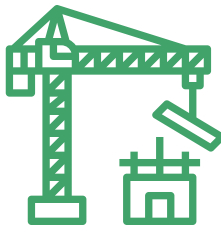
4:30-5:30PM, Civic Center Pond - Fairfield, CA

Th. 3/2 - Napa Working Families Coalition Fundraiser

5:00 PM, IBEW Local 180 - Napa, CA

Th. 4/15 - 13th Annual Spring Salute

4:00-7:30 PM, Napa Ruins - Napa, CA



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2023**

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'Sup, Sibs?

What's up Siblings?

Talk about hitting the ground running in 2023. We started organizing the ADEMs elections in December and Glenn and the Action team did an awesome job of identifying, recruiting and organizing candidates for the election. Stand by for results.

We have also been meeting with our newly elected officials to make sure that they are up to date on the issues impacting working families and have been very happy with their knowledge and support. This is in no small part because of the efforts of our Napa and Solano Working Families Coalitions and the Community Benefits Committees that have been bringing together stakeholders from Labor, Business, Environmental/Climate, Housing and Local Government to provide a forum that allows for open, informative and safe environment to look into Policies and future development so we can assist in bringing smart and sustainable projects that will bring good paying jobs.

Another benefit of our Coalition work is the acceptance of Project Labor Agreements that 20 years ago were a nonstarter in a lot of jurisdictions. Bringing together stakeholders has allowed the Building Trades to spotlight the benefits of a PLA and garner support from our allies, securing the first PLA in Napa County with the Green Island Road project in American Canyon because of these relationships. We are working in Vallejo to sign a city wide PLA and have opened talks in other cities and school districts to secure more of these life changing agreements. We also have found that our City, County and School District employees have benefited from bringing their issues to the table and educating the leaders in the community of the struggle's workers face, bringing about improvement in wages, benefits and working conditions.

This issue's Spotlight is on Alicia Mijares, the new Business Representative of Sheetmetal Local #104. Her family has a long union background and she has stepped right up in support of our CLC, accepting a position on our Executive Board. Welcome to our Family Sib!

We want to ask all of you to support the AFL-CIO Diaper Drive. We know how important a helping hand can be to a young parent and hope to make a difference in Napa and Solano Counties. Thanks to IBEW, OE-3 and the Ironworkers for opening up their halls to accept donations

The CLC is heading back to Ruins in American Canyon for our 13th annual Spring Salute Awards Reception on April 15th! Please save the date for our premier event where we honor our Siblings to go above and beyond supporting working men and women. We will announce our sponsorship opportunities and award winners next week.

Be safe and keep up the fight, wherever it may take you.



Jon Riley
Executive Director, Napa/Solano CLC
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www.napasolanoclc.org
One Vision One Voice
Working People Standing Together

Building Trades and Quality Local Jobs - Project Labor Agreements

As public opinion and interest in unions have accelerated to levels not seen in many decades, we are also seeing a major shift in interest in quality union jobs and careers in construction. Amidst incoming and on-going public investment in infrastructure over the next several years, there are new opportunities to establish and create quality union jobs. One vital tool to do this are Project Labor Agreements.

Project Labor Agreements (typically referred to as PLAs, sometimes as Project Stabilizations Agreements/PSAs) establish the underlying conditions of labor on construction projects, including matters of hiring, wages and benefits, grievance resolution, and sometimes other related workforce development measures. The North America Building Trades Unions (NABTU, national-level Building Trades unions of US and Canada), define a PLA as such-

"A project labor agreement (PLA) is a pre-hire agreement between labor and management that establishes the terms and conditions of employment on one or more construction projects."

PLAs are crucial policies to build and sustain union jobs in construction under the Building Trades unions, maintain high and safe labor standards in the broader construction sector, and help to facilitate local hire and workforce development priorities through the use of local union halls and apprenticeship programs. They can be used in both the public and private sector, and can be established as city-wide or district-wide policies. From the available academic research, PLAs are known to marginally reduce costs on projects while expanding the local skilled construction workforce. Combined with efforts from pre-apprenticeship programs, such as under the local Building Trades community partner CTWI (Construction Trades Workforce Initiative), PLAs help to utilize local residents from underserved communities who are in or have graduated from apprenticeships. Further support for PLAs at the local level have highlighted their advantage in helping investment in infrastructure go further by supporting local and regional workers with good wages and benefits, the stability brought through a skilled workforce and labor peace provisions, and even the environmental benefits of hiring workers who live closer to the projects in question.

PLAs have been previously established and successfully used within Solano County, and a PLA has now been signed for the Green Island Road project in American Canyon. The City of Vallejo has commenced meetings to review adopting a City-wide Project Labor Agreement, and we anticipate other cities to soon begin publicly reviewing the use of PLAs. PLAs, alongside the broader use of apprenticeship programs, local hire, prevailing wage, and pre-apprenticeship programs collectively make construction a place for quality union careers and supports growth that is inclusive of workers and greater investment in underserved communities. Please keep an eye out for updates and for opportunities to participate in solidarity actions to help advance union jobs!

Member Spotlight

Alicia Mijares, Sheetmetal Workers Local 104

I was born and raised in San Jose. Three of my grandparents and both of my parents retired as union members. Both of my brothers are active union members and my only sister is an active union member. My family has been represented by the Teamsters, the Long Shoremen, the United Auto Workers, the UFCW, the IBEW, and I am a proud member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 104. Throughout my apprenticeship and career as a journeyman sheet metal worker I was active within my union. I have always been passionate about politics and organized labor, so I spent lots of time precinct walking, phone banking, and doing literature drops for labor friendly candidates. I became a shop steward and was later elected to the executive board of Local 104. When a position became available as an organizer, I applied immediately. I have always worked to perpetuate the union in my spare time and decided to make it a full-time job. I organized in Alameda, Santa Clara, and Contra Costa Counties. I loved organizing and when the opportunity presented itself to represent members in Napa and Solano Counties, I gladly accepted.



Alicia Mijares, SMART #104

Local 104 represents about 7,000 active members from Ventura County to the Oregon Border. Our membership is active in community service actions, job actions, and in the fight for more project labor agreements. With the help of our membership, the SMART (Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation workers) Army. I will try to grow the SMART Army here in Napa and Solano counties and make my territory a Local 104 stronghold. I am looking forward to bringing more work for our union brothers and sisters to Napa and Solano Counties, cultivating relationships within the community, and being a great representative of Local 104, the membership, and of the trade that I love so much. In my spare time I am learning to play the guitar.... I need lots of practice! I also love to travel and just took a beautiful trip to Italy. I am looking forward to exploring local trails with my three dogs and seeing more of beautiful Napa and Solano. Hopefully, I can find some nice campgrounds and get in some clay shooting as well. I am proud to be a part of the Central Labor Council and look forward to working with my brothers and sisters at the CLC.

Action Team Updates - Labor

Over this coming year, we will be continuing to work toward an unprecedented level of volunteering and engagement of union members. On all fronts, we are working to build power, and the ultimate strength of our movement lies in our members as volunteers, voters, and community members. For this purpose, we have created a new Action Team to exchange ideas on mobilizing our members while combining efforts to make sure the labor movement is present in force for individual unions in their time of need and for the good of the movement as a whole.

The Action Team will be meeting monthly on the usual times and dates of United Workers for Local Government (UWLG) on the third Tuesdays of the month on Zoom. In the next meeting, we will be discussing best practices for engaging and mobilizing union members and the major actions and strategies on the horizon. Fundamentally, the Action Team works to mobilize leaders, activists, and members of the labor movement to action to both aid the various affiliated unions and to advance the cause of the collective labor movement. In the earlier phases of this year the big focus will be on local policy and coalition work and any specific campaigns or actions sought by the affiliates. Later in the year, the Action Team will also be active in preparations for the critical 2024 Election Cycle.

Action Team/United Workers for Local Government Meeting
3rd Tuesday of the Month
Tuesday, 2/21, 10 AM on Zoom

This movement represents workers from all walks of life and we will be building power for them. The labor movement of the future will be there and at all the times and places necessary to answer the needs of workers and their allies.



In solidarity,
Glenn Loveall
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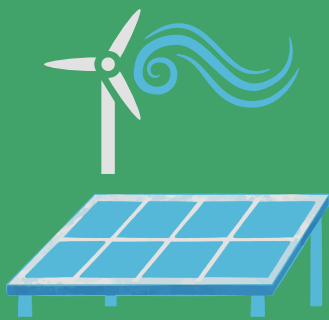
Coalitions 2023 - Workers, Communities, and Growth

Throughout 2023, the local labor movement will continue to be actively building power for working people, including in coalitions. Over the last several years, we have formed and advanced multiple coalitions between the labor, environmental, and housing movements and other community stakeholders for the purposes of defining and advancing growth in a pro-worker, sustainable, and equitable manner. In both counties, there are exciting opportunities for any and all affiliates to be involved and to shape this vision of growth for workers and their broader communities.

The Coalition work of this Council is centered on the Napa and Solano Working Families Coalitions. In both of these coalitions, the labor movement works with various community allies to identify and advocate for growth in a manner creating union jobs while also pursuing higher environmental protection and expanded housing. The Napa Working Families Coalition has already successfully advocated for General Plan language in the City of Napa for stronger labor standards, more housing, and expanded access to childcare. In both Napa and Solano, these Coalitions are engaged on Housing Element updates and are beginning to target infrastructure priorities and funds. In addition to policy, these coalitions also serve to create more shared understanding and clarity between groups regarding Elections - specifically, helping to align labor and allies on candidates. Coalition efforts have been crucial in achieving pro-labor majorities within both Counties and some of our local cities.

This year we will continue to advocate for funds from the historic Federal infrastructure bill and the Inflation Reduction Act to be spent in our local communities alongside supporting more housing and sustainability measures. To this end we will be having our first fundraiser for the Napa Working Families Coalition on Thursday, March 2nd (see next session).

With our newly achieved local majorities, Federal infrastructure funds, and State-level pressure for expanding housing, the time is now to advance a new vision for growth for workers and their communities, and we encourage all of you to see and be a part of this effort!



Napa Working Families Coalition Fundraiser



IBEW Local 180
720 Technology Way
Ste B, Napa, CA 94558

Thursday,
March 2nd
5:00 PM



SAVE THE DATE

**NAPA-SOLANO CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL'S
13TH ANNUAL SPRING SALUTE
APRIL 15, 2023, 4PM – 7:30PM**

***THE NAPA VALLEY RUINS
SOUTH NAPA JUNCTION ROAD,
AMERICAN CANYON, CA***



Award Winners, Sponsorship & Ticket Information will be coming soon.

CALIFORNIA LABOR FEDERATION
**LABOR GIVES BACK:
2023 STATEWIDE
DIAPER DRIVE**

**Now accepting donations through
February 14th at the locations below:**

NAPA CO.

IBEW Local 180, 720 Technology Way Ste B, Napa
Drop offs accepted M-F, 8am-5pm

SOLANO CO.

Ironworkers Local 378, 3120 Bayshore Rd, Benicia
Drop offs accepted M-F, 7am-2:30pm

Operating Engineers Local Union #3, 2540 N.
Watney Way, Fairfield
Drop offs accepted M-F, 8am-5pm

*VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF DROP
OFF LOCATIONS: [WWW.CALABORFED.ORG/2023-
LABOR-DIAPER-DRIVE](http://WWW.CALABORFED.ORG/2023-
LABOR-DIAPER-DRIVE)*

**Diaper access is a widespread issue impacting many working
parents. Lack of access to diapers can make it more
challenging for families to access child care or stay employed.**

**Start the new year by giving back! If you would like to
organize a diaper collection in your area, please email
Diamond Brandon at Diamond@calaborfed.org**



Honoring Solano County Icon Mayrene Bates



MEMORIAL OF LIGHTS

The City of Fairfield presents
Mayrene Bates - Memorial of Lights

Date: Friday, Feb 10th

Time: 4:30-5:30PM

Location: Civic Center Pond, Fairfield, CA
Candles will be released on the west pond (nearest
the library and fire station 37)

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Date: February 23, 2023

Time: 10AM

Location: Solano Community College
4000 Suisun Valley Road, Bldg. 1400
Parking is Free

Find out more about Mayrene Bates' life and
contributions to our county at
[Mayrene Bates, longtime educator and Solano Board
of Education trustee, dies at 88 - The Vacaville
Reporter \(thereporter.com\)](#)

<https://www.dailyrepublic.com/all-dr-news/solano-news/local-features/local-lifestyle-columns/back-in-the-day-saying-goodbye-to-mayrene-bates/>



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