RISING TO THE CHALLENGE: TOOLS FOR TRANSFORMATION

LEADERSHIP

1. UNION SONGS: MUSIC TELLS A STORY

Music not only moves the world, it tells a story. Josh Norris will teach us labor history, using the most important songs of the labor movement. “Give us bread, but give us roses, too!” This workshop will be a sing-along. Bring your instruments and bring your voices.

2. TELLING YOUR OWN STORY

Are you swayed by statistics and charts? No? Most of us are moved through the stories of real people, people like us. Karen Vuranch, a national renowned storyteller and West Virginia native, will teach us how to speak our truths through the telling of our own life stories.

3. HOW TO WIN A GRIEVANCE: ARGUING A GRIEVANCE IS NOT LIKE ARGUING WITH YOUR FAMILY

Rise to the Challenge of better representing your members. Whether you handle a few grievances or many, Arbitrator Tom Nowel will present some tips about how to frame and argue a grievance to maximize your chances of winning.

4. PRIVATE SECTOR LEGAL WORKSHOP

Know how to defend your members’ legal rights in the workplace. Attorney Kate Harshman will walk you through your legal rights and any changes that have occurred in the last two years, as well as answer your questions.

5. PUBLIC SECTOR LEGAL WORKSHOP

Know how to defend your members’ legal rights in the workplace. Attorney Kate Harshman will walk you through your legal rights and any changes that have occurred in the last two years, as well as answer your questions.

6. THE FOUR AGREEMENTS

This workshop will focus on the book The Four Agreements. Be impeccable with your word, do not take anything personally, do not make assumptions, and always do your best. Simple yet practical, these four
agreements can guide us in forming healthier ways of relating to others and ourselves. In your role as a union leader, this workshop is designed to give you some helpful tools in relating to your boss, co-workers and family. You do not need to have read the book to attend.

POLITICS

7. SEE IT, SHOOT IT, SEND IT

Rise to the Challenge of helping to document social and economic justice. Use your Smart phone to capture that important victory or expose those who create challenges for working people. Learn how to take and frame the best photos to upload to social media. No experience necessary.

8. LIFE AFTER RIGHT TO WORK: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME AND MY CO-WORKERS?

We can rise to the challenge of beating back Right to Work laws now, or drown under the tidal wave of challenges it will present workers if passed. Learn the real effects of Right to Work legislation on you and your members with Norma Kersting from SEIU Healthcare Michigan, which was the most recent state to pass Right To Work. Unions have won many rights that are taken for granted now. What happens if unions are weakened to the point where we can no longer collectively fight for worker’s rights? Find out from someone who is living with the results of this terrible, anti-working people law.

9. HISTORY TIMELINE: WHERE WERE YOU WHEN?

Rising to current challenges is easier if you know a little history of what came before us. We are all a part of History - come find out where you fit in, what your family and ancestors’ challenges were and how they overcame them. A lively workshop in which we will explore and share stories of where you and your family were during key moments of Labor History, the Civil Rights Movement, the LGBT Movement, and the Women’s Movement.

10. CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW? FIGHTING BACK AGAINST MISINFORMATION

When the airwaves are filled with right wing attacks on workers and unions, it is time to rise to the challenge and set the record straight! What are right-wing politicians/pundits saying about us, how are we affected, and how do we counter these lies? Messaging expert Brian Rothenberg from Progress Ohio will help us learn to ‘decode’ what the right wing is really saying and teach us ways to turn their message to our benefit. “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”- Nelson Mandela

11. YOUR VALUES, YOUR POLITICS
What do you value? Do your actions reflect your values? Rise to the challenge of identifying what your values are and what you have in common with other union members. Learn how those values are reflected in your politics and make a more just world for all of us.

HEALTH

12. TAI CHI FOR MOVEMENT

Busy job, busy life, sometimes it's hard to find time to get enough exercise. Accept the challenge of getting healthier thru Tai Chi, a series of slow movements that will increase your flexibility and balance. This workshop was a big hit last Assembly. Wear comfortable clothing.

13. TAKE CARE DOWN THERE!

Maintaining your health and the health of your family is one of your most important responsibilities in life. Rise to the challenge of having that important discussion with partners and children about sexual and reproductive health. Bad things can happen to good people, but talking about prevention and treatment doesn’t have to be awkward. Come learn more about how to help your family and friends take care down there.

14. STAYING SAFE: STOPPING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Rise to the challenge of saying NO to accepting intimate partner violence. Learn how to keep yourself safe, and how to support your sisters, daughters, mothers and friends in breaking free from the cycle of abuse. No one deserves to be hit.