



**GOURMET
GLATT
MEMBERS
Pages 8-9**





THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE Rob Newell, President International Vice President



SUMMER RISING

Hopefully you had a safe and enjoyable Summer and are getting ready for colder weather and changing leaves. It is also time to wish our out of area college student members safe travels back to school and wish them well in their 2023 academic year. Earlier this Summer we held the Local 1500 Scholarship Awards breakfast and for the first time used it as a fundraiser as well as a celebration for the winners! I am proud to report that we raised almost \$50,000 for the Local 1500 Scholarship Trust this year! That type of fundraising goes a long way towards meeting our current scholarship responsibilities and provides us with the ability to look for new ways to expand the program. Thanks again to all our friends, sister Unions, vendor partners and your Employers whose contributions made this year's event a huge success for our winners and their families. We couldn't have done it without you! I also want to extend a special thank you to former Local 1500 member, and forever Union ally, Anthony Portesy for being this year's keynote speaker. Anthony's message was well received by our winners and once again proved the adage that there is no better way to deliver a message than member-to-member! Although Anthony is currently withdrawn, his years of membership experience were on full display and his 1500 pride was felt by everyone. Thanks again Anthony for giving back to your Union and its membership!

I also wanted to take a moment to formally welcome some new members to the Local 1500 family. This Summer, over 300 members from 4 New York Gourmet Glatt stores and Whitsons Culinary Group (aka Preferred Meals) in Brooklyn, voted to join Local 1500. For these members the path to 1500 membership was long and at times extremely confusing. The short version of their story is that these members were dissatisfied with their representation and chose to do something about it. After many legal steps these members chose to join the UFCW to help gain a voice on the job, negotiate stronger contracts, and to increase the prospect of providing a better life for their families. After elections and legal processes that took over 2 years, these amazing members voted overwhelmingly to join Local 1500! We are encouraged by their collective strength and energized by their unwavering drive. They fought to get the results they wanted and a Union membership card they are proud to carry. We are hopeful that over the next few

months they will be joined by more groups of workers from the kosher markets in our area that are currently walking that same path those members did. It was a little unusual for Local 1500 to be involved in a membership project like this one, but we jumped at the opportunity to help these folks achieve their goal. There are many paths to Local 1500 membership, but these members proved a willingness to metaphorically walk through fire to get here, and for that we couldn't be prouder to welcome them!

I also wanted to take a moment to highlight the incredible work being done on our inaugural contract for our members at Blank Street Coffee. It is typically more difficult to negotiate a first contract and this campaign has been no different. Although our negotiating team has met with the Employer and their attorney's multiple times the process has been slower than we and our members would like. Please keep an eye on our social media and be on the lookout for blast texts and update emails in case we need you to engage. Our members at Blank Street are blazing a path forward not only for themselves, but also for the workers at so many other coffee chains in our area. Our organizing victory at Blank Street, has our team currently working with groups of workers from so many other coffee chains. These other campaigns are all at different stages in the process, but one thing is clear, a successful first contract for Blank Street workers will send a message to baristas and coffee shop workers everywhere that victory in this industry can be achieved if you stay united and have enough support. So be ready to support this campaign. These members may need you in the coming months, and in the future, you may need them too!

Thank you for allowing me to be the President of our amazing Union and for giving me the honor of representing you. I believe our current team is as good as any we have had over the past 30 years, and maybe in our history. They are working hard for you every day, enforcing the contracts, servicing our members, and making sure your workplaces are as safe as they can be. As always, we will continue to look for ways to increase the value you receive for your membership dollars and keep negotiating the best contracts in the industry! See you all soon! Work safe and remember **#OurUnionHasValue!**

UFCW - LOCAL 1500 NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The offices of President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recorder and Vice Presidents 1 through 17 inclusive, are open for nomination for election to three-year terms of office commencing January 1st, 2024, and ending December 31st, 2026. The nominations shall be conducted by petition. Each of the 17 Vice Presidents is numerically designated for nomination and election purposes, for example: Vice President Number 1, Vice President Number 2, etc.

This shall serve as official notice to the active membership of UFCW Local 1500 that nomination petitions for any of the above offices may be submitted in person, by U.S. mail or other carrier and must be received no later than 5:00pm, October 16th, 2023, at the main office of UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590, to the attention of Jeffrey Guardado, General Election Chairperson. Submission by facsimile, email, computer, or other form of electronic transmission is not valid.

Each page of the petition will contain the name of the active member being nominated, the specific office for which that member is being nominated, and valid, verifiable original signatures. No less than

311 active members in support of said nomination are required. Petitions are available from Jeffrey Guardado, General Election Chairperson, UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590. The nominating petition will contain information sufficient to permit the General Election Chairperson to verify the identity of the signatories thereto. For that purpose, in addition to their signature, each member should print their full name, last four digits of their social security number (or other identifying number), company and store (location) they work in to assist in the verification process.

Only active members of UFCW Local 1500 shall be permitted to solicit and obtain nomination signatures from active members. Each page of the petition must contain verification that all the signatures on the petition page were solicited and obtained by an active member of UFCW Local 1500.

Procedures governing nominations as set forth in the UFCW Local 1500 Bylaws are as follows:

ARTICLE XII Elections

Section A. All officers shall be elected by secret

ballot of the membership, and their term of office shall be for three years, commencing January 1. Terms of office shall expire on December 31, and the terms of newly elected officers shall commence on January 1.

Section B. Nominations and elections shall be conducted during the last six months preceding the expiration of the term of office.

Section C. Not less than 30 days prior to the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions, notice shall be mailed by the Local Union to each member at the member's last known home address, setting forth the manner for conducting the nominations, the actual number of signatures required for nomination petitions, the deadline date for the receipt of petitions, and all other relevant requirements for the filing of petitions, including what each petition is required to contain

Not less than 15 days prior to the election, notice shall be mailed by the Local Union to each member at the member's last known home address, setting forth the times, dates, and places for conducting the election.





LA PERSPECTIVA DEL PRESIDENTE Rob Newell, Presidente Vice Presidente Internacional



SUBIDA DEL VERANO

Esperemos que haya tenido un verano seguro y agradable y se esté preparando para el clima más frío y el cambio de hojas. También es hora de desearles a nuestros miembros estudiantes universitarios fuera del área un buen viaje de regreso a la escuela y desearles lo mejor en su año académico 2023. ¡A principios de este verano celebramos el desayuno de entrega de becas del Local 1500 y por primera vez lo utilizamos como recaudación de fondos y también como celebración para los ganadores! ¡Me enorgullece informar que recaudamos casi \$50,000 para el Fondo de Becas Local 1500 este año! Ese tipo de recaudación de fondos contribuye en gran medida a cumplir con nuestras responsabilidades actuales en materia de becas y nos brinda la capacidad de buscar nuevas formas de ampliar el programa. Gracias nuevamente a todos nuestros amigos, sindicatos hermanos, socios proveedores y sus empleadores cuyas contribuciones hicieron que el evento de este año fuera un gran éxito para nuestros ganadores y sus familias. ¡No podríamos haberlo hecho sin ti! También quiero extender un agradecimiento especial al ex miembro del Local 1500 y un aliado por siempre del sindicato, Anthony Portes, por ser el orador principal de este año. El mensaje de Anthony fue bien recibido por nuestros ganadores y una vez más demostró el dicho de que no hay mejor manera de transmitir un mensaje que de miembro a miembro. Aunque Anthony está actualmente retirado, sus años de experiencia como miembro estaban a la vista y todos sentían su orgullo 1500. ¡Gracias nuevamente, Anthony, por contribuir a su Unión y a sus miembros!

También quería tomarme un momento para dar la bienvenida formal a algunos nuevos miembros de la familia del Local 1500. Este verano, más de 300 miembros de 4 tiendas Gourmet Glatt de Nueva York y Whitsons Culinary Group (también conocido como Preferred Meals) en Brooklyn, votaron para unirse al Local 1500. Para estos miembros, el camino hacia la membresía 1500 fue largo y, en ocasiones, extremadamente confuso. La versión corta de su historia es que estos miembros no estaban satisfechos con su representación y decidieron hacer algo al respecto. Después de muchos pasos legales, estos miembros decidieron unirse a la UFCW para ayudar a ganar voz en el trabajo, negociar contratos más sólidos y aumentar las perspectivas de brindar una vida mejor a sus familias. Después de elecciones y procesos legales que duraron más de 2 años, ¡estos increíbles miembros votaron abrumadoramente para unirse al Local 1500! Nos sentimos alentados por su fuerza colectiva y energizados por su inquebrantable impulso. Lucharon para obtener los resultados que querían y una tarjeta de miembro del sindicato que están orgullosos de portar. Tenemos la esperanza de que en los próximos meses se les unan

más grupos de trabajadores de los mercados kosher de nuestra zona que actualmente están recorriendo el mismo camino que recorrieron esos miembros. Era un poco inusual que el Local 1500 participara en un proyecto de membresía como este, pero aprovechamos la oportunidad para ayudar a estas personas a lograr su objetivo. Hay muchos caminos para ser miembro del Local 1500, pero estos miembros demostraron su voluntad de caminar metafóricamente a través del fuego para llegar hasta aquí, ¡y por eso no podríamos estar más orgullosos de darles la bienvenida!

También quería tomarme un momento para resaltar el increíble trabajo que se está realizando en nuestro contrato inaugural para nuestros miembros en Blank Street Coffee. Normalmente es más difícil negociar un primer contrato y esta campaña no ha sido diferente. Aunque nuestro equipo negociador se ha reunido con el empleador y sus abogados varias veces, el proceso ha sido más lento de lo que a nosotros y a nuestros miembros nos gustaría. Esté atento a nuestras redes sociales y esté atento a los mensajes de texto explosivos y los correos electrónicos de actualización en caso de que necesitemos que participe. Nuestros miembros de Blank Street están abriendo un camino a seguir no sólo para ellos mismos, sino también para los trabajadores de muchas otras cadenas de café de nuestra zona. Nuestra victoria organizativa en Blank Street hace que nuestro equipo trabaje actualmente con grupos de trabajadores de muchas otras cadenas de café. Todas estas otras campañas se encuentran en diferentes etapas del proceso, pero una cosa está clara: un primer contrato exitoso para los trabajadores de Blank Street enviará un mensaje a los baristas y trabajadores de cafeterías de todo el mundo de que se puede lograr la victoria en esta industria si se mantienen unidos y tener suficiente apoyo. Así que prepárate para apoyar esta campaña. Es posible que estos miembros lo necesiten en los próximos meses y, en el futuro, es posible que usted también los necesite.

Gracias por permitirme ser el presidente de nuestra increíble Unión y por darme el honor de representarlo. Creo que nuestro equipo actual es tan bueno como cualquiera que hayamos tenido en los últimos 30 años, y tal vez en nuestra historia. Trabajan duro para usted todos los días, haciendo cumplir los contratos, brindando servicios a nuestros miembros y asegurándose de que sus lugares de trabajo sean lo más seguros posible. Como siempre, continuaremos buscando formas de aumentar el valor que recibe por el dinero de su membresía y seguiremos negociando los mejores contratos de la industria. ¡Los veo pronto! ¡Trabaja seguro y recuerda **#NuestraUniónTieneValor!**

Notice of nominations and election may be combined into a single notice, which shall be mailed in accordance with the time requirements specified in the first paragraph of this Section.

Section D. No person shall be eligible for nomination or election to any office unless such person is:

1. An active member in the Local Union, who has been an active member in the Local Union, or who had been a member of another organization merged with the Local Union, for a continuous aggregate of at least 12 months immediately preceding the month in which the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions occurs, or;

2. An active member in the Local Union who has been an active member in the International Union continuously for at least 24 months immediately preceding the month in which the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions occurs.

Any member satisfying the eligibility requirements of this Section must maintain continuous active membership in the Local Union to remain eligible to run for or hold elected office.

Section E.

1. Nominations shall be conducted by petition. Nomination of a member for a specific office shall require the signatures of 2 percent of the active membership of the Local Union; based on the number of active members on which the Local Union pays per capita tax to the International Union, for the twelve-month period ending with the next to last month prior to the month in which the notice of nominations is mailed to the membership.

2. The top of the page of each petition shall indicate the member who is being nominated and the specific office for which the member is being nominated. If a member is being nominated for a Vice President position, the petition shall specify the numerically designated Vice President position for which the member is being nominated. Any petition may nominate more than one member for office, provided that each member is being nominated for a different office and that the office for which each member is being nominated is specifically indicated. Each petition shall contain the signature, printed name, and other identifying information, as determined by the general chairperson of the election, of each member signing the petition.

3. Petitions shall be filed at the Local Union office

by mail or in person. The original signatures are required to be filed, and transmission by facsimile, computer, or other form of electronic transmission shall not be valid.

4. If a signature on any petition is not accompanied by a printed name or the other identifying information required by the general chairperson, but the identity of the member can be determined from the signature, the signature shall be deemed valid and shall be counted.

Section F. No member may run for more than one office in any election and no member may hold more than one elected office at any one time. The regular employees of the Local Union shall not constitute more than 50 percent of the membership of the Local Union Executive Board.

Section G. Any active member in the Local Union, as defined in Article 4(B) of the International Constitution, shall be eligible to vote in the Local Union's elections.





JUST FOR THE RECORD
Aly Y. Waddy, Secretary-Treasurer

THE ANATOMY OF YOUR UNION

Our union is made up of thousands of members, just like you. I am sure you see fellow members every day when you are at work, and you probably spend a good amount of time talking with them and getting to know them over time.

But do you know the structure of our union? Did you know about all of the people that you can count on that make the union, and your job as strong as it can be? Let's start with your shop steward. Your steward works at the same location you do, maybe even alongside you in the same department. Your steward is a person you can go to with routine questions about your union, or if something just isn't right at your job, you can talk to your steward. Stewards all have copies of your current contract, as well as other pertinent union information. It's very easy and convenient to communicate with your steward because most days you already see them at work.

We also have a number of Membership Servicing Representatives that roam from store-to-store meeting with members and making sure your needs are met. The MSR's work a different schedule than your regularly assigned Union Representative. Our MSR's work evenings and weekends every week so they can see the folks that work those days/shifts. As most of you know, sometimes our Union Representatives are going from grievance meeting to grievance meeting, or better yet from fire to fire, to extinguish problems that arise, so if you have a question or a minor concern, reaching out to one of our MSR's is a pretty good idea.

Of course, you also have your Union Representative that you can call on. Their shop card is posted by the time clock and in the break room with all of the information necessary to reach out to them either by phone or by email. If you need to get in contact with your representative, either speak with your steward, or reach out to them directly. You should know that your steward is pretty much in daily contact with your Rep and in some instances, can probably get a hold of your Rep even quicker than you can, so, utilize your stewards. Plus, your issue or concern may not be unique to you, so your steward should be made aware of any issue that could affect multiple members at your location. Your Rep visits your location regularly and conducts routine paperwork like payroll checks and safety inspections to make sure you are as safe as possible. Reps also hold grievance or suspension meetings with management or Human Resources. Rest assured that your Rep will bring your concern to management and make sure it is addressed.

Our union is also made up of ten rank-and-file vice presidents. What are those? They are members that work in the stores just like you and are elected to serve on the Local 1500 Executive Board. They have all been around and active in the union for a long time. They help make decisions, approve all expenses, and vote on many aspects facing our union. They bring a very important perspective from the membership to the rest of the leadership of the union. And while they are not stewards (anymore), you may also see them in your store, and you can also ask them for help if you need it. Now remember I said there are only ten of them, so the chances of you working with them are pretty slim, considering the size and scope of our membership. I'd like to take this time to introduce you to our rank-and-file vice presidents:

1. Charles Haughwout of Stop & Shop #511. Chuck has been a member since 1980 and is the senior member of our executive board. He has sat on countless contract negotiating committees.
2. Daniel Gleason of King Kullen #1. Danny has been around since 1990 and has also been a negotiating committee member for many years.

3. Keith Jefferson of Stop & Shop #505. Keith started with Pathmark way back in 1986 and in 2015, brought his talents to Stop & Shop.
4. Robert Schnaars of Stop & Shop #564. Rob started as a member in 2000 and is an avid dart player, among other attributes.
5. Bjorn Romahn of King Kullen #3. Affectionately known as George, Mr. Romahn has been with King Kullen since 1987, and along with Danny, has been on many contract negotiation committees.
6. Joaquim Almeida of Mannix ShopRite #109. Jack has been a member since 1985, and is a true fighter for his coworkers, both at the store and at the bargaining table.
7. Raymond Marrero of Fairway #182. Ray has been a member since 2013, surviving through Fairway's bankruptcy and eventual acquisition by Village Supermarket, and he's still going strong!
8. Jeanne Bottitta of Buonadonna ShopRite #801. Jean has been working for Buonadonna ShopRite since 2012 and before that she was at Pathmark since 1990. She is a true supermarket veteran.
9. Alicia Boake of Glass Gardens ShopRite #289. Alicia has been working for Glass ShopRite since 2014, and prior to that worked for Pathmark since 1986. Alicia has always been very active in Local 1500 events!
10. Artan Shabani of SRS ShopRite #293. Artan is our newest executive board member. He has been a Local 1500 member since 2010 and always puts his coworkers first!

We also have a team of three Field Directors that oversee daily operations in all of our shops. You may see them visiting your store at some point making sure everything is running smoothly. They are another resource for you to use if you have an issue at your location. Obviously reach out to your steward or Rep first, who will get their Field Director involved if necessary.

Our Executive staff is also here to make sure you are represented to the best of the union's ability. Our Director of Operations keeps all departments moving in the right direction. Our Recorder and Executive Vice President ultimately oversees all field servicing operations. Our Secretary-Treasurer (yours truly!) makes sure all of the union's finances are in order, oversees, our media and political outreach, our office staff, and our organizing staff's efforts. And last but certainly not least is our President. His office is where I like to say, the buck and the bullshit stops! He proudly and firmly makes sure everyone in our organization is cohesively working to better serve our great membership.

We are building the strongest support group ever here at local 1500. Every steward, vice president, Membership Servicing Representative, Union Representative, Director, and Executive Staffer takes a little knowledge from their predecessors and mentors to make them as available as possible to your needs. We all come from a long line of people that have fought very hard for you over the decades.

The next time you punch in and walk through your job site and look at your coworkers, know that you are not by yourself. Think about the team of people you have standing alongside you to make your job the best experience it can be. Think about being able to pick up a phone and call for back-up any time you need to. And think about the very large family that you belong to. Thank you for being part of our great union family!



LOCAL 1500 FISHING TRIP



BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY





Joseph Waddy, Executive Vice President/Recorder



ANOTHER LOCAL 1500 SUCCESS STORY

Being tasked with writing a periodical article can get challenging over time, so whatever we see, we do, or wherever we may go, I am always on the search for good content. I look for the highlights (or lowlights) of each day or week and then look to share my experiences with our staff and of course, our readers. This one was an easy one for me.

As President Newell mentions in his article, a few weeks ago we held our annual scholarship breakfast at our headquarters. This is always a fun and touching event where we present members or their dependents with the scholarships that they have recently won. We all have a nice breakfast that morning (we are the food workers union, you know). And we typically invite a guest speaker to address the scholarship recipients, with a message of motivation and support.

Our Local 1500 family is a very large one. And I am always inspired by the stories of our current members about what they've been through and how belonging to our union has helped them build a career, raise their families, put their kids through school, purchase their homes and vehicles, etc. It is something that keeps me striving to help make our union the best union experience it can be. This year our keynote speaker was Anthony Portesy, a former member of Local 1500, who is now an attorney. This year's message was extra special for me as I got to see a former member speaking to current members and their families. The story of a former member who left to pursue other aspirations, but never forgets his membership in our union is an important one. And it reminds us of the value that your membership brings to you.

Anthony was a part-time member who began working at King Kullen in 2003 for some extra cash leading up to his junior prom. He also wanted to start saving up to purchase a car. Like many of our origin stories, (including mine) Anthony was looking for a more short-term gig to get him over a couple of financial hurdles and wasn't necessarily thinking at the time of making King Kullen a long-term job. He chose the job at King Kullen over a job at Old Navy, who called him a day too late, because he had already accepted the job at Kullen.

At some point Anthony realized he had vision coverage through Local 1500, something he never imagined or thought of. This got him out of a financial jam when his glasses broke. He wasn't covered under his parents health coverage at the time, so he would typically go to Walmart and pay cash for his glasses. With his new vision coverage, he did not have to skimp anymore. He began to learn the value of his union.

Anthony spoke about how his part-time wage was higher than the - then minimum wage, and how that enabled him to, among other things, pay for his college application fees. He spoke about the value of the higher wages that his union enabled him to enjoy.

He also talked to the current scholarship recipients about the fact that he applied for, and received a scholarship from Local 1500,

just as they were doing that morning. The scholarship he received from us was \$1,000 per year for four years, and at the time his SUNY Stonybrook tuition was \$4,350 per year (we're talking 2004 folks), so just about 25% of his tuition was covered by his union membership! That is a prime example of the value of belonging to Local 1500.

Anthony worked his way through law school, at King Kullen, at night. He studied with people whose parents were doctors, lawyers, and judges. But he was the only one in his law school with a pension plan. Think about that one for a minute. Gives me goosebumps I must admit. After he graduated, he used all of his accrued vacation and personal time off to study for the bar exam, which he obviously passed. His words were "imagine getting paid to study?"

He has now been practicing law for over ten years, along the way winning about \$12 million for workers who were underpaid by their employer, among many other accomplishments. Anthony credits his Local 1500 membership for assisting him on his path to success. He understands that his experience enabled him to see the difference between a terrible employer and a responsible one...between a union job and a non-union one. He asks himself what if he had taken that job at Old Navy back then, would he have had the same foundation or support to accomplish what he did while working for King Kullen? That is the driving force that keeps us doing what we do here at Local 1500.

And we all have similar stories: from the part-timer that became a produce manager and raised a beautiful family on their salary; to the front-end manager who eventually became a district supervisor or even a vice president way up in their company; to the kid that just needed some spending cash for an upcoming trip back in 1988 and is now an executive at his union; to the part-time deli clerk who became the Secretary-Treasurer of their union; to the part-time cart boy that ultimately became president of his union. What is your success story? There are thousands out there and I would love to hear them!

Anthony Portesy's success story is a fresh perspective and is one that should inspire us all. You can never know what your part-time job as a Local 1500 member can one day become. Whether you're here for a short period of time, or for the long haul, you can count on your union membership to help you along your journey.

Thank you, Mr. Portesy, for never forgetting where you came from, and taking the time to address the youngsters that are coming up. They all appreciated hearing your story and I just bet they were thinking about theirs.

If you have a Local 1500 success story that you would like to share, email me at JWaddy@UFCW1500.org Your positive experience as a member can inspire many people, including me!





ET GLATT MEMBERS





Robert Shuford began his career in Stop & Shop on September 30th, 2001 where he works as a night crew chief. He has always been an assiduous person, who always strives to do his best.

On May 25th, 2023, Robert did more than his best and became a hero! While preparing to open Stop & Shop, Robert heard a loud bang from outside and, knew trouble was amiss. He rushed outside to see a wallowing cloud of black smoke fuming from the aftermath of an overturned semi-truck. Robert knew he didn't have much time and called for his coworkers to assist him, as he rushed into danger. His coworkers weren't as willing as he was and insisted that he stay away from the danger. Instead of having a back-and-forth Robert chose to continue assisting anyone near the accident. As Robert got closer to the truck, he saw the injured driver and assisted him.

Robert has since been recognized as a local hero by Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, and even has his own day. June 15th is now Robert Shuford day. You never know what anyone may be capable of. We salute you Robert Shuford.



ALL THE WAY 100 PERCENT INC.



Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman

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A hero! Robert Shuford is a Good Samaritan who saved the life of a truck driver after a tractor trailer overturned on Sunrise Highway in Bellmore, New York. We're proud of Robert!!



**Robert W. Shuford Day - June 15, 2023+
ALL THE WAY 100 PERCENT INC.**



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE DOE-ANN POWELL

Doe-Ann began working at King Kullen on August 1st, 1973!
This year marks Doe-Ann Powell's **FIFTIETH** year as a member of Local 1500.

Thank you, Doe-Ann for your longstanding service to your community and to your membership!
We appreciate everything you have done





Fallon Ager, Director of Region 1 – Northeastern

HELP US GROW OUR UNION WITH “START A UNION” WEBPAGE

Members of Local 1500 know that new members are the lifeblood of our union. By adding to our ranks, we increase our power at the negotiation table and have a better ability to raise standards for workers everywhere.

While public support of unions in the U.S. is at its highest level since 1965, the process of joining a union can be daunting. To help potential members understand the steps involved to join our union, the UFCW launched a “Start a Union” webpage and corresponding social media accounts.

Thousands of workers across our industries have already visited the site and sent in their stories. So far, these submissions have led to dozens of organizing wins, including the Springfield Co-Op in Springfield, Vt., CVS stores in California, and Coffee Tree Roasters in Pittsburgh, Pa.

“Start a Union” breaks down the process of unionizing into seven easy steps. These steps include talking to co-workers, starting a committee, signing support cards, and finally, voting in their union election.

The site also explains the benefits that come with starting a union. In this section, workers can learn more about how they can negotiate for better wages, schedules, health care, time off, and much more. Additionally, they can watch testimonials from members about the difference having a union has made in their lives.

Please help us spread the word about “Start a Union” by sharing this information with your families, friends, and neighbors and by following our accounts on social media. You can find our social media links and learn more at <https://www.uncw.org/start-a-union/>.

Thank you for helping to make our union better and stronger.

2023 UFCW LOCAL 1500 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER BREAKFAST



UFCW LOCAL 1500 WELFARE FUND IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS

As you are aware, Participants of the Full-Time, Special Part-Time and Part-Time ACA Plans are required to enroll or decline enrollment in their respective Plan. At the time you enroll or decline enrollment in your respective Plan, you are advised that your decision is for the following plan year (January – December). If you enroll, you authorize your employer to withhold the required weekly employee contribution from your paycheck.

However, if you decline enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this Plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). This is commonly called a "Qualifying Life Event" that enables you certain special enrollment rights under the law.

In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents.

You must request enrollment within 31 days of the date of the "Qualified Life Event". Proof of the event and its date is required.

If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after you or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact the UFCW Welfare Fund Office at medical@ufcw1500.org or call (800) 522-0456 and ask to speak with the Medical Department.

BLANK STREET COFFEE, NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Meet our Blank Street Coffee negotiating committee. We are currently negotiating our inaugural contract with Blank Street. So far, we have had four bargaining sessions and have made some modest progress. First contracts are always difficult but we are confident that we will reach a settlement! **#BlankStreetUnion**



In Memoriam

Local 1500 mourns the passing of the following members. To their families and friends, we extend our deepest sympathy. May they rest in peace.

Arduini, Paul	Mari, Palmira
Barnhart, Catherine	Marigliano, Donald
Barry, Barbara	McCaffrey, Denise
Beloti, Joan A	Moccia, June
Bhaskar, Lalitha	Montera, Frank
Bonsignore, William	Musto, Mildred
Boxman, Sanford	Nunez, Jose R.
Brown, Charles	O'Connell, Margaret M.
Cali, Joann	Olivetto, Wendy A.
Carbone, Anthony	Overton, Lester
Cea, MaryAnn	Pagan, Gloria
Chavez, Francisco	Roksvold, Karen
Colletti, Frank	Rucci, Joseph
Constantine, Glassim	Scott, Minnie
DeCicco, Carole A.	Seland, Jean
DeLauro, Marie	Short, Ann M.
DeLuca, Betty	Showman, Jeremy
DiMatteo, Mary	Signoretti, Theresa L.
Duncan, Helen	Simmons, Claudelle E.
Eick, Charles	Spaulding, Steven
Golia, Antonietta	Spinola, Daniel
Grillo, Kenneth J.	Surdo, Carol A
Hopson, Jr, Rufus	Tretin, Catherine
Kraft, Philip J	Turturro, Joan
Krysiak, Robert	Vigna, Anna
Lazarecki, Helen	Vitale, Anna C.
Lesko, Jean C.	Zvirbulis, Marilyn
Mackey, Barbara	

VALUE OF MY UNION

**MEMBERS
ASSISTED BY
LEGAL SERVICES
YTD 2023:**

301

**REIMBURSEMENTS
TO MEMBERS
YTD 2023:**

\$50,647.34



VISION SCREENING www.vscreening.com

**To All Eligible Participants of
Local 1500 U.F.C.W.**

Our Vision Centers will provide a Comprehensive Eye Exam and Rx Lenses with **No Out-of-pocket** cost to you, if you stay within the Plan coverage.

Just contact one of the conveniently located optical centers listed on this brochure for an appointment. The center will verify your eligibility at the time of your visit.

It's that easy!
For a center near you, visit our web site at www.vscreening.com

Your eyesight is a precious gift. **Protect it!**



50 BONUS DOLLARS

For All Eligible Members

\$50.00

Off Second Pair of Eyeglasses
(Maximum Retail Value of Frame: \$175.00)

BONUS DOLLARS

www.vscreening.com

- Limit One (1) voucher per person
- Not valid with any other offers, sales or packages
- This offer excludes contact lenses

NOT redeemable for cash. CASH VALUE OF UNREDEEMED VOUCHERS VOID.

NEED A WITHDRAWAL CARD?

Send an email to wcards@ufcw1500.org with the following content in the email:

- Name
- Store Number
- Company
- Last Day Worked

For further questions on withdrawal cards, please contact your union representative. You can also send a letter requesting a withdrawal card to:

UFCW Local 1500 Attn: Rosanne Wynne-Torres
425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY, 11590

Prescription Drug Exclusions

We advise all members that the Trustees have specifically indicated that any drugs purchased in the following stores will **NOT** be reimbursed under the Local 1500 Welfare Fund Prescription Plan under any conditions:

**K-MART, C.V.S., WALMART, SAM'S,
PRICE CHOPPER, COSTCO, BJ'S, (SAVON DRUGS, SUPER X & BROOKS
DRUGS), WALGREENS, TARGET & HANNAFORD.**



Bulletin Board

General Membership Meetings

General Membership Meetings

▶ PLAY ALL

A recap of our previous General Membership Meetings. Be sure to check out all your union news.



September 2021 General Membership Meeting
UFCW Local 1500

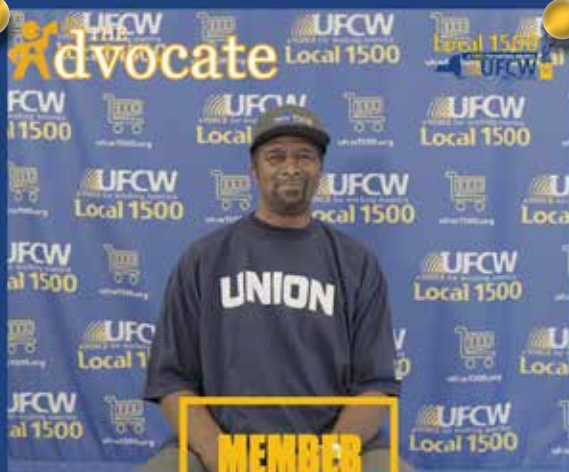
June 2021 General Membership Meeting
UFCW Local 1500

March 2021 General Membership Meeting
UFCW Local 1500

December 2020 General Membership Meeting
UFCW Local 1500



YOU CAN WATCH AN ARCHIVE OF OUR PAST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL. JUST CLICK ON THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING PLAYLIST OR SCAN THE QR CODE.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Check out our latest Member Spotlight Video



SCAN CODE

With Robert Shuuford



LOCAL 1500 RETIREES

The officers of UFCW Local 1500 extend their warmest congratulations to these new Retirees and urge them to join the Union's Retiree Club. Contact Terri Gorman, 516-214-1330 or Monique Suarez, 516-214-1333.

Chiarello, Margherita	Minnucci, Dominick	Simmons, Lori S.
D'agostino, Elizabeth	Cohen, Jody	Fahey, Peter J.
Hayes, Annette	Quintero, Kathleen	Riccardi, Frank P.
Debernardo, Richard	Krol, Johanna S.	Nichols, Michael
Murray, Frances A.	Rallo, RoseMarie	Tosner, Theresa
Davidson, James L.	Pineiro, Diane J.	Trapp, Judith M.
Reyes, Julio C.	Soldyn, Miriam	Baldwin, John L.
Shiels, Lynn M.	Casey, Raymond	Minnick, Rose M.
Medina, Guillermo	Kelly, Mary	Dillon, Melody R.
Pagala, Meera	Kish, Sheri S.	Lightbourne, Nathya B.
Destefano, Irene B.	McCauley, Michael J.	McKenna, Virginia
MacDonald, Deborah J.	Traylor, Patricia A.	Riehl, Michael
Noftell, Joseph	Ndiaye, Yoro	Vosbrink, Thomas J.
Montanaro, Karen E.	Weil, James K.	Washington-Jenkins, Teresa A.
Mistretta, Debbie A.	Tillman, Vickie U.	Yozenas, Linda A.
Leff, David P.	Grant, Judith E.	Smith, Eileen J.
Wallace, Ralph B.	D'Andria, John	Prizzi, Anthony
Petter, Angela	Avena, Angelo	Ferri, Michael
Marchioni, Rosalie A.	Chin-King, Angela A.	Rivera, Eric
Tyler, Karen	Pagan, Juan R.	Barrett, John
Otero, Jenny	Cundari, Richard C.	Garcia, Fredeswinda
Thomas, Renee	Polanco, Delio	Townsend, Donald
Robertson, Lorraine L.	Serra, Gail F.	Burgos, Francisco
Bush, Geary	Cisse, Thiebo	Gaines, Richard
Kramer, George	Rogers, Leonard	Quinn, Patricia
Sullivan, Michael	Donovan, Patricia J.	Hubner, Kurt
Thorn, Patricia A.	Scott, Barbara	Alexander, Roy
Ungar, Jean E.	Enriquez-Amantea, Denise A.	Pirolo, Denise
Bassknight, Tina L.	Jones, Robert J.	Sumski, Richard
Maffeo, Vincent R.	Langan, Linda C.	Hanley, Ashton
Tretola, Laura A.	Sheehan, Cheryl	Riley, Denise
Gross, Charles J.	Pesce, Vincent	Cammareri, Paul
Johnson, Holly	Borg, Diane	Hernandez, Juan
Mullen, Douglas M.	Freeman, Gary	Morrison, Marian J
Valencia, Davis	Lazzara, Kathryn	Monjeau-Leggio, Barbara
Rosario Urena, Radhames	Newton, Debbie	Toussaint, Suzanne O
Destefano, Frank L.	Ali, Bibi	Truocchio, Thomas
Wilkin, Eva	Araujo Espinoza, Luis	Coyle, John
Laino, Leonard	Lisella, Gerard	Mangano, Joseph S
Smith, Dane		Tobin, Nancy C

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Wednesday, June 12, 2024



ALL MEETINGS START AT 7:00 P.M.

UFCW LOCAL 1500, FRANK MEEHAN HALL
425 MERRICK AVENUE, WESTBURY, NY 11590

Prizes Will Be Awarded!

M E M B E R

**We are searching
for Member Monday
NOMINEES**

**Who should be our next Member Monday?
What store does this member work in?
When can we meet them?
Why do you believe they should be a Member Monday?
Where should we look next for
our newest Member Monday?**

Send your nominations to Nallen@ufcw1500.org

**IT COULD
BE
YOU**



The careers of working class #sagaftramembers are in jeopardy because the AMPTP refuses to step into the 21st century. The future of the industry is at stake. UFCW Local 1500 stands in solidarity with #SAGAFTRA members.



@UFCW1500



@UFCW1500



@UFCW1500

**SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH
YOUTUBE CHANNEL**



Any suggestions or comments for the Advocate?

**Send us your feedback to
INFO@UFCW1500.ORG**



FRANK MEEHAN HALL OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT LIST

516-214-1300 • 800-522-0456

General Office Hours, Pension, Welfare, Legal Services & Annuity, Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm.



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1305 Newell, Rob - President
1305 Waddy, Aly - Secretary-Treasurer
1303 Waddy, Joseph - Executive Vice President/Recorder
1304 Santarpia, Paul - Director of Operations
1351 Wright, Michele - Office Manager
1305 Andrade, Stefanie - Exec. Assistant to the President

FIELD DIRECTOR

1356 Pasquale, Greg - Gpasquale@ufcw1500.org

ASSISTANT FIELD DIRECTORS

1353 Ecker, Rob - Recker@ufcw1500.org
1340 Scorzelli, Jay - Jscorzelli@ufcw1500.org

ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER

1329 Ellison-Bates, Arnetta - Abates@ufcw1500.org

DUES REFUND

1351 Wright, Michele - Mwright@ufcw1500.org

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

1334 Brijlall, David - Davidb@ufcw1500.org
1362 Byfield, Desmond - Dbyfield@ufcw1500.org
1371 Flores, Vilmarie - Vflores@ufcw1500.org
1317 Guardado, Jeff - Jguardado@ufcw1500.org
1346 Guardado, Juan - Juang@ufcw1500.org
1322 Guelee, Gina - Gguelee@ufcw1500.org
1350 Kapogiannopoulos, George - Georgek@ufcw1500.org
1358 Mauleon, Rafael - Rmauleon@ufcw1500.org
1349 Walter, Fred Jr. - Fwalter@ufcw1500.org
1311 Zeiner, Steven - Szeiner@ufcw1500.org

DIRECT LINE 516-214-1300

MEMBERSHIP SERVICING REPRESENTATIVES

1343 Cruz, Israel - Icruz@ufcw1500.org
1360 Lostumbo, Alicia - Alostumbo@ufcw1500.org
1339 Rodgers, Daniel - DRodgers@ufcw1500.org

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

1374 Allen, Nicholas - Nallen@ufcw1500.org
Media & Communications Coordinator
1372 Thomas, Tarrick - Tthomas@ufcw1500.org

PENSION FUND

1330 Gorman, Terri - Tgorman@ufcw1500.org
1333 Suarez, Monique - Msuares@ufcw1500.org

ANNUITY FUND

1314 Mcglone, Christine - Cmcglone@ufcw1500.org

MEDICAL - VISION - DENTAL - FORMS

1336 Merlos, Carla - Cmerlos@ufcw1500.org
1337 Sefcik, Michelle - Msefcik@ufcw1500.org

WITHDRAWAL CARDS

1328 Musco, Sara - Smusco@ufcw1500.org

WELFARE FUND BENEFITS

Associated Administrators, LLC 855-266-1500

LEGAL SERVICE FUND

1310 Punzo, Wendy - Wpunzo@ufcw1500.org

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1310 Punzo, Wendy - Wpunzo@ufcw1500.org

**CHECK US OUT
UFCW1500.org**

MY UNION HAS VALUE

**EMAIL US AT
INFO@UFCW1500.org**