

INSPIRED BY OUR PAST, FIGHTING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

MAY 03
2017

UNION UPDATE

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. It's a time when we celebrate the culture, traditions and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States and recognize their many contributions to our communities and our nation.

"They showed the courage to stand together in an era where being an activist could cost you your life" Chan said.

In his work as a union leader, Chan draws inspiration from API leaders as he works to engage his

For Joel Chan, Vice President and Chief Steward of DLC 744 and a leader of our Local 1000 Asian-Pacific Islander Committee, this month represents an opportunity to acknowledge the historical contributions Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders (API's) have made and continue to make in the fight for social and economic justice.

"There are way too many examples, too numerous to list, of the many API leaders in the labor movement since the 1800's," said Chan, who is also a member of the first-ever Leadership Apprentice Program for Stewards (LAPS) graduating class. "API's have a very long and celebrated history of activism, of struggle, of leadership, of inspiration and of organizing for a better life."

In 1763, Filipino sailors escaped oppressive conditions on Spanish Galleons and founded the first Filipino outpost in St. Mora, Louisiana.

Immigrant Chinese, overcame widespread racism and organized successful strikes to improve wages and working conditions while making significant contributions to mining, agriculture and the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad.

Here in California, Filipino labor leaders Larry Itliong and Philip Vera Cruz founded the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee before joining Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers in the famous Delano Grape Strike.



JOEL CHAN
Vice President and Chief Steward of DLC 744 and a leader of our Local 1000 Asian-Pacific Islander Committee

fellow members to become more active and build a stronger union.

He also knows that in today's different political reality, new threats have emerged that jeopardize everything these leaders fought for in the past.

"Our forefathers knew the importance of strength in numbers," Chan said. "United employees can have a real voice in improving their wages, working conditions and benefits. They knew that the only way to make positive change at your workplace is through a strong union. When we are stronger, we can make a better California for everyone."

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~ Joel Chan

STATE'S IT CONSOLIDATION PLAN REVEALS INCONSISTENCIES

Our IT Reclash Bargaining Team met with the state on April 25 as we continue to press to modernize a decades-old classification system so that it recognizes the contribution of more than 8,000 IT workers we represent.

Our team came away frustrated that the state didn't come to the table with a plan that was fair and equitable and didn't account for the real-life implications of implementing their plan.

"The state's simplistic approach to a complex transition is still creating more questions than it answers," said Margarita Maldonado, our Vice President for Bargaining. "We will continue this process until we're assured that these changes do no harm to the IT workers we represent, and we're confident that they'll be paid fairly for the work they do in the new classifications."

Among the unanswered questions we're seeking resolution on:

- A full understanding of the pay scales and qualifications in the new classifications
- Clarification on inconsistent expectations of education and experience in each classification
- Inclusion of more than 500 employees whose current classifications aren't yet part of the state's plan
- The state's failure to meaningfully discuss salary adjustments in the new classifications

Our Bargaining Team returns to the table with the state in May.



You can learn more details about our reclassification efforts at a series of worksite meetings beginning May 2. Visit: www.seiu1000.org/it-reclass for a complete schedule, and be sure to attend.

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
866.471.SEIU (7348)

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MEMBERS JOIN THE MARCH FOR SCIENCE



On April 22, Earth Day, members across the state joined with concerned citizens, science enthusiasts and scientists to come together to raise awareness of the real impacts science has on our lives.

"Science protects the health of our communities, the safety of our families, the education of our children, the foundation of our economy and jobs, and the future we all want to live in and

preserve for coming generations," said Claudia Gambaro, a Unit 1 Associate Environmental Planner (Natural Sciences) and the chair of our union's Environmental Committee.

We made our voices heard by advocating for open, inclusive and accessible science, affirming that scientific research is an essential part of a working democracy.