



PA discusses creation of Social Justice Committee

At our January 2022 General Membership meeting, PA President Norma Chrisman will be asking the membership to approve the creation of the Social Justice Committee. Below are the guidelines for the committee.

Section 13. The Social Justice Committee shall

- Be composed of eight (8) voting members of the Association. Four (4) members shall be elected by the voting membership of the Association. Four (4) additional members shall be appointed by the Executive board. The chair shall be elected by and from the membership of the committee on or before June 5th
- Identify social justice issues in communities and nations that reflect injustice and oppression and that directly impact members of the labor movement.
- Develop, support, and/or promote local and statewide events in line with advocacy for racial and social justice practices related to MVCC faculty and students.
- Work with the other committees to educate members regarding the meaning and importance of anti-racism, non-discrimination and social justice, including their legal/political aspects.

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panorama

EDITORIAL POLICY

Panorama is the voice of our local. In addition to the PA website (www.mvccpa.org), email, and bulletin boards, Panorama is a principal vehicle for bringing you, on a regular basis, information on the views and activities of our members.

We welcome articles by, for, and about PA members of union-related issues and concerns as reflected in NYSUT and AFT activities as well as in the purpose and functions of the PA's standing committees: Community Outreach, Education & Training, Grievance, Internal Communications, Political Action, and Research & Records.

All submissions are subject to the review and acceptance of the Editor and/or Internal Communications Committee. We do not accept articles that make personal attacks and we reserve the right to edit articles for length. We look forward to hearing from you.

PUBLISHER

MVCC Professional Association

PRESIDENT

Norma Chrisman

INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Robin Saxe

EDITION

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WEBSITE

www.mvccpa.org

Prez Desk

NYSUT's 42nd Community College Conference was titled "In Solidarity, there is power to change." We, as the PA, have experienced this firsthand. Throughout the past two years, together we have made it through this pandemic. We have helped each other — whether it was learning how to load content into your Blackboard site, reminding each other to "turn your mic on" or just being a sounding board for your co-worker on the tough days.

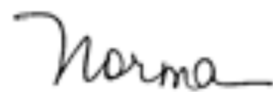
As a union, we have come together to change and improve teaching workload and compensation for our professional staff members. Both are huge accomplishments that we have been working on over multiple contract negotiations before we could see it come to fruition. As a team, we kept thinking the saying from a children's book "I think I can, I think I can" until we came to a final agreement with the college and we changed it to "We knew we could, we knew we could!"

It was the energy from our membership that kept us chugging along. We stuck together and forged ahead to come to a common ground. Together we collaborated with the college to present an agreement that both parties are proud of.

In that collaboration, we forged a mutual respect to thoroughly understand the requests presented on by both parties. There were times where we could sense that "a-ha" moment that we experience with our students. They understood our ask, thanks to the stellar explanations from our team. Without that respect and line of open communications between the parties, we could have been successful.

Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."

In Solidarity,



Norma Chrisman

Welcome & Information for New PA Members

Eileen Bush | New Member Committee Chair

The New Member Committee members have been busy reaching out to new members in one format or another since April. With more individuals returning to campus we have had the opportunity to meet new members in person. If you have yet to receive a PA binder and a visit from one of the New Member Committee members, please contact me at ebush@mvcc.edu.

Please take some time to visit the MVCC Professional Association website (www.mvccpa.org). The website contains a great deal of information concerning our leadership, the current contract, and benefits, such as the Davis Vision Plan.

As you review information on the website, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions. If I cannot answer your question, I can certainly direct you to a PA member who can assist you.

If you have not formally joined our Professional Association and would like to do so please contact myself or MVCC PA President Norma Chrisman. (Norma can set you up with an electronic membership form.)

On behalf of the New Member Committee, I hope your new role at the College is going well.

In Solidarity,
Eileen Bush

Welcome
NEW MEMBERS!

Michael Adamo
Alexandra Almanzar
Valerie Anguilli
Samantha Barnes
Gabrielle Coffey
Stacey Day
Harlan Fuller
Patrick Gosier
Michael Grider
Cymil Hamilton
Christopher Hanrahan
Jared Hensel
Edvina Ikeljic
Stephanie Lai
Teresa Lake
Matthew Krush
Cynthia Reidi
Andriana Semko
Sandra Mead-Shepardson
Valarie Warmuth

Information About the College Ajar Period

Please be advised that most college offices will close at the end of the day Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021, and will re-open Monday, Jan. 3, 2022.

For PA (and AMVA) members, Columbus Day, Election Day, Veterans Day, Lincoln's and Washington's Birthdays have been designated as "in lieu of days" for the 2020-21 academic year and will be observed during the ajar period.

Excluded administrative staff and UPSEU members who wish to take time off during the ajar period may use accrued and unused vacation time, compensatory, and personal time. UPSEU employees, if accrued and unused vacation time, compensation, and personal time is not used employees must work the day before and after the holiday.

Community Outreach

By Robin Saxe | Community Outreach Committee Chair

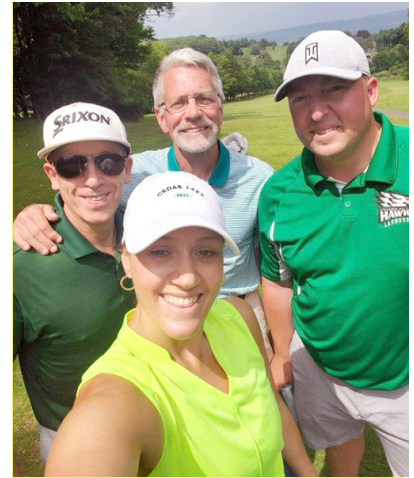
We are happy to say that opportunities to be involved in community events is increasing again. Volunteer opportunities during Covid had not been as extensive as we were used to, but the past few months have begun to feel almost normal again.

On June 22nd a small group of volunteers worked with the United Way to create a new learning space at Kemble park. Along the walkway we posted signs that included activities for park goers to participate in with their children. There was some back-breaking work to be done and some of us were covered in paint, but it was an enjoyable experience for all. At the end of September, we were able to partner with the United Way again to pour beer for the Saranac Concert Series event Blackberry Smoke. Another enjoyable evening was had by volunteers with good music, food, and company. It was so nice to catch up with colleagues while helping to raise money for such an important cause. We are often asked to participate in Day of Giving and Saranac events such as these and it is always a pleasure to work with the United Way.

Once again, this year we collected school supplies for the local Kernan Elementary school. Kernan has a new principal this year and she was so grateful for our donation. I had the opportunity to talk with her for a moment about the teachers of Kernan. As we know working in education, we occasionally purchase supplies for our classes and offices. This happens frequently at the elementary school level as budgets are tight and teachers want to make sure students have what they need to be successful. The contributions we make each year help teachers and students have what they need to be more creative and prepared in their lessons and activities. We'll be collecting again this coming August as always, and while school shopping is months away, please keep our friends at Kernan in mind.

Over the summer we participated with Team MVCC in the Heart Run Walk shadow walk on the MVCC campus, and in October we joined with Team MVCC again for a shadow walk for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. The ease of participating in these important events on campus has been wonderful and is quickly becoming a new tradition.

Continued on next page



MVCC GOLF TOURNAMENT

The PA Golf Team at the MVCC Foundation Tournament in June.



UNITED WAY SARANAC CONCERT SERIES

PA members volunteered to pour beer for the United Way during the Saranac Concert Series event Blackberry Smoke in September.



In the months ahead, there will be more opportunities to volunteer and make donations. The PA will be participating in the Festival of Trees being held this year at Sangertown Mall. We are looking at collecting donations for other worthy causes this holiday season; please keep an eye out for emails from me for these and more opportunities to be involved.

Winter Clothing Drive

We are now collecting donations for our annual winter clothing drive. Donations can be dropped off at these locations:

- Norma Chrisman, Utica Campus, PH379
- Robin Saxe, Utica Campus, PH104M
- Kathy Kotary, Rome Campus, PC102H

In Solidarity,
Robin Saxe



UNITED WAY DAY OF ACTION

In June, members of the PA volunteered to work with the United Way to create a new learning space at Kemble Park, posting signs along the walkway that include activities for park goers to participate in with their children.

Community Outreach



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Erica Carrock | Member Engagement Committee

The American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event safely returned in person this year — right here at our Utica Campus.



Making Strides has united communities across the country in the fight to end breast cancer for over 20 years. This was the first year that MVCC hosted it on our campus. The event took place on Sunday, Oct. 24. It started in the Quad, accompanied by a DJ on stage, with coffee and hot cocoa provided by American Dining Creations, fun photo ops, the Upstate University Hospital Mammography Van, important breast cancer information booths, and more. After the kickoff in the Quad, walkers proceeded off campus down to Proctor Park and ended back on campus. With more than 1,200 participants, the event raised a total of \$102,000!

The MVCC PA and Team MVCC combined efforts for the Making Strides Shadow Walk, which was held Friday, Oct. 22, on both the Rome and Utica campuses. Members of our MVCC family wore their pink attire and participated, taking several laps around the Quad to spread awareness, honor survivors, and raise funds. A special shoutout to the MVCC Baseball Team for their participation!

This may be the first time we've had this event on campus, but we've hosted walks and events for community organizations for many years, such as The Relay for Life, Bark for Life, Ride for Missing Children, Out of Darkness Walk, March of Dimes, Srebrenica Walk, just to name a few! There are always community events happening on our campus — if you or your PA committee want to learn more about how to get involved, the MVCC Events Office can provide information as more opportunities on our campus pop up!

Community Outreach

Relay for Life

Bella Popowski | Internal Communications Committee

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life event was on Saturday, Sept. 18, at Delta Lake State Park in Rome, N.Y.

The Relay for Life movement is dedicated to helping communities save lives from cancer. For more than 35 years, participants and volunteers across the world have come together to honor loved ones and take action for lifesaving change. Funds raised help the American Cancer Society conduct breakthrough research, provide 24/7 support for cancer patients and access to lifesaving screenings.

The relay was founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Tacoma, Wash., in 1985 as he walked and ran for 24 hours around a track raising money to help the American Cancer Society. The next year, 19 teams were part of the first Relay for Life event, which raised \$33,000. He shaped an idea that started as one man walking/running a track and helped make it a global fundraising phenomenon.

The MVCC team raised \$2,460 this year. This total comes from individual donations along with the tent games and raffle baskets. The Rome Relay raised around \$74,000 as whole. With the generosity of the MVCCPA, we were able to provide a gift to all the survivors who attended the event. The gift included a mug printed with an inspirational quote, along with some treats to fill the mug. The PA donated 75 mugs to the survivors' tent.



News From NYSUT

Care for Siblings Added to Paid Family Leave Law

Governor Hochul recently signed legislation supported by NYSUT which expands New York's Paid Family Leave law to allow caring for siblings with a serious health condition.

The current law, which was signed in 2016 and was a part of NYSUT's legislative agenda for

many years, neglected to include siblings in the list of family members covered by the provision.

This change, which takes effect in 2023, adds biological, adopted, step and half siblings to the existing list of family members.

Aaron Fried honored with Samuel Gompers Award



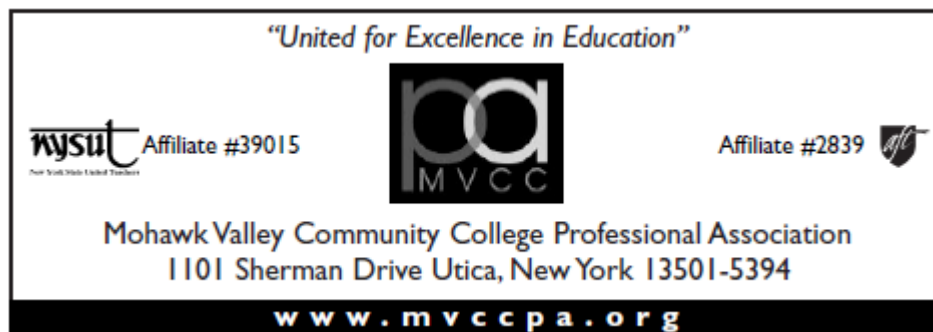
Exemplary work ethic, commitment, strong leader, hard worker, sensible, and valuable asset are some words that describe the 2021 Samuel Gompers honoree for the MVCC Professional Association, Aaron Fried.

Having started his career at MVCC in 2010, he quickly jumped aboard our negotiation team in 2013 as a team member. Aaron has served as co-chair of the 2016 team and most recently as the chair of the team. It has been his mission to not only ensure that all students have an equitable educational experience but, additionally, that our members are treated equitably. It is due to this approach and his leadership of our team that we recently approved a contract that equally represents our faculty and professional staff with monumental changes addressing workload and compensation issues.

Outside of his teaching and union work, Aaron is passionate about his work on the Pernkopf Project. He has researched and presented his findings in numerous settings, both nationally and abroad. The Pernkopf Project uncovered numerous anatomic illustrations that Eduard Pernkopf created that are unethical in the anatomical sciences. In short, political prisoners were executed for opposing the Third Reich. Pernkopf illustrated various anatomic parts and included the swastika in his signature on each illustration.

As mentioned, this member exhibits selfless dedication, belief in solidarity of collective action, practicing the ideals of democratic unionism, and helping to create a better life for our members and our community that this Samuel Gompers Award stands for. Congratulations to Aaron Fried, the MVCC PA 2021 Samuel Gompers honoree.

*Congratulations to the 2021 Samuel Gompers Award winners,
especially Aaron Fried (MVCC PA)*



PA Finances

Ross Wittenberg | PA Treasurer

The following is a brief overview of the current dues structure and a report as to the actual financial results for our prior academic year.

Dues Structure for 2021-22

Dues are paid by all members, including both teaching faculty and professional staff. The bulk of our local union budget is paid for by our membership dues. Our budget consists of expected expenditures for community outreach, member engagement, training, and negotiations and grievances with the college. A portion of dues collected are paid to our affiliates, New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) and American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Our affiliations date back to 1970 and we receive numerous benefits resulting from these affiliations, such as training for Executive Board members, legal advice, and advice and guidance for our local PA leaders. During arbitration and legal matters, NYSUT's labor relations specialist and legal staff are available to assist the PA as part of the affiliation. In addition, we have the support of a multitude of professionals within the NYSUT office who welcome questions as they arise.

Dues that are paid by members are set nationally, statewide, and locally. AFT is responsible for national dues and NYSUT dues are set by delegates from colleges across New York State, while local dues are proposed by the PA Executive Board and approved by you, our members. The approved dues structure is then submitted to payroll. The dues structure for the 2021-22 academic year was approved at our membership meeting in May. This past year, AFT increased national dues for members by \$4.80 annually, but we decided to offset that increase by decreasing our local dues by \$4.80. As a result, total dues for members remained unchanged from last year.

Financial Results for 2020-21

In 2020, the membership approved a local budget of \$230,587. During the 2020-21 academic year, we underspent the budget by \$48,271.76, but received \$18,849.36 less cash inflows than expected. This variance was primarily caused by lower pass-through dues to NYSUT and AFT (due to lower-than-budgeted membership), cancelled events due to the Covid pandemic, and fewer grievances against the college resulting in less spent on arbitration. This surplus allowed us to decrease local dues for the 2021-22 academic year in order to offset an increase in national dues by AFT.

Financial records for the 2020-21 fiscal year were examined in May by our Audit Committee, which found proper financial reporting had occurred throughout the year and had no recommendations.

If you have any questions related to the budget or the dues structure, please feel free to contact me or plan to attend our next membership meeting. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to continuing in my role as Treasurer this year. I wish you all the best this semester.

In Solidarity,
Ross

Member Profile

Alison Doughtie

Professor
(English as a Second Language)

What degree(s) do you have?

BA in Russian, MA in Slavic Languages and Literatures, MA in Applied Linguistics/TESOL.

Where were you employed before coming to MVCC?

Hamilton College/Colgate University.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

My previous positions were part-time, and I was looking for a full-time position. Plus, I was eager to work within my community (I live close to the college) and with students who are just beginning to learn English.

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

I'm married with two grown kids.

What do you like to do outside of work?

Cook (and eat), swim, kayak, cross-country ski, read.

What role do you play in the PA?

Past president, past 2nd VP, past PAnorama editor, Negotiations Team member, New Member Committee member.

What is your favorite union moment?

My favorite moments have been seeing our union in action — seeing us unite around contract negotiations, seeing the outcomes of the Grievance Committee upholding our contract, and seeing our members giving their time for community outreach.



Member Profile

Kelly McNamara

**Technical Assistant
Athletics Department**

What degree(s) do you have?

I have an AS in Liberal Arts: Math and Science: Physical Education from MVCC, I have a BS in Physical Education from SUNY College at Brockport, I have a MS in Physical Education; concentration in Athletic Administration from SUNY College at Brockport.

Where were you employed before coming to MVCC?

My first full-time job is at MVCC.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

I was a student and an athlete in this department and wanted to come back here to teach when I was done with college. I was inspired to take this direction by my faculty advisor and coach here at the time. One has since retired and now I work with the other.

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

I live in my hometown and I have been married for 14 years this August to my husband, Stephen. We are blessed with our daughter, Kerry, and our crazy dog, Daisy.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I read, embroider, go camping, and spend time with family and friends.

What role do you play in the PA?

Currently I am the Secretary of the PA and the Chair of the Research and Records Committee

What is your favorite union moment?

I really enjoyed being a part of the LAP conference. I got to know some of our members better and learned a lot.



Member Profile

Patti Antanavige

**Student Support Advisor —
Retention Coordinator**



What degree(s) do you have?

Bachelor of Science in Business Management.
Currently works on my Master's of Science in
Organizational Performance.

Where were you employed before coming to MVCC?

Medaille College in Buffalo, NY as a Secretary
in their Graduate Admissions Department.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

I enjoyed my time in Higher Education at Medaille and knew that I wanted to stay within the field. I first applied for the Coordinator of International Admissions at MVCC but ended up taking a part-time job split between the Office of Adult Students and Disability Services before being offered a full-time position after only five months.

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

I live in North Utica with my husband and two children, Ryan (10) and Valerie (8). We also have three cats at home, two of which act more like dogs due to their breed — Domino (17), Fez (13), and Penelope (4).

What do you like to do outside of work?

When not working, I enjoy crafting and creating things. During the pandemic, my husband and I have been working toward starting a small business that creates unique carved wood signs and more.

What role do you play in the PA?

I currently serve at the Grievance Chair and sit on the Negotiations Committee.

What is your favorite union moment?

I think that our participation in the Local Action Project through NYSUT is my favorite union moment. We were able to accomplish a lot for the Professional Association while also having a great time.

Member Profile

Melissa Barlett

Associate Professor of Life Science
School of STEM-Transfer

What degree(s) do you have?

BS in Biology from Allegheny College, PhD in Aquatic Ecology from Kent State University.

Where were you employed before coming to MVCC?

I was a post-doctoral research scientist at UMass, examining bacteria in the bioremediation process of an old uranium mining location.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

I decided that I like teaching about biology far more than the complications of doing biology research (like publishing and grant writing). Now it turns out I love community college education as a system, so it worked out perfectly!

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

I live with my partner and two dogs: one very friendly pug named Macklin, and one very insane Chihuahua named Pika.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I'm a huge nerd and I love board games, and role playing games, and science fiction, comics, anime, and more. I am a distance runner (although I walk/run mostly) and a member of the Utica Roadrunners Board. I also love to sing and make music; I'm the choir director at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica and (once things are safe and running again) I love to sing karaoke at local bars.

What role do you play in the PA?

I'm the Chair of the Education and Training Committee. We help our members learn about our union and our parent groups, NYSUT and AFT.

What is your favorite union moment?

I'm a member of the NYSUT Women's Committee, and I love our yearly committee meetings where we take action supporting women in our union.



Member Profile

Ross Wittenberg

Instructor, School of Business & Hospitality

What degree(s) do you have?

B.S. & M.S. in Accounting, American University.

Where were you employed before coming to MVCC?

After college, I worked at FTI Consulting as a forensic accountant, which involves investigating fraud and white-collar crime. After some time there, I decided that I wanted to transition into education. Before MVCC, I taught business and accounting courses at a high school in Texas.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

I loved being a high school teacher, but most classes I was teaching were related to general business topics. My educational and professional backgrounds are in accounting, and it's also the subject I enjoy teaching the most. The position at MVCC allowed me to continue teaching while specializing in accounting courses. The move from Texas to New York also allowed me to be closer to family.

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

I have a 9-year-old lab mix named Emmitt, who I adopted while I was living in Texas. He adjusted to the CNY winters pretty quickly!

What do you like to do outside of work?

I'm a video game nerd! I play games on my Nintendo Switch and PC — some of my favorites right now are Animal Crossing and First Class Trouble. I'm also a big sports fan. My favorite teams are the Yankees (MLB), Titans (NFL), Nets (NBA), and Devils (NHL). I've now lived in the Utica area for two years, so I'm enjoying trying new restaurants and discovering nice walking trails with my dog.

What role do you play in the PA?

As PA Treasurer, I look after our finances. Some of my tasks include monitoring and distributing funds for PA expenditures, budgeting for future fiscal years, filing tax forms with the IRS, and ensuring membership dues are being received from the college and paid to state and national organizations.

What is your favorite union moment?

My favorite union moment was attending the NYSUT Community College Conference in 2019. That was one of my first introductions to the importance of the PA, having transitioned from a non-unionized job. There I learned about emerging issues facing higher education, as well as the importance and intricacies of many aspects of our union. It also provided an opportunity to spend time with my fellow MVCCPA members, as well as union members from other institutions.



Member Profile

Justin Rahn

Student Support Advisor

What degree(s) do you have?

Human Services, AAS, MVCC; Psychology, BA, Nazareth College; Academic Advisement, MS, Kansas State University.

Where were you employed before MVCC?

MVCC has been my only official employer, even before my current full-time job. I originally started at MVCC as a student assistant in the then-Student Services Center during the summer 2006 term. After finishing my bachelor's degree in May of 2008, I switched from student assistant to a part-time advisor, and then interviewed and was hired full-time as a College Advisor in October of 2008.

What attracted you to applying for the position that you are in?

I originally thought I wanted to be a high school guidance counselor, as I was always naturally good at academics and enjoyed the idea of helping students figure out what they wanted to do with their careers and subsequent education. While at MVCC, I interned in a high school guidance department and with a school psychologist, I learned quickly that my ideas of what guidance counselors did was a bit off. While working as a student assistant at MVCC, I helped faculty and part-time advisors with scheduling and the mechanics of registration and realized that what academic advisors in higher education do is what I thought guidance counselors did in high school. From there I was hooked.

What is your family life like (spouse, children, fur babies, etc)?

Boring, hahaha. I share a house with my parents and have a girlfriend of over three years in Syracuse. She has an adorable doggo named Bailey and two cats, Teenie and Bear.

What do you like to do outside of work?

A lot of stuff. I'm a huge hockey fan and basically from October through until April (unless playoffs!) most weekends are dedicated to either Utica Comets or Utica College hockey. During the spring, summer, and fall it is a lot of road races, as I enjoy running and have completed two marathons and probably going on a dozen half-marathons. When I get the chance, I love traveling and have been to Japan twice as well as to a majority of the United States. Photography, League of Legends (both playing and watching), and collecting Legos rounds out my free time.

What role do you play in the PA?

Currently I am the Chair of the Political Outreach Committee, which is focused on everything from the local election endorsement process to lobbying local and State lawmakers on issues important to the labor movement and community colleges. I am also on the Negotiations Committee, with this being my third round of negotiations, and have done everything from note taking and information tracking to proposal drafting and research.

Continued on Page 17



Union Songs

Melissa Barlett | Education & Training Committee Chair

“A pamphlet, no matter how good, is never read more than once, but a song is learned by heart and repeated over and over; I maintain that if a person can put a few cold, common sense facts into a song, and dress them up in a cloak of humor to take the dryness off of them, he will succeed in reaching a great number of workers who are too unintelligent or too indifferent to read a pamphlet or an editorial on economic science.” — [Joe Hill](#)

This past Labor Day weekend, I was fortunate to be able to run a [church service about unions](#), featuring women from our own [NYSUT Women's Committee](#). In the process of putting that together, I ended up looking up some union-related protest songs, and I thought that I might introduce some of them to you.



‘As We Come Marching Marching’

One of the hymns used in the service is “As We Come Marching Marching” which uses the words of James Oppenheim’s poem [Bread and Roses](#), which itself is based on the words of Helen Todd. These words have been put to music multiple times, but the tune most recorded was composed by [Margarita Mimi Baez Fariña](#). Here is an incredible version of that tune done by [Women of the World](#).

“As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead
Go crying through our singing their ancient song of Bread;
Small art and love and beauty their trudging spirits knew —
Yes, it is Bread we fight for — but we fight for Roses, too.”

‘There is Power in a Union’

Joe Hill who was a part of [The Industrial Workers of the World](#) (IWW) wrote the song “There is Power in a Union” set to the tune of the hymn “There Is Power in the Blood (Of the Lamb)” in 1913. The IWW was a general union with a philosophy of workplace democracy. This song, most well known through the [voice of Billy Bragg](#), reminds us,

“There is pow’r there is pow’r in a band of workingmen,
When they stand hand in hand,
That’s a pow’r, that’s a pow’r
That must rule in every land —
One Industrial Union Grand.”

Continued on next page

Union Songs

‘Three Miles Down’

I’m going to move a little closer to current times for a song about Coal Miners written in 1978 by [Gil Scott-Heron](#), who is probably most well known for “The Revolution Will Not Be Televised.” “[Three Miles Down](#)” speaks directly to difficulties of the workers, and the lack of understanding from elsewhere,

“Yeah, when I’ve been listened to the speeches
And it occurs to me politicians just don’t understand that
Thoughts of isolation, ain’t no sunshine underground
It’s like workin’ in a graveyard three miles down”

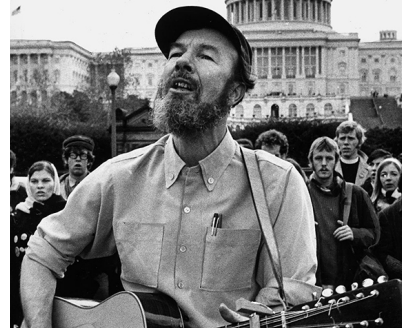
‘Solidarity Forever’

Finally, I’m pretty sure you cannot talk about union protest songs without including Pete Seeger, and one of the songs that he was known for is “[Solidarity Forever](#)” with words originally by Ralph Chaplin in 1915 and set to an old tune most well known as “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” [You can hear Seeger’s](#) personal touch in his adapted final verse,

“In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold
Greater than the might of atoms, magnified a thousand fold,
We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old,
For the union makes us strong.”

I hope that you enjoyed a little history and maybe found a new tune to enjoy!

In Solidarity,
Melissa Barlett



Justin Rahn Member Profile (continued)

What is your favorite union moment?

Any kind of direct action moments have always stood out to me. Probably the one I remember most vividly is standing outside the Madison-Oneida BOCES in New Hartford back in late 2013/early 2014 to do an informational picket during a meeting of local State lawmakers about changes in K-12 education policy. Even though it was not policy that would directly impact community colleges, the collateral impact those policies would have had on students would have trickled down to the community college sector in the following years. Standing out there holding a sign while my fingers went numb with close to 150-200 other members from the various local NYSUT affiliates really drove home the grass-roots potential of the union movement. Physically showing up, making your presence known, and sacrificing your time to a cause you believe in can’t be beat and it made enough of an impression on the State lawmakers present that we were able to sway enough minds to help move the issue in our favor.

Word Search

PA Members Past and Present

O K G F M C J B K I W M A V T N Z Q G C
D K R Y Q C C B S Y R I W Q I A C K X P
T N L N P J N I W T I Q I I S M J E N E
S W W A B X D A L W I D T Q J S R H O V
D L A Q H N Q F M P E A T Q M I O C Q B
J R J F I C V V H A N H E T T R N Y D W
W N O R J L O Q B H R Q N R A H T O I B
E E B G S E L R A E S A B W T C U U X X
O G S S O E D R B X F Y E Y N G X W O H
A M I Y E U A J I R I E R H H A D Q C Q
Z T J V D P P V B P V U G T B P V U L E
C B E Z A V F W C H U P I W L O G P I T
O P X G V N G B R Y A E F Y T E L E W O
L A K Y N T A T O T Y M Y W A W D R U W
P X U I S Q B T H G P B S J T V O O Y W
W D P G E N C O N K A R H R Z E Q T J D
A L Q O S T M D G A Z L M O O R E T W P
T T E L R A B G W P N V X K B T W I M U
W Z P C S W A V N M G A D Z S A X E X X
X K L V N L X W G B J F Y K M E G L A T

Antanavige
Chrisman
Halko
Perotti
Searles
Wittenberg

Barlett
Doughtie
McNamara
Rahn
Thomas

Brindisi
Drogo
Moore
Saxe
Wilcox

Find the word in the puzzle.
Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

16 of 16 words placed.