

The Professional Pen

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MARCH/APRIL 2020

Jacqueline K. White-Brown

Business Manager / Secretary Treasurer

In the next couple of weeks we will enter into a new season; SPRING TIME. As we go about our spring cleaning for 2020, we should take advantage of the scholarships and educational opportunities that being a member of OPEIU Local 537 affords us. The world is constantly changing and upgrading itself and we need to keep up with the everchanging environment. We should sharpen our skills on an annual basis, whenever possible.

Lynnette and I are often asked by the employers if we offer training for our membership. The employers are concerned about our professional ability to perform at the evolving expectation levels in today's emerging technology. When we are prepared on a professional level, we are able to seize the opportunities as they become available.

Do not allow another year to go by without advancing your skills and your promotability. 🌀

2020 OPEIU Scholarships

As a member of OPEIU Local 537, there are some benefits that are exclusively available to you. Below are some educational benefits offered to you, our member. Please pay attention to the deadlines, as you do not want to miss out on this year's benefits.



Maria Landa-Rios Memorial Scholarship

The Maria Landa-Rios Memorial Scholarship application will be available on March 27. Members of OPEIU Local 537, their spouse, or child who is attending, or is registered to attend, an accredited college or university, are encouraged to submit an application. Please visit our website www.opecin537.org or contact our office to obtain a copy of the application and a list of requirements and rules. Applications must be submitted by May 8. The award recipient will be announced at the Membership Meeting on May 20.

OPEIU International Scholarships

OPEIU provides scholarship funds to assist members and associate members to further their higher education and career goals. Please visit the International's website www.opecin.org/MemberResources/UnionBenefits/UnionScholarships.aspx to obtain an application, and more information. The application submission deadline for the following scholarships is April 30:

- The *Howard Coughlin Memorial Scholarship* is awarded each year to members or their children for undergraduate university or college education.
- The *John Kelly Labor Studies Scholarship* provides assistance to members or associate members, who wish to pursue undergraduate or graduate degrees in labor studies, industrial relations, social science, or a related field.
- The *Romeo Corbeil/Gilles Beauregard Scholarship* Fund awards children of OPEIU members a chance to go to Summer Camp. 🌀

Congratulations

Local 537 sends cheers and congratulations to Brandy Gutierrez of UA Local 582, on the birth of Abby Rae Ruiz, born October 31, 2019. 🌀



Congratulations to Christine Jenkins (Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 761) who retired after 22 years of service. The Officers and staff wish you much success and a long, healthy, and happy retirement. 🌀



Enjoy your Retirement

New Board Member



At our January 22 Membership Meeting, we installed Mr. Santos Leon to fill the unexpired term for the vacant position on the Executive Board. He has worked for Los Angeles County Federation of Labor as our member for six years. Thank you for your service and support. Welcome aboard! 🌀



UNION STRONG

WE'RE ONLY AS STRONG AS OUR MEMBERSHIP!

New Members... We would like to welcome the following members to OPEIU Local 537 and extend an invitation to come to our next membership meeting on March 18, 2020 to be initiated.☞

Minh Diep
Alexander R Dimas
Luis Esparza
Michael John Frazier
Kristie Hall
Jennifer Hercules

Mark Kofsman
Vicky L Lassiter
Ashley Nettles
Joniesha Palmore
Sarah Perlotto
Teri Ponce

Lisa C Posso
Karla V Siguenza
Tiffany Torres
Harrie Trotman
Martha Vergara

Membership Recognition Awards... At the January 22, 2020 Membership Meeting, we honored our members for their years of continued service with Local 537. For those present at the meeting and received their Pins, thank you for taking the time to join in the celebration honoring our fellow members.☞



5 Years

Vanessa L. Meranda
Alejandra Miranda
Santos Leon
Alejandra Portilla

15 Years

Roberta Orona
Karina Lopez
Toni Miranda

10 Years

Angela Arce
Wilma Vie Prodigalidad

20 Years

Alma Serrano

45 Years

Maria Riggs



With Deepest Sympathy...

Two of our members of Firefighters of L.A. City Local #112 have suffered a loss. Niko Luna's father passed away in November 2019 and Laura Burton's sister passed away January 28, 2020. Please keep our members and their families in your prayers. ☞

Important Dates to Remember

Daylight Saving Time

March 8, 2020

(Don't forget to set your clocks ahead "1 hour" Saturday Night, March 7th)

Membership Meeting

March 18, 2020



KEEP YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE... WE DON'T WANT YOU TO MISS OUT.

If your contact *information* has changed, please contact our office by phone or email. You may also go to our website and follow the prompt under "Information Center" located on the right side of the page. ☞

Ratified Contracts

American Federation of Teachers College Staff Guild
Local 1521A
Bush Gottlieb, a Law Corporation

Electrical Training Institute
Joint Journeyman and Apprenticeship Training Trust
SAG-AFTRA
Tri-Counties Sheet Metal Workers JATC
UA Plumbers Local 230☞