



## Leadership Empowerment Zone

Weekly email updates from CSEA President Mary E. Sullivan

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Greetings CSEA Family!

### **Did you know?**

People join unions to protect their right to have a voice at the table with management. They join unions to have due process if disciplined or terminated. They join unions for the right to have a contract that has been forged by a group of workers that through their struggle fought for equal rights. Rights that are not usually afforded by management on their own accord but must be fought by workers coming together for one purpose and that is to have a say at their work site. A right to dispute without retaliation.

### **Registration is now open for Statewide OSH Conference May 31-June 2**

Our biennial Statewide Occupational Safety & Health Conference will be held May 31-June 2, 2024 in Lake Placid, NY. More information regarding registration, accommodations, workshops, can be found here: <https://cseany.org/OSH-conference>. Please be advised that space is limited and reservations/registration will be available first come, first served.

### **Civil Service exam expansion in Herkimer County**

I am happy to learn from the President of my Herkimer County Unit that recent notices of civil service exams are now being distributed to local and unit officers. This is a positive step forward in helping us in our recruitment efforts. While Herkimer County is still charging a civil service exam fee, I want to remind all that these fees can be waived by your county. I encourage all local governments to work with your respective counties to get any test fees waived and ensure that notices of exams are being regularly published.

### **Reminder: Recent email offering focus group participation with incentive is legitimate**

Some members may have received or may receive an email from CSEA inviting them to register for a focus group with an incentive of \$125 if they are selected to participate. These emails are NOT a scam. They came from CSEA and were sent to randomly selected members in every region. Any member who registers and is selected to participate in these focus groups will receive \$125 as advertised.

**Safety & Health information regarding the upcoming Solar Eclipse**

On Monday, April 8, 2024, the total solar eclipse will cross a large section of New York State. Here are some important safety guidelines to follow during a total solar eclipse. <https://cseany.org/solar-eclipse-safety>

**CBTU International Convention information**

The 53rd International Convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists will be held *May 21-26, 2024* in Houston, Texas at the Marriot Marquis Hotel. The theme for the convention is “*Never Back, Always Forward: Hate Cannot Erase Us*”. Please go to the CBTU Convention website, <https://convention.cbtu.info> to view the Convention Call and register online and/or review and print all convention related materials. Please note, while it is appropriate for Region/Local/Unit Executive Boards to authorize the use of rebated funds to participate at constituency group events, Regions/Locals/Units may not send more representatives to these non-CSEA events than are sent to any CSEA Statewide event.

We would like to meet and greet our CSEA contingency attending, if you are attending the convention, let us know by e-mailing [Sharon.loveladyhall@cseainc.org](mailto:Sharon.loveladyhall@cseainc.org).

**Regional News:**

**SCAP Members Ratify Contract**

Schenectady Community Action Program members have a new 4-year contract. Highlights of the pact include a signing bonus, salary increases, shift differential increases for certain titles, and the addition of 2 longevity steps.

**CSEA 2024 statewide college scholarship applications available** Applications for our union’s statewide college scholarships are now available! Graduating high school seniors who are eligible dependents of CSEA active members are eligible to apply for and receive a scholarship. CSEA awards 18 \$1,000 scholarships under the Irving Flaumenbaum Memorial Scholarship program, three in each region. Pearl Insurance and MetLife each sponsor a one-time \$2,500 award. Application deadline is May 1, 2024. PLEASE NOTE: Old applications could disqualify potential candidates. Please do not use applications from previous years – applications were recently revised. To download the application, visit: <https://cseany.org/>.  
\*You will need your member ID to login.

**Apply for the AFL-CIO Union Leadership Institute Scholarship**

For more than 20 years, [the Union Leadership Institute \(ULI\)](#) has helped hundreds of union members from every corner of New York State become stronger leaders. Many program graduates have progressed to leadership positions in their union. To help promote diversity in

union leadership, the New York State AFL-CIO is offering a full scholarship for ULI: [the LEAD Scholarship](#). If you want to become a leader in your union and in the union movement, [apply for the LEAD scholarship today](#). The deadline to apply for the LEAD Scholarship is May 1, 2024. Any union member in good standing is welcome to apply.

### **Strategic Corporate Research Summer School, June 23-28, 2024**

The AFL-CIO and Cornell University are sponsoring a Strategic Corporate Research Summer School on June 23-28, 2024. The application deadline is May 1. The course is designed for students and others who want to make corporations accountable by working as researchers in unions and social change organizations. The course offers a regular track and an advanced track with an additional research and writing requirement. It is open to individuals applying on their own and to individuals sponsored by unions and other organizations. Scholarships are available to non-sponsored individuals who qualify. Inquire if interested in obtaining course credit. For more info, email: [scsummer@cornell.edu](mailto:scsummer@cornell.edu), call (607) 391-1242, or go to the course website: <https://www.ilr.cornell.edu/scr-summer-school>

### **Member Benefits Spotlight: Win \$1500 in rewards from Purchasing Power!**

The Purchasing Power Sweepstakes has begun! Purchasing Power is giving CSEA members the chance to win \$1500 in reward dollars. From March 15 through April 15, any CSEA member who creates a new account, or logs into their existing account, is eligible to win. Visit: <https://www.purchasingpower.com/?domain=cseany> and enter today! No purchase is necessary!

### **Required Union Representation **IN-PERSON** Trainings:**

#### **Local Government and Private Sector Grievance – White Plains (Region 3)\*\***

Tuesday, April 2, and Wednesday, April 3, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

#### **Local Government and Private Sector Grievance – Lower Manhattan (Region 2)\*\***

Monday, April 8, and Tuesday, April 9, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (212) 406-2156 to register.

#### **Steward Training - Gloversville (Region 4)\*\***

Tuesday, April 9, and Wednesday, April 10, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (518) 782-4400 to register.

Wednesday, April 10, and Thursday, **Steward Training - New City (Region 3)\*\*** April 11,

from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

**Steward Training - Newburgh (Region 3)\*\***

Tuesday, April 16, and Wednesday, April 17 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

**Steward Training - Watertown (Region 5)\*\***

Tuesday, April 16, and Wednesday, April 17 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (315) 433-0050 to register.

**Private Sector Discipline and Interrogation – Lower Manhattan (Region 2)**

Tuesday, April 16, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (212) 406-2156 to register.

**Local Government Discipline and Interrogation – Fulton (Region 5)\*\***

Tuesday, April 16, and Wednesday, April 17, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (315) 433-0050 to register.

**Steward Training - Geneva (Region 6)**

Saturday, April 20, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Call (716) 691-6555 to register.

**Local Government and Private Sector Grievance – Allegany (Region 6)\*\***

Tuesday, April 30, and Wednesday, May 1, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (716) 691-6555 to register.

***\*\*This is a 2-part training, participants must complete both sessions to receive credit for completion.***

---

**Required Union Representation **VIRTUAL** Trainings:**

**Discipline & Interrogations Recertification**

Thursday, March 28, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1254>

**Grievance Recertification**

Thursday, April 11, from 6:00 pm to 8:00

pm. <https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1259>

**Discipline & Interrogations Recertification**

Wednesday, April 24, from 6:00 pm to 8:00

pm. <https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1262>

For a full list and description of workshops offered by the Education & Training Department go to: <https://cseany.org/training-workshops>

**Required Officer Trainings:**

*Contact your region to register.*

Region 1 – (631) 462-0030    Region 4 – (518) 782-4400

Region 2 – (212) 406-2156    Region 5 – (800) 559-7975

Region 3 – (845) 831-1000    Region 6 – (716) 691-6555

**IN-PERSON Treasurer Training for Region 6**

**Region 6 Office** - 120 Pine View Drive, Amherst, NY 14228 on Tuesday, April 30, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Registration begins at 4:30 pm Please call 716-691-6555 to register.

**Rochester Satellite Office** - 3495 Winton Place, Building E, Suite 3, Rochester, NY 14623 on Wednesday, May 1, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Registration begins at 4:30 pm. Please call 585-272-0800 to register.

Deadline to register is Wednesday, April 24.

**What do you want to read about?**

I'm asking for your feedback on any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions of this weekly leadership update. If you have ideas, please take the time to fill out our quick online survey at: <https://forms.office.com/r/seCVpFhVaG>.

I appreciate your response.

**In Solidarity,**



**Mary E. Sullivan**  
**President**