

Representing aerospace professionals with competence, integrity and action



Celebrating solidarity for Labor Day

Hundreds took part in Labor Day celebrations. Shown (top) at the MLK Labor celebration Sept. 4 at SeaTac, Washington, are SPEEA President **Ryan Rule** (right), his wife, **Carrie Rule** (former SPEEA leader) and Seattle Council Rep **Gordon Yip** with their children. The inset photo shows the Wichita/Hutchinson Labor Federation annual picnic with free food and bingo with prizes and a youth writing contest Sept. 2 at the Machinists Hall. SPEEA Midwest activist/retiree **Donna Lebane** took part in the Wichita celebration, which also featured political leaders such as Kansas State Sen. **Oletha Faust-Goudeau** (D-29th district) and Kansas AFL-CIO President **Tony Spicer**.

Government Accountability Office (GAO)

IFPTE Local 1921 members vote to approve new contract

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The members of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) Employees Organization, IFPTE Local 1921 recently voted to ratify a new agreement.

GAO, known as the investigative arm of Congress, is an independent, nonpartisan federal agency that supports Congress and works to improve the performance of the federal government through audits, evaluations, analyses and recommendations. GAO Employees Organization includes nearly 2,500 analysts,

auditors, technical specialists and support staff. “We reached an agreement that incorporates lessons learned from our pandemic work posture. It reflects the fact that for decades GAO employees have not only been located in Washington, but assigned to field offices across the country and accounts for the wide range of work assignments that our members do,” said **Benjamin Emmel**, IFPTE Local 1921 president. Emmel works as a senior analyst for defense capabilities and management.

Continued on page 4

SPEEA invites members, families to fall events

Looking for a fun way to meet other members? Check out these upcoming SPEEA events.

Puget Sound

NW MAC Pumpkin Decorating

Saturday, Oct. 21

SPEEA Tukwila – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
SPEEA Everett – 2 to 5 p.m.

Email meetings@speea.org (and include the number of children attending)

The Northwest Membership Activities Committee (MAC) is hosting pumpkin decorating for the families of SPEEA members. MAC will provide a limited number of free pumpkins and decorating supplies (no carving involved) along with snacks. Come to decorate and share a fun fall tradition at SPEEA.

Young Members Happy Hour

Thursday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Coindexter's, 8556 Greenwood Ave. N, Seattle

The Northwest Young Members Committee invites SPEEA members to join them at Coindexter's, a pinball bar in Seattle. The committee has a budget to provide light appetizers. This is a no-host bar event – participants buy their own drinks.

To RSVP, email **Georgie Victor**, georgie-anna.r.victor@boeing.com.

Midwest

Veterans Parade

Saturday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m.

Downtown Wichita

SPEEA Council Rep **Daniel Ryan** is our liaison again this year for the annual Veterans Day parade in Wichita. This year's parade starts at 11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 11 in downtown Wichita. Email Ryan at daniel.j.ryan@spiritaero.com to join SPEEA in the parade. Members and their families hand out treats to parade watchers.

Race for Freedom – P2

Plant II pizza lunch – P3

Union approval high – P4



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Theryl (TJ) Johnson	Treasurer
Byron D. Henderson	Secretary

Midwest Regional Council Officers

Emily Forest	Chair
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Benjamin Blankley	Secretary

Northwest Regional Council Officers

Mike Pirone	Chair
David Fritz	Treasurer
Raquel Cundiff	Secretary

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SEATTLE HALL

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Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 206-433-0991 • 1-800-325-0811

EVERETT HALL

2414 106th St. SW, Everett, WA 98204

Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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WICHITA HALL

4621 E 47th St. S, Wichita, KS 67210

Mon-Thu, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Fri, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 316-682-0262 • 1-800-325-0811

Sign up to attend SPEEA Night at the Museum of Flight

SEATTLE – Hundreds of members are signing up to attend SPEEA Night at the Museum of Flight, Seattle, Thursday, Oct. 5 from 5 to 9 p.m., during “Free First Thursday” at the museum.

SPEEA Council Reps and Area Reps are encouraged to attend and connect with new hires and other SPEEA activists.

SPEEA reserved the Skyline Room, featuring panoramic views of Boeing Field and downtown Seattle. Participants and their families can enjoy snacks and soft drinks, a no-host

bar, meet Executive Board members, Council Reps, Area Reps and committee members and learn more about your union.

This family friendly event is co-sponsored by the Northwest New Hire and Young Members Committees.

SPEEA Night at the Museum of Flight

Thursday, Oct. 5, 5 to 9 p.m.
The Museum of Flight, 9404 East Marginal Way S., Seattle

RSVP at www.speea.org



SPEEA at Wichita Race for Freedom

Former Council Rep **Mark Gayer** worked to bring SPEEA to the Race for Freedom, a fundraiser for ICT-SOS to help end human trafficking. With Gayer's retirement, Council Reps **Aaron Kitterman** and **Frank Wiesner** (shown above) carried the torch of union solidarity with an information table at the event Sept. 9. “We had everyone stop by the booth, from past members to people with limited knowledge of a labor union,” said Kitterman. “We had no problem giving away the balsa wood airplanes.”

ACE offers composites overview in October

Check out upcoming SPEEA Aerospace Career Enhancement (ACE) classes and register at canvas.aerocareer.org.



To receive ACE updates, sign up for SPEEA home email at www.speea.org.

Upcoming class

Carbon Fiber Composites Overview – This is a high-level introduction to carbon fiber composite materials and how they are used in aircraft, marine and automotive manufacturing. This presentation will also discuss how they differ from metals in relation to failure modes and manufacturing processes. This presentation is in-person and online with limited capacity.

Thursday, Oct. 19, 5 to 7 p.m.
SPEEA Tukwila and virtual

Aerospace career networking event – Join SPEEA ACE for Aerospace Career Networking Night at Boeing Future of Flight. Meet potential mentors, experienced aerospace professionals and new hires in the aerospace industry. This is a great event to forge connections that can lift you up and help your career to soar!

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 5 to 8 p.m.
Boeing Future of Flight, Mukilteo

Refreshments included



Plant II pizza lunch with SPEEA leaders

Nearly 70 came to a lunchtime meeting Sept. 13, hosted by P-1 District Council Rep **Gordon Yip** (left). Joining Yip in meeting with members were Northwest Council Chair **Mike Pirone**, center, and SPEEA Treasurer **Dan Nowlin**. SPEEA provided pizza, salads and visibility items. SPEEA Contract Administrator **Frank Guglielmo**, Yip, Pirone and Nowlin led a discussion on the need for more Area Reps, upcoming SPEEA events and 2026 contract negotiations. Nowlin, who is on a two-year rotation as an Ed Wells Partnership program administrator, also discussed the benefits of Ed Wells training and conference grants and brought EWP visibility items.

Northwest Council action – Sept. 14

At their regular meeting, the Northwest Council:

- Recognized new Everett Council Rep **Michael Berryhill** (E-31).
- Voted unanimously to approve motion NW23-009 Distribution and Disbursement of STEM Funds: It is moved that the SPEEA NW Council distribute the allocated \$27,600 fund for 2023-2024 SPEEA Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Grant awards as recommended by the STEM Grant Review Committee. STEM Grant Review Committee Chair **Todd Rosenfelt** presented the motion and recognized the STEM Grant Committee of

Rafiq Ahmad, Mike Arrington, Raquel P. Cundiff, Jeff Forbes, David Fritz, Dan Nowlin, Mike Pirone, Sergiy Ryzhonkov and Shaunna Winton for reviewing 40 applications and discussing recommended allocations. Of the 40 applications, 38 were approved, including seven For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Lego League (FLL) teams, eight FIRST Robotics Tech Challenge (FTC) teams, 26 FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) teams and three community science or engineering programs. See the list of NW Council STEM grant recipients in the October issue of SPEEA Spotlight.



Celebrate Area Rep Recognition Month

Renton second shift Area Reps meet with Council Rep

Renton Council Rep **Alvin Xayasensouk** (2nd/3rd shifts) hosts monthly meetings with his district's Area Reps. They are shown above, from left, SPEEA Contract Administrator **Michael Hochberg** (Renton focal), Area Reps **Norman Chow, Peter Harmon, Jeff Hove** and Xayasensouk. Area Rep **Jeff P. Brown** couldn't make it to the meeting. At this meeting, held recently, they discussed the SPEEA contracts regarding sick leave and vacation, a safety alert, work moving and a coverage question for a temporary medical restriction. October is Area Rep Recognition Month.

TRAINING/ EVENTS

See online calendar for details. RSVP where you plan to attend.

Northwest

SPEEA Night at the
Museum of Flight

Thursday, Oct. 5, 5 to 9 p.m.

Museum of Flight, 9404 East
Marginal Way S, Seattle

Free food, no-host bar, information
booths, free museum access and more
Look for RSVP (QR code) at www.speea.org

NW New Hire and NW Young Members Committees

SPEEA Pumpkin Decorating

Saturday, Oct. 21

SPEEA Tukwila – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
SPEEA Everett – 2-5 p.m.

Sign up – meetings@speea.org

Limited supply of free pumpkins

NW Membership Activities Committee

NW Young Members Happy Hour

Thursday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m.

Coindexer's, a pinball bar
8556 Greenwood Ave. N, Seattle

No-host bar/light appetizers provided

RSVP via email:

Georgie Victor
(georgianna.r.victor@boeing.com)

NW Young Members Committee

Midwest

Young Professionals
no-host social

Friday, Oct. 13, 4 p.m.

Location TBD

Email tjtrousdale@gmail.com for details

MW Young Professionals Committee

Veterans Day Parade

Saturday, Nov. 11,

parade starts at 11 a.m.
Central and Main, Wichita

Join SPEEA members walking along the
parade route

Email daniel.j.ryan@spiritaero.com

SPEEA Midwest Council



SPEEA members enjoy Wichita Wind Surge game

Wichita Council Rep **Rick Nelson** (in SPEEA hat) and his wife, **Janice Nelson**, were among the many SPEEA members who enjoyed a Wichita Wind Surge baseball game Sept. 15. The Midwest Membership Activities Committee (MAC) arranged for a limited number of free tickets to the game for members and their families. About 150 tickets were picked up by members at the SPEEA Wichita office, but due to stormy weather, many were not able to make it. The skies cleared just before the game started.

IFPTE Local 1921 members vote to approve new contract

Continued from page 1

GAO employees first voted to form a union in 2007 and have improved the initial contract over the years. For example, this new agreement provides multiple flexible work options, including hybrid and remote work options, along with streamlining transfers between GAO locations and providing the agency with new tools to better manage its physical space.

“This agreement will help GAO to continue to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars and a model federal agency,” said Emmel. “It continues the spirit of collaboration that GAO is known for and strikes a balance that will provide expanded flexibilities for employees while we continue to meet our mission in serving Congress.”

Surveys show strong support for unions, especially among younger Americans

Two separate polls show continuing strong support for unions, especially among Americans under 30, according to the Gallup Poll Social Series poll on unions and education and a poll conducted by GBAO for AFL-CIO’s recent State of the Unions.

Nearly 9 in 10 (88%) under the age of 30 view unions favorably, according to both polls.

“Every day, more and more working people are finding out that the labor movement is the solution to low wages and unsafe workplaces, to inequality and discrimination,” said **Fred Redmond**, AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer. He joined AFL-CIO President **Liz Shuler** in a State of the Unions address just before Labor Day.

“The idea of a union may sound complicated,

but in reality, unions are just a group of people coming together,” said Shuler. “And there is nothing better than finding that power alongside the people we work with and being part of something bigger than ourselves. That’s all a union is.”

Gallup and AFL-CIO survey highlights

Gallup survey	AFL-CIO survey
67% of Americans approve a union	71% support unions
77% say unions mostly help members	75% support strikes
61% say unions help vs. hurt the U.S. economy	70% express concerns for Artificial Intelligence displacing workers
57% say unions help companies where workers are organized	50% think more workers in unions are beneficial
34% say they want unions to have more influence	90% with work problem say a union could help
Survey Link: bit.ly/Gallup_unions	Survey Link: bit.ly/State_of_unions

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULES

NORTHWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES PT)

MIDWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES CT)

	Week of October 2, 2023
Monday, Oct. 2	3:00 p.m. NW Council officers
Monday, Oct. 2	4:00 p.m. Council officers
Tuesday, Oct. 3	4:00 p.m. SPEEA Leadership Development & Training
Wednesday, Oct. 4	4:30 p.m. NW Action Communication Taskforce
Thursday, Oct. 5	4:00 p.m. NW Safety & Wellness
	Week of October 9, 2023
Tuesday, Oct. 10	4:30 p.m. NW Membership Activities
Wednesday, Oct. 11	4:30 p.m. SPEEA Diversity
Thursday, Oct. 12	3:00 p.m. SPEEA Council
	Week of October 16, 2023
Monday, Oct. 16	3:30 p.m. SPEEA Legislative & Public Affairs
Wednesday, Oct. 18	4:00 p.m. SPEEA Governing Documents
Wednesday, Oct. 18	5:00 p.m. NW Governing Documents
Thursday, Oct. 19	4:00 p.m. Executive Board

	Week of October 2, 2023
Monday, Oct. 2	6:00 p.m. Council officers
Tuesday, Oct. 3	6:00 p.m. SPEEA Leadership Development & Training
Thursday, Oct. 5	4:30 p.m. MW Membership Activities
	Week of October 9, 2023
Wednesday, Oct. 11	6:30 p.m. SPEEA Diversity
Thursday, Oct. 12	5:00 p.m. SPEEA Council
	Week of October 16, 2023
Monday, Oct. 16	4:30 p.m. MW Legislative & Public Affairs
Monday, Oct. 16	5:30 p.m. SPEEA Legislative & Public Affairs
Tuesday, Oct. 17	4:00 p.m. MW Governing Documents
Wednesday, Oct. 18	6:00 p.m. SPEEA Governing Documents
Thursday, Oct. 19	4:30 p.m. MW Young Professionals
Thursday, Oct. 19	6:00 p.m. Executive Board

Meetings are being held virtually and are subject to change/cancellations. See online regional calendars at www.speea.org for details.