

Representing aerospace professionals with competence, integrity and action



SPEEA activists joined union members from other IFPTE Locals and thousands of other union activists at the Labor Notes conference in Chicago in April.

Council Reps at whistleblower training

SPEEA and the law firm of Katz Banks Kumin LLP teamed up to present training on federal whistleblower laws to Council Reps May 17.

“This way, Council Reps can be a front-line resource for members who want to raise safety concerns but don’t trust their employer’s safety reporting processes,” said **Rich Plunkett**, SPEEA director of strategic development.

The webinar came after two years of SPEEA unsuccessfully trying to negotiate strong anti-retaliation language with Boeing in particular. Strong anti-retaliation measures are necessary because SPEEA members continue to report being punished by managers for speaking up about their concerns about quality and safety.

Labor Notes conference fires up solidarity

By Council Rep **Michael Berryhill** and Area Rep **Justin Roll**
Labor Notes participants

Eight SPEEA members attended Labor Notes, a bi-annual conference in April. They were among 4,500 other union activists, the biggest conference since Labor Notes started in 1979. Everyone attended workshops along several different tracks, such as bargaining, member-to-member organizing and union democracy.

Troublemakers struck a confident tone at Labor Notes 2024, with unions as popular as they’ve ever been due to more member-led, democratic unions and contract wins for Teamsters and United Auto Workers, and new organizing wins at Starbucks and Volkswagen in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Our SPEEA contingent met with union activists in the airlines industry. The airline workers were inspired to see SPEEA members at the conference. We also connected with IFPTE Local 20 brothers and sisters at PG&E. With them, we swapped stories

about questionable management and safety decisions and how to push back on that.

We introduced ourselves to IAM 751 President **Jon Holden** after his panel presentation with UAW President **Shawn Fain**. We were proud to remind Holden, when it comes to their contract with Boeing expiring this September, SPEEA has their back!

We were all inspired at the conference, and we’re motivated to build the union ahead of our

“I saw labor people from everywhere and every industry, and it made me feel part of a historic moment.”

Bobby Warwick
Everett Council Rep

contract negotiations for Wichita Engineering Unit (WEU) this fall and our Boeing contract talks in 2026. As SPEEA members, one of our big takeaways from the conference was to get our union stronger and more organized.

We want more member-to-member communications, we want our members to be confident on the shop floor, and we want more democratic engagement of our members

in SPEEA contract negotiations. We think this is all a key to a better contract.

We all attended several workshops, including:

- Bring the union to the members
- Secrets of a Successful Organizer series
- Strike planning

We want to bring some of these skills back to SPEEA membership. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us. Some of us are Council Reps and others are Area Reps from across the Puget Sound Boeing sites.

Participants included **Michael Berryhill**, **Sandra Guitierrez**, **Max Jackson**, **Michael Knopp**, **Becky Miller**, **Justin Roll**, **Christopher Tracy** and **Bobby Warwick**.

Let’s move forward and build toward better contracts!

“Learning from the struggles that groups like the Delta flight attendants or Starbucks employees have been up against keeps the spirit alive that we should never take what we have for granted.”

Michael Knopp
Seattle Area Rep



President

John Dimas

Executive Director

Ray Goforth

Executive Board

- Dan Nowlin Treasurer
- Ryan Rule Secretary
- Mike Arrington NW Regional VP
- Vacant NW Regional VP
- Jeffrey L. Forbes NW Regional VP
- Chris Streckfus MW Regional VP

SPEEA Council Officers

- R Matthew Joyce Chair
- Theryl (TJ) Johnson Treasurer
- Byron D. Henderson Secretary

Midwest Regional Council Officers

- Emily Forest Chair
- R Matthew Joyce Treasurer
- Benjamin Blankley Secretary

Northwest Regional Council Officers

- Mike Pirone Chair
- David Fritz Treasurer
- Raquel P. Cundiff Secretary

SPEEA Communications

- Karen McLean Communications Director
- Bryan Corliss Senior Communications Specialist
- Lori Dupuis Graphic Designer
- Julia Groves Communications Support

speea@speea.org • www.speea.org

SEATTLE HALL

15205 52nd Ave. S, Seattle, WA 98188
 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.
 Phone: 425-355-2883 • 1-800-325-0811

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



The Northwest Tellers **Jimmie Mathis**, left, and **Mike Shea** met at SPEEA headquarters to count ballots and validate election results.

Top vote getters for IFPTE Executive Council

Congratulations to SPEEA President **John Dimas** and SPEEA Secretary **Ryan Rule**, the top vote getters from the Northwest for two SPEEA-Area IFPTE vice president seats.

They were selected to serve on the IFPTE Executive Council with SPEEA Council Chair **R Matthew Joyce**, who ran unopposed from the Midwest for the third SPEEA-Area IFPTE vice president. Joyce is also Midwest Council treasurer and chair of the Wichita Engineering Unit (WEU) negotiation team.

The three will be formally nominated and elected by IFPTE delegates at the triennial convention in June.

The vice presidents serve three-year terms on the IFPTE Executive Council, which oversees

IFPTE governance between conventions.

The Northwest Tellers counted the ballots and validated results May 15.

| NW IFPTE VP candidates | Vote % |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Dan Nowlin | 7.1% |
| Emily Brent Fulps | 5.8% |
| David Garrett | 8.5% |
| John Dimas | 24.0% |
| Shaunna Winton | 10.8% |
| Christopher Tracy | 8.2% |
| Ryan Rule | 19.9% |
| Abstain | 15.8% |

**ballot order, winners bold*

A total of 1,022 valid ballots were cast, out of a total of 15,582 authorized ballots.

Executive Board seat

Candidates for NW regional VP interim vacancy

Three candidates are running to serve as SPEEA Northwest regional vice president, filling the seat previously held by SPEEA President **John Dimas**.

The SPEEA Northwest Council will elect the NW regional vice president at a special meeting, Wednesday, June 5.

VP candidates*

- David Garrett
- Shaunna Winton
- Christopher Tracy

**Ballot order*

The Northwest Tellers validated petitions and determined ballot order based on a random drawing May 21.

Four regional vice presidents serve on the Executive Board. The regional VP terms expire in March 2025.

The seven-member Board is responsible for setting and administering the annual budget and administering the affairs of SPEEA.



SPEEA members in Portland teamed up with Machinists Local Lodge 63 and Oregon IAFF union fire fighters on May 16 to rally for the Boeing firefighters fighting for fair contracts in Washington state.

Teaming up to support locked-out Boeing firefighters

From Portland to Everett, SPEEA members continue to show support for locked-out Boeing union fire fighters.

As this newsletter went to press, members of the Fire Fighters Local I-66 had just rejected a third “best and final offer” from Boeing, which came after the two sides had exchanged contract proposals during talks the week before.

According to media reports, the third offer came nowhere near to addressing Fire Fighters’ issues with low entry-level pay and the length of time it takes for them to reach the top of their pay scale. Boeing proposed a 10-cent-an-hour wage increase every six months, and replaced an initial demand that union members work 19 years to get top pay with one that they work 13 years. (Most Seattle-area fire departments pay union Fire Fighters top pay after three to five years; Local I-66 had asked for six.)

Only about a quarter of Local I-66 Fire Fighters ever make it to maximum pay of \$41 an hour, the union says. The rest leave before reaching the current 14-year mark for better-paying jobs at municipal fire departments around Puget Sound, taking their specialized industrial firefighting skills with them.

Lockout started May 4

On International Fire Fighters Day, May 4, Boeing locked out its 125 first responders who were demanding better wages and working conditions in contract negotiations.

On May 18, SPEEA members teamed up with hundreds of union delegates on Local I-66’s picket line outside Boeing’s Seattle Delivery Center. The delegates came from across the state to attend the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC), AFL-CIO, Committee on Political Education (COPE) convention at the Machinists

Union District 751 Seattle Union Hall.

SPEEA members in Portland took part in a union solidarity rally with Machinists Local Lodge 63 and Oregon IAFF union fire fighters May 16. Although Boeing Portland doesn’t have union firefighters, union members organized the rally to show support.

Show support

While the lockout continues, individual SPEEA members can also show solidarity with the Fire Fighters.

For starters, everyone can wear red for Fire Fighter Fridays. You can go to speea.org to find a link to download and print signs of support to display in your car or workstation. (Use a home printer.)

And while our contract with Boeing says SPEEA members *must* report to work during labor actions involving other unions, *you have a right* to join locked-out Fire Fighters during your off-work time, including your lunch breaks or before or after your shift.

With only 125 members of Local I-66 at Boeing, you can help bolster their numbers. Join the picket line for as long as you can – no shift is too short! Even just taking a half hour lunch break with them does a lot for morale.

Donations help, too

SPEEA’s Council voted to recommend the Executive Board donate \$100 grocery gift cards to each locked-out Fire Fighter. Members also should consider donating to the IAFF Local I-66 strike fund to financially support the locked-out Fire Fighters and their families.

See details in the article on SPEEA’s website home page at www.speea.org.

TRAINING/ EVENTS

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

Northwest

New Hire/Young Members summer BBQ

Saturday, June 22, 4 to 8 p.m.
Golden Gardens, Shelter 1, Seattle

Free hamburgers, a vegetarian option, drinks, etc.

Feel free to bring/share a side dish – with labels for allergies!

To sign up, email meetings@speea.org with the number of guests

NW New Hire/Young Members Committee

Midwest

Midwest Young Professionals Top Golf

Sunday, June 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Top Golf
2976 N Greenwich Rd
Wichita

Free – dues-paying members only

Limited capacity – email vickim@speea.org to sign up

MW Young Professionals

Retention appeal requests due June 10

Under the terms of Boeing’s contract with SPEEA, managers issue retention ratings each year. The ratings are used to determine the order of SPEEA members leaving the company in the event of a layoff.

SPEEA members have a right to appeal their assigned retention rating for specific reasons.

For more information, including the eligible reasons for an appeal and the appeal request form, go to www.speea.org, drop down menu: Member Tools/Retention.

The deadline to submit the appeal request form is Monday, June 10.



SPEEA celebrates 50 years of CLUW

SPEEA members took part in the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) 50th anniversary gala and National Executive Board (NEB) meeting in Niagara Falls, New York, this month. The event included plenary workshops and guest speakers, including AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler. Shown above, from left, Area Rep Shaunna Winton, SPEEA NW Women's Advocacy Committee (WAC) member Serena Lam, Liz Shuler, Karen Bellamy Lewis, IFTPE Atlantic Region representative, and WAC member Gordon Yip.

Advancing Homeownership® fair June 8

Learn more about buying and financing your first home at a free seminar, Saturday, June 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Seattle Airport Marriott.

Wells Fargo, which offers special benefits to union members through Union Plus, is hosting the fair to help answer questions about what to expect and what's expected of you in the homebuying process.

To join a breakout room for a Q&A with local professionals, register at wellsfargo.com/events. At this website, choose 'Search by State' to bring up the "Advancing Homeownership® Fair Seattle, WA – June 8, 2024.

Learn about Union Plus benefits at www.unionplus.org. For access, choose IFPTE for your union.

Red-shirt Fridays support veterans, too

As SPEEA encourages members to wear red to support firefighters on Fridays, this also shows support for veterans.

For longer than the lockout of Boeing firefighters in Washington state, veterans and their supporters across the country have been wearing red on Fridays to Remember Everyone Deployed (RED).

"This is a nationally recognized display across every branch of service and with companies who show support for the military," pointed out SPEEA member **Travess Langford**, retired U.S. Air Force. "It shows respect for the sacrifices made by deployed service members being away from family, in harm's way for extended periods of time."

Wearing red on Fridays sends a powerful message – you care!

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, take time to remember and honor those who have died in service to our country.

WEU contract survey due May 29

The Wichita Engineering Unit (WEU) Negotiation Team sent a survey to all SPEEA-represented employees to collect feedback on contract priorities. The deadline to complete the survey is Wednesday, May 29.

The survey asks about compensation, benefits and workplace issues.

The negotiation team meets regularly with staff to prepare for Main Table talks with company leaders which will begin this fall. The SPEEA WEU contract expires Dec. 1, 2024.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULES

NORTHWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES PT)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| | Week of May 27, 2024 |
| Tuesday, May 28 | 5:00 p.m. NW Women's Advocacy |
| | Week of June 3, 2024 |
| Tuesday, June 4 | 4:00 p.m. SPEEA Leadership Development & Training |
| Tuesday, June 4 | 4:30 p.m. SPEEA Tellers |
| Wednesday, June 5 | 4:00 p.m. Special NW Council |
| Wednesday, June 5 | 4:30 p.m. NW Action Communication Taskforce (ACT) |
| Thursday, June 6 | 4:00 p.m. Executive Board |
| Thursday, June 6 | 4:30 p.m. NW Safety & Wellness |
| Friday, June 7 | 3:00 p.m. SPEEA Council Convention |
| Saturday, June 8 | 8:00 a.m. SPEEA Leadership Conference |
| | Week of June 10, 2024 |
| Tuesday, June 11 | 4:30 p.m. NW Membership Activities |
| Wednesday, June 12 | 4:30 p.m. SPEEA Diversity |

MIDWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES CT)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| | Week of May 27, 2024 |
| | No meetings scheduled |
| | Week of June 3, 2024 |
| Tuesday, June 4 | 6:00 p.m. SPEEA Leadership Development & Training |
| Tuesday, June 4 | 6:30 p.m. SPEEA Tellers |
| Thursday, June 6 | 6:00 p.m. Executive Board |
| Friday, June 7 | 5:00 p.m. SPEEA Council Convention |
| Saturday, June 8 | 10:00 a.m. SPEEA Leadership Conference |
| | Week of June 10, 2024 |
| Wednesday, June 12 | 6:30 p.m. SPEEA Diversity |
| Thursday, June 13 | 4:30 p.m. MW Membership Activities |



Meetings are virtual/hybrid and subject to change/cancellations. See online regional calendars at www.speea.org for details.