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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AFSCME Council 31 Legislative and Political Endorsement Conference, September 13**
- **Brown Bag Lunch, September 16 11:30am-12:30pm**
- **General Meeting and Election, September 16 at 5pm**
- **Staff Senate Banquet, September 18**
- **Chancellor's Address, September 25 at 10am**



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# Legislative and Political Endorsement Conference Prepares for November Elections

Council 31's biennial Legislative and Political Endorsement Conference will be held on Saturday, September 16 in Peoria. The conference will decide state endorsements and feature workshops on challenges facing our union.

The president and PEOPLE chair from each local union and the president of each retiree subchapter are entitled to vote as delegates. Other local union and retiree subchapter members are welcome to attend as guests.

The decision-making process got underway earlier this summer when those local union representatives came together at regional meetings around the state to review the voting records and questionnaires of state legislative candidates in order to make recommendations regarding endorsements in those races. At the conference on Saturday, they

will be considering who to endorse in Congressional races as well as statewide races such as Governor, Treasurer, and Comptroller.

President Anne Hunter attended the PEOPLE Area IX meeting on August 21st in Alton. Attendees had an opportunity to conduct a face-to-face interview with candidate Cullen Cullen. In contested legislative races, Area IX chose to endorse James Clayborne (D) for Senate District 57, John Cavaletto (R) for House District 107, Cullen Cullen (D) for House District 112, and Jay Hoffman for House District 113.

The most critical issue facing the delegates at the state conference is whether to recommend support for Pat Quinn in the gubernatorial election. AFSCME has had to battle Governor Quinn repeatedly over the past four years, however his opponent

Bruce Rauner has made it very clear that he intends to destroy public employee unions in Illinois while cutting minimum wage and eliminating pensions.

AFSCME has been actively campaigning against Rauner throughout the summer and will continue to do so up to the November election.

At the regional PEOPLE meetings, delegates discussed the best course to take in the governor's race. Some felt it better to just continue the current approach of getting the truth out about Rauner without recommending an alternative. Others expressed concern that it would suggest members should not vote at all or for a candidate unlikely to win, which would essentially be aiding Rauner. The final decision will be made in Peoria by hundreds of delegates from local unions across the state.

## Local 2887 to Elect New Executive Board

Local 2887 will hold elections at the General Meeting on September 16 for the Executive Board. Nominations will be accepted before and during the meeting. The meeting will be held at the School of Pharmacy, U2 1102.

You must be a Member to vote. Fair Share employees may sign a membership card prior to the meeting and be eligible to vote.

To be eligible for office, a Member must be in good standing for one year immediately preceding the election. No retired Member can be a candidate for office, and no Member can be a candidate for more than one office.

All elected officers will take office on November 2, 2014 and will be given an orientation. The following offices are up for elec-

tion: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, three Executive Board Members, and three Trustees. All offices are for a 2-year term with the exception of the Trustee positions which are 1-, 2-, and 3-year terms.

Please consider serving the Local in one of these roles. Contact the Diane Schilling, Election Chair for more information.

## From the President:

This summer has brought many changes to Local 2887. With the retirement of our Vice-President Vanessa King in May, we had to do some shifting among our Executive Board to fill key roles in our administration. I am hopeful that we can fill our current vacancies in the upcoming election, but it is critical that we have more members willing to take an active part in our Union.

The Union is not a third-party stepping in to represent employees in our bargaining unit. The Union is us, each individual coming together. Our strength is in our members,

joining together in a common purpose. It is only when our members are active and working together that we can truly reach our potential.

*E pluribus unum...* "out of many, one." Until the Cold War really started, this was the *de facto* motto of our country. I think it also serves as a good reflection for organized labor as well. We are spread across three campuses and among several different classifications, but in the end we are one.

I often hear people say they "keep meaning to be more involved with the Union" or

something similar. Now is that time. For the good of us all, we need more active people showing up and participating to ensure that we have a future.

I would like to take a moment to thank our Executive Board for all the work they do. Even when we are spread thin, they are always willing to take on the tasks that need to be done for the good of everyone.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, or comments please feel free to contact me.

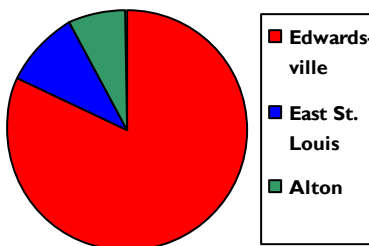
In Solidarity,  
Anne Hunter

# Get to Know Your Union: By the Numbers

Local 2887 is part of Council 31 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). We represent approximately 300 clerical and kindred positions for the Alton, Edwardsville, and East St. Louis campuses of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

As of August 31, 2014, we currently represent 283 employees. 144 are full members of our Local. The remaining 138 are employees covered by our contract who only pay a "Fair Share" contribution to our Local despite receiving the same protection and representation. Local 2887 signed up five Fair Share employees as Members in August.

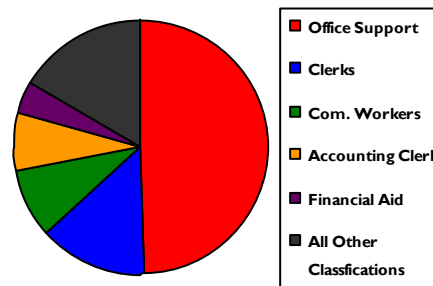
The Edwardsville campus employs 232



(82%) of our Local. East St. Louis and the Head Start centers are supported by 29 (10.2%) of our members, while the Alton campus has 22 (7.8%) of our employees.

Represented positions are part of the following Civil Service classes/series: Accounting Clerk/Technician, Administrative Aide, Bookstore Clerk, Cashiers, Clerks, Collection Specialists,

Community Workers, Customer Service Agents, Financial Aid Advisers, Mail Messengers, Medical Insurance, Office Support, Parking Service Agents, Payroll Specialists, and Storekeepers. 49% of positions represented by Local 2887 are in the Office Support series.



## Member Obituary: John Krieter III

John Krieter III died Monday, September 8 at St. Luke's Hospital in Chesterfield, MO. He was 61.

Krieter, of Highland, was born July 31, 1953 in Sumter, South Carolina. He came to SIUE in 2007 and worked in SIUE's Purchasing Department as a Storekeeper III. Krieter was part of AFSCME Local 2887, joining the Local as a full Member in 2010.

Visitation will be from 12-2pm on Saturday,



September 13 at Highland Hope United Methodist Church, and a memorial will follow immediately at 2pm.

He is survived by his wife, three daughters, one son, five grandchildren, his mother, two sisters, his brother, and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Prostate Cancer Foundation or the American Heart Association.

# Member Benefit Spotlight

Free and discounted legal advice is a phone call away for dues-paying AFSCME members and their families.

The AFSCME Advantage Legal Service makes it easy for members and their families to get the legal help they need to avoid and solve legal problems, often free of charge. A nationwide network of over 2,000 law offices that offer free and discounted services to union members is available with a toll-free call.

There is no enrollment charge or annual fee for the service.

There is no enrollment form to complete. Members are automatically eligible.

The program offers free consultation and follow-up, by phone or in-person. The service lets members consult with a program attorney about almost any legal concern for up to 30 minutes for free. A member may consult with a lawyer as many times as needed provided it is about a separate matter each time. Personal documents such as leases, insurance policies, or sales contracts will be reviewed and ex-

plained at no charge.

Of course, some legal matters need more than 30 minutes of time. In such cases, members pay only 70 percent of the attorney's regular fee (except in contingency cases, where the attorney's fee is a percentage of any money recovered). Members get to see the fee in writing, in advance.

Call 1-888-993-8886 Monday-Friday, 9am-7pm (ET) or visit [www.afscme.org/advantage](http://www.afscme.org/advantage) for names of participating attorneys in your area.

*In addition to the benefits listed at [afscme.org](http://afscme.org), Members are also eligible for discounts through Union Plus at [unionplus.org](http://unionplus.org).*

## Local President Receives

### SIUE Employee of the Month Award

Anne Hunter, Office Support Specialist in Library and Information Services and AFSCME Local 2887 President, is the recipient of the September Employee Recognition Award.

Please join in congratulating her as Employee of the Month at 10:45am on Friday, September 12 in the Lovejoy Library Conference Room, LB3021.

Hunter was nominated by her supervisor Laura Scaturro.

"Anne has consistently shown excellence in her overall work perfor-

mance, demonstrates integrity in her decisions and consistently maintains a



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positive and supportive attitude to those she serves," said Scaturro. "I believe her attention to detail, creative suggestions and initiative makes her an ideal candidate for this award."

"I am honored to be chosen as SIUE Employee of the Month," said Hunter. "It is truly a pleasure to be part of the SIUE community, and I am thankful to have such a wonderful group of people to work with."

For more information on the award, contact Amy Darte at 650-2190 or [adarte@siue.edu](mailto:adarte@siue.edu).

## DID YOU KNOW?

*Local 2887 shares bargaining unit has a discussion form for Members available through our website.*

## Volunteer Opportunity: Watershed 5k

AFSCME Local 2887 has assisted the Watershed Nature Center for the past two years with their "Run Wild 5k Run/Walk". We will again be helping with the event which takes place on Saturday, October 4.

Volunteers are needed to help with registration and set-up the day of the event. Members would need to

arrive by 7:30am. Registration begins at 8am, and the race starts at 9am.

Please contact Anne Hunter if you are interested in helping on the day of the event. It is approximately a two-hour commitment.

If you are interested in participating in the race, you can register in ad-

vance at their website or on-site the day of the event. The race course contains both paved and natural surfaces. Proceeds from the event benefit the Watershed Nature Center.

If you have any questions about the race, contact [watershed@cityofedwardsville.com](mailto:watershed@cityofedwardsville.com).

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**Vacant** Trustee

**Vacant** Trustee



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# SUAA: Planning for Retirement Series

The State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA) is offering a *Planning for Retirement* series, recommended by the SIUE Chapter Board and co-sponsored with SIUE Human Resources.

While the series is geared toward those currently working, retirees may also be interested in attending.

The first session, *SURS and Social Security*, takes place on Monday, September 22 at 4:45pm in the Maple-Dogwood Room, MUC. A representative from Social Security will discuss how receipt of a pension from the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) will affect Social Security benefits. Both the Windfall Elimination

Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) will be addressed. The representative will also highlight Social Security's online services and answer general questions.

Other titles in the series are *Financial Planning: Before and After Retirement* on October 9, *Estate Planning 101* on October 28, and *The Benefits of an SIUE Retirement and How to Enjoy Them* on November 18. All sessions begin at 4:45pm and take place at the MUC on the Edwardsville Campus.

All programs are free and open to the public. Advance registrations are not required, but encouraged. Contact Cheryl at 650-3209 to register or with questions.

The SUAA is open to all SIUE employees, current and retired. They are an advocacy organization focused solely on preserving pension and healthcare benefits for the public universities' and community colleges' employees—both active and retirees—and their spouses and survivors.

The SUAA is at the forefront of legislative issues related to pensions and benefits. They also prevented legislation from passing that would have eliminated tuition waivers.

To enroll in the SIUE Chapter of the SUAA, visit [suaa.org](http://suaa.org) or contact Anne Hunter for a brochure. Dues are \$37 annually or \$3.08 a month for individuals and \$74 annually or \$6.17 a month for couples.