

MINNESOTA BUREAU OF MEDIATION SERVICES HAS A NEW COMMISSIONER



James A. Cunningham, Jr.

First, let me say how much I appreciate the opportunity to include a few words in the TCALMC Newsletter. I especially enjoy interacting with organizations that demonstrate how management and labor can work collaboratively.

My work experiences have exposed me to the labor relations perspective of both

labor and management. After high school and while in college, I had the opportunity to work in a steel factory and later in an automotive construction factory. It was during my work in both of those industries that I first became involved with organized labor. While I worked at the factory, I was a member of the Steelworkers Union and while I worked in the automobile assembly plant, I was a member of the United Auto Workers. Those experiences have remained with me throughout my professional career as an attorney. Even though I represented and advised management, I believe that my earlier exposure to organized labor equipped me with a familiarity and knowledge that will assist me in my position as the Commissioner of the Bureau of Mediation Services.

During the few months I have served as Commissioner, I have been faced with the challenge of managing the Bureau in these lean financial times. Like all other units of government, the Bureau has experienced a decrease in the amount of the funds it received from the state budget. During my time as Commissioner, I have done my best to make certain that the groups that the BMS serves are well-informed about the changes that are occurring at the Bureau. The changes to the Bureau's LMC grant

program have been profound. Originally, we had earmarked \$304,000 for the grant program over the 2004-2005 biennium. However, a state legislative committee eliminated all funding for the program. It was only after a lot of effort that we were able to secure \$200,000 for the grant program over the next two years. The \$200,000 that was secured for the LMC grant program was due in no small part to the efforts of the Governor's staff as well as the Bureau's staff, including Mr. John Kuderka and Ms. Deanna Matteson.

We have also made some changes with regard to the disbursement of the grants in the Bureau's LMC grant program. Previously, the process for disbursement of the Bureau's LMC grants began on January 1st. We successfully introduced legislation that allowed the Bureau to begin the LMC grant disbursement process on July 1, 2003. It is our hope that the change will allow us to streamline the disbursement process and allow us to release funds to the grantees in an expedited manner.

Budget concerns notwithstanding, I am committed to finding ways to improve the level of service that the Bureau of Mediation Services provides to our customers. I believe that the labor-management cooperative program is one of the cornerstones of the Bureau's efforts to foster and promote positive labor-management relationships throughout the state. My goal and the goal of the BMS is to continue the good work that has been done to this point and to find new and innovative ways for labor and management to work cooperatively. I believe that cooperative efforts will be of particular importance during these times of economic uncertainty.

In closing, I would like to applaud the good work that the TCALMC has done and encourage you to continue to work for solutions that allow labor and management to work together for the mutual benefit of all.

Twin City Area Labor Management Council

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Gail Blackstone
Management Co-Chair

Michael Fahey
Secretary-Treasurer

2003 Annual Meeting & Earl Willford Labor Management Cooperation and Partnership Awards



The Twin City Annual Meeting held on February 26, 2003 at the Four Points Sheraton was attended by 140 members and guests. The Earl Willford Awards were presented along with labor management committee longevity awards. Speakers included John Kuderka and James Cunningham of the Bureau of Mediation Services explaining the unallotment of 2003 grant monies by the Governor. Both indicated some optimism that there would be money for the programs in 2004-2005 biennium budget. The guest speaker was Joel Maturi, Athletic Director at the University of Minnesota. Joel gave an account of the trials and tribulations of an athletic director charged with the awesome task of combining the women's and men's athletic departments into one department working cooperatively under his direction. Mr. Maturi was an engaging and entertaining speaker and is a dynamic advocate for the University of Minnesota Athletic Department.



- 5-9 YEAR LMC
LONGEVITY RECOGNITION**
- BFI/Hennepin Transfer/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Brooklyn Center/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Circle Pines/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Columbia Heights/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Edina/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Forest Lake/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Hastings/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Hopkins/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Minnetonka/IUOE Local 49
 - City of New Hope/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Robbinsdale/IUOE Local 49
 - City of St. Anthony/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Vadnais Heights/IUOE Local 49
 - City of Woodbury/IUOE Local 49
 - Dakota County/AFSCME Council 14
 - Hennepin County–Public Works/IUOE Local 49
 - Honeywell/ Teamsters Local 1145
 - Scott County/IUOE Local 49
 - White Bear Township/IUOE Local 49
 - Wright County/IUOE Local 49





**10-14 YEAR LMC
LONGEVITY RECOGNITION**
CenterPoint Energy Minnegasco & OPEIU Local 12
CenterPoint Energy Minnegasco & Gas Workers 340
City of Crystal Police Department & LELS Local 44 & 56
City of Eden Prairie & IUOE Local 49



**2003
Earl Willford Labor Management
Cooperation and Partnership
Award Recipients**

**Scott County and IUOE #49
and
Smurfit Stone Container and PACE #7-0264**

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT WAS AWARDED TO:

**City of Inver Grove Heights
and ASFSCME Council 14 (Local 1065)**



GOLF TOURNAMENT

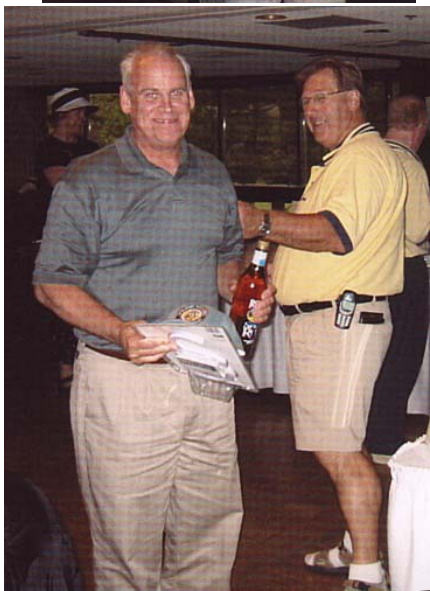
Well, this was the year that wasn't. As the Scottish Poet Robert Burns once said, "The best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley". However, despite the monsoon like weather that kept us off the golf course, the 80 hardy souls that showed up (*anything to get out of the office!*) ready to play, had a fun time renewing acquaintances while waiting in vain for the rain to stop, participating in the putting contest in the bar and or buying oodles of raffle tickets. When it became apparent that we were unable to golf, we were able to have dinner served at lunchtime. This afforded further opportunity for camaraderie and the drawing of some very nice door prizes. Since the days before and after May 19th were beautiful, we fully expect to be golfing next year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!!!!!



**TCALMC WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS
FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS:**

| | |
|---|--|
| AFSCME #14 Arbeiter, Inc. BCTGM Four Points Sheraton - Minneapolis Golfsmith Holiday Inn North Honeywell, Inc. IUOE #49 LSALMA Law Enforcement Labor Services Liquor Depot Miller · O'Brien Minneapolis Hilton & Towers | Minnesota AFL-CIO Minnesota Teamsters #638 Minnesota Teamsters #970 Minnesota Teamsters Joint Council #32 Sieben, Grose, VonHoltum & Carey, Ltd. Star Tribune Star Tribune Unions Sundquist & Associates, Ltd. Union Bank & Trust United Defense Wilson McShane Corporation Zenith Administrators |
|---|--|



MEET TCALMC'S NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



Meet Barbara Graham. Barbara is the Twin City Area Labor Management Council's Administrative Assistant. She started with the Council back in March, 2003 and is doing a fantastic job. Please feel free to call the office and introduce yourselves.

`` **WELCOME ABOARD BARBARA** ``

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

RETIREMENTS

- * **PETER OBERMEYER**, Mediator with the Minnesota Bureau of Mediation Services
- * **BOB DEROY**, Business Manager for Machinists District Lodge 77
- * **BILL PEARSON**, President and Business Manager of UFCW Local 789

*WE WISH THEM A LONG
AND HEALTHY RETIRED LIFE!*



NEW POSITIONS

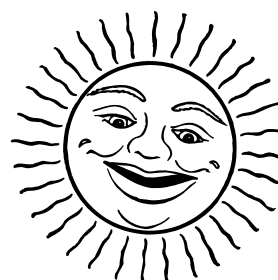
- * **STEVE GALLOWAY**, Business Manager for Machinists District Lodge 77
- * **DON SEAQUIST**, President and Business Manager for UFCW Local 789
- * **GERRY PARZINO**, International Representative servicing PACE #7-0264
- * **RICK ARENDS**, Business Agent for PACE #7-0264

*WE WISH YOU THE BEST OF LUCK
IN YOUR NEW POSITIONS!*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!!!!



The Council conducted a fundraising drive to raise monies over and above membership investments. Thank you for your generosity in responding to the need for funds to help offset the loss of the State Grant for 2003.



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THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT HAVE RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| 3M | Greater Twin Cities United Way | Northwest Airlines |
| Abbott Northwestern Hospital | HealthPartners | OPEIU 12 |
| AFSCME 6 | Hennepin County Labor Relations | PACE International Union Local 7-0264 |
| AFSCME 14 | Honeywell, Inc. | Ramsey County |
| BFI/Hennepin Transfer, Inc. | Independent School District 1- | Rock-Tenn Company |
| Blue Cross/Blue Shield of MN | Mpls Public Schools | Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce |
| CenterPoint Energy Minnegasco | Independent School District 270- | Saint Paul Building Trades Council |
| City of Blaine | Hopkins Public Schools | Saint Paul Pioneer Press |
| City of Circle Pines | IUOE 35 | Saint Paul Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 34 |
| City of Crystal | IUOE 49 | Scott County |
| City of Eden Prairie | LSALMA | SEIU 26 |
| City of Edina | Land O'Lakes | SEIU 113 |
| City of Forest Lake | Law Enforcement Labor Services | Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation |
| City of Hopkins | MAPE | Star Tribune |
| City of Inver Grove Heights | Medica Health Plan | Teacher Federal Credit Union |
| City of Mahtomedi | Metropolitan Airports Commission | Teamsters Joint Council 32 |
| City of Minneapolis | Metropolitan Council | Teamsters Local 4 |
| City of Minnetonka | Minneapolis Building and Construction | Teamsters Local 320-Public & Law |
| City of North Branch | Trades Council | Enforcement Employees |
| City of Robbinsdale | Minneapolis Central Labor Union AFL-CIO | Teamsters Local 638 Miscellaneous |
| City of St. Paul | MN AFL-CIO | Drivers, Helpers and Warehousemen |
| City of Woodbury | MN Bureau of Mediation Services | Teamsters Local 1145 |
| Communications Workers of America | MN Council for Quality | United Defense |
| Local 7200 | MN Hospital and Healthcare Partnership | University of MN - Facilities Mgmt. |
| Delta Dental Plan of MN | MN Government Engineers Council | University of MN - IRC |
| Employers Association, Inc. | MN Laborers-Employers Cooperation & | Weyerhaeuser Company |
| FMCS | Education Trust | White Bear Township |
| Ford Motor Company | MN Newspaper Guild/Typographical | Wilson-McShane Corporation |
| Gas Workers Local 340 | Union | Xcel Energy |
| General Mills, Inc. | MN Pollution Control Agency | Zenith Administrators, Inc. |