



MID-VALLEY ORGANIZER

No.3

December 31, 2022

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

ELECTION RESULTS

The following members were elected at the December 2022 general membership meeting.

- SECRETARY Jared
- TREASURER Rolando
- ORGANIZING DEPARTMENT LIASON Miranda
- MEDIA COORDINATOR Sabine
- DELEGATES Jay, Rolando, Miranda, Lisa, Jared

The General Strike

In light of the recent decision by Congress to force a contract on rail workers and the abundance of labor practice violations by corporations like Starbucks and Tesla that have been reported to the NLRB, the importance of collective power in the workplace is especially relevant.

While collective bargaining can cement small victories for a period of years, it can also be utilized as a tool to foster a relationship between the boss and so-called union leaders that undermine the will of the rank and file.

Many disputes can take more than a year to be resolved by the legal system. The IWW has been in favor of a kind of worker control that places all of the bargaining power in the possession of the workers, since they are responsible for the existence of the company and the profit it generates, after all. Contracts can win incremental demands but The General Strike must be the collective goal of workers across the country in order to upend the power imbalance that has been violently maintained by the ruling class.

- FW J.R. Page

New Seasons Labor Union

New Seasons Market in Portland, Oregon is a grocery chain that has grown to 21 stores and over 2,700 employees today. The unionization movement that unfolded under New Seasons Labor Union has expanded to include 5 unionized stores in the Portland Metro area. The independent union held two elections in the month of December at the Grant Park and Concordia locations which voted to join the union by a heavy majority.

Mid-Valley Organizer reached out to NSLU to learn about the efforts behind their recent victories: "The biggest key to NSLU's success has been the

involvement of Rank and File members. By its very nature NSLU is rank and file members, that's it. From the very start the workers have been the ones creating strategy, making decisions, and driving this organizing. There is nowhere in this organizing Rank and File members are not involved.."

Another member added "Rank and file is key because we are working together to build something worth fighting for." The importance of external support from the organizing community was also highlighted by NSLU: "There are of course former workers who have been present and helping, folks from other unions and other organizing environments who have shared their knowledge and experience, our fantastic pro bono lawyer!"

NSLU has two votes in the month of January at the Arbor Lodge and Cedar Hills locations. You can support NSLU's upcoming efforts through their solidarity fund by going to nslu.org and clicking on the *Donate to NSLU Solidarity Fund* tab.



What is a labour victory? I maintain that it is a twofold thing. Workers must gain economic advantage, but they must also gain revolutionary spirit, in order to achieve a complete victory. For workers to gain a few cents more a day, a few minutes less a day, and go back to work with the same psychology, the same attitude toward society is to achieve a temporary gain and not a lasting victory.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, IWW Organizer



General Membership Meetings

FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5 P.M. PST

Have a submission or inquiry?

Email

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