

Presidential Awards

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It is a proud tradition of volunteer service which makes CSEA SEIU Local 2001 the great organization that it is. We would never have been able to achieve the victories, never have been able to sustain the organization through the difficult period created during the Rowland years, and never continued to expand the strength our organization now enjoys without the dedication of those who volunteer their time and efforts on behalf of all our members.

In keeping with the proud tradition of volunteer service to CSEA SEIU Local 2001, I am pleased to make the following awards:

Dedication Katherine Goulet

I would like to present the first of this year's President's Awards, the Award for Dedication, to a retiree member who has served the organization in many different capacities over the years. After her career in State service and years of being actively involved in CSEA as a convention delegate and officer, this member retired from Blue Hills Hospital in 1985. She has served as an officer in her chapter and most recently as President of her chapter.

She has been a delegate to the Executive Council since the year 2000. This member has conscientiously and consistently performed all the necessary details that her chapter needed to have done in order to serve the best interests of her members.

As many of you who are familiar with meeting rooms at CSEA Headquarters know, there are group photos taken of the CSEA Convention delegates over the years hanging in our meeting rooms. If you look closely at the 1964 delegate photo, you will see this member smiling back at you.

In grateful recognition of her many years of service to the organization, it is with great pleasure that I present this years President's Award for Dedication to Katherine Goulet.

Volunteer Service Sharon Hagens

The next award is the President's Award for Volunteer Service. The first member chosen for this award is, by any measure, one of CSEA SEIU Local 2001 top performers of the year. She has taken her fellow paraprofessionals from being an unorganized entity within our Union structure to an approved Para Council. She has worked to organize the highly effective "Walk a Day in My Para Shoes" where a Congressman worked alongside paraprofessionals to truly experience and to know exactly what a paraprofessionals must do on a daily basis.

A willing spokesperson for our Union on various topics, she has authored several op-ed pieces for local newspapers. This member has taken advantage of union sponsored training for labor women.

She has been elected to represent her new council on the Executive Council.

It is with great pleasure that I present this President's Award for Volunteer Service to Sharon Hagens.

Mark Lucey, Sr.

I would like to present a second Volunteer Service Award to a member from the Corrections Supervisors Council. This member has experienced first hand the process of going from having no collective bargaining rights, through the organizing process and management attempts to thwart the process, through negotiating a first, second, and now into a third contract.

Through the entire process, this member has been a steadfast supporter of the Union. He has traveled to North Carolina where he eloquently spoke to the delegates of the State Employees Association of North Carolina when they were debating whether to affiliate with SEIU or not. He spoke about the improvements in pay and workplace rights he was able to achieve through his efforts to unionize. His speech must have been persuasive because SEANC members voted overwhelmingly to affiliate with SEIU.

This member is the Vice-President of his council and is an alternate to the Executive Council. In his community, he also coaches JV Football. Having survived serving as Vice-President to Cathy Osten's Presidency in the Corrections Supervisors Council is, in and of itself, a basis for an award.

It is with great pleasure that I give this President's Award for Volunteer Service to Mark Lucey.

Concern Karen Pineman

Next I would like to award the President's Award for Concern to a member who has worked tirelessly for the Union for many years. CSEA has fought many important battles over the years. We have had some important wins and we have had some losses. But the important fact is that CSEA has fought and continued to fight for its members. In one of the biggest battles CSEA ever fought, this member was the lead named plaintiff in a case that CSEA appealed to the United States Supreme Court over the "Age 50 Retirement" of State employees.

This member retired from the Dept of Transportation in 1992.

She is a long-time officer in her chapter as well as the Secretary for Council 400. If awards were given out for penmanship, this member would win that award as well. Her impeccable handwriting could very well be mistaken for an exotic computer printer font.

It is with great pleasure that I give this year's President's Award for Concern to Karen Pineman.