



AFGE Local 2823

Newsletter

Issue 3 - October 2024

Chief editor: Cecelia Gray, secretary

Upcoming Events

Happy New Fiscal Year. I hope you are all off to a great start!

Please remember to vote on or before Election Day. Up to 4 hours of administrative time is allowed. Please contact your coach with your request closer to election day.

Membership Meeting

We are still awaiting a response regarding the new platform for our monthly meetings. We are hopeful that a fix will be in place for our next scheduled meeting January 2025. Stay tuned.

Inside This Issue

The local is looking to switch all members to agency deduction. If you signed up for eDues, please reach out to a member of the executive board or a steward to help you with moving towards the preferred method.

If you leave the agency and move on to another federal agency, please be sure to contact the local so that your membership can be moved to your new local. If you are leaving federal service all together, the local must be notified so that we can assist you with stopping your deductions in a timely fashion. The agency does not always complete the exit interview, so please call the office!



Membership drive

National Vice-President for Sixth District visited the local this past month to assist us with our membership drive along with other dignitaries from the district. AFGE is currently running a rebate special where the member who recruits a NEW member receives \$50 and the new member also receives a \$50 rebate. New members do not include transfers.

If you know someone who is not currently a member of our local, please invite them to join.

NOTE: Members must remain active for a year after their anniversary date. Although we are sure you won't want to, but you may request to withdraw your membership within ten days of your anniversary date. This is per our master agreement and not a local rule.

The voice of AFL-CIO

Just a reminder of who our federation is supporting in the upcoming election. By all means, vote for whom you choose because that is your right. Keep in mind that the basic right to vote may be impacted if we do not vote for those who want to protect our Constitution. Please do your own research and go into the polls informed.

Below is a list of those candidates AFL-CIO stands with:

US House of Representative:

Congressional District 14 – Tamie Wilson

Ohio Court of Appeals:

9th District – Steve Elliot

11 District Robert Patton

Ohio House of Representatives:

House District 33 – Veronica Sims

House District 72 – Nathaniel Adams

House District 76 – Emily Adams

State Board of Education:

District 1 – Kristie Reighard

District 5 – Mary Binegar

District 6 – Chris Orban

District 7 – Rhonda Johnson

District 8 – Karen Lloyd

United States Senator

Sherrod Brown

Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates

Kamala Harris

Tim Walz

- Yes to issue 1 – End Gerrymandering and re-establish the proper maps for fair and equitable redistricting
- Please also educate yourselves on H.R.82 Social Security Fairness Act. You can find information on congress.gov.

Holiday party

Get your holiday attire and dancing shoes ready! Local 2823 is excited to host our first holiday party since 2018. The event will be held on December 20, 2024, from 6 pm to midnight at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. Ticket costs will be covered by the local for MEMBERS ONLY. Guests are welcome but must purchase a ticket. More information will be forthcoming in the very near future. We hope to see you all there.

Benefits corner

Ready to buy your dream home or maybe refinance your current home? Well, AFGE members are entitled to a personalized mortgage review to compare home loan options. You can also get up to \$2000 off closing cost. If you opt to use Rocket Mortgage, there are other programs available to you as well which include: low down payment options, cash-out refinances and a “pick your term” option. Log into AFGE.org and click the member benefits tab to learn more.

Local Updates

- The local has been made aware that several VSC employees are not meeting performance standards in the new fiscal year. The agency has every intent to follow disciplinary action to address this issue. If you are not meeting your standard, you are urged to request training as soon as possible. Be sure you are documenting any and all issues that impact your ability to work such as system outages.
- Please be sure that you do not remove any equipment from office workspaces. The director has made it very clear that this continued behavior will result in assigned desks with assigned in office days. If you witness someone removing equipment, please report it immediately. Anonymous reporting is allowed.
- **We are still in dire need of your help!**

The local is operating with the bare minimum. There is a lot of work to be done with not enough volunteers to get it done timely and properly. As the local continues to grow, so should the number of volunteers. Unfortunately, the request for help has continued to go unanswered. We want to ensure that when you come to us for help, that we have the resources in place to offer the help you need. That comes from people extending themselves to work for the local.

We are still in need of volunteers for the audit, budget, election, legislative, and Womens’ and Fair Practices committees. We also need a volunteer or volunteers to manage our social media presence. I know you’re out there and ready to get started. Please contact Cecelia Gray if you are interested in helping the local within the next 15 days. Help us start the new fiscal year off to a great new beginning!

AFGE LOCAL XXX Union Officers

President: James Swartz

VP: Dwayne Walker

Treasurer: Daphne Coleman

Secretary: Cecelia Gray

Chief Steward: Key Pickings

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