

f GUILD UFCW forum



Local 32035 *The Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild*

New contract, new unit officers, same challenges!

The Local is very happy to announce the Guild UFCW's three new officers, elected by acclamation following the close of nominations on February 24, 2005.

Chair: Michelle Clemens

Vice-Chair/Staff: Lori Richards

Secretary: Amri Joyner

No nominations were received for the position of Vice-Chair/Secretaries. It is best for the unit that this position be filled, and we'll place it on our agenda for the next membership meeting. If you have questions about the duties of the position, contact Michelle Clemens, or Lori at the local.

There are plenty of challenges facing the UFCW and its Guild unit employees over the next year. Here's a short update on what's already on the agenda for the Guild:

Joint committee on pension issues: this committee, comprised of Michelle Clemens, Jack Weberski, and Lori Calderone, will meet with the UFCW on March 4 to discuss changes made to the plan at the recent board meeting. Included in those changes was a reduction in employee contribution to the plan from 5% to 4%.

UFCW restructuring: with the announcement in January of the move of several upper level managers to organizing, the possibility of changes to bargaining unit positions seemed likely. The UFCW has not clarified these changes, however. We expect to resolve this matter in the coming days, since plainly the affected managers have already made some changes. It's unclear why an announcement of restructuring should not be accompanied by a meeting with the Guild on the impact and effect—a meeting promptly requested by yet to be scheduled.

Grievances: several grievances are pending, including two disciplinary actions and a unilateral change in working conditions.

Membership Meeting and Pizza Lunch

Thursday March 10, 2005, 12:30-2:30
Executive Board Meeting Room

Join UFCW Guild members as we launch (belatedly) a new year with new officers. A short business meeting will be held, as well.