



UHP Newsline

Call for Delegate Nominations, Constitutional Amendments

We will be holding a call for nominations for 2021 delegate nominations during the month of January for various conferences, meetings and committees to be held during 2021. In a normal year these would include conventions of AFT Connecticut and the Connecticut AFL-CIO, as well as area labor federations.

We moved to a three-year term for elected executive committee officers and there are no officer elections scheduled this year.

This will also be the opportunity to propose any UHP Constitutional amendments.

Look forward to an email at your work email address by Jan. 15.

Please email ldidden@uhp3837.com if you have any questions.

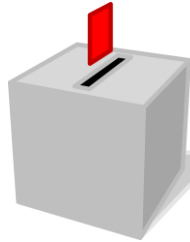
**—In solidarity, Laura Didden,
Recording Secretary**

Remembering Bill Bone

Last month we got word that we lost a member of the UHP family to COVID. **Bill Bone** passed away Nov. 14 at the age of 71. Bill was a nurse on the psych floor from 2000 until his retirement in 2015, and was an active UHP member for most of those years. He also was a Vietnam-era Army veteran and a Red Sox fanatic. To the surprise of no one who knew him, his obituary closed with this: "In lieu of flowers, donations, or gifts, the family is asking everyone to root for the Boston Red Sox during the 2021 season."



Rest easy, old friend. We salute your service to your country, your patients, and our union.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Take, Take, Take

Happy new year, UHP! Unfortunately 2021 is setting up to be just like 2020.

I've gotten pretty good feedback from the Facebook videos. I'm going to try to keep them going at least twice a month until we're able to get back to having our tables again and we can all meet face-to-face. The last two videos talked about the COVID-19 response MOAs (memoranda of agreement) and some contract proposals that have come across the table so far.

The MOAs can be found on our website (uhp3837.com). First they covered the time over the Christmas stretch, Dec. 24-26, then from Dec. 26 thru the end of January. We've been contacted by some members who said "Why not us?", "Why were we excluded?" and "That's not fair."

Our conversations with those members have been straightforward and frank. Nurses in those specific areas are burned out. They are no longer picking up extra time. We can't bring in travel nurses, and existing ones are quitting. We refused to do on-call again, this was the best solution we had. If you are interested in one of those areas, please contact your manager about possibly making a move.

(continued on reverse)



Grab Those Tabs, Help Kids

Remember that community outreach project we told you about a few months ago? There's still time to help out, and it couldn't be easier! Just collect the pull-tabs from your beverage and food cans, put them in a Ziploc bag, and get them to the UHP office (The Exchange, 270 Farmington Avenue, Suite 109, Farmington, CT 06032). We'll get them to the right people for recycling to generate proceeds that will benefit children who are Shriner's hospital patients and their families. Please email me at rwjj48@yahoo.com for more information. Thanks for your help!



—*In Solidarity, Robin Washington Addison, VP Community Outreach*

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Jan. 19, 5:30p, Zoom

Scholarship Committee

Jan. 21, 5p, Webex

Contract Negotiations

Jan. 23, 9a-2p, Zoom

Finance Committee

Jan. 26, 5:30p, UHP Office/Zoom

Steward Committee

Jan. 28. 30, 4p, Webex

Contract Negotiations

Feb. 1, 4p, UHP Office

Nominations/Amendments Due

Feb. 8, 5:30 p, Zoom

Executive Committee

Feb. 11, Time TBD, Zoom

Union Rep Assembly

UHP online calendar: bit.ly/uhpca1

PRESIDENT'S CORNER (continued)

As I mentioned in my Jan. 10 video (bit.ly/21010UHPfbDebrief), management has given 30-day notice it is taking away the \$1.00 hourly float differential for floating from one floor to another. Yes, they have the contractual right to take that action. Did we ever think they would stoop so low as to do that? No, I never thought they would, and in the middle of a pandemic, with the positivity number of 10.7% in Connecticut as of this writing, with dashboard showing 49 staff tested and 23 testing positive in the previous week? Great time to take away from your staff.

We are starting to get a first look at some of the proposals in this year's legislative session. We will follow up on those in the next video once we have some time to get through them, but I can tell you right at press time we were getting word of something that looks pretty bad and that will remind us of why we need to engage our elected officials and advocate for ourselves.

I personally just got my first COVID-19 vaccine the day I wrote this. I would encourage everyone to get the vaccine when it is your turn. We need to lead in this and the only way we get out lives back to some semblance of normalcy is to treat this as important as it really is.

Wear your masks, social distance when able, get vaccinated, and please keep each other safe.

—*In Solidarity, Bill Garrity*

Note on CT Paid Leave Program

You may have heard about the 0.5% payroll deduction for the new Connecticut



Paid Leave program. You also may have noticed that this deduction has not shown up in your pay stub. That's because, as unionized state

employees, we are not participants in this program. For more information, visit ctpaidleave.org.

NEW: UConn Health COVID-19 vaccine program:

• Website: bit.ly/2012uchCOVIDvax, Call center: 860-679-8888

REMINDER: Report symptoms/potential exposures to the COVID-19 call center: 860-679-3199.