



## '23 Business Convention



*The President's Award goes to Dan Hannon and Stacey Fostervold.*



*Jill Alsgaard and Liz Figueroa (VP membership activities) present the Thomas Alsgaard Scholarship to ICU nurse Thomas Curtin.*



*VP Tier I Ray Bennettson and VP Tier II Peter Zarabozo present the Union Rep of the Year Award to Sara Olson Peterson.*

[See more from our convention at bit.ly/23UHPbiz!](http://bit.ly/23UHPbiz)

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### *What's Going On in the Lab?*

We have become aware of a potential workplace safety matter involving lab medicine and have begun an investigation.



We started by reaching out to our members who currently work in the lab. We also will be arranging to talk to those who used to work in the lab, people who have moved to a different work area or retired. Please understand we are early in the fact-finding process and have no conclusions to report; it would be irresponsible to make speculations. Management is aware of this and is doing its own investigation, and we have been in touch with representatives from UConn Health leadership to see if there's a collaborative way to approach this. In the meantime, I'm asking for everyone's patience as we do our due diligence, and that you keep an eye on your home email for additional information in the weeks and months to come.

### **Another Seat at the State Fed Table**

One thing you'll notice in our recap of the AFT Connecticut convention on page 2, our own **Shawn Brown** has been elected to the state federation's No. 3 position, a two-year term as AFT-CT's secretary/ treasurer. Shawn is staying with us as UHP's 1<sup>st</sup> VP, as this is a concurrent position. I am proud of him and all AFT-CT for seeing the potential in this man. We are lucky to have him on our team. Be sure to congratulate him when you see him!

**—In solidarity, Bill Garity**

## AFT-CT Convention: Shawn Brown Elected Secretary/Treasurer



**Left:** UHP 1<sup>st</sup> VP Shawn Brown now has the additional role of AFT-CT secretary/treasurer, serving alongside President Jan Hochadel and VP John Brady. Delegates to this year's convention, representing 25 locals with a collective voting strength of more than 23,000 members, elected Shawn to join the federation's leadership.

**Center:** Our delegation, clockwise from top left, was President Bill Garrity, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Shawn Brown, VP Comms Chris DeFrancesco, Rich Vance, and Quamanic St. Pierre. Bill also was re-elected to another term as divisional VP for state workers.

**Right:** Quamanic shows why she's #UnionYes. See more from the AFT-CT Convention on our Facebook page or at [bit.ly/2305AFTCTbizcon](https://bit.ly/2305AFTCTbizcon). (Photos from AFT-CT)

## Up Your Involvement With the Member Organizing Institute

We are working on our first internal Member Organizing Institute. This is where we work with AFT-CT and AFT national on a membership drive. We are going to need a few volunteers who will be trained on the member-to-member conversation model. We have used this training with other locals and state affiliations over the last few years.

We have members we need to reach. The pandemic has made it difficult to have in-person conversations. The one-on-one conversation is the best way to get new members interested in joining the union and getting involved. We are releasing members for this training.

We are targeting the end of June to make a big push to help strengthen and grow our membership. Once trained, you would be able to help other locals all over the country on their blitzes. If you have any interest in learning more about this exciting opportunity, please reach out. I believe positions will fill up fast.

**—In solidarity, Bill Garrity**



**From left:** Shawn Brown, CT AFL-CIO President Ed Hawthorne, Meg Bartos, Summer Lambert, and Bill Garrity at the Workers Memorial Day observance April 28, 2023, at Bushnell Park

### ON THE SCHEDULE

#### 'Compassion Fatigue' Workshop

May 22, 6p, Zoom

[aftct.org/May\\_23\\_HC\\_Compassion\\_Fatigue\\_Wrkshp](https://aftct.org/May_23_HC_Compassion_Fatigue_Wrkshp)

#### Steward Committee

May 23, 5:30p, UHP office

#### Union Rep Assembly

June 8, 12p, TBD

#### Executive Committee

June 12, 5:30p, UHP office

UHP calendar: [bit.ly/uhpca](https://bit.ly/uhpca)