

## 2016 MARKS CGA's 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Send in your **CGA Nominations** in July and August – before the **September 2<sup>nd</sup> Deadline**



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**Our Spring Membership Drive is going well at the 6-week point.**

To everyone who joined or re-upped. *Thank YOU!*  
Your Card is on the way!

Haven't gotten around to it?

**Send that envelope back or visit [laborguild.com](http://laborguild.com)**

**YOU are the Cornerstone of All that We do.**

### THANKS & BLESSINGS

To all who paid their 2016 DUES!

**Forgot? PLEASE SEND THEM IN!**

**We still have over a half year to go!**

### SAVE the DATE!

Our 2016 **Cushing-Gavin Awards** Dinner is again being held at the **Boston Park Plaza Hotel** **Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**URGENT: 2016 CGA Nominations close at 4 pm on Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>,** instead of our typical late September date. So please submit your CGA Nominations during the summer. Who do you think should be honored this year? It all starts with YOU. **Fill out the enclosed CGA Nomination form and we've even provided a mail back envelope.**

**September 14th will be our 2016 CGA Selection Date** At our CGA Selection Gathering, ALL participating former CGA winners will review and elect this year's CGA Awardees. This means we'll know who our 2016 Awardees are a good month earlier than usual.

**For those unfamiliar with our CGA tradition,** the Dinner has become the annual signature event for every tribe and sector within the Massachusetts Labor-Management Community. Founded in 1967 by our dear late Chaplain **Fr. Mort Gavin, S.J.**, we have honored our outstanding and deserving recipients for 49 years in four categories: Labor, Management, Attorneys and Auxiliary.

While a heartfelt recognition of our wonderful people and organizations, CGA has always reflected the Labor Guild's intense commitment to actively fostering positive, productive labor relations in our region's workplaces and advancing economic justice.

In light of CGA's 50th Anniversary, all our plans and preparations for our 2016 CGA Dinner are much earlier this year. We started in April vs. our typical August kick-off. We're planning for our 50th to be a fantastic celebration. *Hope you join us!*

## GRADUATION FOR OUR MARVELOUS 2016 SPRING TERM

Our May 9th Graduation was a warm and terrific wrap-up of the Guild School's 127th Term. Our Keynote Speaker (and Guild alum) was **Joe Kirylo**, President, USW (Steelworkers at National Grid) Local #12003, whose address was inspiring, perceptive and wise. Our Valedictorian **Dan Butterfield**, UWUA Local #369 (Utility Workers at Eversource) is a longtime Guild student. Dan shared how what he'd learned in specific Guild classes led to

improved health and safety conditions in his workplace. We are grateful and indebted to our amazing Guild faculty: George Embleton, Paul F. McCarthy, David Kowalski, Attorney Ken Grace, Lisa Field, Elissa Cadillac, Allyson Every, Edward Collins (IBEW Int'l Rep, 2nd District), Rick Reilly, and our newest faculty member, **Carol Gustavson**, Executive Director, Lay Benefits, Archdiocese of Boston.



Spring graduation: Faculty **Dave Kowalski** and **Paul McCarthy** (standing 2nd and 3rd from left) congratulating students from their 18-hour Collective Bargaining Negotiation Workshop.

## TAKING THE CONVERSATION DEEPER

### LABOR BREAKFAST: PUTTING THE BRAKES ON PUBLIC EDUCATION PRIVATIZATION



WHAT A TERRIFIC GATHERING! This June 22nd Labor Forum Breakfast had one aim - updating 75 labor and community activists about the stakes and potential destructive impact of the "Lifting the Cap" on the Charter Schools Ballot initiative on Nov 8th.

A savvy, engaged audience from all across the labor movement, community action and faith groups heard how 62 charters in MA are currently diverting a staggering \$413 Million dollars from regular Public School Systems. Our thanks for the powerful, concise presentations and solid data by **Tom Gosnell**, President, AFTMA; **Dorine Levasseur, Nick Puleo and Ron Suga**, all of MTA; and **Jessica Tang**, Boston Teachers Union (BTU and AFTMA). The Guild's **Allyson Every** led the Q & A discussion.

MA AFL-CIO President **Steve Tolman** and **Erik Balsbaugh** of the Save our Schools campaign, detailed the community and political action efforts that are in place to educate union families and all citizens about the upcoming initiative. They strongly urged audience members to take action. If passed, this ballot initiative could not only hurt public schools, almost 1 million pre-K to 12th grade public school students; cities and towns; but also 150,000 Unionized Workers in dozens of job categories from educators to bus drivers to custodians. These same working people are **why Massachusetts' Public School System is ranked #1 in the US, and has been since 2008**. This Labor Guild Forum was co-sponsored by MA AFL-CIO, MTA (Mass Teachers Assn) and American Federal of Teachers MA (AFT-MA).

Special Thanks to Steve Tolman and his excellent team; to our superb presenters who brought such insight and experience to the table; to Erik Balsbaugh and his SOS team, and finally, to our amazing hosts **Harry Brett** and **Plumbers Local #12**.

## IN MEMORIAM

*We celebrate the lives and accomplishments of these fine men and greatly-missed Guilders. It was an honor to have them among us.*

**Allan Drachman, Esq. (CGA '87)** Of Sarasota FL. A pioneer in the management-side public sector labor relations field. Negotiated the City of Boston's first collective bargaining agreements as their first labor counsel from 1966-76. Moving into private practice, he represented many of New England's largest public employers over 35 years, serving as labor counsel for Vermont, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Retiring from his law practice at Deutsch, Williams in 2001, he became an independent labor arbitrator interrupted by his 2003-2006 appointment as Chairman of the MA Department of Labor Relations. A decades-long Guilder, Allan is survived by his dear wife, Judith (Maltz), his children Neil and Amy; brother, Edward, and two adored grandsons, Ari and Joel.

**James R. Green, Ph.D.** Of Somerville. Died June 23rd, 2016 of complications of leukemia. Author, historian, scholar, labor activist. A UMass/Boston professor (ret), Jim developed and nurtured their Labor Studies program and Labor Resources Center; and he was a longtime faculty member of the Harvard Trade Union Program. The Guild is so grateful that Jim taught, counseled and inspired so many of our School of Labor-Management Relations students. Survived by his beloved wife, Ms. Janet Grogan, children Nicholas and Amanda, and his dear mother, Mary Kaye Green, siblings, his extended family and a sea of former students and colleagues. A gathering to celebrate the breadth, depth and impact of his work will be planned for a future time.

**George G. Kuers** Of Dorchester. Member of IBEW #103 and the Alliance of MBTA Unions Board of Directors. Survived by his beloved wife Janet (Mahoney) Kuers, his son Michael (Kathleen) and devoted grandfather of Erica, T.J. and Alex.

**Joseph W. Nigro, Jr. (CGA '92)** Of Everett. IBEW 103's former President, Business Agent and a master electrician for 56 years. A visionary and innovative labor leader, he was the Boston Building Trades Council's General Agent for 18 years, where he championed the building trades and pioneered the use of major Project Labor Agreements (PLAs). Joe was a cherished Guilder serving both on our Board and our School faculty, and attended the Harvard Trade Union Program. Lovingly survived by his wife of 51 years, Ann (Connolly) Nigro, his children and grandchildren, and family.



This very moving June 13th **Tufts Interfaith Prayer Service for Unity and Community Healing** at St. Clement's Church, Medford was led by **Fr. James Flavin**, Episcopal Vicar, Central Region Archdiocese of Boston. This gathering of the Tufts community, students and employees including custodians, security officers and tradespeople represented by SEIU 32 BJ, District 615 included local officials, a 32BJ translator, university chaplains, and interfaith community members from The Labor Guild, MA Interfaith Worker Justice and the Jewish Labor Committee.