



## 2023 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

by Fr. Marc

The new year arrived with our Annual Meeting, actually held in person at the Braintree Pastoral Center. A wonderful gathering of familiar faces, as well as the new, some having been seen mainly over Zoom. While anticipating our customary February “thanksgiving” for the many Valentine’s Day membership renewals, Mary, Boyle Fellow **Bruce Tran**, and President **Lisa Field** participated in an informational picketing at Brigham and Women’s

Hospital. Then the Guild was off to Springfield for March’s Building Trades Convention at the MGM Grand. Office Manager **Andrew Staiti** and Fr. Marc met with our friends at Rockdale Trust—**Stacy Varao** and **Stacey Coyne**—as well as **Jeannie Mickel** of Manzi Associates and **Brian Norton** of the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust.

President **Katie Murphy** and the Massachusetts Nurses Association held a compelling training in Norwood. With important information for members new to organizing, MNA believes in reality-shock methodology as far too much of our health care appears to be leaning toward the realm of financial investment. A strong spirit of informed and committed solidarity at this gathering!

The first in-person New England Jewish Labor Committee Labor Seder in several years was a joyful

gathering hosted by Temple Israel. General President **Ed Kelly** of the IAFF, AFL-CIO, accepted his recognition with the warning that their membership suffers greatly from occupational-based cancers in the form of flame-retardants in their work gear. What is purported to protect their members turns out to be an oncology threat.

Bruce and Fr. Marc attended the UMass-Boston Labor Resource Center conference to begin in April. Massachusetts AFL-CIO President **Steve Tolman** proclaimed once again his call to action over the imminent return of the Silicon Valley Uber/Lyft crowd who are determined to remove worker-protection legislation nationally. To support this claim, **Jennifer Sherer** of the Economic Policy Institute presented their report, Flexible Work Without Exploitation ([www.epi.org/263449](http://www.epi.org/263449)).

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## LABOR SCHOOL AND WORKSHOP UPDATES

by Bruce Tran

This Spring, the Guild held six classes over two semesters from late April through late May.

Burning Issues - Taught by Labor Guild President, **Lisa Field**, addressed the issues facing the twenty-first century’s workforce and management. Students examined a critical issue impacting workers and the

workplace each week. Guest experts shared insights and strategies surrounding current issues.

Drafting Contract Language to Avoid Grievances - Arbitrator **Michael Loconto** led his class through a hands-on approach to navigating the legal process. This approach results in the parties involved leaving the negotiating table satisfied with few uncertainties.

Collective Bargaining - This popular course, taught by **Paul McCarthy**, helped

students understand the importance of collective bargaining, how to utilize it, and how to leverage it effectively in the workplace.

Building Coalition 101 - **Elissa Cadillac** taught how to unite individuals, groups, or organizations with shared interests or goals to work collaboratively toward a common objective. Whether you aim to address a social issue, advocate for policy change, or pursue a business opportunity, this class offered helpful advice and shared best practices.

Basic Steward Training - **Tom Breslin** offered a course to train shop stewards, whose responsibilities include being a representative-elected or appointed- by the trade union members to protect their rights and interests within a specific workplace or industry. The role of a shop steward can vary depending on the organization and industry. Still, their primary responsibility is to serve as a liaison between the workers and the management.

*Continued on page 3.*

## IN MEMORY

We all know of a friend or loved one lost this year. It is our hope that all the prayers that have been said reach the hearts of those in grief and that memories which now might be painful to recall, will soon bring you joy.

**Ken Grace**

**Joe Faherty**

**Edward T. Fitzpatrick**

**Brian Flynn**

**Carmella Tosi**

**George W. & Irene B. Ryan**

**James W. Lee**

**Thomas R. Donahue,  
Past President AFL-CIO**

**Bradley N. Castello**

**Fr. Frank McDonnell**

**Thomas Birmingham**

**Nelson Ramsay**

**Carmine (Jerry) & Amy D'Olimpio**

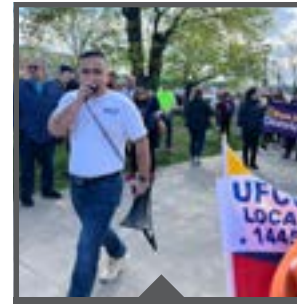
**Patricia "Patty" Donovan**

## IN HONOR OF

**Chaplain Karl C. Bissinger**



Workers' Memorial Day: MassCOSH displayed framed pictures of the 51 total Massachusetts workers that died on the job in 2022.



May Day Celebrations: UFCW 1445 Member leads a procession, using a bullhorn.



May Day Celebrations: Members of IBEW Local #103 in a procession in East Boston.

Photos courtesy of former Boyle Fellow **Henry DeGroot**, Organizer Director for UFCW Local 1445

Photo courtesy of Boyle Fellow **Bruce Tran**

### Executive Direct Update Cont.

The Annual Workers' Memorial Day yielded a brilliantly breezy early-Spring day on Boston Common for our somber duty of remembering those of the community whom we lost in 2022. Sadly, the MassCOSH-AFL-CIO Dying for Work report totals 51 workers who died due to directly-caused injuries, with untold occupational illnesses. Join us in welcoming new MassCOSH Chief Operating Officer **Melba Juez-Perrone!** For the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker / MayDay, MassCOSH, and La Collaborative sponsored an energetic gathering in East Boston and Chelsea, with Boyle Fellow Alumni **Henry DeGroot** and **Jack Fell** on hand for UFCW 1445.

Soon it was time to answer Labor School alum and AFT Organizer

**Gina O'Toole's** invitation to the Merrimack Valley Central Labor Council's Legislative Breakfast, with State Auditor **Diana DiZoglio** and AFT President **Beth Kontos** among the speakers. Our thanks to MVCLC President **Paul Georges** and **Tom Raiche**.

Please remember that your continuing organizational or personal membership with the Labor Guild is the best way to ensure the future of our Labor School classes!



May Day in Chelsea means community!

### Guild School Update Cont.

Labor Arbitration I - Arbitration is often employed when collective bargaining or negotiation fails to reach a satisfactory resolution. It provides a means to settle conflicts outside the courtroom, offering a more efficient and cost-effective alternative to litigation. **Sheila Mayberry** and **Elizabeth Neumeier** led the class through the process of labor arbitration step by step to facilitate the resolution of labor disputes

between employers and employees or labor unions.

Special Workshop Series with Patti Legault-Frank - As she has in years past, Patti was generous enough with her time and talents to provide special workshops for the Guild. These workshops included Parliamentary Procedures, Reviewing Your Bylaws, and a special one-night workshop covering the basics of running a union election. Patti made it easier to digest the fundamentals

in her workshops, starting from the basics and going deeper into more detail as the classes went on.

Reflections - Six months flew by fast. As the Labor Guild Boyle Fellow, I have been blessed with meeting new people as well as getting reacquainted with old friends in the labor movement. From my first event at the Massachusetts Nurses Association's informational picket back in early February, the enlightening event of the

Labor conference held by my alma mater UMASS Boston in March, and the MASSCOSH event that was overshadowed by the South Korean government state visit in late April, I've met many people. But it is not just in person that I meet these new people and learn about them, their stories, and why they are interested in the labor movement or policies. I've also met plenty of people in our online classrooms, which I host on behalf of the Labor Guild instructors.

## MEMBERSHIP

by Andrew Staiti

Back in February, we received a nice note from former Guild School instructor and longtime dues-paying member, **Ed Collins**. Ed shared with us how much the Guild has impacted him and the meaningful role it has played in his life. He said this about his having taught at the Guild and getting more involved as a member over the years: "Not only did I get significant personal satisfaction from doing it,

but also, as is so often the case with labor education, I learned as much from the students as I was able to impart to them."

Please consider remembering, renewing, or beginning an annual contribution to the Labor Guild, in commemoration of our founding members and so many advocates for local workers. Our pro-bono world-class faculty like Ed and so many others have taught countless students since 1952. May our future work recall their dedication and commitment.

## ORAL HISTORY

by Fr. Marc

Since 1999, The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers has been working on a video history project of labor and employment law in the United States. Spearheaded by Founding Fellow Steven E. Tallent, the premise of the project is to have a digital repository of oral histories given by individuals intimately involved with some of the most significant employment law topics and/or events in our nation's history.

Labor Guild Members John Higgins- of the Catholic

University of America Law School Faculty following his 1964-2010 NLRB career (and son of the 1980 Cushing-Gavin Boyle Award recipient by the same name)- and Arbitrator Jim Cooper are coordinating this project for the Guild. The brief, informative interviews will be available on our Labor Guild website (Thanks to all who supported the rebuilding!) once posted on the CLEL website.

For a sample interview, go to <https://theclel.org/video-history-project/> and see John's contribution on their first page, adjacent the late Supreme Court Jurist Ruth Bader Ginsberg.

## FALL SCHOOL UPDATE

So far, we have two confirmed classes for the Fall 2023 term!

**TUESDAYS - 6:00-8:00 PM - SEP 12<sup>TH</sup>-OCT 10<sup>TH</sup> - ZOOM**  
Massachusetts Public Sector Law  
Taught by **Howard Lennox**

**WEDNESDAYS - 6:00-8:00 PM - SEP 13<sup>TH</sup>-OCT 11<sup>TH</sup> - ZOOM**  
Conflict Resolution  
Taught by **Paul McCarthy**

Stay tuned for more details forthcoming about other classes



## The Labor Guild 2023 ANNUAL DUES

First Name / Last Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone

Organization

Org. Position

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Basic \$35       Sponsor \$100  
 Retiree \$20       Benefactor \$150  
 Any amount that's right for you \$\_\_\_\_\_

### ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Basic \$500  
 Large Organization \$1,000  
 Join **The Fr. Edward F. Boyle SJ Leadership Legacy** making a 5-Year Organizational Pledge in the annual amount of \_\_\_\_\_

### DONATIONS

- \$25       \$50       \$100       \$500  
 In Honor or \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Any amount that's right for you \$\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:**  
The Labor Guild, 66 Brooks Drive,  
Braintree, MA 02184

or join/renew online at  
[laborguild.com/join-donate](http://laborguild.com/join-donate)



## WELCOME, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



**WENDALL GARDNER**  
*President, LiUNA Local 609*

Wendall Walter Gardner is a proud 15-year member of the Laborers' International Union of North America based out of Framingham, MA. His journey with the Labor Guild began when he was still a Labor Steward in the field and an executive board member of his local union 609. He took multiple classes over the years to sharpen his skills as a labor leader, which assisted him in ascending from an executive board member to President of his local, Field Representative/Business Agent. His career growth was simultaneous with the time spent taking courses at the Labor Guild. After completing over eight terms of courses, he graduated as the valedictorian of his Labor Guild class in 2018. After, Wendall went on to teach his own Construction Labor Steward's course. As a new board member, Wendall looks forward to contributing a fresh perspective and inspiring future Union leaders in our classrooms.



**KATHARINE MULLEN**  
*Track Person at MBTA and Barn Captain, Carmen Local 589*

Katharine works in the Maintenance of Way department at the MBTA. She began her career in transportation in 2010 as a part-time Bus Operator and has been a union representative for Local 589, Boston Carmens Union, since 2017. She is a delegate to the Greater Boston Council and was a member of the Futures Committee. Katharine attended the Labor Guild school, was a member of the Youth Caucus, and was valedictorian of her Guild School class. She most appreciates the friendships she has made through her involvement in the labor movement.



**RICH CABRAL**  
*Representative/Organizer, IUPAT DC #35*

With over 30 years in Commercial and Industrial Painting and 20+ years with DC 35 IUPAT, Rich has served as an Organizer for DC 35 for a little over two years and recently became a Business Representative. He has been fighting the good fight for workers everywhere and is proud to be a new member of the Labor Guild Board.



**BILLY VIETZE**  
*Steward, Ironworkers Local 7*

Billy is a proud member of Ironworkers Local 7, who has served as a steward on many projects. He has worked tirelessly to protect workers' rights and ensure they receive the fair wages and benefits they deserve. As a steward, Billy has been responsible for ensuring that workers are safe on the job and that their voices are heard when it comes to concerns in the field. In addition to his work as a union steward, Billy serves as a board member at Mass Bay Credit Union. Billy is also a trustee of the Building Trades Recovery Fund and a delegate to the Massachusetts Building Trades Recovery Council. In these roles, he has worked to support workers who have been impacted by addiction or mental health issues.



**BRIAN HART**  
*Journeyman Plumber, Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 12*

Brian Hart is a Plumbers & Gasfitters UA Local 12 Boston member. He has over twenty years of experience as a journeyman, plumber, and welder. In addition, he also serves as Vice President, a UA delegate, and steward for his local. His prior service with Local 12 was being a member of the Building Committee, Bylaws Committee, and Examining Board. Brian became involved with the Labor Guild due to his commitment to the education and training of all employees. He is passionate about workers' rights and the labor movement.

## UPCOMING LABOR EVENTS!

FALL  
TBD

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP SERIES: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES, UNION BY-LAWS, & UNION ELECTIONS, TAUGHT BY PATTI LEGAULT-FRANK**  
**6:00-8:00 PM**

Online via Zoom | Sign up: [laborguild.com/events/category/workshops/](http://laborguild.com/events/category/workshops/)

SEP  
20

**SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND RECOVERY SYMPOSIUM**  
**Wednesday - 9:00 AM-2:00 PM**

Pipefitters Local 537 Training Center

Join the Labor Guild, members of the labor-management community and others to discuss the challenges of substance use disorder and the recovery programs available to workers

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**ANNUAL CUSHING-GAVIN AWARDS DINNER**  
**Friday - 6:00 PM Cocktails | 7:00 PM Dinner**  
IBEW 103 Hall, Dorchester, MA

We are excited to be BACK IN PERSON this year! Join us for a night of food & fellowship celebrating the contributions of representatives from Labor, Labor Management, & Labor Law

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Bruce Tran  
Andrew Staiti