

# OCSEA AROUND THE UNION

## New Pharmacy Benefits Manager began July 1

State employees, including all OCSEA members, should have recently received a welcome kit from CatalystRx, the new Pharmacy Benefits Manager for state employees effective July 1, 2007. Enclosed in the welcome packet are new member identification card(s) and numbers, the preferred drug list, and registration and mail order forms.

Of course, with any vendor changeover there will be formulary adjustments. If members are currently taking a preferred brand medication that is non-preferred on the CatalystRx drug list, they can continue to take that medication at the preferred brand co-pay through Dec. 31, 2007. After that members will be required to pay the non-preferred brand co-pay. Members who are affected by this should discuss their medication options with their physician prior to Dec. 31. Anyone impacted will be contacted directly within the next three months.

Direct all questions to CatalystRx at 866-854-8850. Members can also register online at [www.catalystrx.com](http://www.catalystrx.com). Questions can also be directed to DAS customer service at 800-409-1205. For more information on the changeover, go to [www.ocsea.org/healthcare](http://www.ocsea.org/healthcare).

## Summer Fun Coupons available

Take advantage of the special AFSCME Family Fun Days discounted prices for amusement parks and zoos. The coupons are available online [www.ocsea.org/coupons](http://www.ocsea.org/coupons) for members only to download and print. Printed copies are also available for pick up from the receptionist desk at OCSEA headquarters, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. □

## The next "wave"

*When I go to union meetings and conferences there is a lack of attendance and participation by people under the age of 40, and especially the 20- to 30-year-old age group.*

I fear that the labor movement will be on the verge of a tragic oversight if we fail to reach out and train an entire new generation of activists and leaders, and I share a lot of the concerns Joe Rugola, our new Ohio AFL-CIO president, expresses about the "emerging workforce" (page 9).

I think there is a lot of evidence that suggests that this generation of young adults is one of the most intelligent, savvy and progressive generations America has ever seen, and this presents us with one of the great opportunities to continue the labor movement.

A recent and stunning *New York Times* poll of 17- to 29-year-olds showed:

- Young Americans are more likely than the general public to favor a government-run universal health care system;
- 28 percent describe themselves as liberal, compared to 20 percent of the entire nation;
- 70 percent say the country is on the wrong track, and by a 52-36 margin they believe that Democrats, rather than Republicans, come closer to sharing their moral values;
- 48 percent fear that their generation will be worse off than their parents;

*"We have to create a mechanism for them [young people] to know that they will be heard and have influence on the labor movement."*

- 58 percent say they are paying close attention to the presidential race and more than half - 54 percent - say they intend to vote for a Democrat in 2008; and finally,
- Unlike their parents, a large majority say they believe the nation is prepared to elect a female or black presidential candidate.

I think that's great news. That gives me a lot of hope. But hope, alone, won't get us far.

To that end, we have scheduled an important workshop at our August biennial convention on the "Next Wave" of union members.

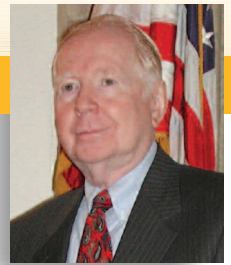
Hopefully, participants in the workshop will discuss how we can reinvent communicating with a younger audience. Young adults are

already turning to alternative outlets like blogs, online social networks like MySpace, and even the Comedy Channel's satirical Daily Show for news and information. Our newsletters, magazines and basic websites are just not enough anymore.

We also have to hire and mentor young people to help with staffing and organizing.

Finally, we have to be willing to give up some power to them. We have to create a mechanism for them to know that they will be heard and have influence on the labor movement.

Of course, there are no magic solutions to bring young people into the union fold. I am sure that convention delegates will have their own ideas about how to do that. But, I do know that if we ignore the Next Wave, we do it at the risk of our own demise. □



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