

NOTICE
FROM
THE
UNION



November 4, 2004

To: All Local Officers, National Staff and National Officers

Dear Colleagues:

While we all feel a tremendous sense of disappointment at the outcome of the elections, we also should feel an enormous sense of pride in how well we performed together in a cause in which we care so deeply.

And, I am so very proud of each of you who gave so much of yourselves for many weeks. Your demonstration of leadership, skill and commitment was recognized throughout the labor movement. I know because I am the recipient of the thanks for your good work — from the AFL-CIO leadership, State Federation officers, Central Labor Council officers, and other union leaders. Your work did us all proud.

Labor 2004, while hugely successful, just was not enough to put us over the top. In a statement yesterday, President Sweeney said: "One thing is clear: America's union members came out in huge numbers and voted overwhelmingly for the candidate who had their issues at heart."

A survey conducted for the AFL-CIO by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc. shows that:

- Union households accounted for 1 out of 4 voters. There were 27 million union household voters who provided John Kerry with a 5.8 million-vote advantage.
- Union members voted 65 percent Kerry to 33 percent Bush. In battleground states, it was 68 percent Kerry to 31 percent Bush.
- We delivered in Ohio. Ohio union members voted for Kerry over Bush, 67 to 31.

It is the morning after. The dust has settled. And, the problems working families faced as the polls opened are still there and are likely to get worse as the administration tries to move quickly on key issues.

We can anticipate an early move to begin to privatize Social Security.

We can expect the Bush position on health care savings accounts and huge deductible insurance policies to move to Congress.

We are certain to see legislation introduced to make the Bush tax cuts permanent.

And, since business leaders in India applauded Bush's election, we can expect to see the flow of U.S. jobs offshore perhaps even expedited.

So, these and so many other issues become our agenda.

A larger GOP majority in both houses makes our work that more challenging. I believe Nancy Pelosi will be reelected Minority Leader in the House and Harry Reid will replace Tom Daschle as Senate Minority Leader. We will work with them on these and other crucial issues. Unfortunately, there are fewer Republican moderates to work with.

President Sweeney has called an Executive Council meeting on November 10 to discuss the future.

So, organized labor met its target in the broadest and most extensive political activity in history. The greater the union density, the more likely the state went blue. As difficult as it is today for workers to organize a union where they work, we need to be there — all over the country, red and blue states, to give them encouragement and assistance to attain this basic human right. We will refuse to accept the lack of helping workers to organize by saying it is too hard or the law is against us. We need to keep working at it and prevail.

In tandem with expanding organizing activity, we need to continue to build on our COPE program. For the first time in history, this year CWA members' contributions will top \$3 million. It enabled us to be players in each of the states. We need to continue to expand participation at \$1.00 a week.

If we take care of these two legs of the CWA Triangle, a major beneficiary will be the third leg — collective bargaining and representation.

Again, I want to thank you for taking part in this great cause. Together, we fulfilled a sacred trust reserved to those who serve others. And, the others we serve include the next generation of young workers as well as a generation yet unborn. What we do will affect their lives.

The struggle continues!

In Solidarity,

Morton Bahr
President

P.S. Please give my thanks to the thousands of members who not only volunteered in their own communities and states, but who also boarded buses and went to neighboring states to help out. It did me proud to show up at a rally and see so many volunteers from other states. Well done!