



PEER TRAINER NEWS

July 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confined Space Entry Train-the-Trainer
September 24-28, 2018
Saratoga Spa State Park

Peer Trainer Refresher
April 23-25, 2019
Location- To Be Determined

Stay Tuned for More Event
Announcements-
Including More Webinars!

HELP SAVE OUR FUNDING

Once again the federal funding source of the Peer Trainer Program is under attack and we need your help. The folks at the NIEHS are doing all they can to protect our funding and let our congressional leaders know how important this program is to our workers, employers and communities. **Similar funding to the EPA has been cut and it's crucial we act to save ours.** Great training numbers only tell a small part of our success. We are collecting success stories from as many Peer Trainers as possible on how this program has made an impact on you, your workplace and/or communities. New programs, equipment, quotes from workers, administrators, training stories, buy-in, promotions-anything positive that has come out of this program at your worksite. **We know you are a humble bunch, but now is not the time to be silent heroes! Please get stories to Janet via e-mail or calling, whatever is easiest by September 1st.**

JANUS V. AFSCME

On June 27, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in favor of Mark Janus, a child support specialist at the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. The ruling overturns a previous Supreme Court decision, now stating that unions cannot collect fees from non-members even though they benefit from union negotiating their salary, healthcare, health and safety etc. Even though the option already existed for Janus to opt out of paying any fees toward political action, he still claimed that his first amendment right were being violated and the court ruled in his favor. Public employees across the United State now have the option of paying or not. If they opt out, they give up non-contractual union benefits, the right to vote or run in a union election and here in New York, they give up representation on non-contractual issues. CSEA successfully fought for changes to be made to New York's Taylor Law. Here is a list of things the union will not represent non-members on:

- During questioning for any reason
- During any disciplinary action
- In Justice Center matters
- In downsizing, outsourcing, layoff proceedings not covered by the contract
- In federal court litigation
- In administrative matters - DHR, EEOC, Expungement hearings, etc.
- In Civil Service Law §71/72/73 proceedings
- Disciplinary contractual grievances
- In licensing hearings

Danny Donohue sums it all up the best, "It's outrageous that the Supreme Court caved to greedy corporate CEOs and the wealthy instead of supporting the rights of hardworking Americans. Let me be clear. This case wasn't about fairness or even free speech. It was just another scheme for the rich to get richer by destroying unions and silencing working people. I can tell you right now it's not going to work. Our members won't be fooled into giving up everything unions have fought so hard for. Workers in New York, the most unionized state in the country, know the value strong unions provide workers, families and communities. Our members will stick with our union because unions help workers get better wages and health benefits, improve workplace safety, and protect their pensions. **CSEA has been around for more than a hundred years and we're not going anywhere. Stay Union. Stay Strong!**"

SCAM ALERTS

It has been brought to our attention that private companies obtained copies of our training programs and are utilizing them without permission or the proper credits to CSEA or the NIEHS. Our programs are copy written with images either we own or have licensed. Only authorized peer trainer sites are allowed to use our programs unless special permission is granted. We are determining legal action and have reason to believe that these companies seek to undermine several peer trainers sites. Please contact us if your employer denies you the opportunity to train and uses an outside contractor or insurance company in your place.

Private foundations- (funded by the same corporations that funded the Janus v. AFSCME case) are attempting to contact union members (from all public employee unions) and urging them to quit their unions. These groups are spending \$10,000 -\$15,000 a day on digital advertising plus more on phone, door knocking, letter and social media campaigns. They are out in full force bullying public employees and spreading misinformation. Watch out and warn others about organizations like My Pay-My Say, Stand Up for Workers and the Freedom Foundation. Do not to friend anyone you don't know on Facebook, even if the request seems legitimate. If you have seen a spike in friend requests, please grab a screenshot of the requester's profile before you delete the request and send to mathew.cantore@cseainc.org so that we and Facebook can track them down. Be on the lookout for sponsored content in your newsfeeds from unknown organizations claiming to give them information about their union membership. Do not reply to texts from anyone you don't know.

**Have news? Need something?
Call or e-mail Janet Womachka
518-257-1287
janet.womachka@cseainc.org**

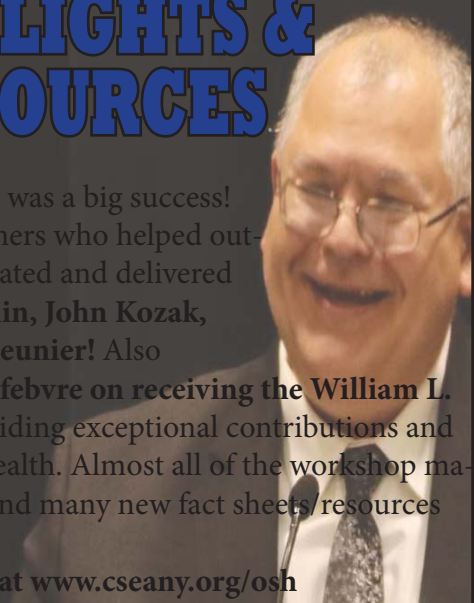
PAPERWORK

It's that time year again! Our grant years ends July 31,2018. **If you have any outstanding paperwork since August 1, 2017, please send it to Janet ASAP!**

OSH CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS & RESOURCES

The 2018 OSH Conference was a big success! Thanks to all the Peer Trainers who helped out- especially to those who created and delivered presentations- **Floyd Armlin, John Kozak, John Lefebvre and Jane Meunier!** Also congratulations to **John Lefebvre on receiving the William L. McGowan Award** for providing exceptional contributions and leadership in Safety and Health. Almost all of the workshop materials are on our website and many new fact sheets/resources were created for the event.

Take a peek at www.cseany.org/osh



CHANGES TO THE NYS SUPPLEMENT TO THE MUTCD

The NYS Supplement to the MUTCD has finally been changed to reflect the correct sign AND sign numbers that are no longer allowed for use. Signs with the just the **word** "Flagger" and "Workers" are no longer allowed for use. The **pictograms** for these signs **are allowed** for use as is "Flagger Ahead" and "Road Work Ahead". "Men Working" signs have long been forbidden. So get those pictogram signs out of hiding. They are now OK and preferred!



FAREWELL DAVE!

Dave Kucera has retired from Otsego County. We will miss you Dave and wish you all the best and a happy retirement! You will always be a peer trainer and a part of this family. Well wishes can be sent to Dave at kuceradavid812@gmail.com