Local 153 Negotiates First Group into OPEIU’s New 401(k) Plan

Local 153 has negotiated with Harvard Maintenance, Inc. (HMI) to be the first group into OPEIU’s new 401(k) Plan, announced Business Representative Dan Ross.

HMI is a successor employer to Perfect Building Maintenance, LLC (PBM), where their cleaning contract expired October 31, 2016 and the contracted company engaged HMI to do the work effective November 1, 2016. Therefore, PBM’s contract with Local 153 became null and void on October 31, 2016.

Upon receiving the news of a successor employer, the union immediately made demands on HMI to negotiate terms and conditions of employment for the 18 maintenance workers in the bargaining unit. After initially facing resistance from HMI, the company eventually conceded and commenced negotiations with Local 153.

The union was able to negotiate 3% wage increases in each year of the three-year agreement, including moving up the first wage increase by two months from 1/1/17 to November 1, 2016. The second and third 3% wage increases will take effect on 1/1/18 and 1/1/19.

The major issue in the negotiations was the union’s demand for continued participation in the Local 153 Pension Fund (Fund) where PBM was scheduled to pay $25.35 per employee per week into the Fund. Since HMI was never a participant in the Fund and has a set term of service with the contracted

**Continued on page 11**
Democrats Had Three Lost Opportunities

Democrats had three lost opportunities to avoid the situation we are faced with today in Washington, DC—2010, 2014 and 2016 elections. In each of these years, the Republicans won because the Democrats didn’t show up to vote. On the other side, Republicans always vote in high percentages of eligible voters in every election, regardless of who is running or the issues presented—but the Democrats pick and choose to their own peril.

In 2010 and 2014, we saw the beginnings of the erosion of Democratic strength in the House and Senate as Democratic voters failed to show up to vote. They were just too busy with everyday life and didn’t care about who was elected. But these elections have had a profound effect on all of us, which didn’t fully materialize until the Democrats lost control of the White House. Now we have all three entities that make legislation and govern our lives in control of one party.

In 2016, Donald Trump received 23% of the eligible vote, Hilary Clinton 25% and 52% voted for independent candidates or didn’t vote at all. Most of the 90 million registered non-voters are Democrats. To make matters worse for the labor movement, 45% of union members voted for Donald Trump, based on one or the other subjective issue. Some union members liked Bernie Sanders better, others disliked Hillary Clinton and others liked Donald Trump’s position on jobs, trade and talking tough.

However, the presidency of the United States is not a one issue job—it’s much broader than that and includes picks for the Supreme Court, war and peace, and relationships with allies around the world. The presidency also includes picking a cabinet member for each department of government, which determines policy and implementation for the next four years, and impacts on the everyday lives of average Americans. These departments and agencies include Secretaries of State, Defense, Homeland Security, Treasury, Education, Transportation, Labor, Health & Human Services and seven other high-level departments. So, it’s not just one issue—it’s everything!

I wish we could have a do-over but it’s too late for that

I think former President Barack Obama said it best when he said that voting for the wrong candidate could mean that “everything goes out the window.” And as we watch one Executive Order after another issued by the new Administration and the Republican legislative proposals, it appears that President Obama’s dire prediction is coming true.

So now, we see that both Democrats and union members are finally waking up as they demonstrate, march and protest against changes in Washington, DC—changes that they either voted for or didn’t vote at all. Now, they have finally seen the light and decided that they don’t like the changes they voted for or let happen. Unfortunately, the time to demonstrate, march and protest was more appropriate up to November 8, when the decision about who would guide this country for the next four years was being decided. Please remember that Hillary Clinton was unarguably the most qualified candidate ever to run for President of the United States. But many of us now realize that we blew that opportunity. I wish we could have a do-over, but it’s too late for that!

The next chance we have to at least slow down the steamroller effect of the current Administration is in 2018, when 33 Senators are up for re-election. The Democrats would need to flip a net of three seats from the Republican column to theirs to give them a 51 seat majority in the Senate, and most importantly, control of the agenda. If successful in 2018 in the Senate, we can think about what to do about the White House in 2020. Voter apathy has also cost the loss of Democratic control of the House of Representatives. So the question is, are we going to replay in 2018 our lack of participation or one issue subjectivity that we did in 2010, 2014 and 2016, which allowed this debacle that we are now in—or are we going to take our right to vote seriously and participate in the decision-making process.

You be the judge. It’s your choice—your quality of life depends on it!
Union Wins More than a Dozen New Contracts in Last Quarter

It has been a very busy last few months at Local 153 with more than a dozen new contracts successfully negotiated. Besides the new agreements at Harvard Maintenance, Inc. and the Evening Journal Association, reported elsewhere in this edition, the union had numerous other contract victories.

Senior Business Representative Seth Goldstein announced several new deals. Local 153 members employed by Passaic County won a four-year agreement that provides a 2% base increase each year, gained union leave days and maintained bonuses for birthdays and attendance.

Goldstein also announced that a new contract was reached at Advantage Care Physicians Brooklyn. It’s a two-year deal that includes a raise for all employees and no givebacks. The minimum wage for medical assistants was increased to $18 an hour. Negotiating Committee members were Atiya Fields, Veronica Littlejohn, Marcella Blair, Ray Armstrong, Khalil Wray, Latisha Williams, Trudy Sayles and Tasha Pegues.

At Manhattan College Local 153 members won a three-year agreement that defeated all giveback demands and won increases of 2.9%, 2% and 2%, Goldstein reported. In addition, all employees of five years or more on the job received an additional increase of $.40 (40 cents) an hour. Goldstein reported the assistance of negotiating committee member Ermis Stravrou, Celeste Crosby, Raymond Sanchez and Nicholas Jimenez in reaching the agreement.

Goldstein announced a new contract at Advantage Care Physicians Staten Island that includes a 1% wage increase retroactive to July 1, 2016, an increase in pension contributions, strong language regarding sub-contracting, and three new holidays. The contract contains no givebacks. The members of the negotiating committee who assisted in reaching the agreement were Judith Morales, Elady Lugol, Daniel Spearman, Kathy Meraglia, Patricia Rassias, Jennifer Moccia and Shakeia Smith.

Local 153 members at ALICO won a three-year deal, Goldstein reported, with wage increases of 3%, 3% and 3% and preservation of low-cost health insurance. Again, there were no givebacks.

Goldstein also announced a new contract at the Whitney Museum. It’s a five-year deal with raises of 3% each year (3%, 3%, 3%, 3% and 3%). Workers will now receive a $60 shoe allowance every year instead of every two years, and the meal allowance was raised from $11 to $15. In an innovative new feature of the contract, employees will be able to receive paid sick leave before it is accrued, in cases of health necessity.

Business Representative Dan Ross had several new contracts to report. He noted that Local 153 members at the University of Bridgeport won a four-year contract retroactive to July 1, 2016 with 2% wage increases each year along with an additional 2% increase for a total of 10%. The third year of the contract will bring about a “me too” provision for administrative employees. The contract also has a provision for uniforms and it will provide increases in vacation time, severance pay and sick leave. Shop Steward Veronica Jones assisted in the bargaining for the new agreement.

Ross also reported that the union won a new contract at Wesleyan University—a three-year agreement retroactive to July 1, 2016 with 2% wage increases each year. The contract provides an upgrade in classifications from grade 12 to grade 13 and an upgrade from grade 9 to grade 10 with an increase of $94 (94 cents) per hour. The contract also has a $1 increase in night differential, pension contributions each year of the contract and additional paid days off. Ross saluted the members of the negotiating committee for their assistance in reaching the agreement: Shop Steward Pete McGurgan, Tim Rogers, Sean Higgins, Kim Krueger, Dean Maroun, Dean Canalia, Mike Berzenski, and Colin Desjardins.

Local 153 members at CBS (Collins Building Service) at NYU also have a new contract, Ross reports. It’s a four-year agreement with increases of 3%, 2.5%, 2.5% and 3% plus a $200 signing bonus. The contract also lowers the requirement for overtime pay to 36 hours from 37.5, and adds bereavement days to a total of five. Shop Steward Jason Garcia assisted in negotiations.

Ross also announced a new contract at American Federation of Musicians (AFM) Local 802. It is a three-year contract with 2.5% increases each year.

Continued on page 4
Local 153 Director of Organizing Nick Galipeau announced several contracts.

Galipeau reported that there is a new three-year agreement at Alicare that provides wage increases of 3%, 3%, and 4% and favorable healthcare reopener language. The Alicare contract also settled a two-year-old healthcare grievance in which management agreed to double its original offer. Galipeau thanked steward Andrea Boyd for her assistance in negotiations.

There is a new contract at Magnacare as well, Galipeau reported. There, Local 153 members will enjoy a three-year agreement that includes wage increases of 2.5%, 2.5%, and 2.5%, with a $1,000 signing bonus. Galipeau cited negotiating committee members Sheila Moorer and Eddie Rodriguez for their valuable assistance in reaching this new contract.

Galipeau also reported a three-year contract extension at the Segal Company. Committee members Phil Holmgren, Rosanne Rosenthal, Liz Ramirez, Kesha Gerald and Gwendolyn Ingram assisted in negotiations. The deal provides increases of 2%, 2.25%, and 2.5%, and preserves the current health care benefit.

Local 153 Assistant Business Manager John Edmonds announced new contracts at CWA Local 1180, CWA Local 1180 Funds and the New York City Central Labor Council (NYCCLC). The Local 1180 contract is for three years and it provides increases of 3% each year. The agreement includes $100 in longevity bonuses for each category and a 10% pension contribution for each year. A separate bargaining unit for CWA Local 1180 Funds also has a new contract. That three-year agreement has wage increases of 3%, 2%, and 2% plus a $500 signing bonus and 10% contributions each year towards the Local 153 Pension Fund. There were improvements in contract language regarding vacations. Shop stewards Francisco Gomez and Shalana Wharton assisted in negotiations, and the contract was ratified overwhelmingly.

At the NYCCLC Local 153 members won a three-year contract with wage increases of 2.5%, 2% and 2% and, in the...
Union Wins More than a Dozen New Contracts in Last Quarter

Continued from previous page

third year, a 1% contribution into the OPEIU 401(k) plan.

Senior Business Representative Myra Hepburn announced new contracts at Emblem Health Marketing and Sheet Metal Workers Local 83. The Emblem Health Marketing contract is a three-year agreement that has no givebacks and provides wage increases of 2%, 2.5% and 2.75%. The agreement at Local 83 is for three years and it provides increases in hourly wages of $.55, $.60 and $.65 (55 cents, 60 cents and 65 cents) and an increase in the mileage allowance.

Members employed at CWA Local 1180 Funds, seen here, have a new contract. Shop stewards Francisco Gomez and Shalana Wharton assisted in negotiations.

New Jersey, LI Shop Stewards Training

Local 153 conducted a shop stewards training on Friday, November 4 at Rutgers University’s Labor Education Center, located in New Brunswick, New Jersey. The training was presented by OPEIU President and Local 153 Secretary-Treasurer Richard Lanigan, as seen in this photo, and it centered on discipline in the workplace. Nearly 30 shop stewards attended this training from both public and private sector shops all across New Jersey. They included Melinda Lampley-Merritt, Brenda Garland Foster, Ruthie McClain, Francis Fleischman III, and Sheresia Mitchell, all from Seton Hall University; Richard Malone, Pamela Priscoe and David Legg, Verona Township; Richard C. Knowles, DTCC; Felicia Dente, Eugene Taylor, Daniel Foehr and Darrell Haught, PSEG; Gail Dew, David Pidgeon and Laurie Edwards, Ocean County of Social Service; Edward Grobelny, Township of East Brunswick; Keith Russell, Theresa Stuckey, Iris Martin, Shaun Greene and Stacey Craddock, Rutgers University; and Sandy Vandy and Lee Rosenthal, Burlington County Board of Social Services. Local 153 Business Manager Michael Goodwin and Business Representative Dan Ross were also in attendance. Stewards training also took place on Long Island, and those in attendance included Lori Letzler, Michael Chavis, and Rosemary Bradshaw, Adelphi University; Carole Soucie and Michelle Yost, LIU C.W. Post campus; and Eddie Rodriguez and Sheila Moorer, Magnacare.
Membership Meetings Matter

As we’ve often noted before, Local 153 general membership meetings are always the best way for members to learn more about their benefits, meet their union’s leaders and have any questions answered. Special guests often add to the important information distributed at these meetings, and there are almost always added highlights—in the last two years there have been raffles, video presentations, and even a fashion show!

At the most recent membership meeting, held during the week the nation observed the birthday of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., the union showed a video of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech, followed by a video of the memorable remarks made by Senator Robert Kennedy the night Dr. King was assassinated.

Local 153 Business Manager Michael Goodwin talked about the benefits available to members, many of which appear in Local 153 News, and talked briefly about the presidential election of two months earlier.

Goodwin then introduced a guest speaker, Anthony Harmon, the President of the New York Chapter of the NAACP. Harmon thanked Local 153 for its decades of support in the fight for equal rights and he reminded those present that the fight for equality is far from over.

Local 153 Secretary-Treasurer and OPEIU International President Lanigan provided an insightful view on the role of unions in today’s political climate.

At the conclusion of the meeting a raffle was held for both those who attended the meeting and for those who work in shops that are more

Continued on next page
The results of the raffle for those who work more than 50 miles from Manhattan are as follows:

Samsung Galaxy Tab 4: Sheila Banks, CWA District 1

Acer Laptop: Annette Pelliccia, Knights of Columbus

Nikon Coolpix S 7000: Dawn Alger, Wesleyan University

The results of the raffle for those who attended the meeting are as follows:

Beats Headphones: Elizabeth Lopez, Citi Field

Fitbit Alta Fitness Wristband: Coleen Moore, Yankee Stadium

Fitbit Charge 2 Fitness Wristband: Alexandra Betenaides, UNITE HERE

Samsung Galaxy Tab 4: Joanne Perrotta, FCT

Acer Laptop: Jennifer Farrell, FCT

Nikon Coolpix S 7000: Claire LaFontant, Crowne Plaza Times Square

As you can see, membership meetings can be not only informative, but also rewarding!

We hope these photos from the most recent membership meeting encourage members to attend the next one, which will be held Tuesday, May 16, at 6:00 p.m. at Gertrude Lane Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street, mezzanine level.
Meet the Local 153 Executive Board

In our last edition we provided members with photos of officers and staff members of Local 153. Here, we provide you with the photos of officers, trustees and members of the Executive Board of our union. We regret that we do not have photos for Trustee Millie Sanchez, Municipal Credit Union; and Executive Board Members Anna Gallo, LIU C.W. Post Campus, and Jean Castrogiovanni, Queens Medical Group.

PRESIDENT
Steve Turkeltaub
Joint Industry Board

VICE PRESIDENT
Gwendolyn Rushing
ALICO

RECORDING-SECRETARY
Wilma Artau-Banda
FRUITCO

TRUSTEES
Patrick Flanagan
Hilton Hotels

William Uprichard
College of Mount St. Vincent

Martha Alvarez
Larose Whitney Museum

Frances Avnet
Hofstra

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Philip Holmgren
Segal Company

Cindy Klumb
Pratt University

Brenda Knight
Seton Hall

Richard C. Knowles
DTCC

Toibert Lapomarel
Hilton Garden Inn

Peter McGurgan
Wesleyan Physical Plant

Judith Morales
Advantage Care Physicians SI

Kathy Neville
Knights Of Columbus

Margaret Noonan
Fordham University

Brenda St. John
HealthNow

Eugene Taylor
PSE&G

Jessica Timo
UFT

Maryellen Bridgwood
Dowling College

Kathleen Cohen
IBEW Local 41 Funds

Herman Davis
NYHTC Funds

Caroline Herrmann
Passaic County

Danette Torres
32 BJ

Anthony Walters
Emblem Health

Robin Williamson
DC 37

Gil Yellinek
Amalgamated Bank
The annual Local 153 luncheon for retirees that was held in December was not only the scene of much good cheer, there was even great holiday joy for the retired members of our Union who weren't able to attend the event! That’s because it was announced at the luncheon that the Pension Fund’s Board of Trustees had approved an additional retirement check for all eligible retirees. As always, the annual holiday luncheon gave Local 153 retirees the chance to greet old friends and former co-workers. Local 153 Business Manager Michael Goodwin, Retirees Association President Charles Ponti, Sr. (who will be 104 on June 1st), President Steve Turkeltaub and President Emeritus Juan Alvarez were among those on hand to greet the retired members of our union who attended. All who were present agreed that it was great fun, as these photos clearly show.
Agreement Reached with Evening Journal Association

A two-year agreement was reached with the Evening Journal Association (EJA) on behalf of inside and outside Advertising Representatives based in Secaucus, New Jersey. The EJA is the publisher of the Jersey Journal.

Negotiations focused on health care coverage and lump-sum payments out of the savings from switching to the company’s national high deductible plan, effective January 1, 2017. The new plan has a $1,500/single and a $3,000/family deductible; however, the union was able to negotiate a Health Savings Account (HSA) providing $750/single and $1,500/family per year, which if not used rolls over into subsequent years. Upon retirement or separation of employment, monies in the HSA account belong to the employee.

In recognition of the new lower cost health care plan, the employer agreed to pay a lump-sum payment in December 2016 in the amount of $1,200 to each employee in the bargaining unit.

Senior Business Representative Patricia Hoffman and Business Manager Michael Goodwin participated in the bargaining and were assisted by shops stewards Mayda Arrue and Irene Post.

The contract expires December 31, 2018.

Local 153 Negotiates HMI into OPEIU’s 401(k) Plan

Continued from page 1

bargaining unit employees who have five or more years of service in the Local 153 Pension Fund are vested for a benefit payable at age 65. And, to make the deal a little sweeter, the contributions to OPEIU’s 401(k) Plan will increase by 12% the first year and 10% in the second and third years of the agreement.

Pedro Mandez, Mohammed Querishi and Tom Nasso assisted in negotiations.

The contract expires on December 31, 2019.

Myra Hepburn Wins John Kelly Scholarship

Congratulations to Local 153 Senior Business Representative Myra Hepburn on winning a 2016 John Kelly Labor Studies Scholarship. This grant program awards ten scholarships a year to OPEIU members who are studying labor relations, industrial relations, social sciences or a related field. From left to right are Business Manager Michael Goodwin, Hepburn, President Steve Turkeltaub and Secretary-Treasurer and OPEIU International President Richard Lanigan. To learn how you can apply for this scholarship and the other scholarships available through OPEIU and Local 153 visit the union’s website at opeiu-tristate.org and check out the Benefits Booklet that lists all benefits and services available to members and their families. Applications for the 2017 John Kelly and 2017 Howard Coughlin Scholarships appear on pages 12 and 13 of this edition of Local 153 News.
APPLICATION FORM
APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2017

Name of Applicant: ____________________________________________________________

Home Address: ________________________________________________________________

e-mail __________________________ Date of Birth: __________________ Sex: M F

SS#/SI# or Student ID __________________________ Telephone:_________________________

Applicant Employed By: _______________________________________________________

OPEIU Local Union Number: __________________________________________________

Applicant must be a member (not a dependent) of an OPEIU Local Union.

Name of School you are currently attending: _______________________________________

What College, University, Technical, or Vocational School do you plan to attend?

First Choice: __________________________________________________________________

Second Choice: __________________________________________________________________

Third Choice: __________________________________________________________________

Have you been accepted by a College, University, Technical, or Vocational School, as of this date? Yes________ No________

If you answered yes, at what College, University, Technical, or Vocational School were you accepted? __________________________

The applicant must be either an undergraduate or graduate in one of the following areas of study. Please mark the area of study.

______Labor Studies; _______Industrial Relations; _______Union Leadership and Administration

______Other Related Field (describe) ____________; _______Programs sponsored by the National Labor College

If selected for this scholarship, I fully agree to adhere to the rules that have been established by the Scholarship Committee of the OPEIU John Kelly Labor Studies Scholarship Fund.

Signature of Applicant: __________________________ Date _________________________

Application forms must be endorsed by the Local Union Business Manager or Secretary-Treasurer attesting that a member or associate member is in good standing on the date of award. Such endorsement must be obtained before the application is submitted.

* Statement of Intent: If selected for this scholarship, it is my intent to remain within the OPEIU for a period of at least two (2) years.

Signature of Applicant: __________________________

Signature of Local Union Business Manager or Secretary-Treasurer: __________________________ Date _________________________

(Print Name and Title of Signing Officer) __________________________ Local Union Number: __________________

SEND APPLICATION TO: John Kelly Labor Studies Scholarship Fund
Office & Professional Employees International Union, Local 153
265 West 14th Street — 6th Floor, New York, NY 10011
Telephone: 212.741.8282
Office and Professional Employees International Union

Howard Coughlin Memorial Scholarship Fund

APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2017

PLEASE NOTE: MUST BE FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME, CANNOT APPLY FOR BOTH

I Am Applying For A Full-Time Scholarship ________  I Am Applying For A Part-Time Scholarship ________

Name of Applicant: ____________________________________________________________________________

Last      First      Middle

Home Address: _______________________________________________________________________________

Street   City    State    Zip Code

e-mail __________________________________ Date of Birth: _______________ Sex: M __________ F __________

SS#/SI# ______________________ or Student ID No. _______________________ Telephone: __________________

Member/Associate Member Name: __________________________________________________________________

Last      First      Middle

Members Signature: ____________________________________________________________________________

Home Address: _______________________________________________________________________________

Street   City    State    Zip Code

Member/Associate Member Employed By: __________________________________________________________________ OPEIU Local Union Number: __________________

Relationship to Member/Associate Member:       Son________   Daughter_________  Other____________________

Name of School you are currently attending: __________________________________________________________

Graduation Date: __________________

What College, University, Technical, or Vocational School do you plan to attend?

First Choice: __________________________________ Location _____________________________________________

Second Choice: __________________________________ Location ___________________________________________

Third Choice: __________________________________ Location ____________________________________________

Have you been accepted by a College, University, Technical, or Vocational School, as of this date?   Yes_________ No___________

If you answered yes, at what College, University, Technical, or Vocational School were you accepted? __________________________

If selected for this scholarship, I fully agree to adhere to the rules that have been established by the Scholarship Committee of the OPEIU Howard Coughlin Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Signature of Applicant: _________________________________________________________________________ Date __________________

Application forms must be endorsed by the Local Union Business Manager or Secretary-Treasurer attesting that a member, a parent or guardian of an applicant, or an associate member is in good standing on the date of award. Such endorsement must be obtained before the application is submitted.

Signature of Local Union Business Manager or Secretary-Treasurer: __________________________ Date ______________

(Print Name and Title of Signing Officer) __________________________________________________________________ Local Union Number: __________________

SEND APPLICATION TO: Howard Coughlin Memorial Scholarship Fund

Office & Professional Employees International Union, Local 153
265 West 14th Street — 6th Floor, New York, NY 10011
Telephone: 212.741.8282
Wow! The Local 153 mailbag had some month, with numerous eligible retirees sending letters expressing appreciation to the union and the Pension Fund Board of Trustees for the extra pension check they received in December. And while the union appreciates all the good wishes, we hope our retirees realize that the reason for the extra pension check is because THEY are appreciated!

Here’s what some of our retirees had to say:

**Rebecca Prant wrote**: The additional pension check certainly arrived at a time when it helped with spreading the joy of the holidays. Just wanted to express my appreciation!

**Rosa Walton had similar words of appreciation**: I’d like to thank you for the kindness at holiday season. The extra check means so much to me and my family.

**Ellen Andrasick wrote**: What a nice surprise! Thanks and may the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours and may the coming year be filled with happiness.

**Barbara Waldermaier had nice things to say, too**: Thanking you for the generous gift! It goes a long way in my budget and makes this a happy holiday season.

**Michelle MacDonald wrote**: Thank you for the additional retirement check. You have no idea what a blessing it is at this time of the year.

**Betty Brennan warmed all our hearts with these kind words**: I can’t really express how much you have helped me through these retired years. All I can say is God bless you for all the good things you do.

**Marjorie Porter penned these words**: Thank you so much for your continued help these many years. I am so grateful.

**Denise O’Connell wrote**: Thank you once again for the additional retirement check. It really does come in handy!

**Ramona Marin brought us joy, saying**: I was a little down and now you have lifted my spirit. You cannot imagine the happiness I encountered when I received this “gift” from you!

Here is a sampling of the thank you cards and letters the union and the Pension Fund Board of Trustees received as a result of the extra pension check eligible retirees received in December.
Local 153 Membership Benefits

► DEATH BENEFIT
$5,000 Death Benefit + Additional $2,000 OPEIU Total $7,000.
$5,000 AD&D Benefit + Additional $2,000 OPEIU Total $7,000. (Death by accident total $14,000).

Eligibility – Membership in good standing with payment of dues for 12 months during the last 14-month period prior to death, exclusive of the month of death.

For more information, please call 212-741-8251

► SUPPLEMENTAL DISABILITY BENEFITS
Supplementary Disability – Flat once-a-year Benefit will be paid to a member in good standing with 12 months membership as follows:
- 6-12 Weeks – Maximum of $300
- 13-18 Weeks – Maximum of $600
- 19-24 Weeks – Maximum of $900
- 25 Weeks or more – Maximum of $1,200

For more information, please call 212-741-8251

► TOWING BENEFIT
Two towing/service calls per year for members and family living in the same household, valued at up to $100 each. You will need a “producer code” for “plan letter C”.

For information, call 212-741-8270

For towing and service call information, call 800-617-2677

► IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION
A fully-managed identity theft restoration and monitoring program provided to members of Local 153 in good standing.

To register, call 855-990-0994 or visit local153opeiu.com

► METRODENT
35% Discount on participating dentists. Benefit to all current members in good standing.

Visit asonet.com. Select member’s plan Local 153 Discount Dental Plan to view participating dentists and rates.

Call 212-741-8250/8251

► GENERAL VISION SERVICES “Vision Pass”
Eyeglasses discount packages for you and your family.

Call the union for a “vision pass” 212-741-8250/8251

► ENTERTAINMENT
Discount movie tickets ($8.50/Regal – $10.25/AMC) and theme park discount tickets such as Great Adventure.

Call 212-741-8261

► DRIVER SAFETY CLASS
Accident prevention/defensive driving workshop at discount rate for drivers with NY & NJ state licenses.

Call Victoria at 212-675-3210

Members in good standing can take an online course at a low cost of $10 with up to 30 days to complete the course. To register, visit Local 153 website www.opeiu153.org.

► AFL-CIO UNION PLUS BENEFITS
Discounts for services such as dental, vision, health clubs, legal services, pet and car insurance, car rentals, mortgages, etc.

Visit unionplus.org

► WORKING ADVANTAGE
Discounts for theater and events, entertainment, sporting events, shopping, travel, etc.

Visit workingadvantage.com
Create an account using ID#: 924400144

► SCHOLARSHIPS
Howard Coughlin, John Kelly Labor Studies, Union Privilege and Lavina Michl Wright with grants of up to $6,500.

Visit opeiu153.org

► DEFENSE FUND
Where an authorized strike is called, members will receive $290 per week.

► UNION SUPPORT SERVICES
For members and their families who suffer with substance abuse, depression or stress.

Call 212-741-8251

► PUBLICATIONS
Steward Update, Local 153 News and OPEIU’s White Collar.

► RETIREE ASSOCIATION
National Council of Senior Citizens Active on Social & Political Issues.

Call 212-741-8262

► EDUCATION FOR UPGRADING SKILLS

Call Victoria at 212-675-3210

Visit opeiu153.org
Local 153 membership meetings aren't the only union occasions where raffle prizes are awarded. The Federation of Catholic Teachers (FCT) recently raffled off some nifty prizes at a meeting for its delegates. The prize winners are seen here, along with some of the other delegates and some retirees. From left to right, are: Gertrude Zagarella, St. Paul, Manhattan; Cheryln Bologna, St. Lucy, Bronx; Cathy Henn, St. Anthony, Nanuet; Gloria McGowan, Retiree, St. Lucy, Bronx; Jeannine Garcia, St. Mary, Bronx; Erika Miklus, Retiree, Blessed Sacrament/St. Gabriel HS, New Rochelle; Marilyn Flood, Retiree, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Middletown; Rachelle Duncan, St. Ann, Manhattan; Mary Haugen, Notre Dame Academy, Staten Island; and Christine Ambrosino, St. James, Yorktown Heights.