



"The labor movement is the bridge to all other movements. If there's not rights at the workplace, if there's not a freedom to collectively bargain in this country, then we can't go forward."
– Jimmy Williams, Jr.

VOC MISSION STATEMENT



address pressing social and economic issues, foster goodwill, and inspire others to join us in our mission of service and advocacy."

"Our mission is to mobilize and empower our DC4 community to make a positive and lasting impact on the causes and initiatives we support. Through effective organization, collaboration, and a shared commitment to creating change, we strive to build a better future for our Union and beyond. We believe that by uniting our efforts, we can



All VOC members are welcome to join our Facebook Group [here](#).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

Local Labor Events:

- Wednesday, June 5, 2024, 5:30pm: Attend the Binghamton City Council meeting in support of proposed Responsible Bidder legislation. One of our brothers in Laborers Local 785 sits as a Binghamton City Council member and is looking for other trades support this important legislation. The meeting starts at 6pm however there is a small rally beginning at 5:30pm outside City Hall at 38 Hawley St, Binghamton, NY. It would be great to have a strong turnout of local trades members to show that those living and working here want legislation that helps to support our trades. Public comment will be available. Contact Frank Stento with questions 607-727-5208.
- Saturday, June 8, 2024, 8:00am-2pm: Volunteer Painting Project @ “A Room To Heal” 1100 East Genesee St in Syracuse. STAR Credit Offered. Please reach out to Frank Stento to register 607-727-5208.
- Saturday, July 6, 2024, Gates open at 5pm: Union Night with the Rochester Redwings! Union members and family can get discounted tickets to celebrate the Rochester Labor Movement. This is a great opportunity each year to join our union sisters and brothers at the game! This game will be against the Buffalo Bisons. Gates open at 5:00pm at the first pitch will be just after 6:45pm! You can order tickets (individual or bulk) online [here](#)!
- Thursday, July 11, 2024, 5pm: Rochester Labor Council’s 2024 Committee on Political Education (COPE) BBQ @ Roundhouse Shelter, Genesee Valley Park. The Rochester Labor Council is a political force for working people in the Greater Rochester community. This work comes out of COPE, which interviews candidates on issues important to our members, makes recommendations for endorsements and then does the work to make those endorsements matter: knocking on doors and making thousands of phone calls. The program is based on member-to-member conversations where union members in the area talk to other union members about the importance of getting out the vote and knowing who is on our side. This helps us build union power while also moving forward the issues that we care about. Each year, we gather for a BBQ to celebrate the last year's victories and look forward at the year to come. We know that 2024 is going to be a massively important year. So come find out how to get involved while enjoying some good food and good company! [RSVP Here!](#)





- June is Pride Month! Pride is a celebration of community, resilience, diversity, and, most of all, Pride is a time to reaffirm our commitment to protecting the health and human rights of the individuals who make up our LGBTQ+ communities and union members.

- June is Men's Health Month! Men's Health Month encourages men and boys to take charge of their health by making healthy lifestyle decisions.



Labor Notes Events:

- June 15, 22 and 29, 2024: Race & Labor Workshop. This workshop has three parts. We ask that you attend all of them. The sessions will be on Saturdays, June 15, 22, and 29, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern. This is an online workshop and will be held via Zoom. How does racism show up in our workplaces and our unions? What are some strategies to confront it and build solidarity for a stronger, multiracial labor movement? And what can you say to union siblings who aren't convinced racial justice has anything to do with union politics? [Register here.](#)
- June 17, 24, and July 1, 2024: Secrets of a Successful Organizer. These workshops are based on our widely acclaimed book Secrets of a Successful Organizer. These trainings will be held via Zoom. The sessions will run Mondays from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. Eastern on June 17, June 24, and July 1. We ask that you attend all three workshops in the series. [Register here.](#)
- June 18, 2024: Steward's Workshop: How to File and Win Past Practice Grievances. This workshop has limited capacity and is for stewards and elected officers who work with stewards - not staff. Please register only if this applies to you. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 18th, and will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Eastern. This is an online workshop and will be held via Zoom. Past practice is one of the most powerful arguments in the union toolbox. It is also one of the most misunderstood. [Register here.](#)



VOC PREGAME

Our next VOC Pregame will be held in **Buffalo on June 20, 2024**. We will enjoy some food, beverages and conversation beginning at 4:30pm. Our official VOC meeting will begin at 5:30pm in person and via Zoom. Be there or be square.

GOOD OF THE VOC



Last month, with help from other trades and community organizations, DC4 was able to conduct a campaign directed at Cornell University in support of our DC4 Glaziers. We held multi-day, on-campus rallies through Cornell graduation, implemented a vibrant social media campaign, and built coalitions with our allies. All these actions helped us to bring the pressure on Cornell in a big way (stay tuned). The campaign is a great example of how solidarity among working people and our allies *works*. We encourage everyone to join in labor action whenever you can – whether with DC4 or other unions and workers. If you can't join a rally, you can still show support through sharing social media posts, signing petitions, etc. People won't often remember your words, but they will remember your actions and that you stood with them.

PHOTO CONTEST

Submit your photos [here](#)! Photos from the field help promote our union trades and display our impact in our local communities. Plus, you could win a gas card!

IMPORTANT LINKS

[DC4 Organizers](#)
[Bad Apple Employers](#)
[On Labor](#)
[Labor Notes](#)

**RAISE YOUR GLASS
FOR THE
WORKING CLASS!**



**TELL CORNELL
TO SUPPORT
UNION
GLAZIERS!**



EDUCATE, AGITATE, ORGANIZE!

Labor Force podcast is hosted by Mike Struchen, a proud member of NY State United Teachers. **Labor Force** is a podcast about labor issues and working people in America today. You can check it out [here](#) and wherever you download your podcasts.

As we improve our monthly newsletter, it is our hope to use the section to feature bits of labor history, books, music, and other things related to the labor movement. If you have questions or suggestions, please email jguza@dc4.org.

A LOOK AHEAD

Through its partnership with other labor leaders throughout the country, DC4 is in the midst of planning a Zoom conference with labor activist and author **Bill Fletcher, Jr.** We do not have a date set yet, but it will likely be sometime in July. The meeting will focus on what union members can do to support working class issues leading up to (and after) the November 2024 election. If this interests you and/or you have more questions, please reach out to Joe Guza ((716) 458-5844; jguza@dc4.org).

