

DCNA Together – Making a Difference in DC

May 2016



DCNA Nurses Enjoy a Cruise on the Potomac for Nurses Week

Sunday, May 14th was a little frosty, but we finally had sunshine. Approximately 125 DCNA members enjoyed a sun filled afternoon cruise on the Potomac River. Great food and a ton of dancing was the order of the day. No grievances were filed, no picket lines were walked. Also attending the event was a special guest: DC Councilmember LaRuby May (D – Ward 8). Ms. May enjoyed the cruise, said a few words of thanks for all that nurses do for the community and then joined in the dancing. The event was an unqualified success. Major thanks to Ms. Vickie Spence and Ms. Veronica Burnett for coordinating the event.



DCNA Pres. L. Little with CM L. May



The dancing has started



Lunch on the Potomac



District Govt. RNs with CM May



On the dance floor



Ward 8 RNs with CM May

Labor Law Corner: Your Rights As a Union Member

As a member of the DCNA, you have a legal right to vote in union elections, run for a union officer position, attend membership meetings, participate in deliberations on union business and to request a copy of your collective bargaining agreement. We encourage you to engage in the abovementioned activities because your participation will strengthen the Union. We have DCNA Board Meetings and Shop Steward Trainings at the DCNA headquarters. Additionally, each DCNA unit hosts union meetings at various locations and provide notice via union bulletin board, email or mail. We have DCNA elections at our annual meeting in November/December and we hope to see your name on the ballot. Remember, you are the UNION, and the union is only as strong as its members. Contact Staff Attorney Wala Blegay if you have questions about your right as a Union member at wblegay@dcna.org.

PERB Settlement at DDS

DCNA filed an Unfair Labor Practice with the District of Columbia Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) against the District of Columbia Department of Disability Services (DDS) because management was engaging in retaliatory and intimidating behavior. Both parties were scheduled for mediation on May 9th, but agreed to a settlement which included, among other things, restoring leave to employees who participated in negotiations.

DCNA Endorses Candidates for DC Council

On May 12th, the District of Columbia Nurses Association announced its endorsements of Ms. LaRuby May for Councilmember of the DC Council for Ward 8, Mr. Vincent Orange for At-Large Councilmember, Mr. Vincent Gray in Ward 7 and Mr. Leon Andrews in Ward 4. Edward J. Smith, Esq., Executive Director, DCNA President, stated that “each of the candidates endorsed today are individuals who support mandatory nurse-patient staffing ratios in all DC hospitals and support legislation designed to combat workplace violence in our hospitals.” Smith further advised that each candidate expressed commitment to ensuring that our elderly and our poor are not left behind while this city continues to grow. DCNA will ensure that every patient in the District of Columbia gets the care they deserve and that nurses want to give, no matter where they receive care. Please contact Walakewon Blegay at wblegay@dcna.org if you wish to volunteer your time in campaigning for any of the candidates.

Upcoming Events:

Labor Relations Training, DCNA, 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306, Washington, DC 20016, July 13th, 10:00 am – 2:30 pm. DCNA will be conducting training on investigating and processing grievances and other representational matters. Please contact Ms. Vickie Spence at vspence@dcna.org or Walakewon Blegay, Esq. at wblegay@dcna.org to register.

Labor Night at the Nationals, July 22d, Nationals Park. Enjoy a night of baseball as the Nationals take on the San Diego Padres. Tickets are available for only \$ 10. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Community Services Agency, Metropolitan Labor Council, AFL-CIO. Please contact Ms. Vickie Spence at vspence@dcna.org to order tickets.

2nd Annual National African American Male Wellness Walk on the National Mall, Saturday July 30th, 2016. Seeking RN volunteers to provide health screenings, from 7:00 – 11:00 a.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Ms. Vickie Spence at vspence@dcna.org.

Please visit DCNA on our website at www.dcna.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DCNursesAssociation.

For Assignment Despite Objection and Grievance forms, visit www.dcna.org.

DCNA is located at 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 306, Washington, DC 20016. Telephone – (202) 244-2705

Remember to visit DCNA on facebook at *Nurse Lives Matter*.

Sign the petition to fight for an end to workplace violence at health care institutions.