



# UFCW

## Women's Network E-News

WOMEN'S NETWORK E-NEWS, VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2, SEPTEMBER 2014

### CHAIR'S COLUMN



#### Rhonda Nelson

International Chair • Women's Network

## 2014 UFCW Women's Network 11th Biennial Convention Call

Greeting Sisters and Brothers:

It is my honor and great pleasure to hereby issue the official call to the UFCW Women's Network 11th Biennial Convention, December 4-7, 2014 at the Hilton San Diego Resort & Spa in San Diego, California. The convention theme is "Empowering Women Through Leadership and Training."

The Convention is designed to sharpen delegates' leadership skills and set new strategies through education, mentoring, careful planning and empowerment training that will be valuable in continuing to advance our Union's agenda. Convention delegates can look forward to workshops and dynamic speakers to address these topics that will inform, enable, and inspire them so that they can return to their local unions and communities and implement positive change.

On Friday, December 5th and Saturday, December 6th, four interactive workshops covering a wide variety of topics will be offered for delegates to attend: Collective

Bargaining — Raising the Bar for Workers in Our Industries; Making Politics Work for Us; Women Organizing Workers: Emergence of a Revolution; and Recognizing Your Own Power as a Leader. Please check the convention website to obtain additional information regarding our program schedule at:

<https://ufcwwomensnetworkconvention2014.eventbrite.com>

I would like to thank each of you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you and a record number of women activists participating to make this a successful Convention!

In solidarity,

Rhonda Nelson  
International Chair



# EMPOWERING WOMEN

Through Leadership and Training

Eleventh Biennial Convention & Education Conference

DECEMBER 4–7, 2014 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## Workshop Descriptions

### *Collective Bargaining – Raising the Bar for Workers in Our Industries*

Bargaining contracts that secure middle class wages, health care, and pensions for UFCW members is a cornerstone of our growth and at the very heart of what it means to be powerful together. Bargaining is not separate from organizing. Raising standards for our members in UFCW core industries depends on our ability to bargain. Our power at the table depends on our market share and the strength of our members. This workshop will offer the participants the skills and tools to win strong collective bargaining contracts for UFCW members. Workshop facilitators are among the best negotiators in the UFCW—winning collective bargaining contracts for thousands of UFCW members in the United States and Canada. Participants will focus on the following:

- ◆ Developing worker surveys, polling, focus groups and proposal meetings.
- ◆ How to talk to members about the process of bargaining, issues and problems during bargaining.
- ◆ Building In-Store Solidarity Committees, and Community Support Networks.
- ◆ Putting the Pressure on: preparing to go on strike, ally delegations, letter writing campaigns, etc.
- ◆ Using Social Media, Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- ◆ Developing contract language and other resources.
- ◆ How to close the deal and vote the contract.

#### *Facilitators:*

Kathy Finn—Collective Bargaining Director, UFCW Local 770

Kelly Tosato—Secretary-Treasurer, UFCW Canada Local 175

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### *Making Politics Work for Us*

The International's Legislative and Political Action Department and Women's Network leaders will be offering policy and political action trainings geared toward UFCW women activists during the 2014 Women's Network Convention and Education Conference. The Policy training will cover issues ranging from work place health and safety to initiatives to raise wages and benefits to support members and their families. The Political Action training will highlight opportunities for women UFCW members to lead on UFCW endorsed candidate campaigns and highlight opportunities for our own members to become candidates. The workshop series will cover the obstacles many members face in political activism and identify tools to best address these challenges. The Policy training day is offered on Friday, December 5, and the Political Action training is offered on Saturday, December 6. We encourage you to participate in both trainings for a complete learning experience.

#### *Facilitators:*

Nikki Budzinski—Associate Director, Legislative and Political Action Department, International

LaQuita Honeysucker—Legislative Representative, Legislative and Political Action Department, International

Christine McMeckan—Communications Representative, UFCW Canada Local 401

Chandra Yungbluth—Legislative and Political Coordinator, UFCW Local 75

## **WOW—Women Organizing Workers: Emergence of a Revolution**

Join a discussion on the significant emergence of women helping to organize on key campaigns. Facilitators will examine the changing economy, the emergence of women in the workforce and how necessary it is for women to trickle into the field of organizing the unorganized to help build a better future for ourselves and our families. Gain a better understanding of the member's role in building industry power through activism, involvement and organizing. At the forefront of this two-part discussion is a look at Common Sense Economics and the economy's effect on women being more engaged in Organizing; and the importance of women "telling their story" and speaking out to move new organizing.

*In Part I, we will be using the AFL-CIO's Common Sense Economics-Women and Families workshop as the basis for our discussions.*

- ◆ Identify what is happening in the economy and how our economic realities impact the lives of working women and their families.
- ◆ Understand how and why we have an economy that is not serving women and families—so we can honestly discuss how to fix what's been broken.
- ◆ Leave the session with a clearer sense of how policy has shaped our economy thus the need for women to take collective action through organizing.

*In Part II, participants will be able to:*

- ◆ Identify through storytelling ways in which sharing personal experiences can empower others to move past their fears and organize a union in their workplaces.
- ◆ Understand how working people can change the direction of our national economy, through mobilization and organizing within our core industries so we can build power together.
- ◆ Learn basic organizing skills which can be used on upcoming organizing campaigns within the UFCW and connect with upcoming campaigns so we can put into action the tools learned during the workshop.

*Facilitators:*

Moricka Burgess—Assistant to the National Field Director—UFCW National Staff Development, International  
Debra De Angelis—National Representative, UFCW Canada  
Lois Taylor Honeycutt—Secretary Treasurer, UFCW Local 431

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### **Recognizing Your Own Power as a Leader**

Since the UFCW Women's Network was founded, many more women are in leadership positions in their workplace, in their unions and in their communities. This is not your typical leadership training. Participants will be pushed to think deeply about themselves as leaders in their jobs, unions and in their homes. You will walk away feeling reflective, creating personal vision, understanding your own personal leadership style and avoiding burn out when the going gets tough. This workshop will focus on the following:

- ◆ Your vision as a leader: roadmap through strength, weakness and future vision as a leader;
- ◆ Leadership styles and identifying your biggest strength as a leader;
- ◆ Developing and identifying sister leaders; and
- ◆ How to manage burnout.

*Facilitators:*

Carmen Berkley—Director, Civil, Human and Women's Rights Department, AFL-CIO  
Jessica Pierce—Co-Founder, Pierce Spin Consulting  
Beatrice Bruske—Secretary Treasurer, UFCW Canada Local 832



# EMPOWERING WOMEN

Through Leadership and Training

**Eleventh Biennial Convention & Education Conference**  
DECEMBER 4–7, 2014 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## Accommodations

The UFCW Women's Network Eleventh Biennial Convention and Education Conference will be held December 4-7, 2014, at the Hilton San Diego Resort & Spa, San Diego, California. The group rate is \$160, plus 12½% tax per night. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel's reservation line at 877-313-6645, referencing the group code UFCW14. This rate will be offered for attendees booking on or before Sunday, November 2, 2014. Reservations may also be made at the website below.

[http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SANHIHF-UFCW14-20141202/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SANHIHF-UFCW14-20141202/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

## Registration

Pre-registration is encouraged. Attendees who register before November 2 will secure the discounted rate of \$125 (U.S. or Canadian funds). Registration after November 2 is \$150. The registration fee includes a ticket for the reception on Thursday, December 4, lunch on Friday and Saturday, and all Convention materials. To register by mail, please forward your registration fee in the form of check or money order with the enclosed form. You may register and pay by credit card (PayPal™) at our website:

<https://ufcwwomensnetworkconvention2014.eventbrite.com>.

Additional instructions, workshop details, news and updates can be found here, too.

On-site Convention registration will begin on Thursday, December 4, from 3 to 6 p.m. and continue on Friday, December 5, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Center foyer, where you may pick up your Convention materials and confirm your attendance. The 2014 Women's Network Convention will convene at 9 a.m. on Friday, December 5, 2014. You must be a member of the UFCW Women's Network to be a voting delegate.

## Convention Schedule

Thursday, December 4	Welcome Reception	6:30 to 9 p.m.
Friday, December 5	General Session and Workshops	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday, December 6	General Session and Workshops	8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 7	General Session	9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

## Constitutional Proposals and Resolutions

Proposed constitutional changes or resolutions should be sent via email, regular mail or facsimile by October 1, 2014, to Rhonda Nelson, International Chair, c/o UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590 or [rhondan@ufcw1500.org](mailto:rhondan@ufcw1500.org). Faxes may be sent to Rhonda Nelson at 516-214-1313.



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## 2014 UFCW Women's Network Convention Registration Form

Please complete this form and return with a check or money order for **\$125 (before November 2) or \$150 (after November 2)**, in U.S. or Canadian funds, made payable to UFCW Women's Network and send to Rhonda Nelson, c/o Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, New York 11590. This form may be emailed to Rhonda at [rhondan@ufcw1500.org](mailto:rhondan@ufcw1500.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Local No: \_\_\_\_\_ Position:  Member  Staff  Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are the descriptions of the workshops that will be offered and will span over two days, Friday and Saturday. We will try to accommodate your first choice on a first-come, first-served basis, space permitting. If space is full for your first choice, you will be placed in the workshop of your second choice. You will be advised upon check-in at registration. Please indicate first and second choice in the space provided.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Collective Bargaining – Raising the Bar for Workers in Our Industries*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Making Politics Work for Us*

\_\_\_\_\_ *WOW—Women Organizing Workers: Emergence of a Revolution*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Recognizing Your Own Power as a Leader*

Based upon the response, French and Spanish translation services will be provided during the general sessions as well as the workshop "Recognizing Your Own Power as a Leader." Please indicate if you require translation services.

Yes  No  French  Spanish

Please advise of any special needs that require accommodation (wheelchair access, hearing or visual impairments, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_