

ASEA In Action



Thoughts About The 2017 Political Education Leadership (PEL) Conference

"An unexpected highlight of participating in the ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 Political Education Leadership Conference in Juneau took place during our visit to the legislative chambers to observe our elected officials at work during floor sessions. Fortuitously, a Joint Session of the House and Senate convened shortly after we took our seats in the gallery. Following the introduction of gallery visitors by their respective representatives and a brief recess, the 40 members of the House were joined by 20 Senators for a "2017 State of the Judiciary" address by Chief Justice Craig Stowers of the Alaska Supreme Court. It was impressive seeing our entire Legislature together with all our Supreme Court Justices. Observing two of our three branches of government meeting together, after spending part of the previous day with Governor Walker and Lt. Governor Mallott at our PEL Conference provided attendees with a better understanding of Alaska's political process."



Kay Smith, Juneau Chapter

ABOVE: Left to Right: Governor Bill Walker, Dawn Bundick, ASEA State Executive Board President, Lt. Governor Byron Mallott



Thanks to the staff for all the work they did to support this successful and smooth conference!

In solidarity,
Jim Schwarber, Chief Steward
Midnight Sun Chapter



Happy Saint Patrick's Day



From Left: to Right: Michael Bredlie, FNSB Chapter; Kay Smith and Paul Nowlin, Juneau Chapter; Erik Johnson, Mat-Su Chapter
Standing: Pat Owens, Bristol Bay Chapter




Right: Left to Right: Kenny Winger, City of Sitka Chapter, Governor Bill Walker, Tom Climo, City of Sitka Chapter



President's Message - March Awareness

Brothers and Sisters,
March has a few themes I would like to share with you.

- **March 3rd, Employee Appreciation Day.** Thanks to all GGU Members, Without your hard work as members of ASEA, state services in our communities would be a challenge.
- **March 17th, St. Patrick's Day**  - The Luck of the Irish.
- **March 27th, Seward's Day**, celebrates the signing of the Alaska Purchase Treaty on March 30, 1867.
- Lastly, March is **Women's History Month.**



Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed PL. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week." Throughout the next five years, Congress continued to pass joint resolutions designating a week in March as "Women's History Week." In 1987 after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed PL. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and

1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1995, Presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama have issued a series of annual proclamations designating the month of March as "Women's History Month." Celebrate a woman in your workplace and your life. Our ASEA/AFSCME Local 52 Women's Issues Committee (WIC) is offering our pink wear on our PINK LINK webpage. In May, the WIC will be offering "Woman of ASEA" scholarship, so stay tuned. We have women in every profession and occupation who work hard everyday while also taking care of their families. Let's tell your story through the Never Quit video campaign. Contact your local Chapter President and make that video.

Legislative Update: Your State Executive Board, Chapter Presidents and other key members of our respective chapters were in Juneau networking with representatives and encouraging our leaders to support passing a balanced budget effectively but not on our backs. ASEA members have contributed in helping with the fiscal challenge by bargaining two days of furlough and no wage increase in our three year contract. Our local leaders are busy in Juneau crafting bills to help manage our State affairs and

we applaud their efforts. Do your part and communicate your concerns to your legislative representatives. Keep in mind that there are local races beginning and your participation is key.

Brothers and Sisters, get to know what our Union has to offer you. Free college, discounts through AFSCME Advantage and local chapter scholarships. We are AFSCME STRONG AND WE NEVER QUIT! Collectively we can and will make positive changes. Thank you for all you do for our State.

Dawn Bundick, State Executive Board President ASEA/AFSCME Local 52

Seward's Day Monday, March 27

