

V college union Voice

Cook County College Teachers Union, Local 1600, AFT, AFL-CIO
November 2005 • Volume 42 • Number 11



The Morton negotiating team (L-R): Jerry Neadley, Chapter Chair Dante Orfei, Diane Sarther and CCCTU Suburban VP Jim O'Malley. Missing from photo: Perry Buckley.

Morton College Faculty Settle Contract

By a vote of 37-1, Morton Faculty approved a four-year contract that includes a 4.75% raise the first year, 4.27% the second and third years, and 4.25% the final year. Where lab instructors had received less than one-to-one, they will now receive yearly increases from .75 to .8, .825, .85 and .875. Other improvements include increases in summer, substitute and overload pay.

Like most contract negotiations today, health care had been a sticking point. Led by Chapter Chair **Dante Orfei, Jerry Neadley and Dianne Sarther**, the negotiating team, which received assistance from CCCTU President **Perry Buckley** and Suburban VP **Jim O'Malley**, stuck to their guns. In the end their persistence and tenacity paid off. After the contract was ratified, Orfei noted, "Morton College has had what many consider the 'champagne of insurance benefits,' which we have been able to secure for the next four years. We are pleased."

(Continued on Page 3)

Oakton Classified Settles Re-Opener

The Oakton Community College Classified Staff Association (OCCCSA) successfully negotiated a one-year re-opener during the final year of its three-year contract. The re-opener passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 188 to 9.

In the previous contract the "re-opener provision" was negotiated as an attempt to put the classified on the same time frame as the faculty. This "us too" strategy was successful and, as a result, yielded the same gains in salary and benefits as the faculty.

The re-opener negotiation began in April, 2005, following the conclusion of the faculty negotiations. After a series of negotiating sessions over the spring and summer, Oakton's Board of Trustees agreed to match the 4.89% salary increase the faculty had negotiated retroactive to July 1, 2005. Staff will receive an additional floating holiday during the coming year and an increased Board contribution to the Insurance Fund in the amount of \$7,170 per full-time employee.

(Continued on Page 3)



OCCCSA Chapter Chair Jillian Verstrate (center) is surrounded by her successful negotiations team: (L-R) James Kostecki, Marilyn Davis, Barbara Reineking and Patricia Jacobsen-Tadda. Missing from photo: Perry Buckley.



Perry J. Buckley

**FROM THE
PRESIDENT'S DESK**

"If you are going through hell, keep going."

—Winston Churchill

Once again I will present my column as "odds and sods" of various issues affecting us all.

- The **Illinois Education Association (IEA)** backed down from a threat to raid the Chicago teachers Union (Local 1) when the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) threatened "counter raids" on IEA locals. The IEA had passed out literature after the CTU September House of Representatives meeting asking members to jump ship to a "new" IEA Local. We in labor need to get the message across that our fellow brothers and sisters are not the enemy. Management is ecstatic when we fight among ourselves.
- As you will see in this issue, over the past few months we have **negotiated excellent contracts at Morton College** (both faculty and classified) and **Oakton Classified** (one year re-opener.) At both classified chapters the support staff succeeded in getting at least the same percentage raise as the faculty contracts. Local 1600 continues to believe fairness can only be achieved when one group does not benefit at the expense of others.
- The **suburban classified division** held its first ever "divisional" meeting on October 15th at the IFT headquarters in Westmont. Chapter chairs **Rose Sakanis** (Moraine Valley), **Susan Braasch** (Prairie State), **Don Cragen** (Triton) attended. Prairie State security representative **Julius Neveles**, VP **Gail Wiot**, **Janie Morrison**, and Local 1600 IFT staffer **Jennifer Marsh** also joined the group. Legislative chair **Bill Naegele** and I were also at the IFT for the Executive board meeting, so we stopped by to discuss issues. It is my unabashed goal to do whatever I can to make the classified division as active and dynamic as the others. I hope these meetings and

workshops will be a good first step.

- The battle continues at the **City Colleges of Chicago** on a variety of issues. The two most striking are the continued reprisals against nursing faculty and retirees. We have filed both unfair labor practices and arbitrations to fight these. I am trying, behind the scenes, whatever I can do to stop this "war." It does no good for our colleges, our students, and our members to be in a persistent adversarial battle. I am always bemused at how we have outstanding, collegial relationships with every other board and administration in the county. Only in Chicago is the Union vilified and maligned in this manner.
- You will read in this issue of **Bill Naegele's appointment by the Governor** as a trustee to the ICCB. This is not only an honor for Bill and Local 1600, but it is a safeguard and a voice for every community college educator in Illinois. He will serve us all well.
- I attended the **AFT Higher Education Policy and Program Council in Washington** on October 17 – 20th. These meetings are excellent opportunities to keep up on national issues which directly affect higher education and our members. The federal government continues to attack student grants and aid while also attacking academic freedom in the guise of reform. These are not good days for schools and educators of any manner. We must remain ever vigilant. Both the AFT & IFT "have our backs" with the politicians.

All your officers and chapter leaders continue to work very hard on your behalf. I am very thankful and proud of them all. In spite of some of our battles, I remain infinitely optimistic together we can overcome any odds and any attacks.

C A L E N D A R

NOVEMBER 18

House Meeting

JANUARY 20

House Meeting

FEBRUARY 17

Executive Board Meeting

COOK COUNTY COLLEGE TEACHERS UNION, LOCAL 1600, AFL-CIO

- President.....Perry Buckley
- Vice President, City CollegesDivision.....Sonia Powell
- Vice President, Suburban Faculty.....Jim O'Malley
- Vice President, Suburban Classified.....Gail Wiot
- Secretary.....Patricia Wenthold
- Treasurer.....Donald Radtke
- Legislative Representative.....Bill Naegele
- Grievance Chairman.....Tom Kodogeorgiou
- Editorial Chair.....Todd Lakin
- Publicity Chair.....Bill O'Connell
- Special Contributor.....Dr. Bob Blackwood

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Morton College Classified Staff Settle Four-Year Contract

The Morton College Classified Staff ratified a new, four-year contract by a vote of 56-2 on September 27, 2005. Chief Negotiator and Local 1600's IFT Representative **Jennifer Marsh** assisted the negotiations team in obtaining the same raise percentage and benefits that the Morton College Faculty had just negotiated.

The successful negotiations team, which included Morton Classified Chapter Chair and Assistant Chief Negotiator **Greg Benson**, Assistant Chapter Chair **Walter Hoenisch** and Secretary **Chris Martin**, negotiated a first-year pay raise of 4.75%, a second- and third-year raise of 4.27% and, in the fourth year, a raise of 4.25%. The retroactive pay raises are effective July 1, 2005.

There were numerous gains negotiated in this contract aside from the salary increase: insurance rates were kept down, compensation for educational improvement nearly doubled, bumping rights were added to the layoff language and, in addition to overtime, for the first time ever the Classified Staff has comp time.



Chapter Chair Gregory Benson, Contract Committee member Jonnell Medina, IFT Representative Jennifer Marsh, Contract Committee member Kathy Rozhon, Assistant Chapter Chair Walter Hoenisch and Secretary Chris Martin are all smiles after ratifying their new contract. Not pictured are Contract Committee members Tim Visk, Karen Piest, and Eric Porod.

"Although the negotiations went longer than expected, we are very pleased that our Classified Staff, who also work very hard, received the same salary rate increase as the faculty," stated Benson.

Marsh added, "And we're also glad that Morton College recognized the importance of continuing education and are willing to reimburse our members for furthering their education." The contract expires on June 30, 2009.

Morton College Faculty Settle Contract

(Continued from Page 01)

The concessions were minor which included a date change to apply for salary lane movement (of which there are nine lanes and lane movement requires twelve Professional Growth Credits), and a four-step progressive discipline for submitting grades late: verbal, written, suspension, and then possible discharge. The Board can request a doctor's note when consecutive sick days exceed three and the ill faculty member must contact the dean at least one hour before the start of class. Language was clarified regarding bumping rights, student grade appeals, calendar, released time and independent study.

"As has been the case the past year in the suburban chapters, we have been able to work cooperatively with administrative teams who negotiate fairly and ethically," said Buckley.

Oakton Classified Settles Re-Opener

(Continued from Page 01)

The negotiating team, led by CCCTU President and Chief Negotiator **Perry Buckley**, was made up of OCCCSA Chapter Chair and Assistant Chief Negotiator **Jillian Verstrate**, Chapter VP **Marilyn Davis**, Chapter Treasurer **James Kostecki**, and members **Patricia Jacobsen-Tadda** and **Barbara Reineking**. Said Verstrate, "We had a very strong negotiating team and were grateful to be guided by Perry Buckley. Our members are extremely satisfied with the outcome: a 4.89% raise. We bargained in good faith and set an amicable tone with the administration at the table, knowing that we will be back again starting in spring, 2006." President Buckley concurred: "This negotiating team did an excellent job and I feel confident that the OCCCSA will do well in their upcoming contract negotiations next year."

PHOTO ALBUM: Annual Banquet in May a Smashing Success



CCCTU President Perry Buckley warmly welcomes the Union members and their guests to the annual banquet.

On Sunday, May 22, 2005, the Union's annual banquet was held at the Holiday Inn Merchandise Mart in Chicago. Attendees were asked to rate this year's banquet and the overwhelming responses were: "Do it again!" and "It's the best union banquet I've been to in years!" At the Banquet Board of Trustee member Rev. Albert Tyson gave thanks before the meal. After a superb dinner, the Norman G. Swenson student scholarship winners were recognized as well as two students who were awarded the Union Activist Scholarship. The music was spun perfectly by our very own DJ, Dawson Tech's Rausan Tamir. Finally, a very special thanks to CCC VP Sonia Powell and office staff Gayle Gregg and Janie Morrison for making the 2005 Banquet such a memorable experience. Enjoy the photos and see you in May, 2006.



Perry Buckley congratulates the Union Activist Scholarship winners Sulaimon Balogun and Jeremy Marks. Both of these Wright College students went above and beyond the call in support of the Union during last fall's strike.



Fabulous Mr. DJ Rausan Tamir takes a break from spinning to pose with the dapper Perry Buckley.



President Perry Buckley and Scholarship Committee Chair Paul Janus bookend the Norman G. Swenson Scholarship winners.



Harold Washington Chapter Chair Mike Ruggeri (center) and colleagues relish their fantastic view of the Chicago River fourteen stories below.

PHOTO ALBUM: Annual Banquet in May a Smashing Success



The Harper College table enjoys a fabulous meal and conversation. Standing far right is Chapter Chair Mike Harkins. Seated second from right is Pro Tech Chair Terry Engle.



The Moraine Valley faculty and guests share their table with their President, Dr. Vernon Crawley (back left). Standing to his right is Moraine Valley Chapter Chair Randy Southard.



Past and present Malcolm X College chapter members and guests enjoy reminiscing.



Prairie State Security Chapter Chair Julius Neveles (seated in center) is surrounded by friends and colleagues.



Oakton Support Staff also have a great view from their table. Chapter Chair Jillian Verstrate is seated at left.



The fix is in! Triton College not only has a great view right by the window, but they were also closest to the open bar. Who do they know? Triton Chapter Chair Maggie Hahn-Wade is standing in center.



CCCTU City VP Sonia Powell (left) has much to celebrate with her colleagues from Olive-Harvey College.



Tony Johnston (second from left), Truman College Chapter Chair, converses with his colleagues and guests.

PHOTO ALBUM: Prairie State College Support Staff Picnic in July

On July 14, 2005, the Prairie State College Support Staff held its annual summer picnic at Prairie State College. Chapter Chair Prairie State Support Susan Braasch and Chapter Chair Prairie State Security Julius Neveles presented Assistant to the President Janie Morrison with a plaque in honor of her service to their chapters.



Janie Morrison, second from left, accepts her award. At left is President Perry Buckley and at right are Susan Braasch and Julius Neveles.



Susan Braasch (right) and Pat Ethridge share a laugh at the Prairie State picnic.

Welcome aboard to new faculty and Local 1600 members!

Editor's note: Apologies to all new faculty who were not included in this issue. During the Spring 2006 visits, please make sure to notify the photographer so that you are included in our Spring issue.



Truman College new faculty (Back row, L-R): Dr. Max Gulias (Communications), Maryam Damghani (French), Dr. James Onoda (Biology), Dr. Abdallah Shuaibi (Math), Dr. Maria Assif (Communications), , Marta Hidegkuti (Math), Donna Allen (Nursing) and TR Chapter Chair Tony Johnston. (Front row): Kelly O'Malley (Social Science) and Timothy Matos (Communications)



Malcolm X new faculty and professional (L-R, Back row): Nelita Mateo (Surgical Tech), Hope Essien (Math), CM! Winters Palacio (Librarian), Todd Laycock (InfoTech) and Maria S. Marelli (Anatomy & Physiology); (Front row): Gitendra Paul (Chemistry), Mary Pat Sheppard (Math), Jennifer McIntosh (Librarian) and Claire Stuart-Quintanilla (Political Science)



Daley College new faculty (L-R): Shamim Huda (Nursing), Felicia Baldwin (Business) and Roy Carrarini (Nursing)



Harold Washington new faculty (L-R): Kamilah Collins (English), Juan Núñez (English), Tim Donahue (English) and Les White (Social Science)



Olive-Harvey new faculty (L-R): Kathy Antunovich (Nursing), Luis Delgado (Spanish), Yolanda Durán (Graphic Design), Lori Ellens (English) and Yaser A. Maksoud (Biology)

PHOTO ALBUM: Suburban Visits



At the Harper Faculty Fall Workshop in August, Harper Chapter Chair Michael Harkins chats with Local 1600 President Perry Buckley and Suburban VP Jim O'Malley.



At the Moraine Valley Fall Faculty Workshop in August, Scholarship Chair Kathy Foreman (left) poses with scholarship recipients of the Moraine Valley Faculty Association.



CCCTU Suburban VP Jim O'Malley cracks a joke at the Moraine Valley Fall Faculty Workshop with Chapter Chair Randy Southard looking on.

PHOTO ALBUM: Perry Buckley's CCC campus visits



CCCTU City VP Sonia Powell discusses the on-going nursing crisis at Olive-Harvey College on August 18. Three weeks later, one OH nursing faculty would be fired, another suspended for a semester and a third resigned.



At Malcolm X College on August 18, President Perry Buckley speaks to the membership about the "continuing reprisals against professors emeritus."



A busy Perry Buckley addresses the third chapter of the day at Truman College, also on August 18, regarding numerous issues within the CCC.



At Daley College on August 23, Chapter Chair Mel Anderson urges his members to join COPE or to increase their COPE contributions. More than twenty did so.



Daley College's strike co-captains, Maria Kossakowski and Mike Kuzniar receive two autographed "On Strike" posters for their tireless leadership during last year's strike. Kossakowski's house was strike headquarters. All members and President Perry Buckley signed them.



Harold Washington College Chapter Chair Mike Ruggeri spoke to his colleagues on September 8 about college advisors being unfairly denied overtime classes: "So students come second to continued reprisals."

PHOTO ALBUM: The Speaker's Fundraiser



President Perry Buckley and Legislative Chair Bill Naegele greet Illinois Speaker of the House Michael Madigan on behalf of the CCCTU at the Speaker's Sept. 28 fundraiser at the Hotel Sheraton.



President Buckley shares a laugh with Chicago Federation of Labor Secretary-Treasurer Tim Leahy.



CCCTU Legislative Chair and newly appointed ICCB Board of Trustee member Bill Naegele poses with his good friend Randy Barnett, Vice President for External Affairs for the ICCB.



President Perry Buckley and Legislative Chair Bill Naegele have a word with Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich.

Part-Time Professional Unit Formed

Local 1600 recently organized and negotiated a contract for a new bargaining unit: Part-Time Professionals, made up of non-instructional employees who provide academic support to students (tutors, lab support, tech support, etc.) However, in an effort to avoid the problems that the security chapter has experienced by not having a City College campus representative, President **Perry Buckley** formed a part-time professional subcommittee led by Daley Chapter Chair **Mel Anderson**, Truman Chapter Chair **Tony Johnston** and Dawson Chapter Chair **Rausan Tamir**. Their charge was to examine issues pertinent to this new bargaining unit and at the July 15 Executive Board meeting the structure for this new unit was approved.

The new bargaining unit will be a City College-wide chapter with the usual chapter officers elected by the unit members. Each City College campus will have an elected House delegate who will serve as the campus representative or steward. "This way, the Part-Time Professionals will not suffer the problem of not having local representation [and] we believe that it will be more effective," said Johnston. "We look forward to mobilizing our part-time professionals so that they become active members."

Bill Naegele Appointed ICCB Trustee



Governor Rod Blagojevich signs into law Senate Bill 2112 on July 25. Behind the governor are (L-R) IFT legislative officer Michelle Paul, CCCTU Legislative Chair Bill Naegele, CCCTU president Perry Buckley, IFT president James Dougherty, IFT legislative officer Steve Preckwinkle and Illinois AFL-CIO president Margaret Blackshire.

Cook County College Teachers Union legislative chair **Bill Naegele** was appointed to the newly created faculty position on the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) yesterday by Illinois governor **Rod Blagojevich**. The governor appointed Naegele immediately after signing the bill creating the position. The governor signed Senate Bill 2112 into law in his Chicago office in the Thompson Center. The bill creates two new positions on the ICCB board, one faculty position, which will be filled by Naegele, and a board trustee from one of the 39 community college districts in Illinois. Naegele was present for the signing along with CCCTU president **Perry Buckley**, IFT president **James Dougherty**, Illinois AFL-CIO president **Margaret Blackshire** and IFT legislative officers **Steve Preckwinkle** and **Michelle Paul**.

Before the signing Blagojevich discussed issues facing community colleges in Illinois with Naegele, Buckley, and the other Union leaders. Naegele discussed his long tenure as a math professor at South Suburban College in South Holland, Illinois. He spoke of the role the community college plays in the lives of the students and the communities they serve.

Naegele, a lifelong resident of Chicago's southwest side, is a product of Chicago area education. He is a graduate of Marist High School, Chicago State University, DePaul University and Governors State University. In addition to teaching at South Suburban, he has taught in the Chicago Public Schools and Governors State University.

"I am proud and honored to have been appointed by Governor Blagojevich," said Naegele, "I hope to earn that trust by representing all 39 community college districts to the best of my ability."

"Bill is a natural for this job," said Buckley, "not only has he dedicated his life to teaching, but he is a powerful advocate for students, teaching professionals, and the colleges themselves. He will be a strong voice for Illinois community colleges and the students we serve." Naegele also expressed gratitude to Dougherty for supporting his nomination. "Jim's faith in me is also humbling," said Naegele, "I know it represents the trust of the 90,000 members of the IFT."

Local 1600 donates to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts and to union strike funds

Hurricane Katrina has affected us all in profound ways. As the tragedy unfolded in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, the Civil and Human Rights Committee Chair, **William Stewart, Jr.** (MX), immediately put out the call to raise money for the Red Cross. The response from the membership was overwhelming: the Local donated \$3,000 and individual members gave an additional \$2,000. "I want to thank everyone who opened their checkbooks to help those in need," stated Stewart. "Our members' compassion is indicative of the quality of people that we have in the Union."

This concern for others manifests itself in other ways as well. During the August 26 Executive Board meeting, a motion was passed to send \$500 to two unions who were on strike: Boilermaker Local 484 in Downstate Illinois and AMFA Local 33 (Northwest Airlines Mechanic's Union). President **Perry Buckley** commented during the meeting, "Unions that I had never heard of sent in donations to our strike fund last fall. It's our turn to return the favor." CCCTU Treasurer **Don Radtke** (DA) added, "That is what is unique about unions: concern for others. The old adage is correct: 'What goes around, comes around.' It's great that we can help."

Buckley Represents Community Colleges at Senate Committee Hearing on Higher Education

At the August 4 hearing of the Illinois Senate Committee on Higher Education at the UIC campus, President **Perry Buckley** of the Cook County College Teachers Union spoke on behalf of the community colleges of Illinois as the chairman of the IFT Community College Council. Buckley reminded the legislators that while 60% of all college students in Illinois are enrolled in community colleges, the community colleges receive only 17% of higher education funding.

In addition, commenting on the hearing's focus on retention and graduation statistics, Buckley explained that "unlike the four-year public universities, the Illinois community colleges accept any person with a high school diploma or GED. To judge a system based solely on graduation rates would be unfair and catastrophic for our students and colleges."

Buckley was joined by **Ellie Sullivan**, secretary-treasurer of the University Professionals of Illinois (UPI), Local 4100, and IFT Legislative Director **Michelle Paul**.



Left table (L-R): Sen. Miguel del Valle (D-2), Sen. Edward Maloney, Chair, Ill. Senate Committee on Higher Education (D-18), and Sen. Rick Winkel (R-52) listen to President Perry Buckley's response to their question at the August 4 Illinois Senate Committee on Higher Education hearing at University of Illinois in Chicago.

"We ask that the committee keep in mind that it is often personal factors that determine a student's persistence and that programs designed to help students should most importantly address those issues" said Paul. "We caution you against any system that rewards or punishes colleges solely on the basis of their graduation or student retention rates."

Letter to the Editor

Editor's note: Dr. Barbara J. Norman, Nursing faculty at Kennedy-King, was fired in August 2004. The CCCTU immediately filed a grievance. Finally, after a year of arbitration hearings, in August 2005, she regained her job. Below is her thank-you letter.



A victorious Dr. Barbara J. Norman is glad to be back teaching at Kennedy-King this fall semester.

Greetings to My Local 1600 Family

It is with great honor that I take this opportunity to say "Thank You!" for Local 1600's support during my "time off" last year. I was an Assistant Professor in the Nursing Department at the Kennedy-King College Nursing program when, without any notice, I received a hand-delivered letter at my home from a messenger from central administration informing me that I had been "suspended pending termination." Needless to say, I was dumbfounded.

I immediately contacted Local 1600 President **Perry Buckley** and Vice President **Sonia Jean Powell** and KK Chapter Chair **Jeanette Williams**. They were on it like hot rice!

They kept in touch with me on a weekly basis, keeping me informed as to what I had to do, how to prepare for arbitration, what they needed, how to get the information, where to send it, who to contact, etc... They were great and the legal team of Local 1600 was outstanding and represented me to the HIGHEST!

I can't say enough good things about our union, our local chapter and representatives from the Kennedy-King College Faculty Council, including students who stood by me with telephone calls, letters, cards of encouragement, and establishing a "Help Barbara Norman" committee. This past August, we were VICTORIOUS. I am pleased to say I am back at work, back at Kennedy-King College, back in my "old" office, doing the things I love most: working with students and collaborating with my colleagues.

Again, I thank you all and a special thanks and kudos to Perry Buckley and Sonia Jean Powell for all your support. Jackie Gleason said it best: "You are the Greatest!" Keep up the good work. Remember colleagues, it might be me today but it can be you tomorrow. We must stand in unison and support one another. I love you all. God Bless.

City Colleges Nursing Update

Shame. There is no other word for what has happened and is happening at the nursing programs at Olive-Harvey and Kennedy-King Colleges. At the September 8, 2005, Board of Trustees meeting, tenured faculty members and nursing professors **Barbara Conner** (KK) and **Jerrilyn Minor** (OH) were fired. A third nursing faculty member, **Amelia Stevens** (OH), was given a one-semester suspension. Another former OH nursing instructor, **Dwight Huslin**, resigned before the Board could take action to take a similar position at Morton College, which was more than happy to hire him.

It is more than a coincidence that both KK and OH programs are currently under attack. The four-year agreement that was ratified after a bitter three-week strike last fall included a one-for-one provision for nursing faculty on their clinical rotation that was set to begin this Fall 2005 semester. Previously nursing faculty had to work twice as many clinical hours to receive one hour of contact credit for their teaching load. It appears that rather than hire more full-time nursing faculty, the CCC administration has chosen to close two nursing programs.

Make no mistake. In the January 2005 Board Report, the "Sunset Policy and Procedures" resolution was passed. It reads, in part (emphasis added),

The inactivation or withdrawal date reported to the ICCB will serve as the "sunset date." It is the date selected by the college(s) which complies with ICCB Administrative Rules which states as follows: "...the College must inactivate the program by not enrolling any additional new students and develop a plan for *an orderly discontinuation of the program* for students currently enrolled."

Last May the nursing programs were put on probation and no new students were admitted for the Fall 2005 semester even though many had already received their admittance letters. Second-year students are allowed to finish their programs but "new" students have not been enrolled. The KK and OH students were given an option to begin an LPN program at Dawson Tech and then "seamlessly" transfer back to their respective institutions in Fall 2006 to begin the second year of the ADN program. If it seems confusing to the reader, it certainly is for the students.

The Union continues to fight for the rights of our fellow union members. Three grievances have been filed on behalf of the three nursing faculty whose due process rights were violated. And, as the Voice was going to press the City Colleges have conducted a pre-discipline hearing against a Malcolm X nursing faculty member. Local 1600 VP **Sonia Powell** was the member's union representative at that hearing.

Our Active Retirees



Retirees Chapter Chair Norm Swenson, Andy Nicosia, Asst. Chapter Chair Frank Pokin, Local 1600 Suburban VP Jim O'Malley and Susie Madison joined over 50 retirees at Drury Lane Theater on August 10 for lunch in the English Room and a performance of "Sherlock Holmes' Last Case."



From left: Foreground: Retiree Andy Nicosia hands luncheon and theater tickets to "Once Upon a Mattress" to Retiree Hosea Steele. Background: Retiree Chapter Chair Norm Swenson, Treasurer Don Radtke, and Suburban V.P. Jim O'Malley talk about Medicare Part "D" at Drury Lane Theater on October 19.

PERSONAL GLIMPSES



Martha Modena Vertreace-Doody has more titles and awards than a leopard has spots. She is the Distinguished Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence at Kennedy-King College; she is a National Endowment for the Arts Fellow; she recently published *Glacier Fire* (Word Press, 2004) and she was presented the Kathy Osterman Award in the category of Outstanding Educational Employee by Mayor Richard M. Daley on September 8, 2005, at the 37th Annual Award Program Breakfast at the Palmer House Hilton.

She is also a published poet. Her several books include *Second House from the Corner*, *Under a Cat's-Eye Moon*, *Oracle Bones*, *Cinnabar*, *Smokeless Flame*, *Kelly in the Mirror*, *Maafa: When Night Becomes a Lion*, and *Dragon Lady: Tsukimi*. Two books of hers, *Light Caught Bending* and *Second Mourning*, published by Dichard Publishers, Edinburgh, won Scottish Arts Council Grants.

Named the Glendora Review Poet, Lagos, Nigeria, she was twice a Fellow at the Hawthornden International Writers' Retreat in Scotland. Eastern Washington University chose her as Poetry Fellow, in residence at the Writers Center, Dublin, Ireland. She was a Fellow at St. Deiniol's Library, Hawarden, Wales, on a bursary. She has poems in *Illinois Voices: An Anthology of Twentieth-Century Poetry* (University of Illinois Press, 2001) and *Poets of the New Century* (David R. Godine Publisher, 2001). Her most recent Pushcart nomination was for "When Pockets Held Dreams," published in *After Hours: the Chicago Journal of Writing and Art*. She lives in Chicago with her husband, Tim, and their cats, Bon-Bon and Fred.

*Editor's note: Special thanks to Word Press for use of her biography. If interested in purchasing *Glacier Fire*, order online at <http://www.word-press.com> or call (513) 474-3761.*

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