



Upcoming Union Events in "The Month Ahead"

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Pick up some swag at the union hall and support the Benevolent Fund!



PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE L29 BENEVOLENT FUND.

# THE WORKER

## President's Message



**PRESIDENT**  
RANDY MARLER

Sisters and Brothers,

We have important news to share regarding our ongoing efforts to enhance public safety in Spokane. Mayor Lisa Brown has decided to support our public safety needs through a proposed sales tax increase instead of pursuing the previously discussed levy. This new initiative called the Community Safety Sales Tax, will ask voters to approve a modest increase of one-tenth of one percent, one of the few remaining increments available for Spokane County.

**Important Clarification: No Levy, Just the Sales Tax**

We understand that many of you have been concerned about the possibility of both a levy and a sales tax increase. We want to clarify that the City is focusing solely on the sales tax measure and will not be running both. The shift to the sales tax initiative

comes after a comprehensive survey revealed that this approach is significantly more popular with our residents as a way to increase revenue.

A sales tax increase is often more popular among local taxpayers for several reasons:

1. Sales tax is spread across a larger population, including visitors who also contribute when they make purchases in Spokane.
2. The increase is relatively small, making it less burdensome for individual taxpayers compared to property taxes or levies.
3. The funds raised are earmarked specifically for community safety, ensuring that taxpayers see direct benefits in their daily lives.

We want to assure all of you that the City remains committed to using these additional funds to balance the budget and increase investment in public safety. The increased revenue for the fire department will be largely directed towards capital investments, including:

- Heavy apparatus
- Equipment needs
- Facility updates and rebuilds

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These investments are crucial for improving our firefighting capabilities and ensuring we have the necessary resources to keep our community safe.

The City Council will vote on the sales tax increase on July 22nd to determine whether it will be placed on the November ballot. Your continued support is vital as we move forward with this initiative. Once we have this confirmed on the ballot, we will work with the city and the police guild to develop a campaign strategy and raise the funds needed to ensure our success.

Stay safe and thank you for your service.

Randy Marler, IAFF, Local 29 President  
cell: (509) 220-8926



**VICE PRESIDENT**  
LEE MCNAMEE

## From The VP's Desk:

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to continue the conversation from last month with a little more about the FLSA issues that keep coming up. We do have a current grievance regarding FLSA, the primary focus of that grievance has to do with the C-shift Saturday at the end of the FLSA cycle and how it disparately affects anyone who is on leave or works extra hours/OT on that day. We are waiting for a Step 1 response from the city's legal counsel.

In addition to that issue, we continue to hear from members with other FLSA related concerns that may be outside of the agreed to language in the CBA. One of these problems that recently came to light has to do with holiday pay and how it affects other extra time worked in the same FLSA period. It appears the city is offsetting the amount of OT paid at the end of the cycle because of the holiday pay. We are aware of the issue and are bringing it forward to labor management and our legal team for resolution. If you have worked any extra hours during the same FLSA period that you worked on a holiday, please check your paystubs for any discrepancies.

We understand that this is easier said than done due to the difficulty surrounding how our paychecks are structured. The city has told us that payroll is compiling an information sheet that explains the process and how to decipher what each line means. The union has proposed a simplification of this process that would allow us all to be able to easily read and understand our paychecks but have yet to come to any agreeable resolution with the city. Please continue to forward paycheck concerns up through your chain of command. If the concern is not corrected or just doesn't sound right, please reach out to me or any of your executive board members.

In Solidarity,

Lee McNamee [vicepresiaffl29@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresiaffl29@gmail.com) (509)280-7489



**TREASURER**  
KIRK GRIFFITH

## Treasurer's Report:

Summer is finally here and I hope you all are having a great time. L29 was well represented at this year's WSCFF Convention in Vancouver with Marler, Griffith, Golladay, Renner, Davis, Austin, Walker, Newman, and Freeman in attendance with special guest Greg Borg. We hammered out many resolutions throughout the week- too many to list but reach out to any one of us for more details. Through resolutions WSCFF per capita will increase by \$0.09 to \$27.55 later this year which is much less than in years past.

Big congrats to Corey Newman for stepping up to be our newest L29 Secretary. It's a big role with many responsibilities so thank him (and his family) next time you see them. Brother Newman has been handling many secretarial responsibilities this past year including putting together our Local 29 Executive Board policies so it should be a natural transition for him. Those policies are now available on the Local 29 website for anyone that wants to see what guides our Executive Board.

Earlier this month we sent an email out from the Spokane Velocity marketing team about attending a soccer match at our new downtown stadium. It is August 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets should contact Sean Hill at 509-606-3079 Ext 216. This would typically be a union meeting night, but since meetings were suspended through the summer this will still give some time together to catch up and connect. Hope to see you there!

Kirk



For Davis, Griffith, and Walker fashion is a passion at Convention.



**SECRETARY**  
BILL GRUMMONS

## From The Editor:

This month has been all about following through on 2 important goals that I set when I was elected into this position. The new website is launched, and the Promotional Development Manual is receiving its final tweaks as it heads through the Labor Management process.

The Promotional Development Manual will take the place of the MOUs that have been used for each promotional process in the past, and it includes many important updates recommended by the Local 29 promotional committee. It will become the foundational document used by Labor and Management to guide future processes. Getting everything distilled down into one document was a long process, and I am glad that I had the chance to work to get it across the finish line. One important thing to note is that this manual is a living document that can continue to be updated through the Labor Management process as needed.

I have gained a valuable perspective during my time as Secretary, and I wish Corey Newman the best as he takes over. Thank you for trusting me to serve you in this role, and I am looking forward to what lies ahead.

Bill

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## THE MONTH AHEAD

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<b>E-Board Meeting NO UNION MEETING</b>	08/13
<b>Hometown Heroes Night with Spokane Velocity</b>	08/13
<b>Labor Management</b>	08/22

## Local 29 Executive Board

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- E-Board: Mike Walker - T1D - (509)432-1497
- E-Board: Ryan Davis - E4A - (509)710-1793
- E-Board: Corey Newman - E11C - (509)808-1556
- E-Board: Kasey Austin - E6D - (509)499-0340
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