

# PE LOCAL 71 NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2016

SAFETY NET

SCHOLARSHIP AND  
TRAINING FUND

BAIT AND SWITCH

WAY TO GO!

RAFFLE



## SAFETY NET

WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER QUIT WHILE LAID OFF  
(WHETHER YOUR LAYOFF IS SEASONAL OR OTHERWISE)

With the number of layoffs that have been looming due to the fiscal crisis the State of Alaska faces, many of our members have sought out other employment opportunities. We encourage you to do whatever it takes to make sure your bills are paid and there is food on your table. We also want to make sure that you have every option available to you.

Sometimes, our members try to do the “right thing” by giving notice when they’ve found another job or have just had a rough season and don’t see themselves returning. Unfortunately, these same members end up kicking themselves later when the new job doesn’t work out or they discover that they just needed a break, which the layoff provided.

When you are laid off, the state has up to two years to recall you. If you quit, you lose that right. When the state attempts to recall you, if the new job works out to be everything you hoped it would be, you can decline the recall. At that point your recall

### Officers

*Dennis Moen*  
BUSINESS MANAGER/SECRETARY/  
TREASURER

*Linda McCray*  
PRESIDENT

*Lon Needles*  
VICE PRESIDENT

*Catherine Lavender*  
RECORDING SECRETARY

*Matt Cruickshank*  
SERGEANT IN ARMS

### Board Members

*Phil Petrie*  
*Mary Suter*  
*William Meers*





# PE LOCAL 71 NEWSLETTER

## SAFETY NET (CONTINUED)

rights end, but up until then you'll have a fall back plan.

If you really don't see yourself returning to that position, while you're in layoff you still have transfer rights to other Labor, Trades and Crafts (LTC) positions throughout the state and you can place yourself on our Employment Referral Program (ERP) list. If you quit, you lose your transfer rights and we have to place you at the bottom of the ERP list.

Because you are a member of Laborers International Union of North America (LiUNA), you could even transfer your card to one of our sister unions such as LiUNA Local 341 or LiUNA Local 942 and let them put you to work while awaiting your recall with the state. You would need to transfer your card back upon recall.

There are so many options available to you. If you have questions or frustrations, please contact the hall before doing something as drastic as quitting. We are more than happy to assist our brothers and sisters in any way we can.

-TRACY SMITH  
OFFICE MANAGER/CENTRAL REGION DISPATCHER



# PE LOCAL 71 NEWSLETTER

## LOCAL 71 SCHOLARSHIP AND TRAINING FUND



*Dennis Moen signs the Local 71 Scholarship & Training Fund constitution and bylaws.*

I am extremely glad to announce that one of my major goals as your business manager has been met.

I've long believed Local 71 needed a scholarship and training fund for our members and family. Thanks to the great support from your dedicated and hardworking Executive Board and the tremendous staff at Local 71 and Alaska District Council of Laborers, I recently signed the Constitution and Bylaws officially creating the... drum roll please... Local 71 Scholarship & Training Fund.

Once the mechanics of the fund are fine-tuned, Local 71 will notify members. The fund will generally operate like this:

Any Local 71 member or family member may apply. The Executive Board members will review applications and those who are selected will receive a maximum of \$1,000.

Again, this is a brand-new program Local 71 is offering and more information will be available as details emerge.

-DENNIS MOEN  
BUSINESS MANAGER/SECRETARY TREASURER



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## BAIT AND SWITCH

In these anxious times, we hope that we are cared for and appreciated by the people we have spent so much time working with, working for and to those whom we dedicate most of our waking hours. Unfortunately, these are also the times we are most vulnerable to the “Bait and Switch.” We’ve heard from some of our members in areas who have been hardest hit by the cuts being imposed by the current administration that they are being told they will be laid off but will be hired back as a temp for more money.



Let's take a closer look at this claim. First, all job calls for Labor, Trades and Crafts (LTC) positions come through the hiring hall. In the 15 years that I have been your dispatcher I have never seen a temporary position hired beyond Step A. If you have been with the state more than a couple of years this could be a significant pay cut for you. Secondly, the additional pay “in lieu of benefits” is \$1.65 per hour. This is not nearly enough to compensate you for the loss of your benefits (medical, dental, vision, retirement, leave accrual), or for the money you are losing by being hired back in at entry level. Non-permanent employees are also basically “at will” employees—able to be let go at any time, for whatever reason the employer deems necessary. The union only has the ability to go to Step 3 of the grievance procedure for non-permanent employees, which takes away much of its power to work for you.

We won't lie and tell you that what has been happening and what will continue for at least the foreseeable future will not be difficult, but just remember, if it seems too good to be true, first call your union representative.

-TRACY SMITH  
OFFICE MANAGER/CENTRAL REGION DISPATCHER



# PE LOCAL 71 NEWSLETTER

## WAY TO GO!

Congratulations to Raymond Heyano, maintenance specialist lead of the central region facilities, for winning the Alaska Department of Transportation's Outstanding Employee Award. And congratulations to Harold "Happy" Kremer, rural airport foreman at Cold Bay Airport, for being the 2015 State of Alaska's Employee of the Year.

It's exemplary members like you who make this labor union great, and Local 71 is extremely proud to have you on our team.



Harold "Happy" Kremer, rural airport foreman, Cold Bay Airport.



Raymond Heyano, maintenance specialist lead of the central region facilities.



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## RAFFLE

Local 71 is hosting a raffle to benefit the new Local 71 Scholarship Fund. Our Grand Prize is a brand-new four-wheeler. Tickets are \$20 each and only 1,000 tickets will be sold.

## STAY IN THE LOOP

The state of Alaska (SOA) Negotiation Team will meet again Feb. 4. Updates will be emailed and posted on the website. Don't forget to go to <http://www.local71.com/form> where you can fill out the form to authorize Local 71 to text you with important information such as updates on contract negotiations and other important news.

Also be sure to check out our Facebook page to stay plugged in on all the new and exciting things happening with our members all around Alaska.

## YOU CAN STILL GET A FREE FITBIT!

Enter the Drawing by March 15, 2016

The Trust Fund is giving away a limited quantity of Fitbits (the Charge HR model) remaining from the 2015 giveaway. If you are benefits-eligible, and no one in your family already received a Fitbit from the Trust Fund, you may enter to win. Here's how:

1. Go to [www.fitbit.com/chargehr#specs](http://www.fitbit.com/chargehr#specs) to determine your size (S, L, XL).
2. Then send an email to the Trust Fund at [Local71Fitbit@local71trust.org](mailto:Local71Fitbit@local71trust.org) by March 15 with your name, mailing address and size.

The Trustees will randomly select winners and then mail the Fitbit after March 15.

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## DECEMBER 2015 MEMBERSHIP MEETING STATEWIDE DRAWING

Congratulations to the following members for being drawing winners at the statewide meeting in December:

### ALASKA AIRLINES MILES WINNERS

Ricardo Peralejo

Kurt Koehler



*Ricardo Peralejo, custodian at Central Middle School in Anchorage. Winner of 30,000 Alaska Airlines miles.*

### SWEATSHIRT WINNERS

Kurt Jokela

Patricia Anaya

Lionel Kidd

Sylvia Gonzalez

Christina Flores

Marta Kawka

George Gillman

Dana Bowen

Robert Schneider

Andrew Dietrick

Cameron Lucchesi

Harold Kremer III

Alain Forest

Timothy Glassett

Vincent Osterback

Rebecca Heaton

Roger Hoffman



**LOCAL 71**  
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LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!



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