



The Community Minded Union

# Locally Speaking

The People Minded Local

Representing: Verizon-NJ Commercial & Marketing, Occupational Center of Union County, North Haledon Police Dispatchers, Data-Tele, AT&T Mobility and American Labor Museum Botto House.

SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

LOCAL 1023, CRANFORD, NJ

SEPTEMBER 2011

## OFFICER ELECTIONS

The Election Committee of Local 1023 is currently holding the election of Local officers and convention delegates. The nominating petitions were submitted on September 6, 2011 to the union office.

The committee has verified the petitions and the qualified candidates for offices have been determined.

This issue of LOCALLY SPEAKING contains a statement from each candidate. Due to space limitations, the list of duties for each office as contained in the By Laws of Local 1023 is not included. Any member who wishes to receive a copy of the by-laws should call the Local office at (908) 709-1023. The candidate statements appear in the order in which the candidates will be listed on the ballots.

Remember to carefully follow the rules enclosed with your ballot.

Ballots will be mailed on or about October 3, 2011. Only members in good standing as of October 21, 2011 will be eligible to vote.

All ballots must be received in the Election Committee's Post Office Box 750 at the Cranford Post Office by midnight October 24, 2011.

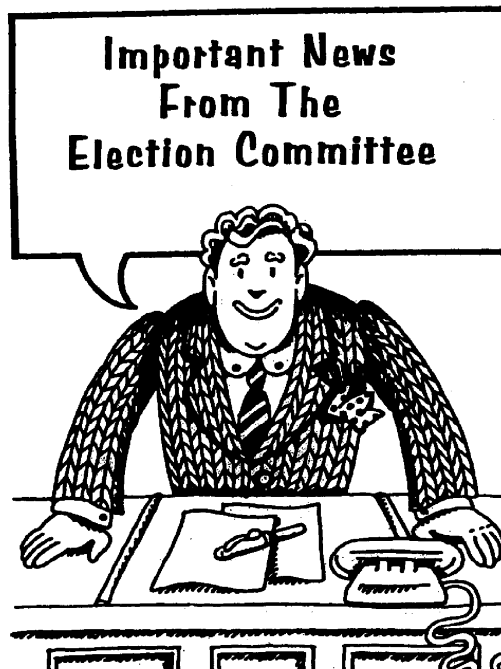
Ballots will be counted on October 25, 2011.

Your prompt attention to the ballot with a timely response will insure a democratic election.

Remember that every vote counts. Your vote is important.

**VOTE!!!**

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## Kathleen Forté Office of President and Delegate

### Work Experience:

- 1982 - 1990 Service Representative - Raritan Bay/Bergen Mall/Clifton SDCs/C.O.G.  
 1990 - 1994 Training/ SSB/China Voless/ Freehold RSSC  
 1994 - 2004 Consultant - New Brunswick CSSC/ Madison West CSSC  
 2004 - Present Consultant - Newark NSOCC/SRC

### CWA Experience:

- Steward Local 1023: 1987 - 90, 1994 - 6  
 Chief Steward Area IV: 2000 - 2002  
 Secretary: 2003 - 2008  
 President: 2009 - Present  
 Assistant Editor/Officer Liaison - Locally Speaking: 2001 - 2008  
 Officer Liaison - Community Service, Membership, Legislative, Safety Committees  
 FutureLink Advocate  
 COPE Contributor  
 CWA District One Leadership Training, Cornell University: 2002, 2004  
 CWA Officer's Training, Rutgers University: 2003  
 CWA District One Leadership Conference: 2001 - 2;  
 Delegate 2003 - Present  
 CWA National Convention Delegate: 2003 - Present  
 CWA District One Legislative/Political Action Committee Chair - 2005 CWA National Customer Service Conference  
 CWA Convention Credentials Committee 2009, 2011 Chair - New Jersey Presidents Coordinating Council 2009 - 2011  
 Mid-Atlantic Joint Marketing Committee Representative 2009 - Present  
 CWA New Jersey 2011 Commercial/Marketing Bargaining Representative for life of new Contract

### Awards:

- CWA National Convention 2002 Newsletter Contest for **Locally Speaking**  
 Second Place - General Excellence contributing

Assistant Editor

Honorable Mention - Best Front Page "9/11 Tragedy"

### Statement:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It's an honor and privilege to serve as your President. It is more important than ever to elect the most qualified individual to serve our Local during these critical times. I have a proven track record. This is not the time to test the waters with a less qualified candidate. I am asking for your vote to **re-elect** me as your President.

My work experience demonstrates that I have held titles in Residential, Business and Large Business for 29 years. I know the stresses you face daily when attempting to balance work and family obligations. My CWA experience shows that I have advanced through the ranks. I have held a seat on the Executive Board for 12 years. I have handled hundreds of grievances and have helped win mediation and arbitration cases that have resulted in the recovery of hundreds of thousands of dollars and members being returned to the payroll. I have successfully bargained two Contracts. I presently sit at the Verizon Bargaining Table as your representative.

The fight at Verizon is not over. The company has presented the most regressive, concessionary demands that CWA has seen in the last 25 years. Verizon wants to strip gains won in successful arbitrations and previous negotiations all the way back to 1970.

The rights of Collective Bargaining go further than the struggle at Verizon. The Middle Class is in trouble. We are fighting battles on all fronts. All over this country people are worried and angry. Without Unions, anti-worker policies would go unchallenged.

The bell is about to ring for the next round. I am up for the fight. I face challenges head on. I don't back down.

**I need your vote** to stay in these battles.

In solidarity and fortitude,  
 Kathy

## Kenneth Badillo Office of President and Delegate

No photo or resume was submitted

### ***MOVING?***

*Please remember to give your new address and phone number to the Local Office when you move.*

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- ✓ You can send by mail:

CWA Local 1023

118 South Avenue East, Cranford, NJ 07016



## Sharon Adamo Office of President and Delegate

### Work Experience

- 1990 – 1992: Directory Assistance, Rochelle Park
- 1992 – 1996: Consultant, Totowa RSC
- 1996 – 2000: Consultant, Riverside Teaneck RSSC
- 2000 – 2004: Service Representative, Newark NMC/TISOC
- 2004 – Present: Consultant, Newark NSOCC/SRC

### CWA Experience

- Steward: 1995 – 2005
- Chief Steward: 2006 – 2008
- Office of the Secretary: 2009 – Present
- Officer Liaison to: Community Services Committee, Membership Committee, Safety Committee, Mobilization/Organizing Committee
- Graduate, District I Leadership School – Cornell University School of Industrial & Labor Relations
- Trained in Steward Army
- CWA National Convention Delegate: 2009 – 2011
- CWA District I Conference Attendee: 2004, 2005 & 2008
- CWA National Convention Attendee: 2005, 2006
- FutureLink Advocate

### Brothers & Sisters,

I am honored to be running for the Office of President. I have been a union member since my first day on the job in 1990. Over the years, I've had the privilege of getting to know many of you through my active involvement in our Local, where I've faithfully served as your Secretary since 2009. In this position, I have fulfilled my campaign promises of **integrity, dependability, honesty and fairness**. In addition to three years as an officer on the Executive Board, I have served as Steward and Chief Steward. I was trained in the Steward army and have attended CWA conferences and conventions since 2004.

Our Local has afforded me the opportunity to grow and develop within my professional career at Verizon. I started as a 411 Operator and have held Consultant and Service Representative positions in various offices.

Without our Local, I would not be where I am today. As your President, I will use my personal experiences to grow our numbers. **We can't rely on corporations to build our membership. We need to organize, mobilize and educate** all of our coworkers – especially the younger employees – on the benefits of membership.

I believe the success of a leader should be measured by the improvements they bring to the lives of those they lead, not by any personal successes they may have. **I will be your voice** and I will speak louder than those who oppose us. Our voices will be heard on the picket line, at the bargaining table and anywhere else that inequality or unfairness appears.

Unions create opportunities and fight against injustice. The middle class was created by union organizers like us that worked tirelessly to ensure that opportunities for advancement, equal pay, and fair and equitable treatment in the workplace exist for its members. As your President, I promise not to give up. I will fight against outsourcing, off-shoring and any other practice that farms out jobs to the lowest bidder. **I will fight to keep our jobs in New Jersey where they belong.**

We need to be a better, smarter and stronger union. **Join hands with me as we look towards a brighter tomorrow for CWA Local 1023.**

In Solidarity,  
Sharon

**Attention : CWA Members**

We are looking to go with an email edition. Give us your email and at some point in the future we will email you your edition of locally speaking rather than mailing you a paper copy. This saves on trees, postage and work for the editor, as well as reduces expenses for the paper so we can publish more issues.

Contact us at [locallyspeaking@hotmail.com](mailto:locallyspeaking@hotmail.com) and we'll add your to the mailing list.

Only those who volunteer for the e-edition will get it !



## Charlene Johnson Office of Vice President and Delegate

### Work Experience

- 1988 – 2000: Consultant, Scotch Plains BSBC
- 2000 – Present: Service Representative, South Plainfield/Newark, NJ

### CWA Experience

- Steward: 1996 – 2003
- Chief Steward, Area IV: 2003 – Present
- FutureLink Advocate
- Member: Community Service Committee, Election Committee, Mobilization/Organizing Committee
- Organizer: AT&T, T-Mobile
- Graduate, CWA District I Leadership School – Cornell University School of Industrial & Labor Relations, Ithaca, NY
- Graduate, Election Training – Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
  - Graduate, Mobilization Training – Dallas, TX
  - Trained in Steward Army
- CWA 73rd National Convention Delegate: 2011
- CWA District I Conference, Atlantic City, NJ: 2009, 2010

Brothers & Sisters,

I am running for the Office of Vice President and **am excited about the opportunity to be a catalyst for change for my brothers and sisters of Local 1023.** I



have been a proud member of Local 1023 since my first day at Verizon as a Consultant in Scotch Plains. I am not only a union member, but a true believer in unions and a long time advocate. I take pride in educating both members and non-members on what a union really is, and helping them to separate fact from fiction.

A leader by nature, I know what it means to hold an office. I have been a Steward since 1996 and Chief Steward since 2003. In addition to my union activity, I have served as President for several other organizations in my community, such as the Boosters and the local Pop Warner football team councils. I am driven not only to get involved but to lead, and **I am thrilled at the prospect of helping to lead Local 1023 towards a stronger future with a deeper and more committed membership base.**

**I believe that if you don't stand up for what you believe in, then you stand for nothing at all.** This is a turning point for our union. We are losing ground and if we don't make some serious changes now, we'll be moving backwards instead of forward. We need an administration with a listening ear, one willing to make personal sacrifices so that the union as a whole can benefit. I know that this is not an easy task, **but I have the will and determination to fight for the betterment of the membership.**

**I pledge to work tirelessly to build our membership by putting my personal strengths and talents to use.**

A member of the Organizing and Mobilizing Committee, I participated in the organization effort for AT&T and am presently working on T-Mobile. Once people are educated and really understand what a union is and what the benefits of membership are, growing our numbers will become a much easier task. **I will be the voice of advocacy for Local 1023.** I will also continue to listen to your concerns and take every step in my power to address them, as I have done over the past fifteen years as a member of the executive board.

In Solidarity,  
Charlene



### EDITOR'S NOTE

Each candidate had the opportunity to submit a picture and a statement of their position.

The statements are unedited and are presented in the order that the candidates appear on the ballot.

**Kelly Guzman**  
**Office of Vice President and Delegate**  
 No photo or resume was submitted.

**Check out  
 Local 1023 on  
 Facebook  
 to stay on top of  
 current events!!!!**



**Attention Members!**

**Check out the Local's  
 Website at:**

**[www.cwalocal1023.net](http://www.cwalocal1023.net)**



**Ann Gilliard**  
**Office of Vice President and Delegate**

**CWA Experience**  
**1996-2006**

**Steward CWA Local 1023**

**2006-2009**

**Chief Steward Area III**

- Trial Committee
- Various Ad-Hoc Committees
- Strike Coordinator Area III

**2001**

**Steward CWA Local 1023**

- Delegate to CWA National Convention
- Future Link Advocate (1996-Present)

**Education & Training**

-Graduate Cornell University School of Industrial  
 Labor Relations

**2010** -Centenary College; Associates Degree

**Work Experience**

**1996-Current**

-Consultant CSSC/Livingston

**Statement**

I am asking for your support in electing me to the office of VicePresident of CWA Local 1023. Previously I served as Chief Steward, and Steward, all important roles in our Union Family.

I have advocated successfully for all members of Local 1023 during my tenure as Steward and Chief Steward. In addition I believe I have the members in mind when dealing with management. There must be a business relationship between Management and Union Officials. I will fight the tough issues with you. Communication is vital for all members so that we can stay informed and involved. The Labor Movement in this country is a dying breed. We need to energize, mobilize and stand strong to protect the **Middle Class Family**.

I am now and always will be an active member of CWA Local 1023. I will stand beside my sisters and brothers to fight the difficult fights. Together we will fix what is broken and move forward so that our children and their children can lead a better life than us.

I ask you now to support me in my endeavor to become Vice President. I am proud to be part of the CWA Local 1023 family. Together we will build a stronger Union Family.

**VOTE!**

**REMEMBER EVERY VOTE COUNTS!**

In Solidarity,  
 Ann Gilliard



## Robert Schaefer

### Office of Secretary/Treasurer and Delegate

Fellow Sisters and Brothers:

I am asking for your vote for the Office of Secretary / Treasurer for our Local 1023.

For those who do not know me, I'd like to share a little about my background and my qualifications for the position. My professional background here at Verizon and former Bell Atlantic consists of various customer contact positions including Directory Assistance Operator, Repair Service Clerk, Network Technician, and my current position, Consultant – Consumer Sales and Service. During my 21+ years of service, I was offered various opportunities to expand my knowledge through Verizon's Tuition Assistance Program and completed my BS in Business Management with a minor in Human Resources (1999) as well as a BA in Industrial Psychology (2007) from Fairleigh Dickinson University. In addition, I have completed a New Jersey Paralegal Certification Program (2009) which included legal research methods, corporate law, employment law, workers compensation, and employee rights under the Americans with Disability Act.

I am a proud member of both the CWA and previously IBEW. I was elected as a Union Steward in 2005, while working in the Newark SRC (Support Resource Center) handling customer appeals and win backs. I sat through many grievances and assisted with investigations for violations against our contract in order to protect our member's rights. I have participated in safety committee meetings while reconstruction and renovations were occurring at 540 Broad Street in Newark. The committee was responsible for ensuring employee safety and evacuation procedures were in place. Additionally, I have been an active member of GLOBE and CITE –

recognized employee resource groups and Verizon, and have held the office of Vice President, Director of the Speakers Bureau, and Corporate Advocacy. I have attended several CITE and GLOBE conferences throughout the region.

During the years, I have participated in many rallies, informational pickets, protests and marches to protect our rights as working citizens. Last year, I attended the "Stand Up" rally in Trenton (May 22, 2010) – which was the largest rally in New Jersey history – with over 35,000 attendees – standing up to our state legislators with a clear message, "Save Our Services, Save Our Seniors, Save our Schools, Save our State." Also, I participated in the "One Nation – Working Together" rally in Washington, DC (Oct. 2, 2010).

We are all facing tough economic times. The anti-union climate is at an all-time high. Our benefits, pension, wages, and our jobs are at risk of being cut and outsourced. We need to elect leadership that will deliver. We need to elect leadership that has the experience, background, and perseverance to get the job to completion.

In summary, I feel that I have the right combination of work experience, educational background, and dedication to qualify me as the best candidate for the Secretary / Treasurer position. My interpersonal and organizational skills, detail oriented background, diversity, integrity, and work ethics work together to get the job done.



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- ✓ *You can send by mail:*

**CWA Local 1023**

**118 South Avenue East, Cranford, NJ 07016**



**Naomi Rudd King**  
**Office of Secretary / Treasurer and Delegate**

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Consultant – Consumer Sales & Service**

**11/03/2008 – Present**

**Sales Single Point of Contact**

**Billing & Service Specialist – CSSC Resolution Group**

**CWA EXPERIENCE**

**Elected CWA Union Steward 2008 – Present**

Represent union members while liaising between consultants and management to create positive work relationships. Educate and encourage manager and peers to comply with CWA and company policies. Interact with union members and management to fact find, resolve misunderstandings, and proactively prevent or resolve grievances.

- 2008 to present CWA Union Stewart – Livingston North & West
- 2011 Mobilization Workshop Coordinator
- 2011 Mobilization Workshop Trainer
- 2011 Strike Field Operation Coordinator
- 2011 Strike Captain – Area I
- Appointed Delegate to represent CWA Local 1023 at NJ AFL-CIO COPE conference

**Education**

B.A. – Psychology. Upsala College  
 Currently pursuing a Labor Law and Management Certificate at Penn State.

**Statement**

Hello brothers and sisters my name is Naomi Rudd King and I am running for the position of Secretary/Treasurer for CWA Local 1023. I have been with the company since 2008 as a CSSC representative and I currently serve my fellow union members as a dedicated Union Stewart in the Livingston North office. In this short time I have managed to become a very active member in the union movement, my tenure here is the motivating factor

behind my passion for my union brothers and sisters. I see and feel the sense of urgency to make a positive change within our local. This passion has motivated me to attend every union meeting, spread the union message and help educate and guide my union brothers and sisters every chance I get. For those of you that already know me you can attest to the fact that I spend my breaks, lunches and free time trying to further the union movement. My actions speak for me so for those of you that don't know me yet just ask someone that does, I am sure you won't be disappointed in their answer.

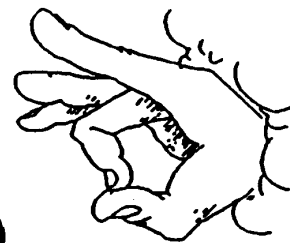
In short, I am a responsible, action-oriented self starter, who delivers significant results in a timely and cost effective manner. I demonstrate sound business judgment and decisiveness, blended with well-developed planning and communications skills. I continue to work at a consistently high level of performance in a variety of challenging positions. I have over 10 years experience in problem solving, risks assessment, planning, scheduling and maintaining cost control. In my past roles I have managed, coordinated and oversaw the efforts of contracted vendors such as Attorney's, Real Estate Associates, A&E firms, as well as landlords, utility companies, equipment vendors, and general contractors. I am assertive by nature and I take a proactive approach to meet milestone forecasts for projects assigned to me. I believe I am an excellent candidate for this position and I respectfully ask for your support in my campaign for Secretary / Treasurer, you will not be disappointed.

In Solidarity,  
 Naomi Rudd King

***If It's Thursday...***

THEN YOU MUST BE WEARING **RED**

IF NOT...



IT'S TIME FOR  
**A WAKEUP  
 CALL!**



**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**

**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**

**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**

**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**

**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**



The voice of local 1023 endeavors to provide factual, informative and relevant comment on matters of interest to the Membership. Reprint permission is granted to All Union Publications, with credit to the author. All inquiries concerning this publication should be referred to the Editor.

*PRESIDENT* ..... Kathleen Forté  
*VICE-PRESIDENT* ..... Ward Riley  
*SECRETARY* ..... Sharon Adamo  
*TREASURER* ..... Glenn Fernandez  
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Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9-5

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