

MCCC



News

208

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Candidates for MCCC Offices

Joseph LeBlanc Candidate for MCCC President



What happens everyday in our union is a miracle.

Chapter officers work to answer your questions, coordinate contract enforcement and offer support when you need it most. Our best chapter officers combine their multifaceted intellectual talents with gutsy member advocacy, providing a level of services unmatched anywhere in higher education.

On the statewide level, our MCCC Grievance Coordinators and MTA consultants and attorneys work with you in mediations and arbitrations. A member is provided with legal representation at the state retirement board. She wins credit for additional years of service and retires with dignity. An adjunct is granted unemployment insurance after his case was originally denied. Another is supported in a lawsuit to win health insurance rights. A professional staffer receives a salary increase after a successful classifications appeal.

Our union officers listen to member concerns, confront injustice, manage the accounts, keep accurate minutes and coordinate one of the best political action teams on Beacon Hill. Together – with your support – we fight for the best possible contracts while promoting and protecting the rights of our 7,000 members.

I have the best job of all. I get to tell your stories and push for change. I get to listen to your concerns and develop ideas to address them. I'd appreciate your vote of support in my candidacy for President. Together we can create a better, more powerful union, one that celebrates the miracles of our past and present while working to develop a new generation of union leaders. Thank you. ■

Donnie McGee Candidate for MCCC Vice President



I am seeking re-election as your MCCC Vice President. Experienced leadership is needed to safeguard our union and its members, especially in these challenging times.

For the past four years, I have chaired MCCC's Strategic Action and ORP Ad Hoc Committees. Currently, I represent the MCCC on the MTA Board and Higher Education Leadership Council. I have testified at legislative hearings to strengthen benefits, written op-ed pieces to fund campuses, gone to Washington to support the repeal of the Social Security offsets, and partnered with MTA and State House leaders to promote our legislative agenda.

My work with full- and part-time faculty and Professional Staff across the state has encouraged members to understand the importance of collective action and become active participants in democracy statewide. Such membership participation is needed to achieve union goals.

Though progress has been made in furthering our MCCC agenda, much work remains. The state retirement system needs to open its doors to ORP-enrolled faculty. Part-time educators deserve benefits and a professional path forward. Colleges need greatly increased state funding to prevent their privatization. With sky-rocketing enrollments, campuses require more full-time faculty and Professional Staff to serve students effectively. Current hiring trends must be reversed.

As your Vice President, I will continue to work hard to safeguard the working conditions, benefits, and professional lives of each MCCC member. I believe my commitment, enthusiasm, and experience will help keep us strong and move us forward. Please support me for Vice President with your vote in March. ■

Mark Your Calendar Annual MCCC Delegate Assembly April 24, 2010

Registration 8:30-9:30 AM
Call to Order 9:30

Crowne Plaza Worcester
10 Lincoln Square
Worcester, MA 01608
Phone: (508) 791-1600

Delegates will also receive a Delegate Packet, with reports and the proposed budget at least one week before the meeting.

Chapters are allotted one delegate for every 10 members. The MCCC Bylaws state that "each chapter shall elect its own delegates."

Chapters should begin recruiting members to ensure full representation of the membership.

DIRECTIONS

From Mass Pike take Exit 10 to Route 290E, take Exit 17 - Rte. 9. Take a left at top of exit. At 2nd set of lights at bottom of the hill, go left onto Worcester Center Blvd. Hotel is on the right.

From Route 495 take Exit 25B, Route 290W. Take Exit 18 - Rte. 9. Turn right at Lincoln Square/Worcester Center Blvd. Hotel is on the right. ■

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Phil Mahler – Candidate for MCCC Treasurer



I have enjoyed serving as your MCCC Treasurer for the last seven and one-half years and, bottom line, I am asking for your vote to allow me to continue in this capacity for another two year term.

The treasurer's duties have grown to include supervising the MCCC office, and the scope of this has grown every year. Our staff of three full-time employees is busy year around processing our 2,000 full-time and 4,000 part-time unit members. The three employees who were on board when I took office are now all departed. Each change in staff has presented a new challenge in training and reconfiguring duties. Our excellent staff are featured in the "Contact us..." link at the website.

I have served the MCCC since 1984, from Chapter President for seven years, to MCCC Director, MCCC Vice President, and MCCC President. I served on the MTA Board of Directors for six years, and have served on its Pension Committee for the last three.

Gail Guarino – Candidate for MCCC Secretary



I am running again for MCCC secretary because I want to continue my service to the Union at the state level.

I firmly believe that the MCCC plays a major role in trying to make the community college system in Massachusetts the best that it can be for both students and employees. I have been a faculty member at Cape Cod Community College for 23 years, the first nine years as an adjunct Information Technology instructor. I currently coordinate the IT program at CCCC and chair the Curriculum and Programs Committee.

I have been active in the Union at the local level for 20 of my 21 years at CCCC. I have served as the DCE Coordinator, Director, Treasurer/Vice President, President, and Secretary of the CCCC.

On the state level, I have enjoyed serving as your secretary for the last two years. I have also been a member of the

Continued on page 4

Continued on page 3

Patrick Cautions Unions on Election Backing

By Jim O'Sullivan
State House News Service

Washington D.C., Feb. 21, 2010.Gov. Deval Patrick warned restive labor unions threatening to pull political support not to ignore his efforts on their behalf, saying they should recall that he had campaigned on "an independence of judgment."

Facing a three-way campaign in November, Patrick said he did not want organized labor to hold him hostage with threats of defecting from the traditional alliance between the Democratic Party and unions, which voted overwhelmingly for him four years ago but have since grown largely disenchanted with some of his recession-era policies.

"I know that I have to compete for the support and the vote of working people, and I intend to go do so, and point out all the ways in which I go to work every day to try to make their lives better and will continue to do so if given a second term," Patrick said Sunday. "So I don't take unions or union votes for granted, but I don't expect to be taken for granted either, just because I'm a Democrat, that I'm going to line up with everything that I'm asked to line up [for] from whatever interest group it is."

Patrick's admonition comes as his rivals vie for labor's affections and as police unions, angered by what they call an erosion of collective bargaining rights, threaten to picket the state Democratic convention in June after protesting outside an AFL-CIO convention in Plymouth earlier this month. Other unions have sounded off with similar frustrations, pointing to trimmed benefits, which Patrick and others call necessary to prop up the state's ailing budget, as a retreat from what Patrick had promised.

Asked about Patrick's comments, state AFL-CIO president Robert Haynes said, "We never asked him to line up. We asked him to listen to us and to let us have a voice in the administration. I guess he would say that he let us do that. I guess he would say that. But the results are terrible as it relates to reform."

"We're very interested in reform and making reform work, but not when it comes at the expense of collective bargaining," Haynes said, adding that frustration with Patrick has built among police, firefighters, teachers and other government employees "across the breadth of the labor movement."

"We wanted a Democratic governor. We voted for him. We actually believed the rhetoric 'together we can'," Haynes said, referring to Patrick's campaign slogan. "We have a lot more experience in state government than he does. We've been around here a long time."

"He has issues with organized labor," Haynes said. In a telephone interview, he said picketing the convention would be "foolhardy."

During an interview in a hotel restaurant where Patrick is attending the National Governors Association

winter meeting, Patrick reasserted his reluctance to accept slot machines at the state's racetracks, a key component of the gambling package preferred by House Speaker Robert DeLeo, but again stopped shy of threatening a slots veto.

"My concern about slots is that we get the human impact without the jobs, and we need the jobs," Patrick told the News Service. "I think, to the extent we talk about slots as a bridge to destination resort casinos, I think that there's a real chance we won't get those destination resort casinos, that we'll stop with the slots. So I'm not persuaded that slots are in our job-creating interest."

"I've been very clear that I think there's a right way and a wrong way to do this. I think the right way to do it is with a limited number of destination resort casinos. The wrong way to do it is with racinos, or slot parlors," Patrick said.

The anti-slots stance is another needle for some unions hoping to retain jobs at the state's four racetracks. Patrick's testy dance with labor comes during a delicate political time for him, taking heat from a pair of well-funded candidates on the right that he has not cut spending deeply enough, and from core Democratic constituencies that say he has hacked too deeply, or in the wrong places.

Unenrolled Treasurer Timothy Cahill has courted labor, telling them he did not want to "demonize" public employees, a clear effort at contrasting with Patrick. Two candidates on Patrick's left, primary rival and former Green-Rainbow candidate Grace Ross, and the current Green-Rainbow standard-bearer, Jill Stein, have appealed to unions.

Perhaps most ominously for Patrick, more union members backed Republican Sen. Scott Brown last month than went for Democratic Attorney General Martha Coakley, according to an AFL-CIO poll, signaling a willingness among the rank-and-file to stray from traditional party affiliations.

Earlier Sunday, Patrick appeared on CNN's "State of the Union" in defense of President Barack Obama, a friend and political ally. Patrick told the News Service that he recognized how Obama had run into resistance.

"I think what the president is doing, and what feels very familiar, is he's asking for big changes, and some of those changes involve traditional Democratic constituencies, and some of those changes involve traditional opposition, but he is doing it in the spirit of what is best for the nation as a whole," Patrick said.

Patrick has run up against unions on a number of fronts, most recently the police over a higher education pay incentive program, a shift toward civilian traffic conductors at construction sites, and curbed collective bargaining agreements. He also encountered pushback from teacher unions over an education bill that passed last month.

"You have to acknowledge that for those police officers who are not getting details on state construction sites, it's money for them," Patrick said. "You have to acknowledge that. And at a time when everybody's short, that's real life, and I acknowledge that. But I think in this job you have to think about what is best for all of us. It's just not an argument that you can sustain that 49 other states seem to be able to have less expensive flaggers at state construction sites and we have to have police details."

He went on, "The irony I was going to point out is that I'm hearing the objections to details and what a betrayal it is from some of the same police officers who have their jobs because I directed Recovery Act money to local communities to keep them on the payroll. So that's just the nature of the times, right?"

Patrick and his wife, Diane, are attended in Washington by operations chief Ken Brown from his Boston office, deputy federal relations director Jewel James and federal policy analyst Gabe Maser from his Washington office, David O'Brien, a longtime political aide who is now executive director of the group organizing July's NGA convention in Boston, and longtime advance staffer Rose Arruda, now on leave from the administration and working with O'Brien.

Patrick's Washington office has come under heavy scrutiny since the start of his term, after he restructured its funding stream. Republicans have attacked the \$403,000 line item as wasteful, while Patrick and lawmakers have defended the branch as a necessary entrée to federal deliberations. With revenues in decline, the Legislature last year zeroed out the office's line item, a cut Patrick circumvented by shifting funding within his executive account.

The office sits on the second floor of the Hall of States, an office building a few blocks from the capitol managed by the State Services Organization, a collaboration among the Council of State Governments, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Governors Association. More than 30 other states keep branch offices there, Patrick aides said. Aged promotional depictions of Massachusetts hang on the walls along with, prominently, page one of the Boston Globe the morning after Patrick's inauguration, featuring Patrick delivering his inaugural address from the State House steps.

James, running the office while director Caroline Powers is out on maternity leave, said the Beltway contingent's purpose was to hunt for federal funding, monitor policy that might harm the Commonwealth, and serve as a liaison with the Obama Administration. James coordinates a weekly conference call with congressional aides about funds flowing from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the \$787 billion federal stimulus law. ■



The MCCC Board of Directors at their Feb. 2010 meeting. Clockwise from left, Claudine Barnes, CCCC; Rosemarie Freeland, GCC; Diana Yohe, BrCC; Roberta Albano, STCC; Tom Kearns, MaCC; Candace Shivers, MWCC; Clark Grain, RCC; Liz Recko-Morrison, BkCC; Rick Ponticelli, NSCC; Sara Satham, BHCC; John Cipora, Adjunct at-large; John Farrenkopf, Adjunct at-large; Steve Proetti, NECC; and Rick Doud, MxCC.

(photo by Don Williams)

House 2 Budget Spares Our Mostly Privatized Higher Education System



Joe LeBlanc,
MCCC President

It's still raining in the Commonwealth. To no one's surprise, the Governor's budget proposes to draw from Rainy Day funds again in FY '11. The structural deficit will continue with the state spending \$2.75 billion more than it generates in taxes, fees and federal dollars.

The House 2 budget combines these ingredients into an unappetizing budget with no relief in sight

until the Great Recession ends:

- To begin, drain what's left of \$786 million in federal stimulus funds
- Next, mix in \$608 million from an as-yet-to-be-enacted jobs bill
- Cut state spending by \$797 million

- Add \$230 million in new revenues, including capping tax breaks for film companies, eliminating sales tax exemptions for candy and soda and other ideas designed to produce more revenues without increasing broad-based taxes.

House 2 proposes to take \$175 million from reserves. Debt payments would be shifted in the Governor's budget and various Medicaid funding ideas will be pushed to help balance our books.

Education accounts won't be cut much. The budget mostly level funds Chapter 70 aid, Early Education, various K-12 grant programs and public higher education. The Governor recommends spending \$1.07 billion for our system. This includes level funding state and community colleges and UMass.

This gesture should not be taken lightly in these worst of times. The Mass Budget and Policy Center writes this about public higher education funding: "Because there is less ARRA funding available for FY 2011, the Governor proposes using the remaining \$96 million in recovery funds and increasing the state

share of funding by \$134 million" (my emphasis).

So, we will survive FY '11, but our problems aren't going away. The Commonwealth now provides less state support to our system (as a percentage of its overall budget) than most states. Our colleges have become state-assisted, mostly privatized institutions.

Fees will increase next year. Full-time faculty numbers will stay flat or decline. We will pay some lip service to the achievement gap and our need to align programs to present and future employment trends.

While the world cries for an increasingly educated workforce of creative thinkers, the Commonwealth replies, "We just can't do it this year. Let them go to the privates, the for profits or one of those state-assisted colleges. You know. The ones with the low tuition and expensive fees."

I'm looking for my umbrella. It's raining deficits and declining state services and no one seems to notice that we're getting very wet. ■

Gotcha Journalism



Don Williams, MCCC
Communications
Coordinator

Did you see the WBZ Eye Team report on Feb. 16? The advance teasers promoted it as college presidents "spending your money on themselves."

The piece looked into the cars that college presidents are provided as part of their compensation packages. Specifically it focused on Roxbury CC President Terrence Gomes' Buick Enclave and North Shore CC President Wayne Burton's

Chevy Tahoe Hybrid. It also mentioned Quinsigamond CC President Gail Carberry's more modest Nissan Maxima.

It was a rather shoddy piece of journalism, done in haste for ratings sweeps week. They only looked into nine of the community colleges, and never looked into state college and university officials. Rumor has it that someone (not a union member) "dropped a dime" on President Gomes spurring the investigation. But it was hardly a thorough investigation.

At North Shore they surreptitiously came on campus, found a similar black Tahoe in a staff parking lot and began videotaping the vehicle and its interior through the windows. Burton's vehicle was in the shop for repairs, and this particular Tahoe belonged to a campus police officer who saw the action on a security camera and came out to investigate. Seeing him, the Eye Team sped out of the lot driving through two stop signs.

I'm no apologist for the college presidents, and union members have some valid complaints about the colleges' expenditure priorities. But we also know that Massachusetts' community colleges are lean operations. The state allocations per student are lower than the four-

year institutions, and the colleges are very mindful of keeping tuition and fees low.

While the SUVs may have been a little extravagant - Burton's Tahoe exceeded the recommended Ford Crown Victoria by about \$165/month. With a college budget of over \$25 million, this expense is less than .001 percent of the college budget. To put it in perspective, this is the equivalent of two quarters lost in the sofa cushions of the average full-time MCCC member's salary.

There is justification for the presidents to be provided cars. They go to all kinds of events as part of their positions and probably drive hundreds of miles per week as part of their jobs. At a 50 cent per mile reimbursement rate for an employee's own vehicle use, the provision of a car may be about equal.

It was also interesting to see who the Eye Team interviewed. Besides students at Roxbury, there was an on-camera interview with State Rep. Jeffrey Perry (R-Sandwich) who is on the Joint Committee for Education and also teaches part-time at Cape Cod Community College.

Perry said, "Sometimes we don't count the pennies, and they add up to dollars." And he's correct in that. But it's easy for critics to find and lambaste small extravagances in government. And these lead the public to believe that there is massive abuse. People put government expenses into terms their own budgets. Perry said, "I can't afford a car like that." But the state budget is different.

Maybe it's just a coincidence, but the Feb. 17 Boston Globe mentioned Perry as one of the potential challengers to Congressman Delahunt. The college presidents should be careful about the public appearances of their expenditures. After Scott Brown's election there are many potential candidates out there looking to capitalize on public resentment of government at all levels. The people are angry, and others are ready to exploit that anger. ■

Your PAC Needs Your Help

The MCCC Political Action Committee—MCCC PAC—has been very effective over the past few years in advancing the issues of community college faculty and professional staff on Beacon Hill.

But political stature does not come without cost. Your PAC has made many contributions in the last election cycle, and it is important for all members to give their financial support, so that the PAC can continue to support you.

In this election year, the PAC will need to be very active given the recent mid-term election for US Senate. It is important that the MCCC PAC the resources are kept at a level sufficient to fulfill its mission.

Individual members and MCCC chapters can contribute up to \$500 annually.

Thank You,
PAC Co-chairs
Thelma Halberstadt and Frank Leary.

Send your checks to
Meg Kennedy PAC Treasurer
MCCC
27 Mechanic Street Suite 104
Worcester MA 01608

MTA GLBT Forum April 29, 2010

MCCC members are invited to a Forum and Social sponsored by the MTA Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Committee entitled Community Connect on Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Auburn MTA office, 48 Sword Street.

- There will be a discussion of GLBT issues at our workplaces
- Dinner and refreshments will be served

For more information or to RSVP, email Karen Horner at khorne@massteacher.org.

Gail Guarino

Continued from page 1

Financial Committee for five years, active on the ORP Ad Hoc Committee, chair of the Personnel Committee, and secretary of the DCE Bargaining Team. For the past three years I had the privilege of serving on the New Business Committee for the MTA delegation at the NEA RA.

Thank you all for your support over the past two years. I hope to continue to serve the MCCC and all its members. ■

Candidates for Adjunct Part-time At-Large Directors

Richard Devine – Quinsigamond

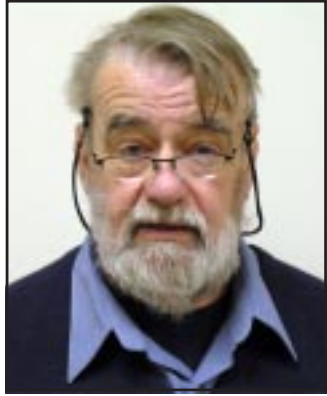
Dear Union Members:

Please consider some of these qualifications in choosing whether to vote for Richard Devine for at large part-time director:

- Adjunct at QCC for over ten years
- I've also taught at Bristol, Northern Essex, and Mass Bay
- Vice chair for the DCE bargaining team
- Chairperson of AAUP academic freedom committee at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, when I was also the Chairperson of the Sociology and Social Work Department
- Member Railroad Clerks Union (summer before graduate school)
- Member Grocery Clerks Union (during college)
- Sociology Ph.D.: supporting program in political science & educational psychology,
- One of 12 faculty invited to summer AAUP teaching workshop (Concordia College, with Ken Eble, author of *The Craft of Teaching*, as a keynote speaker).
- Actively involved in communications with MCCC President and MTA attorneys concerning allowable tax deductions for adjunct faculty for home offices and mileage expenses.

Sincerely,
Richard P. Devine

John Farrenkopf – Bunker Hill



I wish to continue on the BOD for a second term. I have been active at BHCC since the first contract as the adjunct rep on the adjunct/management committee. This has been interesting times at the Board – with two new contracts. I have been attending the adjunct quarterly meetings, too. I ask for your vote. ■

Lois Martin – Massasoit



In 1978 I began my community college teaching career as an adjunct at Massasoit Community College, was hired fulltime in 1982, retired from that position last May, and am now teaching online in DCE. Over a 32-year period, I have taught part-time day, evenings, summers, and day DCE, as well as fulltime. In addition to serving as mathematics department chair for several years, I was the adjunct coordinator for the mathematics department. These experiences collectively give me a wealth of knowledge about DCE issues.

From 2004-2009 I represented Massasoit on the MCCC Board of Directors, from 2005-2009 was an elected at-large member on the MCCC Executive Committee, and have served on the Finance Committee since 2000. I am currently also on the Ad Hoc Officers, DCE Grievance, and Adjunct Committees. At the local level I was Massasoit's chapter treasurer for many years and am now the DCE representative.

My MCCC statewide experience gives me a good understanding of the operation of the MCCC. As a Director, I advocated for adjuncts to have more of a voice in the MCCC through the creation of the two at-large seats on the Board.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy. I believe I am uniquely qualified to represent a growing contingent of retired faculty now teaching in DCE, adjuncts hoping to secure fulltime employment, as well as those who prefer to keep their adjunct status. A vote for Lois Martin is a vote for experience, vision, dedication, and commitment. ■

Betsy Smith – Cape Cod



Much to my surprise, in the ten years that I have been an MCCC member, I have become a union activist. In 2003, three years after I started teaching at 4Cs, I found myself as the only representative from the union at a hearing on including adjuncts in the GIC health insurance plan.

I have subsequently testified and written in favor of the Legislature's changing the law, but they have been very slow in considering the motion, so I am currently one of the plaintiffs in the MCCC's lawsuit to obtain health insurance for us.

During the past ten years, I have been involved in various activities, from being a member of the 4Cs ExCom, to proposing a by-laws change at Annual Meetings to give adjuncts a full vote, to attending the NEA-RA, NEA/AFT Higher Ed Conferences and COCAL.

Most recently, I served on the DCE bargaining team. With that challenge temporarily over (I would like to use what I learned about bargaining this time around by being on the team for our next contract), I would like to be one of the two Part-time Adjunct Directors. I would be honored to have your vote in this election. I thank you for your confidence in my ability to represent you on our Board. ■

Write Us

The MCCC News welcomes contributions.

Letters to the Editor

Only submissions by MCCC unit members will be accepted. Letters should be no more than 200 words in length. The author must include name and chapter affiliation, which will be published with the letter. Authors must provide the editor with contact information in the form of either email address, mailing address or telephone number. Letters will be published on a space available basis and may be edited for length and appropriateness. Not all submissions can be published.

Guest Columns

Guest Columns should be no more than 400 words in length. Columns by authors who are not MCCC members may be accepted. The author's name and affiliation will be published with the column.

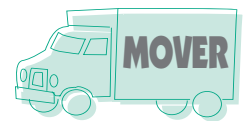
Mail to:

Donald Williams
North Shore Community College
One Ferncroft Road
Danvers, MA 01923

Or email:

communications@
mccc-union.org ■

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Call the office at 1-877-442-MCCC toll free or go online at <http://mccc-union.org/ChangeMyAddress/>



MCCC News

<http://mccc-union.org>

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The MCCC News is a publication of the Massachusetts Community College Council. The Newsletter is intended to be an information source for the members of the MCCC and for other interested parties. Members' letters up to 200 words and guest columns up to 400 words will be accepted and published on a space-available basis. The material in this publication may be reprinted with the acknowledgment of its source. For further information on issues discussed in this publication, contact Donald Williams, North Shore Community College, One Ferncroft Road, Danvers, MA 01923. e-mail: communications@mccc-union.org

Know Your Day Contract

March 2010

- March 5** Request leave of absence recommendations due (p.26)
- March 15** Dean's recommendations for Title change due (p.59)
- March 15** Unit Personnel Practices recommendations for tenure due (p.38)
- March 17** First Evacuation Day Holiday (p.22)
- March 30** Department Chair evaluations (p.70)
- March 30** Preferred schedules and course submitted (p.32)
- March 31** Department chair vacancies announced (p.55)

April 2010

- April 6** Dean's leave of absence recommendations due (p.26)
- April 15** Dean's tenure recommendations due (p.38)
- April 15** Title changes announced (p.59)
- April 20** Patriots Day holiday (p.22)
- April 25** Professional Staff unused vacation days in excess of 480 hours (64 days) converted to sick leave at end of last pay period in April. (p. 22)

N.B.

Dates may vary depending on the first day of classes. Most of these dates are "last date" standards. In many instances the action can be accomplished before the date indicated. ■

Phil Mahler . . . Continued from page 1

I have worked with President LeBlanc to get more support from the MTA, which has been successful.

My goal remains to support your elected leaders, negotiations teams, coordinators, committees and your chapter, in their efforts to serve you.

I work hard for the MCCC, and have your best interests at heart. I enjoy this challenging job and I would like to continue for another term. I would greatly appreciate your support. ■