LABOR UNION WOMEN ELECT NEW OFFICERS

Karen J. See, a longtime labor activist, was elected president of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), an AFL-CIO constituency group, at the coalition’s biennial convention in Los Angeles. See most recently served as the CLUW membership and field organizer, a post she has held since 2007. She began her involvement in the labor movement with the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) in 1980 as a postal clerk. See became the first woman elected as president of two local APWU unions in Boise, Idaho, and Mansfield, Ohio. See also served as president of the Boise Central Labor Council and as the financial secretary for the Crawford/Richland, Ohio, Central Labor Council.

The election of See as the CLUW president is seen as an endorsement for change to make organizing a top priority and expand membership to more unions. “We will be more active in our communities as we build partnerships with community allies together fighting for the needs of women and families,” See says.

The coalition also elected Janet E. Nelson of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to the post of executive vice president. Nelson previously served as national vice president. The coalition re-elected Judy Beard of the APWU as national treasurer and Dolores Gorczyca of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers as recording secretary. Former national vice president Gloria Brimm of the United Auto Workers was elected as corresponding secretary.

The 600 convention delegates also voted to increase the number of officers from unions that had not been previously represented.

(Source: BNA, Daily Labor Report, No. 204, October 26, 2009, p. A14.)