

WEEK IN ACTION!

Weekly News From Your Union ~ September 1, 2014 – September 5, 2014

President Martin Planning All-Worksite Tour

VSEA President Shelley Martin is announcing that she will embark on an all-worksite tour, following next weekend's 2014 Annual Meeting in Killington. Martin says she wants to meet firsthand with as many frontline VSEA members as possible, reminding that she too is a frontline, rank-and-file employee.

"When I come to these meetings, it won't be so much as an elected official of VSEA but more as a fellow state employee who wants to hear directly from as many of my frontline colleagues as possible," said Martin. "If we can determine what worksite issues and concerns are more universal than others, it will allow VSEA leaders to plan and strategize better about where to direct VSEA resources and time."

In addition to discussing specific worksite issues, Martin said she also wants members to come to the meetings with cost-savings ideas and thoughts about items to consider for VSEA's 2015 legislative agenda.

"If you know a way the State can save money, I want to hear it," she said. "And if there's something you think VSEA needs to address through the legislative process, I want to know it. I'm really looking forward to meeting with as many of you as possible."

Martin's tour schedule will appear in upcoming editions of *WIA*.

First VP Looking To Fill Empty Council Seats

VSEA First Vice President Michelle Salvador is actively recruiting members who are interested in joining the VSEA Council.

The Council, which is one of your union's primary governing bodies, numbers more than 100 VSEA members; each representing their colleagues working in a particular occupation or agency or department. The Council meets quarterly (paid leave is granted to attend) to guide and make recommendations to VSEA's Board of Trustees (BOT) on things like the budget and bylaws. The body also retains the right to overrule BOT decisions.

"The Council is a great way to get involved in VSEA if you're not already," explains Salvador. "I urge members working in the areas needing Council representation to please think about putting your name in for consideration."

Salvador is currently seeking a member(s) to represent employees working in **(bolded entries looking to fill multiple seats)**:

Aging and Independent Living (AHS) – One Seat

Agriculture – One Seat

Auditor of Accounts – One Seat

BGS (Admin) – Three Seats

DCF (AHS) – Four Seats

ACCD/Housing – One Seat

ACCD/Economic Development – One Seat

ACCD/Tourism and Marketing – One Seat

Commission on Women – One Seat

Corrections (AHS) – Five Seats

Criminal Justice Training Council – One Seat
Environmental Conservation (ANR) – One Seat
Finance and Management (Admin) – One Seat
Forests and Parks (ANR) – One Seat
Information and Innovation (Admin) – One Seat

Labor – Two Seats

Library – One Seat
Lottery – One Seat
Military – One Seat
Agency of Natural Resources – One Seat
Public Service Board – One Seat
Public Service Department – One Seat
Secretary of State – One Seat

Transportation Agency – Seven Seats

Treasurer's Office – One Seat
VSHA – One Seat

VSEA members interested in representing your co-workers on the Council are asked to submit a letter of interest to Salvador by email (msalvador@vsea.org) or by U.S. Mail to 155 State St., Montpelier, Vt. 05602. The deadline to submit your letter of interest is September 19, 2014.

Note: Council members are elected to two-year terms, but the term for all seats listed above expires in one year.

VSEA Retirees' Chapter Looking To Fill Vacant Trustee Seat On Executive Committee.

VSEA's Retirees' Chapter is looking to fill a Trustee vacancy in District 6, which is Windham and Windsor Counties. Former District 6 Trustee Nancy Robinson was elected VSEA-RC Vice President at the Chapter's Annual Meeting in August.

All VSEA "lifetime members" whose Chapter dues are current through FY15 are eligible to occupy the seat. To express interest, please email Retirees' Chapter President Joanie Maclay at jmaclay@vsea.org.

The deadline to submit your name is October 1, 2014.

Communications Dept. Adds "Publications" Page To Website

This week, the VSEA Communications Department added a new "publications" page to the VSEA website. The page can be found under "Union Resources" on the homepage, and it features the latest edition (and archived editions of the *Week In Action* and the latest edition of the *VSEA VOICE*. To access the publications page, [click here](#).

VSEA Wants Member Input On Website Redesign!

In the coming months, VSEA's Communications team will be devoting time to redesigning the VSEA website, making it cleaner and more user friendly. In advance of sitting down to begin the redesign process, VSEA's Communications team is asking members to please take a few minutes to complete an online survey about VSEA's current site and about what members want in a new

site. VSEA is also interested in learning what websites appeal to you and why, and what websites aren't so appealing and why.

To take the VSEA website survey, please [click here](#). Thanks in advance for your participation.

Deadline For 2014-15 Sugarbush Passes Is September 19!

Note: VSEA has met its sign-up goal, and is once again happy to offer members the lowest pass rate possible!

For the eighth straight year, VSEA is pleased to inform you that the VSEA Advantage Discount Program will once again be offering discounted Sugarbush all-mountain (& other) ski passes for the 2014-2015 season. This year, Sugarbush is once again using an online sign-up feature, which went live on August 12. This year's rate will be (15+ VSEA sign-ups) \$749 + 6% tax or (1-14 VSEA sign-ups) \$799 + 6% tax. VSEA has always been able to meet the 15-person limit, but there is no guarantee. Offer is available only to full-fledged VSEA members, meaning those who pay full dues. VSEA will be confirming names and status with Sugarbush representative.

Please share this notice with any VSEA members you know who might be interested in the Sugarbush deal.

A few notes:

- The program is open to full time employees, their spouse, partner in a same sex marriage. It is not meant for a "roommate" situation.
- Youth and child passes maybe purchased only in conjunction with an adult pass and do not count towards the 10/15 minimum.

[Click Here To Go To VSEA Sign-Up Page](#)

Deadline to sign up is September 19, 2014

VSEA Advantage Discount Program Welcomes Bijou Cineplex In Morrisville

Big thanks to VSEA President Shelley Martin for successfully recruiting the Bijou Cineplex 4 in Morrisville to join the VSEA Advantage Discount Program. All VSEA members who present their green membership card receive \$2 off the normal adult admission price.

Bijou Cineplex 4

4 Portland St. (U.S. Rte. 100)

Morrisville, VT 05661

Phone: (802) 888-6551

Website: <http://www.bijou4.com/>

E-mail: silverscreen4@comcast.net

\$2 off normal adult admission price for VSEA members who present their green VSEA membership card.

Bolton Valley Announces Discounted Season Passes For VSEA Members

For the second year in a row, the VSEA Advantage Discount Program is pleased to offer discounted season passes to the Bolton Valley Ski Resort in Bolton, Vt.

VSEA members who order a pass before October 31, 2014, will receive a \$70 discount off the regular \$569 season pass price, making it just \$499. Like last year, this offer is available only to VSEA members who are currently paying full dues to their union.

The sign-up process is pretty straightforward, but, like last year, in order for a member to view the special VSEA discount promo code ([which can be found by clicking here](#)), you must be a registered user of the VSEA website, which also requires you to be a full dues-paying member.

After acquiring the special VSEA promo code, VSEA members can [go here](#) to place your season pass order.

Follow these instructions to make your purchase:

- Click on “Buy Online” and select pass products, accepting or declining pass protection and adding each product to your cart.
- In the Cart view, click on “Add/Change Guest” to set the pass holder's name and information to each pass product, then click “Proceed to Checkout.”
- Enter your Promo Code in the box where it asks for your promo code then click “Apply Code.” The cart should be refreshed and show the discounted corporate pricing.

A 2014-15 Bolton Valley All Access Season Pass includes¹:

- Unlimited alpine skiing and riding
- 100km of Nordic and backcountry skiing
- A 20% discount on rentals, retail shop purchases, group ski and ride lessons, and lodging (includes condos, suites, or hotel rooms)
- Sports Center Membership including access to an indoor heated pool, hot tub, and sauna

BV pricing allows you to build your own family pass. Adult passes are just \$499 and passes for youth 17 and under are just \$159 when purchased with a parent's pass.

If you have any questions, please contact Brad Battin at 802-434-6813 or bbattin@boltonvalley.com

Go!Vermont Group Promoting “Capital Commuters” Program

In an effort to help address a parking shortage for state employees working in Montpelier, the group Go!Vermont began to provide discounted bus tickets in June 2013 to employees who commute into central Vermont. To date, Go!Vermont’s offer has been well received and dozens of state employees are taking advantage of the discounts.

Now Go!Vermont is asking *WIA* to promote another of its programs to VSEA members; the Capital Commuters Program. By enrolling in the program, VSEA members become eligible for a 50% discount on bus passes for certain routes, VIP parking for vanpoolers and carpoolers, a “guaranteed ride home” benefit and an official benefit card. Capital Commuter participants who

take transit, carpool, or bike ten round trips per month are eligible to receive great giveaways to area businesses along with other perks.

Sign up by July 30 to be eligible to win one of this month's great prizes:

- \$150 to Onion River Sports
- \$50 to the sponsored restaurant of your choice
- \$25 to Shaw's Supermarket
- Free transit pass for a month!"

To learn more about the Capital Commuters Program, or to promote it to your co-workers, click [here](#) to download a flyer and click [here](#) to read the latest edition of the Capital Commuters newsletter.

VSEA Advantage Discount Program Pleased To Once Again Offer Discounted Day Tickets To:

The Great Escape & Splashwater Kingdom

"Two parks of fun for the price of one!"
Lake George, New York

Park Opens Today, May 23, 2014, & Splashwater Opens May 24, 2014

Discount Tickets Now Available Through VSEA HQ & Online*

2014 Regular Day Tickets — \$31 each (\$24 Savings)

To Get Tickets

Send or drop off check (made out to VSEA), noting how many tickets you need. VSEA can mail your tickets or you can pick them up at VSEA HQ in Montpelier. VSEA members can also order tickets online by going to GE's [homepage](#), looking in the upper right-hand corner for the "Promo Code" box and entering VSEA's promo code, which can be [found here](#)*. GE Phone Number: 1-888-792-3500

New this year is the Extreme Supernova thrill ride!

Note: You must be a registered VSEA website user to view the VSEA promo code. You can sign up online [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings/Events/Holidays:

September 9

Benefits Advisory Committee
VSEA HQ
Montpelier

September 12

VSEA Council Meeting
Killington Grand Hotel
Killington

September 13

VSEA 2014 Annual Meeting
Killington Grand Hotel
Killington