



**“We must all hang together, or, most assuredly we shall all hang separately.”  
– Benjamin Franklin**

### **VOC MISSION STATEMENT**

"Our mission is to mobilize and empower our DC4 community to make a positive and lasting impact on the causes and initiatives we support. Through effective organization, collaboration, and a shared commitment to creating change, we strive to build a better future for our Union and beyond. We believe that by uniting our efforts, we can address pressing social and economic issues, foster goodwill, and inspire others to join us in our mission of service and advocacy."

All VOC members are welcome to join our Facebook Group [here](#).



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

- **Labor Notes Workshop: Race and Labor (August 2024):** This workshop addresses how class and race are inextricably linked, tracing back the origins of “race” as an invention of the ruling class to divide workers. We’ll talk about how to move to strategies of unity. When: Thursdays, August 15, 22, and 29; Time: 7:30pm to 9:30pm; Cost: \$10 for the whole series.
- **Jamestown Labor Day Festival (September 1, 2024):** [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Rochester Labor Day Parade (September 2, 2024):** [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Buffalo Labor Day Parade (September 2, 2024):** [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Syracuse Labor Day Parade (September 2, 2024):** [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Rochester Organizer School (September 13, 14 & 15, 2024):** [Click here for more information and to register.](#)



## VOC PREGAME

Our next VOC Pregame and Meeting will be held in **Rochester, September 19, 2024 @ 4:30pm.** Hope to see you there or on Zoom!

## PHOTO CONTEST

Submit your photos [here!](#) Photos from the field help promote our union trades and display our impact in our local communities. Plus, you could win a gas card!



## EDUCATE, AGITATE, ORGANIZE!

**9 to 5:** Colin Higgins’ 1980 comedy about three women who secretly kidnap and imprison their sexist, abusive boss and run their office in his stead certainly wasn’t planned as an answer to *The Pajama Game*, but the two movies sure do make for a coincidentally interesting double feature. Dolly Parton’s endlessly catchy theme song “9 to 5” easily outpaces any of the songs in the 1957 musical, but otherwise, this film feels like an answer to the sexist assumptions about women’s wants and roles in the earlier movie. *9 to 5* came out early in the era of the women’s lib movement hitting the mainstream, and modern audiences may have a hard time believing how radical it seemed at the time as a fantasy about women seeking equal treatment in the workplace, rising to executive positions, and even introducing radical innovations like flextime and day care for employees. It’s culturally dated, but it’s still funny and resonant, with Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton, and Jane Fonda.



## A LOOK AHEAD

Through its partnership with other labor leaders throughout the country, DC4 is planning a Zoom conference with labor activist and author **Bill Fletcher, Jr.** We do not have a date set yet, but it will likely be sometime in the Fall. The meeting will focus on what union members can do to support working class issues leading up to (and after) the November 2024 election. If this interests you and/or you have more questions, please reach out to Joe Guza ((716) 458-5844; [jguza@dc4.org](mailto:jguza@dc4.org)).

If you have questions or suggestions for the VOC Newsletter, please email [jguza@dc4.org](mailto:jguza@dc4.org).