



# UPSC E-NEWSLETTERx

## United Pharmacists of Southern California (Kaiser)

Issue 1  
June 2020

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### OFFICERS/STAFF REPS

Need to file a grievance? Have a contract question? Has there been a violation of the contract at your pharmacy? Has a manager asked you to attend a meeting which may lead to corrective action (“Weingarten meeting”)?

#### Contact your Staff Rep or Officer

- **Lawrence Louie** - (President)
- **Robin Borden** - (Secretary)
- **Susan Chmait** - (Treasurer)
- **Nancy Magnante** - (VP-Amcare)
- **Daniel Szeto** – VP-Inpatient
- **OPEN** – VP Central Refill/Mail Order
- **OPEN** - (VP-Outpatient)
- **Rebecca Myung** – (Steward Coordinator North)
- **Kathie Varisco** - (Steward Coordinator South)
  
- **Fred Aziz** (Staff Rep)
- **Sheri Gotanda** (Staff Rep)

#### Contact Lawrence Louie if interested in any open officer positions

What’s the difference between a Staff Rep and an Officer? Your Staff Reps are employed full-time by UNAC/UHCP to represent you. Officers are active staff pharmacists at Kaiser who are elected by you to represent members at certain local investigative, corrective action and grievance meetings and orienting new union members ON Kaiser time and paid a modest stipend to oversee the business of the affiliate OFF of Kaiser time. While OFF Kaiser time, some of the officer responsibilities include:

- bargaining your contracts and enforcing them
- lobbying Sacramento
- holding general member meetings twice a year
- participating in the grievance review committee
- voting on behalf of the affiliate at UNAC/UHCP Executive Council meetings (all 32 affiliates attend)

- promoting our union to potential new members
- building our communities by organizing community volunteer events
- continuously communicating with members via Newsletters and Facebook

[f United Pharmacists of Southern California \(UNAC/UHCP-UPSC\)](#)

**Need a copy of your CONTRACT?**  
**Log in to your [Memberlink account](#)**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Good News** - If you were on the mid-level health plan with \$20 office visit and \$10/30-day generic Rx copays, or paid extra for the high-level plan, effective 1/1/2020, **copays have dropped!** ALL benefited SCAL KP Pharmacists now have at no cost-share from your paycheck:

**\$10 office visit copays**  
**\$5/30-day generic Rx**

- **Ballots for Proposed 2020 Budget and Constitutional Changes** – Important ballot will be coming in the mail. Be sure to vote.
- **Outgoing Officers:** Thank you to **Cheryl Chan** for her dedication as Outpatient VP and Community Service Chairperson. She has stepped down to spend more time with family.
- **New Appointed Officers:** Welcome aboard to **Rebecca Myung** as new Steward Coordinator North and **Daniel Szeto** as new Inpatient VP.
- **New Contract Specialists (CSs)** for 2020: **Congratulations to Arvee Ninofranco, Rebecca Myung and Max Wang.** What are CS’s? They are KP SCAL Pharmacists paid by Kaiser to spend 20 hours a week rounding and enforcing the contract for YOU. You can contact the CS for your service area [here](#).

**PRINTED COPY OF UPSC CONTRACT – COMING SOON!**  
YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED! CHECK YOUR MAILBOX FOR THE BRIGHT ORANGE COVER TO ARRIVE.

- **UNAC State Officer and Board of Directors Elections** are this year. Due to COVID19 social distancing, delegates will vote by mail since there will be no UNAC Convention. Delegate nomination information was mailed 6/1/2020; nominations close on June 21, 2020 at 11:59pm PDT.

*If you are called into a meeting that might result in disciplinary action, ALWAYS contact your staff rep, officer or steward to be present and represent you. IT’S YOUR UNION RIGHT.*



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- **UNAC/UHCP Scholarships.** The deadline to apply for 2020 UNAC/UHCP scholarships for you or your child has passed, but you can still sign up [here](#) to help review this year's applications.
- **Get involved!** Become a Union Steward and be a resource for your pharmacist colleagues in your local pharmacy. Click [here](#) for more information and an application.
- **UPSC Website.** Under construction. You will be able to access announcements, latest information about your union, your contract, and your profession.

- "PEOPLE" contributions are **CRITICAL** to help UPSC continue to protect our jobs, our licenses and our patients' safety
- Your regular union dues can't be used for political action
- Only 8% of our entire 1500 pharmacists contribute

PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) to contribute to PEOPLE. Be a PEOPLE CHAMPION with \$12/paycheck or \$20/paycheck and GO BIG, and receive a CHAMPION t-shirt and AFSCME jacket.

**We CANNOT continue our level of presence and influence in Sacramento without your support**

### LOCAL & REGIONAL CONTRACT ENFORCEMENT

- UPSC won a Regional grievance over managers working >4 hours/day in Outpatient Pharmacies
- Look for [BLUE "Take Charge" flyers](#) in your email or on your Pharmacy Bulletin Board for current contract language topics. It will be published on a semi-monthly basis.
- UPSC has filed a grievance over the recent changes in pharmacist job descriptions and qualifications. Grievance hearing was on June 5, 2020.
- Regional pharmacist staffing and workload committees slated to start up in June 2020
- Per Diems do NOT have to pay for the flu shot at Kaiser. It is a condition of your employment.
- You should ALWAYS be guaranteed enough hours to meet your FTE status.
- Your schedule should ALWAYS be posted 2 weeks in advance.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

*THANKS* to UPSC members who donated to purchase our special UPSC teddy bears with attached medicine spoons to comfort sick children and prevent dosing errors. This Spring, we delivered them to Children's Hospital LA.



What a great way for our Kaiser SoCal Pharmacists to support our communities! Let's keep up the good work. We are collecting donations to purchase MORE bears. Each \$6 donation (cash/check made payable to UPSC) will purchase one bear for a sick child in the SCAL region.

To donate, or volunteer to help deliver, contact:  
[upsc.kathie.varisco@gmail.com](mailto:upsc.kathie.varisco@gmail.com)  
or any Officer or Steward

### POLITICAL/LEGISLATION UPDATES

#### ***SB617 defeated once again in 2020***

***Our most recent victory was on 1/23/20, defeating SB617 that would have increased the current Pharmacist-to-Tech ratio.*** This was due largely to UNAC/UHCP's presence in Sacramento. Bills appear and reappear and we need to stay on top of them.

***How can YOU help protect our jobs?***

WE ARE UNAC/UHCP - WE ARE THE OF HEALTHCARE

