



**DC Labor and Employment Relations Association's (LERA) March Luncheon
Wednesday, March 25, 2009 - Woman's National Democratic Club**

Philip Dine, Journalist and Author of

***State of the Unions: How Labor Can Strengthen the Middle Class,
Improve Our Economy, and Regain Political Influence***

Note: We had originally scheduled Philip Dine to speak on January 28. Unfortunately, weather forced us to cancel that luncheon program. We are extremely pleased to announce that Phil has agreed to talk to us about his diagnoses and remedies for organized labor on Wednesday, March 25.

You may have seen or heard Philip Dine recently on CBS News, CNN, or NPR discussing his book *State of the Unions*. In it he delves into the decline of American labor unions, explores how their troubles have had a powerful effect on our way of life and our political landscape, and suggests how Labor could revitalize itself. The relevance of his book is two-fold. First, it looks at what Labor typically does – and what it should do – during elections. Second, it examines how Labor can appeal to working-class voters who were once again decisive in key states. The role of this key swing vote is all the more important given the tasks facing President Barack Obama and his need to appeal to the values of those voters. In that context, Phil will talk about some of the issues that Labor needs to address to make itself more relevant to the public and communicate better about the value that unions can bring to America's workers.

Philip Dine is a Washington-based journalist who writes one of the country's only weekly labor columns, which appears in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He was the 2008 winner of the prestigious Lewis award for exemplary journalism.

DATE: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 TIME: Registration: 1:45; Lunch: 12:00

LOCATION: Woman's National Democratic Club's historic mansion at 1526 New Hampshire Ave., N.W. (Just north of Dupont Circle - Red Line Metro, Dupont Circle stop, Q Street Exit)

COST: \$20 for members with reservations, \$10 for student members, \$25 for non-members and non-reserved members.

MENU: Meat with seasonal vegetables and dessert. Vegetarian meals are available with advance registration.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Contact Lisa Blevins at lblevins@americanrightsatwork.org or (202) 822-2127, ext. 119 (e-mail responses preferred).

Please give us 24-hour notice of cancelations or you will be billed. Thank you!

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National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems
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