

Biography of Florence “Flo” Tripi

Florence “Flo” Tripi served as President of CSEA’s Western Region since 2000. As Region President, Tripi also served as a CSEA statewide Vice President. Tripi was active in CSEA for 50 years, beginning her career in 1968. Throughout her career, she served CSEA in many capacities, including president of the Monroe County Unit representing 3,000 members and first Vice President of Monroe County Local 828.

Flo served nine years as a member of the Executive Council of the New York State AFL-CIO. Tripi has served on CSEA’s Statewide Board of Directors since 2000. She served for 16 years as the Western Region’s vice president, under the leadership of the late Robert L. Lattimer, former Western Region president.



Tripi served as Vice President of the Western New York Area Labor Federation and as a Vice President of the Buffalo Labor Council and of the Rochester Labor Council, where many battles have been won for those in the labor community. Tripi was the Western Region’s top CSEA activist, taking on politicians and the toughest governmental and agency administrations across New York State. She was regularly seen at local and unit contract rallies throughout the area, where she spoke out powerfully on behalf of our working families.

Her energy was contagious, motivating member activists in their quests for fair and just treatment. Tripi believed the Labor Movement should build on the past to strengthen its future. She also believed regularly communicating with membership was one of her most important duties. She was a polished writer and keynote speaker. She used these skills to write reports to the CSEA Board of Directors and the Region’s leadership and membership as well as to host Western New York regional meetings designed to provide local and unit delegates with important information for their grassroots campaigns. She had an unparalleled wealth of institutional knowledge.

Four of the most important things in Flo’s life were family, faith, friends and union. Tripi was an active leader, bringing staff and membership and the larger labor community together for team building and cohesiveness for the everyday battles facing the Labor Movement. Tripi was an avid gardener and a regular attendee of St. Charles Borromeo Church. She was also a lifelong New York Yankees fan and loved to share her passion for them with anyone she could.