



THE DISPATCHER

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Solidarity Rally for Rite Aid Workers

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10am – 12 noon**

Rite Aid Distribution Center
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New police powers: A new immigration law in Arizona becomes effective on June 29th that will allow police to stop anyone they suspect of being in the U.S. without authorization and creates a new crime for failing to carry documents.

ILWU challenges Arizona immigration law

The ILWU is challenging Arizona's controversial new immigration law that empowers police to detain anyone they suspect of being in the country without authorization. The law also gives police the right to demand proof of legal residency and creates a new crime for failing to carry proof of citizenship or immigration papers.

The ILWU's has filed a "friend of the court" document, known as an "Amicus brief," that argues the Arizona law is a dangerous threat to everyone's civil liberties and Constitutional rights.

"The Arizona law encourages racial profiling and discrimination" said ILWU International President Bob McEllrath. "The ILWU has direct experience with unfair immigration laws that were used in the past to harass and discriminate against union members, including our former President, Harry Bridges. We want the courts to know how

these laws can hurt union people and threaten everyone's civil rights."

Other unions are also criticizing the law and taking action. Hundreds of union, religious, and community leaders from Southern California are joining a protest being coordinated by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor on July 29, the first day that the new law takes effect. Activists, including ILWU members, will travel on buses to Arizona where they will deliberately defy the law by refusing to carry identification documents and challenge authorities to arrest them for violating the state's new immigration policy. Five chartered buses will carry an estimated 250 protesters, including ILWU Local 13 Vice President Bobby Olvera, who's planning to join the action. "I'm going to protest because this is the beginning of racial profiling at its worst. I don't believe in singling people out, based on the color of their skin." Olvera is encouraging other ILWU members to join him for the protest.

Arizona's new law was passed after agitation by right-wing groups, including "Tea Party" activists, who

have had success moving a number of conservative causes, including:

- Prohibiting scientists from experimenting with stem cells to cure diseases.
- Banning the teaching of ethnic studies classes in public schools.
- Allowing guns, including concealed weapons, to be carried into bars.
- Barring President Obama from appearing on the Arizona ballot unless he produces a birth certificate.

But the most controversial claim is that immigrants arriving without documents are causing a crime wave along the border. Conservative TV and radio commentator Bill O'Reilly has fueled the fire by claiming that Arizona is "overrun with crime and everything else and people getting slaughtered on their ranches. I mean, it's insane."

The facts from the latest FBI crime statistics show these claims to be false. Violent crime in Arizona declined significantly in 2009 and fell in south-

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Postmaster: Send address changes to The Dispatcher, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109-6800.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the ILWU membership, we are filing an amicus brief to oppose Arizona's dangerous new immigration law. An amicus brief is a document that is filed in court by someone who is not directly related to the case but has an interest in the matter that it under consideration by the court.

Like most people of good will and conscience, the ILWU is outraged at the racial profiling and discriminatory targeting of minority and immigrant groups sanctioned by Arizona Senate Bill 1070. Still, the ILWU's opposition to the bill goes deeper than that.

Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is now the most stringent law on immigration in the nation. Supporters of the bill say that it is designed to address the issue of illegal immigration. But, we know, as an organization with a history of periodic government restraints on civil rights, that the bill goes much farther than that.

In the 1940's, immigration law was used to prosecute President Harry Bridges, the founder of this great organization, based on his alleged affiliation with the Communist Party. Eventually, the government's use of deportation law to prosecute President Bridges based on a theory of guilt by association was found to violate the free speech and free association rights that are protected by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights. Before it was all said and done, however, thousands of citizens and immigrants had been accused of being Communists or communist sympathizers, leading to the loss of employment, destruction of careers, and even imprisonment. The reckless and unsubstantiated government attacks on innocent individuals was made possible by federal immigration laws, which were later declared unconstitutional.

Do not confuse what is at issue here. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is not merely a bill that takes aim at illegal immigration. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 impacts us all, citizens and immigrants alike, by making it a state crime not to carry proof of citizenship or immigration status and requiring police to ask about a person's status if there is any doubt. And, how do the authorities determine whether there is any doubt about your status? The answer is racial profiling. That's right, since one of the few ways to develop a suspicion that someone is in the country unlawfully is based on appearance, the bill invites authorities to determine whether a person is considered likely to be an illegal immigrant based on particular racial or ethnic characteristics or, more simply, the color of one's skin. This is far worse than the guilt by association that almost got President

Bridges deported over half a century ago. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 invites law enforcement to use racial and ethnic characteristics to guess at the undocumented status of any given person.

Can you imagine walking down a street and having a police officer pick you out of the crowd based solely on the color of your skin and ask you for documentation of citizenship? You don't carry a passport or a birth certificate with you because you were born and raised in the United States. You have a driver's license but that's not good enough. The police arrest you for failure to carry proof of citizenship. Now imagine that the local authorities that have been empowered by Arizona Senate Bill 1070 already have their own prejudice against one race or another and have just been authorized to use skin color as a way to determine whether they demand that an individual prove his or her citizenship. What stops these local authorities from using the law to carry out reckless and unsubstantiated attacks on law abiding individuals just because their skin isn't light enough? The answer is that nothing can protect people, citizens and immigrants alike, from the discrimination and abuse of power that Arizona SB 1070 invites.

In its Amicus Brief in opposition to Arizona Senate Bill 1070, the ILWU will argue that, in addition to the evils of racial profiling, the bill expands general police powers to unconstitutionally allow for routine, identification checks on all individuals, including those outside the targeted group. The process of distinguishing suspect people from everyone else requires police authorities to proactively scrutinize and when they so choose make any-

one produce their identity papers. History teaches that when a minority group is subject to such broad police power the entire population falls under similar police surveillance. Think about it. What would happen if you were on a picket line and the authorities asked everyone for identity papers; having none, authorities could arrest you not for picketing but for your failure to carry identity papers. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 changes the role of local police and their relationship to the general population in our country by legalizing the use of color of skin to determine whether someone's immigration status is in doubt and by giving local police unlimited authority to perform reckless and unsubstantiated questioning of law abiding individuals in any context.

The ILWU asks all people of good will and conscience to stand together and oppose Arizona Senate Bill 1070. This organization and its officers have a proud history of opposing racism and government restraints on civil rights. Maybe you have heard the story of President Bridges and Noriko "Nikki" Sawada, who was born in the United States but of Japanese ancestry, being refused a marriage license in 1958 in Nevada based on a 94-year-old statute banning interracial marriage. Instead of returning to California to get married, President Bridges and Sawada challenged the law and got a United State District Court judge to rule in their favor, allowing them to marry in Nevada. Shortly after that, the Nevada state legislature rescinded the racist law. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 deserves the same kind of opposition that the Nevada state law banning interracial marriage got back in the 1950's. Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is a racist law that must be abolished.

An injury to one is an injury to all.

LETTERS TO THE DISPATCHER

Dear Editor,

Our families have so many people and groups to thank for helping us break Rio Tinto's lockout in Boron. We hope that others will want to add their "thanks" to anyone we forget to mention in this letter, because so much support came from so many different people and places.

The sisters and brothers in ILWU locals near and far were amazing. So many of you came to visit us, and even more contributed to the emergency fund that kept us going through the hard times, including our sisters and brothers in Canada who donated so generously.

We also want to thank the thousands of families from other unions who worked with the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, especially Maria Elena Durazo who organized the "docks to the desert" caravan that delivered groceries and solidarity to our families in Boron. Maria Elena was right when she told us that we had been "adopted" by working families in Los Angeles and would be protected by them until we won the lockout. The California and national AFL-CIO also gave us important support.

Families from so many different unions came through for us. Connie Leyva of the Food and Commercial Workers Union gathered donations from grocery store workers that helped keep our emergency food pantry full, and delivered hundreds of Easter



USFCW's Connie Leyva helped families in Boron.

Baskets that delighted our kids. The Teamsters and Food & Drug Council donated their big-rig trucks. The California School Employees gave us our first contribution and organized a "Good Jobs & Good Schools" march and rally. The Electricians brought their BBQ and cooked lunch for our families. Unions from all over the world sent solidarity messages that boosted our spirits, and some even came to visit us from South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe.

The small business owners in our High Desert communities also stood together with us throughout the lockout, as did the community newspapers and reporters who were pretty fair for the most part.

Last, but not least, we have to thank all of the members and families at Local 30 who made sacrifices and volunteered to help fight the lockout. Whether we were out on the line, recruiting other unions or local business owners to help, we all did our part. In the end, we learned that nobody can do it alone, and that all of us need to be there to help each other in the future.

In the weeks ahead, we hope to see many of you at the rally on June 29th as we help the workers at Rite Aid in Lancaster get their first contract. Thanks again to everyone who helped us get through the lockout and showed Rio Tinto that our unity, solidarity and support make all the difference.

Bill Galloway & Connie Page-Galloway
Boron, CA

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Send your letters to the editor to: *The Dispatcher*, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109-6800 or email to editor@ilwu.org

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ILWU continues fight to help Costa Rican dockworkers

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) is asking the Obama administration to investigate the illegal ousting of elected union leaders from Costa Rica's dockworkers union. Declaring that longshore workers are united beyond international borders, the ILWU denounced the police takeover of SINTRAJAP, the union representing longshore workers in the Caribbean ports of Limón and Moín on Wednesday, May 28th. The ILWU pledged to increase its months-long campaign to help restore union democracy in the Central American country. The ports of Limón and Moín handle significant imports of petroleum and other products and are major exporters of bananas, coffee, cocoa and coconuts.

ILWU International President Robert McEllrath said, "Longshore workers are united globally, and when police start breaking glass and occupying the union hall in Costa Rica, it's a call for international solidarity."

Costa Rica's newspaper, El País, reported that a group of 60 armed police closed streets around the build-



Attack on the union: Police smashed down the door at the union's office. The government ordered the attack that took place in late May.

ing of JAPDEVA's union [SINTRAJAP] in Limón, while several knocked down doors and stormed the building, at 4:30 a.m., in the Costa Rican Caribbean port.

In January, the democratically elected leaders of SINTRAJAP were replaced in what the ILWU calls a "sham election forced by the government in apparent violation of international labor law." Since that time, the ILWU Coast Longshore Division has supported the union's Costa Rican counterparts by:



Police at the SINTRAJAP union hall stand below a sign that says the port funds are for everyone, and the workers won't give that up.

- Writing a letter to President Barack Obama from ILWU President Robert McEllrath outlining the issue and requesting assistance.
- Educating members of Congress on the issue, prompting a letter signed by 25 U.S. senators and representatives asking Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton to investigate.
- Hosting a delegation of Costa Rican dockers at the ILWU Coast Longshore Division's Caucus on April 5-9, where representatives of all longshore members voted unanimously to support SINTRAJAP's fight to restore its elected leaders.
- Placing several full-page advertisements in major Costa Rican newspapers, including La Nacion and El Semanario, to educate citizens on the undemocratic moves of their government.

President McEllrath's letter to President Obama concluded with the following observation about international solidarity: "Dockworkers worldwide are of a strong and unique fraternity that transcends nationalism. Cargo vessels and their owners are not dependent on any one country. Neither are dockworkers. An injury to one is an injury to all."

Returning to where their sit-down made history 50 years ago



Activists revisit the City Hall steps where they protested 50 years ago.



ILWU pensioners Herb Mills (right) from Local 10 and Nick Granich from Local 34 stand with Becky Jenkins, daughter of deceased Local 6 member David Jenkins. The trio attended a ceremony at San Francisco's City Hall on May 13th marking the 50th anniversary of a protest by students and trade unionists that changed history. In 1960, the United States was still plagued by Cold War hysteria that encouraged bigots, employers and anti-union politicians to persecute dissidents, activists, and anyone accused of having left-wing political views – including many ILWU members. On the afternoon of Friday, May 13, San Francisco police used high-pressure fire hoses on singing students who were protesting on the City Hall steps, washing many down to the floor below and beating others with clubs. Sixty four were arrested but none were convicted as public sympathy turned against the anti-communist witch-hunt hearings organized by HUAC, which never held another hearing outside of Washington. It was the beginning of student activism in the 60's, and marked the end of the Cold War as people finally stood up in numbers to challenge the witch-hunters and bigots.

Hornblower sacks IBU activist for being “too gay”

Vincent Atos is a low-key, friendly guy who never concealed the fact that he was gay and a supporter of the union. During his six years as a deckhand with the Blue & Gold Fleet, and three on Hornblower’s Alcatraz run, his co-workers never seemed to mind his “gay” behavior. In fact, his co-workers at Hornblower voted him “Employee of the Year” for 2007.

But on Oct. 30, 2009, Human Resource Manager Anne Levine called Atos into her office and said someone made a complaint of sexual harassment against him. Hornblower suspended him pending investigation, and fired him two weeks later—conveniently removing the most outspoken supporter of IBU representation for the Alcatraz crews.

“I was acting the same as I always had,” Atos said. “It’s true that I was the most flamboyant gay person there, but it was never a problem until I was active with the union.”

Atos and his co-workers had been fighting to win back union representation ever since Hornblower took over the Alcatraz ferry run in 2006. Hornblower underbid Blue & Gold, the union employer, to win a lucrative 10-year contract from the Bush Administration’s National Park Service. The company refused to rehire many of the experienced Blue & Gold deckhands and captains, putting 48 of them out of work. It then denied union recognition, saying the IBU lacked majority support.

With the help of the ILWU International Organizing Dept., pro-union workers built support on the job and among political leaders. Close to 30 elected officials sent individual letters to Hornblower supporting the workers’ demand that the company stay neutral and recognize the union if a majority of workers signed cards. The supporters of this “card-check neutrality” process included every member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and many California state legislators, among them State Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) and Assembly Speaker John Perez (D-Los Angeles). California Assembly member Fiona Ma (D-SF) and San Francisco Board of Supervisors President David Chiu led the delegation that delivered the request for a neutrality agreement to Hornblower in July 2008. By mid-October a majority of workers in the bargaining unit had signed cards. The weekend before Atos got fired, he went to the IBU Convention in Seattle, and received an award for his work.

From the moment Levine called Atos into her office Oct. 30, she began peppering him with questions. She tried to tar him with the typical anti-gay slurs.

“She asked if I said I liked working with ‘the young ones,’ if I called anybody ‘hot,’ and if I acted gay to offend people,” Atos said. “She refused to tell me about the complaint against me, but the questions she asked made me feel like a pervert.”

Atos filed a complaint with the San Francisco Human Rights Commis-



Speaking out for fairness on the job: Vincent Atos (L) was voted “Employee of the Year” in 2007 by his co-workers. Officials at Alcatraz Cruises singled-out Vincent and fired him for being “too gay” after he spoke up for the majority of workers who want IBU/ILWU representation.

sion, accusing Hornblower of anti-gay discrimination. People joke and talk about sex all the time at work, he explained. Male crew members ogle female passengers and comment on their assets. One of the captains shows co-workers porn on his laptop during breaks. This behavior goes on with no one getting so much as a warning—but when Atos joked and flirted, he was told he was acting “too gay” and his behavior was offensive.

Members of San Francisco’s politically active lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender (LGBT) community found Hornblower’s behavior offensive. The Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club and Pride at Work (the AFL-CIO constituency group for LGBT unionists and

their allies) called a rally April 19 to protest Atos’ firing.

“We’ve seen the link between queer issues and labor issues since Harvey Milk helped organize the boycott of anti-union, anti-gay Coors beer,” said Milk Club Co-President David Waggoner. “We’re calling on the City to investigate and end this discrimination, and on Hornblower to give Vincent his job back.”

Around 50 people picketed in front of Alcatraz Cruises during the lunch hour, livening up Pier 33 with their colorful and sometimes slightly off-color chants.

“I want to extend solidarity first to Vincent as a fellow Filipino,” said Rev. Israel Alvaran, community organizer for UNITE-HERE Local 2 and a member of Pride at Work. “As hotel workers, we are part of the tourist industry, just as the workers at Alcatraz Cruises are. As a union, we support organizing and we support queer rights. We want to call on queer tourists to not patronize anti-union hotels and boats,” Alvaran said.

The San Francisco Democratic Party passed a resolution on April 21 calling on Hornblower to re-hire Atos, and recommending that the Port Commission consider the case when Hornblower applies to renew its lease.

Atos’ has also filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board, in addition to his pending complaint at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. Supporters are planning new ways to highlight his case during the upcoming tourist season, including an action on Saturday, June 19th at 1pm at Pier 33 along San Francisco’s Embarcadero. For more information and updates on future actions, contact ILWU Organizer Agustin Ramirez, 916-606-4681.



Solid support for the fight against bigotry and union-busting at Alcatraz Cruises: Members of Pride at Work, the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, and other organizations are supporting Vincent Atos who was fired by Alcatraz Cruises/Hornblower in San Francisco.

Christening a new ferry: IBU Regional Director Marina Secchitano breaks a bottle of champagne on the newest ferry that will serve commuters around the San Francisco Bay Area. The new vessel, operated by the Water Emergency Transportation Authority, joins a new fleet of modern ferries that feature low emissions, increased passenger comfort, and lower-wakes. This was Secchitano’s first experience launching a new ship, and the first time that the agency chose three women for the honors. “I spent eight years on the Authority Board of Directors, going over all the plans and details that went into these new vessels, so it was a special honor to be chosen for the ceremony,” says Secchitano. The new vessels operate with up to 85% fewer emissions than the old models they are replacing.



ILWU challenges Arizona immigration law

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western border counties that now enjoy some of the lowest crime levels in the nation per capita – a decline of more than 30% in the last two decades. The four largest U.S. cities with the lowest rates of violent crime are all located in border states: San Diego, Phoenix, El Paso and Austin.

The Wall Street Journal has reported that Arizona's has had a problem separating fact and fiction when it comes to crime and immigration, noting that violent crime rates "plunged 16.6 percent in Phoenix, despite a perception of rising crime that has fueled an immigration backlash."

The FBI's crime decline numbers at the border are confirmed by statistics gathered from the U.S. Border Patrol, which found assaults on their agents declined more than 300% last year – and most of those incidents involved rock-throwing instead of knives and guns that were used in previous years.

The same holds true nationwide; crime rates across the United States declined in 2009, dropping steadily during the past decade to the lowest levels since the 1950's and 60's.

Despite the dramatic decline in crime, efforts to blame immigrants on an imaginary crime wave continue to be a staple of right-wing politics. Many conservative politicians find it easier to score points with the public by railing against crime and immigrants instead of offering real solutions to the double-digit unemployment that is punishing America's working families.

"Blaming other people for our problems at home is an old story," says President Bob McEllrath. "A few decades ago, they blamed everything on the Communists, and today they're

going after immigrants and people with brown skin. We can't let this kind of finger-pointing and scapegoating go unchallenged, because it can become a real cancer on our country."

While ten other states are now considering immigration laws that copy Arizona's approach, there is reason for hope. A recent Gallup poll found that just 51% of the public supports the new law in Arizona, and pollsters say that number could easily drop if the law is challenged and problems with civil liberties are exposed.

Former Bush advisor, Karl Rove, has expressed doubt about the constitutionality of the Arizona law, and he knows the political risks of alienating Latino voters is something to be taken seriously, even if it now provides the raw meat for the hard-right conservative base.

Maria Elena Durazo, who heads the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, says the Arizona law amounts to racial profiling against Latinos. Durazo held a press conference last month to condemn the Arizona law, surrounded by Latino union members, noting: "You can't tell by looking at us who was born here, who has a green card, who served their country in the armed forces, who works hard every day, pays their taxes, raises a family, sends their kids to school and helps them with their homework."

Part of the solution, Durazo says, is for Congress to pass an immigration reform bill that provides a path to legal residency for 11 million immigrant workers. The ILWU supports this approach and developments in Arizona may bring the issue to a head sooner than anyone expected.



ILWU Coast Committeeman Leal Sundet (L) discusses the complications of "short sea shipping" with U.S. Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon who chairs the Senate Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs and Global Competitiveness. Sundet noted that short-sea shipping proposals promising lower costs and environmental benefits by using ships to transport goods between West Coast ports (instead of trucks) are largely based on models employing non-union or low-wage labor in order to compete with the largely non-union trucking industry.

Join us when we travel to Arizona to challenge the law on June 29th!



In the great tradition

We Challenge Arizona to Arrest Us

Hundreds of L.A. union, faith and community leaders from Los Angeles County will challenge the new Arizona immigration law on July 29, the day the law takes effect. We will leave our identification documents (or "papers") behind, and challenge local authorities to arrest us for violating the state's racial profiling law. Five chartered buses will leave L.A. in the early morning on July 29, 2010. For more information or to reserve a seat on the bus, contact: Priscilla: (213) 381-5611 x133 or immigrationreform@launionaflcio.org



Solidarity knows no border: Electrical workers in Mexico City are fighting a government takeover of their union, so a delegation protested at the Mexican Consulate in San Francisco on May 14th, including Frank Martin Del Campo of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (left), Tim Paulson of the Central Labor Council, Fred Pecker of ILWU Local 6, and community activist Rosa Penate.

Facts & Myths about immigration

Are immigrants taking over America? In 1910, immigrants made up nearly 15 percent of the U.S. population. In 1997, immigrants made up less than 10 percent of the population. Immigration was at its peak during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Don't immigrants cost taxpayers too much? Welfare use among non-refugee immigrants is lower than among U.S. native-born citizens. The 1990 census found that 20.4 percent of immigrants were on welfare, compared with 26.2 percent of U.S. native-born citizens. In 1997, immigrants paid an estimated \$133 billion in federal, state and local taxes. A typical immigrant and their offspring pay \$80,000 more in taxes than they will receive in federal, state and local benefits over the course of their lifetimes.

Aren't most immigrants coming here illegally? Of the 20 million immigrants tallied in the 1990 census, only 15 percent were in the U.S. illegally. Although these figures don't account for some homeless immigrants and undocumented migrant workers, who return to their native countries when their seasonal work is over, the proportion of illegal immigrants to legal immigrants is still relatively small.

Why don't more immigrants speak English? About 80 percent of newly arrived immigrants don't speak English when they are with their families. Within ten years of arrival, more than 75% of immigrants speak English well. Immigrants from Spanish-speaking countries become proficient in English at a faster rate than those from other countries where English is not the dominant language. About half of recent immigrants report speaking English "very well" or "well," despite the fact that some may not speak English in the home.

Aren't most immigrants sneaking across the border from Mexico? Most undocumented immigrants in the U.S. arrive legally on commercial carriers and then overstay their visas, or they come across the Canadian border. Despite this fact, the U.S. spends a disproportionate amount of money and resources enforcing the Mexican border. Most Mexican nationals in the United States are migrants, who take seasonal jobs and then return to their families in Mexico.

Compare your views with the facts about immigration by taking a short quiz: www.pbs.org/independentlens/newamericans/quiz.html

New educational grants are available to help ILWU members

The new program below is a great opportunity to improve the education program in your local union. For example, you could propose a multimedia presentation for new member orientation at your local, or make a plan for Local union members to attend ILWU education programs, or propose your own educational conference on issues and that are important to ILWU members and your community. Details are below; the deadline for proposals is July 15.

Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice
A Fund of the Hawai'i Labor Heritage Council • May 1, 2010

Request for Proposals: The Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice, a fund of the Hawai'i Labor Heritage Council, is seeking proposals from non-profit organizations to develop educational programs for rank and file members and leaders of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and other community and labor activists.

About the Fund: The Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice (FESJ) was established in February 2009 after A.Q.'s death on December 11, 2008. Through the generous contributions of her friends, family members and organizations—including those who did not always agree with her—the FESJ reflects A.Q.'s wishes to establish a program whose purpose is to "educate members (of the ILWU), leaders and others in the areas of political action, economic structural changes, globalization, equality, and democracy and how they are affected by employers with whom they negotiate and by occurrences throughout the world." Implicit in A.Q.'s wishes was the need to combine educational objectives with action programs.

The FESJ is a fund of The Hawai'i Labor Heritage Council (HLHC). The HLHC serves as fiscal agent for similar funds. The FESJ Advisory Board is composed of a representative of the ILWU Local 142, the Center for Labor Education and Research at the University of Hawaii (CLEAR), the HLHC, a family member, and others who were close to A.Q. in work and in her personal life. The Fund will make two (2) annual awards of up to \$5,000 each.

Criteria for Proposals: The Fund will review submissions based on the following criteria:

- Does the proposal address issues related to political action, economic structural changes, globalization, equality and democracy and how they are affected by employers with whom unions negotiate and by occurrences throughout the world?
- Does the proposal focus on members and leaders of the ILWU, or the broader labor community?
- Does the proposal include a specific action program?
- Are the results identifiable and measurable? If so, how?

Eligible: Not-for-profit organizations and individuals who are supported by a non-profit fiscal sponsor.

Deadline: Proposals are due on Thursday, July 1, 2010 and may be submitted by e-mail or ground mail postmarked no later than July 1, 2010.

E-mail: long-gail@sboglobal.net

Ground mail: Gail Long
Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice
17012 Lomond Blvd.
Shaker Hts. OH 44120

Format:

- No more than 1,000 words.
- Electronic documents must be submitted in Microsoft Word 1997-2003 compatible format; and
- Include: description of organization; description of project; goals and objectives; action steps; timeline; budget; and evaluation criteria.

Documentation: Please submit as attachments the organization's IRS determination of non-profit status (or that of your fiscal sponsor). If applying as an individual, also include a letter of support for the proposal from the executive officer(s) or board of directors of your sponsoring organization.

Announcement of Awards: Wednesday, September 1, 2010.

Project Period: September 1, 2010—August 31, 2011.

Final Report: Due within 60 days of the completion of the project.

Inaugural FESJ Fundraiser and Project Showcase (Sept. TBD, 2011): Present and describe project including photos, print materials and any publicity developed.

ILWU Leadership Institute (LEAD) set for September 19-24



ILWU members at the last LEAD training in 2007 spent time solving problems by working together in small groups.

The next ILWU Leadership Education and Development Institute (LEAD VI) will be held in San Diego, California, September 19-24, 2010.

The theme of this year's training will be: **Doing More with Less – Union Leadership in Hard Times.**

"Our goal for this training is to help members understand and meet the challenges posed by the global economic crisis on our collective bargaining and union activism," said International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams. Topics at the training will include:

- How to run a good union meeting
- Understanding and using Robert's Rules of Order
- How to build strength and unity by improving member participation
- Improving communication inside our union and with the general public

Instructors will be drawn from the ranks of active and retired members as well as staff from the International Union, university labor centers, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Local unions and affiliates may nominate participants, who are each required to fill out the LEAD VI application and hotel reservation form. Priority consideration will be given to new officers and rank and file activists who have not participated in any previous LEAD program. For reasons of space and diversity, each affiliate should expect to send no more than two participants, but a waiting list will

be taken in case of cancellations or non-participation by some locals.

The LEAD VI budget will cover participants' housing, breakfast and lunch, training materials, facilities, and instructors. Participants will be housed together in double rooms, but may upgrade to a single room at their own expense. **Any reimbursement for expenses such as lost wages or travel will have to be covered by the participant, his or her local or IBU region, or by area fund raising activities.** Financial hardship applications will be considered. In cases where financial hardship is an obstacle to participation, a request for assistance should be submitted along with a written statement about the circumstances involved and the amount of assistance requested.

Interested members should complete and return the application and reservation forms which are available from your local or on the ILWU web site: www.ilwu.org/training.

Please return completed forms by fax or mail no later than July 30, 2010:

ILWU LEAD VI Applications
c/o Intl. Secretary-Treasurer
William Adams
1188 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
(Fax: 415-775-1302)

"I encourage all locals to participate in the LEAD training and look forward to helping anyone with questions," said International Secretary Treasurer Willie Adams, who noted that Executive Secretary Linda Kuhn is also available to help answer questions.



LEAD participants are challenged to propose strategies and solutions for problems facing the ILWU and the labor movement.

LETTERS TO THE DISPATCHER

continue from page 2

Dear Brothers & Sisters,,

Greetings to all of you. Please share our congratulations and encouragement with our fellow Rio Tinto miners from Local 30 for their beautiful victory. We are proud of their success, perseverance, and we are honored to have shared our support and solidarity.

Bravo for this victory which helped protect our jobs, our union, our rights, fair treatment, and protection against part-time work.

Bravo for making the powerful multinational corporation, Rio Tinto, move back. I shall report this beautiful victory to all the members of the Rio Tinto European Committee of unions on Thursday, May 27th, 2010.

We send you our very brotherly and friendly labor-union greetings.

Claude Verdier,
General Confederation of Labor (CGT) for Rio Tinto Workers
France

Dear Editor,

This is my second and final time writing to *The Dispatcher*. After 46 years as a member in good standing in the ILWU, I'm pulling the plug and retiring on July 1, 2010.

When I first got started, the Business Agent told me when I got my Casual card that I should really look for something else because my chances for making a living were pretty remote. I worked 801 hours in my first year, and made my hours every year since. I took any and all jobs. Some of them were not nice, but they were work. When I got my "B" card, there were about 2300 applications handed out for the 50 "B-man" jobs available. I was one of the lucky ones to get a card. Of those 50, 48 have now retired or passed.

I'd like to thank all the people I have worked with. For the most part, it's been a blast, which is one of the reasons that I stuck around so long. This job has provided me and my family a lifetime of security, health benefits, and a livable wage. All of these have been earned through the hard work of our negotiating teams and our excellent leadership. Being a member of the ILWU has been a privilege and one of the best things I have done in my life.

Keep our union strong. Protect it by taking part and running for office. Make your voice heard to protect your job and your jurisdiction.

It's time to get my golf handicap into single digits and maybe see lots of this great country of ours. Hopefully I'll see some of you along the way.

Ron Schmidt, Local 40
Portland, OR

Dear Editor,

I just received my April/May issue of the *Dispatcher* and was very happy to read about our victory in Boron that defeated Rio Tinto's 15 week lockout.

This brings back memories of our 135 day longshore strike in 1971, when we went almost 5 months without work. I was a picket captain then and still cherish all of my picket cards.

This just goes to show everyone that if we stick together and join hands, what our strength in numbers will do. Congratulations again to everyone in the ILWU who helped us win this fight.

Rudy Ondics, Local 94 (retired)
Sheridan WY

Dear Editor,

It is with great sorrow that I must inform you that Brother Don Durkee passed away on April 25th. His sons Justice and Don, and his wife Nancy were at his side. Don went peacefully; unusual for a man whose presence was impossible to miss. It was a brief illness. Friends and family gathered to celebrate Don's life on June 5th.

Don was retired from Local 6, ILWU. During his working life, he was also a member of the Marine Cooks & Stewards, and Shipsalers Local 2, ILWU. Don grew up in the San Francisco's Fillmore District. He would leave the house to get breakfast, didn't get back until night, and just kept running into people – encouraging them to stop and visit awhile.

Don loved to cook and brought trays full of his famous sausages to convention and events. He worked at Folgers, the last coffee warehouse on the SF docks. He was an active member in the ILWU's political action work through the Northern California District Council, and was also active in the West Bay Local 6 Pensioners' Club, and Pacific Coast Pensioners Association. During his working life, he served on the Local 6 General Executive Board, served three terms on the Local's Board of Trustees, and was a delegate to the San Mateo Central Labor Council.

Don was ILWU through and through...there was never a question about which side he was on.

Fred Pecker, Secretary-Treasurer, Local 6
Oakland, CA



Solidarity Rally for Rite Aid Workers

Tuesday, June 29th • 10am – 12 noon

Rite Aid Distribution Center
2801 Avenue H – "Fairgrounds exit"

Food and drinks will be provided!

for more information, call 213-618-1765

TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Jerry L. Morris; **Local 10:** Herbert L. Burnley; George Galarza; **Local 13:** Robert M. Mc Laurin; James M. Mceachern; Maria C. Radakovic; Richard H. Stewart; Gary E. Jones; Virgil V. Paine; **Local 19:** Donald W. Cochran; **Local 23:** Gary E. Brumfield; **Local 63:** Michael A. Drummond; Debbie L. Bonfield; **Local 98:** Joseph A. Toro

DECEASED:

Local 4: James A. Styres; **Local 8:** Joseph J. Mulchay; Herbert Lehmann (Lucille); Kenney Goodell (Virginia); Chris Stephens (Sheryl); **Local 10:** John Ball (Mary); Elverso Chapel (Helen); Gary Hughes (Rafelita); Clarence Vandyke, Jr.; **Local 13:** Richard N. Alarcon; Jack Slater (Betty Lou); Raymond Poche (Jeannine); Hubert

Logan (Vickie); Michelle Ortiz; Terry Gouge (Marianne); Kristin Matulich; Miljenko Mirkovich; Manuel C. Navarrete; Frank N. Thomas; Gene E. Depew; **Local 21:** Norman Hauge; Martin Stennick (Shannon); Smith Jiles; **Local 24:** Gary Peterson (Ellen); **Local 27:** Ernest Muller (Margie); Ray L. Standley; **Local 32:** James Larsen (Lynda); **Local 34:** Louis Verarde (Mary); Howard Livingston; **Local 40:** Billy Birk (Roberta); **Local 50:** William R. High Sr. (Shirley); **Local 51:** Theodore T. Lofgren; **Local 52:** Paul R. Cutchlow; **Local 63:** Mary Williams (Calvin); Robert Cano (Linda); **Local 75:** Viktor Vraski; **Local 91:** Dennis Brueckner (Louise); **Local 94:** Charles E. Stafford; **Local 98:** Lawrence Carpenter (Elsie); John E. Mc Fadden Jr.

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 4: Muriel Gregory; **Local 8:** Freda K. Martin; Lois E. Huntley; Chiyoko Nixon; **Local 10:** Agnes D. Holifield; Esther Brown; Billie T. Davis; **Local 13:** Rosemary Greenberg; Arleen Zulauf; Evelyn J. Torres; Mary Iacono; Ruth E. Tolich; Ann Glusac; Dorothy R. Armstrong; **Local 19:** Edna J. Dean; Betty J. Gilman; **Local 23:** Anna V. Barnes; Antonia R. Lynch; Local 27: Helene Jagger; **Local 34:** Elsie Huck; Jeanette Rosenbrock; **Local 40:** Ellen Beelman; **Local 63:** Ida M. Schultz; Elizabeth M. Shuck; **Local 92:** June M. Ross; **Local 94:** Violet Bluhm

CORRECTION

The April/May issue mistakenly listed the status of Local 26 brothers Rathel L. Randle and Rasputin R. Lagasca, Sr., as deceased. In fact, both recently retired and are very much alive. We apologize for the error.

Rite Aid workers win safety victory

After a co-worker suffered a nasty head injury, workers at the Rite Aid distribution center in Lancaster, CA stepped up pressure on the company to bring heavy boxes down from high shelves. They got a petition signed by more than 300 people, and a group of around 40 confronted management on the shop floor during their morning break. When the workers confronted her, General Manager Renee Johnson said Rite Aid realized the seriousness of the problem and was looking into it. (See the *Dispatcher*, March 2010.)

At negotiations April 15, the company formally committed to stop storing heavy liquor boxes on the top levels of the warehouse "mods." Rite Aid also agreed to a new "Unstable Load Handling Policy." This will let workers call management if they see unstable loads and provide special training for some equipment operators in handling problem pallets. Time spent fixing those pallets will not be counted against the workers' production quotas.

"We had been concerned about falling liquor in the DC since the building opened," ILWU bargaining team member Carlos Rubio said. "We repeatedly asked management to do something, but were told that there wasn't anything that could be done. Having a union, and feeling empowered because of it, helped us finally get this done," he said.



During the ILWU Canada Convention held in Vancouver, BC at the Maritime Labour Centre in March, ILWU Local 514 Ship and Dock Foremen (Canada), President Frank Scigliano presented ILWU International President Bob McEllrath with a check to help the locked out Rio Tinto workers and their families in Boron, California. Members at Local 500 and 514 voted to assess themselves \$10.00 per member per month to support the brothers and sisters in Boron until they won their fight in mid-May.

Bloody Thursday events scheduled for Monday, July 5th

Honoring the strikers who were killed and injured along San Francisco's waterfront on Thursday, July 5, 1934, fighting to build the union that became the ILWU.

San Francisco Bay Area

10 a.m. short memorial

12 noon lunch for members, pensioners, friends & families

Local 10 hiring hall: 400 North Point, San Francisco

For more information, please call 415-441-5511

Sponsored by the Bay Area Longshoremen's Memorial Association (BALMA)

Southern California

10 a.m. honor guard & memorial program with pensioners

12 noon live music begins, continues to 6pm

BBQ cooked by Long Beach Firefighters.

Free parking for ILWU members & families.

Classic car and motorcycle showing.

Harry Bridges Memorial Park next to the Queen Mary, across from the ITS terminal (formerly known as the "Special Events Park.")

1126 Queens Highway in Long Beach

Sponsored by Local 13 with support from Local 63. All Southern California local members are welcome and invited.

For more information, leave a message for the Bloody Thursday Committee at 310-521-8796 or email at ilwuscdc@gmail.com

Stockton

9am Golf Tournament tee-off (\$55 fee). 24 participants needed.

11a.m. - 6 p.m. Picnic begins. All events will be at Mickie Grove Park.

Jump House for the kids.

Food and drinks all day long. BBQ for all members.

Local politicians will be there to show support for our families.

For more information, call the Hall at 209-464-1827

Portland

11am Memorial service

12 noon Great food & cheap beer - adults only

12:30 pm The Rogue River Band, featuring local longshore talent

Discount ride bracelets for the amusement park will be available.

Oaks Park (near the Sellwood Bridge)

For more information, please call Shelby or Bruce at 503-224-9310

Seattle

Vasa Park Gates open at 10am Family BBQ begins after 11am.

Live music, swimming, boating & special activities for kids

Camping allowed (small fee)

For more information, please contact Local 19 or Randy Wilbur: 206-423-4736

Tacoma

Nothing scheduled for July 5th, but make plans now to attend Local 23's Annual Picnic at Carpenter's Park in Olympia on August 3rd. Free for members and families. Great BBQ. Live music, clowns, face painting, pony carousel, jump house and slides for the kids. Log rolling for adults, swimming, horseshoe tournament, bingo and more. For information, please call Tawni Bailey at 253-272-6600

ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

Books and videos about the ILWU are available from the union's library at discounted prices!

BOOKS

Solidarity Stories: An Oral History of the ILWU. By Harvey Schwartz. An inspiring collection of first-hand accounts from ILWU union leaders and rank-and-file workers. \$17.00.

A Spark Is Struck: Jack Hall & the ILWU in Hawaii. By Sanford Zalburg: A high quality re-issue of the informative epic account of Jack Hall and the birth and growth of the ILWU in Hawaii \$13.50 (paperback).

Along the Shore/Por la Costa—ILWU Coloring Book. A bi-lingual English/Spanish coloring book about waterfront workers and their union. Originally developed by the California Federation of Teachers' Labor in the Schools Committee in consultation with member Patricia Aguirre and the ILWU Local 13 Education Committee. Meets K-3 classroom standards for History and Social Studies. Two (2) for \$5.00

The Legacy of 1934: An historical exhibit by the ILWU. Produced as a catalogue to accompany the new traveling historical art exhibit about the origins of the ILWU in the 1934 maritime strike, this brief but vivid publication stands on its own as a pictorial history of the coastwise strike and an account of the extraordinary sacrifices and democratic principles of the founding members of the union. **Two (2) for \$5.00**

Harry Bridges: The Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States. By Charles Larrowe. A limited number of copies of this out-of-print and useful biography are now available through the book sale by special arrangement with Bolerium Books in San Francisco, which specializes in rare publications and documents about radical and labor history. **\$10.00**

The ILWU Story. This book unrolls the history of the union from its origins to the present, complete with recollections from the men and women who built the union, in their own words, and dozens of rare photos of the union in action. **\$5.00**

The Big Strike. By Mike Quin. The classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. **\$9.00**

The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront. By David Wellman. The important new study of longshoring in the ILWU. **\$20.00** (paperback)

The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division 1934-1938. By Harvey Schwartz. A new edition of the only comprehensive account of the union's organizing campaign in the northern California warehouse and distribution industry. **\$9.00**

VIDEOS

"Eye of the Storm: Our Fight for Justice and a Better Contract." A 58-minute DVD feature documentary film produced and directed by Amie Williams. Eye of the Storm tells the story of the 2002 longshore lockout on the West Coast. DVD Version **\$5.00**

"We Are the ILWU." A 30-minute color video introducing the principles and traditions of the ILWU. Features active and retired members talking about what the union meant in their lives and what it needs to survive and thrive, along with film clips, historical photos and an original musical score. DVD or VHS version **\$5.00**

"Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges." A 17-minute DVD of the original video production by California Working Group, Inc., memorializes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. DVD **\$5.00**

A Helping Hand...

...when you need it most. That's what we're all about. We are the representatives of the ILWU-sponsored recovery programs. We provide professional and confidential assistance to you and your family for alcoholism, drug abuse and other problems—and we're just a phone call away.

ILWU LONGSHORE DIVISION

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Jackie Cummings

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San Pedro, CA 90731

(310) 547-9966

ADRP—Oregon

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ADRP—Washington

Donnie Schwendeman

3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. #503

Tacoma, WA 98424

(253) 922-8913

ILWU WAREHOUSE DIVISION

DARE—Northern California

Teamsters Assistance Program

300 Pendleton Way

Oakland, CA 94621

(510) 562-3600

ILWU CANADA

EAP—British Columbia

John Felicella

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Vancouver, BC V5R 5W9

(604) 254-7911

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