



# THE DISPATCHER

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Bloody Thursday was celebrated coastwide on July 5. [page 4](#)



**Twenty-First Century dispatch hall:** ILWU International President Bob McEllrath (left) and Local 13 President Joe Cortez (center) break ground on Local 13's new dispatch hall. Also pictured are former ILWU International President Dave Arian (far right) and PMA President and CEO Jim McKenna (second from right).

## Local 13 members break ground on new dispatch hall in Wilmington

**S**hovels broke ground on Friday, July 13 for a new dispatch hall that was first proposed almost 20 years ago to serve Local 13 members in Wilmington. The new building will be a first-class facility with 32,000 square-feet and a host of modern features.

"This new hall will be good for the port, good for the industry and good for ILWU members," said ILWU International President Bob McEllrath, who celebrated the groundbreaking with other International officers including Vice Presidents Ray Familathe and Wesley Furtado, Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, and Coast Committeemen Ray Ortiz, Jr., and Leal Sundet.

Local 13 President Joe Cortez delivered an emotional "thank you" to the many leaders who spent more than a decade pushing the project forward. "There are a lot

of people who deserve credit for making this dream into a reality," said Cortez as he thanked members and the industry for supporting the project.

If all goes well during construction process, the new hall could be up and running in a year, dispatching the Local's 7,000 registered longshore workers to jobs at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

### Big improvement

In addition to the primary dispatch mission, the facility will feature meeting rooms, administrative offices and ample parking. The current dispatch hall is hampered by only 49 parking spaces; the new one will accommodate over 800 cars and be protected by a security fence.

### Funded by the PMA

The new facility will cost \$15 million to build on a site furnished by the Port of Los Angeles, under a long-term lease. Funding for the construc-

tion is being provided by 72 shipping companies who belong to the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA). PMA President Jim McKenna was on hand to celebrate the groundbreaking and emphasize the joint effort that made it possible.

### Leaders praise new hall

Former International President Dave Arian, who now serves as Vice President of LA's Harbor Commission, was Master of Ceremonies at the event. He praised McEllrath and McKenna for helping make the project possible by providing leadership to move things along, and asked Local 13 member and Senior Pastor Leon Dool to open with an invocation that reminded everyone to honor the "blood that's been given in the waterfront struggles."

A host of local politicians were on hand to lend their support, including Congressmembers Janice Hahn and Laura Richardson, State Senators

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# LETTERS TO THE DISPATCHER

**Dear Editor,**

I recently learned that Local 29 pensioner Samuel Vargas passed away on December 22, 2011. Sam was a decent, honest, dedicated, loyal and conscientious person. He held a variety of the official positions in Local 29 amongst which were Dispatcher, Secretary Treasurer, V.P.,

He was a good friend, a truly nice guy! He had some serious health problems in his latter years but always maintained a positive attitude. Talk about Union, if you cut Sam, he would bleed Union! He will be missed!

I also had a few comments about the 35th ILWU Convention which I attended. I was impressed by the way the business of the Convention was carried out! Typical of the democratic ILWU tradition and well conducted.

I am motivated to write because of Resolution C-7. I sat in on the Constitution Committee where this Resolution was discussed. The Resolution called for a reduction of the Dispatcher to 8 issues per year from the present 11 copies per year, with the understanding that more time and energy would be devoted to improving better communication and information via the ILWU web site. The Committee amended the resolution to read "6" issues, instead of the recommended 8 issues that came from the Executive Board/Officers. It passed in Committee as amended.

When C-7 hit the floor of the Convention there was a lot of interesting debate. The Convention eventually voted it down while I was still trying to analyze in my own mind how I would have voted if eligible to vote. Because I am an "old" pensioner I was not too disappointed the way the vote went, although I was still pondering about it. Eventually, I came around to the point of view that from a personal point of view, I prefer the printed document in my hand, the more printed quality copies, the better. But on the other hand as I considered how many people would be better served by approving of the Resolution as against those of us who would prefer the printed newspaper, I felt that I would have voted to approve the Resolution.

The present generation is much more in tune and comfortable with all the electronic means of communication. I observe that there are a lot more people everywhere with their attention directed at some electronic gadget in their hand. Not too many people reading newspapers or books! Us old guys, not all, but a large portion of people my age (83), are not too "hep" with a computer. Personally, though I have a Desk Top, I have not progressed much past the "Dummy" and frustrated level. And I could live with 8 or 6 copies of the Dispatcher.

The point really being that the computer and Internet literate are here by the numbers, and growing, while the realities of life resign us old guys to fewer and fewer in number as the years take their toll—thus my position on this issue. Just food for thought.

I could have spoken at the Convention as I was a Fraternal Delegate, but as I said, "I was still pondering about it".

My congratulations to the officers, they did a great job! The host Committee did an outstanding job and a well-deserved tribute was given to Linda Kuhn, a super lady who is retiring this year! Also, Welcome Panama!

**Tony Salcido, Local 13 Pensioner  
Long Beach, CA**

**Dear Editor,**

As you might know, Republican Alan Simpson spent most of his life as a career politician. He was in the Wyoming Legislature from 1964 – 1977, and was then elected to the U.S. Senate where he stayed from 1979 – 1997. After spending 34 years on the public dole he "retired" from politics and began practicing law. He draws a very generous pension as a result of serving in the Wyoming Legislature, and an even more princely amount from his years in the U.S. Senate. And every red cent he receives from those pensions are underwritten by taxpayers like you and me.

And Erskine Bowles? Here is the skinny on him: It is often quite difficult to distinguish the political differences between Simpson and Democrat Bowles. What we have instead is a version of "Pete and re-Pete".

Old hypocrite Simpson has made it clear he is disdainful of seniors. Those of us who actually worked for a living are the targets of his bomb-

## CORRECTIONS:

In our June issue, we incorrectly spelled the name of Cleophas Williams, and the headline in the obituary for Abba Ramos incorrectly identified his age at the time of his passing. He was 78. We apologize for these errors.

astic, rude and crude tirades, and he gets national media coverage in the process. (That should come as no surprise. The "4th Estate" has become little more than a propaganda outlet for conservative ideologues.)

President Obama established the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which later came to be called the "Deficit Commission", and then deridingly, the "Cat Food Commission." The latter designation was in reference to the harsh "austerity" measures the Commission proposed that some believe would have forced low-income seniors onto a diet of cheap cat food in order to survive.

The President appointed Simpson and Bowles to co-Chair the Commission.

Eventually, the Commission itself rejected its own proposals. That should have killed it, but just like bad politicians, bad ideas also have a way of surviving common wisdom.

Now Simpson and Bowles are trotting around the nation trying to sell people (mostly ideologically-challenged politicians) on the most egregious parts of the rejected report. Talk about nine lives. Although thought to be dead, parts of the Commission Report have been resurrected and are now being waved around by mean-spirited lawmakers like Republican Representative Paul Ryan, Republican Senator Jim DeMint, and Republican presidential-hopeful Mitt Romney. As if that isn't bad enough, so-called "friends" in the Democratic Party are beginning to parrot the sounds of their GOP colleagues.

To say the President erred in establishing the Commission is an understatement. We cannot, however, undo the past. But here is what we can do: According to its own rules, the Commission's Report failed to pass muster. It should be dead.

We must contact members of Congress and tell them to stop attacking the 99%. We must insist that the "dead" Commission Report be buried six feet under. We must chastise them for echoing the irrationalities contained in the tirades of old reprobates who have spent a lifetime representing the wealthiest 1%.

This is a classic struggle between the haves and the have-nots. It seems the haves are winning. That will continue unless we raise our voices in protest. In November, only vote for candidates who support the 99%!

**Rich Austin  
President, Pacific Coast Pensioners Association – ILWU  
Bellingham, WA**

**Dear Editor,**

Thank you for reporting on the effort by Bay Area Pensioners to honor the contributions of brother Cleophas Williams in the June issue of The Dispatcher. The adoration of brother Williams was a long time in coming. The event to honor him was well attended and superbly presented. Brother Williams was the first Afro-American President of Local 10 and he carried the weight of a community that was searching for its rightful place in society. All the accolades were well-deserved and the feast was delicious.

Brother Williams never wavered. He is still on course and will always represent the ILWU principle with pride: "an injury to one is an injury to all." I am proud as an ILWU member to have worked with brother Williams in the holds of ships, on committees and under his leadership as President of our local union. Brother Williams was well-prepared and made history because he practiced what he preached. His wife, Sadie Williams, has been a strong and supportive wife and member of Local 10 and the Pensioners Club. Our thanks go to her for all the experiences that we have shared.

Thank you, brother Williams, for your leadership. You will always be special in the memory of your longshore brothers.

**Osborne Hills, Local 10 (retired)  
Richmond, CA**

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

## McEllrath faces September re-trial

The Cowlitz County Prosecuting Attorney has decided to re-try ILWU International President Bob McEllrath on September 26-28, after a jury failed to reach a verdict and the judge declared a mistrial in the original trial held in late July. The charges stem from last year's successful effort to secure good jobs at the EGT grain terminal in Longview, WA.

## DISPATCHER

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ILWU TITLED OFFICERS  
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Ray A. Familathe, Vice President, Mainland  
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William E. Adams, Secretary-Treasurer



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# WASHINGTON STATE ILWU ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

## Federal:

US Senate: Maria Cantwell

## Congress:

1st - Darcy Burner  
2nd - Rick Larsen  
6th - Derek Kilmer  
7th - Jim McDermott  
9th - Adam Smith  
10th - Denny Heck

*The following state candidates have not been endorsed by the PSDC unless otherwise noted below, but have been endorsed by one or more locals in the state.*

## State:

Governor: Jay Inslee, Locals 4, 19, 23, 52, 98 & IBU  
Attorney General: Bob Ferguson, Local 23, IBU  
Insurance Commissioner : Mike Kreidler, Local 52

## State Legislature

LD1 - Pos1- Derek Stanford ,IBU  
Pos2 - Luis Moscoso, IBU  
Sen - Rosemay McAuliffe, IBU  
LD2 - Sen - Bruce Lachney, 23, IBU  
LD4 - Pos2 - Amy Biviano, IBU  
LD6 - Pos2 - Dennis Dellwo, PSDC  
LD11 - Pos1 - Zach Huggins, Local 52, IBU  
Pos2 - Stephanie Bowman, IBU,  
Locals 19, 52 (dual by 52, Bobby Virk, 52)  
LD17 - Pos1 - Monica Stoner, Local 4  
Sen - Tim Probst, Local 4, IBU  
LD23 - Pos1 - Sherry Appleton, PSDC  
Pos2 - Drew Hansen, IBU  
Sen - Christine Rolfes, IBU  
LD25 - Pos1 - Dawn Morrell, Local 23, IBU  
LD26 - Pos2 - Larry Sequist, Local 23, IBU  
LD27 - Sen - Leannie Darnielle, Local 23  
LD28 - Pos1 Eric Choiniere, Local 23  
Pos2 Tami Green, Local 23

LD29 - Pos1 - Ben Lawver, Local 23, IBU  
LD32 - Pos1 - Cindy Ryu, Local 52, IBU  
LD34 - Pos1 - Eileen Cody, Local 52, IBU  
LD35 - Pos2 - Jefferson Davis, Locals 4,19,23,52,IBU  
LD36 - Pos 2 - Gael Tarleton, Local 19,IBU  
LD38 - Pos2 - Mike Sells, IBU  
LD40 - Pos1 - Kris lytton, IBU  
LD 44 Pos2 Mary McNaughton, IBU  
LD45 - Pos1 - Roger Goodman, PSDC, IBU  
LD46 - Pos1 - Gerry Pollet, IBU  
Pos2 - Dusty Hoeller, Local 52,IBU  
LD47 - Pos1 - Bud Sizemore, PSDC, IBU  
LD49 - Sen - Annette Cleveland, Local 4, IBU

## Ballot Measures:

Ref 74 YES  
I-1185 no  
I-1191 no



**Exposing "free trade":** Local 29 President, Jerry Shipman (left), and ILWU SoCal District Council President, Cathy Familathe, joined with community and labor groups in San Diego to draw attention to the latest "free trade" deal that will undermine jobs and protections for workers and the environment.

## ILWU joins protest against latest "free trade" deal

ILWU members joined other unions and community groups on July 2 to protest the latest "free trade" agreement that's being quietly negotiated between the US government, Pacific Rim countries and corporate lobbyists. The "Trans-Pacific Partnership," or TPP, is similar to the NAFTA agreement with Mexico that promoted the aims of Wall Street and big business at the expense of workers and the environment. ILWU convention delegates passed a resolution opposing the TPP in June, 2012.

"Corporate lobbyists wanted these talks in San Diego to be a secret, so we decided to 'blow the whistle' and help expose what's happening," said Cathy Familathe, President of the ILWU's Southern California District Council who joined Local 56 President Ilugardo Mendoza, Local 29 President Jerry Shipman and other ILWU members at a protest held outside the trade talks. Familathe noted that the ILWU has opposed

"free trade" agreements because they benefit big business at the expense of workers and the environment, beginning with the NAFTA Agreement initiated by George H.W. Bush and finished by Bill Clinton in 1994 – up to the latest free trade deal with Colombia which was initiated by George W. Bush and concluded by Barack Obama in 2011. All the agreements offered token concessions to labor, environmental and human rights groups – while protecting big business from meaningful labor laws and regulations. The Colombia Free Trade Agreement was signed despite the ongoing murder of thousands of Colombian trade unionists during the last decade.

"Workers deserve a seat at the table whenever jobs are at stake," said Jerry Shipman who managed to secure a seat inside the talks that were otherwise closed to the public except for a limited number of observers who were allowed inside. Shipman says he was able to talk with one of the trade officials inside who listened to the ILWU's concern about corporations investing abroad to take advantage of lower labor and environmental standards.

## Dear Brothers & Sisters,

What will your future look like if we don't defeat Proposition 32 on the California ballot this November? This dangerous ballot proposition, known to many of us as "Paycheck Deception," is designed to destroy unions and roll-back reforms that have helped working families advance.

Imagine living in America without unions, which do much more than negotiate contracts covering wages, hours, working conditions, health care and retirement benefits. Many people are not aware of all the things unions have fought for over the past century that many of us take for granted. Most Americans don't realize that unions are responsible for so many accomplishments, some of which are listed below:

1. Social Security
2. Medicare
3. Public school education funding
4. Workers' rights on the job
5. OSHA & CAL OSHA protections
6. Wage and hour Laws
7. Equal employment opportunity
8. State unemployment benefits
9. State disability benefits
10. Workers' compensation insurance
11. Veteran's rights
12. Job training programs
13. Due process and civil liberties for all Americans
14. Family Leave Act
15. Retirement Plans
16. Hazmat regulations
17. Child labor protection
18. Meal and break periods
19. Vacation time and pay
20. An 8-hour day
21. A 40-hour week
22. Freedom of speech
23. Health care benefits
24. Civil Rights protection

These and other benefits were only achieved because working people – through their unions and political action funds – fought battles to win these reforms. Union members made these victories possible by educating and supporting legislators who had the courage to stand up for our interests in Washington, Sacramento and the city level. Proposition 32 is designed to prevent workers and their unions from doing the political education and advocacy work. We must be able to hold politicians accountable to protect our gains, our families and our futures. If union members lose these rights, many of the reforms listed above will be threatened or lost.

Without unions, there would be complete corporate ownership of America. This means workers would have no voice in America. This means the elimination of all worker and social legislation. If Proposition 32 passes, it will mean wage slavery by popular vote, by people who were not paying attention.

So let's get busy, brothers and sisters, to mobilize everyone we know to "vote NO" on Proposition 32. We can defeat the "Paycheck Deception" measure in November by organizing and educating our friends, families, neighbors and co-workers about this threat to the working class.

Government doesn't have a conscience, only policies. It's as simple as this. Don't expect more. Organize.

Exercise your conscience with your voice and vote. Organize!

Instant gratification does not lead to sustainability. Planning, preparation, and organizing is not as much fun but will yield better results that last longer. Make a difference! Organize!

**Luisa Gratz, Secretary-Treasurer,  
on behalf of the Southern California District Council**



# ILWU members honor martyrs of the 1934 strike in Coast-wide Bloody Thursday celebrations

Up and down the West Coast, ILWU members and their families came together to remember “Bloody Thursday” and the martyrs of the 1934 West Coast Waterfront strike—the historic a struggle that would give birth to the ILWU and radically improve wages and working conditions for dock workers.

The 1934 strike began on May 9th, as longshoremen in West Coast ports walked out; they were joined by sailors several days later. Violent confrontations between union dockers and police and private security forces took place in ports up and down the West Coast that led to death of several workers.

Although “Bloody Thursday” marks the police killing of two strikers on July 5th, 1934 in San Francisco that sparked a general strike, the Bloody Thursday celebration honors the sacrifices of all the workers who gave their lives in the 1934 strikes in Wilmington, Seattle, San Francisco, Smith Cove and Hong Kong.

## Southern California

The Southern California Bloody Thursday celebration began at 10 am with a memorial service at Roosevelt



**Portland Picnic:** The Bloody Thursday celebration in Portland showed that it is never too early to start learning about the importance of defending ILWU jurisdiction.



**History returned:** This drum, manufactured in 1930, was discovered in 2011 at an antique show in Alameda by Local 10 member James Plato. BALMA purchased it and brought it home to Local 10. It was used as part of a drum performance during this year's Bloody Thursday memorial service at Local 10

Memorial Park in Gardena, where Dickie Parker and John Knudsen are buried. Parker and Knudsen were the first dockworkers to give their lives for the union in 1934. At midnight on May 15th, 300 union strikers confronted a group of scab workers in Wilmington. Parker and Knudsen were fatally shot in the altercation. After the memorial service, funeral-style motorcade made its way to the Harry Bridges Park in Long Beach, where over 3,500 ILWU members, pensioners, casuals, friends and family gathered to celebrate the day.

This year's picnic featured live music and special dance performances, great food and lots of entertainment for the kids. This year's picnic also had a special guest: Harry's daughter Kathleen and grandson, Hunter, flew out from the East Coast to attend the celebration. Hunter saw the memorials to Harry and was surprised to see just how important his grandfather was.

## San Pedro Labor Fest

Coinciding with the Bloody Thursday celebration was the San Pedro Labor Fest—an artistic and cultural celebration of San Pedro's working class roots. The events included musical performances, an art walk and screenings of several labor films including Joan Sekler's *Locked Out* which chronicles the victory of ILWU Local 30 members in Boron in their battle against mining giant, Rio Tinto and the new film “We are Wisconsin” about the fight by workers to protect collective bargaining rights.

## San Francisco

Bloody Thursday celebrations at Local 10 are always a moving event because San Francisco is where two workers – Howard Sperry and Nick Bordoise – were killed on July 5, 1934 during the waterfront strike that triggered a subsequent general strike. These events helped win a coastwide longshore contract and established the union which became today's ILWU.

A contingent of active members, pensioners, family and friends gathered in front of Local 10 on the morning of July 5th to honor their fallen martyrs. The day's activities were organized by the Bay Area Longshoremen's Memorial Association.

Bay Area Pensioner's Club President George Cobbs served as Master of Ceremonies, introducing a host of speakers. The ceremony began with the playing of “taps” by Local 10 member Scott Barton. Two ceremonial coffins representing the fallen brothers, Sperry and Bordoise, were escorted to the front of the Hall by the Local 10 Drill Team. The crowd was treated to a flawless rendition of the National Anthem that was delivered by talented 11-year-old Aaliyah Washington-Purry who warmed-up the mic for veteran crooner Paul “from da hall” Williams whose moving version of “Amazing Grace.” There was also a special drum performance by the Loco Bloco Youth Organization that featured the use of a historic Local 10 bass drum that was recently returned to the Local.

Local 10 President Mike Villegiante delivered a speech on the legacy



Photo to by Christine Aguire

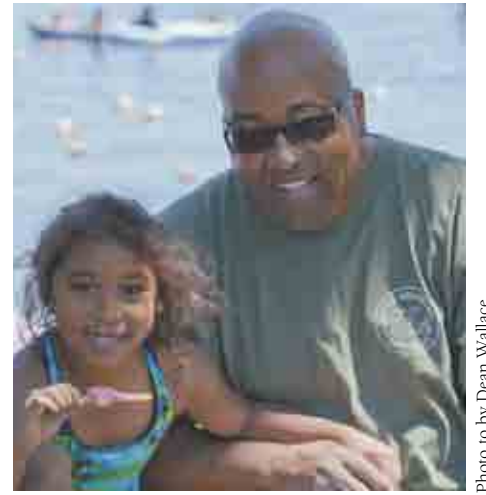


Photo to by Dean Wallace

**Generations:** The Bloody Thursday picnic in Long Beach honored sacrifices made by previous generations.

**Coming together:** Seattle's Bloody Thursday event attracted almost 2,000 to the Vasa Park picnic including Michael Craven and his daughter.



**Honoring the fallen:** The Local 10 Drill Team stands at attention behind the ceremonial coffins representing Howard Sperry and Nick Bordoise who were murdered by police on July 5, 1934 during the waterfront strike.



**Everett, WA celebration:** On Bloody Thursday the women of Federated Auxiliaries # 4 in Everett, WA threw an impressive picnic. It was a family gathering with lots of good food, camaraderie, games for the kids (and a couple for the young at heart). A pensioner offered a brief reminder of why we stop work on July 5, and commemorate the ILWU heroes and heroines who came before us. The whole local, their families, and lots of retirees showed up. Gay Soriano, of Auxiliary #4 and one of the picnic organizers later commented, “everyone had a great time. It was nice to get together, relax and get to know each other's family.”

of the '34 strike and the challenges that lie ahead for the working class. Other Bay Area ILWU officers spoke at the ceremony including Local 10 Vice President, Adam Mendez, Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris, Local 34 President Sean Farley, and Local 75 President Jason Santana. A number of respected pensioners also took the microphone such as Cleophas Williams, Joe Lucas, Lawrence Thibeaux, and Ralph Rooker.

The celebration ended with a great BBQ lunch. Local 10 member Aaron Jones donated his DJ talents to provide music for the event and there was plenty of entertainment for the children as well. In the afternoon, guests were treated to a tour of the Bay on a Blue & Gold Bay cruise ship.

The trip was made possible in part thanks to donations from Blue & Gold crewmembers who belong to the Inlandboatmen's Union.

## Seattle

The turnout for Seattle's annual Bloody Thursday picnic tipped the scales at nearly 2,000 participants with 1249 adults and about 700 kids.

As in previous years, the event was held in Vasa Park and was sponsored by Locals 19, 52, 98 and the Credit Union. There were plenty of games and activities. The “dunk –tank” was popular, as were the balloon artists, face-painters, and temporary tattoo artists. Hair extensions were a big hit with many and a special music performance

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# Local 13 members break ground on new dispatch hall in Wilmington

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Ted Lieu and Rod Wright staffer Bill Orton, Assemblymembers Isadore Hall and Bonnie Lowenthal, LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's staffer Steve Nutter, LA Council President Eric Garcetti, Long Beach Councilmember James Johnson, and Wilmington Mayor Lupe Lopez. Long Beach Port Commissioner and Local 13 member Rich Dynes attended and spoke at the event.

## History behind ILWU dispatch halls

The current dispatch hall on Broad Avenue in Wilmington was built in the

1940s; it will be used to dispatch casual workers once the new hall is finished.

The ILWU tradition of union-managed dispatch halls was a key victory won through a series of bitter struggles, climaxing in the 1934 coast-wide waterfront strike in which 7 workers were killed and many more seriously injured. Prior to that victory, longshore workers suffered under a "shape-up" system controlled by employers that included blacklisting, bribery, discrimination and favoritism. Employers tried but failed to eliminate the ILWU dispatch halls during the waterfront strike of 1948 strike that lasted 95 days.



**All hands on deck:** Local 13's new Dispatch Hall will be a modern "green" facility that will be able to accommodate the dispatching needs of the Local's 7,000 registered longshore workers.

# Oregon jurisdiction dispute update

The ILWU dispute with ICTSI, the rogue PMA employer leasing Terminal 6 at the Port of Portland that refuses to honor Longshore contract jurisdiction over refrigerated containers, continued during the month of July.

On July 19th, Judge Michael Simon rejected a bid from ICTSI and the Port of Portland to have the court intervene and micromanage waterfront operations. He threw-out three of four motions in federal court, saying that claims of low productivity, standing alone, don't violate the court order, and that there was no proof of inten-

tional efforts to violate a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO).

"That decision validated the ILWU's view that longshore workers have been unfairly blamed for carriers who left the Port of Portland in recent weeks, because the real offender is Philippines-based ICTSI," said ILWU Coast Committeeman Leal Sundet. "We respect the court and Judge Simon, and appreciate that he can see through the distortions of an employer who's violating their own labor contract and blaming it on the men and women on the docks."

Judge Simon denied the Pacific Maritime Association's request to formalize an arbitration, saying he

didn't want to insert the court into the union's arbitration process, as the grievance machinery has not yet been exhausted. He denied PMA's request for a TRO, and rejected a contempt of court request from the National Labor Relations Board, saying there was not enough compelling evidence behind such allegations. The one ruling against the union, granting a preliminary injunction, was no surprise because such rulings are standard practice, pending the outcome of NLRB cases.

One week later on July 24, the Port and ICTSI dragged the ILWU into a hearing before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), claiming the union engaged in unfair labor

practices against ICTSI at Terminal 6, a position rejected by the ILWU. The hearing was continuing as *The Dispatcher* went to press.

"This is not just a dispute between two unions over two jobs, there are much bigger issues at play here," said Sundet. "Issues that strike at the heart of our collective bargaining agreement – such as whether or not a PMA member company, like ICTSI, can pick and choose which provisions of the labor agreement apply. ICTSI's refusal to comply with its contract obligations threatens the integrity of the agreement and the multi-employer system that has benefited everyone for decades."



Photo by Robin Doyno

**Stronger together:** IBU members were joined by over 100 Southern California ILWU members from every Harbor-area local at a rally outside the offices of Westoil/Millennium on May 4th.

# SoCal IBU members at Westoil/Millennium give strike notice

On July 9th, IBU members who operate tug and barges for Westoil/Millennium in Southern California, notified the employer of their intent to strike. The notice is required under the terms of their expired contract and gives members the right to strike, but does not require them to do so.

The move puts IBU members in a stronger position. Federal labor law protects their current wages and work-

ing conditions and allows workers to take action if needed.

The company has responded with threats and other strong arm tactics to intimidate and divide workers. "Our tug and barge crews know that if we stick together, we will be able to win a fair contract that will protect members' health care benefits, ensuring fairness in the dispatch system and increasing safety by requiring proper manning on all vessels. Our members will not be intimidated by threats," said IBU Regional Director and Millennium worker John Skow. Bargaining resumes on August 6th and 7th.

# ILWU fights for good jobs in Coos Bay

About 25 members of ILWU Local 12 held an informational picket outside the Southport Lumber Company mill on the North Spit in Coos Bay on Monday, July 9th. ILWU members are protesting the company's bid to undercut wages and cut staffing at a newly renovated barge slip that received \$500,000 in public funds.

The barge slip once belonged to the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay but it was sold to the Southport Lumber Co. in 2004. With the help of a generous public subsidy, the slip was rehabilitated to handle multiple types of cargo; Southport will use the slip to load and offload timber and wood products.

The ILWU tried to negotiate contracts with Southport, but the company wanted to use fewer men and pay them lower wages than ILWU members would accept, said longshoreman Gene Sundet. The ILWU's attorneys are reviewing the issue, to see if the company violated terms of the Connect Oregon One grant that Southport received to rehabilitate the slip.

"The public needs to know what is going on," Sundet said. "[Southport] has been subsidized 100 percent. Now after taking public money, they are cutting jobs and wages."





# ILWU donates \$250,000 to Booker T. Washington Community Service Center rebuild

**O**n July 11th, the Coast Longshore Division of the ILWU presented a \$250,000 check to the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center in support of its expansion efforts. Last June the San Francisco Board of Supervisors approved a plan to demolish and expand the Center into a 20,000 square-foot comprehensive community institution with two distinct components – residential and an expanded community center. The Center is still working to raise the final \$1 million necessary to create a modern space to better provide pragmatic assistance and resources to San Francisco's underserved communities.

The Booker T. Washington Center was launched shortly after World War I as a resource for San Francisco's African American population. When it first opened its doors, it was responding to the lack of services available to African Americans. At the time, this included union membership. However, the ILWU has always been inclusive and

this is how the initial bond between the two organizations was formed.

When the Officers of the ILWU Longshore Division heard of the rebuild project, they approached Pat Scott, Director of Booker T., with a check for \$10,000.

San Francisco's ILWU Local 10 then brought a resolution to the Longshore Division's Caucus that took place from June 11-15 asking for a donation of \$250,000 to the project. Delegates representing 30 locals on the West Coast unanimously approved the resolution. The \$10,000 check became a \$260,000 donation, and the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center found itself significantly closer to reaching its fundraising target.

"The Booker T. Washington Center provides essential care and services for the people of the Western Addition and neighboring communities," explained Leal Sundet, ILWU Longshore Division Coast Committeeman, "They have grand and achievable plans to provide 21st century resources to those most in need, but right now they're struggling to do so with antiquated facilities. We had the capacity to help them close the gap, so we reached into our pockets and made an investment in San Francisco families and children. San Francisco is



**Answering the call:** The Coast Longshore Division donated generously when they heard the call for support from the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center.

where our headquarters is and the City is our roots. We have members, both retired and active, that have utilized and been supported by Booker T."

Plans for the new community center include approximately 48 new affordable homes for San Francisco families, transitional aged youth (18-24), and youth who have aged out of foster care. In addition to this residential component, the Booker T. Com-

munity center will also include a state-of-the-art gym, a youth center offering academic support, childcare, and technical training, and a new playground, garden and open space area.

Since its inception, Booker T. has maintained its tradition of serving the city's underserved and underrepresented, and has become a cornerstone for children, seniors, families, and others in need of support.

## ILWU locals hit Clean Harbors contractor for safety problems

**A** large group of ILWU members and allies held a spirited protest outside the offices of "Clean Harbors Los Angeles" on Friday, July 20 to warn the public about the company's questionable environmental and safety record. Local newspapers and television covered the event.

"We're here to warn the harbor community that Clean Harbors has a spotty record when it comes to protecting workers and the public," said Ruben Hurtado, Business Agent and

Dispatcher at Local 56. Local 56 President Ilugardo Mendoza added, "It's disappointing to see an environmental clean-up firm operating here who's been charged with so many violations of clean air and water laws." Local 56 Secretary-Treasurer Enrique Marin said, "We'd like to see this company live up to their 'Clean Harbors' name."

### Support from ILWU Locals & SCDC

Members from harbor-area locals included President Joe Cortez of Local 13 who came with Labor-Relations Committee (LRC) rep Mark Mascola and other longshore workers. Local

63 President Mike Podue, Secretary Mike Ponce and LRC rep Joe Mascola attended, as did Local 68 President Ed Royles of the Port Pilots. Auxiliary President Ida Taylor and Vice President Maureen Montoya attended. A dozen supporters from the hotel and restaurant workers union (UNITE/HERE) came to show their support. Critical assistance for the action was provided by the Southern California District Council (SCDC) – the ILWU's regional political action arm which has been notifying the broader community about the problem with Clean Harbors.

"Everyone who works around the harbor knows that we can't afford to let companies operate here who cut corners on safety and environmental protection," said SCDC President Cathy Familathe.

### Clean Harbors' troubled record

The troubled firm has been the focus of complaints from California's Department of Toxic Substances Control, the State Water Resources Board and the California Air Resources Board. Over the past ten years, the company has been cited by Federal and State OSHA officials for almost 50 violations; 27 of which were categorized as "serious."

Despite the spotty record, the firm was selected by the Port of Los Angeles as a preferred provider of environmental services. Clean Harbors operates nationwide with headquarters in Norwell, Massachusetts and a listing on the New York Stock Exchange.

Unlike most environmental service companies operating in the LA/Long Beach Harbor, Clean Harbors has not signed a union contract with the ILWU that would help improve safety standards.

### Four other firms agree to settle

On July 17, four harbor-area hazardous-materials clean-up companies agreed to contract terms with ILWU Local 56. Ancon Marine, Patriot Environmental, Ocean Blue and Double Barrel reached 15-month agreements that will increase daily stipends for workers by \$5 and provide most employees with 4-percent wage increases, effective immediately. Two other firms, ACTI and NRC, are operating under expired agreements which will be re-negotiated. Local 56 members will continue their efforts to organize more non-union haz-mat companies operating in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor area, including AES, Meza and OC Vacuum, and Clean Harbors.

"We're committed to organizing all these companies to make things safer for workers and the harbor community," said Local 56 Dispatcher and BA Ruben Hurtado, who made a point during the protest of knocking on the company's door to tell a management official that today's event was emphasizing the need for higher safety and environmental standards. "We'll be talking to them again," said Hurtado.



ILWU members demonstrated outside the offices of Clean Harbors Los Angeles on July 20, to raise awareness about the company's safety and environmental record.



# The Pacific Northwest Labor History Association honors ILWU Local 21 and historian Ron Magden

At their annual conference this May, the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association honored the ILWU's past and present struggles by presenting two awards to ILWU affiliates. During the organization's well-attended conference awards banquet on May 19th, PNLHA president Ross Rieder presented Local 21 with the 2012 History in the Making Award and named historian Ron Magden the Labour History Person of the Year.

Magden, has long been in service to the ILWU. In the 1970s, he helped Dr. Art Martinson edit ILWU Local 23's grant proposal to the Washington Commission for the Humanities, a book project the rank-and-file turned over to a committee led by Phil Lelli, Wardell Canada and Daryl Hedman. Since then, Magden has written three books on longshore workers in Seat-

tle and Tacoma, as well as numerous articles. Mike Jagielski, President of the Local 23 Pensioners' Club, of which Magden is an honorary member, gave the introduction, speaking not only to Magden's work on behalf of the ILWU, but also his scholarly efforts on behalf of the Japanese American and Native American communities in the Pacific Northwest. Ron is currently helping Seattle Local 19 finish its current history book, as well as working with Local 23 officers and staff, and the University of Washington, to digitize his vast collection of historical photographs and other material related to longshore workers, which will be available online in the future.

Following Magden's award acceptance, ILWU International Executive Board member Max Vekich introduced Local 21 President Dan Coffman and gave a brief account of the bitter struggle in Longview that pitted the local against EGT, the company that operates Longview's new grain terminal. Coffman gave an impassioned account of

the local's battle to win a fair contract and the incredible showing of solidarity from across the globe that helped ensure their success. Coffman was joined by Local 21 members Byron Jacobs, Secretary-Treasurer; Jason Lundquist, LRC Chair; Bud Lile, LRC member; and Ralph Rider, Executive Board member. They received cheers and a standing ovation from the audience.

The Pacific Northwest Labour History Association is a non-profit association dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of working people in British Columbia, Oregon and Washington. Their membership consists of union members, students, scholars, and others interested in Pacific Northwest labor history, including a number of ILWU members. Local 21 is not the first ILWU affiliate to receive the Labor History in the Making award. The award was initiated in 2001 to honor ILWU Local 5, who received it in recognition of their successful organizing efforts at Powell's Books.

— Robin Walker



Honorary Local 23 member Dr. Ron Magden received the Labour History Person of the Year award from the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association.

## Golden Gate Ferry Workers sign final deal

A final contract deal was reached in the early morning hours of July 18 for 42 Golden Gate Ferry District workers who belong to the Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU), the ILWU's Marine Division.

General terms for the agreement were won two months ago when a coalition of 14 unions settled on contract terms for 296 District workers following a strike on May Day. The final settlement for IBU workers came after a second strike and a marathon final negotiating session that included International Vice President Ray Familathe. In addition to securing a 6% wage increase over the 3-year agreement,

there will be an additional \$1 an hour increase for 7 Terminal Assistants, guaranteed break rooms or "fo'c'sles," and rules governing the use of new surveillance cameras on the ferries.

"It took two strikes and a long campaign to get this contract finished, but our unity and action made the difference," said IBU Regional Director Marina Secchitano.

International Vice President Ray Familathe congratulated the ferry workers for their hard-fought victory: "These IBU members stood tough during very difficult times for public-sector employees, showing that's it's still possible to make progress – even when the deck is stacked against us."



Safe landing for ferry workers: A long but successful contract campaign was celebrated on July 18 by members of the Inlandboatmen's Union and their friends at the Golden Gate Bridge with a victory lunch attended by ILWU International Vice-President Ray Familathe (3rd from left).



Photo by Robin Doyno

## ILWU joins LA march against Wal-Mart

ILWU members joined other unions and community groups on Saturday, June 30 for a mega-march and rally in downtown Los Angeles that attracted thousands – the largest protest against Wal-Mart in U.S. history.

Marchers did their best to blemish Wal-Mart's 50th anniversary on July 2 – but the immediate goal was to stop America's largest anti-union, low-wage private employer from building a new store in LA's Chinatown. Community anger helped fuel the march after it was learned that Wal-Mart secured building permits for a Chinatown store just before the Los Angeles City Council passed a resolution restricting bog-box retailers.

Protesters rode buses to attend the action from San Diego, Orange, South Bay and San Francisco labor councils. Grammy-winning artists and union members Tom Morello and Ben Harper pumped-up the crowd. ILWU Local 13 Vice President Bobby Olvera, Jr. spoke from the podium, explaining the ILWU's legacy of fighting for good jobs – and organizing against corporate greed. Wal-Mart worker Girshriela Green told the crowd she works hard at the company's Crenshaw store, but still needs MediCal in order to provide healthcare for her kids. "If we don't put an end to the Walmart model of making a few people rich and keeping the rest of us struggling, we are going to live in a country with no middle class at all."



## Early morning solidarity

With 26 years of seniority at Waste Management, Local 6 member Ana O'Brien is used to getting-up early. On July 19, she joined co-workers from her clerical unit including Anjanette Livingston, Delina Espinoza, Amy Gallow, Linda Steely, and others who greeted Teamster drivers and IAM mechanics as they were heading for work at 3:30am. The goal was to convey the frustration that clerical unit members feel because of Waste Management's disrespect and refusal to negotiate a fair contract. The response from Teamsters and Machinists at Waste Management was totally positive with pledges of support and solidarity. Two days later, clerical unit members gathered at the union hall and voted unanimously to end the contract extension that had been granted to the company. Support for the event was provided by Local 6 members Carey Dall, Rodney Moten and Secretary-Treasurer Fred Pecker.





## Local 502 raises \$31,502 for Children's Hospital

**S**urrey, British Columbia – This year, ILWU Local 502 members raised \$31,502 for the Children's Hospital and presented the cheque on the annual Telethon in front of millions of viewers on live TV.

The number of contributors and the donation amounts keep increasing as several members donated over a \$1,000 which included Dave Hopkinson who gave \$1,502. Local 502 is proud and honored to be a part of this drive for the Kids and hopes to do even better next year. Judging from the current drive and the enthusiasm they should not have any problem reaching their goal next year.

The successful fundraiser was turned into an annual event last year when over \$20,000 was raised in just a few weeks. The membership took this charity work to heart and is hop-

ing to raise much more in the coming years. They even issued a challenge to all unions and groups to beat their fundraising total.

In addition, the local also engages in raising funds for other charities. Hundreds of pounds of food and thousands of dollars have been collected for the Surrey Food Bank, as well as raising thousands for Cancer research. Union member Sunny Grewal cycled nearly 400 km (250 miles) from Kelowna to Delta last month as part of the "Ride2Survive 2012" Canadian Cancer Society fundraiser and raised several thousand dollars. Bara Gill helped raise funds, with the support of his co-workers, after losing his wife to cancer last year.

In just two years Local 502 has raised over \$52,000 for the Children's Hospital and hopes to raise another \$50,000 next year for a grand total that will be over a \$100,000.



**Riding the good jobs train:** Locals 10, 34, 75, Pensioners and International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams teamed up to welcome the America's Cup sailboat race to San Francisco on July 24 when the first 30 of 120 containers were delivered to Pier 80. A team of ILWU local leaders negotiated for months with event organizers and Port officials to ensure ILWU jurisdiction would be respected at the racing event featuring "the world's fastest boats and best sailors" that begins August 21-26 on San Francisco Bay. Local 10 President Mike Villeggiante and Local 75 Secretary-Treasurer Patric Kim said they intended to closely monitor the event to ensure jurisdiction and staffing agreements would be honored.

## 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

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## TRANSITIONS

### NEW PENSIONERS:

**Local 4:** Gary L. Bridger; Kenneth J. Hegewald; **Local 8:** Michael F. Cicerich; Charles N. White; Steven W. Durham; David W. Hanson; Tim D. Thomas; **Local 10:** Willie Churchill II; **Local 13:** Paul E. Egnatoff; Frank T. Gasperov Jr; Ray O. Giacomi; Charles H. Henderson, III; Allen Armstrong; Joseph L. Mc Fadden; Anthony M. Lesick; Danny L. Brunac; James E. King, Jr.; Raul J. Rodriguez; Lawrence T. Lane; Jeffrey S. Foltman; Mark W. Woodworth; Refugio M. Lopez; Baldomero Salazar; Linda Cristino; William A. Burns; Raymond A. Matthews; Richard H. Nigh; Debra M. Cowen; Ante Bozanic; Richard W. Paulsen; Jose R. Hernandez; Mark E. Orr; Domingo Q. Celis; **Local 19:** Michael Anthony Ceballos; Werku Demisse; Gregory C. Ross; Lee V. Goodin; **Local 21:** Larry M. Noble; **Local 23:** William F. Stull; Alan R. Carlson; Jack W. Goretti; Richard D. Perrin; Charles E. White; Steven G. Siehl; Thomas M. Garasi; **Local 24:** James R. Ketola; Steve Proctor; **Local 25:** David F. Ashbach; **Local 26:** Estelle M. Randle; **Local 27:** Marc A. Kalla; Tom R. Craker; **Local 29:** John J. Kavanaugh Jr; **Local 34:** Darryl M. Mineishi; **Local 40:** Stanley B. De Lapp; Louis E. Johnson; **Local 46:** John A. Meza; Antonio H. Gil; Jesus C. Hernandez; **Local 50:** Robert J. Kustura; I. John Estoos; **Local 52:**

James L. Hurd; Jacqueline E. Annibal; Warren R. Narveson; Marvin B. Almaas; **Local 63:** Carlos C. Duenas; Steve N. Bruley; Michael D. Bills; David D. Stock; Earl J. Vancel; David L. Miller; Guadalupe Barraza; Michael P. Thompson; John W. Andersen; Sandra H. Towne; James R. Pandora; Nancy L. Needham; **Local 91:** Fred J. Bryant; Johnie Thomas, Jr.; **Local 92:** David Mosher; Craig R. Clabaugh; **Local 94:** Anthony S. Vidulich; Richard M. Larsen; James E. Reynolds; Leonard L. Loy;

### DECEASED PENSIONERS:

**Local 4:** James E. Forbes; **Local 10:** Leandro Flores; James L. Brewster; **Local 13:** Roy L. Kinsman; Steve Trutanich; **Local 19:** Rudolph Martinez; Mervin L. Smythe; **Local 21:** Gilbert Miranda; Charles S. Sproull; **Local 23:** Jim P. Angelus; William R. Matthews; **Local 29:** James R. Peer; **Local 32:** John M. Waddell; **Local 40:** Alvan C. Francis; **Local 52:** James W. Dean; **Local 92:** Arthur V. Hilton; **Local 98:** Jesse J. Toro;

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

**Local 8:** LJune Gendron; **Local 10:** Marjorie Williams; **Local 13:** Eleanor De Martino; Sylvia Granich; **Local 19:** Janet E. Christenson; Marilyn Kamel; **Local 21:** Marie Jordan; Linda E. De Weert; **Local 34:** Kathleen C. Olsen; Charles E. Turner; **Local 91:** Lucille Young; **Local 92:** Catherine E. Viars; **Local 98:** Marcia L. Boukal;

## Coast-wide Bloody Thursday celebrations

*continued from page 4*

for the kids was popular with the younger set. Adults enjoyed the more sophisticated sounds provided by Local 19 member Gii Cabaccang and the Hawaiian Groove band. Everyone shared in the impressive BBQ feast. As last time, the event was coordinated by Local 19 member Robert Richmire and a team of volunteers.

### Portland

Portland families marked the event as they have for many years – by placing a wreath of flowers to honor

the 1934 martyrs into the Willamette River where currents eventually carry the flowers into the Pacific. Members from Local 8, 40, 91 and Pensioners participated.

The picnic that follows in Oaks Park includes an impressive BBQ lunch that involved 220 hamburgers, 1,200 hot dogs, 42 gallons of chili, 40 cases of sweet corn, 2,000 pounds of watermelon and 1,800 ice cream bars. Live music and games for the kids topped-off a great day in the park. The event was coordinated by Local 8 Vice President Adam Wetzell.