



THE DISPATCHER

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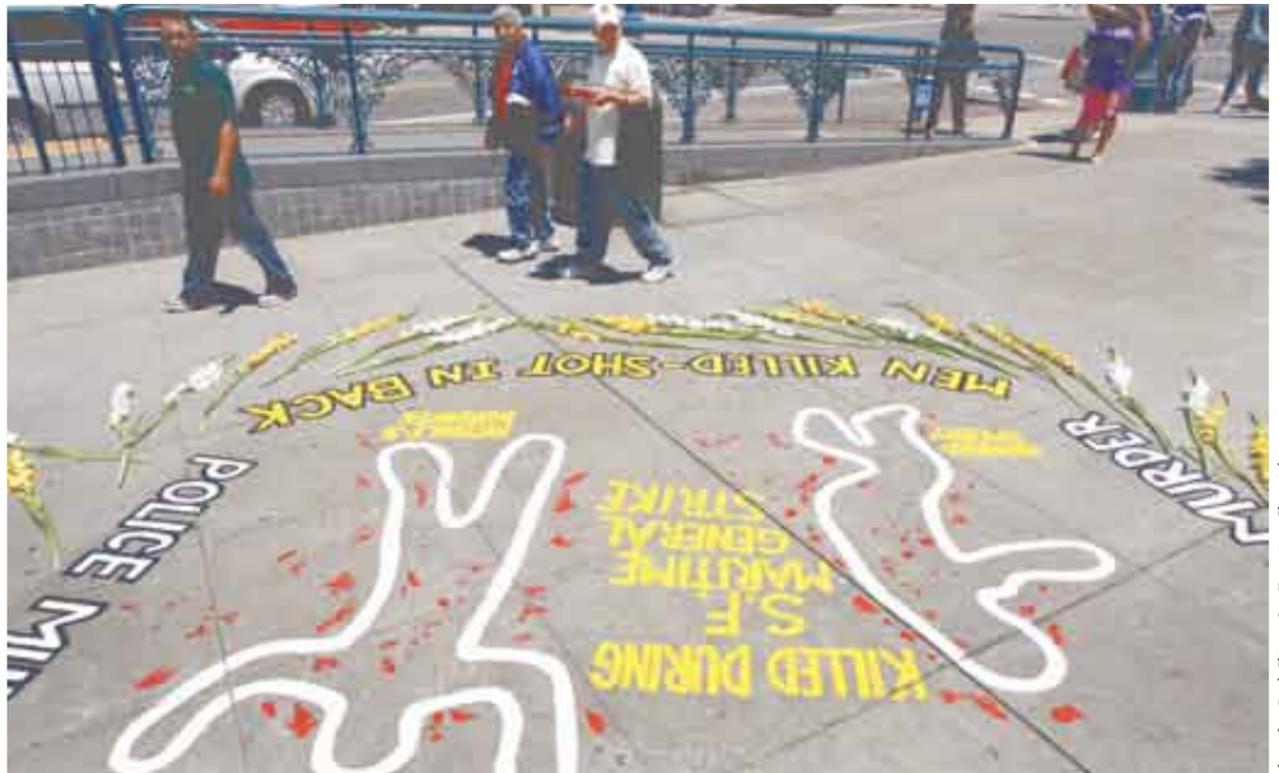


photo by: Paul Chinn, San Francisco Chronicle

On July 5th, dockworkers up and down the coast gathered to honor their brothers who died in 1934 fighting for a longshore union. This sidewalk memorial was created by ILWU members in the San Francisco Bay Area in front of the Local 10 dispatch hall.

Coast Negotiating Committee announces a preliminary contract agreement; the legacy of struggle born on "Bloody Thursday" continues

As the *Dispatcher* goes to press, ILWU's Coast Negotiating and Safety Committees have reached a preliminary agreement with employers from the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) on a new contract covering 25,000 Longshore Division workers coastwise. Owing to the ILWU's tradition of democratic process and rank-and-file oversight, the following procedures will be observed:

The Longshore Division Caucus, composed of democratically-elected delegates, will convene in San Francisco on August 18th to carefully review the proposed agreement. The Caucus will decide whether to recommend that the proposal be presented directly to the rank-and-file for consideration and a vote.

If the Caucus approves, the com-

plete text of the proposed agreement will be mailed to each member's home along with bulk copies to Longshore Division locals. Secret ballot elections will then be scheduled. If approved by members, the new contract becomes effective immediately.

The Committee thanks all Longshore Division workers for the many expressions of unity and solidarity by the rank-and-file that have sustained this contract fight – and honored the sacrifice of those who came before us.

It was in that spirit that thousands of longshore workers and family members gathered on Saturday, July 5th, for events up and down the coast to honor the pair of union activists who were slain 74 years ago by San Francisco police during the historic waterfront strike that gave rise to today's ILWU.

Hundreds of members from Locals 6, 10, and 34 gathered for an all-day celebration in San Francisco that began in front of Local 10's dis-

patch hall where volunteers used chalk to outline the bodies of Howard Sperry and Nicholas Bordoise, creating a sidewalk shrine to honor the long-fallen union martyrs that attracted attention from curious tourists and news photographers. A brief ceremony opened with a mournful version of "taps" played by "Indian Joe" Morris followed by the presentation of colors from Local 10's Drill Team led by Captain Josh Williams. Master of Ceremonies for the event was Joe Mosley, President of the Bay Area Pensioners. The ILWU's newest generation was represented by seven-year-old Aaliyah Washington, who sang the Star Spangled Banner. Edna Cambell, her mother and a Local 10 member, told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that her daughter volunteered to sing in order to continue the family's tradition of union involvement. "She wanted to be a part of this," Cambell said about her daughter. "The solidarity that

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LETTERS TO THE *DISPATCHER*

Dear Editor,

On May 6 at lunchtime, port truckers put up a picket line at the truckers' gate of the SSA terminal in Oakland where I was working. I left the terminal, called the dispatcher and BA to say I was honoring the picket line, urging the union to pull all ILWU members out of the terminal, and then joined some 200+ strikers up the road where police had moved them. I was told by a union official that because they aren't unionized, it is ILWU policy that picketing truckers don't constitute a "bona fide" picket line. This is contrary to what "The ILWU Story" declares: "Every picket line must be respected as though it were our own." Our strike in 1934 was not "authorized" but seamen and other unionists honored our picket lines and we won union recognition and the hiring hall.

In my view, the survival of the ILWU depends on our union as a whole fighting to help organize the thousands of low-wage, non-union workers in the cargo chain, the closest links being the seamen and the mainly immigrant-derived port truckers currently working with us on the docks. The ILWU now stands isolated as one of the few union links in the massive flow of commodities across the Pacific and inland – from nominally unionized production workers in China, to non-union seamen and port truckers, to weakly organized low-paid intermodal workers and legally strait-jacketed rail unions, to the ever increasing non-union warehouses and distribution centers. Winning ILWU-scale wages, benefits and union organization and rights for the existing trucker workforce would be a big step forward for the working class as a whole and would strengthen our union by providing us with a powerful ally in our struggles against the shippers and stevedoring companies. For a waterfront that is 100% union!

**Barbara Franck, Local 10
Alameda, CA**

Dear Editor,

I am a long-time employee of the Port of Astoria who wishes to give a big "thank you" and long overdue recognition to the members of ILWU Local 50.

I don't think many in the community are aware that ILWU members have voluntarily tied up Rose Festival and Astoria Regatta ships calling at the Port of Astoria for many years. They receive no pay for providing tie-up crews, and also let the lines go when the ships are ready to depart. They do it professionally, with smiles on their faces.

Their volunteer work reflects positively for our Port's customers who always thank me for arranging this service, but actually, the thanks should go to the Local 50 members. Thank you Local 50 members.

**Rita Fahrney
Terminal Services and Administrative Services Manager,
Port of Astoria, OR**

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

Dear Editor,

I just received a copy of the June *Dispatcher* with terrific coverage of May Day. The page of support letters were brilliant and powerful.

Your May Day member actions inspired an outpouring of support across the country, throughout the labor, antiwar, and progressive movements. The ILWU has remained true to its vision, principles and history of leadership on every progressive front on which working people struggle. We commend the members and leadership for staying true to the Coast Caucus decision and the principles of solidarity on which it was founded.

I was disappointed, however, that the powerful message of solidarity from the Iraqi oil workers, which I read on their behalf at the SF rally, was not included in the *Dispatcher*. I hope you will make it available to union members. News of the ILWU May Day action was a huge lift for the embattled labor movement of Iraq. Unions there publicized it widely and are deeply appreciative of the level of solidarity demonstrated by ILWU members.

We are posting the June issue of the *Dispatcher* on our website and will send it to all USLAW affiliates.

**Michael Eisenscher, National Coordinator
U.S. Labor Against the War
Oakland, CA**

(editors note: the statement of solidarity has been posted on the ILWU website.)

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to say "thank you" to ILWU members for supporting Laborfest in San Francisco this summer (July 5-31 www.laborfest.net). As a working class trades person (Boilermaker Local 146 in Canada) and musician, your support of the Laborfest 2008 International Working Class Film & Video Festival is greatly appreciated.

In Solidarity,

**Chris Campbell
Parksville, British Columbia, Canada**

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to advise the *Dispatcher* of Sally R. Parker's death on May 20, 2008.

She was the wife of Local 13 member (deceased) Louie Parker (30553) for 64 years.

I want to thank the *Dispatcher* for continuing to advise us all of not only the members who have passed but also their spouses. It is very respectful and appreciated.

In this economy and job market, having a union job is a blessing and should not be taken for granted. Let's keep jobs in the USA and keep Americans working by standing side by side to support our union! On behalf on everyone in my family, thank you

**Kimberly Word
San Pedro, CA**

(I'm the niece of Louie Parker at Local 13, daughter of Robert Word at Local 13, mother of Trevor Word at Local 13, and sister to Tina Word at Local 63)



Supporting the troops: Vickie Kinner from Local 13 has been sending dozens of "care packages" to soldiers in Iraq since the war started. "I know how much it means to get a package when you're deployed overseas," says Kinner who served 11 years in the Navy plus a year in the Reserves. "Someone's personal views about the war shouldn't prevent them from sending a package to a soldier." Kinner encourages others to join her, and suggests using the free service at www.anysoldier.com

DISPATCHER

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ILWU will help gather one million signatures to end union-busting

Employee Free Choice Act Aims to Rebuild the Middle Class

Members at Locals 8 and 40 in Portland are some of the first to join a new nationwide campaign that the ILWU and other unions are launching to collect a million signatures to support the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) – a law that would make it much easier for workers to join a union.

“Passing the Employee Free Choice Act is a matter of life or death for the union movement and survival of the middle class,” said ILWU Vice President Joe Radisich, who’s helping to coordinate the campaign within the ILWU. “If laws aren’t changed soon, unions could become extinct by the next generation.”

Portland members kicked-off the signature-gathering effort at their Bloody Thursday picnic on July 5th. Members at the picnic were encouraged to sign the petition, and take some home to get signatures from family, friends, and co-workers on the job.

“Employers today aren’t using police bullets and tear gas like they did against longshore workers in 1934,” said Local 8 President Jeff Smith who spoke to the union families who gathered at Oaks Park. “But employers still hate unions, they spend over a billion dollars a year on consultants to bust unions – and the law lets them get away with firing and harassing union supporters. We need to close those loopholes and give workers back their right to join a union.”

Workers at the Rite Aid warehouse in Lancaster and the Blue Diamond almond plant in Sacramento know how difficult it is to join a union these days without protection from the Employee Free Choice Act.

“We suffered through some anti-union attacks that were just terrible,” said Debbie Fontaine who works in the Receiving Department at the Rite Aid warehouse. “All of us were threatened,

and some of us – including me – were fired. In the end, we overcame those attacks and feel strong now, but they tried to make us suffer for supporting the union.”

Blue Diamond workers know that feeling well – their employer has been attacking union supporters inside the Sacramento plant for more than a decade. “The company fired some of my co-workers for supporting the union, and they tried to fire me too,” said Cesario Aguirre, a 30-year veteran maintenance worker at the plant. “Those firings really put fear in some of my co-workers, but now I see much more support.” Blue Diamond workers are continuing to push for a free and fair election at their plant.

National surveys show that most workers would like to join a union if they could – but they’re also afraid of being fired, and most are unwilling to risk their jobs and families under current labor law.

Strategy behind the signature drive

The million-member petition drive is designed to deal with some frustrating facts about labor law reform in the political world:

- ✓ The Employee Free Choice Act has stalled in Congress because it’s just a few votes short of overcoming a filibuster in the Senate. The House of Representatives already passed EFCA last year.
- ✓ Republican nominee Sen. John McCain stands with Pres. George W. Bush– both oppose EFCA. McCain voted to block EFCA in the Senate, and promised to veto the bill if he becomes President.
- ✓ Democratic nominee Sen. Barack Obama supports the EFCA and has promised to help pass it if he’s elected. Pres. Bill Clinton made a similar promise, then devoted his time and energy to pass the NAFTA free trade deal with Mexico to



Local 8 member Allen McNamee reads the Employee Free Choice Act petition at his hiring hall. McNamee took a petition home to gather signatures from friends and family. He’s supporting efforts by the ILWU and AFL-CIO unions to deliver one million signatures supporting the Employee Free Choice Act to America’s next President.

benefit corporate America– even though it was strongly opposed by unions, including the ILWU.

The way out of this problem, according to Radisich, is to “start earlier and do a better job of holding politicians accountable.” Radisich says the million-member petition drive will begin with union members who volunteer their time and money to help get politicians elected, then focus on candidates. “Not many politicians, including Barack Obama, can stand up to corporate America unless we’re there to help them stand up for working families and pass the EFCA,” said Radisich.

ILWU members who gather petition signatures will be joining members from dozens of other unions across the country who are also signing-up friends, family and co-workers. The AFL-CIO plans to gather one million signatures by this fall, then present the petitions to President Obama and push hard to make the Employee Free Choice Act a top priority in his administration.

“The million-member petition drive won’t work unless Obama wins the election,” said Radisich. “If McCain wins, you can kiss EFCA goodbye and most workers will never have a union. If we help elect Obama, we’ll still have to keep his feet to the fire on EFCA and other issues like health care, but we’ve got a much better chance because he understands how critical unions are to the survival of the working class.”

Obama co-sponsored the Employee Free Choice Act in the Senate, and recently explained his support for EFCA, saying: “We need to finally allow our unions to do what they do best and lift up the middle-class in this country once more.”

You can join the petition drive by going to www.ilwu.org where you can get more information, and download petitions. Vice President Radisich is asking everyone to return their petitions to the ILWU Organizing Department, 1188 Franklin Street 4th floor, San Francisco, CA 94109.

– Jennifer Sargent

ILWU Canada grain workers fight lockout

Grain Services Union, ILWU Canada workers at the head office of Viterra Inc. in Regina, Saskatchewan are still locked out and on strike as we go to press. Nearly 90 percent of the 200 workers turned out to vote down the company’s final offer on June 9 by an 83 percent margin. Viterra, Canada’s largest grain and agribusiness company, handles and markets grain for domestic and export purposes. Their contract expired Jan. 31.

“Members had authorized strike action rather than submit to Viterra’s lock out conditions,” GSU General Secretary Hugh Wagner said. The employer ordered employees to report to work or be subject to discipline without the rights and protections a contract. So on July 7, GSU members walked.

The following day a delivery driver “got frustrated and went roaring across

the lot,” Wagner said. “He hit a picket and knocked him down.” The worker wasn’t seriously injured and the police are investigating.

The company can hardly cry poverty. Thanks to the tremendous increase in food prices, Viterra has seen second quarter operating revenues increase nearly 300 percent this year to \$1.5 billion. Despite its good fortune, the company wants the power to change group insurance plans at will, increase the use of temporary workers, and impose variable work hours without guarantees of full-time employment. The media has inaccurately reported the company’s wage offer as “up to 27 percent over five years.” But the company would decide who—if anyone—gets the raise. “This violates the very essence of the collective bargaining process,” Wagner said.

“We’ve been carefully watching Viterra’s attempts to break the union,” said Larry Hubich, President of Saskatchewan’s Federation of Labour. “Viterra isn’t respecting the collective bargaining relationship with their workers that’s been in place for 70 years.”

The union filed an unfair labor practice charge on July 18th, saying that the lockout is illegal. Viterra failed to respond, so the union is hoping to win a favorable ruling and get the company back into negotiations.

ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne presented GSU’s strike fund with a \$100,000 check at a large rally in Regina July 24. International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams sent greetings that were read at the rally.

“As the grain ripens in the fields, the employer would impose impossible conditions on union workers,” Adams



“Power Ranger” Cheyenne Siebert supports her aunt, Kathy Muhr, on the Grain Services Union (GSU) picket line in Saskatchewan.

said. “People are hungry all over the world, yet Viterra provokes a lockout and strike. They must be thinking of their own huge salaries. They disregard the worth of their own people and the people around the world who see the grain as food, not a commodity.”

– Tom Price

Electric trucks could save gas, protect workers and residents in the Southland

With gas prices soaring toward \$5.00 a gallon and diesel already higher, West Coast port officials have plenty of incentive to start using electric-powered vehicles. Officials at the Port of Los Angeles and South Coast Air Quality Management District received another jolt of encouragement to switch to electric vehicles after health researchers reported earlier this year that diesel and other air pollutants are causing thousands of unnecessary and preventable deaths to workers and residents who live and work around the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach (see “New study points to cancer risk around Southland ports,” February 2008 *Dispatcher*, p. 7)

Dirty, dangerous air and the spiraling cost of fuel have moved the Port of Los Angeles to launch a demonstra-

tion project to test the world’s most powerful, short-range, heavy-duty electric truck. The experimental truck is expensive at more than \$527,000, but the Port says the high initial cost must be compared with lower operating costs – about 20 cents per mile for the electric truck versus 80-90 cents for a comparable diesel. The electric truck is supposed to be able to carry a fully-loaded 40-foot container for 30 miles on a full charge with a maximum speed of 40 mph. The new truck is the first in a planned fleet of 20 electric yard hostlers and five electric drayage trucks that will be delivered over the next 12 months.

“Using this truck and the fleet of electric vehicles at the port should be an important step forward,” said Adrian Diaz, ILWU Marine Clerks Representative from Southern Califor-



nia for the 2008 Coast Safety Negotiating Committee. “We need cleaner air on the docks and in the communities where we live. These vehicles should help do that.”

If the entire fleet of diesel trucks at the Port of LA were replaced with electric models, officials estimate that harbor-area pollution would be reduced by nearly 22 tons of cancer-causing diesel soot and 35,000 tons of carbon dioxide—a major “greenhouse

gas.” The benefits of electric vehicles could be more important if container volumes double as expected between now and 2020.

The source of the electric power that goes into the “zero-emission” trucks—much of it generated from dirty coal-burning plants located as far away as Utah—is not being addressed in this experiment.

— John Showalter

ILWU President chosen for international position

The Dockers Section of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) represents over 400,000 dockworkers in 190 unions from 100 countries. The group gathered in Stockholm, Sweden on June 16-19, 2008 to coordinate strategy and solidarity efforts, share information, and elect new leadership for the coming years.

ILWU International President Bob McEllrath was nominated to serve as 2nd Vice Chair of the ITF Dockers Section by President Richard Hughes of the International Longshoremen’s Association (ILA). More than 100 delegates voted unanimously to approve

McEllrath who was unable to attend due to the Longshore Contract negotiations in San Francisco, but ILWU Secretary Treasurer Willie Adams was on hand to accept the nomination and thank delegates who also passed a resolution pledging their full support and solidarity for the ILWU’s Longshore Contract negotiations. Also attending from the ILWU were Ray Familathe, International Relations Coordinator, and Mark Jurisic, member of Local 13.

“I’m pleased for the chance to represent dockers in this new position that will help us build solidarity and support workers around the world,” said McEllrath from San Francisco.



Flying a new ILWU flag Local 502 members in Canada have designed a flag that they’d like to make available to other locals. “We thought all ILWU locals needed a flag, so we designed this one to fly proudly at our local, display at rallies, and march with on picket lines,” said Tim Farrell, who led the rank-and-file flag effort with Troy Konkin whose inspiration powered the project. The new flag was raised alongside the Canadian Mapleleaf in a ceremony on July 5th. ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne spoke about the history of Bloody Thursday and the Battle of Ballentine as the flags flew overhead, and everyone celebrated with a BBQ afterward. More details and ordering information are available from Tim Farrel at Local 502 at 604-580-8882. In back row, left to right: night B.A Marko Karpan, day B.A. Chris Verbeek, Secretary Treasurer Rob Ford, Executive Board member Tim Farrell, E.A.P. Councilor Darwin Gerrard, retiree Joe Breaks, and member Jim O’Donnell. In front are: President Chad O’Neil, Executive Board member Vern Whitley, member Chuck Zuggerman, and member Troy Konkin.



High heat is killing workers Doroteo Jimenez carries a coffin representing his 17-year-old niece, Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez, who died in the fields of California’s Central Valley on May 16th from heat stress. Vasquez Jimenez was two months pregnant when she collapsed while working for Merced Farm Labor. By the time she was taken to the hospital, her core body temperature was 108.4°. Her employer failed to comply with California’s new law that requires adequate shade and drinking water for outdoor workers.

The United Farm Workers organized a pilgrimage from Lodi to Sacramento to honor Vasquez Jimenez and press for better enforcement of the Cal/OSHA rules that are supposed to protect workers from excessive heat. Those rules didn’t take effect until 2005—and they only apply to outdoor work.

Workers at Rite Aid’s distribution center in Lancaster, CA, who recently voted to join ILWU warehouse Local 26, want to see those rules expanded to cover indoor work. Blistering heat is common inside Rite Aid’s high-desert warehouse during the summer because most work areas have no air conditioning. One man died at the end of his shift in 2006, and many co-workers believe that the high temperatures at work contributed to his death.

Former Rite Aid workers testified to the California legislature last year to support a bill requiring Cal/OSHA to set rules on indoor heat. The legislature passed the bill, but Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed it.



Helping kids in the community Casey Breaker (right) joined more than 20 volunteers from Local 4 that helped 100 developmentally disabled kids and their families go fishing at the Columbia Springs Fish Hatchery. Local 4 members also contributed \$1,000 to the project and received publicity on the event’s web site, a banner, and on t-shirts. “Every single participant thanked us for a great event,” said Cager Clabaugh, Local 4 President. “The real benefit was seeing those kid’s faces when they hooked a big fish. It was definitely the most rewarding thing I’ve ever done for Local 4, and something that made us even more proud to be longshoremen.”

Spring Elections Set Stage for Fall Showdown

California's June 3rd primary election marked an important step forward for the ILWU's new effort to build political power and establish a "good jobs" agenda in the Central Valley town of Stockton. Months of hard work by ILWU members resulted in a string of victories, thanks to volunteers and paid canvassers who knocked on thousands of doors, distributed piles of campaign literature, and hammered-in hundreds of lawn signs.

ILWU-endorsed candidates in Stockton were victorious in three important contests for local office, including a first place finish for Mayoral candidate Ann Johnston. The campaign effort in Stockton shows how local union volunteers can play a critical role in the ILWU's long-term strategy of building power for working families and winning public support for more good-paying union jobs in California's delta region.

The effort in Stockton began back in March when ILWU members from Locals 54 and 6 interviewed candidates running for local office.

"Our goal was to find candidates who were willing to stand up for good jobs in the community and a union voice in our workplaces," explained Local 54 Secretary-Treasurer Gene Davenport.

More than a dozen candidates were interviewed that spring, each grilled by a friendly but determined group of members who asked each candidate where they stood on issues that mattered most to working families.

By the month of May, Local 54 and 6 members were pounding the pavement in neighborhoods, telling voters about the slate of candidates who promised to help create more good-paying jobs – especially at the Port of Stockton. In addition to volunteers from Locals 54 and 6, the effort benefitted from an impressive showing of coastwise solidarity.

Help for the Stockton campaign came from longshore, warehouse, and clerk locals up and down the coast who made contributions to support the project. These resources were used to hire canvassers who delivered the ILWU message door to door, five days a week, for a full month. Altogether, the ILWU canvas crew distributed over 8,000 pieces of campaign literature and knocked on over 4,000 doors in targeted precincts to support the ILWU-endorsed candidates.

"We didn't just make the usual endorsements and write some checks" explained Marc Cuevas, President of Longshore Local 54. "This time we put people on the ground to talk with working families and encourage them to vote. The effort's given us a new sense of power and possibilities. Our long-term goal is to help working families win better jobs and a stronger voice here in Stockton – and that will make it possible for our union to grow and expand our jurisdiction."

The Stockton campaign continues this fall as union-backed candidates contest in run-off elections and the ILWU protects important pro-union seats in the State Legislature and Congress.

"We want to thank everyone in



ILWU members in Stockton celebrate their election victory with Mayoral Candidate Ann Johnston. (L to R) Gene Davenport, Javier Gamez, David Griffen, Joel Rimes, Mayoral candidate Ann Johnston, Joe Lovato, Elmer Richardson, ILWU Organizer Will Ward, Maurice Applegate, Eppie Rivera

the ILWU who helped us get this project rolling," said Cuevas. "It's already making a big difference because politicians are showing the ILWU more respect, and that will only increase as more people volunteer – so come out to Stockton and spend a day with us on the doors!"

Slate Mailers in the Southland

The Southern California District Council was also active in the June Primary, producing 13,000 slate cards that identified candidates endorsed by the union. Most were mailed to Local 13 members, but large numbers also went to members in Locals 63, 63-OCU, 94, 26, 29, and 46.

Local 63 made space available in their offices for volunteer phone bankers who contacted voters in the harbor area. Some of the volunteers were local high school students who wanted a way to get involved in their community and experience the excitement of joining a political campaign.

The results on election day were positive: most ILWU-endorsed candidates won their races in Southern California.

"We were thrilled with the results," said Rich Dines who chairs the Southern California District Council. "We supported some younger candidates who fell short in the Torrance City Council race, but they were long shots who may run again in the future."

Dines also cited the ILWU's role in a controversial State Senate race in the 25th District that pitted longtime politician Merv Dymally – who ran with heavy labor endorsements – against the more moderate former Assemblymember Rod Wright, who secured the ILWU endorsement and scored an upset despite being the underdog.

This Fall, the District Council expects to be helping Congressional candidate Nick Liebham who's running an uphill race down in San Diego's 50th Congressional District that was once held by Randy "Duke" Cunningham – the disgraced Congressman who resigned before going to prison for taking bribes from defense contractors.

Dines is also interested in explor-

ing work with the Northern California District Council to get a labor-friendly Congressman elected in the 4th District along the Sierra foothills that was held for years by anti-union extremist John Doolittle who recently announced he would retire after the FBI raided his home in connection with crimes committed by convicted felon and former lobbyist Jack Abramoff. The November race will pit the labor-friendly retired Lt. Col. Charles Brown against the anti-union politician Tom McClintock who recently moved 300 miles to live in the district.

Northern California Campaigns

The Northern California District Council reports that the June 3 elections were generally successful for labor in the Bay Area and beyond. Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Fred Pecker said that several measures supported by locals and the District Council in San Francisco were passed by voters, including Proposition G, which will create more affordable housing in the Hunter's Point/Bayview neighborhood.

Voters also approved more school bonds in San Francisco and several other areas that will increase teacher pay. Labor also won big in San Francisco by helping defeat Proposition 98 that would have abolished rent control in the city and statewide.

In a hotly-contested State Senate race, the District Council backed San Francisco City Supervisor Mark Leno, who defeated incumbent Senator Carole Migden. The Council also endorsed San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who ran unopposed for Leno's vacated seat in the state Assembly. In the East Bay, Local 6 members and the ILWU backed State Assemblywoman Loni Hancock who won a tough race for the State Senate seat vacated by termed-out Senate Pro Tem Don Perata. Elsewhere in the East Bay, union members got behind the winning campaigns of labor activist Jim Prola on the San Leandro City Council and Rebecca Kaplan on the Oakland City Council. Both Councilmembers supported more than 300 ILWU Local 6 members who honored Teamster Picket lines last summer

during the month-long Waste Management strike in the East Bay.

In Sacramento, Local 17 got involved their city's mayoral election. The Local is supporting challenger Kevin Johnson who's running against incumbent Mayor Heather Fargo. Johnson came out ahead in the primary, but moves to a November 3rd runoff because neither candidate received the required majority on June 3rd.

Up north in Eureka, Local 14 President Damien Mooney reports that the local's choice in the County Supervisor election, Roger Rodini, was tragically killed in a car accident on his way to a fundraiser. Politicians in Eureka are exploring the possibility of developing a container port. The container port idea gained credence after investment firm Goldman-Sachs expressed interest in a 50-year lease for the right to operate a publicly-owned dock in the town that once exported massive quantities of lumber and wood products.

Washington State

Washington's August primary was later than most states, but that didn't stop ILWU locals 19, 23 and 52 from backing candidates who pledged to support working families. Governor Chris Gregoire has been a staunch supporter of working families and a friend to the ILWU, but her race may be a nail-biter: she's in a rematch against her 2004 opponent, anti-union Republican Dino Rossi, who was defeated by just 133 votes.

The Governor received help last November when the ILWU co-sponsored a fundraiser attended by International President Bob McEllrath and Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, along with Local 23 President Conrad Spell, Local 19 President Herald Ugles, and Local 23 member Scott Mason. Other ILWU members and locals have also supported the Governor at more recent fundraisers and events.

Local 4 President Cager Clabaugh promoted the Governor's effort to bring renewable energy jobs to Washington at a news event held at the Port of Vancouver in April. Clabaugh told the Columbian newspaper that there

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ILWU & Aussie Pensioners meet in Sydney



ILWU Pensioners visit MUA officials in Sydney, Australia. (standing L-R: Jim Davison of Southwest Oregon Pensioners; Lewis Wright of Southern California Pensioners Group, Mike Mullen of ILWU Local 14 Pensioners in Eureka, CA, PCPA President Rich Austin & ILWU Local 32 Pensioners in Everett, WA, Fred Krausert, General Secretary of the Maritime Union of Australia Veterans. Kneeling L-R: Barry Robson of the Maritime Union of Australia Veterans, Leonard Meneghello of the Vancouver, B.C. Pensioners

A report from the National Conference of Maritime Union of Australia Veterans Conference by Lewis Wright, Southern California ILWU Pension Group Delegate

I participated in a delegation from the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) that travelled to Sydney, Australia on April 9, 2008 to attend the National Delegates Conference of the Veterans of the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA). The main themes of the conference were the Patrick dispute of ten years ago prior and the significant role played by the veterans of the MUA in the "Your Rights at Work" campaign. This campaign led to the defeat in 2007 of neo-conservative government of Australia headed by Prime Minister John Howard, the author of the Patrick's dispute.

The Patrick Stevedore Dispute

In 1998, over 2000 longshore workers in various Australian ports working for the Patrick Stevedore company were removed from the docks under cover of darkness with armed guards wearing paramilitary outfits and ski masks, accompanied by German shepherd dogs. The MUA veterans played a significant role in the fight back to this affront on basic human rights. At the 2008 MUA Conference, General Secretary Paddy Crumlin of the MUA described the events this way:

"Prime Minister John Howard personally signed-off on a plan to sack the entire workforce of Patrick Stevedores, put them all out of work, and put all of their employees and their families through a lot of trauma. That's what John Howard did, that's what created the dispute, and these facts are all known to the public.

"We had a government and a very large corporation that were acting in concert. The High Court found that there was a probable conspiracy, a criminal conspiracy to remove our legal right to work, our legal right to collectively bargain, and our legal right to freedom of association.

"That's a tremendous challenge for 2,000 blue collar working men and women to stand in the face of that sort of monolithic power and then come through it legally and industrially to reclaim their jobs against almost impossible odds. That's a victory by any measure."

The Your Rights at Work Campaign

Fred Krausert, MUA Veterans' Association Secretary General, recognized the courageous work of the veterans in the multimillion dollar Your Rights at Work Campaign. The campaign included as many community organizations as it did labor and started well in advance of the elections beginning in 2005, culminating with the defeat of the Howard government in 2007. Fred, who attended and spoke at the 2007 PCPA Convention in San Pedro, outlined the considerable time, money, and physical effort put forward by the veterans. He explained how veterans spent three years passing out bumper stickers and collecting pennies to help pay for the workers' campaign. Pensioners distributed thousands of well-designed brochures throughout Australia, showing horrible examples of workers being mistreated under the Howard government's draconian labor laws.

As the elections approached, political districts were divided among veteran groups who walked door-to-door, encouraging voters to participate. Veterans returned to those political districts on election eve to get out the vote. The veterans ranged from 60 to 90 years old, and they showed us the steep hills they walked during the election. They were met at the door with the respect due their age, and that played a big role in the final vote.

It was often said that the "Howard government did for the union what the union was not able to do for itself, that was to unite members in the struggle for human rights." These veterans worked to free themselves from a repressive regime with the zeal of those who have been to the brink of disaster but survived together through solidarity. Now they aren't likely to sit on their laurels. The victory was won but the campaign continues. The goal

now is to hold the newly elected Labor Party's feet to the fire and force them to make good on their election promises to help workers.

"Retired from the industry, not from the struggle"

We were well represented at the MUA Veterans Conference by PCPA President Rich Austin, who explained some of the labor and social issues we're facing in America. Austen talked about the importance of internationalism, saying corporations don't have borders and neither should we. "I've got more in common with a Mexican laborer than I do with a stock broker in my own country," he said. "Workers all have the same problems. We want a decent job. We want to work and go home in the evening without being injured. We demand good pay, good pensions, good conditions, and peace in the world. These things can only be achieved by international trade unionism."

After the Conference, MUA veterans sent us north to visit Newcastle - the world largest coal shipping port, where we met with wonderful salt-of-the-earth veteran sailors and dockers of the MUA that proudly told us about the part they played to bring down the Howard government.

It was a wonderful meeting, full of hearty handshakes, hugs, and real feelings of comradeship. At the end of our visit, we all sang "Solidarity Forever."

The Port of Brisbane

MUA veteran Col. Davies took me on a tour of the Brisbane port where I saw robots doing longshore work. Three Transtainers at the Patrick Stevedore facility in the port of Brisbane are run simultaneously by one operator with a box of joysticks and a computer. The Transtainer follows electronic guides imbedded in the asphalt and a computer move it to the appropriate container pile. The operator standing on the ground lowers the beam, picks up the container, and then the computer takes over again. The operation is slower than human-run Transtainers, but computers don't join unions.

The Port of Melbourne

MUA Deputy Secretary David Schleibs took me around the port of Melbourne to see places where the action happened during the Patrick's dispute in 1998. He shared many stories about the dispute. MUA veteran Perce White told me that members at the time felt a tremendous uncertainty about their futures, but had the steely resolve to see the dispute to its end, no matter what the outcome. David Schleibs explained the important role that community support played in their union victory. For example, he told of two older women, a mother and daughter, not related to the union in any way, who put their folding chairs directly in front of the company gate and announced they were there for the duration and would not be moved until the union's victory was won.

Many different unions played important roles in the Patrick's dispute. The building trades shut down their construction sites and showed

up strategically one early Friday morning just as the police were about to make their big move against the MUA picket lines. As the police massed to attack the MUA picket lines, they turned around to find hundreds of union construction workers behind them. Being surrounded, they were forced to negotiate with the unions in order to make a peaceful retreat. From then on, the police never attempted to remove the union lines. Instead, they participated in daily meetings with the union so everyone could stay informed. The police began their own negotiations with the government for a new contract, and they received support from Australia's Labor Federation that helped them win a good union contract for their members. As we say, "what goes around comes around."

During my visit, the ILWU was constantly singled out, as a pivotal force that affected the outcome of the Patrick dispute. The refusal by ILWU members to unload "hot cargo" carried by the *Columbus Canada* in 1998 was a turning point when the MUA knew they would win the Patrick dispute. As David Schleibs put it, "That demonstration of international solidarity by the ILWU on behalf of the MUA may have been just a pebble in labor history, but it has sent ripples of working class power reverberating around the world. We can be sure that it's been noted in the board rooms of world capital, and all labor is better for it."

Conclusion

What did I learn from this very long, tiring, trip to Australia? First and foremost, I learned that we have friends - or as they would say - "comrades" who will truly stand by us. These friends believe they survived the greatest threat in the history of their union, and were saved, in part, by the willingness of ILWU members to stand by the MUA. Also, the veterans warned us to learn from their experience: We should not wait until a crisis is upon us, but develop our capacity now to mount a fight-back campaign. We should know that the next attack is coming, and to support our labor and community friends because we will certainly be in need of their support one day. Although pensioners like are retired from the industry, we will always be workers standing in the way of PMA's complete control of the waterfront.

Traveling around Australia and visiting with MUA members and veterans at the various branches has made me feel very hopeful about the future and proud of all of my fellow ILWU members and community activists. I'll never feel that we are too few or too powerless to leave a better world for our children to inherit.

If you're a pensioned ILWU member and want to be active, contact your local for information on your local pension group or contact Rich Austin President PCPA, e-mail, austin@unions-america.com.

— Lewis Wright
Southern California
Pension Group
ILWU

Full day for PCPA Executive Board

On Sunday May 25, the Executive Board of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) met in the Henry Schmidt Room of Local 10 in San Francisco for a full day of productive discussions that covered a wide range of issues.

The Board convened at 9:00 am, and adjourned just before 5:00 pm. "Every member of the Board deserves a 'thank you' for a job well done," said PCPA President Rich Austin. "The Bay Area Pensioners Club provided a great ham and roast beef lunch with all the trimmings - that was our one respite from an otherwise busy day."

Topics that were covered included:

- Reports from all the Board Members
- Examples of how the PCPA pitches-in to help everyone in the ILWU family – pensioners, surviving spouses, dependents, active members – and our continuing commitment to our Union's motto, "An Injury To One Is An Injury To All."
- A summary of the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Solidarity Conference and the MUA Veterans Conference held in Sydney, Australia in April.
- The importance of international solidarity.
- Discussion on procedures to assure that future PCPA delegations are representative of the rich diversity of the ILWU
- The generous contribution from the Longshore Caucus to fund future PCPA Conventions.

- Ways to attract new members to the PCPA.
- The forthcoming PCPA Convention in Portland, Oregon September 15, 16, 17.
- Proposals to amend the PCPA Constitution and By-Laws.
- The Board's wishes for a speedy recovery for Southern California Pensioners Group President Al Perisho, and for Board Member Bill Duncan who represents the Van Isle Pensioners of British Columbia

"The PCPA is indeed part of the ILWU family", Austin stated. "Thanks to action by the Longshore Caucus and our Titled Officers and Coast Committee, PCPA representatives sit on the Benefits Committee, the Education Committee, the Longshore Negotiating Committee, and are asked to participate in other union functions. We are thankful that the ILWU membership looks out for us. The PCPA gives back and has generously contributed to the ILWU Political Action Fund and we've leafleted on behalf of our fellow workers in organizing campaigns. We participate in events that promote social and economic justice and peace for all, and we remain ready to help whenever we are called on to do so. We hope to see plenty of pensioners and spouses at our convention in Portland this September. In addition to great camaraderie and fun, our Conventions are also highly informative. We are family."

– Rich Austin, PCPA President



Pacific Coast Pensioners Association Board meets in San Francisco: Standing (L-R): Ian Kennedy, Seattle Pensioners; George Cobbs, President, Bay Area Pensioners; Ken Swicker, Longview Pensioners; Mike Mullen, Eureka Pensioners; Daryl Hedman, Tacoma Pensioners; Len Meneghello, Vancouver, B.C. Pensioners; Jim Davison, Southwest Oregon Pensioners; George Gornick, Columbia River Pensioners; Seated L-R: Art Almeida, Southern California Pensioners; Lou Loveridge, PCPA Vice-President, Southern California Pensioners; Arne Auvinen, PCPA Recording Secretary, Longview Pensioners; Rich Austin, PCPA President, Everett Pensioners; Barbara Lewis, PCPA Treasurer, Columbia River Pensioners. Not pictured: Cleophas Williams, Bay Area Pensioners. Excused: Bill Duncan.

Pensioners – Don't miss the boat!

Pacific Coast Pensioners Association CONVENTION

September 15-17 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland Airport, Oregon

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MEMBERS SPEAK OUT

What's your local doing to help the community?



"Back in 1998, a group of volunteers from Local 13, led by Michael Ponce and Jerry Avila, began our 'Feed the Community Day.' Then we added a toy drive, which has turned into an annual holiday party that we host for needy families in our community. Each event takes a lot of work, but hundreds of volunteers help out and members now offer to give me donations, so I carry around a receipt book with me."

**Lisa Tonson, Local 13
San Pedro**



"Both of us volunteer in the Blue Diamond organizing campaign. I've made house calls and Tony does phone banking. The Blue Diamond workers are our neighbors, and part of our community. In December, the union and Farmers Rice Coop got 40,000 pounds of rice sent down to Honduras where people were suffering after a flood. The Local also worked with my employer, C&S, to donate Christmas baskets to needy families. We also support politicians who support labor, like Kevin Johnson who's running for Mayor of Sacramento. We both went to the rallies, and Tony also did phone banking."

**Audrey & Tony Ybarra, Local 17
Sacramento, CA**



"People sometimes say to me, 'You guys are the ones who are always making donations.' We hear that because we help a lot of families. We serve food at the soup kitchen, give gift cards to needy students, and much more. This year we're volunteering at the Tall Ships Festival, and we also raised more than \$8,600 for Multiple Sclerosis. Some of the funds that members donate during the Holiday Toy Drive go toward the YMCA women's shelter. We ask the shelter what they need and then go shopping at a union grocery store."

**Holly Hulscher, Local 23
Tacoma, WA**

"There's no shortage of people who need help on this planet, and our union is doing what we can. We support local causes including a program that helps sick children in Vancouver. We also support Amnesty International, especially their efforts to support workers rights. We're also helping refugees in Darfur who've suffered from horrible human rights abuses. Many of us also do things as individuals to help. I'm in a band called "The Unmentionables" with another Local 500 member, Gary Serafini. Our band donates time and talent to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We also go to senior citizens homes to play for people who can't get out and about."

**Dave Myles, Local 500
Vancouver, B.C., Canada**



Local 4 workers in Vancouver, Washington will soon operate a second heavy-pick mobile harbor crane, thanks to a \$5 million expenditure by the Port Commission. The port already owns the largest mobile harbor crane in North America, a Liebherr Harbor Master 500. The crane is needed to keep up with the growing shipments of wind energy turbines. "Wind energy has been a huge shot in the arm for Local 4," says President Cager Clabaugh. "We've registered men and women faster than I've ever seen. But this work is dangerous because you're dealing with 13 to 78 ton pieces that are from 20 to 130 feet long."... Finding enough land to store giant wind turbines and other equipment has been a challenge for the Port, so they signed a deal to get 217 acres and a private dock from Alcoa and Evergreen Aluminum back in 2007. The deal's been held up because contamination on the site requires further cleanup, but it should be ready by March, 2009. Meanwhile the port will lease 107 acres from Alcoa to store wind energy pieces... The local held a retirees dinner on May 21 to "thank our retired brothers and sisters who have given us so much and left us with this wonderful legacy," Clabaugh said. "We appreciate all they've done for us."

Local 5 members have elected a bargaining team to prepare for contract negotiations with Aramark, the food services provider at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. They're in the process of preparing bargaining demands for about 45 members. Negotiations will begin in October.

Local 6 officers and members have been busy helping members negotiate contracts during the last couple months. Thirty workers at U.S. Cold Storage in Union City ratified a new five-year agreement with wage increases of 60, 50, 55, 55 and 55 cents per hour, with reopeners for health and pensions in the third, fourth and fifth years... Another group of 50 cold storage workers at the Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) plant in Fresno overwhelmingly ratified a three-year contract that provides three percent raises in the first two years and two percent for the third... Local 6 is still negotiating with Selix Formalwear for a new contract following the bankruptcy of the former owner... More than 500 workers at Bayer's plant in Berkeley have ratified a new three-year contract with wage increases of 3.5, 3.7, and 3.8 percent each year. The agreement included a shift from the defined benefit pension plan to a defined contribution 401(k) plan beginning Jan. 1, 2009. The company will contribute the equivalent of five percent of hourly wages to the 401(k), including overtime hours. Those vested in the pension fund will receive enhancements based on seniority. Health benefits will be maintained and there was a \$1,000 signing bonus... 35 workers at the Mission Council for Alcohol Abuse for the Spanish Speaking are facing consequences of a budget cut of more than 20 percent. The counselors and clerical staff represented by Local 6 already make modest wages, and are part-timers with no medical benefits. Local 6 Steward Velma Smith is rallying members to lobby for more program-funding to prevent further cuts.

Local 10 officers have been asking employers to improve training, but Secretary-Treasurer Adam Mendez says "they haven't been too willing to have our members trained." The union is demanding that employers put speedometers on tractors because the companies pressure workers to speed up, then cite them for speeding, says B.A. Trent Willis who also sits on

the ILWU Safety Negotiating Committee and warns, "when you have inadequately trained members, you end up with accidents and deaths."... Local 10 mourned the passing of Bruno Gouveia on May 21 from cancer. "Bruno became one of our youngest steady crane operators when he was just 32," said Adam Mendez. "His passing was felt by the entire port; long-shoremen, clerks and walking bosses alike. He will be missed very much."

Local 13 has been pushing companies to improve air quality around the docks for several years; now the local is leading the way by using low-emission hybrid cars for business agents who respond to member concerns on the docks. Two new Ford Escape Hybrids have replaced a pair of gas-guzzlers. ... Another air quality advance for the harbor area could happen a proposed on-dock rail expansion plan goes forward. The goal is to reduce truck traffic that's currently required to shuttle containers nearly five miles from the docks to nearby rail yards. Running rails closer to the docks would save fuel and time. There's also a possibility that electric-powered locomotives could operate on the port rails instead of dirty diesel engines. The expansion plan by Union Pacific Railroad would double capacity at their intermodal transfer facility to 1.5 million lifts per year. Approval for the project's environmental review process came on June 24th, but many steps are required before it becomes operational... The LA City Council took a step toward cleaner air on June 17 when they approved the port's "Clean Trucks Program." The plan calls for using the latest low-emission trucks, operated by drivers who are employees instead of independent contractors that companies have exploited for decades at ports along the west coast. Truckers with employee status would be eligible to join a union and could escape the cut-throat competition that's driven some into bankruptcy... Meanwhile, next door at Long Beach, officials at the Port and City Council refused to approve a Clean Trucks plan like LA's that gave truckers the right to join a union. Instead, Long Beach officials backed an employer-friendly plan that allows companies to continue hiring independent contractors so wages will remain low and workers unorganized... Local 13 hosted so many sporting events during the month of June that it was a little like the Olympics with tournaments for men's and women's softball, golf, basketball, horse-shoes, and motocross for MX dirt bikes.

Local 17's negotiations with Smurfit-Stone Recycling continue this summer, according to President Jeff Carter. Local 6 also represents Smurfit-Stone workers in the Bay Area. The company is apparently making money on their recycling operations, but demanding major concessions. "They want workers to pay 17 percent of their medical by the end of their contract, up from three percent now," says Carter. The pay offer is so low the members will lose about \$300 a month under the company's current package offer. Workers sort recycled cans, cardboard, and paper... The Port of Sacramento decided to have SSA-Crescent run their port, so 18 employees from local 17 will no longer be Port employees – but they'll get a severance package of about \$5,500 each. All will continue working for SSA... Lee Sandahl from the Northern California District Council continues to team up with Local 17 to get funding for deepening Sacramento's ship channel. They've got \$10 million committed by the California Trade Commission, and now they're working to make sure the state Legislature includes the money in the budget. Jeff Carter said that Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams has been very helpful with the effort.

Local 19 members should see more work now that the Port of Seattle has ok'd the expansion of Terminal 25 by 16 acres. The new land will be used for container space, increasing capacity for Terminals 25 and 30... The port announced April 21 that China Shipping Lines, in partnership with SSA, will occupy Terminal 30 next year. The cruise terminal now at Terminal 30 will move to Terminal 91. "This is the first work we've had at Terminal 91 since the apple ships left years ago," President Herald Ugles said. The port will invest \$120 million to create a state-of-the-art container facility at Terminal 30 that will be able to serve ships carrying up to 8,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units). China Shipping began calling at the port in 1999. They now move more than 97,000 TEUs each year... The Port will acquire right of way for 42 miles of railway in a \$107 million deal signed in May—and celebrated in early July—between the Port, King County and BNSF Railways. The agreement will also provide a hiking trail along 32 miles of the right of way.

Local 23 members and families marched five miles to raise funds for multiple sclerosis, or "MS" – a disease that destroys nerve cells. The union also hosted a fund-raiser breakfast at the hall that collected \$2,200, according to member Holly Hulscher. "We designed some longshore tee shirts for the marchers with a ship on the back—USA made and union printed. We had about 120 walkers and provided a pit-stop tent along the march where people stopped for water. We decorated it with ILWU banners." The walk and breakfast raised about \$8,600. Holly comes from a long-line of longshore workers, going back to her grandfather, who was known to his mates as "Hammerhead" Meyer.

Local 24 will host the Buzz Peters Salmon Fishing Derby on the Chehalis River near Hoquiam, Washington. The tourney will be in late September or early October, the exact weekend will be set after state fish and game officials set the season for King and Silver Salmon. The three-day event will include barbecues and picnics, with the \$25 admission fee used for charity and scholarships. Interested fishers can call the hall at (360) 533-3412. "Buzz Peters helped re-establish a salmon run on a creek alongside his home," said Secretary-Treasurer Billy Swor. "He tried to protect salmon habitat and clean up creeks so the fish could spawn. After he passed away in August 2003, we continued the salmon derby in his honor."

Local 25 members will see more work if the Janicki Energy Co. goes ahead with plans to ship cubed wood byproducts from Pier 2 at the Port of Anacortes, Wash. The company compresses waste from logging operations into small cubes for use in co-generation projects. In most logging operations, the waste simply decays on the ground, releasing carbon dioxide. The port and the company agreed May 1 to a one-year lease of port land to start production. After that, if all goes well, the parties will negotiate a long-term lease. Business Agent Dave Ashbach stressed that it was not yet a "done deal," but he's hopeful because there would be processing jobs 12 miles away, plus trucking jobs, and it would just about equal the amount of work they have now.

Local 26 spent a year negotiating a successor contract for two dozen workers at United Paradyne, a firm that that operates a jet fuel tank farm, bunkers Navy ships, loads fuel trucks, and manages fuel pipelines and product flows. After workers there ratified a proposed contract on May 14, President Luisa Gratz went to get the signatures from company officials – and that's when the trouble started. "I glanced at the contract they gave me and saw

they'd changed the language that workers agreed to on retirement and other issues," she said. "I told them it wasn't the same document that members had ratified, so I wouldn't be signing it." Company officials told Gratz that if Local 26 didn't like it, the union could either strike or get locked-out and be replaced with Paradyne's friends in the Army, Navy and Marines who'd love to be working there. Gratz filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board, which responded on June 6 by declaring their intent to issue a complaint against United Paradyne if the company didn't honor the original contract. The company decided to sign the original agreement on June 13th.

Local 27 celebrated their fiftieth year in the ILWU on May 27. Secretary-Treasurer Jay Kalla said, "We were among the last ILA locals to join the ILWU." Retiree and former Secretary-Treasurer Bob Caso said, "Joining up was the logical thing to do because there was no way we could get a pension with just a few ILA guys in a couple locals. Harry Bridges said the ILWU would negotiate pensions at the next contract, and that's when people decided to vote to join."

Local 29 is fighting a plan by developers that would convert the 10th Avenue Terminal at the Port of San Diego into a tourist destination and shopping mall. Newly-elected President Brian Whatley says they'll fight a measure developers are trying to put on the November 4th ballot. Local 29 member and newly-appointed Political Action Representative Jerry Shipman is monitoring the issue for the local. He went to a recent meeting where developers were making their sales pitch for the redevelopment scheme. Shipman reviewed their ballot initiative and didn't like what it said: "I read it and told the developers 'you're trying to turn our terminal into a Disneyland!'" The local is working to protect the terminal with a coalition of groups including the San Diego Port Tenants Association, Port Commissioners, and Labor Council. The 10th Avenue Terminal now handles Dole bananas, military supplies, bulk shipments of steel, fertilizer, sand, and cement, and large wind turbine generators.



Local 30 President Dave Liebengood thanks Local 30 Steward Bruce Wade (L)



Chief Steward Geronimo Duarte (L) is congratulated by Local 30 President Dave Liebengood

Local 30 Chief Steward Geronimo Duarte from the Pit and Steward member Bruce Wade from the BAP unit both received special recognition awards in July from their local, along with \$50 VISA gift certificates to make the point that their

efforts are appreciated. President Dave Liebengood says he wants to make similar awards in the future to recognize other union members who make a special effort to help the local, which represents almost 600 workers at the massive Rio Tinto borax mine near the town of Boron in California's Mojave Desert. The mine extracts borate minerals from one the richest ore deposits in the world that are used in a wide variety of household and industrial products. The mine has been hiring new workers, so the union is making a special effort to educate those new members and recognize the contributions by longtime members to help. Future awards may focus on efforts by members to help with health, welfare, and safety issues, grievance-handling, and other union concerns. "It's not a whole lot of money, but it just lets people know that we appreciate what they do for the union," Liebengood said.



Roger Holt was a member of Local 51.

Local 51 joins the family and friends in morning the passing of Roger Holt, a member who died April 12 in an accident on his farm. He was 45 years of age. Roger was born in Port Townsend, Wash. and lived there most of his life. Before joining the ILWU five years ago, he worked for 19 years for Groves & Co. Glass in Hadlock, Washington. "Our biggest hobby was Harley Davidson," said Jodi, his wife of 24 years. "We would go coast-to-coast on bikes. We bought our first Harley in 1986." They used to raise replacement heifers for dairy farms on their 280-acre farm, and their daughter, Leicey, shows horses. Roger is survived by Jodi, children Jason, 25 and Leicey, 21, sister Bonita Kanaar, and brothers Joe Hansen, a longshoreman, Shane Holt and Jerry Wilde. "He loved his union," Jodi said. "He was a great husband and father. He helped many kids on the farm, and he died doing what he loved doing on the place he loved. His daughter will follow in his footsteps into the ILWU."

Local 63 Marine Clerks are helping get a Southern California Drill Team organized. Locals 13, 63, and 94 each now have a Drill Team coordinator; a dozen folks came to the first meeting and more were recruited at the Bloody Thursday Picnic with a DVD that showed-off the award-winning Local 10 team. The Southern California team's first practice was July 17 at the Local 63 hall, and Local 10 Drill Team Captain Josh Williams is expected to visit its August meeting.... Local 63 members participated in several campaigns during the June primary (see Primary Election Report in this issue), and the clerks put together a fundraiser for U.S. Senator Max Baucus from Montana who's running for reelection this November.

Local 63 Office Clericals will soon wrap up negotiations with Maersk for the seven boarding agents whose contract expired May 6, according to President John Fageaux.

Local 142 picketers have been protesting union-busting at the Pacific Beach Hotel in Honolulu – and they've been making their voices heard. They were cited for disorderly conduct by police back in May, but the protests continue this summer. "The police asked us to keep the sound at a 'reasonable' level," said picket line coordinator and Local 142 member

Patrick DeCosta, "so we toned-down the drums and banging pots, but continued to chant and sing." The police issued citations anyway. The Local is now proudly posting the First Amendment to the US Constitution on their website, and will continue to speak out and protest union-busting... More help for their campaign is coming from Hirohiko Takasu, project Director of the Research and Education Center for Fair Labor at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo. Mr. Takasu has been instrumental in building support in Japan for workers at the Pacific Beach Hotel. He recently visited Hawaii to produce a video about the struggle that will be used to further the boycott in Japan. See the video at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-crIrz8tZAU

Other Local 142 videos are also available at that site...

ILWU Canada has been resisting the highly invasive background checks that members may have to endure to get their transport worker identification cards. A recent political scandal got some positive ink for ILWU after it was revealed that Canada's Conservative Minister of Foreign Affairs, Maxime Bernier, had a girlfriend with ties to biker gangs and organized crime. The politician was grilled in Parliament and resigned after the woman disclosed he left confidential government documents in her apartment. Aware that Canadian dockers were being subjected to far more invasive investigations than cabinet ministers, *The Globe and Mail* contacted ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne for a comment and was told: "Any [Cabinet] minister would have access to a great deal more confidential and sensitive information than any of my members. We certainly shouldn't have to undergo any deeper background check than a minister of the Crown." Conservative House Leader Peter Van Loan tried unsuccessfully to defend Bernier in Parliament, asking the public to ignore the scandal because "Canadians overwhelming believe that people's private lives should be their private lives." ILWU Canada will keep pushing to make the Conservatives apply the same privacy standards to longshore workers.



Jimmy Keith was a member of Local 500

Local 500 mourned the loss of James "Jimmy" McConvey Keith, who passed away April 26. He was born Sept. 23, 1935 in Vancouver and served in the Royal Canadian Navy before becoming a longshoreman. Jimmy served his local as a Business Agent for 18 years, and was always known to look out for his fellow workers. His career on the waterfront lasted 40 years, and he kept his keel in salt water with his love for boating and fishing. He crab fished on his boat, the *Hana Pa a*, and hosted fishing tournaments to benefit the local children's hospital. Local 500 Secretary-Treasurer Peter Haines remembers Jimmy as a total union man. "He always attended International Conventions on his own hook," Haines said. Jimmy is survived by his mother Margaret, his wife of 48 years Lorraine, sisters Jeannie, Bobby and Margo, his three sons John, Jim and Jeff, and six grandchildren. The family asked that, in lieu of

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ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams with graduate Hailey Hecker who received her Associate of Technology Degree from Bates Technical College in Tacoma on June 13, 2008. Adams delivered the commencement address and congratulated the hundreds of graduates who ranged in age from 17 to 70 years that will use their new vocational skills in dozens of occupations including longshoring. Adams urged the graduates to "take pride in your blue collar roots," and "tackle the problems that America faces, including ending the war in Iraq, providing health care for all Americans, and creating more good-paying 'green jobs' that working families need in Tacoma."

Spring Elections Set Stage...

continued from page 5

are now 60 more good-paying jobs in Vancouver, Washington, thanks to all the new wind towers and blades that are being shipped through their community.

Oregon

Locals 5, 8, 40 and 92 were active in several campaigns leading up to Oregon's primary election in May. Members attended weekly meetings to support the Oregon AFL-CIO's Labor 2008 program, putting in countless volunteer hours that helped elect four of the five ILWU-endorsed candidates and dozens of Oregon AFL-CIO-endorsed candidates, all of whom pledged to support working families.

While Oregon voters are increasingly backing candidates who support labor's agenda, there is one notable exception: U.S. Senator Gordon Smith who votes with President Bush 90% of the time. Labor unions, including the ILWU, want to see if voters will support a Senator who's more worker-friendly than Smith. Last year, the ILWU took an important step by becoming the first AFL-CIO union to back Oregon House Speaker Jeff Merkley, who's running against Sen. Smith this November.

But before the November election against Smith, Merkley had to win a May 20th primary election where he faced six other candidates. ILWU members helped Merkley win the primary by sponsoring two phone bank nights where they contacted hundreds of working families in Oregon. They also made calls to fellow ILWU members, and distributed a series of workplace fliers explaining how Jeff Merkley and Sen. Barack Obama compare against Sen. John McCain on the issues that matter most to working families: good jobs, health care, and ending the war in Iraq. ILWU members walked door-to-door with other union mem-

bers at the Labor 2008 canvass in May. They also supported several fundraisers for Merkley, including ones featuring Montana Gov. John Tester and former Georgia Senator Max Cleland. Local 8 officers Jeff Smith and Bruce Holte (also a Port Commissioner) attended a Merkeley fundraiser with Port of Portland Executive Director Bill Wyatt, Marine Director Sam Rude, and Commissioner Paul Rosenbaum that Wyatt and Rosenbaum hosted.

When Sen. Obama visited Portland in March and again in May, he attracted record-breaking crowds, including support from more than 100 ILWU members. At the March rally, New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson put his arm around Sen. Obama and announced his endorsement. Local 8 President Jeff Smith and Local 40 Vice President Dawn Des Brisay met with Obama in March, where they explained the union's concern about good jobs and other ILWU priorities.

Obama's waterfront rally in May turned out to be the largest campaign event of the season, with 75,000 people crowding the Portland waterfront and Willamette River. In addition to members from Locals 4, 8, 21, 23 and 40, International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams and International Executive Board member Max Vekich from Local 52 joined the event.

On election night, several ILWU members and staff attended victory parties to celebrate the success by four out of five candidates endorsed by the Oregon Area District Council. Sen. Obama won the Oregon primary with 58% of the Democratic vote and U.S. Senate candidate Jeff Merkley personally thanked the ILWU, saying, "Your early support made a difference."

Craig Merrilees, Bill Orton, Tom Price, Jennifer Sargent, John Showalter, and Wil Ward contributed to this report

Longshoreman Ted 'Whitey' Kelm passes



The climax of the film "Norma Rae" came when Sally Field, as organizer Norma Rae, climbed up on the machinery of the cotton mill and held high a hand-printed sign with one word on it—UNION! Ironically, the one person in that fictional sweatshop who knew in his soul what that sign meant was the boss, played by Ted "Whitey" Kelm, out of Locals 10 and 13.

Longshoreman and actor Whitey Kelm passed away July 4 at the age of 80. He left his fellow workers more than 60 years of unionism for their inspiration. His maritime career began during WWII, when he lied about his age and went to sea in the U.S. Merchant Marine. By the time authorities found out he was only 16, he had already sailed into combat zones in the Atlantic and Mediterranean. Kelm immediately joined the Marine Cooks and Steward's union, then transferred to the CIO-Affiliated National Maritime Union, that was affiliated with the CIO. Crammed into the fo'c'sle of a ship with his mates under fire, he learned a few things.

"I had shipmates who were charter members of the NMU and had been in their 1936-7 strike," Kelm said in his ILWU Oral History (*Dispatcher*, April, 2005 or www.ilwu.org). Some mates "had been in the 1934 general strike in San Francisco and had fought the Fascists in Spain. They hammered me over the head with unionism. I emerged from WWII a red hot union man."

He joined the Committee for Maritime Unity in 1946. The CMU was a collection of seven maritime unions that would "negotiate as one, strike as one and settle as one," he said. The

brain behind CMU was Harry Bridges. They planned a strike that year, but President Truman threatened to send in federal troops to take their work. Bridges responded by having docker unions all over the world send pledges to Truman that they would not unload scab cargo, and Truman relented. Their strike of June 15, 1946 lasted two hours and ended in a victory.

Kelm had difficulties with the right-wing drift of the NMU and decided to hitch-hike to California in 1950. He and some NMU mates got into a violent battle on the side of Local 6 in a jurisdictional beef. He was beaten, pulled out by a cop, then jumped back into the brawl until the battle was won. But the 1950s were a hard time for radical unionists. He was blacklisted by the U.S. government and denied work as a seafarer.

"You'd go aboard ship and some young guy in a uniform would pick up your seaman's papers and disappear," Kelm said. "He'd come back with a notice that said 'your presence aboard this ship is inimical to the security of the United States.' Never was I able to confront my accuser."

Kelm wouldn't take that lying down. He shipped out with Norwegian Seaman's Union papers, drove trucks, and organized for the Teamsters. When he returned to New York, he and 18 of his NMU mates formed the Seamen's Defense Committee. They sued the government, ship owners, and others for nearly a decade to clear their names.

"After we won, I went back to sea for a year just to show them I could," he said. In 1959 he came back to the West Coast with his friends in the ILWU and got a 'B' book in 1963. He was arrested for participating in a civil rights sit-in during 1964, and he walked the picket line during the 1971 longshore strike.

"His friend, actor and longshoreman Johnny Weissmuller Jr, whose dad was Tarzan, got him some acting gigs on a 1970's TV show called, 'The Streets of San Francisco,'" Local 10 retiree Herb Mills said. Herb and Whitey were partners in the hold.

Kelm moved to LA in 1975, working out of Local 13, and continuing to look for acting jobs. In all, under the name Jack Stryker, he had 80 TV credits, 24 commercials, and 15 film appearances. In 1979 he got an impor-

tant role as the factory boss in Norma Rae, an Oscar-winning film starring Sally Field about Southern millworkers who struggle to join a union.

"I've been on the opposite side of the fence so often that playing a boss was actually easy," Kelm said. "Norma Rae' is pro-union and pro-female. It's about a woman with a drudge job who takes control of her life. I'm proud to have been a part of it."

Ted "Whitey" Kelm is survived by his daughter Shari and her twin brother Eddy. "We were raised union all the way," Shari said. "We would never cross a picket line."

Whitey received a special award on his eightieth birthday March 7

from the International Titled Officers, a plaque that read: "Thanks, Jack! On the waterfront or in front of the camera, as an active union member or militant pensioner, as Jack Stryker or Ted 'Whitey' Kelm, you have acted with integrity, generosity, and unswerving dedication to the founding principles of the ILWU. Happy 80th birthday!" [Signed Bob McEllrath, Joe Radisich, Wesley Furtado and Willie Adams.]

Local 26 President Luisa Gratz was his personal friend. "He was one of the most dedicated, loyal selfless human beings I have ever met. He loved the ILWU, loved the membership, loved what it stood for," she said.

— Tom Price



In 1979, Kelm (left) played factory boss J.J. Davis in the film "Norma Rae."

Preliminary contract agreement

continued from page 1

I've experienced here is phenomenal. Everybody has the same common goal. This kind of connection is something I've been looking for all my life, and now my life is complete." Local 10 Pensioners Club President George Cobb addressed the gathering, recalling many struggles the union has faced over the past 74 years. He explained why it remains important to honor the sacrifices made by union brothers and sisters in the past, especially those who gave their lives on that fateful day in 1934. After several songs by Local 10 Drill Team member Paul "from da hall" Williams, and the presentation of a special plaque to member Norman McLeod for his years of service to the union, families enjoyed a buffet lunch, dancing, magic show, and face painting for the kids.

Thousands attended the big Bloody Thursday Picnic at Peck Park in San Pedro. Families from Locals 13, 63, and 94 arrived before noon and stayed most of the day. Politicians spoke early at the picnic, followed by live music and food. Local 13 member Dave Serrato helped organize the event that included booths and games for kids.

Portland's annual Bloody Thursday Picnic at Oaks Park brought together Locals 8, 28, 40 and 92, plus pensioners and the Ladies Auxiliary members. A solemn ceremony honored fallen Longshore workers with a wreath of flowers placed in the Willamette River. Families then celebrated with a full day of amusement rides, live music, and speeches by elected officials. Oregon Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian

and Oregon AFL-CIO President Tom Chamberlain joined Local 8 President Jeff Smith and addressed the crowd from the stage. Both Avakian and Chamberlain thanked the ILWU for decades of leadership in the union movement. Smith urged the crowd to join the new campaign by the ILWU and other unions to collect signatures for the AFL-CIO's million-member petition drive that will ask the newly elected President to pass the Employee Free Choice Act.

Vancouver's Local 4 celebrated their annual Bloody Thursday Picnic at Lewisville Park in Battle Ground, Washington. Dispatcher Casey Breaker, whose father was a Longshore worker, has been attending the picnic since he was a kid. This year Breaker continued that tradition by coordinating the event with his girlfriend. The picnic featured prizes for everyone, including six lucky kids who won bicycles. "We spoil the kids for the day, and all the families get to know each other a little better," said Breaker. "We see the retired members, and unite with the guys who work nights that we don't see very often."

More than 1,000 Seattle-area workers and family members from Locals 9, 19, 52 and 98 packed into Vasa Park around Lake Samamish in Issaquah, Washington for their Bloody Thursday Picnic. There was live music, a full picnic spread with barbeque, plus amusement rides for the kids. Business Agent Frances Ferrera helped organize the event. Russ Young from Local 98 was chief BBQ chef.

— compiled by Dispatcher staff

TRANSITIONS

RECENT RETIREES

Local 13: Barbara Joseph;
Local 19: Emanuel Hill, Ben Blu;
Local 21: Joanna Faul

DECEASED

Local 8: Dale Foster (Lois), Ezra Parks;
Local 10: Richard J. Smith (Steven and Renee), Manuel Cascarejo (Diana), James B. Martin (Pearlina), James Andrews (Latrell), Charles Scardaci (Sarah), James Andrews (Latrell), Vance Mau, Leroy Graves, David Washington, William Delgado, Howard Mitchell, Peter Tolbert;
Local 13: Ernst Fredericksen (Inge), Carlos Rivera (Juana), Donald Steinback (Shirley), Henry Tokar (Donna), Joe Moye, William C. Davis, Ardis Mack Jr.; **Local 19:** Archie Skougstad, Carl Hayes (Mary Ann);

Local 21: James Pratt (Janette), Archie Skougstad; **Local 23:** James Michael (Veronica); **Local 24:** Alfred Fagan; **Local 34:** Gaston Brochier (Alvera), Paul Kimble, Lawrence Simonetti, Emil Olsen; **Local 40:** Lawrence Bowe (Florence), Duane M. Clark (Doris); **Local 51:** Roger Holt (Jodi); **Local 94:** Harold Sheldon. (Survivors in parenthesis.)

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 4: Mary Herz; **Local 8:** Augusta Page; **Local 10:** Jennie Lee; **Local 13:** Mary Lilli Munoz, Bernice Armstrong, Paz Nall; **Local 14:** Shirley Lanham; **Local 50:** Marjorie Larson; **Local 54:** Ruby Davenport; **Local 75:** Hazel Long; **Local 91:** Helen Grignaschi; **Local 94:** Marie MacKenzie, Sybil Nowell.

SUMMER READING LIST

Over the years, several books have been written about the ILWU. These and other publications about the ILWU can also be read at the ILWU Library in our San Francisco headquarters.

Brown, Lee and Robert Allen. **Strong in the Struggle: My Life as a Black Labor Activist.** Rowman & Littlefield, 2001. Hardcover: \$26.95. A stirring account of an African American man's lifelong commitment to leftwing political activism, much of it in service to the ILWU in New Orleans. Bookstores and libraries.

Buchanan, Roger. **Dock Strike: History of the 1934 Waterfront Strike in Portland, Oregon.** The Working Press, 1975. Valuable primarily because it illuminates the Columbia River experience. University libraries.

Bulcke, Germain. **Longshore Leader and ILWU-PMA Arbitrator.** Bancroft Library, Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, 1984. The oral history and anecdotal account of Bulcke's San Francisco career as a member and officer of the ILWU. University libraries.

Fairley, Lincoln. **Facing Mechanization: The West Coast Longshore Plan.** Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Los Angeles, 1979. An overview of the origins and early impact of the historic longshore Modernization and Mechanization agreements 1960-1971, by the late ILWU Research Director and Area Arbitrator. University Libraries.

Finlay, William. **Work On The Waterfront: Worker Power and Technological Change in a West Coast Port.** Temple University Press, 1988 (\$24.95). A provocative analysis of the impact of longshore mechanization and higher wages on ILWU members and Union militancy, primarily in Los Angeles. University libraries and bookstores, or from the publisher.

Fox, Joan, editor. **A History of Federated Auxiliaries of the ILWU 1934-1984. Federated Auxiliaries, 1993.** A thorough compilation of histories of local auxiliaries and the federation. For ordering information and availability contact ILWU Auxiliary #3, c/o ILWU Local 19, 3440 E. Marginal Way, South, Seattle, WA 98134.

Goldblatt, Louis. **Working Class Leader in the ILWU 1935-1977.** Bancroft Library, Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, 1980. The oral history and anecdotal account of Goldblatt's career, in California and Hawaii, primarily as Secretary-Treasurer of the ILWU.

Gundlach, Jean and Jake Arnautoff. **Work on the Waterfront: A Longshore Artist's View.** Gundlach, 1996. Manual cargo handling comes alive through Arnautoff's line drawings and Gundlach's narrative text. Libraries.

Hartman, Paul. **Collective Bargaining and Productivity: The Longshore Mechanization Agreement.** University of California Press, 1969. University libraries.

Hinkle, Warren. **The Big Strike: A Pictorial History of the San Francisco General Strike.** Silver Dollar Books, 1985. Stunning photographs and an informative narrative. University libraries.

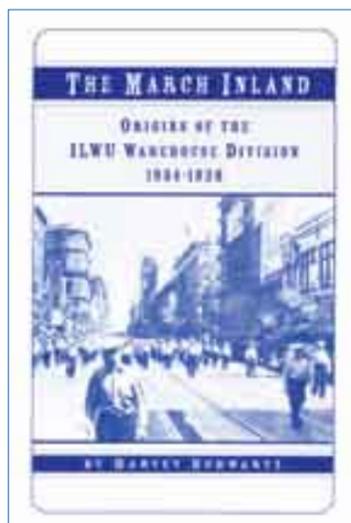
Holmes, T. Michael. **The Specter of Communism in Hawaii.** University of Hawaii Press, 1994. Perhaps the best overview of political persecution in the name of anti-communism, and the central role of the ILWU as both a target and a rallying point for resistance. University libraries and the publisher.

ILWU. **The ILWU Story: Six Decades of Militant Unionism. ILWU, 1997.** An informative combination of oral histories, photographs, and historical narrative about the ILWU. Check *The Dispatcher* for ordering information.

ILWU. **The ILWU Story: Three Decades of Militant Unionism. ILWU, 1963.** An overview of the history of all the divisions, jurisdictions, policies, and collective bargaining agreements of the Union. Out of print. ILWU local union offices.

ILWU. **Men and Machines: A Story about Longshoring on the West Coast Waterfront.** ILWU & PMA, 1963. An extraordinary pictorial essay about the Union and technological change. Out of print. ILWU local union offices.

ILWU Local 500. **Man Along The Shore! The Story of the Vancouver Waterfront.** ILWU Local 500 Pensioners, 1975. The only book about the ILWU longshore experience in Canada, told plainly and effectively through interviews and illustrations. Newly re-issued. Contact the Local 500 Service



Committee for ordering information at (604) 254-7131.

Jung, Moon-Kie. **Reworking Race: The Making of Hawaii's Interracial Labor Movement.** Columbia University Press, 2006. Hardcover: \$45.00. A useful overview of race and ethnicity in Hawaii and the origins of the ILWU in the Islands. Dense with information and sociological methodology.

Jenkins, David. **The Union Movement, The California Labor School, and San Francisco Politics, 1926-1988.** Bancroft Library, Regional Oral History Office, University of California, 1993. The oral history of an ILWU stalwart, with rare insights into the Union's leadership and the CIO. University libraries.

Kimeldorf, Howard. **Reds Or Rackets: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront.** University of California Press, 1988 (\$24.95). Paperback: \$13.00. An innovative analysis of how and why the ILWU rank and file built the union, and often took a different course than the ILA. Libraries, bookstores.

Larrowe, Charles. **Harry Bridges: The Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States.** Lawrence Hill & Co., 1972. An unauthorized but respectful biography that highlights the trials and triumphs of Harry Bridges. Out of print (limited number available through ILWU book sale in *The Dispatcher*). Libraries.

Magden, Ronald E. **The Working Longshoreman.** ILWU Local 23 and the Washington Commission for the Humanities, 1991. A comprehensive and balanced narrative of longshore unionization in Tacoma the Northwest. Libraries. Available by mail from ILWU Local 23, 1306 Alexander Ave. E, Fife, WA 98424 (\$12.00 per copy, checks or money orders only, payable to ILWU Book Fund).

Magden, Ron. **A History of Seattle Waterfront Workers 1884-1934.** ILWU Local 19 and the Washington Commission for the Humanities, 1991. An invaluable account of longshore unionization in the Northwest, particularly Seattle and the Puget Sound region. Available by mail from ILWU Local 19, 3440 East Marginal Way South, Seattle, WA 98134 (checks or money orders only in the amount of \$15.00 per copy, payable to the ILWU Local 19 Centennial).

Magden, Ronald E., and A.D. Martinson. **The Working Waterfront: The Story of Tacoma's Ships and Men.** ILWU Local 23 and the Washington Commission for the Humanities, 1982. A highly informative narrative account of the port, its unions, and technological change.

Markholt, Otilie. **Maritime Solidarity: Pacific Coast unionism 1929-1938.** Pacific Coast Maritime History Committee, 1998. Paperback: \$15.00 (plus \$3.50 shipping). A unique and controversial contribution to the history of the ILWU in the Northwest by a veteran union activist, notable for its original scholarship and strident criticism of Harry Bridges and the CIO. Available by mail from the Pacific Coast Maritime History Committee, 3049 S. 36th Street, Suite 201, Tacoma, WA 98409; Telephone: (253) 473-3810.

Nelson, Bruce. **Divided We Stand: American Workers and the Struggle for Black Equality.** Princeton University Press, 2001. Hardcover: 39.50. A new and controversial analysis of race, ethnicity, and class solidarity among longshore and steel workers that focuses primarily on the ILA and ILWU experiences in New York, New Orleans, and Los Angeles. Bookstores and libraries.

Nelson, Bruce. **Workers On The Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s.** University of Illinois Press, 1988. Hardcover: \$29.95. The most comprehensive discussion of the growth of maritime unions on the Pacific Coast. Libraries, bookstores.

Pilcher, William. **The Portland Longshoremen: A Dispersed Urban Community.** Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1972. A narrow sociological study of how the Union's solidarity has been affected by the political and ethnic roots of the rank and file. University libraries.

Polishuk, Sandy. **Sticking to the Union: An Oral History of the Life and Times of Julia Ruuttila.** Palgrave Macmillan, 2003. A remarkable and moving account of a radical woman's life as a union activist and labor journalist in the Pacific Northwest—much of it in the ILWU. Paperback, \$22.95. Libraries, bookstores, and at a 20% discount from the publisher.

Quin, Mike. **The Big Strike.** Olema Publishing Co., 1949, and New World Paperbacks, 1979 (re-issue). The classic and comprehensive account of the San Francisco General Strike of 1934. Libraries.

Available from the ILWU library at a discount—watch *The Dispatcher* for details.

Raineri, Vivian McGuckin. **The Red Angel.** International Publishers, 1991. A stirring account of the activist life and political times of Elaine Black Yoneda (1906-1988), including her role in the 1934 strike and the ILWU Auxiliaries. Libraries and the publisher.

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Roger, Sidney. **A Liberal Journalist on the Air and on the Waterfront: Labor and Political Issues 1932-1990.** Bancroft Library, Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, 1998. University Libraries. An articulate insider's view of the ILWU and the labor movement by the late labor communicator and former editor of *The Dispatcher*.

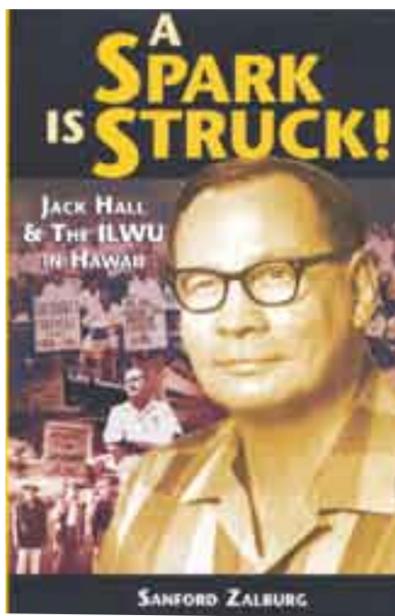
Schmidt, Henry. **Secondary Leadership In The ILWU 1933-1966.** Bancroft Library, Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, 1983. The oral history and anecdotal account of Schmidt's San Francisco career as a member and officer of the ILWU. University libraries.

Schneider, Betty, and Abraham Siegel. **Industrial Relations In The Pacific Coast Longshore Industry.** Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Berkeley, 1956. A traditional but insightful look at the role of the ILWU in transforming longshore labor relations, focusing on pivotal bargaining in 1948. University libraries.

Schwartz, Harvey. **The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division 1934-1938.** Re-issued by the ILWU with new preface and photographs (first published by the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California at Los Angeles, in 1978). The only comprehensive study of the ILWU's organizing campaign in warehouse and distribution. Watch *The Dispatcher* for ordering information.

Selvin, David F. **A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strikes in San Francisco.** Wayne State University Press, 1996 (\$26.95). A comprehensive narrative history of the strike. Watch *The Dispatcher* for ILWU discount price.

Wellman, David. **The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront.** Cambridge University Press, 1995. A sociologist blends history, interviews, and analysis into the best description and appraisal yet written about the strengths, traditions and problems of the ILWU on the waterfront since the 1930s. Available from the ILWU library at a significant discount— watch *The Dispatcher* for details.



Zalburg, Sanford. **A Spark Is Struck! Jack Hall and the ILWU in Hawaii.** University Press of Hawaii, 1979. An epic account of the birth of the ILWU in Hawaii, and the Union's role in the social, economic, and political transformation of Hawaii. University libraries. Recently re-issued in a high quality paperback edition by Watermark Publishing at \$17.95 (paperback). Available at a discount ILWU Local 142 and *The Dispatcher* book sale.

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flowers, a donation be made his name to the B.C. Children's Hospital, 4480 Oak St., Vancouver BC V6H 3V4.

Local 514 foremen are still negotiating for their contract, which is bargained separately from the ILWU Canada longshore agreement...The local will hold their golf tournament on August 14. For more information, call (604) 298-9684.

Local 523 in Prince Rupert has been bargaining with Ridley Terminals since June 2007. Local President Ron Coolin says he's getting help from ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne with negotiations," The union's members load coal into massive ships for export. "It takes 22 coal trains a mile long to fill up a 200,000 ton ship," explained ship," explained Coolin. Coal shipments have increased dramatically over the past year, helping the local to grow from 25 members to 68 in the last 18 months...Ridley Island will be the site of a major potash fertilizer export terminal. Canpotex, an exporter for three Saskatchewan potash companies, will spend between \$300 and \$500 million on the facility at Ridley Island, a port-owned 1,000 acre plot with deep-sea access. The Canadian National Railway (CNR) serves the island. Besides moving potash, and coal, the CNR also brings grain to the port from Canada's massive inland wheat fields wheat fields... COSCO Container Lines announced June 18 it will introduce a call at Prince Rupert and phase in 7,500-TEU vessels, compared with 5,400-TEUs at present.

— reported by Tom Price

— Compiled by Gene Vrana, ILWU Director of Educational Services, Archivist & Librarian

ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

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

BOOKS

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)

A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strike in San Francisco. By David Selvin. Perhaps the most comprehensive single narrative about the San Francisco events of 1934. \$16.50

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

ILWU BOOK & VIDEO ORDER FORM

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