High school class responds to "Eye of the Storm"

Last month, when teacher Kevin Tournaman took his 3rd period U.S. History class from the Port of Los Angeles High School to see the ILWU's "Eye of the Storm" documentary film about 2002 longshore negotiations, he wasn't sure how students would respond. "It turned out that most kids loved the movie, and I think that's because it made history real and exciting for them," he said. Many of the students wrote "thank you" letters to the union, including these below.

"Now that I saw this movie, I understand what the longshoremen were fighting about. I was a little upset because President Bush didn't understand the reason these workers were locked-out. He just called like he had all the authority to tell workers what to do. I understand he is the President, but they had the right to fight for what they believed was fair to them. This is something I will never forget. Thank you and God bless you and your family."

Sincerely, C. B.

"I now look at the Port with a whole new perspective. I look up to the workers as true leaders and heroes because of the movie, and I don't realize how much society relies on these workers for everyday life."

Sincerely, J. G.

"I learned from the film that dockworkers work in very hard and dangerous jobs because at any time something bad could happen. Thanks again for giving us the chance to watch this great film."

Sincerely, A. E.

"To see the struggles of the ILWU was not what I expected. It was their willingness to stick together that formed an unbreakable bond between them. It showed the power of unions, that if pressure, you can overcome hardship. I hope I never put in a situation where I must apply this knowledge as well.

Sincerely yours, E. B.

"I personally liked the movie because I am the type of person who likes to stand up for peoples rights. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity and experience."

Sincerely, M. M.

Dear Dispatcher,

I noticed an error in the October issue. The "News and Notes" column had the wrong local number for Brother Steve Kindler. He is a member of Local 14 in Eureka, not 18. (Editors note: Thanks for catching the mistake Rena, we appreciate your correction.)

Dear Editor,

The September issue of the Dispatcher (page 7) reported on the settlement of the Northern California Warehouse Master Contract. We'd like to add some further details. Retiree medical benefits will be maintained at the current levels for the life of the new 3-year contract which expires in May of 2010. The settlement provides increased contributions to the trust fund, paid by the employers for each hour worked by members covered by the master contract.

Copies of "Eye of the Storm" are being mailed and distributed to Longshore Division workers. If you haven't received a copy and want one, please contact:

ILWU Communications Department
1188 Franklin Street #411
San Francisco, CA 94109
Or email to: frank.wilder@ilwu.org

We took a hit in what the fund will pay toward the premiums for retiree medical – which has caused pain for many retirees of Local 6 and 17. If there had been no changes in the retiree health program, the fund would have gone bankrupt by 2011. The new changes (reduced payments and increased contributions) mean that the fund can continue providing services to retirees.

But without comprehensive health care reform at the state or national level, we will face the same dilemma in the 2010 negotiations. How to fund long-term medical benefits is a national problem that we can only address with "band-aids" at the bargaining table until affordable, quality health care is available to all Americans.

In solidarity,

—Fred Pecker
Secretary-Treasurer, Local 6
—Jack Wyatt, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer, Local 17
Local 10 walks to fight asthma, port pollution

By John Shewalter

Members of ILWU Local 10 joined more than 250 community residents and public health advocates to support the 2007 "Blow the Whistle on Asthma Walk" on Saturday, September 29, in Oakland. The event was sponsored by the American Lung Association and the Port of Oakland.

Local 10 member Clarence Thomas, who serves on the ILWU Saving Lives Committee that is dedicated to improving air quality at the ports, served as a Co-Chair of the walk and raised more than $3000 from Local 10 members. In his remarks at a luncheon before the walk, Thomas emphasized the importance of longshore workers advocating for cleaner technologies and safer ports. He said, "By walking, we demonstrate that we understand the peril posed to the health of the community by air pollution from the port." Thomas stated, "I know members whose children have asthma. They have not been aware of this silent killer—diesel fumes—at the ports."

Local 10 is now working on a "Regional Stakeholder Air Quality Plan" that is being developed together with the Port of Oakland, community activists, and local elected officials. We know today comes from your continued support and action," he told the group. "Up and down the coast, I see longshore work. We're doing everything you're doing to support this union, whether it's providing Thanksgiving dinners at Local 21, walking picket lines in Portland, or helping with Labor Day events in Southern California. All of us owe you a continued debt of gratitude for your important work."

Adams also spoke at a portion of the Auxiliary program that was dedicated to honoring longtime Local 30 leader Ray Panter, who recently retired after helping lead the miners in Boron for many decades. "Like all great labor leaders, you provided leadership that was based on a bedrock of principles and a strong moral compass," said Adams in his emotional testimony. "Being a good leader isn't easy; being a man is even harder. You and those who read your life is proof that a single individual can change history and make things better. By pouring your soul into the work you've undertaken, you've transcended your own mortality, and will live on in the hearts of those who come behind you. As my grandmother used to say, you have fashioned coal into diamonds," said Adams, who then presented Panter with a plaque and the Auxiliary delegates provided him with a standing ovation.

The Auxiliary considered and adopted a host of resolutions, including:

- Support for Rite Aid warehouse workers who are fighting for their right to join the ILWU. Some leaders, including Penny Wehage of Auxiliary #5 have already written letters to Rite Aid's CEO, and others expressed interest in communicating with the company.
- Support for the almond workers at Blue Diamond Growers in Sacramento who are also fighting for their right to join the ILWU. Auxiliary members discussed the need for a dialogue with See's Candies and other companies that use Blue Diamond almonds.
- Support for protecting pensioners and spouses from paying insurance co-pays or deductibles.
- A call for members of Congress to participate in the Social Security system, which they voted to exempt themselves from many years ago. The body also called for tougher inspection and safety standards for import and export facilities.

The Auxiliary finalized their plans for the upcoming 2007 and 2008, including a commitment to support longshore workers who will be fighting for better contract this coming spring and summer.

"We've been around for a long time, and we intend to keep fighting for the values and vision that built this union," said Auxiliary President Jean Ordano.

ILWU launches broadcast advertising campaign

By John Shewalter

Starting this fall, millions of television viewers in major West Coast cities saw the ILWU Longshore Division's first commercial, "We Are the ILWU." The 30-second ad featured Ada Rogers, a member of ILWU Local 142 in Hawaii who was able to increase public support for the union before longshore contract negotiations.

"It became clear to everyone during the 2002 lockout that winning public support was absolutely critical to winning our contract fights," explains International President Bob McEllrath.

Last year, the Longshore Division held a week-long communications training in San Francisco to help prepare rank-and-file members, and training for local officers who have been held in previous years.

"The goal is to get our message out loud and public and speak with one voice when the heat is on," says Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz, Jr.

Inspiration for the union ads came from Local 10's effort that began in 2006 when they aired radio ads during Oakland Raiders and San Francisco Forty-Niner games. The ads explained how the union was fighting for good jobs and safety for workers.

"Like all great labor leaders, you provided leadership that was based on a bedrock of principles and a strong moral compass," said Adams in his emotional testimony. "Being a good leader isn’t easy; being a man is even harder. You and those who read your life is proof that a single individual can change history and make things better. By pouring your soul into the work you’ve undertaken, you’ve transcended your own mortality, and will live on in the hearts of those who come behind you. As my grandmother used to say, you have fashioned coal into diamonds," said Adams, who then presented Panter with a plaque and the Auxiliary delegates provided him with a standing ovation.

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Local 10’s Clarence Thomas with Keosha Stephens, the daughter of Local 10 member Ms. Aurora Jones. Stevens participated in the Asthma Walk along with 30 other students from the Health Academy at Oakland Technical High School.

Local 10’s Clarence Thomas and Kayla Thomas, who serves as President of the Federated Auxiliaries, gathered for their annual Convention in Boron, California on October 12-14. The activities included a combination of educational, inspirational, and agitational events, according to Jean Ordano, who serves as President of the Federated Auxiliaries and noted that delegates attended the Convention from California, Oregon, Washington, and Canada.

"We encouraged the delegates to meet here in Boron because this is an ILWU town," said local leader Judy Rowley who helped host the Convention with a hard-working team of Auxiliary 41 members who live in the Mojave desert community that is home to hundreds of Local 30 members who work in California’s largest open pit mine.
An ILWU longshoreman remembers Pearl Harbor

On December 6, 1941, Eddie Brooks was a young sailor who visited friends on the battleship Arizona for a boxing workout. Aboard the big ship, he saw Paul Neipp, who had gone to school with him in San Pedro. Their fathers had both been longshoremen, and Paul’s father had become a foreman. Eddie returned to his own ship, the Argonne, just eleven hours before Japanese planes bombed Pearl Harbor the next morning.

Within minutes of the attack, the Arizona was destroyed and all of Eddie’s friends were dead. Eddie joined four sailors who volunteered on a rescue launch that was the first to reach men aboard the battleship. West Virginia that was in flames after being hit by six torpedoes and two bombs. They found men crying and praying on their knees. Eddie watched Japanese planes strafe sailors with machine gun fire on the West Virginia’s deck. His rescue party wound below deck to help the sailors below; that’s where Eddie found a dazed man with his eyes blown out of his head, asking what had happened.

Orders to “abandon ship” soon rang out on the West Virginia, and Eddie helped load the wounded in his launch. The water around them was fouled with burning oil and filled with men who were trying to swim away to safety. Eddie’s launch swung around to rescue these men. Eddie reached for a man in the burning water, but missed him by inches as the fire rolled over the man who screamed while Eddie watched helplessly. Eddie said, “I can still hear that poor guy scream.”

The launch and crew were unloading the wounded when a deck pulled up with buddies from Eddie’s old National Guard unit in San Pedro who was assembling a Browning machine gun. They took the gun up to the barracks roof where Eddie assembled it while a suicide plane started shooting at Japanese planes when a sergeant said, “That’s my gun Eddie. I’m using it! Eddie picked up a Springfield rifle and fired it at the last of the Japanese planes. He felt something hit his heel, knocked him down, and saw a piece of jagged shrapnel that had stuck his shoe— but left him unhurt.

When the day was over, 2,403 Americans lay dead from the Pearl Harbor attack. Aboard the Argonne, the ship’s Chief Radioman brought Eddie and the other rescuers to see the ship’s Captain, suggesting that Eddie and others should receive commendations. Several officers agreed, but the Argonne’s Captain declined to recommend any citations, saying “These men did nothing more than anyone else.” Eddie wasn’t backing for a medal, but he did note later that their Captain had no prior wartime experience.

Eddie passed away May 13, 2006. His generation will soon be gone, but the story of the Argonne lives on. In addition to his father, Eddie’s two brothers, Frank and Walt, were both longshoremen, along with son Robert who is a foreman, and grand-children Robb and Jennifer who are longshoremen today.

—From an account by Robert R. Brooks, Local 94

Please see www.ilwu.org for a longer version.

Ward also helped develop special boats. They only drew about six inches of water and 36 feet long with a huge Evinrude motor—and could haul a ton and a half,” he said.

In the Pacific he ran a steam boat, laying a smoke screen in support of demolition divers who opened the way for U.S. troops to reach Japanese-occupied beaches. Some of his most serious action occurred while he served on the destroyership Douglas H. Fox. The ship performed picket duty between Okinawa and Japan, at one point escorted by Kamikaze suicide planes.

“We were there about six months, and saw some extended action, we always accompanied aircraft carriers,” he said. “We had a Kamikaze attack. I think the pilot chucked out at the last minute, he was aimed at us amidships and he veered off, firing the war room, but it didn’t explode and it crashed about 100 yards away.”

Bill Ward returned and worked as a clerical agent Local 13 and eventually longshoring, serving as a Business Agent in Local 13 and eventually becoming a Coast Guard Agent in 1963 to 1983. He remains active in the San Francisco Bay Area Pensioners and Pacific Coast Pensioners Assn.

Richard Negrete from the Ardennes Forest to Local 1

Richard Negrete was a Private First Class of the 21st Infantry Division when his unit was sent to fight in the Ardennes Forest during the bitter winter of 1944-45, in what became known as the “Battle of the Bulge.” Negrete’s division, immortal—continued on next page

November 2007
Richard Negrete, Local 13 and 63

In the film, “Band of Brothers,” fought the Nazis in their last, bloody offensive against the Normandy invasion. Regrettably the Negrete took a staggering toll with 19,000 American soldiers killed as infantrymen like Negrete led tanks into German-held forests and towns, fighting house-to-house in the bitter cold. Elevated as a unit’s “lion’s scout” after others were wounded, Negrete was also wounded in January 1945 when the tank he was leading hit a mine.

Transferred to non-combat duty, Negrete stood guard in Berlin during the famous meeting in Potsdam where Truman, Churchill, and Stalin reached terms on the new borders that defined post-war Europe. After his discharge in 1946, Negrete returned to Wilmington, where he worked lumber and crane jobs. Getting more regular longshore work and his ID in 1948, Negrete earned his A Book with Local 13 in 1951 and spent 30 years as a longshoreman before retiring in 1986. He remains active in the Southern California Pensioners Group and lives with his wife in Wilmington. Hunter says with a smile, “I wouldn’t be here or not for a German torpedo.”

Ray Patricio

When you spend months, as many did, you do the most popular bombing target in the Pacific during WWII, you learn a lot about your comrades in arms. “When I go to reunions, the ones who don’t show up are the officers and the cooks.” Patricio had spent 1942 working the San Pedro docks as a “Nine-Number” (along with pal Lou Loveridge, who also volunteered for the Navy) before being drafted in January 1943. Originally trained in the California desert while Allied forces were finishing off the German Afrika Corps in Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, Patricio got shipped instead to the jungles of the South Pacific, where he served in New Guinea, New Britain, and Dutch East Indies and eventually on the Philippine island of Luzon.

After being shipped out from Luzon to Palawan, Patricio was a victim of a situation from time as an anti-aircraft gunner firing at incoming Japanese bombers. He ended up by immigration agents. “We told them we were sailors or they said ‘you’re awfully far from the ocean’ and locked us up.” After a short detention, the two made it to San Pedro, where they joined the “Sailors’ Union of the Pacific.”

When Hunter spent the rest of the war and 11 more years in the merchant marine, which was married American, gave up the sea, and started working on the docks. In 1963, Hunter registered as a longshoreman with Local 13 in what he calls “the happiest day of my life.” He transferred to the management side in 1970, ran for retiring Local 63 in 1986. He remains active in the Southern California Pensioners Group and lives with his wife in Wilmington.

Clarence Thomas speaks at “Stop the War” rally.

Local 10 and 34 sponsored a “Labor Conference to Stop the War” on Saturday October 6th at inflatable billboards in over 100 cities, according to conference organizers. President Cager Clabaugh. The port is the largest grain exporter of the Columbia River (16 percent of all wheat exports from the USA) and it handles 80 percent of all U.S. exports of paper pulp concentrate and fertilizers. New business from transporting giant wind turbines is adding to the growth.

ILWU CANADA

Local 6 is collecting money for the “Northwest Harvest” charity and is the traditional annual children’s toy drive. Anyone interested can contact the union business office at 415-454-9022. An informational tourney Oct. 6 and 7. The $25 entry fee helped “Rebuilding Together Greater Tacoma” by donating more than $500, $300 and $100. All a special $500 Buzz Peters Memorial was presented to a longshoreman for his fish and Ken Halverston won $200. The local also held a bar-b-que fundraiser.

Local 51 officers, members and family members jammed into a local hall on Saturday, Sept. 27 to support a gravel mining operation that would bring more work. Local 51 Secretary-Treasurer John Student won $300 for his fish and Ken Halverston won $200. The local also held a bar-b-que fundraiser.

Hugh Hunter, Local 13 and 63

HUGH HUNTER—TORPEDOED OFF THE COAST

Hugh Hunter was only 15 years old in 1940 when he shipped out from Sydney, Australia with the merchant marine. He spent the first years of World War II on Allied troop transports (including the refurbished RMS Queen Mary) and commercial vessels carrying goods and war material from Sydney, Auckland and Singapore to the British Isles. In 1942, a German submarine torpedoed his ship and the rescued teenager wound up in London as a “distressed British sail- or.” The British didn’t want Hunter’s heart. “Churchill was no hero to me,” said Hunter, because he held the Prime Minister responsible for thousands of Australian and New Zealanders who died at Gallipoli in World War One.

Hunter landed first and shipped out to New York in 1945. Hunter and a shipmate hitchhiked across Australia. Outside Houston, the two were rounded up by immigration agents. “We told them we were sailors or they said ‘you’re awfully far from the ocean’ and locked us up.” After a short detention, the two made it to San Pedro, where they joined the “Sailors’ Union of the Pacific.”

The Harry Bridges Institute hosts their sixth-annual “Honoring Working Class Women” luncheon Nov. 11 at the Coast Long Beach Hotel. The event recognizes women in longshore, construction trades and other unionized waterfront workplaces. See: http://har rybridges.org or call (310) 314-2207.

Local 8 recently renegotiated their contract with the Industrial Employers and Distributors Association, winning changes that will provide registered domestic partner benefits for some local 6 members and pensioners. Marvin Negrete, 71, the long-time partner of deceased Local 6 pensioner William Swenor, appeared for him several years ago, but had his claim rejected. The new contract will provide registered domestic partners with the same pension benefits as spouses, retroactive to March 1, 2005. Approximately 500 active and retired members will be helped by the change.

News and Notes cont’d from p. 2

point but left the kicker’s slot empty— as if they were saving the kick for Marie. The game resumed after a five-yard “delay of game” penalty. For a video clip go to: www.trojanunion. com/football/mario-danelo-one-final-kick.php.

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The fifth ILWU Leadership Education and Development Institute (LEAD) was held in San Francisco September 24-28.

The focus of this year’s program, as introduced by President Bob McEllrath and Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, was on preparing local officers and rank and file activists throughout all sectors of the Union to meet the twin challenges of national elections and longshore negotiations in 2008.

Sixty-four members from 27 locals and several regions of the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific received intensive, interactive training on a variety of topics geared to improve problem-solving skills, maximize internal unity, and build member participation at the local level. Each session emphasized practical pointers on how to achieve these objectives in keeping with the ILWU’s principles of militant, democratic unionism.

Instructors included ILWU officers and staff, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, and the California Federation of Teachers. Sessions at the five-day [residential] program included:

- How to recognize and respect the different ways people work together in groups—and how to find common ground when working together for the greater good (led by Joel Schaffer and Rick Oglesby, FMCS).
- Robert’s Rules of Order and running effective meetings (taught by Max Vekich, Local 52).
- Trends in member participation and how to develop a Member Action Plan that engages new and veteran members and their families (Professor Margaret Levi and Jon Agnone of the University of Washington Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies; Fred Glass, California Teachers Federation).
- “Politics and Beyond”—the ILWU perspective on political action in 2008 (Peter Peyton Local 63; Kyle Weimann of the ILWU Washington D.C. Office; Willie Adams, Max Vekich; Kyle Weimann, ILWU Washington DC Office).
- “Why Longshore Negotiations Matter to the Entire Union” (Terri Mast, IBU; Jack Wyatt, Sr., Local 17).
- “How to Build an International Solidarity Campaign,” based on the union’s experience in support of Blue Diamond workers. (Amy Willis, ILWU Organizing Department; Terri Mast, IBU).

Selected training and reference materials will soon be available in the members-only section of the ILWU website: www.ilwu.org.

—Gene Vrana
ILWU Director of Educational Services

Photos by Frank Wilder

LEAD participants went through a demanding and innovative training on how to develop a Member Action Plan for their home locals. Top: Ron Solomon, Local 5, explains his team’s outreach flyer designed to increase understanding of how workers and their communities benefit from unionized employment.

Center: An action plan for mobilizing support for 2008 longshore negotiations was presented on behalf of their team by (left to right) Andrea Stuller (Local 52), Rich Dines (Local 13) and Fran Grove (Local 94). Bottom: Mark Mascola, Local 13, describes his team’s action plan for developing a new member orientation program.

Peter Peyton, Local 63, leads the session on what’s at stake for workers in political action, and what lies ahead for ILWU members in 2008.

Amy Willis, ILWU Organizing Department, uses the Blue Diamond Growers as a case study in how to build an international solidarity campaign around local issues.

Holly Hulscher, Local 23, takes the microphone to join the discussion about parliamentary procedure.
Coast Legislative Committee
goes to D.C.

The major Presidential candidates sent their top campaign officials to meet with the ILWU’s Coast Legislative Committee in Washington, D.C. during a week of meetings during October 15-18.

“It was important for us to sit down and go over the concerns of ILWU members, and get feedback from each campaign,” said Yekich, who chairs the Committee. Other members of the Committee included International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, Local 63 Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Board member Lawrence Thibeaux, and Dawn Des Brasy, Vice President, Longshore Division Negotiations. Longshore Director Lindsay McLaughlin organized the event.

The Presidential campaign received a questionnaire, prepared by the ILWU, that requests a detailed response to the following:

1. Where the candidate stands on a national health care plan for all Americans.
2. Does the candidate support the “Employee Free Choice Act” that would protect the right of workers to organize and join a union?
3. Where does the candidate stand on free trade agreements, including NAFTA, CAFTA, and other proposals.
4. Does the candidate understand the issues facing longshore workers in the upcoming negotiations, and do they have a position on the 2002 lockout?

Responses to these questions will be compiled and presented to the ILWU Executive Board at a meeting scheduled for October 22.

Meetings were held with the staff of top Congressional leaders, including Senator Edward Kennedy who chairs the Senate Labor Committee and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi who chairs the House Committee on Labor. ILWU members distributed several dozen copies of the “Eye of the Storm” documentary to members of Congress.

“Our goal was to build political support for ILWU issues and the 2008 longshore negotiations,” said Max Yekich. “We’re building on the foundation that was laid with our victory in 2002, and we’ll continue this work in the months ahead.”

Mexican dockworkers meet ILWU leaders in LA

Big shipping companies, investors, and port operators are increasingly interested in Mexican ports, so there was plenty to talk about when ILWU and Mexican dockworkers got together last month in Southern California.

“Now’s the time for dockworkers from both countries to be talking and making plans for the future,” said International President Bob McElrath as he kicked-off a week of meetings with top officials from both Mexico’s Federation of Marine Transport and Transport workers. The union represents most port workers along Mexico’s west coast, including the country’s largest at Manzanillo.

This is the second time in less than a year that union leaders from both countries have met to discuss common challenges. ILWU leaders met 15 years ago with their Mexican counterparts, the Longshore Division Negotiations, in Manzanillo in December, 2006.

“We learned a lot about the push to privatize our Mexican ports going on,” said ILWU Coast Committee member and International President Bob McElrath.

“Now’s the time for dockworkers from both countries to be talking and making plans for the future.”

Calling All Pensioners!

If you were at the 40th Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) in San Diego in September, you know that we are gearing up for 2008 Longshore Division Negotiations. Just as our Union has pledged to support retirees, we likewise pledge to support our active workforce—our great union—in any way we can.

Delegates to the Convention dug into their pockets and added roughly $5000 for the ILWU Political Action Fund. Those generous contributions serve to protect your pension and are making plans now that could radically change the way all of us work in the future.

Two longshoremen arrested at Port of Sacramento

Two longshore workers at Local 10 have been charged with “obstructing an officer” following a controversial incident that occurred in the parking lot of the SSA Terminal at the Port of Sacramento in West Sacramento, Calif. on August 23, 2007.

Registered “B-men” Aaron Harrison, 33, and Jason Ruffin, 28, will be arraigned in Yolo County Court on October 22. Harrison’s attorney says that his client and Ruffin—who are both African American—were returning to work at the SSA terminal after lunch on Aug. 23 when a port security guard asked to search their vehicle, but was sprayed with mace when he objected to his search. Both longshoremen were then placed in the backseat of an unassisted police car.

According to McKay, Ruffin was not handcuffed when one of the officers asked him to “calm his friend down” and help get the mace out of Harrison’s eyes. However, within thirty minutes of the incident, a motorcycle cop arrived, asked Ruffin for his identification and then handcuffed him when he objected to his request. Both longshoremen were then placed in the backseat of an unassisted police car.

In recognition of the backing the PCPA receives from our Union, and to show our appreciation for being continued on page 8

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November 2007

ILWU Book & Video Sale

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

BOOKS:

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

The ILWU Story: retells 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 Clun: the classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. $6.50

The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront By David Welman: the important new study of longshoreing 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: new edition of the only comprehensive account of the union’s organizing campaign in the northern California warehouse and distribution industry. $9.00

NOTE: TWO IMPORTANT BOOKS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO THE ILWU LIBRARY AT A SIGNIFICANT DISCOUNT, BUT MAY BE PURCHASED FROM BOOKSTORES, INCLUDING THE ILWU LOCAL 5 WEBSITE (powerofunion.com)

WORKERS ON THE WATERFRONT: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s By Bruce Nelson: the most complete history of the origins, meaning, and impact of the 1934 strike. $15.00

VIDEOS:

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. $5.00 DVD or VHS version.

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 $15.00

NOTE: “Life on the Beam” is now available in DVD format through the book sale at a greatly reduced price by special arrangement with the Working Group, and includes a bonus feature on the building of the Golden Gate Bridge.

A Helping Hand...

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

ILWU Longshore Division

ADRP—Southern California
Jackie Cummings
870 West Ninth St. #201
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 547-9966

ADRP—Northern California
Norm McLeod
400 North Point
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EAP—British Columbia
Ted Greweut
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A Life on the Beam VHS @ $5 ea. = $_____

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Betty Olson-Jones, President of the Oakland Education Association.

Pensioners! cont’d from p. 7

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We are calling on you to get involved and help your Union. By doing so you also help yourselves and your loved ones.

We are calling on you to pick up the phone and call your local Pensioners Club and find out when the next meeting will be held, and then go to it!

We may have retired from the job, but we’ll never retire from the ILWU! You are needed!

“An Injury To One Is An Injury To All”

Seniors Send Letter to Rite Aid

Henry L. “Hank” Lacayo, State President of the Congress of California Seniors, sent a letter on Oct. 18 to Mary F. Sammons, Chairman and CEO of Rite Aid informing her that the seniors’ Board of Directors had unanimously voted to support ILWU workers at the Rite Aid distribution center in Lancaster, California.

He also told her the seniors had denounced her company for obstructing the employees’ right to organize.

Longshoremen arrested

cont’d from p. 7

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Local 34 President Ricard Caviati spoke at the Anti-War Conference on October 20th in San Francisco. Local 10 Executive Board member Jack Heyman is seated to his left. Seated at far left is Takumi Shimizu of Doro-Chiba, Japanese Railroad Union.

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