



# THE DISPATCHER

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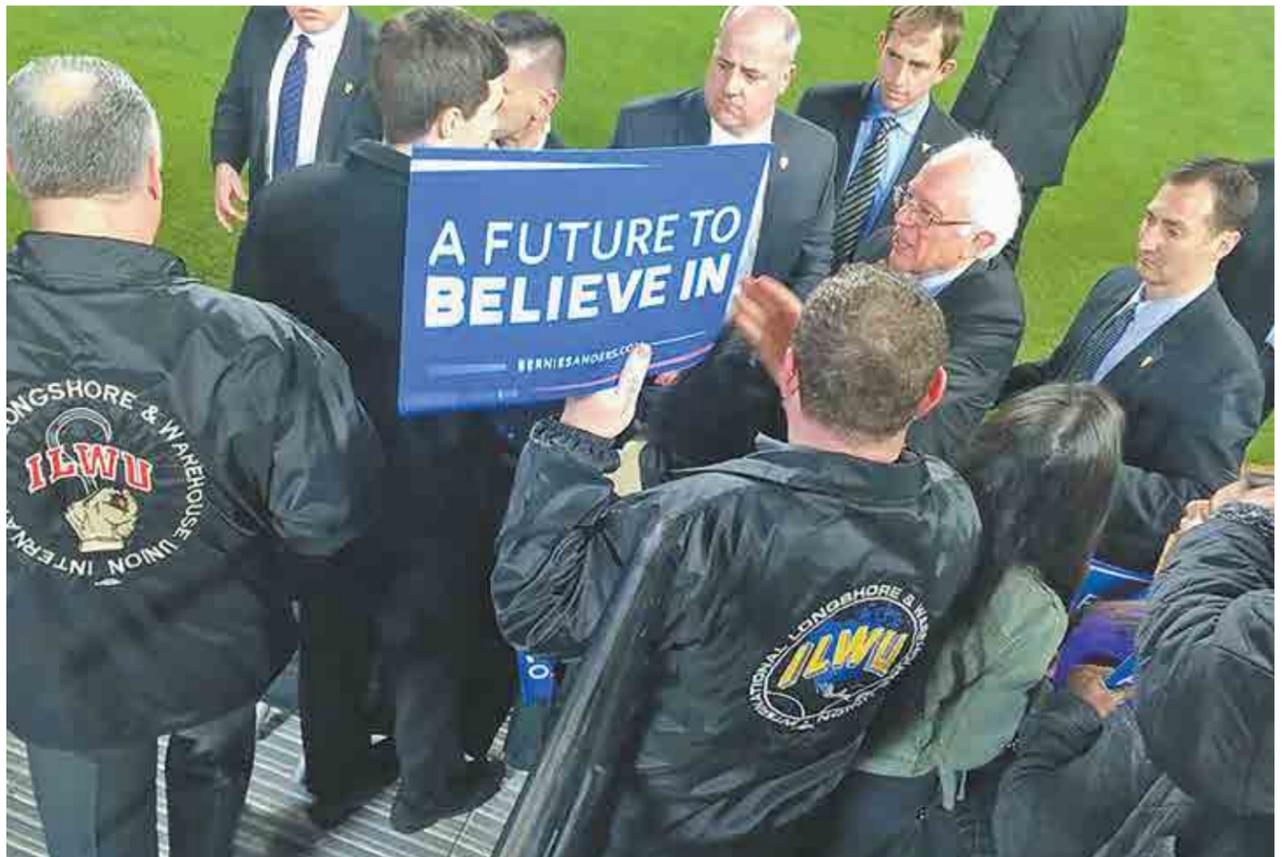
VOL 74, NO 4 • APRIL 2016

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Local 13 member wins campaign in Long Beach [page 3](#)



Puget Sound ILWU members met with Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders at a massive rally that filled Seattle's Safeco Field with more than 15,000 supporters on March 25.

## ILWU moves beyond endorsing Bernie Sanders

**H**ours after the ILWU Executive Board's endorsed Bernie Sanders for President on March 24, members were scrambling to help the union-friendly candidate who is who standing-up for unions and the working class.

During the next 48 hours, ILWU members heard union radio ads in Hawaii, joined massive rallies in Seattle and attended caucus meetings in Alaska.

### Western winning streak

Support in those three states allowed Sanders to score decisive caucus victories on March 26 - taking 70% of the votes in Hawaii; 73% in Washington State and 80% in Alaska.

A stunning upset victory came a week later in Wisconsin where Sanders defeated Clinton by 13 points. Another smaller victory came a few days later in

Wyoming where Sanders won big again – giving him victories in 8 of the 9 most recent contests.

### Challenges back east

The April 19 primary in New York is where pundits predicted Sanders would stumble. Clinton once held a massive 60-point lead in the Empire State that dwindled to just 6 points, making Sanders the eager underdog who chased Clinton during the final week with his message about fighting political corruption, Wall Street greed and empowering the 99 percent of Americans who work for a living.

Sanders faces another series of big East Coast primaries on April 26, including Pennsylvania and Maryland, before turning to Oregon on May 17 where Jeff Smith of ILWU Local 8 is helping members get informed, involved and organizing a rally at the union hall on May 3.



### California showdown

After Oregon, the scene will shift to California where a fierce battle is expected over the nation's largest pool of delegates that will be decided on June 7. Polls show that Clinton's big early lead in the Golden State is withering to just a few points.

*continued on page 7*

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



# LETTERS TO THE *DISPATCHER*

Dear Editor,

'How did our economy get to where it is now?

During the Clinton administration, unions wanted a streamlined voting procedure for union recognition, while banks wanted to gamble with depositor's money. Banks got what they wanted and workers got screwed. The Clinton administration chose Wall Street over Main Street, just like they did with the NAFTA deal that was a top-priority for corporate America – and guaranteed job-killer for working Americans.

Another sign of anti-worker bias is the kind of "advisors" presidents use to guide their decision-making. The Clinton administration and those that followed in both parties have relied on Harvard grad types, who often have a closed mentality that doesn't allow them think out of their pro-business box.

President Roosevelt's administration used advisors who thought outside of the box and came from different backgrounds. Harry Hopkins, one of Roosevelt's closest confidants, was a social worker from Iowa. Robert Jackson, the US Attorney General whom Roosevelt appointed to the Supreme Court, was a lawyer who had no law degree. Jessie Jones who ran Roosevelt's bail-out program was a business man from Texas who had no qualms about putting the nation's largest financial institutions in receivership. Meraner Ekels, whom Roosevelt appointed to run the Federal Reserve, was a small time banker from Utah with no advanced degrees. Henry Wallace, the nation's greatest agriculture secretary who also ran for President in 1948 with support from the ILWU, studied at Iowa

State University and came to government after running a magazine for farmers. Harry Truman, FDR's last Vice President, had no college degree at all.

In 1999, Bob Brooks of local 94 and I were both ILWU credit union board members who attended a panel discussion in Washington DC, where we called-out several Under-Secretaries of the U.S. Treasury for proposing to destroy the Glass-Steagall Act. This law was passed during the Roosevelt administration in order to separate investing from banking. As banks and the finance industry grew more powerful in recent decades, they proposed gutting this law so banks could once again gamble with depositor's money in high-risk investments. Treasury officials told us not to worry because the law was old, outdated, and would only allow the biggest banks to make risky investments. That was back in 1999 when Clinton declared that the Glass Steagall protections "were no longer appropriate." Just ten years later, we reaped the devastation of what two Longshoremen foresaw coming down the pike. If you ask me, Presidents in both parties have been relying too much on Harvard experts – and not enough on people with common sense – even if we don't have all the formal degrees and diplomas from the "right" universities.

This is just one reason – and a good one – for all of us to support Bernie Sanders for President. He may not be popular with Washington insiders, but he's listening to the American people and offering us a rare chance to be heard.

**Lewis Wright, Local 63**

**Retired from the industry, not from the struggle!**

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

## Attention Local 10 members: Smolin-Melin Scholarship Application Deadline

Trustees of the Smolin-Melin Scholarship Fund are prepared to accept applications for scholarships for the academic year 2016-2017. Now is the time to indicate your interest. **June 1, 2016** is the application deadline.

Victor Smolin and Carlton Melin were long time members of Local 10. They left a sum of money to establish the scholarship fund. They specified that scholarships were to be available to children of Class A Local 10 members to further their "collegiate" education. Trustees of the Fund interpret "members" to mean **active members in good standing at the time of disbursement of scholarship funds, deceased members and retired members.** The Trustees interpret "collegiate" to apply only to **full-time** study (at least 12 units per semester or quarter) at either a four-year college or an academic junior college.

The Trustees have agreed that (1) no applicant will be awarded more than four scholarships, (2) a fifth scholarship would be considered after careful review of the applicant's record and if circumstances warrant and (3) in no event would an applicant be considered for a sixth scholarship.

Based always on available assets, the Fund historically has awarded scholarships in a range from \$1000 to \$2500 for full-time students at four-year colleges or universities, and from \$750 to \$1750 for full-time students at two-year colleges.

Trustees are Beth Ross, counsel for ILWU Local 10, David Erkkila, a retired member of Local 10 and a friend of Victor Smolin, and Eugene Vrana, retired Director of Educational Services and Librarian for ILWU.

If you have a son or daughter who is applying to enter college next fall, or is already a college student who is planning to continue, and the above requirements are met, you might want to apply for one of these scholarships.

To request an application, simply call Nicole Bridges at (415) 771-6400 or email her at [nbridges@leonardcarder.com](mailto:nbridges@leonardcarder.com). She will then send you the application form with the necessary explanatory materials.

## MAY IS MEDICAL, DENTAL PLAN CHOICE MONTH

Active and retired longshore families in the ports where members have a choice can change medical and/or dental plans during the Open Enrollment period May 1 to May 31, 2016. Any changes made will be effective July 1, 2016. In addition to the May Open Enrollment period members may change their medical plan and/or dental plan once at any time during the Plan Year (July 1-June 30).

The July 1, 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the ILWU and PMA provides that new registrants in the ports where members have a choice of medical plans shall be assigned Kaiser HMO Plan or Group Health Cooperative HMO Plan for the first 24 months of registration. After 24 months, those registrants who have qualified for continued eligibility under the Mid-Year/Annual Review hour's requirement will have a choice of medical plans. New registrants in San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, Los Angeles, Portland/Vancouver and Washington will have a choice of dental plans on the first of the month following registration, and may change dental plans during the Open Enrollment period and one additional time during the Plan Year.

**MEDICAL CHOICE:** The medical plan choices are Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the ILWU-PMA Coastwise Indemnity Plan for Southern California Locals 13, 26, 29, 46, 63 and 94. Northern California Locals 10, 18, 34(San Francisco), 34 (Stockton), 54, 75 and 91; and Oregon-Columbia River Locals 4, 8, 40, and 92. In the Washington State area, the medical plan choices for Local 19, 23, 32, 47, 52 and 98 are Group Health Cooperative or the ILWU-PMA Coastwise Indemnity Plan.

**DENTAL CHOICE:** For Los Angeles Locals 13, 26, 63 and 94 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California, Harbor Dental Associates or Dental Health Services. For Southern California Locals 29 and 46 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California or Dental Health Services. For San Francisco Locals 10, 34, 75 and 91 the dental plan choices are Delta dental of California, Dental Health Services, or Gentle Dental San Francisco. For Sacramento and Stockton Locals 18, 34 and 54 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California or Dental Health Services. For Portland/Vancouver Locals 4, 8, 40 and 92 the dental plan choices are LifeMap-Willamette Dental, Oregon Kaiser Dental Plan or Oregon Dental Service/Delta Dental of Washington. For Washington Locals 7, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 32, 47, 51, 52 and 98 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of Washington or Dental Health Services.

Information on the medical and dental plans, and forms to change plans, can be obtained at the Locals and the ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans Office.

**All Medical and Dental Program Choice Forms and enrollment forms, as applicable, must be completed and received by the Benefit Plans office by May 31 for the enrollment change to be effective July 1.**

TC/Open Enrollment Dispatcher Notice-03/24/2016

## DISPATCHER

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# Election victory for Vivian Malauulu

ILWU Local 13 member Vivian Malauulu scored an impressive election victory on April 12, defeating a well-connected incumbent and winning a seat on the Long Beach Community College Board of Trustees.

Malauulu won nearly 60% of the tally – soundly defeating her establishment-backed rival who resorted to anti-union attacks that flopped with voters.

“I am very, very proud of the clean and well-organized campaign that we ran - and am exceptionally proud of our team of committed volunteers,” she said. “Our campaign was fueled by a grassroots effort and propelled by good, old-fashioned hard work.”

Before the votes were counted, Malauulu shared some candid thoughts with supporters, acknowledging that she had never worked so hard for anything in her life – wearing out the soles on several pairs of shoes and carrying around piles of precinct folders.

“I spent every waking moment – and quite a few sleeping ones – trying hard to connect with the voters in our district.”



**Worn-out shoes & piles of files:** Because she was committed to personally visiting the home of every voter living in the Long Beach City College District 2, Malauulu and her volunteers wore out many pairs of shoes and gathered piles of files that helped them track feedback from voters.

In addition to her work on the docks, Malauulu has been a teaching journalism classes on a part-time basis at Long Beach City College where she was active in the faculty union and the Trades Advisory Council.

Her formula for success was built on a winning strategy:

- ✓ She built a team of dedicated volunteers by drawing on years of relationships built through work with unions, churches, sports clubs, charities, and community organizations.
- ✓ She says support from the ILWU and her teacher’s union at Long Beach State were important – but worked hard to build a broad-based coalition.
- ✓ She organized a network of volunteers and rallied supporters to walk every one of the 54 precincts in her district at least once – some twice, and a few were visited three times.
- ✓ Thousands of calls were made to registered voters who also received mailings and email/text messages.
- ✓ They kept careful track of each contact with a voter, and followed-up with those who had questions or wanted more information.
- ✓ They attended numerous public events in order to contact voters and raise the campaign profile in the community.
- ✓ She tried to make her team of volunteers and supporters feel like they were part of a big, loving family. Efforts were made to consistently thank and appreciate volunteers for their work.
- ✓ She wasn’t afraid to ask for campaign donations. Like Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders, she built her campaign treasury on lots of small campaign contributions that added up to a powerful resource.

✓ She sought endorsements from respected community and political leaders, including Congress member Janice Hahn.

Malauulu thanked her longshore brothers and sisters for their support.

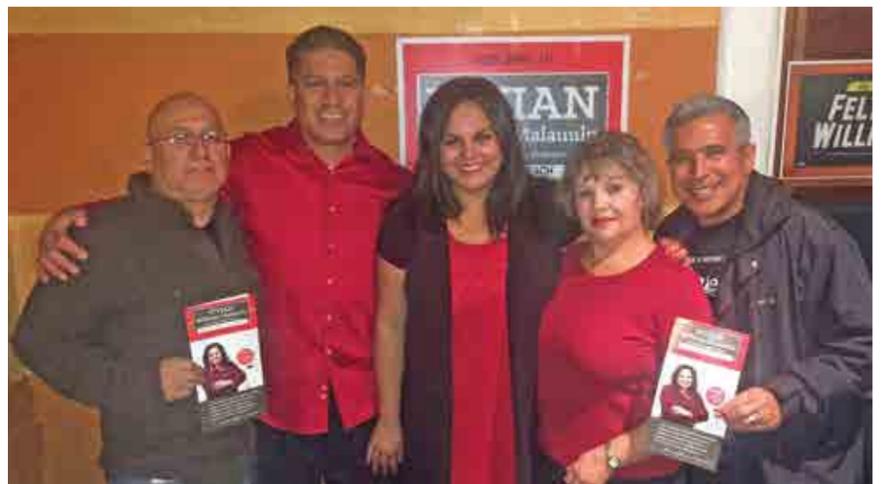
“The ILWU was very supportive of my campaign and hosted three fundraisers on my behalf. One was in San Pedro for our LA ILWU, one was in Long Beach for our LB ILWU, and then again the week before Election Day to kick off our Get Out the Vote efforts, which Local 13 President Bobby Olvera, Jr. spearheaded together with Latinas Lead California. Cathy Familethe, President of the Southern California District Council (SCDC), distributed both an ILWU voter slate card and a personalized postcard mailer on my behalf that was sent throughout the college board district. The SCDC also hosted a member-to-member phone bank the day before Election Day where ILWU members who live in Long Beach were contacted by ILWU volunteers and reminded to vote.”



Photo by Adekyma Tirado

The victory on election night left her feeling grateful for everyone who made it possible.

“I want to express my deep, heartfelt gratitude to my tireless campaign team, my faithful supporters, my incomparable volunteers, my dedicated colleagues, my loyal friends, my ILWU brothers and sisters, my incredible students, my committed prayer warriors, my encouraging Mami, my loving husband, and my four precious children for running this campaign with me. I couldn’t have done this without you!”



**Candidate support:** Malauulu was determined to build a team of campaign volunteers and treat them as family. (L-R) Sal Pardo from the ILWU Southern California District Council; Vivian’s father George; newly-elected College Board Trustee Vivian Malauulu; her mother Gloria and Local 13 ILWU Political Action Committee member David Serrato.

## 34th ILWU Canada Convention

April 5-8th, 2016 ILWU Canada held their 34th convention at the Sheraton Guildford Hotel in Surrey, BC, Canada.

In attendance were 110 delegates joined by 12 international delegates including: ILWU International President Robert McEllrath, ILWU International Vice President (Mainland) Ray Familathe, and ILWU International

Secretary Treasurer Willie Adams, ILWU Local 13 President Bobby Olvera, Jr, and four delegates from ILWU Alaska Longshore Division, International Transport Workers Federation President Paddy Crumlin, and delegates from the Maritime Union of Australia, the Maritime Union of New Zealand, including MUNZ National Secretary Joe Fleetwood.

ILWU Canada President Mark Gordienko announced that he will be

retiring at the end of his current term. Delegates applauded his service to the union and President McEllrath presented him with a gift on behalf of the ILWU International.

At the end of convention, nominations took place and the results are as follows:

- President: Robert Ashton by Acclamation.
- 1st Vice President: Shawn Nolan by Acclamation.

2nd Vice President: Steve Nasby by Acclamation.

3rd Vice President: Romeo Bordignon and Dale McEachern running for the position.

Election Results to follow.

Secretary Treasurer: Bob Dhaliwal by Acclamation



# ILWU pensioner and boxing coach chases dream of building youth center

In 1992, Juanito Ibarra had a vision to build youth community center that would help working-class youth train in boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) – along with tutoring programs, mentoring and other confidence-building alternatives to life on the “streets.”

His dream recently came a little closer to being realized when the Southern California Pensioners Group donated \$3000, along with contributions from Locals 63 and 94.

## World-class fight-specialist

Ibarra is an ILWU pensioner and world class boxing and MMA fight specialist who worked with more than 18 world champion fighters including boxer Oscar de la Hoya and also with “Rampage” Jackson, former Light Heavy Weight Champion for the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC). Ibarra was inducted into the Mixed Martial Arts Hall of Fame in 2008. Ibarra will serve as the cutman at the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio.

## Work on the docks

Before he was a top-ranked boxing trainer, Ibarra was an ILWU longshore worker. He started on the docks as a casual in 1983, became a member of Local 13, then eventually transferred to Local 63 where he worked as a vessel planner before retiring in 2009.

He’s proud of his ILWU roots. In 2008, Ibarra wore his trademark bucket hat which proudly displays an ILWU logo when he appeared on the reality show, “The Ultimate Fighter, Season 7.” He appeared on the series as a coach. The show features up and coming mixed martial arts fighters who are competing for a chance at a UFC contract.

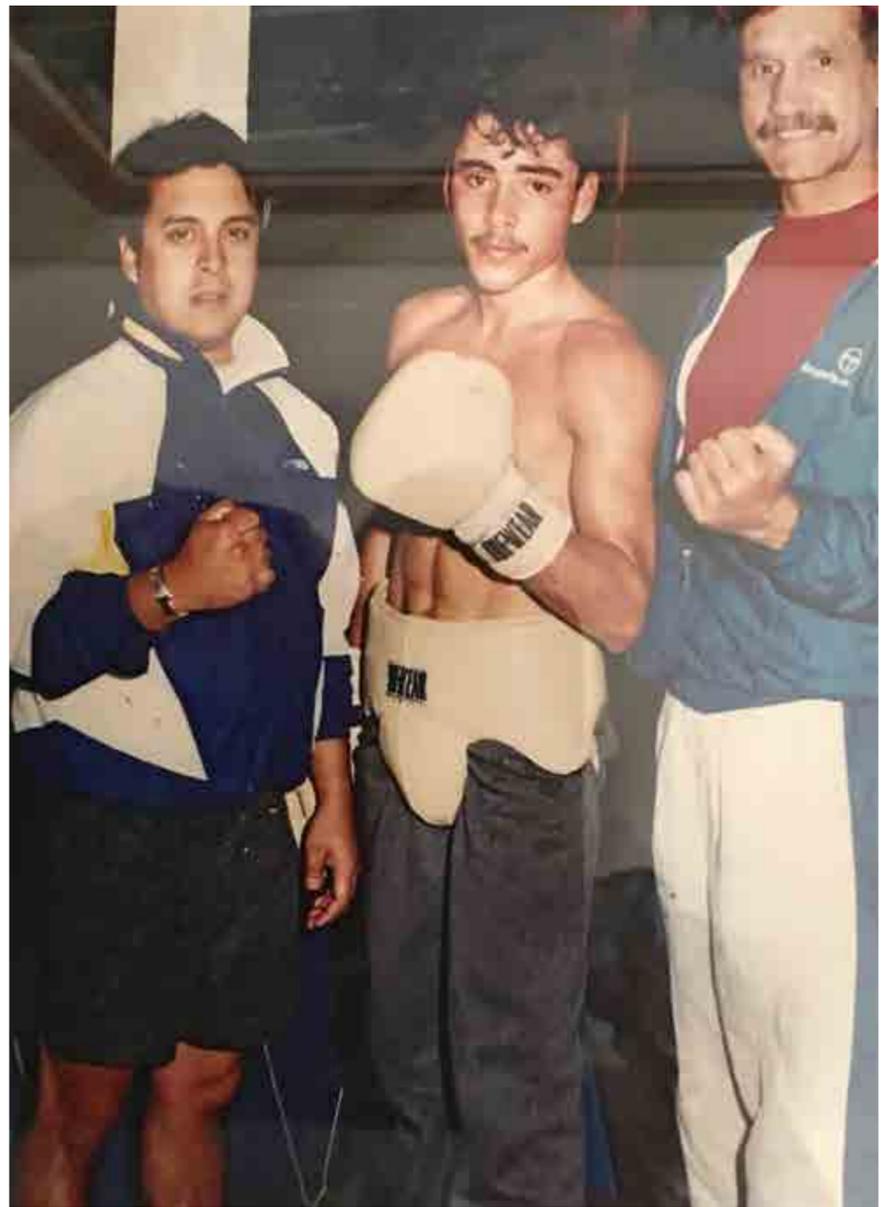
## Putting ILWU on TV

“One of my biggest accomplishments was when I appeared on the “Ultimate Fighter” that ran on Spike TV,” Ibarra said. “It was a non-union production because the parent-company, Zuffa, was staunchly anti-union. But I beat them by getting the “ILWU” logo embroidered on my bucket hat and was on TV every week. The union guys went crazy when they saw a union brother wearing an ILWU hat on the show. That was a proud moment for me.”

## Love but little money

He said his family was rich in love but had little money.

“I had to wear my Dad’s shoes to school through part of Junior High and part of High School,” he said, recalling how he also had to borrow running shoes for track practice. Ibarra went on to have two successful careers—one in the longshore industry and another training fighters.



From left to right: Juanito Ibarra, Oscar De La Hoya and Al Stankie.

## Working with youth

Ibarra’s experience growing up in a tough neighborhood – and the transformative experience that martial arts made in his life – inspired him to pass along that knowledge to others. He started training fighters in 1986 and made mentoring youth a lifetime priority. At the Boys and Girls Club he developed a boxing program for young people. In 1992, he received an award from President Bush for his work with youth. It was then that Ibarra had his vision for the youth center.

Now he’s pushing to make that dream a reality. “I feel it’s the only quest left in my life that I have to accomplish,” Ibarra said.

He established the World Class Youth Foundation in 2008 which became a federal tax-exempt, non-profit charitable organization in 2013. Since then he’s been raising funds through the community.

## 1000 served to date

The organization has already served over 1,000 youth and he hopes to raise enough funds to move out of the parking lot facility at the LAPD Harbor Division and into a 30,000 square-foot training facility. “I can’t do this on my own,” Ibarra said. “I want to build this with the community. It’s the only way I know how to accomplish this. I’m not a politician, I’m not a bureaucrat and I’m not a capitalist.”

## Learning a trade

In addition to providing free and low-cost fitness training to youth, Ibarra’s vision includes tutoring programs and vocational training.

“Not every kid is going to go to college, so we have to give kids an opportunity through the trades. Even though

I went to college, longshoring gave me a good life,” Ibarra said. “We’ve got to teach kids trades. How about learning how to install solar panels? How about learning to fix something?”

## July 9 fundraiser

Now that the World Class Youth Foundation has received financial support from Locals 63 and 94 and the Southern California Pensioners Group, the next goal is to sponsor a Blues Festival at the historic Warner Grand Theater in San Pedro on July 9th. Proceeds from the fundraising effort are going to go to the building fund of the community center, the Harry Bridges Institute Museum Project and the Legends of San Pedro Entertainment Museum project.

“I don’t know of a better way to get this community together,” said Ibarra. “In San Pedro we love music, a cold beer and sunshine.”

For more information about the project, go to [www.worldclassyouth-foundation.org](http://www.worldclassyouth-foundation.org) and for more information about the fundraising concert go to: [sanpedroblues.com](http://sanpedroblues.com)



Juanito Ibarra (left) with UFC fighter “Rampage” Jackson

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# Local 6 members hold 69th Annual Convention

On April 2, over 50 delegates and 20 guests attended the Local 6's 69th Annual Convention at their hall in Oakland. The meeting included a report on the recent successful organizing drive by recycling workers at Alameda County Industries (ACI) in San Leandro, an address by Tom Gallagher with the Bernie Sanders campaign, and an update on the "Fight for \$15" campaign.



Local 6 pensioner Bill Dow was one of several pensioners and veteran Local 6 members who provided leadership at the convention

Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Fred Pecker said the convention generated a lot of good discussion but he was disappointed that no resolutions came out of the convention.

"I would like to recognize the contribution played by many long-term members and pensioners who helped educate some newer Local 6 members about importance of following the proper rules and proceedings during the convention," said Pecker.

ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams also addressed the convention. He noted that Local 6 has always held a special place in his heart because of his fondness for former Local 6 leaders Lou Goldblatt and LeRoy King.

"Local 6 has a proud and militant history and it is always an honor to speak at your conventions," Adams said. He recalled attending special events with LeRoy King in San Francisco's upscale "Pacific Heights" neighborhood. "LeRoy was never dressed up at those events. He always wore is Local 6 jacket, representing this union and where he came from."

Adams fielded several tough questions from the floor about the Local 6 pension plan, which covers a minority

of Local 6's 1,300 overall membership, but remains a priority for the union

The pension fund has been challenged, like many others, by the growing number of "runaway shops" that have fled Northern California and America for low-wage countries like Mexico and China. The flight of those companies during recent decades – especially after NAFTA – has put financial pressure on employers who remain in the fund.

Adams noted that the International Union has been providing attorneys and accountants to help, but explained that the minority of Local 6 members covered by the plan are responsible for making decisions about their retirement fund.

"I'm glad we had this discussion and I thank the members who brought it up. This is a tough issue facing some Local 6 members and this is the kind of dialogue we need to help move forward."

"There aren't any easy answers or magic bullets for the pension issue," said Local pensioner Bill Dow. "We are all going to have to do our homework and work together if we want to solve this."

The convention adjourned in the afternoon after dozens of members mingled after the meeting ended.



ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams spoke at the Local 6 convention and took questions from the floor.

## ILWU members attend "union troublemakers" conference in Chicago

A dozen ILWU members attended a dynamic labor conference on April 1-3 that drew thousands of "union troublemakers" from around the U.S. and guests from two-dozen countries.

### Over 100 workshops

A big draw for most attendees were more than 100 workshops that covered dozens of topics, including union organizing, coalition building, problem solving on the job, contract campaign strategies, international solidarity, leadership skills, racial and gender justice.

"The workshops are great because they encourage people to ask lots of questions and get involved," said Local 4's Jamie Bridger who attended the event with Steve Hunt, Jason Rasmussen and his sister Brenda, who is the Local's secretary.

### "Feelin' the Bern"

A key focus of this year's event was the pro-union campaign by U.S. Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders, who was endorsed by the ILWU's International Executive Board on March 24. Sanders couldn't attend the conference because he was busy campaigning with union members at the April 6 Wisconsin where he scored a decisive win. But 125 union members gathered before the conference at a "Labor for Bernie" meeting.

IBU Puget Sound Regional Director Peter Hart stayed for the entire four-hour meeting, which he described as "inspiring and informative." While

some of the largest unions in the AFL-CIO – including AFSCME and the American Federation of Teachers – made early endorsements of Hillary Clinton, many at the conference believe those unions acted too quickly and before many rank-and-file members were consulted. Those feelings were confirmed by reports at the conference that large numbers in those unions were now ignoring the Hillary endorsement in favor of Sanders.

"I stand with the ILWU in backing Bernie and appreciate that the ILWU Executive Board decided to endorse him after so many locals and divisions expressed their support. But I also respect the fact that some ILWU members have different views and may support another candidate – which is OK because we're an open and democratic union," said President John Fageaux of Local 63's Office Clerical Unit.

"One of the largest unions in our state is the Washington Federation of State Employees," explained Peter Hart, "and they went ahead to endorse Bernie Sanders despite an early Clinton endorsement by their parent-union, AFSCME. I was glad that our Inlandboatmen's Union unanimously endorsed Bernie at the IBU convention last November, and we welcomed the ILWU's endorsement that followed in March because it arrived just in time for Sander's landslide victory in the Washington State caucus." That victory meant Sanders won 7 out of 8 contests in a row – including Hawaii and Alaska, boosting the morale of Bernie-backers at the Chicago conference.



Puget Sound visits Chicago: ILWU members from Local 4, Local 23 and the Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU) were among the 2,000 participants who attended this year's Labor Notes conference in Chicago. (L-R) Local 4 Board member Jamie Bridger, Local 23's Zack Pattin, Local 4 secretary Brenda Bridger with Board members Jason Rasmussen and Steve Hunt, plus IBU Puget Sound Regional Director Peter Hart.

### Solidarity and action

All Labor Notes Conferences include time for solidarity actions that help local workers facing important struggles. This year, the Chicago Teachers Union happened to be escalating their campaign with a one-day strike for better neighborhood schools during the conference, so many joined with thousands of teachers, parents and students at marches and rallies that filled the streets of Chicago.

Ironically, Chicago's leading politician – Mayor Rahm Emanuel – is attacking the teacher's union and trying to close public schools and replace them with private charters. Emanuel previously helped President Bill Clin-

ton pass NAFTA, before he worked as a consultant for Goldman Sachs, then served as Obama's chief of staff.

Members of Local 4 who joined the solidarity actions said they were impressed by the size and scope of the protests, and speakers that included Jesse Jackson. "The number of teachers and supporters who were in the streets was really amazing," said Local 4 Executive Board and Safety Committee member Jason Rasmussen. He added that the occasional snow and rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits in Chicago because "it was just like our weather in the Northwest!"

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# Battle over Bay Area coal terminal shifts to the state legislature

The battle by Bay Area ILWU locals, community, health and environmental groups against a proposed private coal export terminal in Oakland was re-ignited this April when the conflict shifted into California's state legislature.

"We cannot support a this project as such at the expense of the environment, at the expense of the health and safety of our workforce and at the expense of the marginalized community that sits adjacent to the port of Oakland," said ILWU Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer Derrick Muhammad who testified before the Senate Committee on April 12 in support of two bills introduced by Senator Lonnie Hancock who represents Oakland and has a solid record of supporting both unions and environmental issues.

## District Council opposition

Muhammad's testimony in Sacramento was backed by the ILWU's Northern California District Council (NCDC), which sent a strongly-worded letter detailing the ILWU's opposition to the coal terminal – and support for Senator Hancock's legislation.

## Proposed legislation

The NCDC letter said, "Coal puts residents of West Oakland, workers

handling the coal, and all Californians at risk." The support letter thanked Senator Hancock for her proposed legislation that declares coal to be a danger to both workers and residents living near the Port of Oakland. Her proposals would require additional health studies and bar state funds from being used to build or operate the Oakland coal export terminal.

## Keeping quiet about coal

The scheme to develop a coal export terminal in Oakland was done in secret after land developers won the right to transform Oakland's valuable waterfront that was formerly an Army base. They promised to create thousands of jobs by building a mix of modern warehouses, intermodal hub and a privately-owned break-bulk dock. Plans to export coal from the private dock were initially denied and concealed until they were forced into the open by investigative journalist Darwin BondGraham of the East Bay Express newspaper.

## Public subsidies

Developers often demand public subsidies for projects, including Oakland's waterfront. Years ago when ILWU Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Fred Pecker and others were exploring the plan with developers, they were promised that the project would generate lots of good-paying union jobs without involving any coal.



**ILWU support:** California State Senator Lonnie Hancock (center) has authored legislation to protect workers and communities from a controversial coal export terminal in Oakland. ILWU Northern California District Council Legislative representative Lee Sandahl (R) and Local 10's Derrick Muhammad have been working with Senator Hancock.

## Double-crossed

That promise was broken after the Oakland City Council awarded the valuable public land to the developer who won a 66-year lease deal with backing from community and labor groups. The City now finds itself in a bind because they have invested millions in public dollars for improvements to support a development that now includes a proposed coal export terminal that wasn't disclosed when the development deal was negotiated.

## Buying friends

To grease the skids for their coal project, developers have offered cash kickbacks to community groups, generated from each ton of future coal shipments that pass through Oakland. Some churches and community groups took the deal, then started showing up at public hearings to sing the praises of coal and jobs promised by the developer.

## Big bucks from Utah

But the truly big bucks behind the coal project were exposed by investigative journalist Darwin BondGraham, who revealed a series of troubling connections between the Oakland developers, a non-union coal mine in Utah and powerful mining interests with Wall Street connections. These groups developed a scheme in Utah that could

give Oakland developers a \$53 million interest-free loan to build the coal export terminal.

## Public push-back

At the State Senate hearing in Sacramento, Derrick Muhammad delivered his testimony, emphasizing the common concerns between workers, residents, public health experts and environmentalists. His comments were bolstered by a resolution passed by the Alameda Central Labor Council, which represents East Bay labor unions and has voted to strongly oppose the coal export terminal.

"The ILWU and other unions support a bulk export terminal as part of the project," said Muhammad, "but it shouldn't include coal."

Senator Hancock's legislation faces more hearings and hurdles in the legislature, where coal industry lobbyists are doing their best to attack her legislation and the coalition of unions, environmental and public health groups who support it.

"The coal and railroad lobbyists made it clear at the hearing that they want to ship coal because it's so profitable," said Muhammad, "but we've got to look at the bigger picture that goes beyond profits to include protecting the health of workers, the community and our planet."



**Expert testimony:** Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer Derrick Muhammad (L) joined a panel of community, environmental and public health experts at the State Senate hearing.

# ILWU members attend conference in Chicago

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## Growing size & diversity

The "Troublemakers" conference is a bi-annual event sponsored by Labor Notes, an independent magazine founded 37 years ago to put more "movement" into the labor movement, along similar lines to a group called "Jobs With Justice." In recent years the conference has exploded in size, expanding from hundreds to thousands of union activists who are younger and more diverse than in the past events.

"Local 63 Office Clerical Unit members have been coming to this conference for years," said Local President John Fageaux. "It provides us with great educational programs and connects us to a nationwide network of creative rank-and-file leaders who are always experimenting with new strategies." Vice President Debbie Karmelich added: "We'll be back in two years at the next conference, and hope to see even more ILWU members there."



**So Cal solidarity:** Local 63 Office Clerical Unit (OCU) Executive Board members and officers were well represented in Chicago. (L-R) Board members Gude Anderson, Tracye Gunn, President John Fageaux, Vice-President Debbie Karmelich, Linda Ursic, Secretary-Treasurer Shari Del Prino and Jeff Henley.

# Howard "Howie" Smith, Local 514, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus

(April 16, 1939 - October 3, 2015)



Howard "Howie" Smith, Local 514, Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus passed away in October 2015. Howie attended Vancouver Technical School, British Columbia, where he was an avid athlete. He loved team sports and excelled in them. His high school rugby and lacrosse teams both won championships.

Howie pursued a career on the waterfront, starting in the bottom of the hold, and rising through the ranks.

Howie became active in ILWU Locals 500 and 501, and was twice elected by the membership as a business agent. Howie served on the committee that brought about the Container Clause (the "clause") and, when the clause was in place, Howie policed it religiously. The gainshare payment obtained from the clause provides benefits to Union brothers and sisters and their families.

In 1972, as a labor organizer in Kitimat, Howie met his lovely and beautiful wife, Anne. After they were married, Howie liked to say he was organized from the start.

Howie began work as a foreman for Empire Stevedoring where he managed and rebuilt the gear locker. Howie was elevated to a superintendent position for a short time until Empire Stevedoring was re-organized. As they say in the stevedoring industry "last one hired, first one fired", Howie returned to his job as a foreman, and was elected Secretary-Treasurer for Local 514. Howie and Doug Sigurdson, President of Local 514 created a dynamic local on the west coast of British Columbia, focusing on education and training for the membership and fellow workers.

Howie was appointed to the Board of Douglas College. During this time, Howie also helped to manage and organize his sons' (Howard and Doug) soccer and lacrosse teams. Howie won Executive of the Year for BC Lacrosse in 1996. On August 1, 2001, Howie retired from Local 514 and on June 13, 2007 at the Lower Mainland Membership meeting he was bestowed the title of Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus.

Howie is survived by Anne, his wife of 43 years, Howie's sons Howard (Linda) and Doug (Karen), Grandson Linden, Brother Curt (Jo Ann), sister June, and many nieces and nephews.

## ILWU moves beyond endorsing Bernie Sanders

continued from page 1

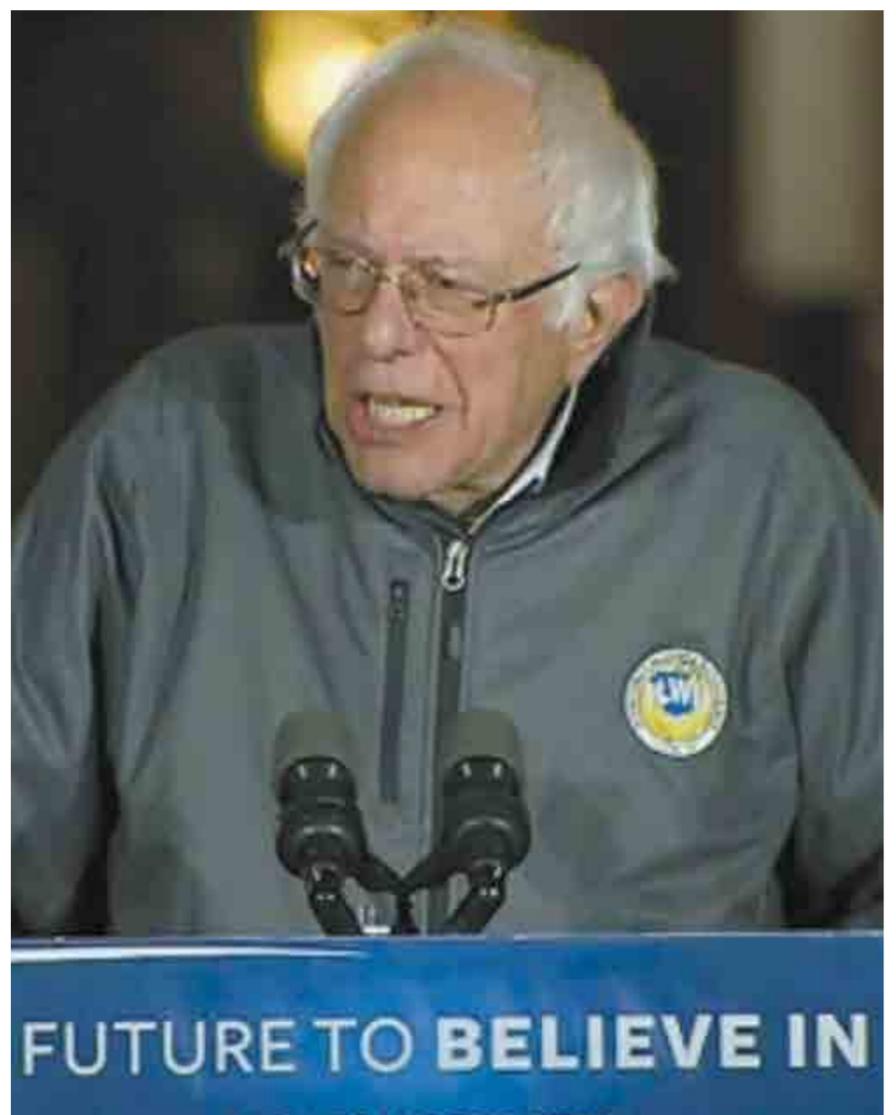
### Taking initiative

Longtime Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU) member Jeff Engels, is encouraging all ILWU members – especially those living in California – to "feel the Bern." On March 19 he helped form a group in Port Townsend, WA, that held a successful march of 200 Sanders supporters. The event was organized in just 12 days, working with local unions and native leaders. "If we can quickly pull something like this together in Port Townsend, I know members in California can do it," said Engels.

### Keys to victory

Early voting by mail will account for nearly half of California's ballots. Requests for a mail ballot can be made until May 30, and new voters can register until May 23. The same deadline applies for voters who wish to change their political party, which is important because only those who register as Democrats or choose "no party preference" will be allowed to vote for Bernie Sanders in the California primary.

ILWU International President Bob McEllrath is encouraging members to get registered and vote. "Bernie Sanders supports working class people, and he deserves our vote – whether we're in a union or not. It's not just for us, it's about all of us."



**Showing his loyalties:** On April 13th, Bernie Sanders spoke to a crowd of over 27,000 people in New York's Washington Square Park. It was the largest presidential campaign rally in history, eclipsing Barack Obama's record of 24,000. At the rally, Sanders wore an ILWU jacket given to him by Local 23 President Dean McGrath. The ILWU logo on the jacket was visible on every news channel that broadcast the speech. "Bernie Sanders is the real deal. I was fortunate to meet him before the rally in Seattle." McGrath said. "Everyone else in the room asked him what he would do for them. I grabbed his hand looked him in the eye and said, 'We are not here to say anything except....We got your back, keep fighting for the working class.' When I handed the guy that jacket, you would have thought I handed him a \$1,000 bucks. He thanked me profusely and carried it himself. He could of given it to one of his handlers, but he didn't. We have his back and he has ours!"



**March and rally for Bernie:** IBU member Jeff Engels helped the ILWU, other unions and community groups organize a march and rally that involved 200 citizens on March 19 in Port Townsend, WA.

## TRANSITIONS

### NEW PENSIONERS:

**Local 4:** Steve T. Hauff; **Local 8:** Acholam J. Hanif; **Local 10:** Jean M. Pierce; **Local 13:** Memo L. Gutierrez; Robert E. Canales; Timothy M. Foxworthy; Ronald J. La Canfora; David E. Bouronich; Christopher J. Luna; Cliff P. Stroud; Tony Guzman; Joseph Bozulich; Benito Caserma; **Local 21:** Michael E. Mitchell; **Local 24:** Dennis A. Ackley; **Local 26:** Kelvin V. Mason; **Local 52:** Thomas R. Orth; **Local 63:** John T. Gregg; Robin J. Chargois; Martha A. Garcia; Eric M. Frazier; Vicki C. Holiwell; Dawn M. Bodnar; Andrea Young Harris; Marcial G. Monge;

### DECEASED PENSIONERS:

**Local 8:** George J. Klocko; Walter L. Conner; **Local 10:** Aldrich Davis; Robert A. Law; Tommie L. Bradford; Frederick Addison; **Local 13:** Albert L.

Goozey; Harold D. Washington; Alfred J. Schwartz; Carlos A. Hernandez; James R. Sheedy; Willie J. Bluit; Darrell M. Lott; **Local 14:** Charles L. Ollivier; **Local 23:** Harold Bernhardsen; **Local 27:** Danny R. Beavers (Judy); Michael R. Caso; **Local 34:** Emile W. Lewis Jr.; Thomas N. Gentile; **Local 47:** Oras Benson; Leslie C. Smith; **Local 52:** Brett R. Brekke; **Local 63:** Howard T. Hentila; Charles J. Espinosa; Martin M. Weisman; William L. Hagey; **Local 75:** Ben M. Hirano; **Local 94:** Charles Hice Henderson, Jr.; Max Adkison;

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

**Local 10:** Loretta Figone; **Local 12:** Helen Korn; **Local 13:** Esther Salas; Jean Williams; Elizabeth A. Longenecker; Willieruth Mcgee; Ethel L. Holston; **Local 23:** Wanda M. Lewis; **Local 34:** Pauline Walker; **Local 52:** Roberta Shearer; **Local 63:** Virginia Harrison;



**Farmworker solidarity at Local 6:** *Familias Unidas por la Justicia (Families United for Justice) went on a month long West Coast tour during the spring of 2016 to strengthen the boycott of Driscoll's berries and build connections and solidarity with other movement organizations to make the food system fair for workers.*

On March 29th they held an event at the ILWU Local 6 hall in Oakland to raise awareness about their campaign.

*Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ) is an independent farmworker union that has been fighting for the last three years for just working conditions through a union contract at Sakuma Bros berry farm in Burlington, Washington. They have been calling for a boycott of both Sakuma and Driscoll's berries (the world's biggest berry distributor who sells Sakuma berries) until their employer meets their demands.*

## ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

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

### BOOKS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### VIDEOS

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

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

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

## A Helping Hand...

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

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ADRP—Washington  
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### ILWU CANADA

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