



THE DISPATCHER

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Page 3: Conservatives are setting their sights on reducing the hard earned Social Security benefits of working people. Saving this important program will be a central topic at the 2010 Pensioners Convention in San Francisco.



Photo by Jon Brier

ILWU members celebrated a victory in Arizona a few hours after federal courts threw out key parts of an anti-immigrant measure. (L-R) Local 13 members Hector Reyna, Eddie Greenwood and Leon Villaseñor. Attending but not visible: Angel Blanco, Paul Sanchez, Sal Pardo and Local 63 member Gary Jacobelly.

Protest against Arizona's immigration law expands with new anti-union measure

ILWU members from Southern California joined a caravan of more than 500 union members who travelled by bus from Los Angeles to Phoenix on July 29th where they marched and rallied against Arizona's new immigration law – and learned about a new anti-union ballot measure that's being sponsored by the same proponents who backed the anti-immigrant law.

"We went to represent the ILWU and stand up for everyone's rights,"

said Angel Blanco of Local 13 who led a delegation of his local brothers that included Eddie Greenwood, Hector Reyna, Leon Villaseñor, Sal Pardo, Paul Sanchez, plus Local 63 member Gary Jacobelly.

"We met thousands of good people from Arizona and other states during our visit," said Blanco, "but we also learned that union members are the next ones in the crosshairs."

Union members left Dodger Stadium at 4 a.m. and arrived in Phoenix later that morning to a breakfast served at a local church

that had opened their doors to the tired travellers.

"There were people on the caravan from every color and background, explained Ed Greenwood, who noted that his own family includes German and Irish ancestors and his mother who immigrated from Sinaloa, Mexico.

Anti-union and anti-immigrant connections confirmed

A few weeks after the protest, a key Arizona legislator behind the anti-immigrant measure announced plans to push a nasty anti-union law on the

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LETTERS TO THE DISPATCHER

Dear Editor,

One hallmark of democratic unions is giving voice to the rank and file. The ILWU has a proud tradition of doing just that, and our newspaper, *The Dispatcher*, is a good example.

Most letters to *The Dispatcher* are supportive of our union's policies and programs. Many carry words of gratitude from members who understand they are integral parts of a great democratic organization. But sometimes members write letters that strongly disagree with union policy, as did Brother Martin Bush in the July issue, expressing concern for our union's opposition to Arizona's new immigration law. I support the right of brother Bush and other members to dissent and express their different point of view – but I hope they also understand that our position on immigration policy – and all important issues – is reached through an open and democratic process.

The process begins at membership meetings where issues of concerns are discussed by members of locals. If local members adopt a position on an important issue and want it to be considered by our entire union, they can forward it to the Resolutions Committee that meets during our Conventions. There, proposals are subjected to additional analysis and debate by rank and file Committee members. Resolutions are then placed before the entire Convention for final action. Whatever comes out of our Conventions is the product of the rank and file. That is how our immigration policy was formulated. If anyone disagrees with that or any other policy they are free to write a resolution and if it survives the process outlined above, it will become ILWU policy.

The letter from Brother Bush also salutes radio personalities Glenn Beck and Bill O'Reilly for being "spot on" in claiming that "illegals" are ruining America. It is newsworthy that those "personalities" never met a union they didn't love to hate. Besides, they recite inflammatory, mean-spirited, discredited myths designed to demonize undocumented residents. Blaming union members and immigrants for an economic crisis is an old trick to confuse the working class and avoid placing the blame where it belongs: on the greedy Wall Street bankers and a capitalist system that operates with few rules and no morals.

The ILWU has a strong moral code called our Ten Guiding Principles, which includes the following ideas: "Workers are workers the world over," and; "To help any worker in distress, and; "An injury to one is an injury to all." Following this code provides plenty of room for disagreement and dissent, and it can help protect us from being led astray into the land of scapegoating by demigods and enemies of the working class.

Rich Austin, Local 32 (Retired)
Mount Vernon, WA

Dear Editor,

I was surprised to see the letter from Martin Bush, Local 28, Portland, OR in our *Dispatcher* (July 2010). He states that he is a Republican, a Tea Party Follower and NRA life member. We have always had our share of conservative members—those who have voted anti-abortion and pro-gun as if nothing else mattered to working people. We have also had some "red baiting" and "race baiting" within our membership. I even remember when there were those who refused to pay into the Harry Bridges Defense Fund when the government was trying to deport him for being an illegal immigrant and for his staunch defense of the rights of working people.

It has been to the credit of the ILWU that we still keep moving forward and that we keep our eye on what really matters: the well-being of our families, our communities and the strength of our union to defend the rights of workers.

Labor solidarity has been a core value of the ILWU. It's about being willing to help any workers who are in a jam. It's about "An Injury to One is An Injury to All." This is not just a slogan, but a principle we must continue to back up with our actions.

David Brennan
Local 52 (Retired)

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to encourage my ILWU brothers and sisters in California to carefully consider the choice we make this November when we vote for a new Governor. I've looked carefully and both candidates, Meg Whitman and Jerry Brown, and have decided that Jerry Brown is a much better candidate for working families. I'd like to explain why.

Everyone reading *The Dispatcher* knows that our quality of life is largely due to our union solidarity, so it's important to know where these candidates stand on unions. Jerry Brown supported and signed legislation that allowed public

employees to have unions that could negotiate real contracts. He also did the same thing for California's farmworkers – surely some of the hardest working and most exploited people in our state. Extending these union rights took a lot of political courage and was strongly opposed by business interests – but his determination directly improved the lives for hundreds of thousands of working families in California.

What does Meg Whitman say about the working families of California? She's running television ads attacking unions – blaming us for the mess caused by politicians and big business! Her ads say, "Who are these people behind Jerry Brown? They are the unions and special interests!" Wait a minute, isn't that us? Or people just like us trying to scratch out livings that happen to belong to a union? Meg has boasted about her desire to prohibit overtime for workers after 8 hours, a key goal of business interests that she wants to implement.

Most of us know that Jerry Brown is now our Attorney General, and was formerly our Governor and Mayor of Oakland. While he didn't always do everything union members wanted, he was a good friend and ally most of the time. So what was Meg doing with her life?

Meg Whitman was a Corporate Director at Goldman Sachs where she used her position to get richer through insider trading, amassing at least \$8 million that is currently held in Goldman accounts. While on their corporate Board, she approved \$79 million in bonuses to Goldman CEO Henry Paulson and his top executives. Goldman makes a lot of money in California, much of it in state bonds. In 2006, they made money on almost \$80 billion dollars in bonds issued by Goldman. So far, her campaign has received close to \$200,000 in campaign donations from employees at Goldman. Whitman eventually left the Goldman Board of Directors, but only after federal investigators started to probe her insider trading deals.

When it comes to money, Meg Whitman has a war chest of \$150 million, including \$104 million of her own money, compared with Jerry Brown's total of just \$23 million.

I recently had a chance to meet Jerry Brown. He seemed down to earth and able to talk about real problems and solution instead of empty slogans. He has a plan to create 500,000 new jobs including many to create more renewable energy. He wants to crack down hard on financial crimes in Board rooms.

Finally, there's the fact that Meg Whitman didn't even bother to vote for 28 years, after so many men and women gave their lives to win and protect that sacred right.

I'll leave you with a final thought: Jerry Brown volunteered his time to help Mother Teresa in India with the destitute and dying. He said, "When I would pick up someone to help them shower or shave, I could actually sense this is Jesus in my hands." Now imagine Meg flying to Calcutta in her corporate jet and then stooping down to feed a poor soul who has lost their hands to leprosy. Sorry, but my imagination isn't that big. I'm supporting Jerry Brown for Governor and hope you'll consider doing the same.

Danny Victor, Local 18
Sacramento, CA

Dear Editor,

Readers of *The Dispatcher* might be interested to know about an extraordinary longshoreman who was recently honored here in Vancouver for his many accomplishments. Sverre Hietanen worked on the docks as a longshoreman for almost 30 years from 1953 until his retirement in 1982. As a young man, Sverre fought the Nazis with the Resistance movement in Norway, where he was born. Besides being a devoted trade unionist, Sverre was an incredible athlete who broke dozens of records as a champion runner. He ran in 50 marathons, including Boston where he finished in less than 3 hours. We were proud to see Sverre inducted to the Canadian Masters Athletics Hall of Fame earlier this month. Now 90 years old, Sverre is someone we all admire for his devotion to our union and his fighting spirit.

Peter Haines, Secretary Treasurer Local 500
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

Dear Editor,

I'd like to share some sad news concerning the departure of our longtime brother from Local 23, Tacoma, James Arthur Weddington Jr., who passed on July 7, 2010. Those of us who worked with him knew him as "Buttons." He was a hard worker, good union member, and generous human being. We will miss him and extend our prayers to his family.

Willie Adams, Int. Secretary-Treasurer,
San Francisco

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

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Craig Merrilees
Communications Director and Managing Editor

ILWU TITLED OFFICERS
Robert McEllrath, President
Ray A. Familathe, Vice President, Mainland
Wesley Furtado, Vice President, Hawaii
William E. Adams, Secretary-Treasurer

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Local 5 celebrates 10-year anniversary with CD release & fund raiser



Ready to rock: These Local 5 members, seen here recreating a famous picket line photo from the 1948 Portland strike, are among those performing on August 27th to celebrate the Local's 10th anniversary.

On Friday, August 27th, ILWU Local 5 will be celebrating its 10-year anniversary with a “Rock Out To Walk Out” event. It is also the CD release of the *Little Red Album Volume 1*, a compilation made up of rank and file workers writing new music to classic union songs from the IWW’s Little Red Songbook. This project came to Local 5 through one of its rank and file members, Bryan Bingold.

“It was an idea that I had for a music project of my own,” Bingold explains. “But then I went to a house show with some of my fellow union member’s bands and I realized the massive talent that is in our union. This idea started

growing and I felt that I needed to see if Local 5 would be interested in helping out; with CD sales going help us build our strike fund.”

Bingold, together with fellow member Sheila Ashdown and Union Representative and IEB member, Ryan Takes, formed a committee to organize the event. The union was completely behind the idea, as it was already planning the “Rock Out To Walk Out” event as a strike fund benefit. “The idea of having this CD help the local was important to me,” Bingold said. “But maybe even more important is the retelling of these union stories in a new way to a new audience. I only know of labor’s recent struggle because I chose to educate myself. I’m hoping that by getting this CD out to the general public that it might inspire others to look

at unions more, get them interested in union history, and thinking about the future of organized labor.”

“It is a lofty goal,” Bingold admits. “Yet one that I think is important, which is why we called this ‘Volume 1’. Both the local and I want to continue to release more compilation albums, with each new release growing in scope and design and encourage other chapters of the ILWU to contribute songs to releasing an album of all original labor songs. Of course, all that is depending on how well this CD sells. It’s time to see what organized labor purchasing powers can do!”

Not only is Local 5 selling the Little Red Album, but it is also selling a special edition of *The Ne’er-Do-Well* literary magazine that Sheila Ashdown publishes. This issue focuses solely on

working-class related short stories and features submissions from rank-and-file-members as well.

“It’s been really fun and really busy trying to get this thing off the ground,” Bingold stated. “But we’re close to the event now, so I wanted to invite all of our union sisters and brothers to come out and celebrate Local 5’s tenth anniversary. It’s time to party!”

The “Rock Out To Walk Out” will be held at The Cleaners at 10th and S.W. Stark in Portland on Friday, August 27th. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and admission is \$5 sliding scale.

If you wish to purchase a copy of the Little Red Album, contact Local 5 at Local5@ILWULocal5.com. CDs are \$10 + \$5 shipping. All proceeds benefit the Local 5 strike fund.

– Celeste Figley



Strategizing to save Social Security. ILWU pensioners met with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on August 13th to discuss plans for mobilizing against attacks on Social Security. Anti-worker forces want to raise the age needed to qualify – forcing Americans to work longer to get the benefits they’ve earned. Protecting Social Security will be a key topic at the 2010 Pensioners Convention being held September 13-15 in San Francisco. (L-R: LeRoy King, George Cobbs, President of Bay Area Pensioners, Farless Dailey, Local 10 Vice President. Present but not pictured, Lawrence Thibeaux, Vice President, Bay Area Pensioners.)

Photo by Mona Brooks.

2010 Pensioners Convention

San Francisco will be the setting for the 2010 Convention of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association.

This is an opportunity to gather helpful information, re-new old acquaintances, make new friends, and have plenty of fun in the process.

We’ll have delegates from other nations, and the ILWU Officers will be there to update us on important issues.

The hosts for the Convention are the Bay Area Pensioners.

Our Convention will convene on September 13, and adjourn the 15th. Lots of enjoyable activities are planned, beginning with a barbecue at the Local 10 Union Hall on Sunday, the day before the convention.

For information about registration and lodging contact your local Pension Club, or phone the Bay Area Pensioners between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at (415) 474-0300.

Make plans to attend. You’ll be glad you did!

Tesoro campaign keeps building

Workers and family members who are fighting to save good jobs at the Tesoro Refinery in Wilmington, CA gathered at Banning Park on August 8th to have a good time – and celebrate their unity and determination to win.

Two dozen ILWU members belonging to Local 13's Allied Division lost their jobs in May when refinery officials replaced a union contractor with a non-union outfit from Utah. Workers have been fighting back with a "good jobs" campaign that's winning support from community leaders, elected officials, and other unions, including the



Steelworkers that represents other Tesoro workers. The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, representing 800,000 southland workers is also involved.

"The Tesoro workers are volunteering on all of the different cam-

paign committees that we formed to win this fight," explained Local 13 Vice President Bobby Olvera, Jr., who helps coordinate volunteers with the Good Jobs at Tesoro campaign committee each week.

Volunteers are getting critical sup-

port from their ILWU brothers and sisters at Local 13 who have stepped forward with a \$10,000 monthly contribution that's helping families survive the hardship of being displaced by an anti-union employer. Olvera expects

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ILWU solidarity arrests



Carrying the flag: Local 75 members show their solidarity. (L-R) Tony Anderson, Albie McCarthy and Steve Troisi.



Determined: Local 75 Secretary-Treasurer Patric Kim (L) experienced his first arrest on July 22. Fred Pecker, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 6 (below right) has a long record of civil disobedience arrests.



Solidarity sit-in: Local 34 President Sean Farley (L) and Local 54 President Marc Cuevas were arrested on July 22 to help hotel workers win a fair contract.



Local 10 member Marcus Holder was arrested.



Long distance lockout help



Solidarity matters: Local 30 activists in Boron remember how other union members supported their fight for justice against Rio Tinto. So when they heard that union members at the Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton, CA were locked out on February 25th for refusing to go along with the employer's plan to dramatically increase family health care costs, "we knew it was the right thing to do," said Bill Galloway (center) who made the 6-hour drive with co-workers Chuck Kennedy (left) and Larry Munsee (right). "After spending 100 days on the picketline ourselves, we knew they'd appreciate a solidarity visit." To support the workers, visit: www.endthelockout.org

Photos by Brooke Anderson



ILWU petitions US to invoke CAFTA provision to defend Costa Rican dockworkers' rights

In its continued solidarity effort to assist Costa Rican longshore workers, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) filed a petition with the Obama Administration against the government of Costa Rica under the Dominican Republic – Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA) for “serious and repeated failures by the government of Costa Rica to effectively enforce its own labor laws.” The ILWU’s petition to the Department of Labor’s Office of Trade and Labor Affairs asks the US government to invoke DR-CAFTA’s Cooperative Labor Consultations Mechanism and require the Costa Rican government to remedy its repeated violations of international and domestic labor law.

The 18-page complaint was filed July 20th on behalf of three unions: the ILWU, and the Costa Rican unions Sindicato de Trabajadores de JAPDEVA (SINTRAJAP) and Asociación Nacional de Empleados Públicos y Privados (ANEP).

A central objective of the Costa Rican government’s port privatization plan is the elimination of the SINTRAJAP longshore union which represents

approximately 1,500 workers in the ports of Limón and Moín, the petition claims. The petition charges the Costa Rican government with:

- Removing the democratically elected leadership of SINTRAJAP
- Imposing an employer-run board of union directors on the union.
- Running a government-sponsored media campaign against the union.
- Freezing the union’s bank accounts.
- Militarizing the ports prior to the union takeover and directing police to raid and occupy the union’s business office

“Costa Rica is turning into a country in which police smash in doors and windows, where workers have conducted peaceful meetings, where the government spreads propaganda to interfere in workers’ elections, and where working families’ well-being is placed a distant second to the profits of multinational corporations,” said ILWU International President Robert McEllrath.

A similar port privatization program in the port of Caldera had devastating consequences for the province. The so called “port reform” resulted in the elimination of the longshore union, the laying off all of the 1,100 union members, increased unemployment and poverty throughout the province, resulted in dangerous working conditions on the docks, decreased salaries for workers by 66 percent, decreased

Costa Rica is turning into a country in which police smash in doors and windows, where workers have conducted peaceful meetings, where the government spreads propaganda to interfere in workers’ elections, and where working families’ well-being is placed a distant second to the profits of multinational corporations.”

– ILWU International President Robert McEllrath

revenues for public services and had produced negligible investment in port infrastructure.

The ILWU Coast Longshore Division has been assisting the SINTRAJAP longshore union since shortly after the government replaced the democratically elected leadership of SINTRAJAP in the middle of a two-year term and replaced it with a government-backed group in February. The Coast Longshore Division has placed full-page advertisements in Costa Rican newspapers to inform Costa Ricans of the government’s abuses, and has sent a delegation to Limón to interview workers, meet with public officials, and document the labor violations. Longshoremen in the US work for many of the same major shipping carriers and stevedoring companies as the ones operating in Costa Rica.

“This is the next step in our solidarity efforts with longshore workers in Costa Rica. We are calling on the Obama Administration to ensure that

the rights of these workers are protected as required under Costa Rican law and DR-CAFTA,” said Coast Committeeman Leal Sundet.

OTLA takes action against Guatemala

In a hopeful sign for the SINTRAJAP workers, the Dept. of Labor (DOL) has requested consultations with the government of Guatemala under DR-CAFTA’s labor provisions. Over two years ago, the AFL-CIO and six Guatemalan unions filed a petition with the DOL detailing the systemic failure of the government of Guatemala to enforce its own labor laws or to take reasonable action to prevent violence against trade unionists. The DOL, now under the leadership Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, has taken action on the petition.

Read the entire ILWU petition in Longshore & Shipping News at: <http://tiny.cc/whl15>

Global Solidarity: ILWU challenges International Transport Workers Federation to be more proactive at Mexico City meeting

ILWU officers joined delegates representing millions of workers at the 42nd Congress of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) that was held in Mexico City on August 5-12. The scale of the event was huge with over one thousand delegates from nearly 400 unions in more than 100 countries.

ILWU International President Bob McEllrath challenged the delegates to move beyond the traditional ITF practice of just issuing declarations, passing resolutions, and writing letters. “We’ve passed some very ambitious motions here,” said McEllrath to the delegates, “but they’re just pieces of paper and until we stand up against what our governments are doing to the labor movement we are not going to get anywhere. Right now at the port of Limón in Costa Rica there are dockers who are losing their jobs. And if you’re losing your job and your home and your dignity and maybe even your family, these resolutions don’t mean much. I call upon everybody in this Congress to stand up and fight for our brothers and sisters in Costa Rica. If we have to take action, then let’s take action. Look at Costa Rica and ask



Up front at ITF: (L-R) ILWU International President Bob McEllrath, Lars Lindgren of the Swedish Transport Union, ILWU International Vice President Ray Familathe, Monique Verbeeck of the Belgium Transport workers union, and Paddy Crumlin, President of the Maritime Union of Australia.

yourself, who’s next? Right now it’s Costa Rica, before it was Liverpool and then Australia, but we stood up and fought back.”

In addition to McEllrath, the ILWU delegation also included Vice Presidents Ray Familathe and Wesley Furtado, Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne, and IBU Secretary-Treasurer Terri Mast. Also attending were Joe Cabrales of Local 34, Local 13 members Alberto and Alfonso Bonilla, and Local 63 pen-

sioner and longtime Mexico resident, Lewis Wright.

“We came to listen, learn, and encourage more action,” said McEllrath. Many unions noted that they now face the same employers who operate on a global scale. McEllrath noted that longshore workers, for example, often deal with D.P. World, a powerful corporation operating 50 terminals in 30 countries with 30,000 workers – and the company plans to double their capacity in the coming decade.

In what could be a sign of greater

activism, Paddy Crumlin, head of the Maritime Union of Australia, was elected President of the ITF. ILWU Vice President Ray Familathe was elected Second Vice Chair of the ITF Dockers Section, and IBU’s Terri Mast was elected to the ITF Executive Board and chosen to lead the Women’s Committee. McEllrath also nominated two new members to the Dockers Section, Monique Verbeeck from the Belgian dockworkers and Ommund Stokka from the Norwegian dockers to serve as a Youth Representative.

Westwood Shipping Lines supports regional exporters and good jobs



Westwood Shipping began a new service from Portland to Japan and Korea for regional containerized exports. Their ships will carry between 220 and 240 containers per month under a six month contract with an option to extend for an additional year. If it proves successful, Port officials say the service could quickly increase capacity and frequency of vessel calls.

Jeff Smith President of Local 8 says this added direct service to Japan from Portland will provide as many as 25 longshore jobs per vessel call.

The Westwood Victoria, the first Westwood Shipping Lines vessel to call at the Port of Portland, arrived on the morning of July 11. ILWU Local's 8, 40, and 92 provided the much needed labor as ordered for the day. A group representing longshore workers, pilots, Port staff, Westwood employees and customers boarded the vessel for a brief presentation. Captain Elvis Daoang was presented with a plaque commemorating the occasion by Jeff Smith, President ILWU Local 8, Dawn DesBrisay, President ILWU Local 40, Bill Wyatt, executive director for the Port of Portland, and Guy Stephenson, president of Westwood Shipping Lines. In the photo, Jeff Smith, President ILWU Local 8 (far right), is seen with Westwood Shipping representatives and port officials.



New crane for Alaska. APL's replacement crane arrived to Unalaska/Dutch Harbor on August 8th after being fabricated in China and shipped across the North Pacific. The new crane is replacing one that blew down in a fierce storm last December with wind gusts estimated at 150 mph, as seen in the dramatic photo that ran on page 2 of the January, 2010 Dispatcher. Demolition of the old crane was done by workers using cutting torches and controlled explosions that rocked the Aleutian Islands community. The legs of the old crane were salvaged and will be used at another port in the Aleutians. Photo courtesy of Jim Paulin who's worked as an ILWU casual for the past decade in Dutch Harbor, the community featured in the television series, Deadliest Catch.

6th Annual ILWU Tri-Party Golf Challenge

Two Rounds of Golf • Two Courses
Best Ball Team Handicap

Sept. 11th & 12th

Entry Fee \$200 per player

All Proceeds Benefit Miller Children's
Hospital, Long Beach

Indian Canyon Golf Resort
1097 E. Murray Canyon Dr.
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BBQ Saturday
Banquet Sunday Following Golf

For more information
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information contact:
(310) 832-1109

Prince Rupert Longshore

1910-2010

ONE HUNDRED YEARS UNION
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

6:00 AM: Fishing derby at Rushbrook Floats, Prince Rupert
4:00 PM: Dinner & dance at North Coast Meeting and Convention Centre
Tickets \$30 for seafood and prime rib buffet

LABOUR DAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

12:00 PM: Rally at Fishermen's Hall then march through downtown Prince Rupert to Mariners Park for public BBQ

TICKETS & INFORMATION

Steve Nash 604-754-8134 Tam MacDonell 780-604-4556 or toll free 866-585-8324

Protest against Arizona's immigration law expands with new anti-union measure

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November ballot. State Senator Russell Pearce has a long history of promoting anti-worker legislation. During the past six years he's introduced 20 laws to harass union members - and that doesn't include all the bills he pushed before becoming a State Senator.

"We've been telling people that the anti-immigrant laws are bad news for union members because the leaders of that movement seem to generally hate unions and get funding from anti-union companies," says Eddie Greenwood. "Just a few weeks ago, we were trying to warn people about this connection, and now we have the proof that the same leaders attacking immigrants are now attacking unions!"

Anti-union extremism in a pretty package

The ballot measure being promoted by State Senator Pearce is deceptively simple yet potentially devastating because it would prohibit workers from using the "card-check" process to join a union. Card-check allows workers to have a union after a majority simply sign a card. Without card-check, employers can make it virtually impossible to join a union by threatening and firing employees during the easily orchestrated delays that companies use to frustrate and intimi-

date union supporters. The Pearce law would ask voters to require "secret ballot elections" before workers could join a union - which seems reasonable enough to voters unfamiliar with the tricks companies use to rig the elections and intimidate workers from joining a union.

The same anti-union groups that successfully killed the Employee Free Choice Act in Congress are now sending their lobbyists and cash to states like Arizona where anti-immigrant agitators have prepared the ground for a new wave of scapegoating against union members.

Federal courts consider ILWU arguments, rule against AZ law

Hours before the caravan crossed the state line, a federal judge ruled that much of the Arizona law was unconstitutional. Among the arguments considered by the judge was a "Friend of the Court" or Amicus Brief filed by the ILWU, arguing that the new law was similar to anti-immigrant measures used by the government to harass ILWU International President Harry Bridges in the years following World War II.

Workers in the caravan were prepared to challenge Arizona authorities by intentionally travelling without documents to establish their citizenship -

then daring officials to arrest them for violating the new law. But after the federal judge ruled that part of the law was unconstitutional, the group went forward with a march and rally to protest remaining provisions that could spread to other states and impact communities across the country:

- Making it a crime for individuals or groups including churches - to "harbor" undocumented immigrants.
- Making it a crime to provide rides for undocumented immigrants in cars owned by an individual, church, social service agency, or local charity.
- Prohibiting communities from directing local police to make enforcement of immigration laws a lower priority than enforcing laws protecting citizens from violent crimes and other serious threats.

Sharing ILWU views with the news media and public

Reporters in both Los Angeles and Phoenix covered the caravan story, interviewing union members to learn what motivated so many to drive almost 800 miles round trip and spend 12 hours travelling on busses. ILWU members were interviewed by a CNN crew, that was told how delegates

overwhelmingly adopted a resolution on immigrant rights at the ILWU 2009 Convention which established the union's policy.

The long day that went into the evening was time well-spent, according to Angel Blanco.

"We wanted to make a point that people can count on union members to help when there's a fight against injustice.

Blanco isn't blind to the challenge he faces in the days and months ahead.

"I realize some people support the Arizona law, including some people in our own union, but I think many will reconsider after they understand that the anti-union people are the ones behind the attack on immigrants."

Links:

The bus caravan to Arizona was coordinated by the LA County Federation of Labor: www.launionafclcio.org

See an interview with immigrant rights organizer Carlos Garcia: www.democracynow.org/2010/7/30/dozens_of_immigrant_rights_activists_arrested.

Read an excellent column in the Los Angeles Times about the caravan at: www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-to-bar-20100730,0,2014099.column



Down for the cause: Local 13 member Sal Pardo drove by himself from Los Angeles to Arizona after missing an early morning bus so he could join his co-workers at the Arizona protest.



Solidarity crosses state lines: Among those travelling to Arizona were (L-R): International Organizer Jon Brier, Local 13 member Hector Reyna, Local 13 member Leon Villaseñor, Maria Elena Durazo of the L.A. County Federation of Labor, Local 13 members Angel Blanco and Eddie Greenwood. Not pictured but present were Local 13 members Paul Sanchez and 63 member Gary Jacobelly.

TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:

Local 4: Nikolaos M. Michalios; **Local 8:** William T. Snyder; **Local 10:** Howard A. Secrease; Lyman M. Hollins; Michael E. O'Sullivan; Paul C. Chan; **Local 13:** Robert Arriola; Delbert L. Standifer; Anton J. Felando; **Local 19:** Philip B. Buginnis; Jim Picinich; **Local 23:** Larry R. Joy; Joseph A. Maplethorpe; **Local 29:** Frank R. Vinole; **Local 32:** Terry L. Siebrass; **Local 34:** Melvin J. Milojevich; **Local 40:** Martin M. Moore; Richard D. Bitz; **Local 52:** Peter F. Kalapaca; **Local 63:** Joe L. Richards; John W. Bodnar; Herlinda Marez; Juli A. Potter;

Michael P. Halapoff; Connie L. Esparza; Norman B. Cowell, Jr.; Helena Jones; Michael N. Kelly; Jerry J. Hollar; John Mattera; **Local 92:** Valentin M. Rickert; **Local 94:** Gary Connors; John L. Pettus Jr.; Richard J. Lomeli; Ronald L. Glusac

DECEASED:

Local 8: Richard Broadwell; Thomas R. Barry; Jack L. Crane; Ernest Rand (Enid); Eric A. Wiskoff; **Local 10:** Joseph Teixeira (Joanne); Calvin Skinner; Charles Mc Whorter; **Local 12:** Everett L. Miller; **Local 13:** Anthony Rodin; George G. Medak; Glenn Karhu; Albert R. Espinosa; Thomas W. Stephenson;

Curtis P. Fannin; Robert W. Munn (Gail); Anthony Rodin (Marija Cace-Rodin); Julio A. Azpeitia; **Local 14:** Fred Kausen; **Local 19:** Wayne S. Holt; Michael S. Sisti; **Local 23:** James A. Weddington; **Local 40:** Wesley Fetherston; **Local 52:** Ardell Havlish; **Local 63:** Richard P. Gutierrez (Margaret); Richard J. Flint; **Local 75:** Mary M. Chapman; **Local 94:** S. L. Stanley; **Local 75:** Viktor Vraski (Maria); **Local 94:** Robert Barraza; Raymond P. Aguirre; David A. Trujillo; **Local 98:** Jan C. Kassuhn

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 8: Senaida Jaime; Barbara J. Davis; **Local 10:** Pearl S. Ivory; **Local 19:** Anne Carson; **Local 21:** Juanita Stennick; **Local 23:** Clara Valenta; Dollie Swanson; **Local 50:** Earlena Skaggs; **Local 54:** Ruby J. Jardim; **Local 63:** Iola R. Wasson; **Local 92:** Evelyn M. Miles; **Local 94:** Evelyn B. Mardesich; Jessie E. Heath; **Local 98:** Patricia Eriksen



Building community support for good jobs: Tesoro workers joined with their fellow Local 13 members to chat with LA City Council member Janice Hahn on July 18th. The group visited the Wilmington Neighborhood Council to explain the importance of keeping good union jobs at the refinery. Council member Hahn told the neighborhood group that she supports the campaign and encouraged neighborhood groups to join the effort. L-R: Manuel Calderon, D.C. Chavez, Janice Hahn, Joel Juarez, Richard Rivera.

Tesoro campaign keeps building

continue from page 6

other ILWU locals will come forward, just as they did to help the families in Boron with monthly donations. A food pantry has been established that provides groceries each week to families in need.

In August, Local 13 joined forces with the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, to establish a special fund that will provide assistance for displaced families and make it possible to collect tax-deductible contributions. Send checks made out to "ILWU Local 13 Displacement Fund" and mail to: L.A. County Federation of Labor, Attn: Jose Alaniz, 2130 W. James Wood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90006.

The work of removing coke deposits inside giant pressure vessels at the Tesoro refinery is a critical job, but the work is extremely dangerous and requires skilled employees who understand their rights and know how to work safely. Non-union contractors that take shortcuts in the high-pressure, high-temperature and toxic environment of "coke cutting" can easily kill or injure workers on the job. For more details about what's involved with "coke cutting" operations in a refinery and the hazards involved for workers and nearby residents, see www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib082903c.html

ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

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

BOOKS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VIDEOS

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

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

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

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