



# The DISPATCHER

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95

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October 2004



## ILWU Canada fights screening rules

page 3

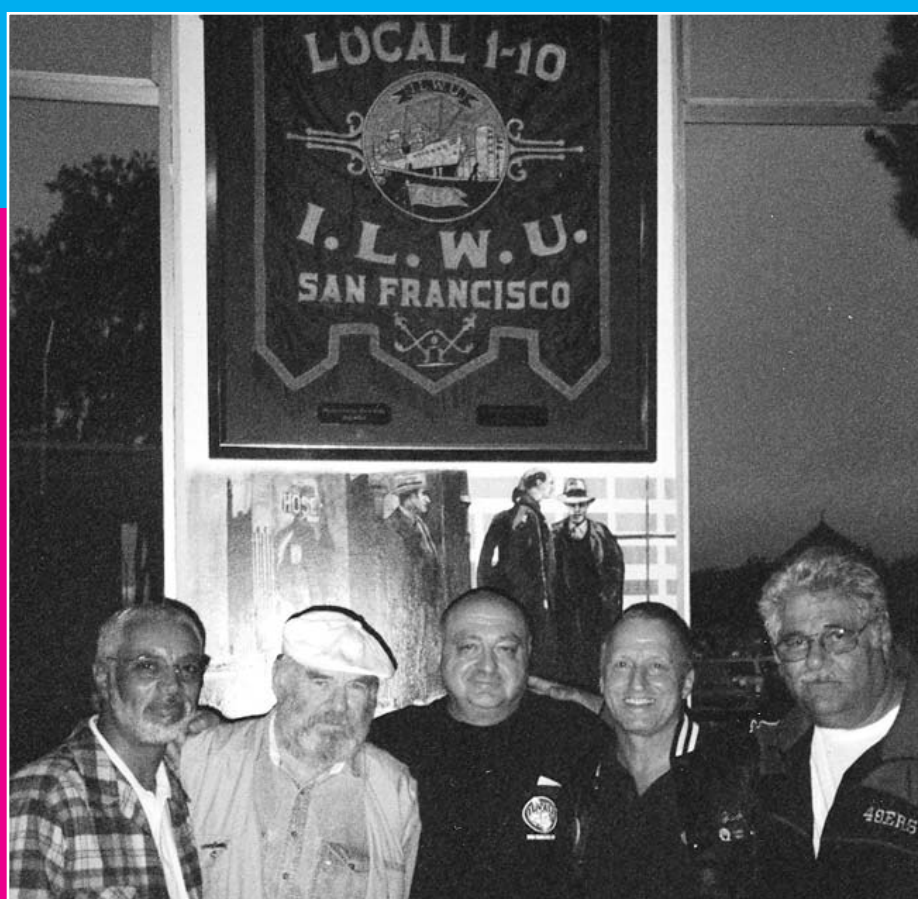
## ILWU supports locked-out S.F. hotel workers

page 4



## Local 10 historic banner returns home

page 5



### INSIDE

President's Report: A Battle Lost, the War Goes On .....	p. 3
Jobs with Justice report: Health care for all possible .....	p. 4
Longshore locals increase registration .....	p. 5
Pacific Coast Pensioners Association holds 37th convention .....	p. 5



Inside Line

POST ELECTION POST

Okay, enough with the ice packs and Ben-Gay. Yeah, we got our butts kicked in this election and we have to take a little time to tend our sores. Losing after trying so hard is tough enough, but now we have to deal with the consequences we warned against.

So you wonder where you left your passport, but in this globalized world there's nowhere to run, nowhere to hide. Our backs are against the wall and we have no choice but to stand and fight.

Even though Bush "won" by a razor thin margin—unless, of course, even if a fraction of the documented election fraud is true—he and the Congressional Republicans are moving like they got a huge mandate. So we must play defense and point out how wrong this is in a bitterly divided country.

We know Bush will come after all workers, their unions and any laws and policies that protect them. His first target will be the very foundation of the New Deal, Social Security. The name says it all. Society as a whole will take responsibility for a minimum safety net retirement for all those who have spent a lifetime working. But such a notion is heresy in the Bush world. Get your own damn retirement account. And good luck with those stock market crashes.

Meaningful healthcare proposals are DOA and the plug is being pulled on coverage in nearly every employer contract proposal. Federal judges are allowing corporations in bankruptcy proceedings to renege on retiree health care contractual obligations, and the government agency insuring private companies' pension plans is itself going bankrupt. Tax reform is clearly code for tax shift from rich to poor. The money cut out of the National Labor Relations Board's budget to enforce labor law is apparently being rechanneled into audits, harassments and prosecutions of unions under new finance reporting laws far in excess of anything corporations are required to file.

Then again, Bush has some serious aches and zeals that may become Achilles' heels. His huge tax cuts for the rich, combined with his massive military spending for the debacles of Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as wherever his preemptive war policies may take him next, are likely to bomb the economy.

And then there is Iraq itself. According to the principle: "you break it, you fix it," Bush has quite a problem here. Besides starting a war on the false premise of stopping WMDs, well over 1,000 American lives have been lost, many more thousands damaged and (apparently) countless numbers of Iraqis have been killed, maimed, orphaned and diseased. Cities lay in rubble and the insurgency continues to surge. It's hard to imagine how an election can be held in a couple of months even with a severe Fallujah-type assault throughout the country, which itself will undermine it.

The misery caused by these policies can't help but breed discontent and rebellion, but these seedlings need nourishment. The mighty have fallen before. Sometimes they just need a properly placed push.

In the meantime, buck up, buddy. We got some hard times to face and some hard work to do. And unfortunately, adversity doesn't build character—it reveals it. Whaddya got?

Steve Stallone  
Editor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A battle lost, the war goes on

By James Spinosa  
ILWU International President

November 3 was a hard day to face. For nearly a year-and-a-half the ILWU and most of the rest of the American labor movement poured its heart, soul and resources into the effort to defeat Bush and his radical anti-worker agenda. We had great hopes we could get off the defensive and start moving an agenda to improve the lives of American workers. But that did not work out.

Still, it is not cause for despair. Much was accomplished in the effort, and that will be important as we move on in our mission to protect and advance the interests of ILWU members and all workers.

But before I review those accomplishments, I want to acknowledge the hard work, the dedication and the solidarity of all our members who stepped up, answered the call to action and did an incredible job. To those who left their homes and traveled to other states to help get out the union vote, to those who walked precincts or phone banked in their home towns, to those who wrote checks so the work could keep going, to all of you I want to extend my personal thanks and appreciation. You continue to impress me and renew my faith in the rank and file of this great union.

We face a monumental task. I do not mean to minimize it in any way. Still, the situation is not all doom and gloom. John Kerry may have lost, but that doesn't mean the ILWU has lost. We can and will still fight, survive and thrive. We know that even if Kerry had won we would not be on easy street. We would still have to face determined employers bent on making ever more profits at the expense of our members. We would still have to face the ravages of free trade agreements and corporate globalization. We would still be fighting for a real solution to the healthcare crisis.

The point is we have to put the election in a long-term perspective. This defeat certainly puts up a major hurdle for us to overcome. But we have to keep in mind that the ILWU has been tacking against the wind for 70 years—ever since its birth in 1934 when our predecessors took a casualized work force with Third World-like conditions and wages and turned it into one of the proudest and most powerful unions in the world. We survived the anti-communist witch hunts of the McCarthy era, we navigated the industry through the turmoils of containerization and we withstood everything the international ship owners and stevedoring companies as well as the Bush administration threw at us during 2002. Our legacy is courage and survival in times of adversity. I am sure we will show nothing less in the days ahead.



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Already we have begun to build a structure to do just that. We have redesigned and rebuilt our union's web site, www.ilwu.org. It will not only enable us to keep our membership informed and activated, it will also provide a clear, articulate and progressive public face to the international labor movement, the media and the general populace. We have only begun the first small steps in this medium where our reach is bound only by our imagination, resources and commitment.

We have also initiated a new public relations program to make sure our voice and opinions are heard throughout the industry, the halls of Congress and the world. One thing we learned in the 2002 longshore contract struggle is that when we can articulate our perspective to the public, we gain wider support. We have an important and compelling side of the story and when we tell it, it matters.

We have also embarked on a major membership education program. The ILWU has always relied on a strong core of rank-and-file leaders and activists. Through a regular series of education and training seminars, the current International and Coast Officers are not only building the support structure for today's battles, but the leadership for tomorrow's.

The union-wide political action network we fashioned over the last year is poised and ready to meet the tough challenges ahead. Our International Officers, our District Councils and our Longshore Division's Legislative Action Committee have already scored numerous victories for the ILWU. Now our seasoned and connected activists are positioned to take our cause a step further.

While we face these difficult times, we have to always recall that although we may have lost this election, only the hard work of the labor movement made it close. And that work wasn't wasted. We now have many more members trained in political organizing skills, inspired by the organizing work they took part in and better-connected with union brothers and sisters in their own communities and around the country. We have learned a lot through this experience and, hopefully, we will continue to learn more.

Although we have good programs in place, we have to re-evaluate them in light of today's circumstances. We have to keep asking ourselves, "How do we best organize our political work? How do we best communicate our message to our members, politicians and the general public? How do we continue to position ourselves for the next round of collective bargaining?"

Whatever the vote count, the ILWU is still here and we will be here tomorrow. We have a solid foundation and we're forever building for the future. We just need to stay focused and keep working.

The DISPATCHER

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# Repressive new screening rules invade privacy, take jobs

by Tom Price

Imagine having to tell the government about your in-laws' political activities, or having to give them your credit history and medical records, just to keep your job. This, and much more, is what ILWU Canada longshore workers will have to do early next year if the Ministry of Transport imposes the most invasive screening program yet. And Canada's Transport Security Clearance process (TSC) could become a model for the maritime world.

Transport Canada wants to require dockers to provide information on parents, spouses, relatives and associates. They would have to report on their education and residential, travel and employment histories. They would have to give their "hair colour, eye colour and complexion" information—that's code for race. They would have to give permission for background searches into immigration, criminal and Royal Canadian Mounted Police records. The RCMP is Canada's FBI.

"Simply put, they're trying to make a database to racially profile our members," ILWU Canada President Tom Dufresne told *The Dispatcher*. "They also want to politically and financially profile our members."

According to the ministry, dockers would also have to supply "any and all information that will facilitate an assessment by the CSIS." The Canadian Security Intelligence Service, founded in 1984, is Canada's CIA. Information against dockers could also be provided by stool pigeons or just plain bloody minded people with a score to settle.

"You don't have to be a conspiracy theorist to worry that governments can go too far when they're given too much power. We have seen it time and again," Dufresne said.

A worker's failure to provide the information would mean no clearance, and then no job on the docks. Once the government has the information, a worker could be subject to more investigation by the RCMP, CSIS and other unnamed agencies. In a reversal of the basic "innocent until proven guilty" principle, if clearance is denied, the worker would have to prove the charge false in order to get the clearance. And the government wouldn't necessarily have to tell the worker what all the charges were, or where they came from. Workers would have to go through the TSC process every five years.

The passage of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001, Canada's Patriot Act, and the Marine Transportation Security Act of 1994 enabled Transport Canada to set up TSC regulations without going back to parliament for approval. Transport Minister Jean-C. Lapierre announced the new directives in a Sept. 17 news release. The ministry began public hearings Sept. 20. Since then, ILWU Canada, the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) and other transport unions have bird-dogged ministerial representatives at public discussions in ports around the country. Bill Chedore, the CLC's National Coordinator of Health, Safety and Environment, was on the tour.

"Most of them [from the ministry] have never had more than a cursory glance at the docks," Chedore said. "So we took them on tours."

The union officials demonstrated how lax the security was toward empty containers. Longshore workers used to check them, but because of economics the employers took all that inspection away, reasoning they didn't want to spend money checking empty containers. But experience has shown they are not always empty.

"In Montreal they once had checkers who directed truckers where



At the October 26 press conference: left to right, Steve Buckle, Vice President, ILWU 502; Bob Ashton, President, Local 500; Tom Dufresne, President, ILWU Canada; Frank Morena, Secretary-Treasurer, ILWU 514 and Peter Lahay, ITF Coordinator, Canada.

to pick up containers," Chedore said. "The checkers would say container number so and so goes onto this truck. They got rid of those guys, and the truckers now come in and make hand signals to the gantry crane operator saying they want this or that can put on their truck. The truckers direct the container moves, and they are exempt from screening. In Montreal the ministry people actually saw this happening! They scratched their heads."

"In our opinion Transport Canada is attempting to make up for failed past government policies, things like eliminating the port police and taking customs off the docks," Dufresne said. "To make up for those failures they're trying to scapegoat longshore workers in Canada, trying to hang the hook on our members."

Dufresne outlined what ILWU Canada found most offensive to the rights, freedoms and privacy of its members in written testimony submitted to the Transport Ministry Oct. 21. These include the unlimited scope of information collected, the fact that a lifelong career could be ended without due process, and the reversal of the burden of proof, where the worker would be assumed guilty and have to prove innocence.

It gets worse when it comes to processing the workers' info. The clearance would be approved, or not, based on highly subjective criteria. Did the docker associate with those who, in the ministry's words, might have "a propensity to aid and abet those likely to be involved in terrorism?" Is the worker "at risk to be prone or induced to commit an act or assist to commit an act" of terrorism? Does the person have "a propensity to be bribed or blackmailed?" [emphasis added] Just knowing certain politicians could put a person's job in danger.

The ministry could deny security clearances for any of the above reasons, or any other reasons the Minister might decide upon, with or without notice.

"The ministry said if they came across something interesting, then they would share it with whoever they wanted to," Dufresne said. "They could share it with Syria or the U.S. That puts our members in jeopardy, because when you're traveling in other countries and the security service sees your name pop up as a 'person of interest' in your own country—they're going to pay special attention to you even though it's something like the minor things in this regulation."

So much of the information col-

lection relies on "guilt by association" that profiling would almost naturally occur. Union political activity, or just old fashioned militancy, could be grounds for suspicion, and suspicion is all the ministry needs to pull someone's book.

TSC rules would be imposed by the Minister and not brought before elected Members of Parliament for public debate, a move so anti-democratic even the Bush administration didn't dare try it.

"In this regard, it must be noted that in 2002, the government of the United States (the main target of international terrorism) considered measures of a similar nature to be sufficiently serious to be placed before Congress for approval," Dufresne's Oct. 21 submission stated.

The submission went on to quote ILWU clerks Local 63 Secretary and Legislative Action Comm. member Peter Peyton's Feb. 13, 2002 testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Comm. The ILWU in the U.S. opposed similar federal proposals because they violated Constitutional safeguards for workers and didn't include inspection of cargo, the real source of threats. The U.S. government seemed more interested in protecting the ports from the workers than it was in protecting workers from dangers coming into the ports.

Peyton told the House committee that workers would be the first to suffer and were on the front line in preventing attacks. Union dockers should be the first people the U.S. government partners with because ILWU members are also watchmen on the docks and know who should or should not be there, he added. When ILWU marine clerks have checked manifests and container seals over the years, dockers have found stowaways and contraband.

"Our view is that dock workers must be part of the solution to achieve secure ports and we will resist any effort to portray them as part of the problem," Canadian Labour Congress President Ken Georgetti told *The Dispatcher*.

So far governments have resisted more vigorous customs inspection and employers refuse to hire the people to do on-the-dock inspections.

"Rather than blame the dockers, they should bring in the properly trained port police force," Chedore said. "If they feel ownership of this security program they will be the eyes and ears on the ground and that can stop things from happening."

ILWU Canada and the CLC con-

tinue to talk to the ministry. In an Oct. 26 press conference attended by Georgetti, the union presented a legal brief it gave the ministry Oct. 22.

The 19-page brief outlined the union's argument that the ministry's screening would blatantly violate Canada's Privacy Act and Canada's constitution, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The Charter guarantees freedom from discrimination based on marital or family status. It also guarantees freedom of association, which TSC would violate. Since jobs would be lost if the worker refused to comply, the worker would be coerced into providing the information. The government would be able to snoop into a person's personal papers without a court order or reasonable suspicion of a crime, violating the right of protection from unlawful search and seizure. Since the information could be shared with many sources, it could not be guaranteed private.

Punishing someone who has already paid for a crime a second time through loss of a job would violate the concept of "double jeopardy." Passing regulations to punish past, previously legal, behavior would violate the principle of "no ex post facto laws" enshrined in English Common Law. The presumption of guilt that permeates the TSC violates a thousand years of common law practice.

Depriving a worker of a job without due process violates fundamental worker rights and scoffs at ILWU Canada's collective bargaining agreements. The Charter violations are so severe they "threaten the rule of law itself," the Oct. 22 brief states. Later on it says: "A democratic state's answer to terrorism calls for a balancing of what is required for an effective response to terrorism in a way that appropriately recognizes the values of the rule of law."

The ILWU and the CLC continue to pressure the ministry. Meetings with members of parliament and ministers have been planned, and the government promises no regulations will be posted without further consultation. But the union is far from satisfied.

"There's no proper appeal to the Federal courts procedure built into this thing, it's patently unfair, unreasonable and discriminatory," Dufresne said. "You're only allowed to appeal whether or not they followed the process, you're not allowed to appeal whether the decision they made was wrong. That is left to their discretion. They would be entitled to be wrong as long as they followed the process. That's a very scary."



# Jobs with Justice report: Health care for all possible, less costly

By Michael Kuchta from the *St. Paul Union Advocate* and Press Associates

All Americans could have health insurance while actually spending less than we do now, if the nation reforms the pharmaceutical industry and switches to a single-payer insurance system similar to Medicare, a new report says.

"Waste Not, Want Not," published Oct. 7 by Boston-based Jobs With Justice, is the latest research backing efforts by groups such as the Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN), PACE, the Steel Workers, the Machinists and the ILWU, all of which seek a single-payer insurance system.

"We could cover everybody who has no health insurance, and still save more money," said John Schwarz, of UHCAN's Minnesota affiliate, during a news conference in the Twin Cities.

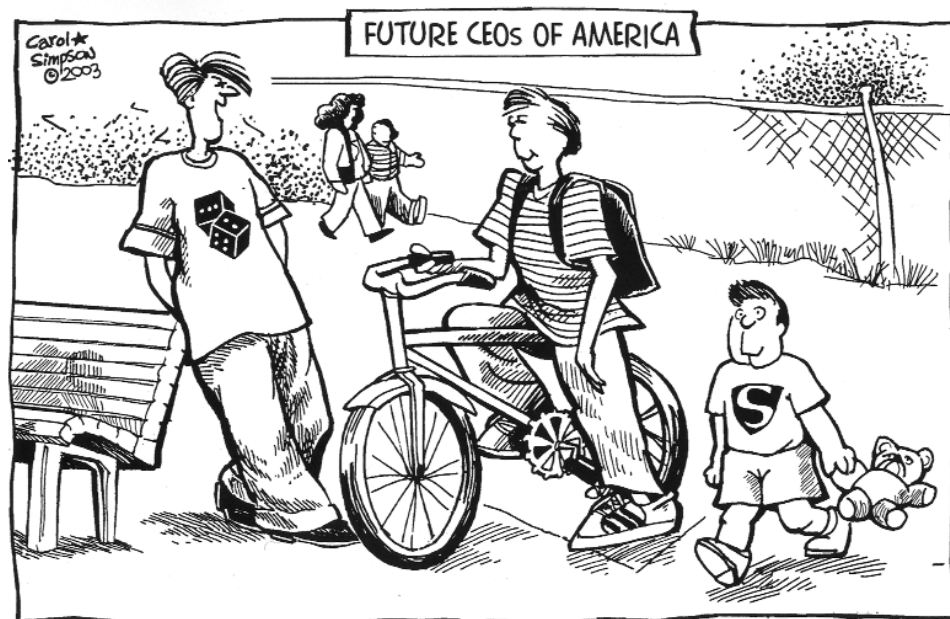
Among nations, the U.S. spends the most money per person on health

care. Nevertheless, 45 million Americans lacked health insurance for all of 2003, the report notes. Nearly twice as many, an estimated 81 million, were without health insurance for at least part of the year.

"The United States is already spending far more money than is necessary to provide adequate health insurance for all its people," JWWJ's report states. "It is only necessary to redirect some of the money from powerful corporate interests—like the insurance and pharmaceutical industries—to provide the high-quality, secure health care that everyone should have."

Health costs, which are expected to continue rising at double-digit rates, already wreak economic havoc on families. Other people lose health coverage when they change or lose jobs.

Those who retain health coverage at work are paying more out of pocket, seeing the quality of their coverage decrease and seeing higher health



*"I know... let's go beat up some kid whose parents can't afford medical insurance."*

costs eliminate pay raises. Health costs are the number-one cause of personal bankruptcy, JWWJ notes.

Notable strikes over health care include the Southern California grocery lockout and strike involving 70,000 United Food and Commercial Workers, and a two-day January 2003 strike by IUE/CWA members against the world's most-profitable corporation, GE. In that struggle, one striking single mother in Kentucky was run over and killed by a police car.

JWWJ's report says the U.S. health care system is filled with waste. It proposes attacking three of the largest areas: administrative costs, pharmaceutical monopolies and government subsidies for private Medicare insurers.

That approach is in contrast to the Medicare prescription drugs law that GOP White House occupant George W. Bush pushed through the GOP-run Congress late last year.

Bush's bill strips the government of negotiating power against the drug companies, while giving them \$46 billion-\$139 billion over the next decade in subsidies to provide drugs to the elderly. JWWJ estimates current subsidies at \$83.6 billion.

Switching from "a fragmented and inefficient private health insurance system" to a single-payer "Medicare for All" plan could directly save \$94 billion a year, JWWJ's report says. Savings would come from eliminating administrative duplication and unnecessary paperwork, and eliminating the profits and excessive executive salaries built into the private system.

Studies show administrative costs are only two percent of spending in Medicare. Most HMOs and other private insurers use 15 percent or more of revenue for administrative costs. The savings on administrative costs alone could insure 55 million Americans, the report says.

JWWJ's report says a "Medicare for all" system could save even more than \$94 billion yearly, because doctors, hospitals and other medical providers would save money by working with only one payer, not hundreds. Drugstore owners often have to deal with hundreds of HMOs or insurers, each with different criteria, forms, or both.

Further, insuring all citizens could reduce health spending by allowing patients to seek medical care sooner, rather than waiting until their illness is more expensive to treat, JWWJ adds.

JWWJ also estimated yearly savings of \$140 billion by stripping drug companies of monopolies over marketing drugs.

"The United States is the only

country in the world that doesn't have a competitive market for prescription drugs," UHCAN's Schwarz said. Patent monopolies "allow drug companies to charge as much as they want, without fear that competitors in the market will undercut their prices," JWWJ's report states.

Due to the monopolies, JWWJ notes, drugs are twice as expensive in the U.S. as they are in Canada and similar countries.

To combat those high costs, senior citizens in several states close to Canada ride buses—organized by the labor-backed Alliance for Retired Americans—across the border to buy prescription medications.

And Illinois just established its own statewide prescription purchase program, importing medications from the United Kingdom, Canada and Ireland—at far lower prices—for all of its 13 million people. Wisconsin, population 5 million, joined.

To bring down drug costs, the JWWJ report recommends the U.S. government negotiate market prices, as other countries do. The Bush-GOP prescription drugs law bans such bargaining.

In addition, JWWJ urges the U.S. eliminate patent monopolies by having the federal government finance all drug research.

Publicly funded research, plus similar research at nonprofit organizations such as universities and foundations, accounts for more than half of total U.S. drug research spending, JWWJ says.

Drug companies spent \$33.2 billion on R&D last year, their lobby says. But Families USA points out the drug companies spent more than double that on advertising and marketing.

JWWJ's report also attacks a few other proposed health-care reforms, including "health savings accounts" and tax breaks to help offset health expenses.

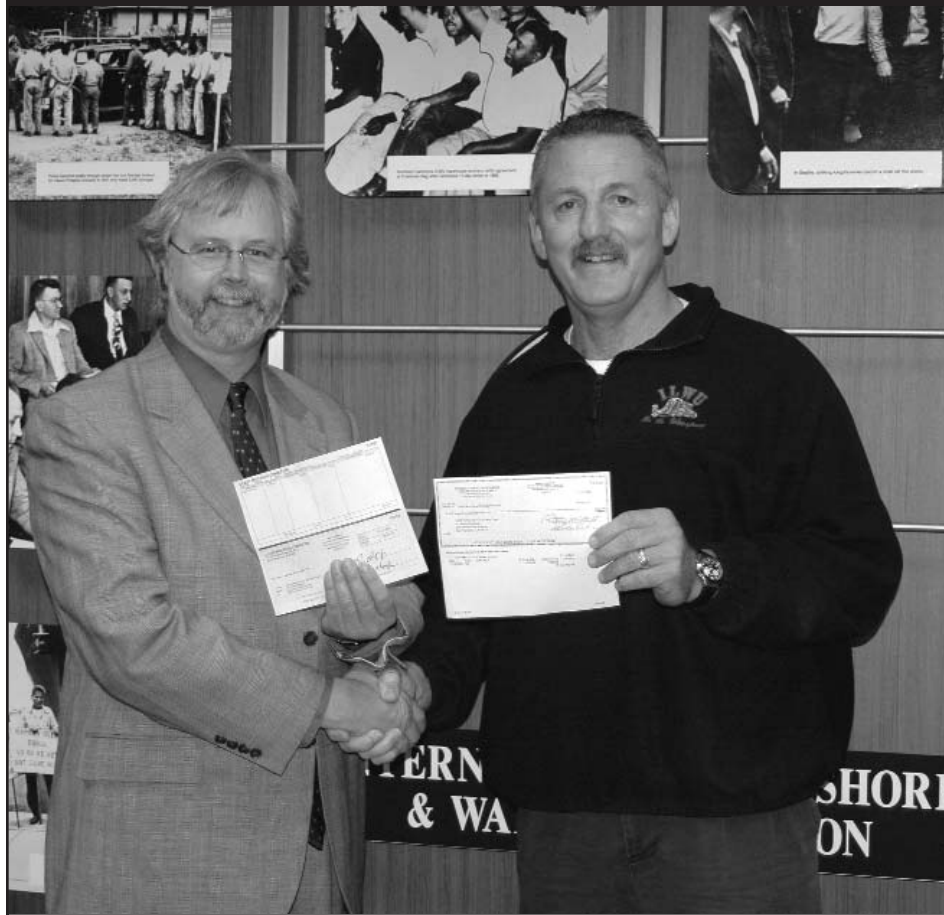
Tax breaks primarily benefit rich individuals, not most workers, and do not attack costs, JWWJ says.

Health savings accounts "provide little or no benefit" to many workers, it adds.

JWWJ said health savings accounts are a bigger benefit to healthy people than to people who actually need health care, and could increase costs and increase the number of uninsured citizens by "pulling relatively healthy people out of the standard insurance pool."

Bush touted the health savings accounts in the third presidential debate. The GOP-run Congress wrote those accounts into law after lobbying by a big-giver: Golden Rule Insurance Co.

## UNION BACKS STRIKING AND LOCKED-OUT HOTEL WORKERS



John Showalter

SAN FRANCISCO, NOV. 10—Tim Paulson, left, Executive Director of the San Francisco Labor Council, accepts on behalf of hotel workers two checks from ILWU International Vice President Bob McEllrath.

"On behalf of the ILWU and the Coast Committee of the Longshore Division we would like to present you with two checks totaling \$6,000 to help out the striking and locked-out hotel workers," McEllrath said. "We're behind them 100 percent."

Hotel workers represented by UNITE HERE Local 2 have been locked out since Oct. 1, when the employers decided to punish the 1,400 who went on strike Sept. 29 with a lockout of 4,300, more than half the 8,000 union hotel workers in San Francisco.

"We are encouraging all unions to step-up like the ILWU has," Paulson said. "As of right now people are stepping up to the plate, because this is a fight we're all taking on. It has to do with healthcare, it has to do with the globalization of work, it has to do with the condition of all workers out there, longshore workers, construction workers. Everyone is under the gun right now."

The hotel workers are fighting to maintain affordable health care. Currently they pay \$10 a month towards it. The employers are proposing to up that to \$119 in the fifth year of the contract. The workers also want just a two-year contract so that theirs expires at the same time as other hotel workers' contracts around the country.

"The problems they're having are similar to what we had in our 2002 lockout," McEllrath said. "It's healthcare, that's what they're fighting for. We fought for that and won, but the fight continues. We're going to be a Third World country if this healthcare continues to go down and decline. The working men and women in the U.S. have to stand together to fight this issue of medical care."

—Tom Price



# AROUND THE UNION

## LONGSHORE LOCALS EXPAND TO MOVE THE CANS

As free trade and outsourcing have sent jobs and manufacturing overseas, imports are flooding West Coast ports and emptying longshore dispatch halls. The backlog of ships has been especially severe at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

"The employer had no clear way how to resolve this problem," longshore Local 13 president Dave Arian said. "They could see day after day the ships just lining up with no relief in sight, and that has finally motivated them to see our position."

Through on-going negotiations the employer, the Pacific Maritime Assn., finally agreed to hire more than 5,000 new casuals and agreed to elevate some current casuals to B registration.

"This month we will have 250 new class A people at the next membership meeting, and we'll probably elevate more each quarter," Arian said. "We brought over 1,250 current casuals into the local as Bs over the last six weeks, and we have proposed another 1,000 that the employer has not yet agreed to."

Longshore Local 10's workers in the San Francisco Bay Area have some new workmates, according to Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer John Castanho. So far in 2004 the local has registered 252 more B workers and promoted 144 workers to A status. Another 300 casuals have been hired, with more coming at the end of the year.

In Portland, longshore Local 8 reports 60 B workers will be elevated to A status, 23 casuals will be promoted to B status, and 12 new workers will be added to their casual list.

Longshore Local 23 at the Port of Tacoma will advance 29 workers to A status and 75 current casuals to B status. As many as 60 new casuals will be hired.

Cargo expansion at the Port of Seattle grew so fast the union, longshore Local 19, couldn't turn out the members fast enough. The PMA, instead of agreeing to new hires, went through the grievance process instead.

"PMA hit us with an illegal work stoppage for not filling all the jobs," Local 19 President Herald Ugles said. "We had an arbitration and we won."

But still, the arbitrator ruled the local hadn't supply enough people. To resolve the arbitration, the union agreed to come up with a plan by Nov. 19 to address the staffing shortage. The union believes this is a good solution because it had been meeting with the PMA to come up with a plan and the employers were dragging their feet.

"We've drawn up a plan," Ugles

said. "Our overall registration now is about 568 members. We're trying to bring our registration up to 700, probably by summertime. Our container loads are up about 20 percent, cruise ships about 47 percent and grain is also up."

## PCPA 37TH CONVENTION WORKS AND PARTIES IN CANADA

The ILWU Pacific Coast Pensioners Association held its 37th Annual Convention in Burnaby, British Columbia Sept. 13-15.

The Canadian pensioners hosted the gathering of nearly 250 members and guests and treated them to boat cruise of the Vancouver Harbor area, a banquet and dance and a hospitality room stocked with snacks and refreshments when the convention was not in session. Longshore Local 508 also sponsored a performance for the pensioners of Ian Ruskin's play "From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks" about Harry Bridges and the history of the ILWU.

But the convention was not all fun, food and games—the attendees also heard from union officials, discussed serious issues facing workers and retirees, made policy decisions and planned future actions.

ILWU International President Jim Spinosa and the Coast Committee (International Vice President Bob McEllrath and Coast Committeemen Ray Ortiz, Jr. and Joe Wenzl) explained the problems faced by the longshore Negotiating Committee in the 2002 contract bargaining. When the government threatened intervention, the union had to turn to its friends in the political arena and to other unions for support. With it allies in Congress, the AFL-CIO, the Teamsters and a promise of solidarity from unions around the world, they successfully negotiated a good contract.

Coast Benefits Specialist George Romero and the four area Benefit Plan Directors all spoke and stressed the need for retirees to be aware of how fortunate they are to have their benefits and to realize the union has an uphill fight to maintain them.

The annual award given to a politician was presented to Libby Davies, a member of the Canadian Parliament. Davies led the struggle to better the conditions of the poor and indigent and has also been a politician labor could turn to when an ally is needed in the legislature.

The first Jesse and Lois Stranahan Award was presented to Frank Kennedy, Secretary of the Vancouver, B.C. Pension Club. The award will be presented annually to recognize a pensioner who has served

## OLD LOCAL 10 BANNER RETURNS HOME



The original ILWU Local 1-10 banner was officially presented to longshore Local 10 at its Aug. 19, 2004 membership meeting by Herb Mills, former Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer. (Left to right: Robert Costa, Herb Mills, Frank Cresci, Jack Heyman, Steve Fyten.) Mills had long ago offered to store a bunch of boxes in his apartment's garage for an old fellow Local 10 longshoreman Ernie Woods while Woods place was being painted. Mills thought he had returned them all. But years after he moved his former landlord contacted Mills and said there was still a box in the garage. Woods had since died so Mills checked the contents of the box and found the banner. He knew it was an old one because it had the original ILWU local number on it—Local 1-10 as it was known before it became simply Local 10. Mills returned the banner to the local hall where it was cleaned, framed and hung on display as part of the local's history.

the union and the pensioners movement. Kennedy is well known on both sides of the border for his dedication to the ILWU and pensioner issues.

Building on a new international relationship, the PCPA invited two delegates from Australia to attend the convention—Bill and Daphne Bodenham from New Castle, New South Wales—came representing the Maritime Union of Australia Veterans (pensioners). The year before two MUA Veterans, the group's president Harry Black and the Secretary of its Newcastle branch had attended. And last March PCPA President Arne Auvinen and PCPA member John Johnson and their spouses visited the Veterans at their conference in Sydney, Australia. Bill and Daphne were made honorary members of the PCPA. In Australia, the MUA Veterans accept spouses and widows as members the same as the PCPA does.

The convention passed two resolutions and two policy statements. One resolution opposes proposals to tax credit unions and another commits the PCPA to work with the MUA Veterans and the Canadian Labor Congress to organize a conference of worldwide retired maritime workers to oppose free trade agreements and to defend trade unions.

One of the policy statements calls for universal health

care and opposition to all programs aimed at cutting or reducing access to quality, affordable health care. The other committed the PCPA to work to oust the Bush administration.

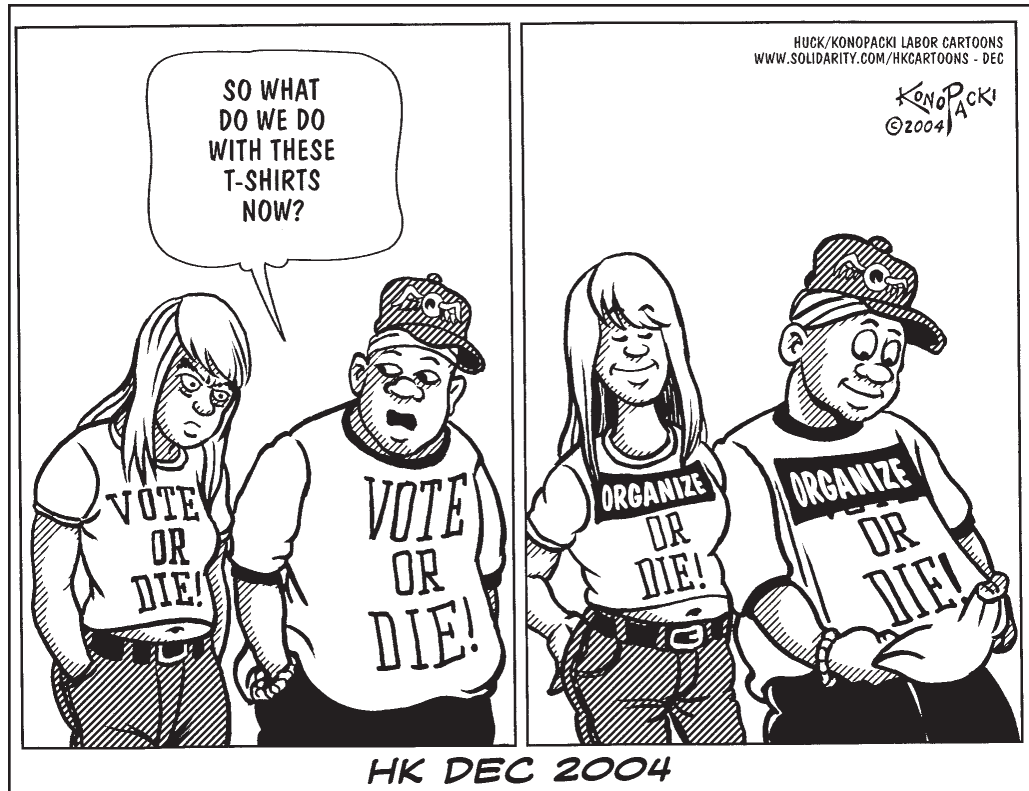
The new Titled Officers of the PCPA for the coming year are: President, Arne Auvinen from the Longview Pension Group; Vice President, Joe Lucas from the San Francisco Bay Area Pensioners; Treasurer, Barbara Lewis from the Portland-Columbia River Pensioners; and Recording Secretary, Bill Duncan from the Van-Isle Pensioners.

The new Executive Board members are: Paul McCabe, Seattle; Darryl Hedman, Tacoma and small ports of the Puget Sound Area; Ken Swicker, Longview and small ports of the Columbia River Area; George Gornick, Portland; James Davison, North Bend, Southwest Oregon Coast; Cleophas Williams, San Francisco; and Lou Loveridge, Southern California Pensioners.

Rich Austin was elected to represent pensioners in the Coast Benefits Committee and Art Almeida was elected the pensioners representative on the Coast Education Committee. President Spinosa administered the oath of office to all officers and committeemen.

The next PCPA Convention and pre-Convention Executive Board meeting will be held Sept. 11-14, 2005 at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco, Calif.

—Arne Auvinen  
PCPA President



HK DEC 2004



# LETTERS

RELIGIOUS RIGHT MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE

Reports from everywhere are coming in that the “Religious Right” put George Bush back in office. Therefore, I believe:

#1 Everyone who has lost a job since George Bush took should have their unemployment check paid by the Religious Right churches.

#2 Religious Right churches should run a lottery of which church family will take and raise unwanted babies.

#3 Since George Bush has refused to go to funerals or contact personally the families of our brave fallen servicemen and women, Religious Right church families should do this and watch the unbearable heartache.

#4 Any monies stolen from the American people by Halliburton should be paid back by the Religious Right churches.

#5 Any funerals and hospital costs caused by the lack of stem cell research should be paid by the Religious Right churches.

#6 We Democrats are also religious and go to church. I don’t know any Democrats that fall in the Religious Right. The difference is we can reason and think for ourselves.

Sad, worried and bewildered,  
Myrt Perisho,  
Wife of a retired Local 63 member

REPUBLICANS ARE PEOPLE TOO

Well, it finally happened to me! My utter disbelief over the journal-ese of *The Dispatcher* for sometime now. The crowning glory, or should I say, the final straw, is in the September 2004 issue (Vol. 62 No. 8). On the front page you show a size 15 boot kicking President Bush into a tailspin and on page four he’s stuffed into an ashcan.

Need I, or someone, remind you that you are displaying total disgust with a guy who is the President of the United States and a member of a party that controls both houses of Congress? Sooner or later, we will be dealing with these people. They are not going away and could be in power for many future contracts to be negotiated. This type of editing was fine during the days of white caps and “Frisco” jeans, but it’s all passé now.

On page eight you state 132 endorsements. It’s hard for me to believe that not one Republican candidate could have served us better in his particular category. How much study went into these endorsements? Remember that approximately 30 percent of organized labor votes Republican.

In closing I would like to point out that you and your paper are the written word of my union and I will make two suggestions:

- 1.Straighten up your act and get into the modern age, or
- 2.As so well stated by Abraham Lincoln, “it is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt.”

Walter Williamson,  
Local 23, retired

## 2002 on video

The ILWU Longshore Division is producing a film about its 2002 contract struggle. Any and all video footage or still photos members or their friends may have from that time that can add to documenting and portraying the many facets of that nearly year-long conflict would be helpful in the production. Please send them to the following address and let us know if you need them returned.

ILWU International, Attn: Steve Stallone  
1188 Franklin Street Fourth Floor / San Francisco, CA 94109

## Advanced LEAD Institute

International Secretary Treasurer William Adams is announcing the first ILWU Advanced Leadership Education and Development Institute (LEAD III) to be held in Palm Springs, Calif., Jan. 31-Feb. 4, 2005.

The curriculum will focus on collective bargaining, from the nuts and bolts of developing contract proposals and hammering out an agreement at the table, to ILWU principles of rank-and-file control of the process and membership mobilization in defense of the union. Presentations will include labor laws affecting collective bargaining and an examination of how today’s economic and political environment affects ILWU negotiations.

Instructors will be drawn from the ranks of active and retired members as well as staff from the International, the AFL-CIO, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Application will be made to the Titled Officers, who may seek input from the applicant’s local union. In addition, the local union may nominate participants, who will also be required to fill out the LEAD application. For reasons of space and diversity, we anticipate having to limit each affiliate to two participants, but we will create a waiting list in case of cancellations or non-participation by any locals. Applications and registration forms have been sent to each Local and IBU Region by fax and mail, and are available on the ILWU website ([www.ilwu.org](http://www.ilwu.org)).

Participation will be limited to a maximum of 75 members of the ILWU and the IBU who have also been active in their ILWU local or IBU region as committee members, stewards, trustees, executive board members, officers, or caucus and convention delegates. Priority consideration will be given to members who have participated in either of the previous LEAD programs (1998 and 2002), and served (or are about to serve) on an ILWU contract negotiating committee.

Completed applications must be returned by fax or mail by Dec. 10, 2004 to: LEAD Applications, c/o William Adams, ILWU Secretary-Treasurer, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 (Fax: 415-775-1302).

## The Dispatcher wins top awards

The International Labor Communications Association, the organization of AFL-CIO editors and communicators, has announced the winners in its Media Contest for 2003 and again *The Dispatcher* won several awards, including the organization’s most prestigious one.

The Max Steinbock Award recognizes an outstanding journalistic effort that explores an issue of concern to workers with a particular sensitivity and insight into the human spirit. It was given to *The Dispatcher* for David Bacon’s story and photos “No Justice and No Peace: Iraqi workers under occupation” that ran in the October 2003 issue. The story chronicles Iraqi workers struggles to survive in a bombed out landscape and organize under the U.S. occupation that cut out the food, housing and healthcare subsidies they had

under Saddam, but continues to enforce Saddam’s old laws banning unions and strikes.

*The Dispatcher* also won first place for best column for Steve Stallone’s “It’s the economy, Stupid” that ran in the September issue, a first place for best labor history story for Harvey Schwartz’s oral history of former ILWU International Vice President Bill Chester that ran in the February issue, and another first place for best original cartoon for Jim Swanson’s “Golden Turkey Awards” that graced the cover of the November issue. *The Dispatcher* won a third place award for general excellence and an honorable mention for best news story for Steve Stallone’s “Bloody Monday at the Port of Oakland” about the April 7 police riot that injured anti-war demonstrators and longshore workers that ran in the April issue.

## A Primer on American Labor Law

FOURTH EDITION

By William B. Gould IV  
National Labor Relations Board chair, 1994-1998

“A Primer on American Labor Law” is an accessible guide written for non-specialists—labor and management representatives, students, general practice lawyers, trade unionists, government officials and academics from other countries. It covers such topics as the National Labor Relations Act, unfair labor practices, the collective bargaining relationship, dispute resolution, the public sector and public-interest labor law.

This thoroughly updated fourth edition contains extensive new material, covering developments in the 11 years since the third edition, including the continuing decline of union membership, job security rights, wrongful discharge litigation and dispute resolution procedures, ADA (Americans with Disability Act) litigation, cases involving sexual harassment and sexual orientation, the most recent collective bargaining agreements in professional sports, and the debate—spurred by globalism—on international labor standards.

### Also by the author from The MIT Press: Labored Relations: Law, Politics, and the NLRB—A Memoir

October 2001, ISBN 0-262-57155-2, \$24.00 paperback.

William B. Gould IV is Charles A. Beardsley Professor of Law, Emeritus, at Stanford University and William M. Ramsey Distinguished Professor of Law at Williamette University College of Law. He is the author of “Agenda for Reform” (The MIT Press, 1993). The recipient of five honorary doctorate degrees, he has been an impartial arbitrator since 1965 and a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators since 1970.

To order online: <http://mitpress.mit.edu> or call (800) 405-1619.

## ShopUnionMade.org

By now the holiday shopping frenzy has reached maddening levels. The stores are jammed with cheap imports if you can even get a place to park. You might even end up at Wal-Mart! But you can avoid all that and find the Union Label in cyberspace at [www.ShopUnionMade.org](http://www.ShopUnionMade.org)

What to get for that right-wing brother-in-law? How about some union coffee? From the site you can order 100 percent union coffee from Hawaii. How about a union-made computer? Same site. How about a sea cruise? You can book a trip to Hawaii on a union ship with a real American flag at the mast! And there are ILWU hotels in Hawaii and union airlines to take you to the nearest embarkation port.

Orders can be sent via UPS, a Teamster outfit, directly to whoever you want to surprise.

The AFL-CIO’s Union Label and Service Trades Dept. launched the site Sept. 7. Its secretary treasurer, Matt Bates, explained why the site is needed.

“Shoppers spent \$56 billion in Internet sales last year,” Bates said in a press release. “The web site will reach millions of people, 24-hours a day, with a quick and convenient way to shop union. The public is ready for this, people have seen millions of good jobs disappear and they are looking for ways to take a stand and make a difference.”

The AFL-CIO is sponsoring a “Buy Union Week” Nov. 26 through Dec. 5 and will make the site a corner stone of that campaign.





# PEOPLE

## Last Dispatch

During the depths of the Great Depression Hector Goulet decided he had had enough of the “awful Fink Hall.” In 1931 he walked into Local 38-12 Longshore Hall and signed the membership rolls. He wouldn’t be finding work as often, but he would have his self-respect. He would not have to wash Fink Hall Boss Merl Ringenberg’s car or buy a fifth of Scotch for an alcoholic hatchtender.

Hector knew the union dispatcher Ernest “Limey” Ellis would send him out for his fair share of jobs, based on the rotation system. Hector helped recruit new members, among them a young Missourian named Shelvy Daffron, who was a gifted speaker capable of inspiring others. Goulet and Daffron worked in Gang 34 as stevedores, toiling in the holds of ships for 35 cents an hour. He served the union faithfully and well, but never aspired to leadership; he was a dedicated rank-and-filer.

At the beginning of the Great 1934 Strike, Daffron and Goulet were among the union men who cleared the Seattle docks of scabs. They were tear-gassed by police at the Garfield Bridge incident and fought scab-wannabes hand-to-hand in front of the Alaska Building. Goulet and Daffron were together at Point Wells, near Everett, when a bushwacker from an employer

dirty-tricks squad shot Shelvy Daffron in the back. Goulet sat in the lead truck with other members of Gang 34 in the funeral entourage to Lakeview Cemetery.

On Nov. 18, 1986, Hector Goulet returned, leading his union brothers to Shelvy Daffron’s seldom-visited grave. For the first time anyone there could recall, Brother Goulet spoke about the past. He recalled the bitter years, the eight lost lives, the suffering families and the final victory. He saw the real meaning of the Big Strike as “An Awakening” of brotherhood among working people. In the 1930s and 1940s longshoremen were there to help lumberjacks, woodworkers, seamen and a host of others succeed in getting decent pay and safety enforcement. “All we ever wanted,” Goulet said, “was a fair shake.”

In his later retirement years Hector Goulet was surprised that of the 1,182 Seattle longshore workers who fought in the Big Strike he would be the last one to answer the dispatch call. When Goulet came to the Seattle pensioners’ annual meeting in May 2004, he received a standing ovation. Brother Goulet had a broad smile on his face as he remarked to those near him that he was proud the union had not forgotten its old timers.

Goulet, who was born Sept. 22, 1909, died July 25.

—Bob Magden

## Longshore retired, deceased and survivors

### RECENT RETIREES:

**Local 8**—James Ferretti; **Local 10**—John Law, Milton Hunt, Daniel Aquino, Ben Bussey, John Zola, Allen Richardson, Richard Taylor, William Murphy; **Local 12**—Douglas L. Getchell, Thomas Hilding Sr.; **Local 13**—Carlos Tejeda, John Ramirez, John Rambo, Charles L. Jackson, Roko Alaga, Donald Redman, Frank A. Morales, Leroy W. Hansen, Fermin A. Ponce de Leon, Henry L. Johnson; **Local 23**—Robert Latterell, Edward Sigsworth Jr.; **Local 24**—Bruce Caron; **Local 34**—Joseph Beachum, Parminder Ghuman, Morris Waldon; **Local 46**—Max Cobos; **Local 52**—Victor Gross; **Local 63**—Louis Garcia Jr., Ronald J. Surina, Paul J. O’Donnell, Brian Kiely, Edward Luera, Elmo L. Smith Jr., Aubrey de Vaughns Jr., Tracy Orval, Richard Stamper, Jean Donnelly, George Bronaugh; **Local 91**—Laverne Hardy, Daniel Haleamau; **Local 94**—Arthur Ortega Jr., John R. Torres, Roger Donatoni, Moses Baker, Herman Puerta Jr., Franklin Blahnik, Henry Sedillos Jr.

### DECEASED:

**Local 4**—Donald Palmer; **Local 8**—Robert Boryer (Patricia), Robert Underwood (Virginia), Lloyd Broderick, Clyde Karr (Elizabeth), Leslie Eichler, Carl Clyde; **Local 10**—Finas Rabb, James W. Jones, William Silva (Alice), Henry Dean (Augustine), Roosevelt Holloway (Delia), Julio S. Rodriguez (Cecilia), Hugo Tijero (Bertha), James G. Chester (Kiyoe), Turner Washington (Rosie), La Ron Ingram, Harold Rodland, James Aikens, Frank Steed, Hossie Henderson; **Local 12**—Douglas Grant (Grace), Dale Stokes (Thelma), Alexander Hete (Joyce), Robert Karavanich (Lillian), Alexander Hete; **Local 13**—Aniello Grieco (Loretta), Richard Montalvo (Brianna), Paul Herrera (Nana), Joseph F. Torres

(Evelyn), Wallace Hanson (Dolores), Walter Ruffner (Velda), Eugene Geer (Janna), Michael Dacanay (Ethelinda), James Oxford (Mary), Harvey Spence (Virginia), Harry Collins, Marijan Pesic, Linn Spencer; **Local 14**—Orlando Rossiter; **Local 19**—Harry Kitchel (Elsie), John Bloomer (Avis), Hector Goulet (Helen), Joffrie Frye (Dorothy), Gerald Tanner (Kris), Harold Everett; **Local 21**—Ralph Rider Jr. (Dorothy), Gregory Knee (Tami), Fred Fujiura (Sadako), Toivo Ketola; **Local 24**—Donald Zakel (Betty); **Local 26**—Delores Winsor; **Local 32**—Norman Norgaard; **Local 34**—Masami Tanigawa, Roderic Ross (Marian), Robert Cruikshank (Dawn), Alexander Zullo (June), Wilbur Fleming (Laura), Anthony Cuevas; **Local 47**—Leonard Crawford; **Local 50**—Robert Bjaranson (Sonja); **Local 52**—Harvey Knettle, Raymond Chapman (Margaret), Donald Crowe; **Local 53**—Arthur Johnson (Denise); **Local 54**—Frank J. Ponso; **Local 63**—Russell Buth (Virginia), John Di Leva (Patricia), Robert Lukin (Brenda), James Mullins (Hazel), Anton Fiamengo (Catherine), Frank George (Yolanda), Fred Del Prino (Charlotte), George Martizia; **Local 91**—James Sutter, David Thomas; **Local 94**—Leonard Miller, Franklin Blahnik (Ann), Eddie Walker (Lady), Leroy Enyeart (Bonnie), John Bobich (Mary); **Local 98**—George Seibold. (Survivors in parenthesis.)

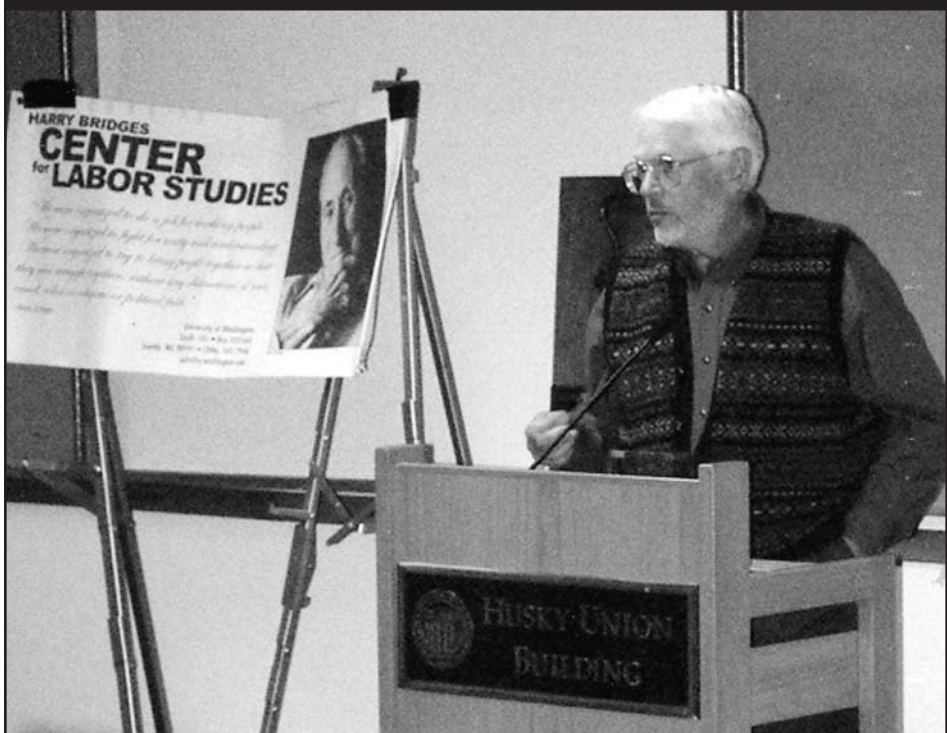
### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

**Local 7**—Mary J. Johnson; **Local 8**—Charlotte Fantz, Betty La Mora, Dolores Pryor, Julia Wagner, Dorothy L. Smith; **Local 10**—Else Riegel, Eleanor Bostrom, Rosalie Buckner, Peaches Dias, Johnnie Hilts, Anna Lima, Bessie Narcisse, Wilhelmina Hill, Anita O’Toole, Dorothy Atkins, Dazell Harry, Mildred Menton, Tressie



In 1989 Puget Sound veterans of the 1934 Strike gathered at the Garfield Bridge where the police had tear gassed strikers. From left to right: John Mahovey, Dewey Duggan, Burt Nelson, Gordon Fox, Hector Goulet, Ivan Stevens, Orie Sehwards, Early Douglas and Richard Haverty.

## Gene Vrana receives award



Joe Wenzl

ILWU Director of Educational Services and Librarian Eugene Vrana received the highest recognition awarded by the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies at the University of Washington.

At the annual Awards Celebration Oct. 12, 2004, the Harry Bridges Center named Vrana the 2004 recipient of the “Robert Duggan Distinguished Supporter of the Harry Bridges Chair Award” for all the support he has given to students, faculty and researchers interested in the history of the ILWU and labor more generally.

Vrana is the first recipient of this award from outside the Seattle/Tacoma region. Prior awardees include: Phil Lelli, Tyree Scott, Ron Judd, Rick Bender, Robert Duggan, and William Gerberding.

In celebrating its 12th anniversary, the Harry Bridges Center singled out Vrana for his service on the Visiting Committee, his contributions to the strategic planning committee, and his work as a contributing member of the “Union Democracy Reexamined” research team. Particular note was made of the assistance Vrana has given young students and seasoned faculty researching labor issues, where his talents and skills as a librarian and archivist are of the highest professional caliber.

In making the award, the Harry Bridges Labor Center cited Vrana for “All your expertise, your assistance, counsel, and advice, and your unfailing support of labor education.”

—David Olson

Harry Bridges Chair Emeritus

Cook, Mary Carson, Eliza Lister, Roberta Watkins; **Local 12**—Dorothy Colton; **Local 13**—Ann Marie Purcell, Maria Pleso, Theresa Guaydacan, Josephine Scienza, Ruth Sotelo, Frances Gonzales, Flora Higginson, Consuelo Sanchez, Kerttu Koski; **Local 19**—Glorice Wilbert; **Local 21**—Ella Sepp; **Local 23**—Kathleen Bowen; **Local 24**—Delores Medak, Betty Arnold; **Local 34**—Gladys Shirley, Kathleen Mahoney, Verbia

Albright, Edith Williams, Nathalie Von Ronne, Eurice Raggio; **Local 47**—Beatrice Lawrence; **Local 52**—Alece Otto; **Local 53**—Patricia Walls; **Local 54**—Lois Harrison, Winnie Essig; **Local 63**—Mildred Targos, Carmela Scognamillo; **Local 75**—Bessie Reaves; **Local 91**—Helen Huff, Neelna Clausen, Mary Cuneo, Edith Fardig; **Local 92**—Katherine Girt, **Local 94**—Geraldine Murphy, Myrtle Pekich; **Local 98**—Doris Vekich.



# ILWU Book & Video Sale

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

BOOKS:

- The ILWU Story:** 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. **\$7.00**
- The Big Strike** By Mike Quin: the classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. **\$6.50**
- 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. **\$13.00**
- The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront** By David Wellman: the important new study of longshoring in the ILWU. **\$15.00** (paper-back)
- A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strike in San Francisco** By David Selvin: the newest and best single narrative history 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**

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**
- Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges** A 17-minute VHS 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. **\$28.00**

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## Bound Dispatchers for sale 2003 Edition Now Available!

Beautiful, hardcover collections of *The Dispatcher* for 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 are now available. These are a must for Locals and individuals keeping a record of the union’s activities. Get your copies of the ILWU’s award-winning newspaper while the limited supply lasts. Send a check for \$50.00 for each volume (year) to *The Dispatcher* at:

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