VOTE Nov. 7! Terminate the Governor!

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General Counsel Fred Feinstein. Other lower-level workers as supervisors. There was a union recognition vote at the hospital, but the ballots were impounded until the board could decide the issue. Oakwood wanted them all to be supervisors. There was a union of nurses, but most of its 181 registered nurses, but most of its 181 registered nurses. Oakwood has 12 full-time charge nurses, but see patient care and direct order and not protected by labor law. The definition of supervisor involved 70 percent of the time is a “supervisor” and not protected by labor law. It was that definition that would throw most professionals out of labor law coverage.

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The appeals court said the new Homeland Security personnel system unilaterally imposed on the workers last year by the Bush administration now, with the new KORUS-FTA, gives an assignment to another at any time. That means, in fact, that all the board members said the board left the words so open that virtually any worker who gives an assignment to another at any time could be considered a supervisor. This “threatens to sweep almost all staff nurses outside the [National Labor Relations] Board’s protection,” the dissenters said.

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Sailors get back pay, flights home

Solidarity wins Endless struggle

By Steve Stallone

When Stefan Mueller-Dombois boarded the break bulk cargo vessel, the Endless, in the Port of Long Beach on Labor Day, Sept. 6, he didn’t know why the crew had summoned his presence. But as soon as he met the ship’s captain he knew this case would be different from any other he’d known in his time as the Southern California Inspector for the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF).

As the Endless had approached Long Beach’s Pier G212 to pick up a load of petroleum coke to take to Japan, the crew had text messaged the ITF inspector in the Puget Sound, Lila Smith, who had checked their ship and gained their trust the last time it had called on Seattle. The message simply asked Smith to have the Seattle San Francisco inspector come aboard—nothing more. She forwarded it to Mueller-Dombois.

Like most of the ships Mueller-Dombois inspects, the Endless was a Flag of Convenience vessel, owned by a Greek company, crewed by Filipino sailors and flying a Panamanian flag to avoid tax, environmental and labor regulations. But unlike many such ships, the Endless’, quarters, food supplies and safety equipment were all in good condition.

“This was a group of real professional sailors who took pride in their work, and the vessel showed it,” Mueller-Dombois said.

This time the crew had other complaints. They had been aboard the ship much longer than usual, most of them two to three years. The ship’s losses while stuck in port. The sailors had made requests to go home, but the company, ironically named “Sea Judy,” kept them from finding replacements and made them stay on. Besides that, they had been paid less than half what they were getting based on a personal contract the manning agency had had been made at 18, 20 and 21 months respectively.

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“The crew knew they were being underpaid less than half what they deserved, but conditions on board were good so they put up with it. But then the Greek owners—in an attempt to squeeze more money out of the Japanese company that was to get the petroleum coke—wanted them to lie about an equipment failure on the ship causing delays.

“That was the flash point,” Mueller-Dombois said. “They were basically honest guys. It was bad enough they were being cheated out of their wages, but now they were being forced to lie too.”

The crew gave Mueller-Dombois the “double booking” pay records and he tabulated what they were owed. Including overtime and penalties it came to $327,000. After meeting with the crew and realizing they were solid and determined—17 of the 18 crew members including the officers were ready to act—Mueller-Dombois made his initial claim to the Greek owners.

The following day, Tuesday, Mueller-Dombois discussed the situation with his boss, West Coast ITF Coordinator Jeff Engels, and the ITF London office, devising a game plan. The next day Capt. Stefanos Granporane the Port Captain for Sea Justice, arrived along with local attorney Frank Bruculeiri and some private security guards. Seeing that the physical and psychological intimida-tions that often accompany these negotiations were starting, Mueller-Dombois contacted ILWU Local 13 night Business Agent Jessie Puga to go with him as he reiterated the demand for back pay and insisted the company and its guards not try intimidating the sailors. Nonetheless, that night Capt. Granporane and Bruculeiri began threatening the crew, telling them there would be repercussions when they got home, that they would be blacklisted and never work again, and that they would get sued for the ship’s losses while stuck in port.

Thursday Mueller-Dombois made preparations, meeting with Local 13 Vice President Kevin Schroeder and the local’s BAs, whose unflinching solidarity proved invaluable as the days wore on. Mueller-Dombois continued consulting with Engels and ILWU Director of International Affairs Bay Familtale, the former West Coast ITF coordinator. The International officers in San Francisco offered legal and press relations assistance.

That afternoon the nastiness began in full force when Mueller-Dombois confronted Bruculeiri about his attempts to intimidate the crew. Bruculeiri got up in Mueller-Dombois’ face and ordered him off the ship. But Mueller-Dombois stood his ground—he was not going to abandon the sailors who were standing up for their rights.

Mueller-Dombois, the crew and the ITF London office consulted and decided to give the company until 6 p.m. to provide a written guarantee to pay the crew, fly them home and give them indemnity against being sued, or they would strike. As the crew prepared picket signs, Granporane and Bruculeiri refused to agree.

Mueller-Dombois hesitated to pull the trigger, even asking the Bruculeiri and Granporane to give him some reason not to go on strike. But since the ship had been at dock for three days and still was only about 25 percent loaded, they felt Mueller-Dombois was strong-arming them and they dug in their heels. In reality, the dock’s computer operator conveyor belt was having one of its periodic malfunctions—the timing just helped make Mueller-Dombois seem a more formidable foe.

So at 6 p.m. the crew put up their picket line and the ILWU longshore workers honored it. All loading ceased.

On Friday the company brought in another attorney, Bradley Rose, and Mueller-Dombois called Engels and asked him to fly in to provide back up. In the meantime, with ships back up in need of using the petroleum coke dock, the Pacific Maritime Assn., the longshore employer group, called for an arbitration that afternoon to determine the legality of the picket line. In consultation with ILWU attorney Rob Remar in San Francisco, Mueller-Dombois, Engels and Local 13 Vice President Schroeder prepared their case.

At the arbitration the employer representative, Brian Hearst from K-Line, tried to hang the case on the personal contract the crew had been forced to sign by to get the job instead of the ITF contract. He claimed the individual personal contracts, which he kept referring to as a collective bargaining agreement, superseded the ITF one, and that its grievance procedure required the crew to take their complaint to the Philippines’ national labor relations board. The relief arbitrator, Bobby Muñoz, an employer pick who previously worked for Maersk, was going for this argument.

Schroeder, who presented the case for the union, pointed out that the ITF contract was the real collective bargaining agreement.

“In section 33.1 of the ITF contract it says that if the agreement is breached, the crew has a right to use any means necessary to obtain redress and that’s what they were doing,” Schroeder said. “That’s a true collective bargaining agreement.”

Schroeder kept trying to take the discussion away from the ITF and personal contracts and back to the document an arbitration is supposed to be about.

continued on page 8
The Republicans Congress has sold out workers

By Kyle Weimann
ILWU Legislative Assistant

While the 2006 elections are looming, there is a more important year for ILWU members to remember: 2008. The next longshore contract negotiations will give anti-labor rightwing corporations and politicians another excuse to come after the union. The 2002 PMA lockout showed the importance of having powerful allies in government. The Bush administration and the lapdog Republicans in Congress were prepared to bring the full weight of the federal government to bear on the ILWU. Heading into the 2008 contract negotiations, we must do all we can to ensure a more friendly Congress.

But it’s not just the longshore contract that should motivate ILWU members to get out the vote and throw out the Republicans. The Republican majority in Congress has failed this country miserably. They have rubber-stamped Bush’s ill-conceived, mistakenly executed, botech disaster of a war. They have only clapped louder as Bush proposed tax cut after tax cut to even wealthier tax evaders, and short-term political gain over fiscally responsible Republican cheers echoed through the Capitol when Bush negotiated unfair trade deals, sought to privatize Social Security and advocated the use of torture. The list—unfortunately—goes on and on.

The Republican Congress has sold out American workers with free trade deals such as CAFTA that protect corporate profits at the expense of workers and the environment. Under this Republican Congress, the trade deficit has ballooned to $720 billion per year. Almost three million manufacturing jobs have been lost. Adding injury to insult, Republicans slashed funding for OSHA, mine safety and the Department of Labor.

They have abandoned working-class families. The federal minimum wage still stands at just $5.80 an hour, far below a living wage for any family. Between 1996 and 2005, special interest earmarks increased by 875 percent. The number of registered lobbyists has doubled in the past five years alone. Thanks to Halliburton’s influence at the highest levels of government, the oil company was able to get away with underpaying our ongoing organizing campaign at Blue Diamond Growers. This Congress member to find out how you can help elect pro-labor, pro-ILWU, pro-worker candidates to the Senate and House. By comparison, the total time Republicans spent on the Abu Ghraib scandal has been just 12 hours. They have yet to hold any hearings to investigate war profiteering, pre-war intelligence or the outing of CIA agent Valerie Plame.

In short, this election matters. Ethical negligence and willful ignorance are not a governing policy. The right-wing extremists in Washington surround themselves with like-minded sycophants who will reinforce whatever half-baked idea the GOP proposes next. Independent thought has been termed anti-American; dissent equated with terrorism. The First Amendment has been brought to its knees at the hands of “free speech zones,” limited, penned off areas of dissent, and “faith-based initiatives,” giving federal money to religious groups.

They have abrogated their oversight responsibilities. In the 1990s, the Republican-controlled Congress spent 140 hours on sworn testimony and hearings into President Clinton’s Christmas card list. By comparison, the total time Republicans spent on the Abu Ghraib scandal has been just 12 hours. They have yet to hold any hearings to investigate war profiteering, pre-war intelligence or the outing of CIA agent Valerie Plame.

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Bush might not be on the ballot in November, but the rubberstamp Congress that voted with him 90 percent of the time is. In fact, the average Republican Senator has voted against Bush just twice in the past two years. A vote for the Democratic challengers is a vote for change, a vote for sanity and, most importantly, a vote for competence.

The most important vote any Member of Congress will ever cast is for majority leader. Should Republicans cling to their hold on Congress, the foxes will be even more brazenly allowed to prey on the chicken. The Senate Committee on Environment will continue to be chaired by Senator Inhofe, who believes unequivocally that global warming is a hoax. The Minerals Committee will continue to be chaired by Senator Inhofe, who believes unequivocally that the energy department needs more money. The Committee on Governmental Affairs will continue to be chaired by Senator Inhofe, who believes unequivocally that the American people need do nothing to fight global warming.

Workers across this country, seeing the ever-growing power of mega-corporations, are recognizing the need for union protection. In 2005, independent studies found that 53 percent of nonunion workers would be willing to join a union. Unfortunately, because of fear tactics and intimidation from employers, most employees will never have that opportunity.

As it now stands, one in four employers illegally fire at least one worker during a union organizing drive. We have seen this first hand in our organizing drives at Blue Diamond Growers. This Congress simply refuses to force corporations to play by the rules.

This is an accountability moment. There has been no oversight since the Democrats lost control of the Senate in 2002. The House this year spent fewer days in session than the famous “Do Nothing” Congress of 1948. They totaled out at less than 100 days of work this year! Polls repeatedly tell us that control of Congress is up for grabs this year for the first time since 1994. Despite a clearly restless public and widespread disillusionment with the Republican agenda, the Karl Rove smear machine will be operating on overdrive to scare the public into re-electing Republicans. Campaigns across the country have acknowledged that their intent to go negative—early and often—on their Democratic challengers is a vote for more politics as usual. This is why turning out the union vote is more important than ever.

If Democrats control Congress in November, we can expect to see an increase in minimum wage, a repeal of tax cuts on the wealthiest Americans, sane union organizing laws such as the Employee Free Choice Act, negotiations by the federal government with the pharmaceutical industry on prescription drug prices and investigations into war profiteering by Halliburton and the rest Bush’s corporate cronies.

The history of Democratic-controlled Congresses shows that they are not afraid to ask questions, regardless of who is in the White House. The last year that the Democrats controlled the House (1993-1994), the Government Reform committee held 135 oversight hearings. In the last session, Republicans held just 37. This is better than nothing, but what would shine a bright light on Bush administration misdeeds.

By winning in November the Republicans will not go quietly into the night. Talk to your local leaders or call the ILWU Legislative Hotline (888-262-5968) to find out how you can help elect pro-labor candidates. There are doors to knock, phone calls to make, letters to stuff, and Political Action Fund donations to collect. It is up to you to protect your interests by getting involved in this election.
ILWU achieves major gains in port security bill

By Lee Sandahl
Northern California District Council Legislative Representative and Barry Broad

T he time limit for the Calif. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to sign or veto legislation has passed. While Schwarzenegger has made labor issues the major focus of his administration, the labor movement’s larger issues, for ILWU it was an extremely successful year.

PORT OF SACRAMENTO EXPANSION

In the spring of 2005, after years of declining business and mounting debt, the Port of Sacramento was on the brink of bankruptcy. Discussion between members of longshore Local 18 and other unions, business interests and the local community. By the time the smoke lifted at the end of the 2006 legislative session, it had been successful in amending AB 2939 so that port property necessary to support an economically viable port could not be sold or leased for non-maritime use.

In June 2006 a partnership was established between the Port of Sacramento and the Port of Oakland. The Port of Oakland’s management skill and marketing expertise could significantly return the Port of Sacramento back to its once formidable role as a major regional player in the northern California goods movement industry.

The next major piece of the puzzle was to ensure dredging the deep water channel that runs between San Francisco Bay and Sacramento. Again the Port Working Group was successful in getting language inserted into the port security infrastructure bond (Proposition 1B on the November ballot), which specifically authorized funding the port’s share of the dredging. Also in the bond is millions of dollars for the expansion, port security and associated highway expansion projects to accommodate the expanded growth in trade.

ILWU SPONSORED ELEVATOR BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

As 2006 began, the ILWU faced an uphill battle to save the Port of Sacramento from closure. AB 2939, a bill by Assembly Member Lois Wolk (D-Davis) was introduced in the Legislature. The bill would have allowed the City of West Sacramento to take over the port and sell valuable port property to developers. The situation looked grim.

The Port Working Group, under the direction of ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, put together a program combining legislative advocacy and public relations to resist this effort. The group built alliances with other unions, business interests and the local community. By the time the smoke lifted at the end of the 2006 legislative session, it had been successful in amending AB 2939 so that port property necessary to support an economically viable port could not be sold or leased for non-maritime use.

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Union labor in Sacramento pay off

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ILWU SPONSORED ELEVATOR BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

The ILWU sponsored SB 727 by Senator Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach) to ensure that our members who service and maintain elevators on the portainer gantry cranes could legally continue to do so. In 2003, SB 1886, sponsored by the Elevator Constructor’s Union, required that all employees who construct, install and maintain elevator equipment would have to be specially certified. For decades, hundreds of our members have performed maintenance on the elevators of the portainer gantry cranes. If we could not get the law changed, our members would have been required to obtain special licensing and pass examinations for construction and installation of all types of elevators. At first, the Elevator Constructor’s Union strongly opposed our bill, but we were able to negotiate a compromise that removed their opposition by clarifying the types of elevators our members would service. As a result, ILWU members will be able to safely perform the maintenance and repair work on the portainer gantry cranes without hav-
Introduction by Harvey Schwartz

This is the second of a three-part series high-lighting the recollections of ILWU activists who made significant contributions to the building of the union in Hawaii. Last month’s article focused on Frank Thompson, the union’s chief field organizer in the Islands during the great 1944-1946 unionization drive there. In this issue the spotlight is on David E. Thompson, who served as education director and International representa-tive in Hawaii between 1946 and his death at age 60 in 1970.

Although they shared the same last name, Frank Thompson and Dave Thompson were not related and were very different kinds of people. Frank was a tough field organizer who got his schooling as a teen-age worker in California logging camps. Dave was a University of Hawaii student and a marine lieutenant during WWII. Yet both were thoroughly committed unionists who played important roles in the ILWU.

Dave Thompson was originally from Salem, Ore. He first went to Hawaii shortly before WWII. He led a rifle platoon at Iwo Jima (1945), was wounded and lost part of his right leg. Subsequently he became a strong peace advocate.

Thompson recovered his strength, went to work for the ILWU and became a highly innovative union educator. For years he directed Local 142’s outstanding adult education and leadership train-ing programs and edited the Hawaii organization’s monthly newspaper, The Voice of the ILWU.

Most of Dave Thompson’s testimony here deals with the union’s post-organizing struggles between 1946 and 1958. Although known as an educator; it is clear from Thompson’s account of those years that he also contributed heavily to the union’s early survival.

Below is one story involving Thompson and the union’s battle to survive that did not get into this oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history. In 1952 ILWU Hawaii Regional Director Jack Hall was under indictment by way of an oral history.

The lesson of this oral...
tightly-knit, territory-wide local. That goal was achieved with the emendation of constituted Local 142 five years later.

So, considering all of this, the next step, the 49 pine apple beef was settled, we made a drive on the Big Island. We were handling thousands of sugar workers, to set us up in a position to get a foothold in the membership. I worked with Bob McElrath and a few others in organizing the membership, I split up the membership, I worked with Bob McElrath and a few others in organizing the membership, I split up the membership, I worked with Bob McElrath and a few others in organizing the membership.

At the same time, we pushed a campaign on the Big Island about enrolling people in the union. We tried to make dues payment automatic. Unfortunately it wasn’t carried out very successfully. Clearly, there was much work to be done.

The period from 1948 to 1951 was one of consolidation and rebuilding on the Big Island. In 1949, Ignacio tried to split the ILWU. He wanted to set up an independent union. At an important meeting in Hilo on the Big Island in December 1947 Ignacio announced what he was going to do. Then later he changed his mind. I was among those who pointed out that what Ignacio was doing was wrong and that it would be disastrous for the workers.

One of the first things I did was call Lou Goldblatt in San Francisco to tell him what was happening. Lou came through like a champion. He said that the way to handle this sort of thing was to leave it up to the rank and file by setting up a territory-wide delegate committee, which is exactly what we did. We went to work immediately lining up people to attend. We had a convention in Hilo right after New Year’s in 1948. The delegates voted overwhelmingly to stay with the ILWU.

In part I think Ignacio’s plan was rejected because there was a real salting of observant and reflective veterans of the industrial history of Hawaii among our ranks. We had Japanese and Filipinos who understood what had happened in earlier labor struggles when Hawaii’s racial unions didn’t work. They knew that the only way they could have a union, the only way they could stand up to the powerful Big Five corporations that controlled the Hawaiian economy, was to have a solid territory-wide group with connections with the mainland longshoremen.

As noted, damage was done to us by the Ignacio revolt. There’s no blinking that. It showed us very clearly what we had to do. Beyond Ignacio, the major 1949 longshore strike for wage parity with the mainland’s West Coast was something that would help us to isolate the wider community down the middle, and this was not good for us either.

Basically the ’49 strike did two things. It set the stage for tremendous gains by the union since we won. At the same time, it isolated the union from a part of the community. The employers used this to their advantage too. They determined that they were going to maintain the union as an untouchable group of pariahs to everyone in Hawaii who was not ILWU.

The employers pursued this program for a long time. This didn’t come all in 1949. The
GLOBAL UNION LEADER JOHN MAITLAND RETIRES

ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams presented John Maitland, the National Secretary of Australia’s Construction Forestry Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) and President of the International Chemical Energy Mining and General Workers Union (ICEM), with a plaque honoring his lifetime of work for the Australian and international labor movement. The tributeiphers to this giant of the trade union movement in Parliament House, Sydney Aug. 17 was attended by grassroots union activists and political and labor leaders.

"John, tonight you are parallel to one of the highest moments of your life.”

The tributes to John at his retirement reflected the standing in which he is held and the value of his contribution to workers throughout the world.

As a youngster, Maitland’s grandfather, who was a militant unionist on the Queensland miners in 1980. Four years later, at the age of 38, he was elected as the then youngest ever General President of the Miners Federation of Australia, one of the country’s most militant unions.

Maitland understood the value and importance of international solidarity in the face of globalization. His work as a prominent advocate of miners’ rights through the U.N.’s International Labor Organization won him the respect of union, government and employer representatives. This culminated in his election as President of the 20 million strong ICEM at its second world congress in South Africa in November 1999.

As an international leader Maitland focused on developing strong and active campaigns against global transnational corporations with the emphasis firmly on involving the grassroots at all levels.

In Australia, as General President of the Miners Federation, Maitland set out to build greater unity between all workers in the mining industry. He led the miners through a period of hard bargaining and reached an agreement to his own working life when he became an underground coal miner. Maitland understood the value and importance of international solidarity in the face of globalization. His work as a prominent advocate of miners’ rights through the U.N.’s International Labor Organization won him the respect of union, government and employer representatives. This culminated in his election as President of the 20 million strong ICEM at its second world congress in South Africa in November 1999.

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Local 6 organizes recyclers and builds area standards

_ by Tom Price_

Where a large scale growth continues in recycling, local unions are building as new facilities come on line and union jobs multiply.

During the summer, the ILWU held on to jurisdiction in small ports with low work opportunity and negotiated a contract with Weyerhaeuser to unionize recycled paperkraft workers. Once the contract was in place, the ILWU began organizing workers at landfill sites and recycling centers.

The Port of Everett, located on the mouth of the Snohomish River about 40 miles north of Seattle, recently activated two gantry cranes, handled- downs from the Port of Seattle that will bring new container work and additional vessel calls.

The port lost aluminum ore shipping, but has recently found new uses for the aluminum facilities.

“We loaded alumina [ore] out of here for years,” longshore Local 32 President Mark Sullivan said. “We have a machine that sucked out ore out of ships. We believe they can suck it out cement.”

The Port of Everett signed a 20-year contract with Lehigh Northwest Cement to lease the 120-foot high dome that formerly held alumina. The facility will directly employ 35 people and create 100 jobs for tug operators, truck drivers and longshore workers who start next spring, according to the port.

The port also signed agreements in the last three years, and when the contract expires in 2025, the port may take sample bunker, including large-scale mining equipment to Russia and employment to Japan.

“We’re booming, compared to four or five years ago,” Sullivan said. “We came awful close to the 10-man limit. We were able to increase daily hours to get six B registrations, added 12. Now we have 12,000 Oakland registrants and we got them mainly in last couple years. We even have travel gangs.”

The Port of Oakland is the port Inlet at the southern tip of Puget Sound, was once a major log port. Back in 1970, longshore Local 47 workers loaded a million tons of cargo, 98 percent of it wood. Then came awful close to the 10-man limit.

So far, only five longshore workers have been trained on the crane, with more coming, Clark said. Before the crane arrived, vessels had to be united and turned so the cranes could reach above the containers and reach loads.

“We used to have operating engi- neers on the docks running cranes,” Clark said. “But now we have the crane, and all the work, from discharging from the ship to loading onto the truck, is ILWU work.”
Labor landmark to get a face lift

Harry Bridges sailed the copra-laden ship Yosbel through San Francisco Bay in 1920, on his first visit. Copra, or dried coconut, was processed by [warehouse] Local 10 to remove the oil. The after-product, a squeezed coconut pellet used for animal feed, would be blown out to the crane and longshore workers would load it into the vessels through the crane’s big spout.

The check will go to Phase 1 of the repairs, according to Local 34 retiree Don Watson, secretary-treasurer of the CCLLA.

“They shoveled it into a blower system that sent it into a shed where it was processed by [warehouse] Local 6 members. The copra had to be squeezed and chemically treated to get the oil out. The after-product, a squeezed coconut pellet used for animal feed, would be blown out to the crane and longshore workers would load it into the vessels through the crane’s big spout.” Watson said. “That’s cost around $35,000. In Phase 2 we will repair the platform. We need to get new wood decking and a steel brace around it. Phase 3 is sandblasting and painting the crane.”

There is hope there may be a museum site near the pier, Schwartz said. “It’s given them a good idea that the work we used to do wasn’t just running machines. It was hard manual labor that really wore a fella down after a few years.”

PCPA holds 39th Convention in Tacoma

The PCPA find the financial support of the Harry Bridges Institute and the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies necessary to secure the history of the ILWU, its heritage and its programs and policies; We offer to attend membership meetings when requested to do so in order to become familiar with the work that is sanctioned by the International Union, and look forward to continuing to develop such valuable programs.

Officers and committeemen elected for the coming year are:

President, Richard Austin, Everett
Vice-President, Joe Lucas, San Francisco
Secretary-Treasurer, Ken Davison—Local 12 Pensioners
Recording Secretary, Arne Auvinen
Treasurer, Barbara Lewis, Columbia River
Pensioners
Executive Board
Ian Kennedy—Seattle Pensioners
Daryl Hedman—Tacoma Pensioners
Ken Swicker—Longview Pensioners
James Davison—Local 12 Pensioners
Don Birrer—Columbia River Pensioners
Cheo Las Williams—S.F. Bay Area

T he ILWU Pacific Coast Pensioners Association held its 39th Convention and Pre-Convention Executive Board meeting Sept. 17-20 in Tacoma, Wash. at the Tacoma Sheraton Hotel, a gathering attended by 196 members and guests. Tacoma Mayor Bill Baarsma welcomed the delegates to Tacoma and complimented Local 23 for its efforts in making the Port of Tacoma the success it is today. He also praised the ILWU.

The US. Representative Adam Smith (D-WA) gave the delegates a report on how difficult it is to get anything done in Congress with the Republicans in control. He complimented the ILWU for what they have done to make sure workers get decent wages and benefits.

“We need a lot more people like you,” he said.

Smith went on to criticize the Republicans for policies that only benefit 10 percent of the people who control all the money, while everyone else is seeing their health care disappear and pensions disappear and wages go down.

“All this has not happened by accident,” he said.

Guest speakers included ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Wade Adams, newly elected International Vice President, Mainland Joe Radisch and newly elected Coast Committeeman Leonard Meneghello.

Adams also criticized Bush’s policies on taxes, health care and Social Security.

“Politicians in this country have ignored reality for six years,” Adams said. “My question to you is, now that the party is over, how bad will the hangover be.”

Adams went on to urge everyone to get out the vote for the Democrats.

All three officers expressed the need for the pensioners’ continued participation in the union. In their remarks they asked pensioners to commit themselves in a new effort to take a more active part in politics to push social priorities, to attend union meetings and help new members learn about the history of the union and the labor movement.

The Convention elected former International Vice President Rich Austin as the new president of the PCPA. Austin rallied against the current political situation where the rich don’t have the same concerns with health care, pensions, housing and education that working people do. He advocated registering the dispossessed to vote and giving them good reason to do so.

Austin went on to list the four priorities of the organization:

1. build the membership of the PCPA
2. Get out into our communities and follow the ILWU programs and policies. Elect Democrats so we can have people friendly to labor in leadership roles in the Congress.
3. Let the International Officers know the PCPA is ready, willing and able to participate any way it can and we offer our services to go to membership meetings and teach the history of the ILWU to the younger people.
4. Work with the International Officers as they seek to petition the AFL-CIO and other labor organizations to take the kind of action that the heritage of organized labor requires—that is to fight for social justice.

By Arne Auvinen

Then-Coast Committeeman Joe Wenzl and International President Bob McElrath present clerks’ Local 34 retiree and President of the Copra Crane Labor Landmark Assn. Bill Ward with a check for $35,000 from the Coast Pro- Rata Committee to be used to restore the Copra Crane. From left to right, longshore Local 10 retiree Joe Lucas, Wenzl, retired shipwright Archie Green, Ward, carpenters’ Local 2226 retiree Chester Chan, Local 34 retiree and Secretary of the CCLLA Don Watson, McElrath and ILWU Historian Harvey Schwartz. Not pictured: Ironworkers Local 377 John Ford and John Rocha.

October 2006
Del Castle departs

By Art Tom Price

Born Oct. 22, 1915 in Spokane, Wash., Del Castle died on Sept. 12, 2006 after 90 eventful years. His life was one of hard work, going to school, and helping his family. Castle graduated from Broadview High School in Seattle and the University of Washington. Despite his intellectual credentials, he had to be a sailor in lumber mills, railroad yards, steel mills, shipyards and longshore. After the 1938 Seattle General Strike, he became involved in union organizing, participating in strikes with the Sawmill and Timber Workers Union and with the early farm workers union. In 1937, he co-chair of the King County Workers Alliance. He later helped organize a two-week occupation of the King County Council chambers by hundreds of the unemployed seeking benefits. In 1942 he was elected secretary of the Shipwrights’ Union. After WWII, he organized lumber workers in Aberdeen. In 1947 he married Pearl Albino, then an actress in the new Seattle Repertory Theater. They would live together for 52 years and build a loving relationship and challenge he provided for his partner. They went off to Europe after the war and served as Recording Secretary of the ILWU longshore Local 19. In 1963 he became a member of the ILWU’s Repertory Theater. During the Korean War, Castle was active in the anti-war movement, as he would be later during our invasions of Vietnam and Iraq. During the McCarthy years he was blacklisted and fired from many jobs. In 1957 Castle became a longshoreman in the 1947 “B Pool.” In 1963 he became a member of the ILWU’s Repertory Theater. Having gone through blacklist purgatory, he was now accepted and protected in earning power, political beliefs and sense of personal worth under the famous union slogan: “An Injury To One Is An Injury To All.”

Del Castle

Elias “Dutch” Schultz, Local 19 retiree and Spanish War vet

Many in the ILWU family remember “Dutch” Schultz as the guy who told stories at Bloody Thursday picnics about the Spanish Civil War and the old days of longshoring.

But Schultz left behind a much deeper story when he died Aug. 29 at age 96—an eight-decade legacy of longshore history and political activism. The longshore Local 19 retiree also produced many highly acclaimed wood sculptures, some of which grace museums in the Seattle area.

Schultz was born Aug. 26, 1910 in Harlem, New York City. He studied wood sculpture at a vocational high school and apprenticed as an ornamental carver in a picture frame factory. In order to make money, he started working as a longshoreman in New York shortly after high school.

"On the docks he had a very interesting history," Schultz’s friend and fellow Spanish Civil War vet Abe Osheroff told The Dispatcher. "He was the subject of silent and sometimes open anti-Semitism. But this little guy stood up to them, just dealt with it very directly and won the respect, not just acceptance, of the guys he was docks.

Like a large number of longshoremen, Schultz joined 2,800 other Americans in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade to fight fascism in Spain during that country’s revolutionary civil war between 1936 and 1939. In all, about 40,000 volunteers, including 1,250 Canadians, went to Spain in the unsuccessful attempt at stopping fascism.

Schultz survived Spain and joined the Army when WWII broke out. He served in the 87th Mountain Infantry and the 354th Infantry during the Korean War, Castle was active in the anti-war movement, as he would be later during our invasions of Vietnam and Iraq. During the McCarthy years he was blacklisted and fired from many jobs.

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He had very little formal education, but he possessed an enormous amount of wisdom that came from life experience, Osheroff said.

"He was one of the few very working class artists," Osheroff said. "There are guys who are poor artists, but Dutch was a working class guy, he worked, not only on the docks, but when he retired he worked every day on wood sculpture.

"Wood is a very hard material to do sculpture. They come out kind of ‘wooden’ and occasionally too stolid. He was able on occasion to make wood almost fly or gently flow." In his sculptures, he portrayed social themes, including a statue of a longshoreman shot in the 1934 strike, dying in the arms of his mates. Among thousands of other sculptures, he did one of his comrades killed in Spain and another of a man holding a kestrel loosely in his hand, just as it flies off.

I love birds and hate to see them tied up or trapped, just like I hate to see people trampled," Schultz said in the Full 1965 edition The Volunteer, a magazine by Spanish war vets. "It’s like having a ball and chain on.

Dutch Schultz is survived by his former wife Amelia and his niece Mimi.

Secretary-Treasurers Conference

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am pleased to announce the fourth training program for local union financial officers, known as the Secretary-Treasurers Conference. We have scheduled the five day event for January 29-February 2, 2007, in San Francisco, California on various aspects of financial administration, election rules and record keeping. The program is designed to help ensure ILWU compliance with federal regulations and internal union procedures. Instructors include ILWU legal and fiscal consultants, union staff and International and local officers.

Subjects to be covered include:

• Reporting requirements of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA)
• Reporting to the International Union
• Fiduciary responsibilities of the local union and its officers
• Bonding requirements
• Role of trustees
• Local union election procedures and regulations
• Records management and retention schedules
• Understanding and conducting an audit
• Fiscal guidelines for political action funds and committees

Each mainland local and affiliate is invited to send two participants: its secretary-treasurer (or other officer in charge of finances and record keeping) and the office manager or clerical employee who fills out and maintains the union’s financial and administrative records. Depending on the number of official participants, space may be available for a limited number of trustees and other officials.

The conference will be held at the Cathedral Hill Hotel. The International will cover costs of the training as well as hotel accommodations (based on double occupancy for the nights of January 29-February 1). This means individuals willing to share a room with another participant will have no hotel costs. Complete information, including the program registration form, is available at the ILWU website: http://www.ilwu.org/education/Sec-Treas/2007/index.cfm. If you have any questions, please contact me or ILWU Education Director Gene Vrana here at International headquarters.

In solidarity,

William Adams, Secretary-Treasurer

The Dispatchers
**BOOKS:**

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: Unravels 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. **$6.50**

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

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

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

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

Workers on the Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s By Bruce Nelson: the most complete history of the origins, meaning, and impact of the 1934 strike. **$9 ea.**

Reds and Rackets: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront By Howard Kimledorf: A provocative comparative analysis of the politics and ideology of the ILWU and the International Longshoremen’s Association. **$20 ea.**

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. DVD or VHS version **$15.00**

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. **$5.00**

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

**ORDER BY MAIL**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Order Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>copies of Harry Bridges, @ $10 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of ILWU Story, @ $5 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of The Big Strike, @ $16.50 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of The Union Makes Us Strong, @ $20 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of The March Inland, @ $9 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of A Terrible Anger, @ $16.50 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of We Are the ILWU DVD, @ $5 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of We Are the ILWU VHS, @ $5 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>copies of A Life on the Beam DVD, @ $15 ea.</td>
<td>$____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Enclosed $____**

**No sales outside the U.S.**

We regret that U.S. Customs and postal regulations create too great a burden for our staff to maintain book sale service to our members and friends outside the United States.

**Name:**
**Street Address or PO Box:**
**City________________ State_______ Zip________**

**Orders are subject to availability and may need to be restricted for customers outside the United States.**

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

**ILWU LONGSHORE DIVISION**

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Jackie Cummings
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San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 547-9966

ADRP—Northern California
Norm McLeod
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San Francisco, CA 94133
(415) 776-8363

ILWU WAREHOUSE DIVISION

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(604) 254-7911

A Helping Hand...