

Important Notice—
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The DISPATCHER

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Inside Line

ARNOLD'S DECLARATION OF CLASS WAR

No more innuendos. No more backdoor assaults. No more collateral casualties. This is all out class war and they declared it.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has made his position clear—the enemies of the state are its workers, particularly those organized in unions. All the ballot initiatives he is backing in the Nov. 8 special election share one goal—to stick it to workers and any non-Republicans who have opposed Schwarzenegger's corporate agenda.

Posing as a moderate Republican, Schwarzenegger is pushing an extreme Bush-like program, shamelessly attacking workers and unions, while raking in millions and millions from his corporate sponsors.

The nurses and teachers have been relentless, stalking Schwarzenegger at every one of his million-dollar fundraisers, even and especially when he's been doing his begging outside of California. They continuously staged media events to hammer home the financial status of those backing his "reform" agenda and contrast them with the working people he is blaming.

Schwarzenegger's poll numbers are way down. So now the media, ever the sheep, are emboldened to finally do their job and point out how he is using dummy front organizations to hide and launder campaign contributions from his corporate pals. What we now have is not just influence peddling, but also blatant lying about it. As Watergate and Iran-Contra showed, it's not so much the crime but the cover-up that'll get ya.

The lines Schwarzenegger has drawn could hardly be sharper. The one initiative he had to withdraw was perhaps the worse. It would have eliminated the defined benefit pensions—guaranteed retirement checks—for state public employees such as police, firefighters, teachers, nurses and government workers. Schwarzenegger only pulled the petitions to put it on the ballot once it became clear that in their haste to stick it to all unions, their legal language was so poorly written that it also eliminated the death benefit payment to families whose police or firefighter member perished in the line of duty. The police and firefighter unions raised holy hell over that and even the California Republican Party couldn't find a spin to defend it.

But his other initiatives made the Nov. 8 California ballot. (See page 4 for the ILWU endorsements.)

Recently, in a desperate move to electro-shock a pulse back into his campaign, Schwarzenegger officially embraced Prop 75. This is the so-called "Paycheck Protection" law that through burdensome bureaucracy would effectively take public employee unions out of the political process.

There's nothing tentative about Schwarzenegger's actions now. He's fighting for his political life. But we're fighting for our *real* lives.

We can win this one. We can not only beat back this insane attack—we can deal a mortal blow to the Bush/Republican agenda in California. We just got to do it.

Contact your local, your ILWU District Council and/or your local Central Labor Council to find out what you can do to terminate the Terminator.

—Steve Stallone
Editor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Register for relief

By James Spinosa
ILWU International President

Our entire country has been stunned by the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. We have all been moved by compassion to reach out and find some way to help those who have suffered so much.

So many have lost their homes and most of their worldly possessions. And so many have lost their places of work, the jobs and income that sustained them and their families. The loss of a sense of home and community is by itself devastating, but being separated from loved ones, having lost touch with them for so many anxious days and weeks, or having lost them for good—it's all so overwhelming.

Characteristically, the ILWU family immediately jumped into the fray to provide aid and comfort. In our locals up and down the Coast, officers and rank and filers quickly sized up the needs, what they could best do to meet them and got down to it. The basic necessities and small comforts of life are not the only things in short supply—so is hope. And we must help with that too.

There won't be a quick fix to this disaster. Recovery will be a long process and we have to commit to being there for the long haul. As organized labor has always known and practiced, the best way to assure that commitment over time is through an organized and structured program.

So I and the other officers of the ILWU have worked out a plan for ILWU longshore workers to raise and donate money to the ongoing relief effort for the next six months.

We have decided to work with and through our friends and allies in the AFL-CIO. The labor union federation that stood by us during the 2002 longshore contract fight is now leading a comprehensive program to help working people in the Gulf area get back on their feet.

The AFL-CIO has set up worker centers in seven cities where evacuees are staying—Baton Rouge, Houston, Atlanta, Mobile, Dallas, San Antonio and Pearl, Mississippi. These centers are providing job referrals, counseling and information services to dislocated workers and their families. They are also guiding families as they apply for government and other assistance, helping them access aid as expeditiously as possible. The centers will also fulfill some immediate needs of victims by distributing supplies, clothing, etc.

Under our new program, interested ILWU longshore workers can, with ease and convenience, make voluntary, charitable contributions for hurricane relief efforts directly through individual payroll withholding. In addition, our longshore employer PMA will match dollar-for-dollar on the first \$250,000 of contributions by longshore workers through this program. This program is completely voluntary.

To participate, all you need to do is sign and return to PMA a consent form, "ILWU-PMA Voluntary Payroll Authorization," specifying the amount you choose to have withheld from your paycheck in each weekly payroll period between Nov. 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006. You may also choose to cancel your donations at any time before April 30, 2006.

In the special notice regarding the ILWU-PMA hurricane relief campaign along with the consent form for authorization of withholding donations are reproduced on the last page of this issue. The consent form can be cut out and used to submit to PMA. The special notice and consent form are also being distributed to all longshore workers through the joint dispatch halls, local Union offices and local PMA offices.

If you choose to participate in this voluntary program, the minimum amount that PMA can withhold from each paycheck is \$5.00 due to administrative reasons. The withholding program will cover approximately 26 payroll periods during the six-month period. So, for example, a minimum contribution of \$5.00 per paycheck during 26 weekly payroll periods would amount to approximately \$130 by the end of the six-month program.

The funds raised from ILWU members through this payroll withholding program will go entirely to the special Hurricane Relief Fund of the AFL-CIO's Union Community Fund (UCF), labor's charity for working families and communities in distress. The contributions will go to UCF worker centers that are assisting working families in the Gulf region devastated by the hurricanes. None of the monies donated will go towards "administrative fees." In the event that the UCF worker centers need to close sooner than expected, UCF will give any remaining donations from our program to other charitable organizations providing hurricane relief. So all ILWU monies will be devoted to hurricane relief efforts. The Union Community Fund is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations to UCF are, therefore, tax-deductible to the extent provided by law for charitable contributions. PMA's matching contributions will go to a hurricane relief public charity yet to be determined. (See payroll deduction form on back page.)

Those affected most by the hurricanes are workers and the

poor, in this case mostly people of color who have been the victims of an unjust system for generations. We need to show the same unwavering solidarity in the face of this devastation caused by nature as we do to devastation caused by the bosses, when our fellow workers are on strike or locked out or under another Bush or Schwarzenegger attack—because that is part of this.

This was not just a "natural disaster." Certainly there were ferocious and horrendous hurricanes. But it was political decisions that turned disaster into catastrophe.

New Orleans flooded because of a political decision by the Bush administration not to fund reinforcement for the levees that would have held back most of the city's floodwaters, and instead use that money for the Iraq War and the tax cuts for the rich. It was a political decision by the Bush administration to move FEMA away from being a natural disaster emergency relief agency and to put someone with absolutely no experience in the field in charge of it. And it's a political decision by the Bush administration to use this devastating disaster to further attack workers and make them victims again.

In the Katrina situation, Bush has invoked emergency powers to "suspend" certain laws passed by Congress and signed by a sitting president. The first one was the law guaranteeing "prevailing" area wages for federal government-funded building projects.

If all those billions are going to be spent rebuilding New Orleans and that area of the Gulf Coast, a good strategy would be to give local workers in Louisiana and Mississippi decent pay. In that part of the country, prevailing wage amounts to only about \$9.00 per hour. Economists figure that would reverberate seven or eight times through the local economy.

But Bush believes that \$9.00 per hour would hinder growth and the contracts being given to Halliburton and his other corporate pals. It's not enough that his policies led to this disaster, but now he means to make workers pay for it again.

It's times like these that make us so acutely aware of how much we rely on each other to overcome the inevitable adversities. We are not an individualist, ownership society. We are interdependent. And an injury to one is an injury to all.



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ILWU mobilizes relief for Katrina victims

By John Showalter

Kris Hillyer ran into her daughter's bedroom and began packing clothes when she first saw the devastating images of Hurricane Katrina victims flashing across her television screen on the day after the Category Five storm crashed into New Orleans and communities along the Gulf Coast.

"I took all the new clothes I'd just bought her for school and packed them up to send to relatives in Jonesboro, Georgia. Their church is driving the goods to victims in Gulf Coastal communities," said Hillyer, an ILWU Local 52 marine clerk who works as an on-dock rail supervisor at the Port of Seattle. She is working with local Red Cross officials to let donors know which goods are most needed.

Hillyer's actions are mirrored in the cash and material donations given by many ILWU local members coastwise in the weeks since Katrina robbed hundreds of thousands of working families of everything. The Coast Committee and the International have, together, donated \$10,000 to the AFL-CIO's hurricane relief fund, while a Seattle-based relief fund established with the involvement of longshore Local 19's Jack Block, Jr., Northwest Cares, has raised as much as \$4,000 for storm victims.

Block—a City Councilman in Burien, Wash.—is coordinating hurricane relief donations and their shipment south with Hillyer, Gabriel Prawl of Local 19 and others from ILWU Puget Sound locals, regional churches and member organizations of the Million Worker March. The Burien City Council agreed to allow the ILWU to use an empty Gottchalk's Department store and its parking lot as a drop-off point for donations, and steamship company NOL/APL has donated five empty 53-foot containers. Gordon Trucking loaned vehicles and Tacoma Local 23 members paid \$2,900 for Teamsters Local 174 drivers to transport items like diapers, toiletries and clothes to a distribution center in one of several evacuee centers in San Antonio, Texas.

Block traveled with the five-truck relief convoy to San Antonio the week of Sept. 19. The trucks were unloaded by the Salvation Army and donated items were distributed by the Red Cross at three evacuation centers in the city where as many as 14,000 hur-



Local 10 members load a container with Katrina relief supplies outside their dispatch hall.

ricane evacuees had been living. Block said that approximately 11,000 of the evacuees have found at least some form of temporary housing due to the generosity of real estate developers, families, churches or other public and private groups. More than 400 volunteers are still helping coordinate relief efforts on-site for the remaining 3,000 evacuees in San Antonio.

Other member-loaned vehicles have been driven south to towns in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana where relatives of union members and their churches have been driving goods on the final trip into the disaster areas. The combined donations of the Northwest locals are expected to help thousands of destitute individuals evacuated from the Gulf.

At Local 23, members joined with a military family relief effort called "Southern Comfort" at nearby Fort Lewis. As families from Gulf Coast military bases were relocated to Fort Lewis, the local pitched in to the donations in Burien, directed the needy families to the site to receive these goods and gave cash donations to these families. Members at other locals in California and the Columbia River region are giving through the AFL-CIO's fund and coordinating with local churches, donors' compa-

nies and distribution centers for evacuees in cities around the country.

At Local 10 in the San Francisco Bay Area, just days after Hurricane Katrina struck, retired longshoreman Reverend Joe Noble, Local 10 President Trent Willis, and Executive Board member Clarence Thomas met with U.S. Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA), member organizations of the Million Worker March and local NAACP officials to plan material donation efforts to the Gulf Coast. Mountains of community donations piled up in front of the Grand Lake Theater in Oakland were then loaded into containers donated by Maersk, Horizon and Matson shipping lines. On Sept. 8, longshore workers began packing the first San Francisco container in the Local 10 hiring hall parking lot with water, blankets and other necessities. At press time, eight containers in Oakland and two in San Leandro and one in San Francisco were shipped out.

Local 10 also passed a resolution opposing Bush's repealing of the Davis-Bacon Act for the clean-up and rebuilding of New Orleans. That act requires contractors receiving federal money for construction projects to pay their workers at least the area prevailing wage. The resolution also

supports the rights of New Orleans and Gulf community residents/victims to rebuild their own communities as part of a federally funded public works program, and not have outside contractors awarded the work.

In Southern California, volunteers from Local 13, building trades unions and other unions within the L.A. County Federation of Labor are working seven days a week to convert warehouse space belonging to the Salvation Army into a one-stop relief center that will house 100 families and serve over 1,000 people displaced by Katrina.

Dozens of Local 13 volunteers were among the first on the scene Sept. 8, as more than 500 County Fed activists literally swept clean the 120,000-square foot warehouse, clearing the way for carpenters, electricians, drywall laborers, plasterers and carpet layers to erect the maze of rooms that will house families and offer office space for agencies that will assist storm victims.

The Inlandboatmen's Union, the ILWU's Marine Division, has set up an "IBU Hurricane Relief Fund" with the Waterfront Credit Union in Seattle. Members are donating to that fund designed to help the dozen IBU members in the Gulf who have been affected by Katrina.

Katrina hits port workers lives, jobs

By John Showalter

Some 1,500 longshore workers in the Gulf Coast region, members of the International Longshoremen's Association, have been adversely affected by Hurricane Katrina. New Orleans Local 3000 is bearing the heaviest burden, along with locals in Mobile, Alabama, and Pascagoula and Gulfport, Mississippi also affected.

At a Sept. 14 emergency gathering of North Atlantic, South Atlantic and Gulf District ILA locals in Houston, the ILA International decided to reallocate \$1 million in general funds for relief of longshore workers and their families affected by the hurricane and challenged every ILA local to give at least \$1,000 out-of-pocket to the relief effort. The ILA North Atlantic District has given \$500,000 and the South Atlantic District has given \$200,000 towards immediate relief.

ILA Charleston Local 1422 President Ken Riley, who attended the Houston meeting, spoke with *The Dispatcher* upon his return home. Riley said Local 3000 has temporarily relocated its office and hiring hall to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The local's president, James Campbell,

told Riley that longshore workers are only working in partial capacity at the Port of New Orleans. Most members—having lost their homes—are living in military ships docked at the port. Campbell also said that his local members, like many stranded in New Orleans after the hurricane and subsequent flood, didn't know where their neighbors, family and union brothers and sisters were in the days after the disaster.

The New Orleans local is having problems getting checks to its pensioners and accurately recording members' time worked. Only 60 percent of Local 3000 pensioners have direct deposit. ILA General Vice President Benny Holland, Jr. reported that Local 3000 is crediting New Orleans' longshore workers whose work was disrupted with the minimum work hours to qualify for welfare and benefits.

ILA presidents and secretaries meeting in Houston made it an immediate goal to get weekly checks for \$500 into the hands of every, identified, affected local member for the next three weeks. Many other ILA locals—like ILWU locals—are coordinating their relief donations with local Black churches or giving between

\$10,000-25,000 to the ILA's Katrina Fund. For instance, in Charleston, ILA Local 1422 gave \$1,000 worth of bottled water to a local congregation's relief drive, and Savannah ILA Local 1414 gave \$25,000 towards the fund.

Other nearby ports have absorbed

some longshore workers from the New Orleans. The ports of Galveston, Houston, Baton Rouge, Pascagoula and Gulfport—all targets for goods delivery in New Orleans' absence—hired approximately 100 Local 3000 members.



Leif Carl of Local 19 (left) and his brother Silas, a Local 19 casual, load supplies headed for San Antonio, Texas.

WASHINGTONREPORT

The disaster after the disaster

By Lindsay McLaughlin
ILWU Legislative Director

Hurricane Katrina ripped through the Gulf coast last month killing hundreds of people. Citizens of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama lost their homes, their jobs and their businesses. The levees around New Orleans broke and flooded 80 percent of the city.

We have since found out that the government diverted needed money to shore up levees to the war in Iraq and anti-terrorism initiatives. Americans cried out for help from the Superdome, the New Orleans convention center and from atop their flooded homes while Bush and his cronies at the Department of Homeland Security fiddled and dawdled. Federal Emergency Management Agency head Michael Brown was complimented by Bush for doing “a heck of a job” before the American people demanded he be sacked in favor of someone who knew something about emergency response. The world watched in horror as the all-powerful U.S. government left American citizens, New Orleans’ poorest and most vulnerable residents, to fend for themselves. The Bush administration’s incompetence and callous disregard for human suffering is in itself a disaster of immense proportions and contributed to making it worse. But it did not stop there.

Following the hurricane disaster, Bush decided to use it as an opportunity to attack basic fundamental worker rights for the people of the region. Sound familiar? After the terrorist attacks on 9-11, Bush started attacking worker rights and civil liberties by proposing the Patriot Act and by pushing through unfair and indiscriminate criminal background checks on American workers.

Four days after the hurricane hit, Bush waived the Jones Act—which mandates water transportation of goods between U.S. ports must be done by U.S.-flagged, U.S.-built, U.S.-crewed and U.S.-owned vessels—to benefit the petroleum and gas industry, even though the U.S. maritime industry clearly has enough vessels

to handle the situation. This waiver expired Sept. 19, but it gave the anti-Jones Act coalition a victory, and other industries have followed suit and are asking for waivers. The American Farm Bureau Federation has asked for a waiver of the Jones Act for agricultural products through the end of 2005.

Bush also suspended Davis-Bacon Act protections for construction workers in the rebuilding efforts of New Orleans and the Gulf. Davis-Bacon, enacted in 1931, requires contractors on federally funded construction projects to pay workers at least the prevailing wages in the area where the work is conducted.

“Suspending Davis-Bacon protections for financially distressed workers in the Gulf states amounts to legalized looting of these workers who will be cleaning up toxic sites and struggling to rebuild their communities while favored contractors rake in huge profits from FEMA reconstruction contracts,” commented Ed Sullivan, president of the AFL-CIO Building and Construction Trades Department.

In the rush to cut worker wages in the Gulf, Bush’s Davis-Bacon suspension may have been illegal, according to a Congressional Research Service report on Sept. 15, 2005. The law requires the president to issue a national emergency, according to the CRS.

“The Bush administration first made mistakes when it was too slow to respond to rising floodwaters,” said Rep. George Miller (D-CA), a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee. “Then it made mistakes when it was too quick to slash workers’ wages.”

H.R. 3763, introduced by Miller (D-CA) would rescind Bush’s proclamation to slash wages for workers in the region. It already has 170 cosponsors. This common sense legislation is needed to get money in the hands of the people who really need it—the workers in the Gulf region who have been devastated by the hurricane.

The day after Bush signed the executive order allowing contrac-

tors awarded federal money to help rebuild the Hurricane Katrina devastated Gulf Coast to pay substandard wages to construction workers, the U.S. Department of Labor waived most federal affirmative action laws for contractors. The affirmative action waiver applies to companies that do not have existing government contracts and are awarded federal relief work contracts. This waiver is for three months, but could be extended.

The bankruptcy bill the Republicans passed earlier this year could effectively ruin the futures of the working poor in New Orleans whose lives have already been demolished by keeping them responsible for debts they cannot possibly pay with all their assets washed away.

“In today’s lagging economy, far too many hardworking Americans are living paycheck to paycheck, just barely getting by, said Congressman John Conyers (D-MI). “In that tenuous financial condition, many families are only one tragedy away from being devastated by debt. Many of the families who have now lost their homes, livelihoods, and personal possessions will soon be contacted by credit collection agencies demanding the next minimum payment on a credit card. Unfortunately, the bankruptcy bill recently passed by Congress makes matters far worse for these families.”

The hypocritical Republican Congress is moving to exempt Katrina victims from the bankruptcy bill. But earlier this year, Democratic amendments to it designed to exempt disaster victims from the effects of the bill were voted down. Clearly there will be more disasters and more working people financially wiped out and deserving of a fresh start. But Congressional Republicans feel no pressure to provide for them and won’t. Congress needs to repeal the bankruptcy bill that is simply a boon to multi-billion dollar credit card companies at the expense of working people.

To add insult to misery, the Bush administration is busy handing out no-bid contracts to its most cherished corporate supporters. A major donor to the Republican Party, the Fluor

Corporation and the Shaw Group, a client of George W. Bush’s former campaign manager, was awarded a \$100 billion contract. Meanwhile, Halliburton Company subsidiary Kellogg, Brown and Root (which still funnels money to Vice-President Dick Cheney) was awarded a \$30 million clean up contract.

You can ask your member of Congress to take several sound public policy steps that would help those people who have suffered so much in the Gulf.

Your member of Congress can be reached at:

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Tell your member of Congress and Senators to:

1. Restore Davis-Bacon wage protections for construction workers who will rebuild the Gulf Coast.
2. Protect the Jones Act so mariners in the Gulf region will have gainful employment.
3. Identify and protect recovery workers from new and terrible biological and chemical hazards in the region.
4. Improve the benefits of the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program.
5. Provide health insurance coverage to all survivors through Medicaid, and reverse the budget cuts that limit Medicaid’s ability to meet ongoing needs as well as those created by Katrina.
6. Provide comprehensive re-employment services to displaced workers.
7. Restore affirmative action requirements for contractors in an area where those who suffered most were disproportionately poor and people of color.
8. Repeal the bankruptcy bill so that Americans hit by disasters can start anew.

ILWU election endorsements

Californian state ballot initiatives

- Prop 74 NO: No new delays on teachers’ worker rights.
Prop 75 NO: No silencing unions’ voices in the political arena.
Prop 76 NO: No budget power grab to allow the governor to cut school spending.
Prop 77 NO: No unfair and untimely redistricting.
Prop 78 NO: No phony reform designed for pharmaceutical companies’ profit.
Prop 79 YES: prescription drug discounts for uninsured low and middle-income Californians.
Prop 80: YES: secure energy supplies and no more Enrons.

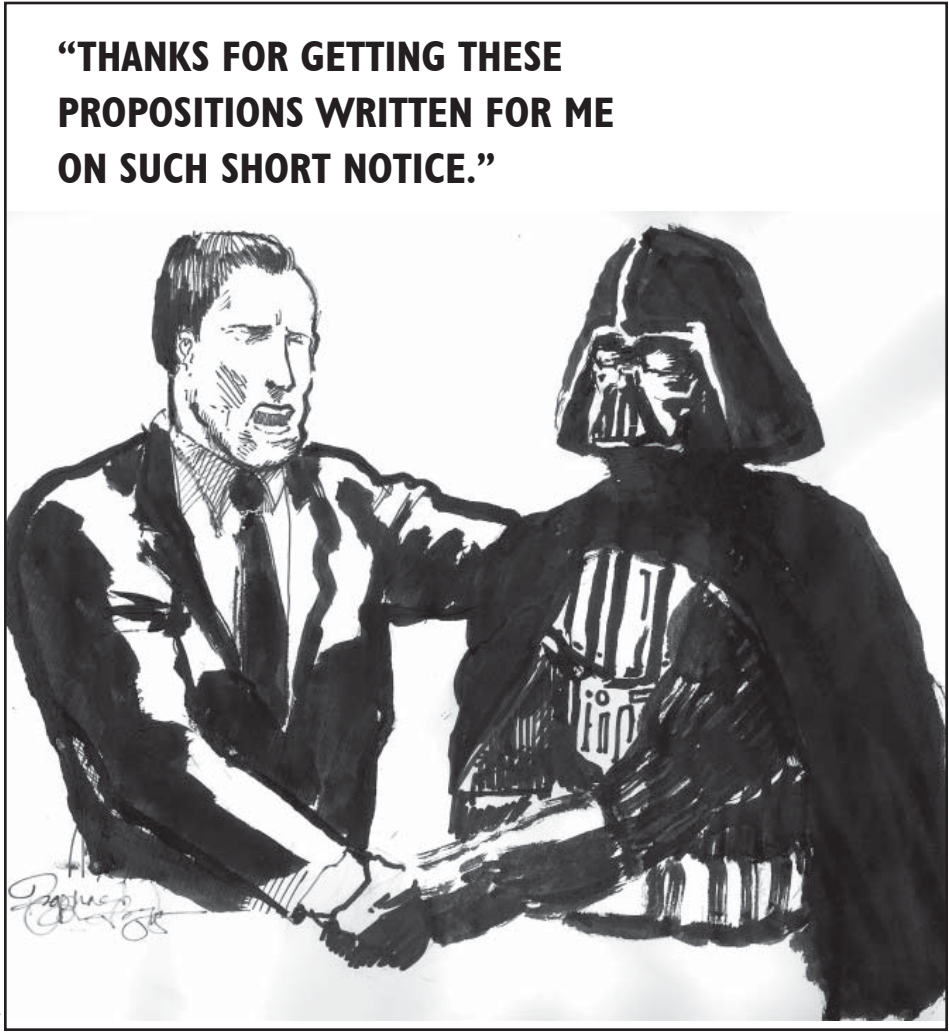
Washington State ballot initiatives and port commissions

(by the Puget Sound District Council)

Initiative 900 NO	Initiative 330 NO
Initiative 901 YES	Initiative 336 YES
Initiative 912 NO	

Port Commissions

EVERETT District 2:	Connie Niva	SEATTLE District 1 District 3 District 4	Lawrence Malloy Richard Berkowitz Pat Davis
GRAYS HARBOR District 2	Jack Thompson	TACOMA District 1 District 2 District 4	Connie Bacon Dick Marzano Ted Bottiger
OLYMPIA District 1	Steve Pottle		
PORT ANGELES District 2	George Schoenfeldt	VANCOUVER, WASH. District 1	Brian Wolfe



‘Wharf Rats’ opens along the Coast

by Tom Price

The ILWU family turned out for a special screening of “From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks” Sept. 4 shown simultaneously in San Francisco at the Palace of Fine Arts, in San Pedro at the Grand Warner Theatre, in Portland at the Guild Theatre and in Seattle at the Meany Hall for the Performing Arts.

The film features British actor Ian Ruskin in a one-person play that weaves ILWU founding president Harry Bridges’ personal life, from his childhood in Australia to his retirement in the 1970s, with the rise of the union in the 1930s, Bridges’ deportation trials and the struggle to come to terms with the mechanization of the waterfront.

At the San Francisco event, Woody Guthrie’s granddaughter, Sarah Lee Guthrie, entertained the crowd with songs from the film before the screening. Academy Award-winning cinematographer Haskell Wexler, who directed the film, made the nearly 1,000 attendees laugh with his sharp political humor.

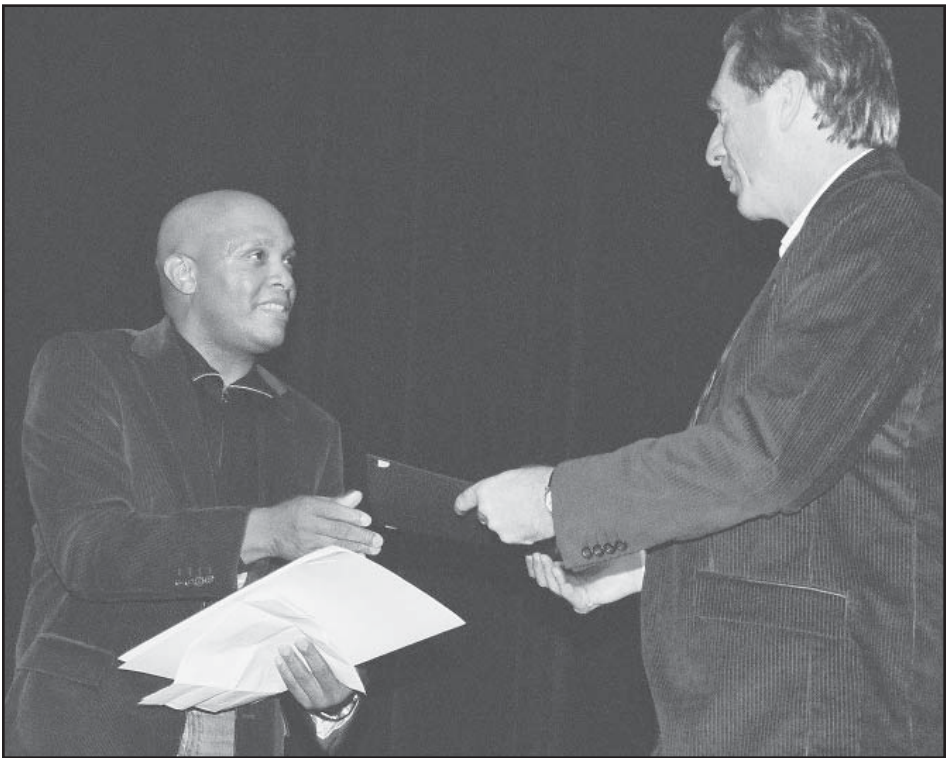
ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams presented Ruskin with proclamations from San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown declaring this Sept. 4 “Harry Bridges Day.” That Sunday was also proclaimed “Harry Bridges Day” in Los Angeles, Portland, Tacoma and Seattle.

Wexler shot the movie in San Pedro at the Warner Grand Theater July 28, 2003. ILWU members filled the

theater during the filming. Wexler’s camera came in close to show an amazingly intimate view of Bridges’ thoughts and life, and then cut to the audience and the members who are Harry’s legacy. Wexler is a pioneer in filming real situations and adding actors and story to blur the line between realism and fiction. As in his ground-breaking 1969 film “Medium Cool,” Wexler’s “Wharf Rats” moves the viewer into the film and establishes a closer relationship between the two. He also used ILWU Local 13 members to reenact scenes from Harry’s life. Cuts to actor Elliott Gould and former Screen Actors’ Guild President Ed Asner round out the narration.

Ruskin, who wrote the play, has spent the last five years researching Bridges, talking with his family and late wife Nikki Sawada Bridges, as well as many of the union’s former officers and pensioners who knew and worked with him. Ruskin honed his character in scores of smaller performances in union halls, schools and libraries, refining his take on Bridges’ speech and mannerisms. Ruskin trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London and performed in London’s West End theatre. He has more than 100 film and TV credits, including the BBC’s production of “King Lear” with Lawrence Olivier and Diana Rigg. He has also performed the one-man play “The Man Himself” by Alan Drury.

The soundtrack is a gem in itself. Arlo Guthrie sings “The Ballad of Harry Bridges.” It was originally



ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams presents Ian Ruskin with proclamations from the mayors of San Francisco and Oakland proclaiming Sept. 4 “Harry Bridges Day.”

sung by his father Woody Guthrie and the Almanac Singers as a fundraiser for Bridges legal defense and written by Lee Hays, Millard Lampell and Pete Seeger. Sarah Lee Guthrie sings her grandfather’s newly discovered “Harry Bridges.” Longshore Local 13 member David Mora sings “Harry Bridges Mambo” and former Dave Matthews Band guitarist Tim Reynolds sings “Put the Gas Mask On.” Peruvian guitarist Ciro Hurtado sings his “Tengo Hambre Blues” and Jackson Browne rounds it up with Pete Seeger’s “Step by Step” sung to a reggae beat.

Ruskin’s fascination with Bridges led him to found the Harry Bridges Project five years ago to “promote the legacy of this extraordinary labor

leader and social visionary, and to aid in educating future generations about his life and work,” he said. His producer, Suzanne Thompson, hooked up Wexler and Ruskin and got the talents of Jackson Browne and Arlo Guthrie onboard. Ruskin’s credo in this film is summed up by the Czech writer Milan Kundera:

“The struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting.”

To purchase the 2-DVD video send a \$24 check payable to “The Harry Bridges Project,” / 350 West 5TH Street / Suites 208-9 / San Pedro, CA 90731. The second disc contains 21 special features, with interviews with Arlo Guthrie, Ruskin and others. See www.theharrybridgesproject.org.

Hotel workers demand contract

On Labor Day, John Wilhelm, president of the hospitality division of UNITE HERE, the union for hotel, restaurant, garment and laundry workers, joined leaders and members of San Francisco Local 2, in getting arrested for blocking the entrance to the Grand Hyatt Hotel just off Union Square. The union targeted the Grand Hyatt for this act of civil disobedience because it is one of the holdouts among the 14 hotels in the Multi Employer Group which refused to make efforts to come to an agreement with the union on a new contract. Local 2’s agreement with the MEG expired over a year ago. The 14 hotels locked out the union’s members for nine weeks last fall, but were forced to take them back after a wave of community and labor support convinced even San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom that they were willing to damage the city’s tourist industry rather than reach a new agreement.

The key issues Local 2 is fighting for are: 1) to uphold the union standard of affordable health care for workers, their families and retirees; 2) wage increases that meet the ris-

ing cost of living in the Bay Area; 3) decent pensions so workers who have spent decades working in San Francisco’s high profile tourism industry can retire in dignity; 4) to allow non-union workers in San Francisco and San Mateo counties to choose whether or not they want to be part of a union without coercion and intimidation by management, by signing union authorization cards (card check neutrality); and 5) a contract term that does not allow employers to isolate San Francisco workers from hotel workers elsewhere in North America.

Just before the Labor Day action, the first of the 14 hotels broke ranks—the St. Francis—and agreed to the key demand of a contract which expires in 2006. They were taken off the boycott list. Then the Palace and Argent hotels also announced they would agree. They still remain on the list, however, in addition to the other 11 hotels which are still taking a hard line against the union.

Eight of the hotels in the MEG would have to agree in order to overturn that stand.

—David Bacon



San Francisco UNITE HERE Local 2 hotel workers march to the Grand Hyatt before getting arrested for blocking the hotel’s entrance.

LABOR DAY 2005 IN THE L.A. HARBOR



Bill Orton

Brilliant sunshine, thousands of workers, unfurled union banners, and hundreds of blue ILWU balloons helped to welcome leaders of America’s largest labor federation on Sept. 5 for the 25th annual Harbor Area Labor Day March, held in Wilmington, Calif.

“I’m here today because the future of the national labor movement depends on what is happening right now in California,” AFL-CIO President John Sweeney told thousands of workers gathered for a pre-parade rally.

Sweeney’s choice to attend the Wilmington March highlights the stakes for labor in the outcome of the Nov. 8 statewide special election in California, where Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and his anti-union cronies want to silence the voice of workers with Proposition 75, a redux of the despised Paycheck Protection.

A crowd estimated at 3,000 took part in the march. Martin Ludlow—the newly-appointed head of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor—personally worked the phones to urge all area unions to take part in the Wilmington march and promised to push all affiliated unions to join the 2006 parade as a show of worker solidarity for what will be a pivotal election year in California.

“We had another wonderful parade and it’s only getting bigger,” said parade organizer Luisa Gratz, president of ILWU warehouse Local 26.

Leading the parade were ILWU International President James Spinosa and Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, ILWU Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz, California Assemblyman Hector de la Torre (D-South Gate), and ILWU Local 13 President Mark Mendoza, Vice President Kevin Schroeder and Safety Officer Dave Beeman.

—Bill Orton

Representing the Union: Sam Kagel

INTRODUCTION BY HARVEY SCHWARTZ

This is the first in a series of oral history articles featuring the legendary Sam Kagel, who retired as Coast Arbitrator for the longshore industry in 2002 after 54 years on the job. Kagel, though, did not start his storied career as an impartial judge. In the beginning he was a union advocate with the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau, a consulting firm that represented organized workers in negotiations, mediations and arbitrations.

The Pacific Coast Labor Bureau was new when Kagel, a graduate student in his early 20s, joined it in 1932. He soon met Harry Bridges and other longshore activists. Once the 1934 strike began he worked closely with Bridges, saw the union through to victory, and represented the longshore and warehouse unionists through the remainder of the 1930s.

This month's essay focuses on Kagel's recollections of his youth, his employment with the Labor Bureau, and his relationship with Bridges and the longshoremen in 1934. I was commissioned to conduct a series of interviews with Kagel in 1999 that were sponsored by the ILWU Coast Labor Relations Committee. That set of taped discussions provided the basis for this article.

As this was being written, Kagel was still arbitrating labor cases. He was also the last living member of the 1934 Joint Marine Strike Committee (JMSC). Being named an honorary member of the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association (MEBA) in June 1934 and serving on the JMSC remained among Kagel's fondest memories as he looked back upon his long and distinguished career.

Kagel represented the longshore union until the United States entered World War II in December 1941. He was especially active in negotiations and arbitrations during the union's warehouse organizing drive in Northern California between 1934 and 1938. Kagel worked for the War Manpower Commission from 1942 to 1945. After the war he was recruited by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) to be the clothing industry's impartial arbitrator. This job enabled him to pay his way through law school.

In the wake of the 1948 longshore strike, Kagel was appointed Coast Arbitrator for the longshore industry by the ILWU and the then new employer group, the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA). He subsequently arbitrated labor disputes in a great variety of industries. By the 1970s he was regarded as the leading pioneer in his field and the nation's top labor arbitrator. He even became the chief arbitrator for the National Football League (NFL).

Today 9,000 of Kagel's arbitration cases dating back to the 1950s are on deposit at the Labor Archives and Research Center, San Francisco State University. They are currently undergoing archival processing for eventual use by labor scholars, students and other researchers. Thanks to Labor Archives Director Susan Sherwood for her help with material on Kagel.

At the 2004 Bloody Thursday memorial in San Francisco, Kagel was made an honorary member of ILWU Local 10. It seemed a fitting tribute to a man

who had spent seven decades in labor relations and, as you will read, had devoted himself completely to the longshoremen's cause in 1934 when the union was struggling for its very survival.

SAM KAGEL

Edited by Harvey Schwartz
Curator, ILWU Oral History Collection

About 1906 my father, Hyman Kagel, came to San Francisco to avoid the Czar's Army and to get his butt out of rural Russia where the Jews were being slaughtered. He knew my mother, Zelda, who was from a Russian village some miles from his. When she first got to this country my mother worked in the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York. That was where they had the huge fire in 1911 that killed so many women who had been locked inside by the factory owners. Fortunately, my mother left for San Francisco a few years before that happened.

My father's first job in America was on a hog farm in Colusa, California. He went there from San Francisco, but soon returned to the bay city where he married my mother. I was born in San Francisco in 1909. When I was about five we moved to the East Bay and settled in Oakland, where my parents bought into a small grocery store at the corner of 4th and Harrison. That was part of a poor working-class neighborhood then. When I was in the sixth grade at the Harrison Street School I used to collect stale bread from a local sandwich maker so we could feed the kindergarten kids.

At our house we had a little shed where my father piled newspapers to sell. My chore was to bundle them. I became a speed-reader by racing through the comic strips. Even before high school I read Jack London, who was from our Oakland neighborhood. Eventually I got to Frank Norris, Emile Zola, Anatole France and Upton Sinclair. Those guys were basically sociologists who turned out to be great writers. Zola wrote a fantastic story about coal miners. He also opposed discrimination in France during the famous Dreyfus case.

As a kid I worked loading watermelons into horse-drawn wagons for the local fruit sellers. My father drove one of those wagons. We had a fruit stand in the produce market. When the watermelons came into Oakland on trains I would drop a few off for the Wobblies who rode the rods. The Wobblies, as they were known, were members of the radical Industrial Workers of the World, the IWW.

The Wobblies would talk with me generally in their economic terms, although we never had any great or long conversations. I knew about them though. Six blocks from our house there was an IWW reading room. About 1923 I saw a bunch of guys dressed in army uniforms trash the place. They threw the Wobblies' typewriters, furniture and books out into the street. This was part of the post-World War I "Red Scare" of the early 1920s.

I also remember a couple of guys coming to our house around the same time. They wanted my mother to turn the minutes of the Workingman's Circle over to them. She was the secretary of that group, which was an organization of Jewish people whose primary interest was supporting strikers. My mother wouldn't give these guys the minutes. She was not even an American citizen at the time. I thought that was very brave of her.

In the mid-1920s I went to the University of California, Berkeley. I paid my way working in the produce markets and passing out towels in the Harmon Gym. My senior year I was hired to read examination papers in economics. I graduated in 1929 and became an economics graduate student and a teaching fellow. Then I met Paul S. Taylor, the prominent labor economist, who was at Cal. He got me two jobs. One was a short-term appointment with the California Department of Industrial Relations. The second was with the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau.



Left to right, Harry Bridges, Sam Kagel and Henry Melnikow

I took the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau job on a temporary basis in 1932 and stayed for ten years. The Labor Bureau was part of a New York outfit. Our Pacific Coast office was set up in San Francisco by Henry Melnikow, who had been representing the typographical union in negotiations and arbitrations for a year or two when he hired me as an assistant. Melnikow was a brilliant statistician and economist. He really knew how to present witnesses and how to cross examine, too.

I couldn't have gotten a better teacher than Melnikow. When he had an arbitration case I would do the research and help put together the exhibits. Remember, this was the Great Depression that started in 1929 and the employers were cutting wages. Usually the question was how small the cut was going to be. In increases you were talking about two or three cents an hour. When we got that, we'd go out and get drunk.

Of course, nobody knew what was going to happen during the following nine or ten years. Between '32 and '41 or '42 we had what I would consider 50 years of labor experiences all smashed into this short period. What a lucky guy I was, because I was right in the middle of it all.

When the unions began to stir in the 1930s, the Labor Bureau was the only place they could come to. Lawyers were not in the collective bargaining field yet. We only used lawyers when we got arrested. Generally the lawyers didn't get into collective bargaining until the U.S. got into World War II (1941-45). When the War Labor Board was set up with millions of regulations, then the unions "got the shit in their neck," as



San Francisco police violence injured scores of workers and killed two on Bloody Thursday, July 5, 1934.

ILWU ORAL HISTORY
Volume

Representing
Sam Kagel, the
Labor Bureau
and the I

, Harry Bridges and the 1934 Strike



August 1934.

Courtesy Sam Kagel

we said on the waterfront, and the employers likewise. Then we all ran to our lawyers.

In 1932 the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau had a small office in Room C on the mezzanine of San Francisco's Ferry Building. The Ferryboatmen's Union, the Masters, Mates and Pilots (MMP), and the Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association (MEBA) were all in the Ferry Building too. Our office had glass windows facing the Bay. I saw the Bay Bridge being built from the first hole to the weaving of the last cables.

I started to get acquainted with the longshoremen around 1932. That's about when I met Harry Bridges. This was before the San Francisco longshore local was actually set up. On occasion the longshoremen would come around and talk with Clyde Deal of the Ferryboatmen's Union. Then they would talk with us or with me particularly because that's what I was assigned to do. Harry wasn't a big name with us at first. He was just another longshoreman among several who wanted to get rid of the company-dominated Blue Book union.

Once Section 7A of the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) came into force in 1933 things changed fast. Section 7A said workers could join real unions, although there wasn't statutory enforcement until the Wagner Act passed two years later. Still, under Section 7A Matson Navigation had to put back longshoremen they had fired for union activity. That was a big deal. As Harry said, that was the end of the Blue Book.

Our Labor Bureau office developed a union petition and gave copies to the active longshoremen, who went up and down the waterfront signing everybody into the Pacific Coast District of the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA). The union didn't become the ILWU until 1937.

In 1934 the longshoremen demanded a coast-wise agreement, a union hiring hall that would get rid of the fink halls at the other ports and the morning "shape-up" for jobs in San Francisco, a six-hour day to spread employment around and some increase in wages. Once the '34 strike began and the other maritime unions went out too, the longshoremen expanded their original demands to include the requirement of a settlement for everyone.

I discussed all these things continually with Harry. These demands were solely what the longshoremen up and down the coast said they wanted. They were all pure "pork chop" issues. They were not designed politically by Communists, Republicans, Democrats or anybody else, despite the employer charges at the time that the '34 strike was a Communist uprising.

Five weeks into the strike Harry became Chairman of the Joint Marine Strike Committee (JMSC) set up then by all the maritime unions. For all intents and purposes he was the Committee. There were other outstanding guys on the JMSC, like Randolph Meriwether, who headed the MEBA, but Merry did whatever Harry wanted to do and whatever I advised.

I actually became a member of the JMSC because of Meriwether. I represented his union and worked with him on everything. We became close friends. When they said to pick guys to represent the MEBA on the JMSC, Merry said he wanted me as one, even though I was not a member of his union per se. But I was made an honorary member in June 1934.

It was all very exciting. Here I was, for God's sake, a young guy in the midst of an event I knew was of major concern. I knew that because I already had this background in labor economics and history. I was full of piss and vinegar too. Hours and days meant nothing to me. We would go day and night, weekends included. There was no such thing as regular hours.

I lived in Berkeley, but could get to San Francisco easily because the ferryboats were not on strike. Sometimes, when it got late, I would stay overnight in this wonderful old hotel near the waterfront. It was right across from the Southern Pacific Building. I think it was called the Terminal Hotel. They charged a dollar a night. Sometimes, when it got very late, I just slept on my desk at the Labor Bureau. But I never felt put upon. This was part of the job. I was representing unions and I was a member of the JMSC. I wasn't there for the fun of it.

Then came the battle on Bloody Thursday, July 5, when the employers tried to force open the port. I saw a lot, although, thank God, I didn't see the guys getting shot in the back. I was in my office in the Ferry Building when everything started. You could smell the fumes from the gas and from whatever else the police were shooting, and you could hear shots. I left my office and watched the battle as it moved up and down the waterfront. The mounted cops tried to break up the crowds of strikers by using their horses' rumps to move in and separate people. And I saw guys getting clubbed.

During the middle of Bloody Thursday, Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, who later served on the board that arbitrated the strike, got me on the telephone. He wanted to meet with people from the JMSC. The only other member I could get at that moment was Ed O'Grady of the MMP. We went to see the Archbishop. He wanted us to do something to stop the rioting. He was very worried about it. I said, "Hey, so is everybody else. People are getting killed!" I pointed out to the Archbishop that what was going on was beyond our control. It was the police who were using tear gas and live ammunition.

Despite the violence, federal mediation hearings were ongoing during the strike. I had to testify for the MEBA on July 9, the day of the great funeral march up Market Street for the two workers the police killed on Bloody Thursday. I cut the mediation proceedings off at the end so I could join the funeral procession. Nobody said anything while we marched. Except for the low music and the shuffling of shoes there wasn't a single sound. We just got in line and walked.

I can still see the San Francisco general strike of July 16-19 held to protest the killings. I can still see it and feel it. It was an exhilarating moment

at the beginning. I looked up Market Street and there was nothing moving. It was like in the movies where something happens and all of a sudden the film shows blank. But it was short-lived, as it had to be. It was really a sympathy strike that was ended before it could completely unravel.

We had Harry testify before the National Longshoremen's Board appointed by President Roosevelt to arbitrate the longshore strike. Harry had been on the waterfront for years, had worked all types of cargo, and had been a member of a "star gang," which was a kind of pre-strike steady gang that was really a form of favoritism. We knew he was articulate because we had been dealing with him, and his name was "the name" in this event. So what better witness do you want to describe the conditions on the waterfront? Harry was made to order.

We didn't want to put on a lot of witnesses. There was no point to that. So we just used Harry. I worked with him for hours getting him prepared for the testimony. He and I used to sit in our office at the Labor Bureau, work hard, and drink Old Quaker, which was one of the earliest whiskeys that came out after Prohibition ended in 1933.

I remember how Harry spoke publicly in those days, and afterwards as well. He wasn't given to impassioned speeches. He just explained what the situation was on the waterfront, what the longshoremen wanted and why they wanted it. He never got excited when we met with the JMSC or the federal mediators or when he appeared as a witness in the arbitration proceedings. Harry just knew where he wanted to go and how he was going to get there, and it was no big excitement.

Harry's testimony to the National Longshoremen's Board was outstanding and the union got its basic demands satisfied in the '34 strike arbitration award. One thing the award did not cover was conditions like sling load limits. In those pre-container days the hand-worked cargo was moved to and from ships in slings. Before 1934 the loads were too heavy and were dangerous. So once the longshoremen were back to work they undertook by "job action," or quickie strike, to cut down on the size of the loads. The employers screamed bloody murder about these work stoppages.

There was an arbitration system set up after the '34 strike under which the Secretary of Labor selected arbitrators for the longshore industry. The first arbitrator, Judge Max C. Sloss, who had been on the California Supreme Court, decided some early cases against the union, including these work stoppage beefs. He called me at least twice to complain since Melnikow and I were representing the union. Sloss said the longshoremen were not obeying his work stoppage decrees.

I told Harry about this. He said, "Look, I tell the guys to cut it out. That's the best I can do." Finally he went to his membership. They took a vote and decided to seriously observe the Sloss awards. But in the meantime the sling loads were reduced in practice. There was some slowing of the cargo hook as well, which meant that the pre-strike "speed up" was eliminated.

Looking back, Harry's great achievement was in setting up a democratic union that was exactly the opposite of the kind of autocratic union then in existence on the East Coast under ILA president Joe Ryan. Harry was the guy, there's no question about it, and it wasn't the Communists who did it. Harry was accused of copying the Communist line, which is crap. Of course, the Communists were very active in the 1930s and they were looking for credit wherever they could get it, but they didn't have anything really important to do with running the '34 strike or Bridges.



San Francisco police gassing maritime workers during the 1934 general strike.

Dispatch file photo

STORY PROJECT
XI, Part I

ing the Union:
the Pacific Coast
, Harry Bridges
1934 Strike

ILWU Pensioners pledge continued struggle at 38th Convention

by Tom Price

The Pacific Coast Pensioners Assn., the organization of ILWU longshore retirees, gathered for their 38th Convention in San Francisco Sept. 12-14. Their goal: to support the union, the Coastwise contract and the interests of all active and retired ILWU members and families.

In all, 132 delegates and 20 guests, representing pensioners from the U.S. West Coast and Canada, rekindled the camaraderie they shared for so many years on the job and in the hall. But it was not about nostalgia. The retirees focused on problems that will confront the youngest worker, the worker's children, and eventually the old timers everyone hopes to be one day.

Longshore Local 10 President Trent Willis welcomed the pensioners to the area. "But it's really the other way around," he said, referring to the retirees welcoming of younger members to the union they built.

The union's top officers dropped by the meeting to greet the old timers. International President Jim Spinosa's opening remarks reassured the members their pensions and benefits were safe and that the union was watching carefully moves by Congressional Republicans that might harm pension plans in the future.

"We're going to make every effort not just to hold the bar up with our plan but to make it better for workers throughout the world," Spinosa said.

International Vice President Bob McEllrath assured the pensioners that the Welfare and Pensions Committee of the Longshore Caucus was meeting often in preparation for the 2008 negotiations.

"The committee is in training just like a pro fighter," McEllrath said. "The committee we have is just like a champion, we can go in and do 15 rounds."

International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams said a few words about organizing.

"It's important that we do another March Inland," Adams said. "Longshore will grow, by the nature of the work, but we need to also fight for the people who can't fight for themselves."

Coast Committeeman Joe Wenzl laid down a friendly challenge to sign up more pensioners for the union's continuing battles.

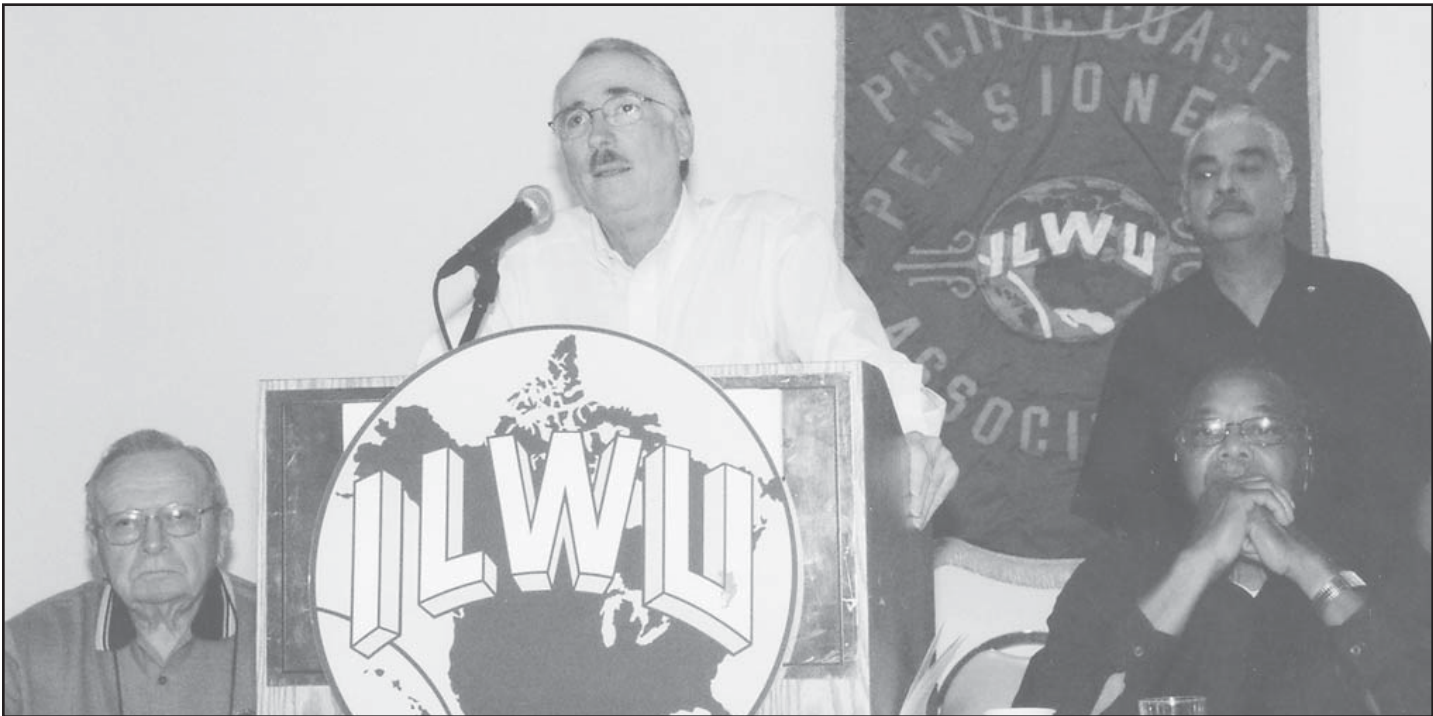
"There are only 2,500 pensioners signed up, yet there's 8,700 retirees," Wenzl said. "The fight for pensioners' benefits is a constant fight. You need to get down to the hall and mingle with the new members. We need to make the family connection to show that we are all in this together."

Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz Jr. stressed the need to re-unify labor.

"The movement of the global economy has labor eating at each other, while the big boys, the Wal-Marts and Wall Street, are sitting back laughing at us," he said. "Some other unions have even gone after their pensioners, because with the high health care costs a guy working says, 'I'm working, why should I pay a co-pay when the pensioner went out with fully paid healthcare?'"

The resolutions the delegates passed reflected present and future needs. The Convention voted to increase dues slightly to \$5 annually and resolved to protect health care, prepare for the 2008 longshore negotiations and ask the ILWU Longshore Division for an assessment of one dollar per month per member on active members to support the next PCPA Convention.

The PCPA needed to raise dues because the pensioners are sending representatives to the Third International Pacific Rim Mining and Maritime meeting in South Africa in 2007. They had also agreed with the



ILWU International President Jim Spinosa (at microphone) addresses the Pensioners' Convention. Looking on, left to right, PCPA President Arne Auvinen, (standing) Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz, Jr. and (seated) PCPA Vice President Joe Lucas.

Maritime Union of Australia Veterans to work more closely in international retiree organizations and build international worker unity.

The delegates voted to contribute \$1,000 to Hurricane Katrina relief and hold a "tarpaulin muster" to raise more funds. Canadian pensioner Frank Kennedy announced ILWU Canada's Longshore Pensioners' club would match the U.S. contribution. Southern California pensioners donated \$5,000 and Longview donated another \$1,000.

The ILWU has negotiated some of the best health care plans in the U.S. But the pensioners see that corporate America's drive to pass rising health care onto workers is epidemic, and that workers have to fight this trend if health care is to be at all affordable. Rather than control costs, or look to single-payer strategies to reduce administrative costs, the corporations want to wash their hands of responsibility to workers' health care.

The delegates passed a resolution noting that a single-payer system could

eliminate 25 percent of current health care costs and committing themselves to join picket lines whenever medical coverage issues provoke a strike.

ILWU pensioners have long memories of contract battles past. The 2002 negotiations showed the PMA, the employers group, is, as another resolution states, "in cahoots with the Bush administration, and [it] clearly desires to completely destroy the ILWU." And that could end health care and other benefits for retirees and survivors. Looking forward to the next longshore negotiations in 2008, the resolution calls for the nine ILWU credit unions to take "the necessary steps to put the significant financial power of their joint members in readiness for the upcoming negotiations."

"Credit unions represent almost a quarter billion dollars of our money," said Lewis Wright, an ILWU pensioner and chair of the board of directors of the ILWU credit union in Wilmington. "Let's put our money where it can do the best for our future."

Rich Austin spoke in favor. "I'll ask my local to ask the credit union to suspend loan payments in the event of some nasty employer chicanery."

The convention voted for its officers for the upcoming year. They will be:

- President**—Arne Auvinen
- Vice-President**—Joe Lucas
- Recording Secretary** — Bill Duncan
- Treasurer**—Barbara Lewis
- EXECUTIVE BOARD:**
- Seattle**—Paul McCabe, alternate Bill Roberts
- Columbia River**—George Gornick, alternate Verna Porter
- Coos Bay**—Jim Davidson
- Columbia River small ports (Longview and Astoria)**—Kenny Swicker, alternate Ester Auvenin
- Southern California**—Lou Loveridge
- Northern California** — Cleophas Williams, alternate Ralph Rooker
- Canada**—will elect delegate to Executive Board when they go back home
- Negotiating Committee**—Bill Ward
- Education Committee**—Al Perisho
- Benefits Committee**—Rich Austin
- HBI**—Judy Swicker, Lou Loveridge

PCPA President Arne Auvinen summed up one of the most important goals ahead for workers in the U.S.

"This country of ours is just like that flag in 'The Star Spangled Banner,'" he said. "The Constitution is tattered and torn and we have to get organized so we can make changes in this country. We've gotta get those jackals out of the White House and Congress and get things going our way."

The next PCPA convention will be in Tacoma Sept. 18-20, 2006.



SAN FRANCISCO—United Farm Workers of America President Arturo Rodriguez (behind microphone) toasts the union's new contract with Gallo of Sonoma Sept. 14 on the steps of San Francisco City Hall. (Right to left) Ana Rizo of the National Farmworker Ministry, San Francisco Labor Council Executive Director Tim Paulson, San Francisco Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval and many UFW members joined the toast, poured by members of UNITE-HERE Local 2 in full banquet uniform.

"This wine has never tasted so sweet," Rodriguez said. "*Si Se Puede!*" [We can do it!]

"*Se pudo!*" the workers answered. ["We did it!"]

The celebration came three months to the day after UFW members and allies came to the same spot to announce the union's first national boycott of Gallo in 32 years. The new contract capped 12 years of efforts to extend key benefits to all 310 workers at Gallo's Sonoma winery. Gallo hires some workers directly and some through labor contractors.

Gallo of Sonoma workers first voted to join the UFW in 1994. The company—the U.S.'s largest wine exporter—stalled for five years before signing a contract that gave some basic protections to contracted workers.

After that agreement expired in 2003, Gallo began campaigning to get rid of the union. California's Agricultural Labor Relations Board unanimously ruled that campaign illegal in November 2004.

Gallo still stalled and crawled at the bargaining table, refusing to extend health care and other benefits to the contracted workers. By this time, those workers made up three-fourths of its labor force.

In 1973 farm workers and organizers had criss-crossed the country in buses and old cars to build the boycott. Once this year's boycott started, word spread around the country by e-mail and list-serve in a matter of weeks. The ILWU International Executive Board passed a statement of policy in support of the boycott at its August meeting.

Under pressure, Gallo finally signed a pact that gave all the workers a 9.5 percent raise over two and a half years. Direct employees got a 70 percent cut in their health care co-pays, bringing those down to \$26.68 per month. Contracted workers got a \$400 annual bonus that can go towards health care, as well as the right to file grievances over discipline and seniority.

—MER

Strike situation worsens at Northwest Airlines

by Tom Price

When Northwest Airlines unilaterally slashed mechanics' jobs and wages Aug. 20, the workers walked out. Since then, except for growing support from other union workers, things have gotten worse.

The Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Assn., the union representing 4,427 mechanics, cleaners and custodians, returned to the bargaining table Sept. 8 to accept much of the company's demand for \$176 million in concessions and to bargain severance packages. On that same day longshore Local 19 voted a \$20 per member assessment for AMFA strikers, totaling nearly \$10,000.

But when AMFA sat down at the table, the company boosted its demands to \$203 million in concessions and another 1,000 job cuts. AMFA broke off talks Sept. 11.

NWA's previous last offer Aug. 20 called for a workforce reduction of 53 percent, a 26 percent pay cut, 20 percent medical co-pays and a freeze in retirement contributions. NWA also hired 1,300 scabs to do AMFA's work. If the company gets its way, the new job cuts will mean AMFA will have lost 90 percent of its jobs over the last four years.

"Our resolve is still very strong," said AMFA Asst. National Director Steve MacFarlane. "This isn't about increases in pay and benefits. This is truly about our very survival and our jobs in the airline industry."

Workers around the country are outraged by NWA's shabby treatment of its employees. In Toledo, Ohio AMFA threw up picket lines Sept. 5 and 6 at rail yards, protesting cargo headed to NWA in Detroit. Members of the United Transportation Union and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen refused to cross the line until federal Judge Ann Aldridge ordered them to cross on Sept. 7. UPS pilots had pledged Aug. 16 not to handle diverted NWA cargo.

The United Auto Workers approved \$880,000 in contributions to the strikers Sept. 13.

"Japanese and European aircraft mechanics have supported us and made contributions," MacFarlane



ILWU International President Jim Spinosa shakes hands with AMFA National Director O.V. Delle-Femine at ILWU longshore Local 10's September membership meeting. Left to right: Coast Committeeman Joe Wenzl, AMFA member Jose Caraballo, ILWU International Vice President Bob McElirath, AMFA Local 9 President Joe Prisco and ILWU Local 10 President Trent Willis.

said. "Minneapolis municipal workers kicked in another \$5,000."

The ILWU turned out strong at a Labor Day rally at San Francisco Airport's old international terminal. Longshore Local 10's President Trent Willis addressed the crowd.

"We see that job cuts, outsourcing, attacks on pensions and Social Security do not equal prosperity and happiness," Willis said. "They equal poverty and death. The ILWU will not stand for it!"

Longshore Local 23 members, about a dozen at a time, continue to demonstrate with strikers at Sea-Tac and bring coffee, sandwiches and their banner along with them. Local 19 members frequently join them.

NWA declared bankruptcy Sept. 14 and claimed the striking workers had been permanently "replaced."

NWA lost no time in attacking its other workers. The day after its bankruptcy the company eliminated 400 pilot jobs. Pilots had given up a quarter billion in wages and benefits last year. NWA wants another 22 percent pay cut. Pilots can expect a double hit as their pensions, as part

of the bankruptcy proceedings, are taken over by the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corp., a federal agency that makes partial payments to those who lose their pensions. PBGC rules state that anyone who retires before 65 suffers a penalty. Federal rules require pilots to retire at 60.

NWA wants relief from its \$3.3 billion pension obligation for the years 2006 through 2008. Its three weapons for doing that: *bankruptcy*, where the judge relieves them of the obligation, *legislation*, where the Republican Congress re-writes the laws in their favor, and *union busting*, where NWA forces massive concessions out of workers. The company has chosen all three at once. It spent \$107 million preparing scabs and nearly another million in pension reform lobbying during the first half of 2005.

NWA announced Sept. 21 that it would eliminate 1,400 flight attendant jobs and contract out many others. Those remaining will face at least a 20 percent pay cut. The airline is expected to demand more wage and benefit cuts from all workers, and federal bankruptcy judges can order re-writing of

union contracts. The company has also announced it will outsource flight attendant, aircraft cleaning and maintenance jobs to other countries like China and Singapore, where there is no FAA inspection. But even the FAA will lose as many as 300 inspectors this year, and has only 97 replacements, according to the Sept. 23 *Los Angeles Times*. MacFarlane commented on the fact that thousands of security people stand around in airports looking at passengers, yet nobody is checking the planes.

"We're looking in people's shoes, looking at grandmothers who wouldn't hurt a fly, and we're spending unbelievable resources on looking at the least likely people to harm us, and the most likely are completely ignored," MacFarlane said.

"American Airlines is one of the few that actually decided to bring the work back in house," MacFarlane said. American now keeps 80 percent of its maintenance in its own hangers. "They think they can make money off it, and as long as they manage it well, it can become a profit center for them."

Unions unite across the split

Although the split in the American labor movement at the Chicago AFL-CIO Convention in July was bitter and acrimonious, unions on both sides are finding ways to work together.

The Communications Workers of America (CWA), whose officers were among the most hard-lined for expulsion of the disaffiliating unions, and the Teamsters, one of the Change to Win unions that boycotted the convention, have agreed to a plan to jointly represent reservations, ticket and gate agents at US Airways and America West, which are preparing to merge. Likewise, the AFL-CIO affiliate the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the CtW's Service Employees International Union (SEIU), whose jurisdictions covering home care and child care workers overlap, have agreed on how to work together to organize and service those workers and on a "no raid" commitment between them.

The Sept. 12 agreement between the CWA and the Teamsters is significant not just because two of the largest unions on either side of the split have found common cause, but also because US Airways faced a federal bankruptcy court hearing Sept. 15 on its bankruptcy reorganization plan. Just before that session,

CWA announced the carrier agreed "our entire CWA Passenger Service Agreement (our contract) will be officially 'assumed' by the new corporation upon exit from bankruptcy."

July's pullout by the Teamsters, SEIU and UFCW was accompanied by some sharp words on both sides, but such comments were notably absent in the joint CWA-IBT announcement about representing the airline workers.

"By working together, we can build a strong, unified passenger service group and protect and improve conditions for employees that both unions represent at US Airways," said CWA President Larry Cohen. CWA represents the 6,000 passenger service agents at US Airways.

"As the (airline) industry endures continued economic uncertainty, this agreement will ensure that nearly 10,000 workers are united in their fight for fair treatment and job security," added Teamsters President James Hoffa. Last year, his union won the right to represent the 3,500 America West agents and is now bargaining a first contract with the Phoenix-based carrier. US Airways is based in Arlington, Va.

If the passenger service agents in both unions vote to create it, the new Airline Customer Service Association/IBT-CWA will have an equal number of representatives from CWA and IBT

locals on a US Airways Representation Committee "to meet at least four times a year on workplace issues and policies." Cohen would head the new group the first year, with Hoffa as vice director, and they would switch posts every year.

Similarly, AFSCME and SEIU exchanged unkind words in Chicago. SEIU filed for representation of an AFSCME home care local in Southern California the day it disaffiliated and AFSCME accused SEIU on the floor of the convention of raiding its locals. But in a Sept. 19 press release the leaders of both unions sounded a different note, pledging not to raid each others' locals and to work jointly to make gains for home care and child care workers not already organized.

"When we strengthen our cooperation and help workers in the same industry unite, everybody wins," said SEIU President Andy Stern. "We look forward to working together with AFSCME to create better jobs and provide quality services."

"This agreement is a victory for the millions of workers who want a union but don't have one," said AFSCME President Gerald W. McEntee. "I look forward to working with SEIU to help unorganized workers get good jobs, health care and a voice at work."

Under the agreement, the approx-

imately 25,000 California home care workers who provide in-home services to seniors and people with disabilities and are not covered by either an AFSCME or SEIU contract will be represented by both unions in a new California United Homecare Workers Union, AFSCME/SEIU. The 120,000 home care and nursing home care workers who are members of SEIU Local 434B and the 60,000 California home care workers who are members of AFSCME's United Domestic Workers will work in partnership while maintaining their autonomy.

In California and Pennsylvania, where both unions represent home-based child care providers, they will work together to organize the workers in a new statewide local that will be affiliated with both AFSCME and SEIU.

In a memo to his International Executive Board, Stern called the pact "a series of breakthrough agreements that will help workers in the same industry unite through a first-of-its-kind partnership...The pact will immediately remedy some past conflicts with AFSCME in the field and enable thousands of home-based workers who care for seniors, children and people with disabilities to build their strength to win improvements on the job."

—SS and PAI

NOTICE TO ALL ILWU-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES, ILWU MEMBERS, FINANCIAL CORE NON-MEMBERS AND NEW HIRES

This notice applies to all ILWU-represented employees, ILWU members, nonmembers and new hires working in an ILWU bargaining unit, including members and individuals who happen at any time to become financial core members by any means, including by choice, suspension or expulsion from union membership in any local or division affiliated with the ILWU, for the one year period following the date of this notice or until such time covered by a later notice of similar kind.

The information contained herein applies to ILWU International per capita and, for those working in the Longshore Division, the ILWU Coast Pro Rata fees or payments of any kind under a union security clause. This notice also applies to local dues and fees paid to any affiliated ILWU locals or divisions, except those affiliates who have chosen not to be covered by this notice and have issued their own separate notice under their own separate policies and procedures. (Accordingly, this notice shall be superseded by any other notice issued by any affiliated ILWU local or division with respect to its dues and fees.)

Please be advised that individuals working under a union security clause contained in a collective bargaining agreement, notwithstanding the specific provisions of such clause, are only required as a condition of employment under such clause to pay uniform dues and any required initiation fees and may, by writing to the ILWU Secretary-Treasurer, or to their local ILWU secretary-treasurer, resign or decline union membership and choose to become a “financial core member” at any time. Such “financial core members” are deemed to be in compliance with any union security clause, regardless of any specific wording to the contrary, so long as they timely pay all regular and periodic financial core dues or fees properly charged by their bargaining representative as explained herein.

Please be advised, however, that financial core members deprive themselves of the valuable rights of union membership in the ILWU and their ILWU local or division. A financial core member does not have the right to vote, nominate for office, hold office, or be a candidate for office in the ILWU; nor may he/she participate in or even attend ILWU meetings or any functions of the union that are limited to union members. In addition, a financial core member has no right to vote on dues increases or on contracts submitted to the membership for ratification. These rights and privileges of union membership are accorded only to union members in good standing.

Nevertheless, financial core members are still legally required under a valid union security clause to pay to their union for the costs related to collective bargaining, contract administration, grievance adjustment, and union organizing of establishments within competitive markets of ILWU-unionized employers, and other activities reasonably related to the effectuation of the union’s representational duties (hereinafter called “chargeable activities”). However, union expenditures for non-representational activities such as political activities, lobbying (hereinafter called “nonchargeable activities”) - activities which most workers know help build a better climate for us all in bargaining with employers and in securing fundamental worker rights - may not be charged to financial core members who file timely objections.

For calendar year 2004 (which is the most recent audited year), the financial review has confirmed that no more than 13% of all ILWU International’s expenditures were for nonchargeable activities. While each ILWU local and division may have different percentages of nonchargeable expenditures, financial reviews and practical experience confirm that the nonchargeable percentage for ILWU locals is significantly lower than that for the ILWU International. Nevertheless, those ILWU locals and divisions covered by this notice will not collect or seek to collect financial core fees greater than that based on the nonchargeable percentage of 13% stated above for the ILWU International for the applicable collection period herein or until such time as such local issues a separate notice.

For those individuals employed in the ILWU Longshore Division and work for a PMA-member company under the Pacific Coast Longshore and Clerks Agreement, please also note that with respect to Coast Pro Rata Fees, for calendar year 2004 (which is the most recent audited year), the financial review has confirmed that no more than 13% of all ILWU Coast Pro Rata Committee’s expenditures were for nonchargeable activities.

The ILWU International Executive Board and the ILWU Coast Pro Rata Committee have adopted Procedures on Financial Core Members Objecting to Nonchargeable Expenditures (hereinafter called the “Procedures”). Said procedures can be obtained from the ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer at 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Under the Procedures, a financial core member of any affiliated ILWU local and division has the right within an applicable 30 day period of time to object to expenditure for nonchargeable activities of his or her local dues paid to the ILWU local and the per capita paid to the ILWU International, as well as any Coast Pro Rata fees paid to the ILWU Coast Pro Rata Committee. In the event a financial core member perfects such objection, he or she shall receive either the appropriate monthly reduction or an advance rebate of a portion of local dues and per capita reflecting the ILWU International’s nonchargeable percentage of 13% stated above and, additionally for those working in the ILWU Longshore Division, an appropriate monthly reduction or an advance rebate of a portion of the coast pro rata fees reflecting the ILWU Coast Pro Rata Committee’s nonchargeable percentage of 13% stated above.

Under the Procedures, an objection by a financial core member must be made in writing and post-marked within 30 days from the date of this notice or the date of becoming a new hire or a financial core member under an ILWU union security clause and receipt of this notice, whichever is later, and addressed to the ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer, 1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109. To be valid, the written objection must specify the objector’s name, address, social security number, current wage rate, the name of his or her employer and the name of the local union or division which represents the objector. A written objection must be timely in order to be valid. Without waiving the 30-day filing period with respect to other notices of this type, please be advised that under this notice only, objections filed by current financial core members will be deemed timely if postmarked on or before November 15, 2005. Individuals who after the date of this notice become new hires or financial core members may file an objection within 30 days of the date they become a new hire or financial core member or receive this notice, whichever is later.

Unless changed by a later notice, those financial core members and new hires who file timely objections will not be charged from the date they file a timely objection through October 2006 for expenditures related to nonchargeable activities based on the applicable percentages noted above and also will be provided detailed, independently audited financial information concerning the breakdown between chargeable and nonchargeable expenditures of the ILWU International, the ILWU Coast Pro Rata Committee (if the objector works in the Longshore Division) and of their ILWU local (if covered by this notice as explained herein). Objectors will also be given an opportunity to file, within 30 days of receipt of such financial information, a challenge to the amount and calculation of any such nonchargeable expenditures and percentages, as well as an opportunity to have such a challenge resolved, if not voluntarily settled, through expeditious arbitration before a neutral arbitrator selected by the American Arbitration Association (AAA) in proceedings conducted under AAA Rules applicable to objections to agency fees. Please also note that the amount or portion of financial core fees pending the period for filing any objection and challenge as well as the amount reasonably in dispute pursuant to any challenges will be kept in an interest bearing escrow account pending resolution of such challenges. Objectors who file challenges will receive any amount that may be determined to be owed them, plus accrued interest, pursuant to these Procedures.

It is important to know that the vast majority of ILWU represented workers believe that the little extra in dues for maintaining union membership and enjoying all the valuable benefits of full participation in the governing of the ILWU, and the negotiation of working conditions is quite a bargain. For a few cents more each week, union members enjoy all the benefits of membership in the ILWU. We sincerely believe that after careful consideration, new hires and financial core members too will agree that becoming and remaining a union member makes the most sense. If you are not a union member already, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer of the ILWU International or your ILWU local to join the ILWU.

This notice may be superseded or amended by later notices as issued by the ILWU, the Coast Pro Rata Committee or affiliated locals and divisions of the ILWU.
(rev. Sept. 2005)

Ian Ruskin's "Lords of the Dock" Memorabilia!

Hats – \$20 (adjustable band in the back)
T – Shirts – \$15 (sizes Medium, Large, X Large, XX Large & XXX Large)

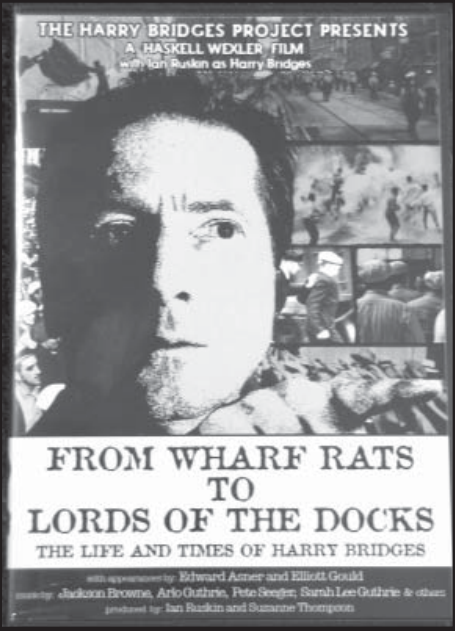
Project poster (signed) – \$20
September 4th Screenings poster (signed) – \$10
September 4th Program (signed) – \$5

both made in America & union printed

all union printed

DVDs – \$20 – a 2 DVD set, one with the film of the play, one with 21 special features, including the ILWU in Canada & Hawai’i, Local 13 getting ready to film, Local 10’s Drill Team, interviews with Ian Ruskin, Haskell Wexler, Arlo Guthrie and people who knew Harry. And Harry himself, two clips from the 1973 Bill Moyers interview, plus more....

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PEOPLE

ILWU member sworn in as L.A. Harbor Commissioner

With city council members singing his praise and a hundred longshore workers looking on, Joe Radisich became only the second ILWU longshore worker to win confirmation as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners on Sept. 6.

Council members acted quickly to approve Radisich's nomination, brushing aside concerns aired last month by opponents over where Radisich calls home.

"It's very clear that Joe Radisich will be the local boy, the community boy on this commission," said Harbor Area councilwoman Janice Hahn.

Councilman Tony Cardenas, who met with Radisich for committee hearings on the nomination, told council members that the issue had been tackled head on.

"It is on the record," said Cardenas, "and it's in accordance" with city rules governing appointments, Cardenas told the council.

With Radisich replacing another longshoreman—clerks Local 63 member Thomas Warren—on the commission, council members went out of their way to say that it's a good thing for the commission to have a dock-worker on board.

Councilmembers Wendy Gruel and Tom LaBonge praised the selection of a worker for the board.

"It's great that we have a longshoreman on the commission," said Gruel.

"I think the mayor has chosen wisely," said Hahn, who urged the nominee to lay out why it is a good thing for a longshore worker to be on the commission.

"I think it is very important because we know what's going on in the port," answered Radisich. "We know what's happening with port security. We're on the front lines in terms of exposure to emissions. We're



Joe Radisich takes the oath of office as a member of the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners.

stuck in the traffic every day that this influx of international trade has brought."

Radisich spoke of his desire to bring about infrastructure improvements that can handle the tripling of cargo expected to flow across the docks in the next 20 years.

"The infrastructure problems in the port, we've done a lot of good work on that," said Radisich. "We can improve the roads, the highways, the rails."

After a 13-to-0 vote confirming his appointment, Radisich and scores of longshore brothers and sisters marched to the brightly-lit office of the City Clerk where he took the oath of office in front of his parents, family and friends.

Coast Benefit Workshops coming your way

Do you know that medical studies indicate:

Each of us and our families have only about a 50 percent chance of receiving the recommended treatment when we are in need of care.

At least 44,000 people, and perhaps as many as 98,000 people, die in hospitals each year as a result of medical errors that could have been prevented. That's about as many deaths as are caused by such feared threats as motor vehicle wrecks, breast cancer and AIDS put together.

For every preventable hospital death caused by medical error many more people are permanently or temporarily disabled.

The National Quality Forum has endorsed a set of 30 safe hospital practices.

"Outcomes," how much your condition improves after treatment, can be measured and reported for both hospitals and physicians.

The United States spends far more on health care per person than any other country, yet we have 45 million Americans without any coverage and another 36 million who are without coverage for part of the year. Most of the uninsured are from households with at least one person working full time. The inability to pay medical bills is a leading cause of personal bankruptcies.

For the the plan year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005 the ILWU longshore medical plan cost \$325,650,808.

It is projected to cost \$455,643 for the plan year July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

Do you know where and how to get:

- Answers to your questions about your benefits.
- Information about health care quality.
- Information about Pension Legislation relevant to the ILWU longshore pension plan.
- Ideas about how you can help protect your health and pension benefits.

All of this and more will be covered at the Longshore Division's Benefits Workshops.

The time to secure our benefits is now. Make sure you make arrangements to attend the workshop in your area. Spouses are encouraged to participate. The workshops are guaranteed to increase your understanding of the benefits which are critical to your family's security and well being. Knowledge is power. Power is protection.

Workshop schedule

Southern California—Oct. 25
Northern California—Oct. 27
Puget Sound and Washington area—Nov. 1
Columbia River and Oregon area—Nov. 3

Watch for notification of the Workshop location in each area.

Longshore retired, deceased and survivors

RECENT RETIREES:

Local 4—Larry Crocker; **Local 8**—Lawrence Dolinski, Richard Celorie, Edgar Burton, Larry Rogers; **Local 13**—John Rivera, John Lakis, Salvatore Ventimiglia, Vincent Iacono, Xavier Aranda, David J. Maynez, Edward Minjarez Jr., Ardis Mack Jr., David J. Harrison, Rodney Ricard, Ismael Madrid, Joe Crespín, John Bennett, George L. Thomas Jr., Gary A. Hansen, Ardis Mack Jr.; **Local 21**—Robert Sholtys; **Local 23**—James Edalgo; **Local 32**—Robert Dawson; **Local 27**—Louis Guillory; **Local 34**—Eduardo Saucedo, Alfred Inserra, Patrick Cooley; **Local 34A**—Albert Keller; **Local 46**—Eugene Brock; **Local 52**—Morley Rolhiser, Paul Cutchlow; **Local 54**—Harry Tinsley, Wesley Rainey; **Local 63**—Floyd Jones Jr., William Carpentier, Mary K. Morgan, Ronald Sutton, Arthur Gutierrez, Mary Lawrence, Titus Cooper Jr., Luis Suarez, Cydney Bradford; **Local 94**—John Eberhardt, Anthony Reynolds Sr., Nick Angelich, Raphael Preciado, Albert Lopez, Nicholas Camello; **Local 98**—Alex Ginnis.

DECEASED:

Local 4—Richard Proll; **Local 7**—Walther Rohde (Pauline); **Local 8**—Luke Baccelleri (Barbara), Robert Huntley (Karen), Leo Owens (Sheryl), Chas Noonan Jr. (Patricia), Lynn Barrett (Tanya), Grady Phillips (Naomi), Eldon Fricke (Evelyn), Don Taylor, Luke Baccelleri, Henning Hellervik, Robert Huntley, James Foster Jr.; **Local 10**—Charlie Sawyer (Lillie), Ray Goodwin (Robbie), Luke Delmar, Carl Stitt, Wilbert Watkins; **Local 12**—Edward Napier (Dawn); **Local 13**—Gilbert Martinez (Mary), Delbert Chapman (Norma), Nick Avila (Marie), Victor Valverde (Julian), James Barber (Claudette), Tony R. Martinez (Adam), George Ireland (Shirley), Ralph Buss (Harriette), Terry Cooper (Nellie), Paul Van Delinder (Marjorie), Felipe Dominguez, Norman Torstenson, Dan Steward, James Barber, Ernest G. Ramirez, Velton Sample Jr.; **Local 19**—Arthur Speaks (James), Leo Huni

(Mary Ann), Arthur Harding (Mable), Cleo Lavery, Vernon Strand; **Local 21**—Daniel Abel; **Local 23**—Rene Aguirre (Travis), Manuel Ell (Elna), Robert Seitz (Diane), Ronald Allen (Cheryl); **Local 24**—Ivan Lacey (Ann) **Local 26**—William Good, Mathew Ciavarella (Josephine), Billy Huxford; **Local 29**—Edward Howell; **Local 34**—George Englefield (Phyllis), Ben Mallia (Dorothy), Harvey Keller (Anita), Frank Seelig (Elizabeth), George Walsh, Charles Leavitt; **Local 40**—Francis Boone (June), Charles Barnes; **Local 46**—Pedro Perez; **Local 47**—David Bemis (Norma); **Local 52**—John Snyder (Rhonda); **Local 54**—Leslie Frey (Ruth), Robert Pierce (Betty); **Local 63**—Lawrence Henon (Paddy), James A. Jackson (Margaret), Gordon Roberts, Robert Weeks; **Local 92**—Carl Koppen (Bergliot), Leland Roundtree; **Local 94**—Herbert Moen (Yukie), William Bartlett (Dixie), Laurence Degelman. (Survivors in parenthesis.)

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 4—Ruth Laine; **Local 7**—Muriel Wallace; **Local 8**—Ida Hamilton, Velma Ahlberg, Sophia Edie Lola Hoiness; **Local 10**—Sarah Bulleri, Rosie Lee Barry, Willie Gums, Mabel Rekosh, Freddie Redmond, A. M. Bonner, Marietta Newby, Amelia Venegas, Maria Costa, Annie Tatum, Virginia Burke; **Local 12**—Hazel Hanhi, Gertrude Curtis, Bessie Renick, Mildred Moore; **Local 13**—Margaret Galeazzi, Izora Jones, Rebecca Perreria, Selest Taylor, Theola McCoy, Toulal Palica, Jean Boyce; **Local 14**—Elaine Todd; **Local 19**—Viola Wiehle; **Local 21**—Evelyn Scott, Althema Burnham; **Local 23**—Antoinette Ragsdale; **Local 27**—Georgia Bond; **Local 29**—Gloria Ruiz; **Local 34**—Marjorie Duarte, Barbara Ceremello, Esther Roush; **Local 40**—Thelma Johnson; **Local 50**—Adella Beelar; **Local 63**—Lorraine Bates; **Local 91**—Mairanna Machado; **Local 94**—Minnie Oma Gurzi, Nora Haslam, Irene F. Jones; **Local 98**—Alice Spjut, Ivy Jutte.

CORRECTION

In the obituary for Margaret Howell in our July-August issue, we mistakenly included two different dates for her death. The correct date is July 29. *The Dispatcher* regrets the error.

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. **\$5.00**
- 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. DVD or VHS version **\$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**

ORDER BY MAIL

___ copies of **ILWU Story**@ \$5 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **The Big Strike** @ \$6.50 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **Workers on the Waterfront** @ \$16 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **The Union Makes Us Strong**@ \$15 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **A Terrible Anger** @ \$16.50 ea.= \$ ___

___ copies of **We Are the ILWU** DVD @ \$5 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **We Are the ILWU** VHS @ \$5 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **Life on the Beam**@ \$28 ea. = \$ ___

___ copies of **The March Inland** @ \$9 ea.= \$ ___

Total Enclosed \$ ___

No sales outside the U.S.

Name _____

Street Address or PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check or money order (U.S. Funds)
payable to “ILWU” and send to
**ILWU Library, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco,
CA 94109**

Prices include shipping and handling.
Please allow at least four weeks for delivery.

Shipment to U.S. addresses only

ILWU-PMA HURRICANE Relief Voluntary Payroll Withholding Authorization

I, _____, hereby voluntarily authorize the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) to withhold from my paycheck the dollar amount specified by me below for the sole purpose of making a voluntary, charitable contribution to the special Hurricane Relief Fund of the AFL-CIO’s Union Community Fund (UCF), labor’s charity for working families and communities in distress. The dollar amount specified by me below will be withheld from each paycheck issued to me during the limited period of November 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006, or, if I so designate below, as a one-time lump sum deduction. I understand that my charitable withholding contribution will be confirmed on each of my paycheck stubs during this six month period and that this withholding contribution will automatically end on April 30, 2006. I understand that PMA will match all charitable contributions to the Union Community Fund, to a total of \$250,000, by making a contribution to a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity to be designated by PMA which provides hurricane relief assistance to workers and their families in the Gulf region. I also understand that I have the right to cancel or revoke this authorization at any time by sending to PMA written notice of cancellation. I voluntarily designate the following amount to be withheld from each of my paychecks for approximately 26 weekly payroll periods for the six-month period from November 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006: (please check one box only):

- ☐ \$5 per paycheck, totaling approximately \$130 over the six-month period.
- ☐ \$10 per paycheck, totaling approximately \$260 over the six-month period.
- ☐ \$15 per paycheck, totaling approximately \$390 over the six-month period.
- ☐ \$20 per paycheck, totaling approximately \$520 over the six-month period.
- ☐ \$25 per paycheck, totaling approximately \$650 over the six-month period.

OR

- ☐ A one-time lump sum withholding of \$ _____.

Employee’s Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Employee Name _____ Payroll Number _____

Thank you for your generous help for working families in dire need.

Your completed form can either be dropped off at any PMA office with the envelope marked “Attn: Payroll Department”, or you can mail it directly to:

Attn: Payroll Department
Pacific Maritime Association
101 SW Main Street, Suite 330
Portland, OR 97204

ILWU-PMA Hurricane Relief Campaign

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have devastated the Gulf regions, leaving many workers and their families without homes and jobs. As you know, most of the hardest-hit have worked or resided in the Gulf’s commercial ports and surrounding communities. We in the West Coast longshore community, therefore, share a special bond with those most victimized by the hurricanes. Accordingly, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) are assisting all West Coast longshore workers to participate in a special voluntary industry program to assist hurricane victims. Under this program, interested longshore workers can, with ease and convenience, make voluntary, charitable contributions for hurricane relief efforts directly through individual payroll withholding. In addition, PMA will match dollar-for-dollar all donations contributed by longshore workers through this program, up to a total of \$250,000, as explained in more detail below.

Voluntary Program

This program is completely voluntary. There is no obligation to make any donations. For those interested longshore workers, the program provides the convenience of direct payroll withholding of your charitable donation for hurricane relief efforts.

Voluntary Payroll Withholding Authorization Form

To participate, all you need to do is sign and return to PMA the attached consent form, “ILWU-PMA Voluntary Payroll Authorization,” specifying the amount you choose to have withheld from your paycheck in each weekly payroll period between the time period of November 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006, or in one lump sum contribution. As is stated clearly in the accompanying authorization form, all voluntary weekly withholdings will automatically terminate after April 30, 2006. You may also choose to cancel your donations at any time before April 30, 2006, by sending a written notice of cancellation to PMA.

Minimum Amount of Donation

If you choose to participate in this voluntary program, the minimum weekly amount that PMA can withhold from each paycheck is five dollars due to administrative reasons. In deciding what amount, if any, you wish to have withheld from your paycheck on a weekly basis, it is important to note that the withholding program will cover approximately 26 payroll periods during the six-month period of November 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006. So, for example, a minimum contribution of five dollars per paycheck during 26 weekly payroll periods would amount to approximately \$130 by the end of the six-month program. Alternatively, you may elect to make a one-time, lump sum contribution.

Where Will the Money Go?

The funds raised through this payroll withholding program from longshore workers will go entirely to the special Hurricane Relief Fund of the AFL-CIO’s Union Community Fund (UCF), labor’s charity for working families and communities in distress. The longshore payroll contributions will go 100% to UCF worker centers that are assisting working families in the Gulf region devastated by the hurricanes. None of the monies donated will go towards overhead costs or other purposes.

Your Donations Are Tax Deductible

The Union Community Fund is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations to UCF are, therefore, tax-deductible to the extent provided by law for charitable contributions. If you donate more than \$250 to UCF in any calendar year, then UCF will issue you a receipt for tax deduction purposes. Contributions for less than a total of \$250 do not need a formal receipt but are still deductible. Your pay stub will also serve as a receipt because it will itemize the charitable contribution deduction per pay period or the lump sum amount. Remember that no contribution is too small.

PMA to Match Contributions

To encourage voluntary employee participation in this relief program, the Pacific Maritime Association will match dollar-for-dollar the charitable contributions of longshore workers made under this program, to a total amount of \$250,000, by making a contribution to a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public charity to be designated by PMA which provides hurricane relief assistance to workers and their families in the Gulf region. This means that by donating through this program, you will be giving working families in need double the monies you agree to have withheld in each paycheck. Please make a difference and help our working brothers and sisters get back on their feet.