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Holiday spirit: ILWU members in Southern California continued the union tradition of helping thousands of children have a happier Christmas. Holiday Committee volunteers worked all year to prepare the "Christmas For Kids" event and also organized the annual "Feed the Community Day."

ILWU toy drives brighten holidays for thousands

ILWU locals up and down the West Coast and Canada continued their tradition of holiday giving in 2015. ILWU members, pensioners and auxiliary clubs organized toy drives and donated their time and money to local charity groups who are helping to brighten the holidays for those who have fallen on tough times or simply can't make ends meet in the new economy. Thanks to the generosity of ILWU members, thousands of families had a happier Christmas.

Southern California

On December 21st, the 2015 Southern California ILWU Children's Christmas Party helped approximately 3,000 kids have a happy holiday season. Locals 13, 26, 63, 94, the Federated Auxiliary 8, Southern California Pensioners, Longshoremen Memorial Association and the ILWU Credit Union all made this year's holiday party possible. The Holiday

Events Committee works year-round to plan and organize the annual charity event with a team of over 100 volunteers.

The Events Committee, chaired by Local 13 members Lisa Tonson and Katy Witkowski, reached out to local non-profit groups to identify area families in need of assistance. Volunteers began preparations in the early morning. They set out rows of toys, bikes, and sports equipment. Volunteers prepared, set up tables and chairs and made preparations for the arrival of Santa.

By 9 a.m. Christmas music filled the air. Children and their families began filing into the ILWU Memorial Hall in Wilmington. Children were allowed to pick a toy of their choice and were treated to cupcakes, cookies, punch, face painting, caricature drawings and a chance to visit with Santa.

"This annual event is one of the many ways ILWU members in Southern California give back to our community. I'm so proud of all of my ILWU sisters and brothers who step up year after year to make this event happen," Tonson said.

In San Diego, Local 29's Second Annual Christmas Bike Giveaway was a great success, thanks to hard-working volunteers and generous contributions from the membership. Kids came to the union hall on the Saturday before Christmas to get a bike that their parents couldn't afford. Volunteers who helped Santa at the Giveaway included event coordinator Marcella Calderon, Xavier Torres, Frank Vinole and his son Carson, William Rodriguez, Alfonfo and Kris Torres, Christina Moreno and Cameron Flowers. Calderon said, "the efforts of Local 29 members, the Allied Division, and Pensioners all helped to make this a great success."

Bay Area

Local 10 hosted a Christmas Party and helped hundreds of children and their families to celebrate the holidays. There were generous servings of food, sweet treats, face painters, caricature portraits, magicians and balloon artists. Santa Claus was the most popular attraction. Children lined up to tell him their Christmas wishes. Chris Christensen

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What we learned in 2015 and the challenges ahead

Brothers and Sisters,

I want to begin by wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year. I hope you enjoyed some well-deserved time with family and friends over the holidays.

Now that 2016 has arrived, I'd like to share some reflections on the past year and look ahead to the future of the ILWU.

Last year we faced some challenges that tested our resolve. This was especially true for thousands of longshore workers who fought a lengthy contract fight that we settled last February. Although that agreement was overwhelmingly ratified by rank-and-file members, the story didn't end there.

Our success triggered a backlash by big business interests who brought their anti-union legislative proposals to Congress as soon as we settled the contract. Their goal was to weaken our union by stripping away rights secured 80 years ago by the courageous generation of waterfront workers who endured bitter strikes and gave their lives to win better working conditions and establish our union. Back then, employers and their political friends always accused union members of hurting the economy. Unfortunately, not much has changed.

Today, we're facing different fights, but the fundamentals remain unchanged, including unfair claims that dockworkers were solely responsible for all delays on the docks last year—while ignoring the root causes of industry-created congestion.

The unfair claims were repeated late last year when two members of Congress tried to amend an important transportation bill with proposals that would have forced dockworkers to operate at unsafe speeds. Fortunately, both amendments were defeated. Representative Dan Newhouse of Washington

State withdrew his anti-ILWU proposal due to lack of support, and an amendment proposed by fellow Washington State Republican Dave Reichert was defeated in the House of Representatives.

This victory was possible because of a unified response from our rank-and-file longshore workers and important help from our longtime friends and allies. We also benefited from the hard work from our Longshore Legislative Action Committee and support from our new ally and former Speaker of the House, Dick Gephardt.

After the bad amendments were defeated, Newhouse introduced another piece of anti-ILWU legislative called the "Economics Act," co-authored by anti-union Democrat Kurt Schrader of Oregon. Their bill would encourage federal court injunctions to break our union along with metrics legislation that could dangerously speed up work on the docks. Should similar legislation appear in Congress, the ILWU will be well informed and ready to fight.

One benefit from this experience was witnessing the impressive mobilization by individual longshore members. When the ILWU Longshore Division issued coordinated Action Alerts to members by email, fax and – for the first time, social media – hundreds of you responded by making phone calls to key members of Congressional committees, and your voices were heard.

This experiment to activate members on a large scale by using Facebook was a success, and we will continue to use social media when Longshore voices need to make a difference. To be successful, we ask that members listen to their local officers for updates – and follow the ILWU Coast Longshore Division's page on Facebook. When the Coast officers post an Action Alert on Facebook, please respond



immediately by contacting your elected officials in Congress and respectfully urging them to vote according to our Action Alert instructions. To increase the impact, please share these alerts with your friends, family and co-workers.

Another issue to watch in Congress this year is the tax on health care plans that's scheduled to take effect in 2018. It's unfairly called the "Cadillac tax" and was aimed primarily at union members who negotiated excellent health care benefits, such as longshore workers. When it was first proposed to be part of the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), I urged other union leaders and the AFL-CIO brass to oppose any tax because we wanted a single-payer health care system. Unfortunately, only one other union was willing to take that step, so the Cadillac tax went forward. The good news is that many unions and even some business groups now share our concern and pushed Congress late last year to delay the tax until 2020. We will continue the fight to remove the tax entirely, and presidential candidates Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton have both pledged to oppose the tax if elected.

2016 is an election year, which gives us the opportunity to elect a friendly Congress and President. The Titled Officers have created a survey that's being sent to candidates, asking where they stand on issues that matter most to ILWU members, including union rights, Social Security and Medicare, single-payer health care – and how to make Amer-

ica's economy work for everyone – not just fat-cats on Wall Street. The results of this survey will be shared with the ILWU International Executive Board in March as well as published in an article in *The Dispatcher*, the ILWU website, and Facebook. If there's a decision to endorse, the Titled Officers will be sure every member receives information about any candidate who deserves special consideration by ILWU members.

Make no mistake, the legislative attack on us, orchestrated by Big Business, will continue in 2016 and beyond. To repel these attacks and make economic and social gains, the ILWU must be fully engaged in the political process. Later this year we will be asking you to contribute to the ILWU Political Action Fund, which enables us to support candidates who fight for what we need and want.

The challenges facing union members and the working class in 2016 are considerable. That being said, 2016 is a new year for the ILWU. We are back to work without the distraction of longshore negotiations. We will continue to protect our jobs and jurisdiction and the ILWU will remain a staple on the west coast for generations to come. If we can stick together and help each other, we can help revive the labor movement and continue to progress as a union.

An injury to one is an injury to all.

In solidarity,
Robert McEllrath
International President

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Mega-ships visit LA & Oakland



Photo by Michelle Meese

Arriving first in LA: (L-R) Local 13 Day Business Agent Mark Jurisic, Local 13 President Bobby Olvera, Jr., Coast Committeeman Frank Ponce De Leon and Local 13 Relief Business Agent John Bijelic.

In December, ILWU members in Southern California welcomed two of the largest container vessels to ever visit a North American port.

Maersk's Edmonton arrived in LA on December 22, boasting a capacity of 15,000 20-foot containers. That record was smashed just 4 days later when CMA-CGM's Benjamin Franklin docked at the APM terminal with a capacity of 18,000 TEU's. ILWU International Vice President Ray Familathe joined Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and other officials at a press conference to welcome the vessel. Both ships were handled smoothly and efficiently – thanks to weeks of advanced planning and con-

sultation involving ILWU leaders, Port officials and terminal operators. Local 13 President Bobby Olvera, Jr., noted this kind of planning is essential for ensuring smooth operations in the future. One New Year's Eve, the Benjamin Franklin arrived at the Port of Oakland where former Local 10 President Melvin Mackay met the vessel as it arrived for another smooth loading and unloading operation that was again made possible because of advanced planning and involvement with the ILWU. The vessel is expected to call at the Port of Long beach in January.



Official welcome: ILWU International Vice President (Mainland) Ray Familathe joined other officials at a press conference when the mega ship arrived at the Port of LA with (L-R): Congresswoman Janice Hahn, Captain Krpan of the Benjamin Franklin and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.



Oakland visit: The Benjamin Franklin visited Oakland on New Year's Eve where the loading and unloading of the massive ship went smoothly, thanks to careful advanced planning that involved Bay Area longshore locals.

Local 30 members ratify contract with Rio Tinto

On December 14th, Local 30 members in Boron, CA ratified a new 5-year contract extension with the global mining company, Rio Tinto. The negotiating committee reached a tentative agreement (TA) on December 8th. The TA was unanimously endorsed by the elected negotiating committee, then subject to a membership ratification vote which approved the agreement by 65%.

The new contract will expire in May of 2021. It includes a 2.5% pay raise in each of the five years. The agreement also includes an option for employees to choose between one of four Towers Watson One Exchange group medical plans, including one similar to the existing Regence Gold plan.

Local 30 President Dave Liebengood says he approached Rio Tinto in September about getting an early start

on negotiations. The company seemed interested in getting a deal done early, so both sides sat down and started talking, Liebengood said.

Talks broke down briefly in October when the company proposed changes to the contract language and the Local 30 committee left the bargaining table. Talks resumed after the company withdrew the proposals.

"I think this is a fair contract. It keeps Local 30 members working for the next five years and preserves the existing language in the agreement," Liebengood said.

The elected negotiating committee members were Local 30 President Dave Liebengood, Vice President Jack Liebengood, Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Wade, Recording-Secretary Daryl Nichols, plus members Mark Blankenship, Trini Esquivel, Rick Larsen, Jimmy Lyons, Terri Judd, Dave Irish, and Jeri Liebengood. Liebengood said the committee also received assistance from attorney Joshua Adams.



Celebrating a new contract: Negotiating Committee members and their spouses celebrated Local 30's recent contract renewal effort at a dinner on January 22. Pictured are (L-R) James & Terri Lyon, Mark & Debbie Blankenship, Dave & Debbie Irish, Dave & Jeri Liebengood, attorney Josh Adams, Arvil & Debbie Nichols, Rick & Stephanie Larsen, Terri (in Red), Bruce & Rhonda Wade. Not shown: Jack & Janet Liebengood and Trinidad Esquivel.

ILWU toy drives brighten holidays for thousands



Bay Area benefactors: A joint effort by Locals 10, 34, 75, 91 and Pensioners donated so many toys, said Coordinator Beth Susim of Local 10, that firefighters needed extra trucks to pick them up.

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of the Bay Area Longshoreman's Memorial Association (BALMA) coordinated the event.

Donations for the San Francisco Fire Department toy drive were collected at Local 10's hall during the month of December. The success of the event was made possible by the many contributions from the members of Local 10, 34, 75, 91 and the Bay Area Pensioners. Beth Susim coordinated the Toy Drive again this year which raised several thousand dollars to purchase toys that were used to brighten the holidays for Bay Area families. When the San Francisco Fire Department to collect the toys, they had to call for additional trucks and volunteers to pick up all of the donations.

"I am so happy with the way ILWU members stepped up to make this toy drive a success. The generosity of Local 10, 34 and 91 members is inspiring," Susim said. "I particularly want thank Lucius Abson for helping me to get all the toys to the Local 10 Hall on

December 15th for the fire department to come and pick up." Susim said toys were also given to 20 casuals.

Local 10 and BALMA also donated money and toiletries to Toolworks Working Essentials, a non-profit that helps people with disabilities and those who have fallen on hard times achieve independence. Local ten members donated boxes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant and other toiletries which will be distributed to women's shelters and homeless shelters serving veterans and others in the Bay Area in need.

Local 34 Marine Clerks 2015 Toy Drive collected toys and over twenty bicycles for the San Francisco Fire Department Toy Drive and the Salvation Army Toy Drive programs for needy children. Thank You's go out to Local 34 members Jose Alcala, Lance Brocchini, Nicole Clausen, Allen Fung, Kevin Gibbons, Derek Hollis, Jacqueline Peralta, Joe Marino, Dan Sakuma and Jadine Trujillo.



Local 21's Community Action Committee organized donors and volunteers in Longview who made Christmas better for 600 families in need.

Puget Sound

Local 19 member Dan Elverston helped coordinate a team of union volunteers who raised an impressive \$30,000 worth of merchandise and 500 pounds of food for families in the Puget Sound region. The Local raised \$22,000 in cash donations, then secured deep discounts at union food-retailer Fred Meyer, which allowed the ILWU to purchase over \$30,000 in merchandise for families in need. Support came from Locals, 19, 52 and 98, plus Pensioners and Auxiliary members. Charities who received the ILWU's help this year included the Harborview Medical Center, Catholic Community Services Pregnancy and Parenting Support, Teen Feed, Tree House, Holiday Magic, the Labor Temple Children's Holiday Party, and Puget Sound Food Bank. "This was truly a community effort," said coordinator Dan Elverston, who noted the project helped thousands of families in need throughout the Puget Sound area.

Tacoma Toy Drive

ILWU Local 23 members donated \$36,947 toward the annual toy drive that helped over 800 children in the Pacific North West. The committee shopped at a local union store, Fred Meyer, and the store contributed in the form of an extra 10% off the purchases for the event. The toy drive could not have happened without the hard work of Charities Director Kyle Copeland,

and the toy drive committee Mandy Peterson, Amy James, Kim Boespflug, and Holly Hulscher, and the other volunteers and the generous contributions of Local 23 members and pensioners. The committee held a friendly competition between longshore workers who work at particular terminals and dispatchers, pensioners and mechanics to see which groups could donate the most to the toy drive. Local 98 members also donated \$1,000 toward the drive.

Portland

Another successful holiday toy drive was made possible this season in Portland, thanks to a diverse and generous group of volunteers, according to Local 8 President Mike Stanton. He recognized Jaimie Garver, CEO of the Portland Local 8 Federal Credit Union who coordinated the effort. Members of Local 8, Local 28, Local 40, Local 92, the Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU), made contributions as did the Local 8 Federal Credit Union, the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, plus Amtrak, BNSF and the Portland Terminal Company. The Credit Union generously matched cash contributions from this broad range of donors – enabling over \$14,000 worth of bikes and toys to help families in need. Credit Union tellers helped assemble many of the new bicycles, and Local 40 members provided a helmet for each new bike rider. Some of the bikes and toys were contributed in a cooperative effort with the Ore-



Generous donors and hardworking volunteers: The toy drive in Tacoma, WA raised nearly \$37,000 in donations to help hundreds of local children this holiday season.



Volunteering for a good cause: The dispatch hall in San Francisco was transformed into a winter wonderland by BALMA and Local 10 volunteers – with help from Santa.

gon Labor Council that distributed the donations to union members, homeless families and others who were hurting over the holidays. A special delivery of 20 bikes was made to help 180 families from the Steelworkers Union, who have been locked-out for six months by their employer Allegheny Technologies Inc. (ATI). The company is locking-out a total of 2,200 workers at plants in six states. "This was one big effort that had a real positive impact on our community," said Mike Stanton, who also thanked Local 8's Shelby Palmer for her work on the project.

Local 21

Local 21's Annual Toy Drive was a success again this year thanks to generous membership contributions. Volunteers from the Local 21 Community Action Committee helped coordinate the effort. Committee chair Craig Klingberg gave special thanks to fellow volunteers Sara Higgins, Jason Dietz

and Bruce Harrison for their many hours of service. Local 21's contributions became a substantial part of the Salvation Army of Longview holiday program that helped an estimated 600 families this season. "We were honored to help continue Local 21's tradition of giving back to our community and helping those in need," said Klingberg.

Local 4

Local 4 marked the 8th year of their Christmas bike drive by partnering again with community social services charities that help families in need. The effort is made possible with help from members of Local 4, 40, 92, the Columbia River Pensioners and Auxiliary.

Coordinator Troy Olson says the process begins around Halloween when case workers at the Children's Justice Center compile a list of children who could use a bike. The Local then takes steps to secure a bike for

each child, making modifications for children with any special needs. Vancouver firefighters complete the effort by generously helmets for each bike, as they have done for the past 6 years.

Olson says Local 4's partnership with the Arthur D. Curtis Children's Justice Center connects them to a nationally recognized service that provides a safe, child-friendly place for child victims of criminal-level abuse and their non-offending family members.

Each year Olson and other volunteers look forward to a "bike building party" held on the eve before bicycles are delivered. "The Auxiliary members usually cook-up a pot of chili and pans of cornbread to feed all the volunteer bike builders, and the union hall becomes a Santa's workshop," he says. Bikes are carefully assembled and safety checks conducted on store-assembled bikes. After all the bolts are tightened and tires inflated, the hall

becomes filled with an average of 150 bicycles and helmets each year.

"We wouldn't be able to help all these kids without the tremendous support from the ILWU family," says Olson.

Local 502

Local 502 kept up with their tradition of sharing and giving during the holiday season by making a record donation to their local food bank in Surrey, British Columbia. The local engages in a variety of charitable donations throughout the year, including the food bank, but this was a special Christmas gift of \$6,500 in cash donations and over \$1,800 in food contributions. Local 502 has done this Christmas drive for many years and is remains actively involved in the community. Members take great pride in making donations as well as holding events that help to raise funds.



Portland pitches-in: Portland's successful holiday toy drive was made possible by generous donors and hard-working volunteers, shown here with some of the \$14,000 in toys that was raised during the holidays (L-R): Marika Castillo, Maria Roberts, Michelle Humbert, Jaimie Garver and Danielle Rutkowski.



Local 29 members helping with the Christmas Bike Giveaway this year included (top row, L-R) Frank Vinole, Chris Torres, Alfonso Torres, Camron Flowers, and William Rodriguez. In the middle row (L-R) are Marcella Calderon, Santa Tony, Christina Moreno, and grandson Xavier Torres. The bottom row (L-R) shows Carson Vinole, son of Frank Vinole. Not pictured but participating were Vera Lopez and Anna Leyba.



Canadian contributions: ILWU 502 members and volunteers dropped off donations to a food drive benefiting Vancouver area families. From left to right: Roland (Roley) Hurtubise, Day Business Agent Kal Uppal, Vice President Shawn Nolan, President Tim Farrell (3rd from right), and Dispatcher Andrew Gerard (far right).



Local 19 volunteers made Christmas for Kids a big success. (L-R) Mark Williams, Dan Elverston, Josh Vaughan, Christian Kirk, Vivian Kirk, Kelly Picinich, Kesa Mueller, Eugene Manning, Rick Roughton, Paula Meeds, Sean Knight, Trent Crosby, Nick Campbell, and Ali Vekich – plus a special thanks to Fred Meyer employees Roileen, Kyle and Lynne who were a big help.



Santa's helpers: Volunteers assembling bikes for the Columbia River Christmas bike drive sponsored by members of Local 4, 40, 92, the Columbia River Pensioners and Auxiliary.

MENSAJE DEL PRESIDENTE:

Lo que aprendimos en el 2015 y los futuros desafíos

Compañeros y compañeras,

Quiero empezar por desearles un feliz y saludable año nuevo. Espero que hayan disfrutado del bien merecido tiempo con su familia y amistades durante los días festivos. También quiero agradecer a los muchos afiliados de ILWU que donaron juguetes para los niños de las familias que atraviesan momentos difíciles. Con sus esfuerzos llenaron de alegría a miles de trabajadores y a sus familias que están batallando para sobrevivir en esta economía que ha marginado a tantos.

Ahora que ya ha empezado el 2016, me gustaría compartir con ustedes algunas reflexiones sobre el año pasado y mirar hacia el futuro y lo que este puede deparar para el ILWU.

El año pasado enfrentamos algunos desafíos que pusieron a prueba nuestra determinación. Esto fue especialmente cierto para miles de trabajadores portuarios que libraron una larga lucha por su contrato que logramos resolver en febrero del año pasado. Aunque el acuerdo fue ratificado abrumadoramente por los afiliados, el cuento no terminó allí.

Nuestro éxito desató un contra ataque de las grandes empresas que llevaron sus propuestas legislativas antisindicales ante el Congreso en cuanto resolvimos el contrato. Su meta fue la de debilitar nuestro sindicato arrancándonos los derechos conseguidos hace 80 años por toda una generación de estibadores valientes que aguantaron huelgas muy difíciles y dieron sus vidas para ganar mejores condiciones de trabajo y establecer nuestro sindicato. En aquellos tiempos, los empleadores y sus amigos políticos siempre acusaban a los sindicalistas de ser los causantes de los problemas económicos. Desafortunadamente, las cosas no han cambiado mucho.

Hoy en día, las luchas que enfrentamos son distintas, pero los aspectos fundamentales siguen siendo los mismos, incluso las acusaciones injustas de que los estibadores fueron los únicos responsables de todos los retrasos en los muelles el año pasado – mientras se ignoran las causas de fondo

de la congestión propiciada por las empresas navieras y portuarias.

Las acusaciones injustas fueron repetidas el año pasado cuando dos miembros del Congreso trataron de enmendar el proyecto de ley importante sobre el transporte, haciendo propuestas que hubieran obligado a los trabajadores portuarios a trabajar a un ritmo peligroso. Por suerte, ambas enmiendas fallaron. El Diputado Dan Newhouse del estado de Washington retiró su propuesta anti-sindical por falta de apoyo, y una enmienda de su colega republicano Dave Reichert fue rechazada en la Cámara de Representantes.

Se pudo obtener esta victoria porque nuestros afiliados, los trabajadores portuarios, respondieron de manera unificada y obtuvimos un apoyo importante de los que han sido por mucho tiempo nuestros amigos y aliados. También nos beneficiamos del trabajo dedicado de nuestro Comité de Acción Legislativa de Trabajadores Portuarios y el apoyo de nuestro nuevo aliado y ex vocero de la Cámara de Representantes, Dick Gephardt.

Después del rechazo de las malas enmiendas, Newhouse introdujo otro proyecto de ley contra el ILWU llamado la “Ley de la Economía,” copatrocinado por el demócrata antisindical, Kurt Schrader de Oregon. Dicho proyecto legislativo hubiera facilitado las ordenes judiciales federales restrictivas para romper nuestro sindicato, al igual que métricas de rendimiento que podrían acelerar el trabajo a ritmos peligrosos en los muelles. Si llegaran a presentarse proyectos de ley similares en el Congreso, el ILWU estará bien informado y listo para combatirlos.

Uno de los efectos beneficiosos de esta experiencia fue la impresionante movilización de estibadores en lo individual. Cuando la Sección de Estibadores de ILWU expidió Alertas de Movilización coordinada a los afiliados por email, fax y - por primera vez, las redes sociales – cientos de ustedes respondieron, haciendo llamadas telefónicas a miembros claves de los comités del Congreso para que se escucharan sus voces.

Este experimento de activación de los afiliados en gran escala por

medio de Facebook fue todo un éxito, y continuaremos usando las redes sociales cuando sea necesario para que las voces de los Estibadores hagan la diferencia. Para tener éxito, pedimos que los miembros estén al tanto de los dirigentes de sus locales que los pondrán al día – y seguir la página en Facebook de la Sección de Estibadores del Litoral de ILWU. Cuando los dirigentes de esta Sección publiquen un Alerta de Movilización en Facebook, por favor respondan inmediatamente contactándose con sus congresistas y pidiéndoles respetuosamente que voten de la manera explicada en las Alertas de Movilización. Para maximizar el impacto, por favor comparta estas alertas con sus amigos, familiares y compañeros de trabajo.

Otro asunto que habrá que vigilar en el Congreso este año es el impuesto sobre los planes de asistencia médica que está programado para el 2018. Se le llama injustamente el “impuesto del Cadillac” y está dirigido principalmente contra los afiliados de los sindicatos que negociaron beneficios de salud excelentes, tales como los trabajadores portuarios. Cuando se propuso inicialmente como parte de la Ley de Cuidado Asequible (conocida como Obamacare), yo insté a otros dirigentes sindicales y los jefes de la AFL-CIO que se opusieran a cualquier impuesto porque queríamos un sistema de salud con pagador único. Desafortunadamente, sólo un sindicato adicional estuvo dispuesto a tomar esa posición, así que el impuesto Cadillac quedó como parte de la ley. La buena noticia es que muchos sindicatos y hasta algunos grupos empresariales ahora comparten nuestras objeciones y presionaron al Congreso al final del año pasado para que aplacen la imposición del impuesto hasta 2020. Continuaremos luchando para eliminar el impuesto por completo, y los candidatos Bernie Sanders y Hillary Clinton han prometido oponerse a este impuesto si llegan a ser elegidos.

2016 es un año electoral, lo cual nos da la oportunidad de elegir un Congreso y Presidente que nos favorezcan. Los dirigentes ejecutivos locales han creado una encuesta que se ha enviado a los

candidatos, preguntándoles sus posiciones sobre las cuestiones que más interesan a los miembros de ILWU, incluso los derechos sindicales, el Seguro Social y Medicare, el sistema de salud con pagador único – y cómo hacer para que la economía de Estados Unidos beneficie a todos – no solo a los peces gordos de Wall Street. Los resultados de esta encuesta serán compartidos con la Mesa Ejecutiva Internacional de ILWU en marzo, y también serán publicados en este boletín *The Dispatcher*, el sitio web del ILWU y en Facebook. Si se decide que se debe apoyar a algún candidato, los dirigentes ejecutivos locales se asegurarán de que todos los afiliados reciban la información acerca de cualquier candidato que merezca consideración especial por los afiliados de ILWU.

No cabe duda de que el ataque legislativo contra nosotros patrocinado por las grandes corporaciones continuará en el 2016 y más allá. Para resistir estos ataques y lograr mejoras económicas y sociales, el ILWU deberá participar plenamente en el proceso político. En los próximos meses les pediremos que contribuyan al Fondo de Acción Política de ILWU, el cual nos permite apoyar a los candidatos que luchan por lo que necesitamos y queremos.

Los desafíos que tendrán los miembros de los sindicatos y los trabajadores en el 2016 son considerables. Sin embargo, 2016 es un año nuevo para el ILWU. Hemos vuelto al trabajo sin la distracción de las negociaciones de los contratos de estibadores. Continuaremos protegiendo nuestros empleos y el ámbito de competencia de nuestro sindicato y el ILWU seguirá siendo una organización esencial del litoral occidental por muchas generaciones más. Si nos mantenemos unidos y nos apoyamos mutuamente, podemos reactivar el movimiento sindical y seguir progresando como sindicato.

El daño causado a uno es el daño causado a todos.

Solidariamente,
Robert McEllrath
Presidente Internacional

Local 142 election results

Members of Local 142 in Hawaii voted in leadership elections on November 14-20, 2015. Elected were 26 full-time officers, 11 rank-and-file members of the local Executive Board, and 11 Delegates to the ILWU International Convention.

The election results were announced on November 24, 2015. All officers serve a term of three years, beginning January 4, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2018.

Titled officers

Members re-elected include Local 142 President Donna Domingo, Vice President Teddy B. Espeleta, and Secretary-Treasurer Guy Fujimura who is serving his tenth term as Secretary-Treasurer. These titled officers are responsible for directing the work of the local between meetings of the Local Executive Board.

Division directors

Five Division Directors (Longshore, Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Oahu) administer the work of the union in their division and supervise the work of the business agents and division office staff.

William "Baba" Haole was elected as Longshore Division Director; Elmer Gorospe, Sr. was re-elected as Hawaii Division Director; Stephen Castro, Sr. was re-elected as Director of Maui Division; Michael Yamaguchi was also re-elected as Oahu Division Director; Pamela Green was newly elected as Kauai Division Director.

Longshore Division

In the Longshore Division, Richard Kamoe was elected as Vice Division Director and Drake Delaforce was elected as Secretary-Treasurer.

For a complete list of those elected including the Local 142 Executive Board and International Convention delegates see the article in the November/December issue of the Voice at www.ilwulocal142.org.

Local 19 member honored by Red Cross for life-saving actions

Local 19 member Toby Albright was honored by the Northwest Region American Red Cross at their annual Heroes Breakfast on December 10th for rendering first-aid at the scene of a serious accident.

In January of last year, Albright was on his way to a Seattle Seahawks game. "Traffic was backed up, and as I pulled up to the intersection I saw what appeared to be motorcycle parts in the roadway," said Albright. He pulled over to find Katie Postlewait lying on the ground. She had been riding a motor scooter when she was struck by an SUV. "I could tell she was in bad shape and had what appeared to be a compound fracture," said Albright. There was a lot of blood, so Albright applied a tourniquet to her leg. He asked another motorist to contact 911 and kept her awake and alert until paramedics arrived on the scene.

Albright later learned that Postlewait had been struck after leaving the nearby Advent Lutheran Church



where her husband, Rev. Scott Postlewait, is a pastor. Since the accident, she has undergone numerous surgeries and physical therapy sessions to restore her leg's normal function. The accident severed her femoral artery, and crushed both her tibia and fibula. Albright's quick actions may have saved Postlewait's leg and possibly her life.

When the Red Cross approached Albright about the award, he was hesitant at first about accepting. "But then they explained how this can help raise awareness about the importance of first-aid response," said Albright, who agreed to accept the award in hopes of encouraging others.

Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice

December 2015

*c/o Hawaii Labor Heritage Council
P. O. Box 235493
Honolulu, HI 96823-3508*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, A.Q!

December 15, 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ah Quon McElrath. Although A.Q. passed away on December 11, 2008, her spirit still lives and the struggle she waged for social and economic justice continues!

A.Q. spent her early years in Iwilei, the second youngest of ten children. Her father died when she was four, leaving the family in abject poverty. A.Q. and her siblings gathered keawe twigs and beans to sell for firewood and pig feed to help support the family. School, where she was a shining star, was her escape and learning was her salvation. Her love of classical music, Shakespearean drama, and history were developed and honed by Hawaii's public education system. Over her life course, she was an advocate for public education, culminating in her service as a Regent of the University of Hawaii (1995-2003).

A.Q.'s lifelong commitment and struggle for progressive causes was grounded in her passionate belief that working people could organize to take control of their lives, to have dignity, respect, and fair treatment.

As a young social worker, she became aware of the socio-political conditions of the people she helped as well as the conditions of her fellow employees. She led an effort to organize the employees of the State Department of Social Services—a movement that would include janitors, secretaries, and social workers.

As a student volunteer, A.Q. was involved with printing and distribution of organizing material for the ILWU and, despite being in a male-dominated union structure, went on to become one of the leaders of the union movement that transformed Hawaii from a feudal oligarchy to a modern labor democracy. In so doing, she faced challenges imposed by the ruling elite and McCarthyism, but never wavered.

As an ILWU staff social worker, A.Q. not only addressed issues faced by union members but was an early advocate for health care for all. After retirement, she spent the next 28 years as an advocate for the poor and the disadvantaged and for reform of the welfare and health care systems.

Whether it was a struggle for fair wages and working conditions, peace, health care, welfare rights, education, affordable housing, challenges to media monopoly, death with

dignity or for art and music that would benefit the entire community, she taught us that there were no individual solutions to social and political problems. Progress can only be achieved through collective action.

Upon her passing, the Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice was established to provide grants to organizations dedicated to the ideals that A.Q. held and the goals that she promoted. Attached is the Fund's "History of Grant-Making"

To commemorate her birthday and to honor A.Q.'s lifetime of struggle and leadership, we ask you to consider a contribution to the Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Economic and Social Justice (FESJ). All contributions are tax-deductible. Checks should be made payable to Hawaii Labor Heritage Council/FESJ and mailed in the enclosed envelope to:

Hawaii Labor Heritage Council
P. O. Box 235493
Honolulu, HI 96823-3508

Your contributions will help to perpetuate A.Q.'s legacy and keep her spirit alive! Mahalo for your support.

Aloha,
Lowell Chun-Hoon
Chris Conybeare
Jennifer Dang
Leonard Hoshijo
Joanne Kealoha
Gail McElrath Long
Claire Shimabukuro
Gene Vrana

Enclosures



TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Thomas E. Wulzen;
Local 13: Raymond P. Castaneda;
 Larry R. Guerrero; James E. Bockrath;
 Milan Bocarski; Timothy P. Hart;
 Maria L. Rosales; Nathaniel
 Doctor; Paul E. Sanders; Gabriel
 Lopez; Rolland R. Hartstrom;
 Nicholas V. Vitalich; Eddy G. Van
 Guyse; Randy Bernhardt;
Local 19: Roger F. Betts;
Local 23: Gregory R. Cook;
 Steve M. Crum; Carl W. Dalton;
Local 51: Richard J. Schoenfeldt;
Local 63: Michael H. Mardesich;
 Ann C. Ronnholm; Maria S.
 Fernandez; Alice M. Whitten;
 Barry L. Burdette; Joe C. Duarte;
 Rhonda L. Rubio-Ponce; **Local 75:**
 Walter Sokolik; **Local 94:** Fred K.
 Salem; Anthony G. Garcia;

DECEASED PENSIONERS:

Local 4: Harold Clements;
Local 7: William Dubb (Joa);
 Ronald D. Corbitt; **Local 8:** Glenn

L. Halverson; Arthur M. Allen;
Local 10: Carl G. Suggs; Jerry
 Watson; **Local 13:** Luis D.
 Barragan; Clifton Broomfield;
 Eddie Holland; **Local 19:** Richard
 C. Vogt; **Local 21:** James G.
 Skibba; **Local 23:** William Meucci;
 Jack M. Sweeney; **Local 25:**
 William E. Adams; **Local 34:** Glen
 H. Utterback; **Local 40:** Robert A.
 Mastrantonio; **Local 52:** Neil V.
 Rundquist; Herbert L. Neeson;
 Derl R. Trainer; Rodney Cluphf;
Local 63: Rudy Negrete;
Local 94: George N. Kirk;
 Steve S. Wilson;

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 10: Mary M. Criner;
Local 13: Amalia Chavez; Lucy
 Grieco; Lenore E. Glancy;
Local 19: Marjorie Hattaway;
Local 40: Lydia Claire Miller;
Local 50: Helen H. Raasina;
Local 75: Frances Kefalas;
Local 94: Judy Griffin;

*Happy
 New Year!*

ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

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

BOOKS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VIDEOS

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

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

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

A Helping Hand...

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

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ADRP—Oregon
 Brian Harvey
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 Portland, OR 97221
 (503) 231-4882

ADRP—Northern California
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 400 North Point
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 (415) 776-8363

ADRP—Washington
 Donnie Schwendeman
 3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. #503
 Tacoma, WA 98424
 (253) 922-8913

ILWU WAREHOUSE DIVISION

DARE—Northern California
 Teamsters Assistance Program
 300 Pendleton Way
 Oakland, CA 94621
 (510) 562-3600

ILWU CANADA

EAP—British Columbia
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