



THE DISPATCHER

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VOL 75, NO 5 • MAY 2017

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ILWU International President Robert McEllrath addresses the Longshore caucus. At the dais with President McEllrath (left to right) are Coast Committeemen Cameron Williams, Frank Ponce De Leon and ILWU International Vice President (Mainland) Ray Familathe.

Longshore Caucus delegates meet; proposed contract extension goes to membership

Eighty-eight delegates elected by rank-and-file Longshore Division members at 29 West Coast ports met April 24-28 at the Coast Longshore Caucus in San Francisco to review a range of issues, including an employer-initiated proposal to extend the 2014-2019 collective bargaining agreement between the ILWU and the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA).

A majority of Longshore Caucus delegates voted on April 28 to refer the employer's proposed extension to a ratification vote by the membership. The current contract expires on July 1, 2019.

"One of the ILWU's Guiding Principles is that the rank-and-file members will make the best decision when they have the facts and an opportunity to decide for themselves, and that's how this will be decided,"



Caucus Parliamentarians Bobby Olvera Jr. (left) and Max Vekich (right) confer with Caucus Chair Conrad Spell.

said ILWU International President Robert McEllrath.

The vote will occur on a schedule according to the union's internal rules, which provide time for local members to discuss, debate and ask questions about any proposed agreement before voting.

McEllrath added, "More information will be sent to rank-and-file Longshore members in the coming weeks so everyone has the facts they need to make an informed decision."

At a previous Longshore Division Caucus held in August of 2016, delegates voted to explore the concept of a contract extension that was first proposed last spring by employers. Several meetings were then held between the Longshore Negotiating Committee and PMA employer representatives.

"The rank-and-file membership always has the final say on any contract – including this non-precedent-setting proposed extension," McEllrath said.



Local 10 honors Frank Cresci page 5

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LETTERS TO THE *DISPATCHER*

Dear Editor,

In Bryce Courtenay's novel, "The Power of One," we learn how like drops of water joining together, can form a mighty river, and people working together can change the world.

A few individuals in ILWU Local 10 moved the union to fight against South African apartheid. Mandela, the South African liberator, publically recognized the power of the ILWU when visiting California.

Now the Standing Rock Sioux tribe is up against the power of banks and the extraction industry. We individuals can help. Close your accounts in the banks such as Wells Fargo and Bank of America that are financing these industries. Put your money with thousands of other working folk in your credit unions.

Like a mighty river you can be the power of one.

Lewis Wright, Local 63 (Ret)

"Retired from the industry not the struggle."

Dear Editor,

In these wild and crazy times of "alternative facts," early morning potty Tweets, and the continuous media flocking to report the next stage of madness, I need to re-apply my tangible support. Enclosed is one day's pay at my highest rate to the ILWU Political Action Committee. I also plan to increase my feet-on-the-ground activity with our Southern California District Council, local union meetings and progressive movements in my community. Please accept my check of \$528 for this year's ILWU PAC contribution..

Robin Doyno, Local 13
Los Angeles, CA

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

Alaska Secretary-Treasurer training

When International President Bob McEllrath attended the All-Alaska Longshore Division Caucus meeting last January in Anchorage, he offered to assist the Division in educating their unit officers to help streamline reporting responsibilities and other fiduciary duties throughout the units.

McEllrath volunteered International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, along with veteran ILWU staffers, Russ Bargmann and Robin Walker and ILWU attorney Rob Remar to work with Division officers to plan a Secretary-Treasurers workshop, held April 19-20 in Anchorage.

The workshop focused on providing training and resources to union officers who are responsible for overseeing the financial health of local unions and complying with state and federal labor reporting and disclosure laws.

"A Secretary-Treasurer's job is two-fold, and both parts are very

important," said Adams. "First we have to make sure that the books are honest, accurate and up to date. We serve as the financial watchdogs for the membership and follow all sorts of procedures to protect the membership dues dollars that we are responsible for safeguarding." The second part of the job involves complying with state and federal laws – especially regular reports that must be made to the U.S. Department of Labor. "These regulations must be followed and deadlines have to be met," he said.

International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams was first elected to his current post in 2003, and says he's still grateful to those who taught him the ropes and helped him along the way. Helping the brothers and sisters in Alaska and beyond has been rewarding, he says.

A group of close to 20 participants took the 2-day training seriously, studying the law, listening to speakers, and completing a mock local audit procedure.

"When President McEllrath heard that our Division could use some help

with a training about union financial responsibilities and record keeping, he quickly suggested we consider having the International assist our effort; it was an offer we could not refuse," said Alaska Longshore Division Secretary-Treasurer Darryl Tesu.

"We can't thank brother Willie Adams, and the ILWU International staff enough for taking time out of their busy schedules to spend time

working with us here. Every one of our participating Port Secretary-Treasurers and Officers left Anchorage with a wealth of information and knowledge packed into 4-inch binders that we all took home.

"Understanding the responsibilities of keeping our financial house in order is imperative to our future as an organization and an integral part of our internal organizing efforts," said Tesu.



Hard work for an important purpose: Participants at the Secretary-Treasurer's Training in Alaska hit the books hard to learn skills for safeguarding members' dues money. (L-R) Jesse Groom from Local 60 in Seward, Jeff Hancock from Unit 223 in Dutch Harbor, Sonya Travis from Unit 60 in Seward, and Mitch Miller from Unit 223 in Dutch Harbor.

MAY IS MEDICAL, DENTAL PLAN CHOICE MONTH

Active and retired longshore families in the ports where members have a choice can change medical and/or dental plans during the Open Enrollment period May 1 to May 31, 2017. Any changes made will be effective July 1, 2017. In addition to the May Open Enrollment period members may change their medical plan and/or dental plan once at any time during the Plan Year (July 1-June 30).

The July 1, 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the ILWU and PMA provides that new registrants in the ports where members have a choice of medical plans shall be assigned Kaiser HMO Plan or Group Health Cooperative HMO Plan for the first 24 months of registration. After 24 months, those registrants who have qualified for continued eligibility under the Mid-Year/Annual Review hour's requirement will have a choice of medical plans. New registrants in San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, Los Angeles, Portland/Vancouver and Washington will have a choice of dental plans on the first of the month following registration, and may change dental plans during the Open Enrollment period and one additional time during the Plan Year.

MEDICAL CHOICE: The medical plan choices are Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the ILWU-PMA Coastwise Indemnity Plan for Southern California Local 13, 26, 29, 46, 63 and 94. Northern California Locals 10, 18, 34(San Francisco), 34 (Stockton), 54, 75 and 91; and Oregon-Columbia River Locals 4, 8, 40, and 92. In the Washington State area, the medical plan choices for Local 19, 23, 32, 47, 52 and 98 are Group Health Cooperative or the ILWU-PMA Coastwise Indemnity Plan.

DENTAL CHOICE: For Los Angeles Locals 13, 26, 63 and 94 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California, Harbor Dental Associates or Dental Health Services. For Southern California Locals 29 and 46 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California or Dental Health Services. For San Francisco Locals 10, 34, 75 and 91 the dental plan choices are Delta dental of California, Dental Health Services, or Gentle Dental San Francisco. For Sacramento and Stockton Locals 18, 34 and 54 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of California or Dental Health Services. For Portland/Vancouver Locals 4, 8, 40 and 92 the dental plan choices are LifeMap Willamette Dental, Oregon Kaiser Dental Plan or Oregon Dental Service/Delta Dental of Washington. For Washington Locals 7, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 27, 32, 47, 51, 52 and 98 the dental plan choices are Delta Dental of Washington or Dental Health Services.

Information on the medical and dental plans, and forms to change plans, can be obtained at the Locals and the ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans Office.

All Medical and Dental Program Choice Forms and enrollment forms, as applicable, must be completed and received by the Benefit Plans office by May 31 for the enrollment change to be effective July 1.

DISPATCHER

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The *Dispatcher* (ISSN 0012-3765) is published monthly except for a combined December issue, for \$5.00 a year and \$10.00 a year for non-members by the ILWU, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109. Periodical postage paid at San Francisco, CA. The *Dispatcher* welcomes letters, photos and other submissions to the above address © ILWU, 2012. Postmaster: Send address changes to The *Dispatcher*, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109-6800.



Australia meeting celebrates union merger

ILWU officials travelled to Australia in early April to witness the historic merger of two militant labor unions – both longtime allies of the ILWU – who joined forces at a weeklong conference held in Fremantle, Western Australia.

Two unions

The Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) has deep roots dating to the late 1800's – once claiming a union member named Harry Bridges who went to sea before settling in the U.S. where he helped organize the ILWU.

Australia's Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) brought together a wide range of building trades, mining, timber and paper unions into a single group in 1998 that recently decided to join forces with the MUA.

Both ILWU allies

"We've been allies with both these union for many years," said ILWU International President Bob McEllrath, "Seeing them come together makes an important contribution to the cause of labor unity – while also sending a powerful message to employers."

McEllrath led an ILWU delegation that included Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, Vice Presidents Ray Familathe (Mainland) and Wesley Furtado (Hawaii). Others attending at the invitation of the Aussie unions included Local 23 President Dean McGrath and members Brian Skiffington, Theresa Samalisto and Todd Iverson; Local 13 members Mike Dimon, Sunshine Garcia and Vivian Malauulu; ILWU Canada's 3rd Vice President Romeo Bordignon and Local 502's Dan Kask.



ILWU solidarity: International President Robert McEllrath addressed the meeting with a message of solidarity.

History

Both unions chose the first day of the conference to explain their respective histories; each noting that they share a common "fighting culture" when it comes to worker advocacy. They also agreed to open their conference with a special emphasis on youth, women and aboriginal members – all of whom who are important to both unions.

International support

A panel of speakers on International Solidarity featured keynote talks by ILWU President McEllrath, Joe Fleetwood of New Zealand's Maritime

Union (MUNZ) and MUA National Secretary Paddy Crumlin who also serves as President of the International Transport Workers Federation. They joined Joe McDonald of the CFMEU to explain how the merger will benefit workers in Australia and abroad.

A second keynote panel included ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams and Steve Todd who serves as National Secretary for Britain's Rail, Maritime and Transport workers union (RMT). Local 23 President Dean McGrath served on a third panel, delivering a speech with other international guests.

Safer workplaces

Speakers opened the third day of the conference with an impassioned call to improve safety standards in the extremely hazardous occupations of construction mining, forestry, and maritime.

"We have the right to go home the same way we go to work," said the Conference's official bulletin. "Too many workers are being lost, and one death is too many. What we see in construction and maritime is hundreds of deaths and thousands of serious injuries every year that destroy families and livelihoods."

Street protest

Before the day was done, delegates left the speeches behind and marched into the streets of Fremantle to protest in front of the governments "Work-safe" office – the nation's health and safety agency that has grown weak and ineffective under years of Conservative, anti-worker control that favor business interests.

Political upheaval

The tone of the Conference was energized by a recent, dramatic political upheaval in Western Australia last month. The MUA, CFMEU, other unions and their allies ousted anti-worker Conservative politicians – and replaced them with pro-union legislators and a new political network called "Progressive Labor."

Hard work & winning formula

"It's taken years of working within the Labor Party processes, engaging with other unions, workers and community groups to deliver the winning election platform," declared the MUA's official newspaper. "Labor has finally rediscovered the winning formula – put people before profit of greedy multi-national corporations. It's clear that working people have woken up and will punish politicians who look after their corporate masters and ignore the interests of the people,"

More work ahead

Despite the recent election victory in the state of Western Australia, workers throughout the nation are still suffering from years of Conservative, anti-union politicians who control the national government.

True to their roots, both unions were undertaking protests and acts of resistance across Australia while the conference in Fremantle was underway, and both plan to keep protesting in the future.

"These unions understand that the working class has to fight in order to make progress," said ILWU President McEllrath. "The election victory in Western Australia is a good example of what it takes for working people to win."



Unity chants: Australian union members are passionate, proud and loud.



Line up: ILWU leaders were asked to stand and be recognized by their Aussie hosts.

Poll says Sanders is most popular politician



Photo by Michele Meese

Bernie Sanders speaking at a rally in San Pedro last summer with hundreds of ILWU members.

Sen. Bernie Sanders is the most popular politician in America, according to a Fox News poll taken this spring. Sanders has an exceptionally high approval rating of 61 percent, and his popularity has increased during the past year – while his “disapproval” rating stands at an unusually low 32 percent. By comparison, President Trump’s disapproval rating was 57% in

early April – the lowest rating of any President since polling began in 1945. Other details in the poll also made for painful reading at the White House:

- Fifty-seven percent said Trump doesn’t care about average Americans; only 39 percent said he does.
- Sixty-six percent said the president isn’t level-headed; only 29 percent said he’s normal.

- Sixty-one percent said Trump isn’t honest; only 34 percent believe he is.

The poll confirmed another long-term trend: the unpopularity of both political parties, with Democrats scoring a 60 percent negative rating and Republicans doing even worse. Independent voters lived up to their reputation by giving Sanders very high marks.

The Vermont Senator continues to win respect among working class

voters, half of whom now earn less than \$30,000. Sanders recently travelled to West Virginia – a state he won in the primary but Trump won in the general election. At a town hall meeting there, Sanders talked about coal, jobs, healthcare and the opioid crisis. The audience reception was positive, especially when the senator declared “healthcare is a right” and said, “Medicare for all” was the best solution.

Sanders has also been speaking out against President Trump’s efforts to target immigrant workers and blame them for unemployment and low-pay – while the President remains opposed to raising the minimum wage.

Sanders recently said, “President Trump thinks he’s a tough guy because he’s taking on farm workers who make nine or ten bucks an hour; he’s a tough guy because he can throw moms and dads out of this country. Well, I say to Mr. Trump, ‘If you’re such a tough guy, why don’t you take on the insurance companies and the drug companies and Wall Street!’”

In April, Sanders launched a speaking tour of the United States with former Labor Secretary Tom Perez, who now serves as Chair of the Democratic National Committee.

ILWU supports pro-union effort featuring Rep. Keith Ellison

The ILWU was one of many unions supporting an April 13 fundraiser dinner in San Francisco to help pro-union candidates. The annual event was sponsored by the San Francisco Labor Council’s “Committee on Political Education.” In addition to raising funds for pro-union candidates, the dinner recognizes work by different unions to help workers organize and win contracts; something the ILWU has been recognized for in past years.

This year’s featured speaker was Minnesota Congress member Keith Ellison, who delivered a speech highlighting the need for a “Medicare for all,” guaranteed free tuition at public colleges and holding Wall Street and big business more accountable. All three themes were central to Bernie Sanders’ Presidential Primary campaign last year, which Ellison strongly supported.

Ellison, made a bid to lead the Democratic National Committee in February, but was defeated by former Labor Secretary Tom Perez. Upon winning the post, Perez immediately appointed Ellison as his Vice Chair,

and the two are now working together, promoting pro-union candidates and issues across the country. In April, Perez announced a national speaking tour with Senator Bernie Sanders.

“Keith Ellison was a great speaker who hit all the right notes,” said Marina Secchitano, Regional Director of the Inlandboatmen’s Union, San Francisco Bay Region. “I came to the fundraising dinner because we need more politicians who are willing to fight for unions and working people.”



Minnesota Congressman Keith Ellison

ILWU among honorees at Cesar Chavez Banquet



Retired ILWU Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz, Jr.

Four ILWU members were among those recognized for their outstanding union leadership on April 9 at the 23rd Annual Cesar Chavez Labor Tribute Banquet held in San Pedro.

The event is organized each year by the Harry Bridges Institute to “honor men and women who have dedicated a lifetime to their union and to the rights of all workers on the birthday of Cesar Chavez, past president of the United

Farm Workers Union.” This year’s awardees included:

- Eugene Banday, who has held more than a dozen positions at Locals 13, 63 and 94 where he works today as a Foreman;
- Local 63 Dispatcher Mike “Big Daddy” Carranza;
- Retired Coast Committeeman Ray Ortiz, Jr; and
- Inlandboatmen’s Union’s (IBU) Sonia Fuentes.

The Harry Bridges Institute (HBI) was founded to meet a pressing need to educate a new generation of workers about the rich history of the labor movement; to demonstrate the working community and to showcase and celebrate the contributions of labor leaders as well as rank-and-file trade unionists, not only in the founding of unions, but in the continuous struggle for worker’s rights.

LA Congressional election pits business interests against working families

A relative handful of voters took part in an April 4th election to fill a Los Angeles Congressional seat vacated earlier this year by Xavier Becerra, who became California's Attorney General in January.

The low-turnout race attracted national attention because it was the first Congressional election since President Trump's November upset. The ten-percent turnout secured a first-place finish for California Assembly member and former union staffer Jimmy Gomez, who will square-off against former LA Planning Commissioner Robert Ahn in a June 6 runoff.

The 34th Congressional District includes downtown LA, Eagle Rock

and Koreatown neighborhoods with an overall majority of working-class and Latino families.

Several "business Democrats" entered the race, including Robert Ahn who is backed by Korean-American business leaders across the country. He raised more money than other candidates.

Another business-friendly candidate, Sara Hernandez, took maximum contributions from anti-union business leaders and emphasized her "independence" from unions. She was defeated.

As always, big money was an important factor, with 5 candidates collecting three-quarters of all contributions, including the 2 top finishers Gomez and Ahn. But big money was

no guarantee for business-friendly candidate Hernandez, who ended in a virtual tie with Bernie Sanders supporter Arturo Carmona, despite spending two-and-a-half times as much to gather just over 1500 votes.

Three candidates connected to Senator Bernie Sanders managed to split their votes, finishing 5th, 6th and 7th place. If combined, one of them could have been a formidable contender.

The June frontrunner, Gomez, is backed by a coalition including the ILWU Southern California District Council, other labor unions and elected officials.



California Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez

Seattle's John Persak runs for Port Commission



Community advocate: John Persak (second from right) says Seattle's Port Commission needs to be more accountable to the community.

John Persak's run for the Seattle Port Commission is based on his belief that, "the Port needs to be more accountable to the community." His many decades of waterfront experience, including ILWU membership, have given him a unique perspective and distinguishes him from rivals who are running for the open seat.

"I want to make sure that the Port of Seattle supports our working waterfront, airport communities, promotes environmental stewardship and creates good-paying jobs for our families." If that sounds like a lot of ground to cover, Persak says it isn't just possible – but necessary. He says citizens have a right to understand the choices and challenges facing the Port.

As one example, Persak points to a controversial \$4.8 million payout that went to Port employees, something he said was done without enough transparency.

"At the end of the day, the Port belongs to the people," he says, which is why the process needs to be opened-up and public involvement needs to increase. "Something as simple as giving people more notice when important decisions are being made can make a real difference." He thinks regular quarterly reports to the community would also be a positive step, and wants the Port to adopt ethics and fairness policies that will protect the public interest.

Persak is facing several competitors for the open seat, but they lack his background and hands-on waterfront experience.

Donations to John's campaign are strictly voluntary. His grassroots fundraising effort is off to a good start, but big business-interests are expected to bankroll other candidates who support the status quo. Donations can be sent via check to "Persak for Port," P.O. Box 84355, Seattle WA 98124 or www.facebook.com/johnpersakforport/ Please be sure to include your phone number with any donation.



Honoring their leader: Bay Area Longshore leaders gathered on April 29 to honor the many contributions made by Frank Cresci, who served 28 years as President of the Bay Area Longshoremen's Memorial Association (BALMA) until illness forced him to step aside. Members dedicated a park honoring President Emeritus Cresci. The park houses the statue of St. Francis, a modern work of art made in the late 1940's by the famous sculptor Benjamin Bufano. The ILWU and BALMA secured and protected the statue after a local Catholic parish who no longer wanted it in front of their church. Pictured is BALMA President Emeritus Frank Cresci surrounded by (L-R) BALMA Treasurer Mike Villeggiante, BALMA President Chris Christensen and BALMA Secretary Vanetta Hamlin. Vice President Trevyn McCoy also attended the event but is not pictured in the photo.

TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Deborah Stringfellow;
Local 10: Ronald E. Oliver;
Local 13: Arthur Pettersen; Steven A. Bacich; Nick Rico; Doug J. Bowen; Rowena M. Carranza; Herbert Rodriguez; John A. Corbell; Mark A. Baker; Robin R. Mahaley-Harmon; Pamela A. Brown; Geraldine A. Garcia; Anthony T. Bakotich;
Local 19: Gilbert R. Hancock, Jr.; Carl L. Jacobs; **Local 23:** Greg S. Svendsen; John C. Tuupo;
Local 63: Nancy J. Utovac; Constantino J. De La Cruz; Cathern I. Medina; **Local 92:** Gregory S. Olsen;

DECEASED PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Charles J. Lohman; **Local 10:** Huey D. Jackson; James Heuser (Rita); Albert Colondres (Patricia); Robert Antonelli; **Local 13:** Thirl Chavis; Ted Carmona Jr; **Local 19:** Gerald L.

Griffin; **Local 21:** Donald Nurmi; **Local 23:** Keith A. Thorson; **Local 34:** Gene Crowe; **Local 50:** Curtis L. Olson; **Local 63:** Lawrence M. Gimenez; Thomas N. Dancy; **Local 75:** Robert C. Love; **Local 91:** Juan Pineda; **Local 94:** Paul G. Meliotta;

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 7: Virginia Owens; **Local 8:** Mary Anne Milsten; Beth Parker; Mary C. Harrison; **Local 10:** Willie Mae Lowe; Verna Jackson; **Local 13:** Florence Dandrea; Neila A. Keseloff; Margaret L. Crump; Lorraine Mavar; Carmen Pacheco; **Local 14:** Patricia J. Powell; **Local 26:** Esperanza F. Richardson; **Local 51:** Ella-Nor Farnsworth; **Local 54:** Etha I. Owens; **Local 63:** Lydia E. Faria; Edna M. Mullins; **Local 92:** Estelle R. George; **Local 94:** Bonnie J. Enyeart

Local 6 holds 70th Annual Convention

On April 1, ILWU Local 6 held its 70th Annual Constitutional Convention at their hall in Oakland. It was attended by 51 registered delegates plus guests who began their meeting at 8:30am and adjourned 90 minutes later.

In his remarks to the convention, newly-elected Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Chris Castaing discussed his priorities for the local: fixing the pension plan, holding back future

increases on what retirees pay for health and welfare, organizing, maintenance and repairs on the hall, bargaining upcoming contracts, and listening to members.

“We are only as strong as our members’ commitment. The local’s leadership must be engaged in regular dialogue with our members over the issues we are facing and what we propose to do. That issue means getting out into the workplace for face-to-face contact.”

He said that Local 6 is currently in contract negotiations with Stratas

Foods, and negotiations are coming up for Saroni Foods, International Paper and the Master Contract.

Castaing said that local faces many difficult challenges and that there will be no quick fixes or easy answers to the pension plan and costs for retirees’ health care.

Before adjourning, the convention delegates passed a resolution to reconvene the local’s organizing committee, and another to support immigrant rights.



Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Chris Castaing

El Local 6 celebra su 70ª Convención Anual

El 1 de abril, el Local 6 de ILWU celebró su 70ª Convención Constitucional Anual en su salón de asambleas en Oakland. Asistieron 51 delegados registrados, además de invitados, los cuales iniciaron su reunión a las 8:30 am y la terminaron poco después de las 10:30 am.

En sus comentarios a la convención, Chris Castaing, el recién elegido secretario tesorero del Local 6, expuso sus prioridades para el Local: arreglar el plan de pensiones, controlar los futuros aumentos en los costos de los beneficios de salud y bienestar para los jubilados, la sindicalización, el mantenimiento y reparación del edificio del local, negociación de los próximos contratos y prestar atención a los miembros.

“Nuestra fuerza depende del compromiso de nuestros miembros. Los dirigentes de nuestro local deben mantener un diálogo constante con los miembros sobre las cuestiones que estamos enfrentando y lo que proponemos hacer. Eso implica hacer acto de presencia en los lugares de trabajo y mantener el contacto personal.”

Él dijo que el Local 6 está negociando actualmente el contrato con Stratas Foods, y se aproximan las negociaciones con Saroni Foods, Internacional Paper y del Contrato Maestro.

Castaing dijo que el local se enfrenta a muchos retos difíciles y que no habrá respuestas fáciles o soluciones rápidas para el plan de pensiones y los costos de asistencia médica para jubilados.

Antes de levantar la sesión, los delegados a la convención aprobaron una resolución para reactivar el comité de organización del local y otro para la defensa de los derechos de inmigrantes.

ILWU marches on May Day



Puget Sound: After ILWU Local 19 members hung a banner from a crane in solidarity, members from Locals 19, 23, 52, and the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific (IBU, ILWU’s Marine Division) marched on May Day in Seattle with several thousand immigrants and refugees, indigenous people, union members, and community organizations.



Bay Area support: ILWU members were among hundreds who marched in San Francisco to support immigrants and other causes on May Day. Longshore members reached agreement with waterfront employers to move their monthly “stop-work” meeting to May 1, allowing for a show of solidarity with other workers who marched and rallied across the country.

ILWU Walk the Coast raised \$84k in 2016 to fight childhood cancers

The Local 13 Memorial Hall was the meeting place for a lunch and check presentation to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation CEO Liz Scott.

The 2016 ILWU Walk the Coast fundraiser, sponsored by the members of International Longshore and Warehouse Union Locals 13, 63, 46, 94 and the ILWU Southern California Pensioners, raised \$84,050 to support Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation's fight against childhood cancer. ALSF was founded by 4 year old Alexandra Scott. While in the hospital, Alex told her mother that she would hold a lemonade stand to help children. She and her brother raised \$2000. Before her passing at age 8, she produced \$1,000,000 for others. Each \$50 raised equals one hour of the research needed to find cures. Liz Scott accepted the donation with words of praise for all those that contributed to this worthy cause. Her extraordinary daughter would have

turned 21 this year. Supporters around the world are committed to continuing Alex's inspiring legacy.

On Saturday, August 12, the ILWU Walk the Coast Committee is planning a community fundraiser. Every ILWU local is invited to fight children's cancer by entering individually or as a team (Go to www.alexscostrun.org, register or find your local's team) for our 5k race, 1 mile family walk or 1k Kids Fun Run. We will crown the ILWU 5k Team Championship.

Alex's Coast Run: the details

Fantastic 5k course with beauty and challenge. Start time is 8:30 am at the cool Pacific Ocean cliffs and the Point Fermin Lighthouse. The race will be timed by *Racewire* with moderate climb past WWII gun batteries. Enjoy scenic views as you round the Korean Friendship Bell and head back down to the coast and the flat stretch along scenic Paseo Del Mar. Sprint back to the finish line - Point Fermin Park.



Photo by Mickey Gonzales (13)

Raising money to fight childhood cancer: Bottom row left to right: Rudy Alba (94), Victor Gallardo (46), Dan Imbagliazzo (Chairman), Jerry Garretson & Herman Moreno (Pensioners), Liz Scott (CEO Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation), Robert Maynez (Coast Coordinator), Paul Trani (63), Ed Alexander and Daniel Miranda (94), Joshua Flores (13), Top row left to right: Mike Outland (PCMC), Cathy Familathe (63), Ida Taylor (Women's Auxiliary), Adin Gardenswartz (SSA), Laura Gallardo-Jimenez, Esther Imbagliazzo, Mike Bodlovich (Pensioner), Ken Kirchoff (Matson), John Fageaux (63 OCU), Greg Mitre (Pensioner) Rob York (ILWU Credit Union), Mike Trudeau (94), Ignacio Enriquez (13).

1 Mile Family Walk

The whole family and all age groups can participate in their flat 1 mile comfortable walk along picturesque Point Fermin's coast line. Start at 8:30 am.

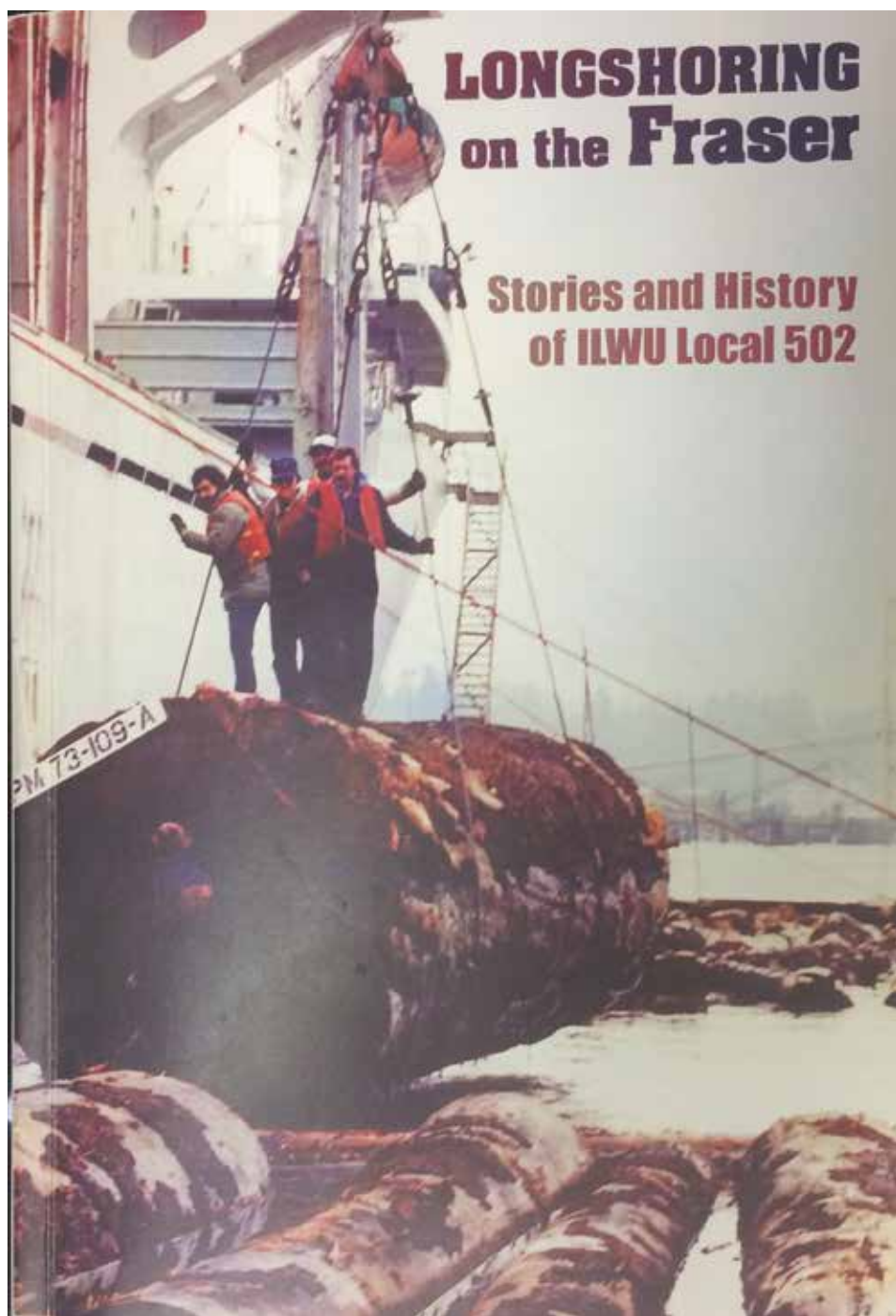
1K Kids' Fun Run

After mom and dad run the 5k, the kids can compete in their own 1k Kids Fun Run. Start time is 9:30 and it all

takes place around views in the park. Grandma and grandpa can cheer as the kids dash around the Point Fermin Lighthouse. There is a supervised play area that can be used while mom and dad run their 5k. Ages 8 to 14 register for \$10.

For more details and to register - www.alexscostrun.org. Questions, please email: rmaynez@ilwu63.net.

Longshoring the Fraser: Stories and history of ILWU Local 502



While there are many books detailing the history of the 1934 West Coast waterfront strike, ILWU leaders like Harry Bridges, Lou Goldblatt and Jack Hall, the ILWU's role in unionizing agricultural workers in Hawaii and other aspects of the ILWU history, far less has been written about the history of Canadian longshore workers.

Longshoring the Fraser fills an important gap in the history of the ILWU with a comprehensive and well researched book that tells the story of ILWU Local 502 and its relationship to the City of New Westminster. The book skillfully uses oral histories, archival photographs and detailed historical documents to paint a compelling description of waterfront work and working class culture in British Columbia.

Each chapter details the changing nature of work on the docks and the challenges workers faced adapting to these changes from the early days of break-bulk cargo and the shape-up to the modern era of containerization.

While ILWU Local 502 was chartered in 1944 and efforts to unionize the waterfront began in the early 20th Century, the struggle by dock workers to improve their wages and conditions began even well before that. Longshoring the Fraser begins in 1859 with the story of establishment of New Westminster as

Western Canada's busiest freshwater port where steam and sail ships were hand-loaded with lumber and other agricultural products for export.

Until the ILWU established a presence in 1944, longshore workers in Westminister either had no collective representation at all, or were represented by competing organizations such as the Canadian Longshoremen's Association or the International Longshoremen's Association, neither of which were able to effectively protect the interests of dockworkers.

The second chapter describes the tumultuous and violent events of the 1930's and '40's that culminated in the chartering of Local 502 as the Second World War was coming to a close.

The post-WWII boom period is detailed in the third chapter, as trade in Westminister and other Fraser River ports increased dramatically.

Chapter four tells the story of the '60's and '70's that brought containerization, and restructuring of the shipping industry as cargo shifted towards deep water coastal ports that were better able to handle increasingly larger vessels.

The fifth chapter explains how Local 502 adapted to these changes that supported new patterns of trade. The book concludes with a look at Local 502's future prospects and ongoing efforts to educate members, casuals, and the wider community of Westminister, B.C., about the importance of waterfront jobs.

Paid summer internships for social change

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Union Summer is a paid (\$15/hour) summer internship program for people interested in getting involved in the labor movement.

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For details and information, contact the Harry Bridges Center at hbcls@uw.edu or call (206) 543-7946.



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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**

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