On the line for justice page 3

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THE INSIDE NEWS

See important ILWU Election Notice on page 2

Heartbreak at Longview 3
Coast Caucus meets in Portland 3
Washington State primary voting recommendations 3
TRANSITIONS 3
Program and Policies adopted by the 37th Convention 4
Candidate statements 12

Scenes from the 37th: ILWU delegates from the West Coast, Hawaii, Alaska, Canada and Panama joined fraternal delegates from all over the world in Portland at the ILWU convention. This year’s theme, “The Next Chapter Begins,” marked the retirement of President Robert McEllrath, who will “hang up his hook” later this year when his term expires.

The next chapter begins now: ILWU’s 37th Convention in Portland

The ILWU’s 37th Convention met in Portland, Oregon on June 4-8. A total of 349 delegates and 40 fraternal delegates attended, along with up to 100 observers who witnessed the triannual meeting. The ILWU convention is the union’s highest decision-making body that meets every three years to democratically set policy, program, and consider changes to the ILWU Constitution.

McEllrath’s final keynote
ILWU International President Robert McEllrath delivered the keynote address on the Convention’s opening day. It was his final convention as an officer and member; he will step down as President by the end of this year, having reached the maximum age of 65 for holding a top office in the ILWU. McEllrath also announced his plans to retire and spend time with his family, instead of returning to the waterfront where he started working 49 years ago. ILWU members elected him to serve four terms as ILWU International President, starting in 2006. Before that, McEllrath served nine years as ILWU Vice President for the Mainland.

ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams introduced McEllrath, thanking him for a lifetime of service to the ILWU and calling McEllrath a “tireless crusader” who has been “unwavering” and constantly tested by challenging events.

“Your name will be etched in stone along with the other past Presidents of the ILWU,” said Adams. McEllrath started his address on a lighter note by poking fun at his aversion to technology, explaining, “many of you know that I’m not into Facebook or Twitter, but the Marine Clerks have been encouraging me to be more open-minded about new technology, so I’m learning.”

McEllrath then surprised the crowd by pulling out a selfie stick and snapping a photo of himself with hundreds of convention delegates in the background who burst into laughter.

His speech began by recognizing the hard work of the other titled officers: Vice President (Mainland) Ray Familathe, Vice President (Hawaii) Wesley Furtado, and Secretary-Treasurer Willie Adams, as well as Coast Committeemen Frank Ponce De Leon and Cameron Williams, and Coast Benefits Director John Castanho.

McEllrath then reviewed the many challenges, contract fights and organizing victories that occurred during his term as President. He celebrated the good work done in the community by local members up and down the coast, and highlighted initiatives by ILWU members who sent delegations to Standing Rock, Puerto Rico and Honduras.

His speech ended by stating, “The next chapter begins now.”
Aviso de elecciones internacionales de ILWU
(Para colocarse en todos los salones y oficinas sindicales de ILWU entre el 23 de julio de 2018 y el 6 de septiembre de 2018)

La elección por votación secreta de los miembros internacionales de ILWU se está realizando por correo para seleccionar oficiales de ILWU a puestos directivos y a miembros de la Junta Ejecutiva Internacional. Además, para los miembros de los locales de la División de Trabajadores Puertos de la Costa Oeste, la votación por correo también incluirá la oportunidad de elegir dos miembros del Comité de la Costa. El procedimiento de votación por correo es el único método que se está utilizando para votar en las elecciones. Se está llevando a cabo de conformidad con las reglas y procedimientos electorales de ILWU, que se encuentran en la parte posterior de la Constitución de ILWU. A más tardar el lunes 23 de julio de 2018, los paquetes serán enviados por correo a todos los miembros de ILWU que figuran en las listas de votantes acreditados que hayan sido presentadas por los locales y divisiones afiliadas.

Si por algún motivo no recibe por correo un paquete con la boleta para el lunes 30 de julio de 2018, y si cree que es un miembro de ILWU que tiene derecho de votar en esta elección, puede obtener un paquete de votación llamando personalmente a Global Election Services, la agencia externa que está ayudando con esta elección, al número gratuito que corresponde a su zona:

- E.U. continental y Hawaii – 1-800-864-1263
- Canadá – 877-455-9367
- Alaska – 888-507-7273
- Panamá – 888-840-7574

Dado que la mayoría de los miembros de ILWU deben recibir su paquete de votación con el envío regular, las llamadas telefónicas a Global Election Services no serán aceptadas hasta después del 29 de julio de 2018. Solo se puede obtener un paquete con la boleta electoral mediante Global Election Services en lugar de ILWU, el Comité de Procedimientos Electorales de ILWU, los locales y gremios afiliados a ILWU, o cualquiera de sus oficiales o representantes.

Por favor, tenga en cuenta que todos los votantes deben devolver sus boletas por correo en los sobres que vienen con el paquete de votación y a tiempo para que lleguen a la casilla de correos designada en San Francisco, Calif., a más tardar a las 9:00 am PDT el 6 de septiembre de 2018. Las boletas que sean devueltas por el votante antes del 6 de septiembre de 2018, la fecha límite, pero que lleguen después de esa fecha no serán contadas en ninguna circunstancia. Para evitar que voten las personas que no reúnan las condiciones para hacerlo, por favor tenga en cuenta que cualquier persona que solicite un paquete de votación y que no esté en la lista de votantes acreditados recibirá una boleta sujeta a impugnación. Todas las boletas impugnadas estarán sujetas a una posible revisión posterior sobre los requisitos reunidos por el votante para votar. Además, los paquetes con boletas llevan un código electrónico para evitar que sea contada más de una boleta por persona. Si el votante devuelve más de una boleta por correo, la boleta que lleve la fecha más reciente en el matasellos o el sello de recepción será contada y las anteriores serán anuladas. Además, si no es posible determinar el sello de correos o el sello de recepción más reciente, todas las boletas que sean echadas por un mismo votante serán anuladas.

Todo miembro de ILWU que tenga una pregunta sobre las elecciones puede llamar al Comité de Procedimientos Electorales de ILWU al 1-415-775-0533 para que deje un mensaje de correo de voz. Si usted llama antes de las 9:00 a.m. o después de las 5:00 p.m. o en los fines de semana y días festivos, por favor marque la extensión 150 para que se conecte al correo de voz correcto. Los mensajes que queden grabados en el correo de voz serán atendidos sin demora.
## Washington State PSDC 2018 Primary Endorsements

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<td>Denny Heck (D)</td>
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## Washington State House of Representatives

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<td>Lillian Ortiz-Self</td>
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## Coast Caucus meets in Portland

Following the ILWU’s 37th International Convention in Portland, delegates from the Coast Longshore Division convened their Coast Caucus meeting on June 11-15 in the City of Roses.

The Caucus is the democratically-elected decision-making body that sets policy for roughly 15,000 Longshore Division members, including Longshore workers, Clerks and Walking Bosses. A total of 95 delegates attended this Caucus, representing dozens of locals in California, Oregon and Washington State. Another 55 Fraternal Delegates were on hand from the separate Hawaii and Alaska Longshore Divisions. ILWU Canada Longshore leaders normally attend Caucus meetings, but were unable to do so this time because of negotiations.

Special guests included Terje Fenn Samuelsen, First Vice President of the Norwegian Transport Workers Union (NTF) that represents dockers in Norway. He thanked delegates for welcoming him to observe the Caucus, and explained that ILWU solidarity is especially important now because employers in Norway and throughout Europe are trying to dismantle longstanding labor contracts and union jurisdictions, under the guise of “free trade” and “competition.”

As always, a healthy contingent of Pensioners actively participated in the Caucus.

Caucus business is conducted through the passage of policy resolutions, along with discussions led by standing committees that cover Negotiations, Legislation and Safety. Other committees cover issues including the budget, education, 401(k), pension & welfare, longshore technology & jurisdiction, maintenance & repair technology and jurisdiction, and communications/public relations.

The Caucus concluded on Friday with delegates bidding a final farewell to ILWU International President Bob McEllrath, who also leads the Coast Committee leadership body. Standing at the podium, McEllrath thanked the “rank-and-file for allowing me to serve in this great union.” Delegates responded with a standing ovation, until McEllrath said his final goodbye and adjourned the Caucus.

The next Caucus date hasn’t been set, but is expected to meet in the Spring of 2019.

## Heartbreak at Longview: Two killed and two injured when vessel line snaps

A third-generation Longshore worker and a vessel crew member died after a line snapped on the bulk carrier MV ANSAC Splendor at approximately 1:30 am on June 28.

Byron “Jake” Jacobs, a 16-year member of Local 21, died on the dock from a traumatic head injury. The ship’s Chief Mate, Pingshan Li of China, suffered critical injuries on the ship and died that evening at a Vancouver hospital.

A Local 21 Longshore worker and a Local 28 Security Guard were also hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries.

“This is a tragic day on the waterfront,” said Local 21 President Jake Ford. “Byron was an active member of the union, loved his work and will be incredibly missed.”

Robert McEllrath, ILWU International President, noted that Jacobs stepped up and fought for his union’s jurisdiction when EGT tried to open a non-union grain export facility at the port in 2011.

“I remember Brother Jacobs as a good man who worked hard for his family and his union,” McEllrath told The Daily News. “We will continue fighting every day to make our jobs safer, because the most terrible news is when a parent doesn’t come home from work,” he said.

Jacobs and his wife, Megan, have three young children. A candlelight vigil in Jacobs’ honor was attended by about 300 people at the terminal the day after he died.

This story was developing at press time, and we will have more information in the next issue of the Dispatcher.

## On the line for justice:

Longshore workers from the Northwest grain locals held a one-day ULP strike on June 19 over the unfair labor practice committed by PacifiCorp, the owner of two grain export terminals on the Columbia River. ILWU members who handle PacifiCorp’s grain exports at Kalama Export (KEK) in Kalama, WA, and Columbia Export (CET) in Portland, struck at both facilities to focus attention on the fact that the employer has refused to provide information that the Union requested in March and is entitled to under the law. The ILWU has open labor agreements at both of PacifiCorp’s grain terminals and is in negotiations with the employer. “The Union is entitled to this information, and it’s unacceptable for the employer to be withholding these important documents,” said Coast Committeeman Cam Williams.

## TRANSITIONS

### NEW PENSIONERS:

- **Local 8:** John P. Miken; Marty D. Broadie; Terrance L. Iddings; Local 10: Julio Fernandez; Local 13: Jacqueline M. Ruelas; Wayne Allen; Gordon L. Bruce; Arthur Villanueva; Local 18: Mark A. Skinner; Lyle D. Gill; Chad Rivers; Local 21: Kevin V. Stinger; Local 23: Gerald C. Wood; Local 46: Mooss V. Santana; Local 63: Michael Olivera; Wendy L. Cadwell; Nosa Andronneb; Nonni O. Cels; Shashe S. Pigram; John M. Carranza

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

- **Local 19:** Terry U. Jones; Local 29: D. Godfrey; Local 34: Daniel N. Bezin; Wayne A. Airo; Local 50: James O. Gibson; Clarence L. Kaufman; Local 52: John Mathewson; Local 62: Arnold Tracheli

### DECEASED SURVIVORS:

- **Local 6:** John P. Miken; Frank Koch (Maggie Davenport); Willie R. Niou; Local 12: William H. Long, Jr.; Local 13: Sam H. Madison Jr; Leon McCoy Jr; Scott B. Dalton; Vjeolajove Stipcicve; Floyd J. Wright; John C. Grose (Margaret); Terry U. Jones; Local 19: Paul L. Firovec; Local 21: Paul W. Souther; Local 24: Paul D. Godfrey; Local 34: Daniel N. Bezin; Wayne A. Airo; Local 50: James O. Gibson; Clarence L. Kaufman; Local 52: John Mathewson; Local 62: Arnold Tracheli

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Every three years there is an International Convention, and, as per the International Constitution, it rotates among the following areas in accordance with the schedule below:

- 2021: Panama
- 2024: Northern California Area
- 2027: ILWU Canada
- 2030: Washington/Puget Sound/Alaska
- 2033: Southern California Area
- 2036: Hawaii Area
- 2039: Oregon/Columbia River Area

Each area takes pride in hosting the Convention as it is an opportunity to highlight their cultural, social, and natural resources. The Convention is an opportunity for the ILWU family to set policy governing the International Union, break bread with each other, and renew old friendships. It is an important event in the life of the ILWU and its members.

The International Union is responsible for the business aspect of the Convention—contracting with a hotel, arranging for meeting rooms, developing the agenda, etc. The Area Host Committee, composed of the locals, ILWU members and other affiliated unions in the area, is responsible for the social events of the Convention, such as the Sunday evening reception, Thursday night banquet, daytime excursions for family and friends of the delegates, etc.

The cost of the Host Committee activities often exceeds $400,000, and is rising. For areas with a small membership base, such as Panama and the Oregon/Columbia River Areas, this cost is a very heavy burden on the members. The Titled Officers and the International Executive Board believe that the cost of the Area Host Committee activities should be subsidized by the entire union membership. We, therefore, recommend that there be a “Convention Host Committee Fund” established in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Each month between Conventions, twenty-five cents ($0.25) will be deducted from each of the International Per Capita payments per member and allocated to the “Convention Host Committee Fund.”

2. The Convention Host Committee Fund shall have a cap of $350,000. If and when that cap is reached, the $0.25 allocation from the Per Capita will cease.

3. The Convention Host Committee Fund shall be used exclusively to fund host committee activities at International Conventions.

4. In order for those areas that do not pay per capita to the International Union, e.g. ILWU Canada and Panama Canal Division, to receive funds from the Convention Host Committee Fund, they must contribute twenty-five cents ($0.25) per member per month to the Convention Host Committee Fund.

5. That the Titled Officers and Trustees, together with area Host Committee, file an end of convention financial report to the IEB within 24 months of the end of the convention.

6. Prior to sending any money to the Host Committee Fund, the Host Committee shall submit a proposed budget to the titled officers.

The Titled Officers and the International Executive Board recommend that $100,000 of the International’s existing assets be dedicated to a Disaster Relief Fund. This would not require an increase in per capita as existing funds are being allocated and not new money. The Titled Officers are hereby authorized to make donations from the Disaster Relief Fund, in amounts totaling $100,000 plus any supplemental contributions by members and affiliates, over a three-year period (time between Conventions) for disasters such as, but not limited to, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, tsunamis, floods, and famine. The Titled Officers will make full and complete reports to the IEB as to the use of the Disaster Relief Funds.

Donations from members, retirees, family members, and locals for disaster relief will first add to the Disaster Relief Fund. If, at the start of a new three-year cycle, the Disaster Relief Fund is less than $100,000, then the shortfall will be made up from existing assets of the International. The IEB has the authority to waive these limits when it is in the interests of the ILWU.

It is an unfortunate fact that continued employer and government attacks on the working class has had a negative impact on the membership of the ILWU so that any area, Northern California, would lose one member on the International Executive Board (IEB). It is imperative in these difficult times that rather than reducing or limiting the representation on the IEB, just the opposite occur—we open the IEB up to more voices so that we can better address the challenges and problems of the entire union going forward.

Those areas of the ILWU that are the hardest hit, namely Warehouse, need to have a voice on the IEB to better educate the leadership of the Union as to its problems and possible solutions. The broad, collective voice of the entire, diverse membership of the ILWU needs to be heard at the IEB so that programs can be put into place to grow and strengthen all divisions of the ILWU.

Therefore, we recommend several changes to the composition of the IEB. First, no area represented on the IEB should lose an IEB member because of a decline in membership. Second, there should be an additional IEB member from Warehouse from both Oregon/Columbia River and Washington/Puget Sound. Finally, for those areas with three (3) or more IEB members, one member shall be elected from a non-longshore area such as Panama and the Oregon/Columbia River Areas, to represent the ILWU’s non-longshore areas. Finally, for those areas with three (3) or more IEB Members, one member shall be from an industry other than Longshore.

The Titled Officers and the International Executive Board recommend that Article VI, Section 2, in part, to read: “The allocation of Executive Board members in the areas shall be in the following manner: for the first 1,000 members or less, one Executive Board member; over 1,000 and up to 3,000 members, two Executive Board members; over 3,000 and up to 10,000 members, three Executive Board members; over 10,000 and up to 14,000, four Executive Board members. Any area with more than 14,000 members shall be entitled to one ex-officio member of the Executive Board, who shall be determined by the local involved and whose replacement, if they cannot attend a meeting, shall be determined by the local involved. (ILWU Canada, the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific—Marine Division of the ILWU, and the Panama Canal Division shall each be entitled to one member of the Executive Board.)”

Withholding the above allocation, no area shall lose an Executive Board member because of the loss of membership and the following areas shall be entitled to one additional Executive Board member from Warehouse: Oregon/Columbia River and Washington/Puget Sound. Those areas that have three (3) or more Executive Board Members, one member shall be from an industry other than Longshore.

The Titled Officers and the International Executive Board recommend that Article XI, Section 1.A of the International Constitution be updated to reflect the current Convention schedule. Article XI, Section 1., second paragraph will be revised to read:

Conventions shall be held on the following rotational basis in a host city of each area enumerated, except when granted an exception by the International Executive Board as stated above:
It is the policy of the International Union to keep the benefits available under the Officers and Staff Pension Plan in line with those benefits available under the longshore industry pension plan. We, therefore, recommend the following changes to the Officers and Staff Pension Plan to bring it in line with the pension improvements of the longshore contract extension.

Retiree Benefits
We recommend that the benefit for retirees under the Officers and Staff Pension Plan, except for those who retired from terminated-vested status, be increased, over three years, in accordance with Table 1. Note, this phase in schedule is identical to that provided under the recently extended longshore contract.

Surviving Spouses
We recommend that the benefit for surviving spouses be increased in accordance with the schedule listed in Table 2. Again, this recommendation will maintain parity between retirees under the Officers and Staff Pension Plan and the retirees under the longshore contract extension. This will raise the surviving spouse benefit to seventy-five percent (75%) for all surviving spouses by July 1, 2021.

Accrual Rate
We recommend that the benefit accrual rate and the maximum monthly benefit under the Officers and Staff Pension Plan be increased from $200 per month per year of service to $215 per month per year of service in accordance with the schedule listed in Table 3. Again, this change brings the benefit for active participants in line with those benefits under the longshore contract extension.

Early Retirement Window
Finally, there will be a three-year early retirement window from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022 in which a participant age 59-1/2 and older with thirteen (13) or more years of service can retire without a reduction for early retirement.

These improvements will increase minimum required contributions, but they will not increase the actual contributions as the employers are currently contributing more than the minimum required contribution. These improvements will add approximately $270,000 to the minimum required contribution and $1,400,000 in liabilities when fully implemented in 2021. The ILWU’s share of the increase in annual cost is $54,000 when the benefits are fully implemented in 2021. This cost increase has been incorporated into the 2018-2020 budget.
of the International to each Convention. The President shall appoint..."

Second Example: Article 8, Section 3 – "The charge shall be presented to the International President (or if they are the charging officer, to the International Secretary-Treasurer), and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: That, whenever appropriate, such as in oaths of office, as a greeting to crowds, etc., the ILWU and its officers utilize the phrase "workers" in addition to "brothers and sisters"; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That ILWU encourage affiliate locals to take the same actions within their own houses as well.

ALLOW PANAMA CANAL DIVISION MEMBERS TO VOTE (CP-12)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: that the ILWU 37th Convention votes to allow, for those members who do not have home addresses or Post Office Boxes, ballots addressed to each ILWU Panama Canal Division member, to be mailed to the "General Delivery" Post Office located in either Balboa or Colon, Panama, whichever is closest to their place of employment.

DIGITIZE AND PRESERVE THE ILWU PAST AND FUTURE CONVENTION (CP-15)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU begin digitizing the past ILWU Convention Proceedings so that they may be preserved, made searchable, accessible, and easier to share; BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That in addition to printing future Convention proceedings, that all Future Convention Proceedings shall be digitized.

OCU LOCAL 63 (CP-16)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU Constitution be amended to include (1) seat on the IEB for the ILWU Office Clerical Unit (OCU) of Local 63 from Southern California; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That Article VI SECTION II be amended to include: The (OCU) in Southern California shall compose an area.

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ILWU APP (R-5)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: the ILWU immediately take on a feasibility study on the development of a smartphone app; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: that if the development of such an app is determined feasible (as decided by the IEB), that project will be initiated as directed by the IEB (either in-house or in partnership with a third party); and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: RESOLVED if the IEB moves the project forward, that all ILWU Locals will be contacted to weigh in on the desired functionalities for the proposed app; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: if the IEB moves the project forward, that it will be given a high level of priority for completion within a reasonable timeline, as determined by the IEB

RANK AND FILE PARTICIPATION IN UNION DEMOCRACY (R-6)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: the ILWU devise a get out the vote (GOTV) outreach campaign that is ready for implementation by or before the 2021 Convention; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: the GOTV campaign will be utilized for not just internal union elections but also, if appropriate, for regional and/or national elections as well; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: the GOTV campaign will continue for at least two ILWU election cycles in order to determine the efficacy of the campaign.

ROBERT MCELLRATH (R-26)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: While it is not possible to express in words our heartfelt appreciation for Bob, this 37th International Convention of the ILWU wishes to recognize his dedication and service to the ILWU by bestowing upon President Robert McEllrath the title of "President Emeritus."

ORGANIZING TO SURVIVE (CP-13)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Officers of the ILWU immediately, upon taking office, embark on a search to find the best candidate possible (whether internal or external) to fill the vacant role of Director of Organizing, a person who can fulfill the ILWU vision of organizing the unorganized to life; THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: That each of the following geographical areas of the West Coast (Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Northern California, and Southern California) be staffed (as soon as possible) with a full-time organizer who lives in the area and is tasked with the primary duty of organizing that area; THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: That those organizers will also, when duty calls, assist locals in any other area with organizing efforts in their area; THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: That as the ILWU brings these organizers on staff, that the Organizing Department engages in active development of a strategic plan to aggressively seek out new organizing targets in all of the areas and work with the locals to gain new targets; THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That once these targets are identified, the ILWU Organizing Department, which then will be better staffed and prepared to battle, will further develop a plan to make contact with workers in these targeted houses, a plan which may include the staff organizers, SALTS, workers, organizers, or any combination thereof, along with volunteers from area locals. Whatever it takes. The ILWU won’t die if we organize.

Tending our Traditions

SUPPORT THE AH QUON MCELrATH DOCUMENTARY PROJECT (R-1)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the 37th Convention of the ILWU International Union supports the Ah Quon McElrath Documentary Project; BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That ILWU members and pensioners are urged to make contributions to complete the documentary project to the UH Foundation (memo line: AQ McElrath Fund), P. O. Box 11270, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828), or you can donate online at uhfoundation.org/give. To donate to the AQ Fund, enter 127-9500-4 in the select a fund "by 8-Digit Fund Number" box.

STATEMENT OF POLICY ON HONORING FRED PECKER (R-4)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Titled Officers, ILWU International Executive Board and 37th International Convention do hereby honor, recognize and celebrate Brother Fred Pecker’s many important contributions to our union; BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That the officers and delegates assembled here, are united in extending our deepest compassion and humanity to Brother Pecker. We are grateful for your characteristic determination, grace, good humor and concern for others. You have stood strong with us, Brother Pecker, as we now stand with you and your family during this challenging time.

ON THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE IBU (R-21)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the International Longshore and Warehouse Union’s thirty-seventh convention honor and dedicate this convention to the past and future sisters and brothers of the marine division and their continued struggles and; THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That the ILWU Dispatcher honor the IBU Anniversary by dedicating a future edition of the newspaper to this magnificent achievement.

Helping our Brothers and Sisters

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL 30 (R-2)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the International will provide support in all forms necessary, be it international representation, and legal as well as research assistance in our upcoming 2021 negotiations.
RESOLVED: That the ILWU will continue helping and providing all necessary support for the courageous organizing effort by animal care workers to form unions, affiliate with the ILWU, partner with the National Veterinary Professionals Union, and win improvements for workers, pet owners, and the animals that they love.

REGAINING IBU JOBS ON ALCATRAZ FERRY SERVICE (R-12)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU will continue to support the IBU in its struggle, going forward, with the ultimate goal of regaining union representation of the Alcatraz Ferry Service.

SUPPORT OF ILWU LOCAL 56 SHIP SCALERS (R-19)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: that the ILWU Local 56 is recognized and supported as the environmental labor and hazardous material emergency unit response, along Local 56 jurisdictions, where there are no other ILWU local unions which may be affected; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: that the ILWU supports Local 56 in the labor being done in Marine oil, and chemical terminals where no other ILWU union are affected; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: that the ILWU locals will report to Local 56 when they observe any of the aforementioned environmental hazardous materials companies working in ILWU Local 56 jurisdictions, and said jurisdiction being from San Diego county line to San Francisco Bay county line.

IN SUPPORT OF THE JONES ACT (R-20)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU continues its vigilance to protect the Jones Act; and THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: That the ILWU will commit resources to organize and educate rank and file, elected officials and the general public about the importance of preserving this anchor of US maritime heritage that is the Jones Act.

SUPPORT OF STOPPING THE THREAT OF ANTI-UNION EDISON CHOUEST (R-22)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the IUB and the ILWU will work together to thwart the stem of anti-unionism being brought to our shores by Edison Chouest.

AMHA PRIVATIZATION (R-24)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU go on record supporting the IUB Marine Divisions fight against the privatization of the AMHS and the degradation of our entire bargaining agreement.

SUPPORT PET CARE WORKERS (R-27)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the ILWU will continue helping and providing all necessary support for the courageous organizing effort by animal care workers to form unions, affiliate with the ILWU, partner with the National Veterinary Professionals Union, and win improvements for workers, pet owners, and the animals that they both love.

HORNBLOWER CRUISES AND EVENTS (R-28)

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: that the ILWU will continue to assist the San Francisco Region of the IBU in obtaining information and building alliances to help combat Hornblower.
37th ILWU Convention: 349 elected ILWU delegates and 40 fraternal delegates met in Portland, Oregon on June 4-8th. The ILWU Convention occurs every three years to decide policies and programs for the union. The next convention will be in 2021 in San Francisco, CA.

Committee work: Local 8 President Bruce Holte at work in the Credentials/Officers Report Committee.

Local 63 Superintendents: ILWU members from Local 63 Superintendents spoke to the convention about their recent organizing drive on the docks of Southern California. From left to right are Damien Satete, Kelly Donders, Tim Campbell, and Bob Gladney.

Solidarity signing: Katsushige Mashima, President of the All Japan Dockworkers, renewed the Solidarity Agreement with the ILWU.

MUNZ Solidarity: “Unity, solidarity and internationalism aren’t just words. They’re the way we live,” said Joe Fleetwood, General Secretary of the Maritime Union of New Zealand.
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Docker Podcast: ILWU International President Robert McEllrath (left) is interviewed for the Docker Podcast by ILWU Canada Second Vice President Dan Kask and Local 502 Casual Stephanie Dobler.

Local 13 President Mark Mendoza was one of many speakers who thanked International President Robert McEllrath for his dedication and decades of service to the ILWU.

Fighting for family: Local 40 member, George O’Neil, brought his granddaughter to remind delegates about what the ILWU is fighting for.
The next chapter begins now: ILWU’s 37th Convention in Portland

continued from page 1

Paddy Crumlin: National Secretary for the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) and President of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF), Paddy Crumlin, celebrated the importance of unions that have fought for generations to advance the interests of workers and have defended the gains that have been made from constant assaults by employers. Crumlin said that the powerful economic interests attack unions because they fear our strength and genuine democracy.

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Joe Fleetwood

After Crumlin, the convention heard from General Secretary of the Maritime Union of New Zealand (MUNZ) Joe Fleetwood. He talked about the long history of solidarity between MUNZ and the ILWU, noting that Harry Bridges used to attend their conventions in New Zealand. “Unity, solidarity and internationalism aren’t just words,” Fleetwood said, “they’re the way we live.” Fleetwood thanked President McEllrath for the ILWU during their dispute with the Ports of Auckland.

Steve Cotton

Steve Cotton is the General Secretary, who holds the top staff position at the International Transport Workers Federation. He said it was an honor to speak before the ILWU delegates and praised the uniqueness of the ILWU in the North American labor movement, noting the ILWU’s strength and power that has established a global standard for dockworkers wages and working conditions. Working men and women need inspiration from trade unionists now more than ever, said Cotton. “Unions are vitally needed in power because we are the last bastions of democracy.” He praised the internationalism of President McEllrath, adding, “There are no soft fixes with Bob” Cotton said. “He does things in a way that is democratic and accountable.”

Chris Cain

On the third day of the convention, MUA’s Western Australia Branch Secretary addressed delegates and detailed the attacks by employers on Australian docks, mines and petroleum industries. Cain spoke about the need to challenge unjust laws in Australia that prevent workers from effectively resisting employer attacks. “Unions need to be industrially strong, politically strong, and financially strong,” he said.

Cain said that unions like the ILWU and MUA should maintain their militant and democratic traditions and history of cooperation between the two unions. “A strong ILWU means a strong MUA,” Cain said. “We need to organize, organize, and then organize again.”

Nick Stamat

The National Secretary of the Dutch Dockers Union (FNV), Nick Stamat, spoke about the many challenges facing workers in the shipping industry, especially global consolidation and automation of terminals.

“The next chapter will be challenging, due to new developments in our industry.” He said. “The ILWU must come together with other unions in the ITF. New challenges are coming about that will influence the future of the longshoremen we represent,” said Stamat.

Katsushige Mashima

On the fourth day of the convention, Katsushige Mashima, President of Zenkowan, the All Japan Dockworkers’ Union, addressed delegates. He traced his personal relationship with the ILWU back to 2012 when ILWU members in Hawaii were fighting for a first contract at the Port of Honolulu. In Hono...
represented by the ILWU. Familathe said, Arguello and Bradley were joined by Joe McCray, Bradley’s grandfather, who worked as an assistant to ILWU International President Harry Bridges during the 1960s and 1970s.

“I am really overwhelmed by the welcome and camaraderie that we’ve received here,” said Bradley. “We have been watching the delegates debate and discuss issues in a democratic way that has been really inspiring. I’m excited for our future in the ILWU.”

Familathe also introduced several newly organized superintendents from Southern California. That organizing drive came on the heels of a successful superintendent organizing campaign in Hawaii. Familathe reminded delegates about the many challenges facing workers who try to exercise their collective bargaining rights. Superintendents, for example, had to endure days of grueling testimony in front of officials from the National Labor Relations Board and employer lawyers. Veterinary workers had to overcome a team of anti-union consultants hired by VCA to undermine the union organizing effort.

Local 63 Superintendent Kelly Dondero thanked Vice President Familathe and Local 63 President Joe Gasperov. “A lot of people risked their families and put it all on the line to be a part of the ILWU.” Dondero said. “We are happy, grateful and proud to be a part of the ILWU.”

Pensioners & Auxiliary

On the final day of the convention, delegates heard from Pacific Coast Pensioner Association (PCPA) President Greg Mitre, followed by Auxiliary President Ida Taylor. Mitre said PCPA is actively engaged in supporting the ILWU, wherever and whenever they are called upon. He described the recent growth of Pensioners clubs, including a new chapter in Alaska and efforts to start a Pensioners Club in Panama, which Mitre hopes will be in place by the 2021 Convention.

Mitre delivered his speech that included images of pensioner leaders who have passed since the last convention. He said, “one of the toughest things about being a pensioner is that we often have to say goodbye to our friends. Since the last convention in Hawaii, we have lost some real icons in the ILWU, including Cleophas Williams and George Cobbs Jr. from the SF Bay Area, and Lou Loveridge from Southern California, to name just a few,” said Mitre.

“Pensioners are grateful,” Mitre said, “for all the support we’ve received from active members and officers throughout our years. “We are unique when it comes to retirees and staying involved in the fight. The ILWU and its pensioners are unlike any union, and I’ve seen that difference on many occasions while traveling around the world,” concluded Mitre.

Auxiliary President Ida Taylor thanked ILWU officers and delegates for hosting the convention, and explained that she considered it an honor to serve as leader of the Auxiliaries during the past three years. She emphasized the good community work being done by Auxiliary members at local political meetings, ILWU District Council meetings, voter registration drives and other efforts to help support the work of the ILWU. She noted that Auxiliaries members are providing food for local food banks, clothing and back packs for children, hosting Blood Drives, and volunteering at community health fairs. She concluded by reminding delegates that Auxiliaries have long supported all manner of community charities, especially women’s shelters. After Taylor’s speech, members of Auxiliary 5, Portland, conducted a raffle for prizes that included a beautiful quilt assembled by Auxiliary volunteers up and down the coast. The money raised from the quilt will help fund the work by the Auxiliaries to support the ILWU.

President Emeritus McEllrath

President McEllrath was honored at the end of the convention with a surprise resolution that bestowed him with the title of “President Emeritus.” A title also granted to former Presidents Harry Bridges, Jimmy Herman and Willie Adams; the nominees for International Vice President (Mainland) are Bobby Olvera, Jr. and Michael Podue; the candidates for International Executive Board (IEB) are Wesley Furtado and George Martin; the candidates for International Secretary-Treasurer are Peter Ciaramitaro and Ed Ferris. Candidates were also nominated for the current IEB’s recommendations for Balloting Committee and Elections Procedures Committee members were approved by delegates. All candidates will appear on a ballot being mailed to members on July 29th.

Final words

As the convention drew to a close, McEllrath rose to stand at the podium one last time as International President. He thanked the Columbia River Host Committee for their hard work to plan a successful convention, then acknowledged the International Union staff and thanked them for their hard work that helped make the convention a success.

But he saved his final and most important thanks for the membership, “for putting your faith in me and electing me to serve as your International President for 12 years.”

“I tried to make this union just a little bit better than when I started,” he said. “And I hope I did that,” as he banged the gavel on the podium and formally adjourned the ILWU’s 37th Convention.

The next convention will be in San Francisco in 2021.
Willie Adams, Local 23

Bob’s election incentivized my deci-
dion to step up. Today the ILWU is mov-
ing through a storm. We’ll have new forces, a new wind tugging against us.

I’m honored to have served as Inter-
national Secretary-Treasurer for the last 15 years, plus 3 years on the Interna-
tional Executive Board. I’ve been primar-
ily responsible for the Union’s budget and finances, making sure the rank-and-file have the information you need to make informed decisions.

I’ve been a member of Local 25 for 40 years, with 20 years as a Longshore Cau-
sus Delegate and on the Coast Legislative Committee. In addition to being a Deleg-
ate to International Conventions, I’ve been President and Vice President of the San Francisco Port Commission, and have served a number of terms as a member and international to protect our jurisdiction.

We need to involve every member, every region, every division. We all con-
tribute to the strength of the Union. Leadership must both inspire and gov-
ern, to transform lofty promises into real achievable goals. It requires both per-
suasion and tough persuasion, being firm and flexible never and undes-
erved. Sometimes it means being more pragmatic than we’d prefer, being of politi-
cal necessity with a focus on results.

We need a pipeline for new leaders, an environment in which youth and other rank-and-file members can shoulder the weight. We need new leaders.

We need to integrate our vision in our Union’s mission in solid – most of us want to succeed.

We need education, leadership training, and education across our new and current members. We need to bring learning to our members, not just all that come to a centralized location. We must use the knowledge and skills of our members to teach each other, rather than always relying on others.

We need more strategic organizing to increase our core membership.

We need improved mobilization, working with labor and our allies, to con-
front employers and the government, par-
ticularly green attacks on public sec-
or workers by the corporate bosses.

Finally, but of critical importance, I’ll be traveling to you, to learn your priorities for our Un-
ion. As President, I’ll continue to do so. We all need to vote in this election, to send a clear message to the employers that we will not just tolerate, prepared to take on any challenge that is thrown at us.

We will decide to direct the direc-
tion of our Union, how we change to be a union for the future generation to come. I look for-
ward to talking with you. Please look at my web site: willie.adams@ilwu.org

Michael A. Podue, Local 63

I’d like to thank our great membership for electing me to the International Execu-
tive Board for the term. It’s been an honor serving you these past 6 years. Working with the diverse devotion of the ILWU at the International level has shown me that experience is only achieved when you’ve been exposed to a multitude of problems. Participating in the battles our Division leaders face has educated me to under-
stand that every challenge is unique and requires a different playbook.

When I was young and inexperience, I would rally my Longshore brothers and Sisters around the word “fight”. Coming from an ILWU family, fighting was never a word. In the 36 years that I have served as an ILWU member and as past President of Local 63, I’ve learned to think, strategize and educate before using the word “fight.”

Leadership must work with each other so they had because they had nothing to lose, what had in their favor was a country where 40% of Americans were unionized and fighting for a fair share of the Ameri-
can Dream. Today, only 7% of Americans are unionized and the American dream is becoming something of the past. So today we are not just fighting for the recent mistakes our forefathers helped us to achieve, we must think, strategize and educate as we continue.

As Mainland Vice President, I will work with the needs of all Divisions of the ILWU to create a new and better union. We need to build a strong and united leadership to transform lofty promises into real achievable goals. It requires both pers-
suasion and tough persuasion, being firm and flexible never and undes-
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cal necessity with a focus on results.
Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business. My major course of study was finance and economics. My major included accounting, marketing, statistics, and finance.

After graduation, I began my waterfront career as a Linehand in 1993 and became a member of Local 26 ILWU. Throughout my ILWU career I have had the privilege of serving on the following elected and appointed positions:

- FOP Districts Section Health and Safety
- Working Group, EIUU (Representative (2002-2003))
- ILWU Coast Committee Chairman (2014-2015)
- ILWU Local 10 President (2016 and 2017)
- Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group, MACO
- ILWU Local 10 Vice-President (2013)
- ILWU Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer (2012 and 2015)
- ILWU Local 10 LBC Representative (2013-2015)
- ILWU Local 10 Business Agent (2009 and 2010)
- ILWU Local 10 Caucus Delegate (2010-2015)
- ILWU Local 10 Executive Board Member (2008-2014)
- ILWU Local 10 Port Security Conference Agreement Supplementary Chair (2012-2015)

Ed Ferris

LONGSHORE DIVISION

Coast Committee NorthWest

Coast Committee Local 19

Frank Ponc De Leon, Local 13

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the ILWU Longshore.

It was a great honor and privilege to be nominated to represent the Southern California area locals and divisions as a member of the International Executive Board. By staying informed and engaged with the officers and members of ILWU, I am committed to help resolve the issues that threaten the well being of our great union.

The ILWU has the history of taking bold action to protect our membership. The history of the ILWU has always been about the working families. The ILWU has always had a tradition of solidarity and compassion. The ILWU’s success has been based on a strong, unified workforce that stands together to protect our future work opportunities.

Thank you for your support and your continued support.

Ed Ferris

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Anthony Soniga, Local 29

Dear Members of the ILWU,

It would be an honor to represent the Southern California area locals and divisions as a member of the International Executive Board. By staying informed and engaged with the officers and members of ILWU, I am committed to help resolve the issues that threaten the well being of our great union.

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CANDIDATE’S STATEMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer

Delegates and Local 13 Secretary/Treasurer have also served the Southern California Area as its International Executive Board (IEB) representative and IBE-Trustee, and the 2013-2015 Southern California Commit-tee. More importantly, over the last three years, the ILWU Longshore Division has faced many chal-lenges and we will continue to be tested not only by our employer groups but by the government and legislation as well. Moving forward, it is imperative that we continue to protect the working class as we have in the past while maintaining our ILWU tra-ditions. The key to our success has been the ILWU’s ability to STAND STRONG and STAY UNITED. We must remain vigi-lant in protecting our contracts documents (PCDC), now again we will be key in moving forward into the future.

As your representative I will do everything in my power to make sure the ILWU Longshore Division will help our Southern California locals and divisions to help organize non-union workers to run up and operate and enhance and better a safer and healthier work environment. The ILWU has been part of my family for over 35 years of job security, and now my chance to give back to this great organization. I am a third generation ILWU family and I am a third generation member of the ILWU. The key to our success has been the ILWU’s ability to STAND STRONG and STAY UNITED. We must remain vigilant in protecting our contracts documents (PCDC), now again we will be key in moving forward into the future.

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Dear ILWU Brothers and Sisters,

I am running for ILWU International Executive Board. I am honored to give back to Our Union. I wake up and go to sleep praying daily, "Serve Our Great Union." I am ready, my experience has prepared me! Fraternally and In Solidarity,

Christine Aguirre

Local 13

ILWU Brothers and Sisters,

I am honored to be a nominee for the "Team ILWU" for the International Executive Board. I am seeking your vote to help us turn this country around and begin our push towards our future. I will answer the call to work together to turn this into a strong and powerful organization. Together the ILWU will overcome all challenges. I support the International in continuing our campaign of solidarity and support of like minded maritime unions around the world.

The rank and file run this organization and I will make it available to all members. I will fight the issues of the rank and file in the Washington Area. I have served on the Delegation Board for the Past 4 years and 2 years as a delegate. I have worked in negotiations and organizing our members. I have served on several committees including the Negotiating Committee, where I had the opportunity to work with some of the best negotiators in the country.

I currently serve on the International Delegation and have been a member of the Local 13 Executive Board since 2006. I have been a member of Local 13 as a member for over 30 years. I have served on numerous committees and have held leadership positions. I have been the President of Local 13 and have held the position of Business Agent/Secretary. I have been a member of the International Executive Board and have been involved in negotiations for over 10 years. I am seeking the IEB position for the International Executive Board. I will be a strong and active representative for the ILWU.

In my experience, I have worked with some of the best negotiators in the country. I have held leadership positions and have been involved in negotiations for over 10 years. I am seeking the IEB position for the International Executive Board. I will be a strong and active representative for the ILWU.

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Robert Rose, Local 47

Ryan Takas, Local 5

Gene Sundet, Local 12

Troy Olson, Local 4

Troy Olson

Gene Sundet, Local 12

Robert Rose, Local 47

Michael Pavlock, Local 5

Bob Wargin, Local 5

Vince Smith, Local 5

Owen Shumaker, Local 5
Emmanuel “Manny” Baltazar, Local 142 (Tourism 2)

ALOHA and MAHALO!!!

I am EMANUEL “Manny” BALTAZAR, 43 years old, born in the Heritage City of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, Philippines. I migrated to Maui, Hawaii in 2007, happily married with Eliza Feig Cruz Baltazar for 11 years and ILWU Local 142 member for 27 years. I’m humbly honored and grateful for all the great opportunities provided to me by ILWU. I sincerely thank to our Unit 2520 offices and members, Maui Division members, and the ILWU for making sure they have given to me to serve them with passion, integrity, care and enthusiasm.

I truly believe that I am the best candidate for International Executive Board Member representing TOUROUR Ingram because of my experiences and leadership as Chairman of Unit 2520-Grand Wailea Resort & Spa with 1216 members the biggest membership in the ILWU. Local 142, I really possess the right attitude and reputation as the ILWU leader in Hawaii. With the rank and file, I am deeply involved in the community and church as well with dedication to service, commendable services and outstanding accomplishments at all my workplaces.

My work experiences and educational background include:

- ILWU Local 142 – Maui Division
  Political Action Committee Chairman 2014 to present
  – Unit 2520 – Grand Wailea Resort & Spa Chairman 2010 to present
  – Governance Chairman June 2014 to December 2015
  – Shop Steward since 2008
  – Member in good standing for 15 years
  – Commissioner-Cost of Government Maui County 2015 to 2017

- 2000 Finished academic requirements in Business Administration
  Major: Educational Management
  – 1996 Bachelor of Elementary Education with Highest Distinction
  Area of Concentration: English and Mathematics
  – University of Northern Philippines, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, Philippines

Award and Recognition:

- 2017 – Unit Chairperson (Manny Baltazar)
- 2013 – Unit (Mau)’s Leadership (Manny Baltazar)
- 2014 – Gaining Patama Leadership Award by Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce

- 2013 – Outstanding Community Leader by Maui Filipino Community Council
  Outstanding Member and Leader of Mocom Sutton Association of Hawaii
  – 2012 – Outstanding Community Leader by Bali & Aiko Family
  – 2011 – Outstanding Church Leader of Saint Theresia Catholic Church, Kihei, Hawaii
  – 2009 – Outstanding Community Leader by St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kihei, Hawaii
  – 2006 – Outstanding Community Leader by Bali & Aiko Family
  – 2005 – Outstanding Church Leader of St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kihei, Hawaii

I strongly believe that union strength is brought in forward through collective leadership, fairness, cooperation working together to achieve our goals, and serving our community.

I have worked so hard to serve the ILWU community and the church for the past 11 years. I am motivated and ready for a higher level of service to our community and our community with our senior members and the highest level of excellent service. Together we can do great and amazing things. Let us all build together our better future.

I HUMBLY ask for your unconditional support in electing me as International Executive Board Member. I want to represent you as brothers and sisters, not just a union but wholeheartedly to the best of my ability.

I live with the maxim throughout my life, “I know that I can MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.”

“LIVE with INTEGRITY and COMMITMENT not by GOOD EXAMPLES and RIGHT ACTIONS.”

—

Dustin “Dui” Dawson, Local 142 (Longshore)

No timely statement provided.

Samuel Ramirez, Local 142 (Pineapple)

Aloha brothers and sisters,

I have been working for Dole Food for 20 years and ILWU Local 142 since 1994.

I believe by being part of International executive board I would play a significant role in the union and the family group, and I would be glad to contribute my time in making the difference for pineapple growers. Remember every one is an injury to all.

—

Rob Ashton, Local 500

No timely statement provided.

Marina V. Secchitano, IBI Seattle

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the eight months since I was elected President of the IBI, I’ve been both humbled and honored by the overwhelming support I’ve gotten from ILWU members in every region where we operate. From Alaska to Southern California to Hawaii, I’ve come to know first hand the strengths and challenges we face in every region.

You elected me to be your President because of my experience in bargaining and organizing. Now, I’m asking for your vote again, this time to be the IBI representative on the ILWU’s International Executive Board (IB).

I recently spent time with my Crewly members in Valdez as they said then last good-byes to good union jobs. Some of our members have been working for Prince William Sound for 30 years. When we see our fellow workers like Eliza Feig make low bids it infuriates me because it’s the workers who suffer, not the executives.

In my short time as IBI President, I’ve worked on a plan to get our pension back to 100% funded as soon as we can in a fair and equitable manner while also negotiating to standardize our benefits package in Post contracts in three ILWU Regions and assisting in bargaining when possible.

Currently the IBI is in discussions with MEBA and MMS to develop strategies to

—

Kevin O’Leary, IBI Seattle

Sincerely,

Kevin O’Leary, IBI Seattle

No timely statement provided.

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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