Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the ILWU Organizing Department scored several recent victories in Tacoma, San Francisco, and Southern California.

Although the victories occurred in a diverse range of industries—freight forwarding, craft chocolate makers, and chassis technicians—many of the issues that drove the workers’ interest in unionizing were remarkably consistent: fair wages and conditions, health and safety, adequate staffing, and a voice on the job.

“It takes a lot of courage for workers to stand up and organize their workplace,” said ILWU International Vice President Bobby Olvera. “These workers came to the ILWU to help them form a union because of our strength, our commitment to organizing the unorganized and because we are a democratic, rank-and-file union. I couldn’t be prouder of these workers and our organizing staff. These victories would be an achievement even in non-pandemic times. The Titled Officers are firmly committed to helping workers fight for a better life for themselves and their families through our organizing program.”

Meanwhile, management paired an unsafe workplace with pressure on injured workers not to report accidents or follow light-duty rules.

“Because of company negligence, there was a loose stair on the office trailer which caused the accident which tore my Achilles tendon and put me in physical therapy for six months,” said Thierry Williams, one of the longest-employed chassis technicians. “And then, supervisors pressured me to do physical tasks and exceed limits on my standing and walking, which would have violated my doctors’ orders.”

Soon after, the company fired another employee who had a reputation as an advocate for safety on the job.

ILWU Local 23 members work in an adjacent part of the intermodal yard for a union contractor also serving the railroad. P&EB Intermodal relies on Local 23 hostler drivers to bring chassis and containers bound for repair. When workers decided to stand together and go union to confront these unacceptable conditions, Local 23 members stood in solidarity in support of them.

Levi, Ethan, Thierry, and other employees marched in on the super-...
This has been a year of heartache and turmoil for all of us. Across our union and in every division, we have been in constant battle with employers to find ways to continue to move the economy and keep workers on the job while ensuring that everyone is protected and safe from the spread of disease. Many in the ILWU have been laid off or faced reduced hours. Others have felt the pain of isolation as we shelter in place and distance from friends and loved ones. Even more painful is the immeasurable loss this disease has caused colleagues, friends and family members have died from COVID-19. To each and every one of these individuals, our thoughts are with you and your loved ones and we honor your memory and the resulting job loss that comes in a world of increasing automation.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1971 strike. Longshore workers voted to strike to win back some of the concessions we made in the 1966 contract. On July 1st, the day our contract expired, we hit the bricks. We wanted a wage increase, a 40-hour work week or pay guarantee, a $500 per month pension, 10 paid holidays, and welfare coverage. The employer countered with it. There will be some painful fight and the lockout of longshore workers along the West Coast. As the months wore on, the Nixon administration became involved. First, indirectly by initiating nationwide wage and price controls that effectively limited the amount of pay increase we could demand. Second, by invoking the Taft-Hartley Act and issuing an 80-day injunction to issue “cooling off” periods in order. We will be prepared and ready to fight. We will fight to protect our health and welfare benefits, our pensions, our job security, and the securities of our families. The strength of our union comes from the rank and file, the pensioners, the auxiliaries, our allies, our communities, and national and international solidarity. We need all hands-on deck to secure a successful contract. Our unity and vision will determine our future.

We would encourage every member who hasn’t seen the documentary, The Eye of the Storm, to watch it. If you have seen it, I would encourage you to watch it again. This important film details the 2002 contract fight and the lockout of longshore workers along the West Coast by the PMA. If you have seen it, I would encourage you to watch it again. This important film details the 2002 contract fight and the lockout of longshore workers along the West Coast by the PMA. You can watch it here: https://youtu.be/qJUDpIh5WOo.

50 years: This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1971 strike. Longshore workers struck for 130 days, the longest strike in the union’s history.

Never forget: During the 2002 contract negotiations, PMA locked out longshore workers along the West Coast. Seen in this photo from the lockout are (left to right): the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Local 13 President Ramon Ponx De Leon and then LA City Councilmember Eric Garcetti.

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INFORME DEL PRESIDENTE, MARZO DE 2021

El país está reiniciando activi- 
dades y estamos viendo ha-
dia el futuro y hacia adelante 
al mismo tiempo que cumplimos 
más de 1 año desde el inicio de 
de la cuarentena mundial por 
de la pandemia del COVID-19. Quero 
agradecer a todos los miembros 
de su valor y perseverancia, 
lo que ha servido de motivación 
para algunos y como salvación 
para otros. 
Este ha sido un año de tristeza 
y trastorno para todos nosotros. En 
todo el país y en cada división, hemos 
estado batallando constantemente con 
los empleadores para buscar las mane-
ras de mantener a la economía en 
movimiento y salvar nuestros empleos 
medias de los miembros de ILWU fueron 
acerados o se les reduce sus horas de trabajo. 
Otras han sentido el dolor de tener 
que negociar sus salarios reducidos 
y perdiendo su voz y su poder de 
ninguno de nuestros miembros 
requeridos. Más dolorosa ha sido 
la pérdida inimaginable que esta 
patología ha causado: colegas, ami-
gros y familiares de aquellos que han muerto por 
El COVID-19. Hasta la fecha, Estados 
Unidos ha perdido más de 555,000 
víctimas y mundialmente, las cifras 
son asombrosas puesto que 2.8 mil-
iones han fallecido. Más miembros de 
ILWU han muerto del COVID-19 que 
los que perdimos en el Jueves 
Santo y la huelga de 1934. Honra-
samos su memoria y vivrán en nosotros 
por siempre. 
La pandemia nos ha enseñado 
que es necesario trabajar de manera 
cooperativa. Hemos ampliado nuestro trabajo de 
organización con el liderazgo y dedi-
cación incansable del Departamento de 
Organización. Hemos negociado 
los primeros contratos colectivos en 
plataformas virtuales. Hemos ampli-
ado nuestros programas educativos 
con seminarios web y talleres virtu-
ales, reforzando nuestras capacitacio-
nes para líderes. Los funcionarios y 
lideres en todos los locales han super-
ado los obstáculos imposibles para conse-
guir vacunas para nuestros miembros. 
Mediante que mejora la disponibilidad de 
las vacunas, el índice de infeccio-
nes se ha reducido sustancialmente. 
A medida que reabren los negocios, 
estamos deseosos de que nuestros miem-
bro cesados vuelvan a los empleos 
que perdieron debido al COVID-19. 
Por favor no se olviden de apoyar 
as nuestras compañías de Local 142 y 
Local 5, al frecuentar los hoteles y 
la Librería Powell en los que ellos 
trabajan. A medida que mejoran 
as condiciones de la pandemia, estamos 
vislumbrando el futuro y avanzando 
acerados. A pesar de estar separados, 
seguramente trabajando como sindicato, 
En la actualidad, el Local 30 en 
Boston está negociando un contrato 
colectivo con Rio Tinto. Históricamente, 
estas negociaciones han sido 
dificiles y todos recordamos cuando la 
empresa hizo un paro patronal contra 
los miembros del Local 30 en 2010. 
Los dirigentes sindicales de ILWU pre-
starán su apoyo en sus negociaciones y 
y el Local 30 tendrán el apoyo del 
Sindicato Internacional y sus compa-
neros del ILWU. Nos solidarizamos 
con el Local 30 y haremos todo lo 
que esté en nuestras manos para 
lograr que aprendan la disciplina. Cada uno 
de nosotros necesita ahorrar dinero 
con el dinero que aún no podemos 
conseguir. Nuestra unidad y 
visión determinará nuestro futuro. 
Haya mucho en juego con las 
próximas negociaciones del contrato 
de trabajadores portuarios, especial-
mente dado que trabajamos en un 
mercado cada vez más automatizado 
que conlleva la pérdida de empleos. 
Hablar que este sonidos dolero-
sos. Como dijo un día Harry Bridges: 
“Los intereses de los trabajadores se unen 
edemocracia. Todas las divisiones de 
ILWU son impactadas por la 
automatización de los centros de trabajo. 
Este año también marca el 50o. 
Aniversario de la huelga de 1971. 
La huelga de 1971-72 fue la más larga 
de nuestra historia, puesto que duró más 
de 130 días. Mientras nos prepara-
mos para las negociaciones del próxi-
mo año, es importante recordar esa 
huelga decisiva y extraer enseñanzas de 
la historia. 
En 1971, los trabajadores portu-
arios acordaron hacer la huelga para 
recuperar algunas de las concesiones 
que habíamos hecho con el contrato 
de 1966. El 1 de julio, el día que se 
venció nuestro contrato, iniciamos el 
paro. 
¡Un ataque contra uno es un ataque contra todos! 
a la Ley Taft-Hartley y prohibiendo la 
huelga por 80 días, obligando así a los 
huelguistas a volver al trabajo y aban-
donar las líneas de pique. 
A pesar de los retos, nos man-
tuvimos firmes. Poco después de 
levantarse la prohibición volvimos a 
mantener las líneas de pique y contin-
uamos la huelga, puesto que todavía 
no habíamos logrado nuestras deman-
das principales. Finalmente, llegamos a 
un acuerdo. 
Desde las grandes victorias sindi-
cales de los años 30, EU ha insti-
uido una serie de leyes restricti-
vas que limitan el poder sindical. 
Es notable que en 1947 el Congres 
aprobo la Ley Taft-Hartley que pro-
hibe huelgas en caso de huelgas 
paros patronales. El gobierno impuso 
un buen contrato. Nuestra unidad y 
ve la fuerza. ¡Que viva el ILWU!

La huelga de 1934. Honra-
samos su memoria y vivrán en nosotros 
por siempre. 
La pandemia nos ha enseñado 
que es necesario trabajar de manera 
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acerados. A pesar de estar separados, 
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¡Un ataque contra uno es un ataque contra todos!
had brothers who did everything they could to show us what we wanted to be.

I was elected to the Executive Board in 1978. By 1980, the reform movement had been elected to every position in the local except the presidency, so we were able to start implementing our programs. In 1981, before the next dispatch season, Gene and Silme were murdered and that squelched everything. [Tony Baruso, the president of Local 37 at the time, was eventually charged with planning the murders. He was convicted in 1991.] We decided to go back into the union and take the leadership and continue the program. I was elected President of the Local in 1983. In 1987 we merged with the Inlandboatmen’s Union (IBU) so it changed from a local into a region and I became Regional Director. In 1993 I ran for the national position of Secretary-Treasurer and have been in that position since then.

Some of the lessons that I learned being a part of the reform movement that informs my role as an officer in the union include how important membership involvement, communication and transparency are to the members. What we had seen was that the old leadership was in bed with the employer. Not only were they not willing to take up the fight around discrimination, but even in the contracts they were getting kickbacks for keeping low wages and all the rest. For us, that meant reestablishing a professional relationship with the employer.

Unions are the great equalizer in terms of women’s rights and women being paid fairly and equally. When you have a union contract there is no difference between what women are paid and what men are paid; it’s a contract that covers everyone. That’s the important thing for women to understand about the importance of being in a union.

Holly Hulscher, Local 23

I was going to college to be a teacher when my father, Matt Michael Sr., who is now a Local 23 Pensioner, told my sister Mandy, my brother Matt Jr., and me to try coming down to the waterfront. I wanted to make my dad proud, so I decided I would give it my all. He told me how important it is to have a good work ethic, and that that is how you get respect as a worker. In late 1997, my first job on the waterfront was lashing an Evergreen ship. It was raining sideways, and my dad came up with me to show me how it’s done. My dad has been with us the whole way with guidance and mentorship.

I continued going to school and working on the waterfront on weekends and holiday breaks. When I finished graduate school, that was about the time when I became B registered, and I knew that I wanted to be a longshore worker as my lifetime career. The ILWU means everything to our family, and I see the union as an extended family.

I have always liked helping our community. I started to get involved with the ILWU Local 23 Toy Drive along with our trustees, my sister and some other wonderful brothers and sisters in the local about 17 years ago. Every year our Local 23 members, together with our Pensioners, ILWU Auxiliary 35 and Local 98 donate money to the toy drive account at the longshore credit union. We use these donations to purchase toys for children in need with guidance from local organizations that work directly with them.

My sister Mandy and I were asked to start a Local 23 team for the MS Walk about 15 years ago. We started with a dozen walkers including longshore, family and friends, and our team grew each year from there. I met Lisa Cole, who had some catering experience with her mom, and she began organizing amazing fundraisers at our Longshore hall to raise money for the walk along with our Local 23 MS Walk team members. I feel like the volunteer work our members do fosters solidarity in the local.

I have previously served our membership on the ILWU Local 23 Executive Board, starting in 2008 for about four years, and as Vice President of our Local for two terms starting in 2009. I was also a caucus delegate for two terms starting in 2010 and a member of the ILWU Coast Education Committee during that time.

I also served on the Local 23 Education Committee. It was during this time when I met our dearly missed historian Dr. Ron Magden, who made our longshore history come to life. He was made an honorary member of Local 23 in 1984 and was a mentor to me. I would help him make change was by running people for office to implement progressive programs. That included reforms like a fair dispatch, taking out bribery elements that had been happening, creating a shop steward and grievance system, taking on health and safety issues, ending divisions between workers, and bringing us all together to strengthen our position at the bargaining table.

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put together PowerPoint presentations about our longshore history for our membership. Through the Education Committee, we worked on some very important projects, like fundraising to replace the grave markers for Tacoma longshore’s founders and planning the 125th year celebration for Local 23. Ron began bringing me to the University of Washington’s Harry Bridges Visiting Committee meetings, and I was eventually asked to sit on the Committee with him which was an honor. The Harry Bridges Chair was created in 1992 with the help of over 1,000 gifts, mainly from longshore members and pensioners from the Pacific Northwest to create an endowment. Later, the Labor Archives of Washington was founded in 2010 at U.W. to preserve labor history.

I try to be an approachable person to new longshore folks, and I hope that some of them have considered me to be a mentor over the years, which would be an honor because they are the future of our local. I believe that everyone has something to contribute to our union, whether it’s a skill they have, a talent, or giving back to our Union and community as a volunteer. When we all work together, we can accomplish anything.

Sylvia Estrada, Steward, Local 26

I’ve been a member of Local 26 since 2011 and a worker at the Rite Aid distribution warehouse in Lancaster for 21 years. We started organizing in 2005. One of the main issues that made us want to organize was the disrespectful treatment we received. We had to work long hours—sometimes 16-hour shifts. Lancaster is in the desert. In the winter it gets so cold, and in the summer it gets very hot. When I started, there were no heaters, no fans, no air conditioning. They didn’t care about our health and safety. They just wanted the production. We thought that maybe they would hear us if we had a union. With all of us working together, we could do something and make changes.

There are a lot of responsibilities as a steward. I’m involved in helping members because I come from a big family—I’m a wife, a mother, a grandmother—and when I see workers being disrespected, I imagine my children or grandchildren being mistreated and I would want someone to stand up for them if they couldn’t speak for themselves. I’m a very passionate and helpful person. If I could do more, I would.

I’ve learned a lot being a member of the union. I’m very thankful for [Local 26 President] Luisa Gratzi for teaching me my rights. I’m trying to pass that knowledge along to other members at Rite Aid and organize more. I was encouraged to apply for a LEAD conference in 2017 and from there I learned about ILWU Canada’s Young Worker Conference. I was hesitant about applying, but a brother from my local told me, “When opportunity knocks, you answer the door,” so I applied. When I arrived in Canada, my world had changed. I met so many dockers that were passionate about organizing and activism among the rank and file. It was for me at first. As time went by, I grew closer to the people I worked with and my perspective changed. I went from being wary to loving my job. I was very fortunate with timing and was elevated to B registration in 2015. In November 2020, I became a fully registered member.

Even though my Dad and brother were both longshoremen, I didn’t know anything about the union until I started working on the waterfront. In 2017, I saw first-hand how expendable workers are to employers. I always thought putting people before profit was common sense. While we know that the welfare of workers is always the priority, we often have to remind our employers of that fact. My brother showed me the power of the Labor Relations Committee and the importance of an educated worker.

I heard about the Grievance and Arbitration Procedures conference in San Francisco at a stop-work meeting. I asked my local’s leadership if B-books were allowed to attend. He told me, “I don’t see why not. Worst case scenario is they tell you no.” When I arrived, I had to ask permission if I could stay. As the week went along, I found support from rank and file members from along the coast. They let me sit at their tables to partake in the activities and follow along with their materials. I couldn’t tell if people were amused that I was only a B person and that I attended on my own time, but I’ll always be grateful for their kindness and support. I was able to start an education that isn’t typical for a B-book from a small breakbulk port.

Rhonda Morris
Vice Chairman at Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa Unit 3511 Tourism Division, Local 142

When you get hired at the hotel, you automatically become a union member. I started at the Grand Hyatt in 1996 and became a union member then. I was not an active union member until about 2000. I was caught in the crosshairs of being a union member but working in a non-union department. I couldn’t get help from the union because I worked in a non-union department, but I was paying union dues. Because of the mix-up, I wanted to decertify from the union.

Then things changed after I spoke with the local and they corrected the problem. After that, I wanted to get more involved to figure out how that mix-up happened. I started going to meetings and before long, I was the Vice-Chair of our unit. It’s been a little over 20 years and now here I am. If it wasn’t for people back then reaching out and asking me what was wrong and helping to fix the problem, I probably wouldn’t be doing this interview with you right now.

As leaders, we need to understand that we are here to serve the membership. We need to listen to everyone’s concerns because that’s how we learn. I know first-hand the importance of listening to the membership and reaching out to those who feel like they are being overlooked.

I’ve been a shop steward and Vice-Chair of our unit. We do have the largest unit on the island—roughly 700 workers. Our hotel is the largest private employer on the island. I’ve served on the Local 142 Executive Board and on the International Executive Board.

I just hope that we can educate more people about the benefits of the union because there’s a lot of people out there who don’t see it. There’s no way a lot of us here could have survived these COVID times without the union fighting for our medical benefits and so forth.
Pensioner and ILWU icon

Tony Salcido, Local 13 activist and pensioner Tony Salcido passed away peacefully on February 4th, 2021, surrounded by his family. Tony was an icon in the ILWU, a devoted family man and a dedicated trade unionist.

Tony was born on May 20, 1929 in Wilmington, California, the seventh of 14 children born to Cristobal “Chu-Chu” and Sofia Salcido, who were both originally from Chihuahua, Mexico. Tony’s father was a well-known original ILWU Local 13 activist and political radicals in the early days and a 1934 strike participant, Chu-Chu’s gregarious and forceful nature and Zapata-style mustache earned him a reputation for being a character on the docks. Chu-Chu was a member of the International Longshoremen’s Association (ILA) local in Los Angeles from its beginnings in 1934 until 1937, and a charter member of the ILWU Local 13, when the West Coast longshore workers broke away from the ILA.

After graduating from high school in 1947, Tony joined the U.S. Army and served for a year and a half, and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant. When there was a need for more workers on the docks in 1949, Tony became a casual longshore worker, picking up shifts on nights and weekends while he pursued a degree in criminal justice and played junior college basketball at Harbor College. Tony became a full union member upon being elevated to Class “A” registration status on December 5, 1951. By 1955, there were six Salcido brothers working as longshoremen: Mike, Cristy, Franlise, Victor, Ned and Tony.

Tony’s first five years on the waterfront were spent working in the ship holds, loading and unloading bulk cargo. Then he worked in different ship gangs as a winch driver. In 1965, Tony was selected as a “supplementary foreman,” and later in 1966, he was selected by the Banning Stevedoring Co. to work as a steady foreman. This position he held in 1977. My uncle in the Salcido family,” said Frank Ponce De Leon, ILWU Coast Commissioner. “He was a highly talented man who inspired me to get involved and he was active in the union in any capacity. In 2005, it was with great pride and honor to get elected to Secretary-Treasurer of Local 13, the same very position he held in 1977. My uncle Tony reminded me to always do the right thing, especially when no one was watching; that there was only one truth, and always leave the campground clean and in better shape than when you found it. I would like to share my aunt Bea and cousins for sharing “Uncle Tony” with the ILWU. He will be truly missed by more than just our family.”

Tony was an athlete and family man. When he was growing up, Tony, along with his brothers, took advantage of their active and healthy lifestyle to travel extensively, go mountain climbing, and make lifelong friendships all over the world. Tony was an avid dancer and loved to move to the music; he and Bea were always a hit at the PCPA conventions dancing up a storm at the convention banquet.

In 1972, Tony checked into the Supplementary Crane Board in the Dispatch Hall and began to learn how to drive cranes by asking driving drivers to show him how to operate the various models. In 1974, he gained admission into the Crane Operators Training Program and then primarily worked as a crane operator until he retired in 1994.

In 1973, after his children were grown, Tony got more involved in local and international union affairs. That year, he was elected to ILWU Local 13’s Executive Board. In 1974, Tony was elected as a Caucus and Convention delegate and ran for both positions every year until 1991. In 1977 he was elected as Local 3’s Secretary-Treasurer, and then to various committees including positions on the District Council, Chair- man of the Stewards Council and the Registration Advisory Committee.

In 1981, Tony was elected to the International Executive Board and served in that capacity until 1988. In 1987, he underwent back surgery due to spinal injury and was in immobilization for approximately eight months. Also, the accident restricted his involvement as a union leader. Despite his success of his recovery was uncertain, in 1988 he decided not to run for the Executive Board again.

Tony retired in November of 1994 at the age of 65 but remained active in the ILWU Pensioners Association and never missed the yearly Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) conventions and served on the Pensioners’ Executive Board in Southern California. He regularly attended Local 13 membership meetings at the Union Hall in Wilmington.

Tony was instrumental in archiving much of ILWU Local 13’s history at California State University Northridge, where he spent a great deal of his time and effort working with the staff, categorizing, inventorying, and organizing materials to preserve them as a valuable resource for historians and other scholars for generations.

“Tony was a great brother and uncle in the Salcido family,” said Frank Ponce De Leon, ILWU Coast Commissioner. “It was my uncle Tony who inspired me to get involved and be active in the union in any capacity. In 2005, it was with great pride and honor to get elected to Secretary-Treasurer of Local 13, the very same position he held in 1977. My uncle Tony reminded me to always do the right thing, especially when no one was watching; that there was only one truth, and always leave the campground clean and in better shape than when you found it. I would like to share my aunt Bea and cousins for sharing “Uncle Tony” with the ILWU. He will be truly missed by more than just our family.”

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Tony was an athlete and family man. When he was growing up, Tony, along with his brothers, took advantage of their active and healthy lifestyle to travel extensively, go mountain climbing, and make lifelong friendships all over the world. Tony was an avid dancer and loved to move to the music; he and Bea were always a hit at the PCPA conventions dancing up a storm at the convention banquet.

“Tony was a great mentor to myself and I’m sure to many others,” said PCPA President Greg Mitre. “Tony was an honest man who would tell you the truth, whether you wanted to hear it or not. He was never shy about speaking his mind and usually was the voice of reason in the ILWU. He was an asset to the union which he loved fiercely. He led a blessed life because of the ILWU. He will be missed by all of the ILWU family as well as his immediate family and extended family and friends around the globe.”

Michael A. Podue, President of ILWU Local 63, said, “Brother Tony Salcido is a legend in the ILWU, and his loss is a great one. Whether you look at Brother Salcido in his active or retired years, he brought the same strong work ethic and union principles to the job, to the ILWU and the community. He was a family man with a loving wife of 67 years and a large, loving family of siblings, children, grand- children, nieces and nephews. His dedication to the country was evidenced by his service in the U.S. Army. His dedication to the American worker and family was evidenced by his leadership through the ILWU Executive Board, ILWU Local 13, and the Southern California Pensioners Group. Brother Salcido always placed great importance on the history of the working man and woman, including his work establishing the ILWU Local 13 archives at California State University, Northridge. Throughout his years, Brother Salcido urged members to maintain solidarity, ‘to help each other, but stay together,’ from the steady and haul workers to the Cable resource for our Class “B” meetings in 1985 and for his dedication to his family and many friends. He will be truly missed.”

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The conference for ILWU women was originally scheduled for 2020 but the ongoing pandemic has pushed that date back into 2022.

The event is being spearheaded by Local 94 member Fran Grove who has been a champion for blue-collar women for decades. First, in the building trades, construction trades, and now on the waterfront.

Fran is the daughter and granddaughter of two ILWU members whose history with the union spans decades. Although her father wanted her to try longshore, Fran insisted on making a name for herself in a different industry. She eventually landed with IBEW Local 395 in San Francisco where she became a journeyman electrician.

Being one of the few women in the building trades in the 80s instilled Fran with passion for issues faced by women in the workforce. The lack of support for women by management prompted Fran to seek out other women and to build a coalition with them.

Fran’s activism led her to become a founding member of Rainbow Trades Women, which became a source of support for women. Fran said that, “In the name was chosen to reflect the diversity of the group. Many of the women in the trades were women of color and women who had lived experiences that were off the beaten path and they struggled to breakthrough in an industry that previously did not welcome them.

Fran was the first woman on the waterfront in the 80s called for the ILWU, which became a source of support for women. The “rainbow” in the name was chosen to reflect the diversity of the group. Many of the women in the trades were women of color and women who had lived experiences that were off the beaten path and they struggled to break through in an industry that previously did not welcome them.

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ILWU Organizing on the move

The size of the bargaining unit has not been established yet but is expected to be approximately 15 workers. The next step is to bargain the first contract. "They have hired Litler Mendlson, a very anti-union firm. That doesn’t send a good signal, but we’ve dealt with them before and been successful with them. We look forward to getting to the bargaining table and getting the best contract that we can with these workers," Fageaux said.

Hailey said she is proud to be a part of the ILWU. "I don’t think there is a better union," she said. "We hope to be the trailblazers for the freight forwarding portion of the logistics machine. We are the first freight forwarders to unionize and hope that other freight forwarders will follow suit." Dandelion Chocolate workers announced unionization effort

After a year-and-a-half of organizing, workers at San Francisco’s Dandelion Chocolate presented management with an official letter notifying them that they intended to form a union during a Zoom call on March 17. During the call, workers asked the employer to voluntarily recognize their union. On March 19th, workers filed a petition for a representation election with the National Labor Relations Board. If the employer voluntarily recognizes the union, or if a majority of workers vote in favor of joining the union, the Dandelion workers will become a part of ILWU Local 6. An election will be held on April 20th. Local 6 has represented chocolate workers at Guittard Chocolate for the past 40 years.

Workers cited the need for transparency from management, increased worker input in decisions around how the company operates, understaffing, stagnant wages, career development, worker safety, and overall working conditions. If the unionization effort is successful, it will include approximately 40 workers at Dandelion’s four San Francisco locations. This number could double once COVID-19 restrictions are eased and Dandelion returns to its pre-pandemic staffing levels. This includes customer-facing employees in the retail locations—such as salespeople and chocolate educators—along with people who make the products and those who work in the warehouse.

The Dandelion unionization drive is part of a wave of workers in San Francisco’s Mission District who, with the assistance of the San Francisco chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America, have organized with the ILWU in recent years to improve pay, benefits, and working conditions by forming a union.

In December of 2019, workers at Anchor Steam Brewery ratified their first contract. In 2020, workers at Tartine Bakery voted to join ILWU Local 6. The NLRB finally certified the 93-90 majority vote in favor of unionization on March 30th, 2021. "Right now, we have a lot of top-down decisions that get made for us without input," said Christine Keating, a lead chocolate educator who has worked at Dandelion for seven years. "We want to have a seat at the table when those decisions are made. The union is important because it empowers more amazing, passionate people to have more of a voice and to make this company better."

Dandelion workers said they were inspired by Anchor and Tartine unionizing and that the ILWU is open and welcoming and it’s the community they wanted to be a part of.

Approximately 200 workers and community members turned out to San Francisco’s Dolores Park on Cesar Chavez Day to show their solidarity with Dandelion Chocolate workers. ILWU members from Local 6—including workers from the Anchor Brewing and Tartine Bakery—Locals 63, 10, 63, and the Inlandboatmen’s Union turned out to show their support.

Kenneth Cabrera was one of five Dandelion workers who spoke at the rally. “We’re not asking for a chest full of gold, we’re asking for better pay and better treatment,” Cabrera said. “We want you to eat our chocolate, it’s our pleasure. We just want to make a living at the same time.”

Tartine workers officially join the ILWU

Workers at Tartine Bakery who voted on March 12th of last year to join the ILWU, are officially a part of ILWU Local 6. On March 19th, 2021 the NLRB denied a request by the employer to review a ruling made by the San Francisco NLRB Office in October 2020 that determined that of the 24 contested ballots, 14 were illegitimate and that the remaining 10 ballots should be counted. On March 30th, remaining ballots were counted resulting in a 93-90 vote in favor of the union.

The campaign will now turn to negotiating the contract and ensuring that the employer complies with San Francisco’s The Right to Reemployment Ordinance that mandates certain businesses who laid off employees must give them first right of refusal to a comparable job when the business begins rehiring after COVID-19 restrictions are eased and business returns to normal.

Dandelion Union: Hundreds of supporters joined Dandelion Chocolate workers at San Francisco’s Dolores Park on Cesar Chavez Day to show solidarity for their effort to organize a union.

In February, the National Labor Relations Board certified the union ratification vote for workers at the Southen California office of the freight forwarding company, OIA Global. After the NLRB ruling, OIA Global workers voted to join ILWU Local 23.

In 1948, the company had reorganized its union, its solidarity brought all workers into the managers’ office and demanded immediate correct safety hazards andvisor, demanding he and management

Faker, president of ILWU Local 23. The group gave in and recognized workers as new members of ILWU Local 23. The group was now pushing ahead to win a first union contract.

This employer depends on ILWU labor, so when this workers took action to demand health and safety protections, our solidarity brought all employer moves to a halt,” said Jared Faller, president of ILWU Local 23. "Workers have tremendous leverage in situations where we can disrupt the action to demand health and safety protections, our solidarity brought all employer moves to a halt,” said Jared Faller, president of ILWU Local 23. "Workers have tremendous leverage in situations where we can disrupt the supply chain.”

OIA Global workers vote to join ILWU

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NEW PENSIONERS:
Local 4: Monica Sinclair;
Local 8: Tim Jones; Patrick M. Mullen; Local 10: Paul E. Jones; Jarritte Washburn; Charles A. Bixby; Elsa Alba-Nunez; Gabriel Alvarezaro; Filippo Ciarammetti; Francis J. Cronin; Linda Dadich; Ruby Davilla; Thomas Hofve; Stan Klauber; Leonardo de Camargo; Martha Navarro; Carlos Rubalcava; Kathy Tully; Mary L. Turner; Eutuika Vailua
Local 19: Travis Barnes; Charles A. Bixby; Steven Hanson; Thomas C. Pult; Local 23: Danna I. Jensen; Jack L. Pollock; Melvin Lewis; William Sargbah; Local 26: Melissa M. Garcia; Charles M. Sorensen;
Local 34: Democritus Punia; Local 63: Joe Girokovich; John T. Kalina; John J. Proffeta; Rahul馒头 Williams; Local 63 –OCU: Lilly Yang; Rex A. McDonald;

DECEASED PENSIONERS:
Local 8: Charles Sadler; Local 10: Alexia R. McLaughlin; Johnnie O’Neill; Lamont D. Robinson Sr. Meredith N. Sutcliffe; Local 12: Jack A. Vickers; Louis R. Woodson; Andrew; Rogelio B. Martinez; Robert Silvas; Brencn Sindicich; Louis A. Vasquez; Local 19: Alfred Buell;
Local 23: William D. Bartholomew; James C. Gurley; Local 24: Melvin J. Peterson; Local 26: Andrea S. Alcarius; Local 28: Julius Franklin; Robert D. Hill; Local 34: James B. Davidson; Local 46: Manuel D. Sanchez; Local 54: Harry Tinley;
Local 63: Danko Bijelic; Gerald A. Di Lava; Glenn S. Katsumata; Jacinto Martinez Jr.; Local 91: Frank Relva; Vanessa E. Starnes; Local 92: Gary Yocam; Local 94: Robert Bozeman; James R. Strubberg; Philip Vlasic Jr.

DECEASED MEMBERS:
Local 15: Jan Gay; Local 16: Michelle F. Hollinseed; Efren Molina; Local 18: Debrief E. Kaiekinis; Local 19: Jeffrey C. Berry; Rod D. Emery; Local 25: Douglas Weeck; Local 94: Edgar L. Valdez;

DECEASED SURVIVORS:
Local 10: Carol Montgomery; Lee E. Livingston; Lula M. Reed; Beaulah Stepphard; Helen J. Williams; Local 13: Venusia Crumbly; Gracia Hernandez; Harriet Marcario; Barbara Peterson; Lida Ponce; Lucy Toscano; Local 19: Maria Cardinale; Alyce Robinson; Local 23: Mary Bouchard; Phoebe Y. Do Paol; Local 29: Carlotta E. Herrera; Juanita Peer; Local 52: Molly Kennedy; Local 54: Minnie Berthea; Local 63: Mary Icardo;
Local 92: Charity M Clark;