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Local 7’s efforts pay off with new regular cargo service page 2

LEAD brings the ‘Heat and Hammer’ to train next generation of ILWU leaders

A diverse group of 100 rank-and-file members and elected leaders attended the ILWU’s Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD) training in Sacramento from September 18-23.

The week-long education program teaches skills and provides tools that attendees can take back to their local unions to develop new leadership and create more membership involvement. Dozens of exercises were conducted throughout the week, emphasizing active participation and collaborative problem-solving. Participants learned practical skills, including how to run a successful union meeting, how to increase member involvement, how to communicate a positive, public-interest union message, and how to strategically problem-solve.

Opening reception
The conference started with a reception and opening remarks from ILWU International Vice President (Mainland) Bobby Olvera, Jr., ILWU International Vice President (Hawaii) Sam Kreutz, and ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris. Vice President Olvera and Secretary-Treasurer Ferris are both LEAD program graduates and spoke about the impact the program had on their development as young leaders. International Vice President Kreutz spoke about the importance of family and the strong bonds that attendees will make over the week.

Keynote address
The keynote address, “Visionary Labor Leadership,” was given by Maria Abadesco, a former organizer with Local 142 and Labor Specialist at the UC Berkeley Labor Center. Abadesco’s keynote challenged attendees to think about what leadership means and encouraged them to root their leadership in the ILWU’s democratic traditions. “We all have a different understanding of leadership and what it means to lead,” Abadesco said.

Abadesco then led the attendees through discussions of past ILWU leaders, including Harry Bridges, Jimmy Herman, and Ah Quon McElrath, as well as important moments in the union’s history, such as the Hawaiian sugar strike of 1946 and the Battle of Ballantyne Pier.

“Being a union leader forces us to stretch ourselves in terms of our leadership skills,” she said. Abadesco also emphasized that leadership was not a function of individual skill or virtue but was collective and shared. Abadesco said that even ILWU founder Harry Bridges needed the rank-and-file. “When you have a continuing on page 6
Local 7’s years-long efforts pay off with new regular cargo service

Pensioners lend their knowledge as Bellingham recovers from 20-year downturn

When the Blue Everton bulk carrier arrived at the Port of Bellingham on October 15 and Local 7 loaded the vessel with recycled metals, the event marked the beginning of a new era – and the end of a 20-year drought of regular service at the U.S. West Coast’s northernmost port.

“When the George-Pacific mill was here, besides loading ships, we had pulp that we shipped out regularly,” said Joe Schmidt of Local 7. “This will be the first time in years we’ve had a steady stream of cargo in Bellingham.”

Schmidt said the ILWU pensioners are helping get the younger members of the local up to speed.

“It’s pretty big deal, really, and there are growing pains that go with it. We’re starting all over again,” Schmidt said. “All of the pensioners are helping us out with any questions we have about manning, or any other things we run across, we get their opinion all the time. A lot of those guys are the ones that negotiated the deal we have now. It gives insight to our newer members: ‘In this situation, what did we do in the past?’ And pensioners let us know.”

The company that operates the new service, ABC Recycling, collects and processes scrap metal at nine sites in Western Canada, and chose Bellingham as its U.S. base to export the product overseas. The company made a long-term investment at the port, signing a 15-year lease with a 10-year option.

Schmidt said that when the scrap metal arrives in Bellingham, the ILWU workers move massive piles of the recycled product from trucks and barges, to the company’s lot, and then onto ships which will depart every 6-8 weeks.

The cargo includes “car bodies, I-beams, rebar, sheet metal pieces, wheels, axels, pieces of scaffolding, all kinds of stuff,” he said, and they load shredded metal into the ship first, with heavier grades on top to protect the ship.

“This ship will take 25,000 to 27,000 tons on this trip, and more in the future when the channel is dredged” to allow deeper berths, local 7.”

Local 7 and the Port of Bellingham have been working for years to reverse the fallout from mill closures. Union officials and members met regularly with the port’s leadership and marketing team, working to acquire equipment such as Liebherr harbor crane, and to upgrade the marine terminal for modern use – all while traveling to other ports for the bulk of their work hours.

The local handles intermittent shipments of forest products, steel, jetties, and other cargos, and the new recycled metal export shipments add regular service to those efforts. Port documents say ABC’s shipments should soon increase to about 242,000 metric tons annually.

Schmidt said the local is working to increase its numbers and training to meet the demand. “It’s good, but we need more manpower to cover everything. We have three crane drivers and we need eight. We travel people in from Everett, Olympia, Port Gamble. It’ll be pretty steady, and sounds like it will keep growing.”

“It’s huge for us and for the community,” Schmidt said.

Local 56 Ship Scalers reach tentative agreement with NRC Environmental Services

Local 56 Ship Scalers and Painters Union has worked in the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach for decades providing vessel and tank maintenance, oil recovery, and other hazardous waste removal. Local 56 members work for four employers who subcontract with the Ports and terminals to provide those services.

At one of those employers, NRC Environmental Services, Inc., Local 56 members worked under an expired contract since June 2020. Historically, Local 56 members have worked as NRC’s primary workforce in marine jobs from the border of Mexico to San Francisco. Over the years, NRC has whittled away Local 56’s traditional geographic jurisdiction. As a result, the membership has dwindled, and an average member works only a few hours out of the Local 56 Dispatch Hall each month. One of the union’s goals in these negotiations was to recapture or reclaim this lost work.

However, NRC had given every indication that they were unwilling to budge on serious issues to recapture that work. That didn’t stop the Local 56 membership. In early July, they protested at the Port of Los Angeles building with signs reading “Our members want to work.” The union demanded that NRC hire Local 56 members as their primary workforce. NRC backed down and agreed to substantial and meaningful increases in work opportunities for Local 56 members. The local was also able to secure significant wage increases, without any significant concessions.

The key to getting it done was the membership’s ability to stay engaged, involved, and active. The support of the ILWU Organizing Department in building leverage for Local 56 was instrumental.

Key Terms of Local 56/NRC Collective Bargaining Agreement include significant pay increases of 10.5% for work at the terminals and 90% for work outside the terminals. NRC also agreed to more adequately fund the Dispatch Hall, providing Local 56 with sufficient funds to maintain a weekend dispatcher. NRC further committed to send work to the Dispatch Hall, Local 56 and NRC will be back at the bargaining table.

— Carlos Codon
Southern California Lead Organizer

Members of Local 7 in Bellingham serviced the Blue Everton on the first of many voyages to load scrap metal so that it can be recycled overseas.

In between export shipments, Local 7 unloads barges filled with incoming scrap metal at the Bellingham Marine Terminal.
ILWU Pensioners Gather for 53rd Annual Convention

After a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the ILWU Pacific Coast Pensioners Association (PCPA) held our annual Convention in September in beautiful Long Beach, California. Attendance was at an all-time high as many of the retirees have not been able to attend any functions for quite some time.

Held over three days, it was a very informative and fun time for all. Long Beach Harbor Commissioner Bonnie Lowenthal welcomed the delegates to the city. We presented Commissioner Lowenthal with an award for all her years of assistance to the ILWU. Bonnie has marched in the ILWU Labor Day parade with the ILWU rank and file for years.

We were then treated to our guests from Australia, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) National Secretary Glen Woods and as well as Secretary Beth Giddens. Both of these veterans (retirees in Australia are referred to as veterans) gave rousing speeches that highlighted the issues the dockworkers in Australia face, while noting that these are the same struggles we face here in the U.S. Both of these long-time MUA members exhibited the passion and spirit of true union brotherhood.

Delegates from Canada, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California were treated to a number of exciting events. The highlight of the convention was the three-hour tour (without Gilligan) of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach aboard the mega yacht “Sir Winston.” The harbor tour encompassed both port complexes and gave the delegates an opportunity to see the mega terminals and the automated terminals at work. They also got to see all our ILWU siblings on the job moving cargo up close and personal.

The delegates especially enjoyed the ILWU Young Workers Committee members who showed up and gave us a rousing address. One of the local delegates, Mike Caskey, was so moved by this young worker that he returned the following day with a book signed by Harry Bridges and presented it to the young man. There was not a dry eye in the place.

Guest speakers included ILWU International Vice President (Hawaii) Sam Kreutz, as well as many ILWU Local Presidents. Roman Pincel from the United Farm Workers (UFW) gave us a shocking presentation on the plight of the farm workers and their battle to be able to vote in union elections by mail, which as I write this article I’m glad to say was passed and signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom. We also received a very informative address from the ILWU Benefit Plan office employees headed by John Barton, and joined by Jackie Gasparro and Mario Perez, in addition to Area Welfare Directors Joe Cabrerales and Sam Alvarado, who reminded us of issues to look out for and how to properly utilize our benefits.

On the second night, a dinner dance was held where we honored a couple of legends in the ILWU family. Tony Salcido was posthumously given the Fred and Lois Stranahan award.

Local 26 Watchmen ratify new contract with PMA

Local 26 Watchmen’s Negotiating Committee brought a package to the membership for a vote on the evening of September 22, 2022, and it was ratified almost unanimously.

“I’m proud of our members. They worked through the pandemic under extremely difficult conditions in service to the industry,” said Local 26 President Luisa Grat. “Not one time did they get a thank you from PMA. A package was finalized in a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) and signatory employers on September 16th. The Agreement was presented to the membership with a recommendation for approval.

Bargaining was contentious and included proposals for takebacks by the employers. An Unfair Labor Practices charge filed against PMA and the employers by Local 26. All takeaway proposals were eventually withdrawn by the PMA.

Highlights of the Agreement include: wage increases retroactive to July 1, 2019, through July 1, 2024, totaling $8.65 and another $1.00 in shift differential; pension increases retroactive to July 1, 2019, through July 1, 2024, increases for widows and dependent children, and survivors; full maintenance of health care benefits; early retirement incentive; equalization of steady work to protect hall Watchmen’s future work opportunities; a vehicle driver training program; adding Juneteenth as a holiday; new Agreement on mechanized terminals for work preservation; and an Agreement on in-service credits toward pension benefits. Employer complaints and union complaints were both withdrawn.

The terms of the Agreement were retroactive to July 1, 2019, and continue until July 1, 2025.

Alcatraz Workers United vote overwhelmingly to join the IBU

By a vote of 52-11, workers at Alcatraz City Cruises voted to join the Inlandboatmen’s Union (IBU), the marine division of the ILWU. They operate ferries transporting tourists between and Pier 33 in San Francisco and Alcatraz Island. The bargaining unit will represent deckhands, first officers, captains, engineers, mechanics, maintenance, food and beverage, guest service agents, and tram drivers.

Workers voted overwhelmingly in favor of unionization despite an aggressive anti-union campaign and pressure tactics waged for months by the owners of Alcatraz City Cruises, the Hornblower Group, who hired anti-union consultants, the Redd Group. The large margin of victory for the union gives workers a strong mandate going into negotiations for their first contract.

Anti-union playbook

The anti-union consultants were a constant presence in break rooms, which made it difficult for workers to talk about the union on breaks. According to workers, during the anti-union “informational sessions” the consultants spread misinformation about the union, falsely telling workers it would cost them $1,200 to join the union and that they would have to work offshore on container ships for three months.

Long fight for unionization

The fight to unionize Alcatraz City Cruises has been a long one. In 2006, Hornblower was awarded the contract to operate the ferries to Alcatraz Island by the Bush Administration’s National Park Service. The contract had previously been held by the union company, Blue and Gold Fleet. Starting in 1973 when Alcatraz first opened to tourists until 2006, the ferries taking tourists to Alcatraz had been staffed by union deckhands represented by the IBU. Two attempts to organize deckhands on the ferry service in 2007 and 2010 fell short.

The organizing climate is much different in 2022 than it has been in recent decades. Workers across industries are exercising their collective bargaining rights, building power, and winning better wages and conditions. Workers at Alcatraz City Cruises said that pay, fair scheduling, and safety were the main issues motivating the drive to unionize.

“I’m happy with the results of the election,” said deckhand Tristan Sniff. “It shows our workforce’s unity. I know we still have a lot of work ahead of us. I’m looking forward to improving conditions, especially workplace safety, and speaking on more even terms with the company.”

Local 26 Watchmen’s Negotiating Committee: (Left to right) Victor Gasset, Johnny Smith, Luisa Grat, Jennifer Mendoza, Christina Le Blanc and Frank Angulo.
LEAD brings the ‘Heat and Hammer’ to train next generation of ILWU leaders

The keynote was followed by a panel discussion by ILWU leaders who are past LEAD alumni including Vice President Olvera, Secretary-Treasurer Ferris, Local 54 Vice President Stef Flores, Local 142 President Chris West, and Local 500's Joulene Parent and was facilitated by Local 63's Patricia Aguirre.

Secretary-Treasurer Ferris spoke openly about obstacles that he overcame in his leadership journey, including a fear of public speaking, “I’ll never forget what International President Willie Adams told me on the campaign trail: ‘You have to get comfortable if you want to serve.’ Ferris added, ‘There is no perfect leader, but if we collaborate instead of competing, we can make the world better.”

West said that his experience at LEAD taught him that ILWU is a bottom-up union. “This union is bigger than any one individual and that is what is great about this union. We have committees and structures where everyone has input. We win together and we fail together,” he said.

Vice President Olvera, drawing on his own experience at LEAD twelve years ago, said, “You are going to look back 10 to 15 years from now and remember this conference as a time that you found your voice and that affirmed and validated in your heart the things you know about this union. You all belong in this union—Big locals, small locals, old and young, your ideas about what you think this union can become matter.”

During breaks, LEAD alumni sat at a “Leaders Table” so they could answer questions about their history with the ILWU and the paths to union leadership. These alumni included Myka Dubay, Dennis Young, Vivian Malauulu, Antonion Pintasa, Mark Williams, Adam Wetzel, and Anthony Flores.

The day closed with an interactive group exercise on the ILWU’s diverse divisions and regions and how that diversity works to build the union’s strength.

Working styles

The afternoon began with a presentation and group exercises focused on how different personality types and “working styles” can collaborate to make an effective team. Attendees learned about their working style and the strengths they bring to a team with a diversity of working styles. The session was facilitated by retired federal mediator Joel Schaffer.

Economic justice

The second full day of the program started with a presentation on economic justice by economist Mark Brenner from the University of Oregon. Brenner went through decades of economic data showing the relationship between declining union density in the United States and increasing levels of income and wealth inequality.

Ten Guiding Principles

Brenner’s presentation was followed by a panel discussion about the ILWU’s Ten Guiding Principles, facilitated by Southern California Lead Organizer Carlos Cordova. Panelists included Local 142 President Chris West, Local 10’s Melvin Mackay, Local 500 member Joulene Parent, Local 30 member Demetrious Freeman, and Local 6 Business Agent Pedro de Sa. Each panelist discussed one Guiding Principle and explained its importance to the union and their work as ILWU members and leaders. Following the panel discussion, workshop participants voted for what they felt was the most important principle at one of ten easels set up around the room.

Meetings that work

That was followed by a session on Robert’s Rules of Order, which is the process used by the ILWU and many other organizations to assure orderly debate, efficient meetings, and decision-making. This session was led by Local 34 President Sean Farley, who has served as the parliamentarian at Longshore Caucuses and ILWU Conventions.

The next generation

Later that afternoon, Local 5 union representative Myka Dubay facilitated a panel discussion on how locals are reaching out to newer and younger members. Panelists included ILWU Canada President Rob Ashton, Local 54 Vice President Stef Flores, Local 23 Vice President Dean McGrath, and Brian Skiffington, Zack Parrin, and Tyler Rasmussen from the Local 23 Young Workers’ Committee. The panelists talked about the histories of the young worker organizations in Canada and Tahoma.

After the day’s program, LEAD attendees, speakers, and guests attended a dinner at the Port of West Sacramento hosted by Local 18. The event included food trucks, a DJ, and a tour of the rice warehouse facility by Local 18 President Tim Campbell.

Remarks by President Adams

Wednesday morning began with an address by International President Willie Adams. President Adams said the value of the week-long LEAD training would be seen by what the attendees bring back to their locals.

“Everyone in this room must go back to your home, inspire people, be involved, and do something for this union,” Adams said, adding that being a leader is not an easy road. “If you are looking for ‘thank you’s this is the wrong job. You do it for the love of the union. You are going to be talked about, second-guessed, and criticized. If that is happening, you are doing your job.”

Internal organizing

Following President Adams was a discussion on internal organizing, member engagement and one-to-one outreach to our union co-workers. The discussion analyzed the successful internal organizing campaign conducted by the Inlandboatmen’s Union (IBU) in the wake of the Janus v. AFSCME decision. Panelists included IBU Secretary-Treasurer Terri Maui, Local 22’s Dax Koho, and Assistant Organizing Director Jon Biter.

That session was followed by part one of the communications workshop presented by ILWU Communications Director Roy San Filippo and Researcher Batak. The workshop focused on identifying audiences, and communications tools and developing effective public interest messaging that connects the union’s concerns with those of the broader public. Part two of the workshop, which focused on public speaking, was held on Thursday morning.

Following lunch, Jon Biter and Northern California organizer Evan McLaughlin introduced the “Heat and Hammer” strategic campaign framework that attendees would use in their final group project that challenges attendees to put together all of the skills they learned throughout the week. Attendees were grouped by region and tasked with defining a goal and identifying decision makers, harnessing the energy and passion among fellow union members about the issue, identifying the points of leverage and pressure to apply, the decision maker and the tactics and actions that will be used to reach their goals.

Rage with the Farm Workers

The attendees voted unanimously to extend the afternoon session to allow everyone to attend a rally with United Farm Workers (UFW), who were joined by members of the United Farm Workers at rally in Sacramento to pressure Gov. Newsom to sign a bill allowing farm workers to vote by mail in union elections.

continued from page 1

Leader that doesn’t want to leave their ego outside, you have to call that out,” she said.

ILWU leaders speak

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The rally was attended by Tom Morello, guitarist for Rage Against the Machine. Morello is a strong union supporter and has moonlighted as a labor hard for years, bringing his acoustic guitar to picket lines and rallies all over the United States to sing labor songs and use his fame to bring public attention to worker struggles. Newsom eventually relented and signed the bill into law.

**Analyzing the 1934 West Coast Strike**

After returning from the action with the UFW, the final session of the day consisted of a strategic analysis of the 1934 West Coast Strike. After watching the PBS documentary, “Bloody Thursday,” Local 23’s Zack Patton and Northern California Organizer Evan McLaughlin led a discussion that broke down the strike as a strategic organizing campaign using the “Heat and Hammer” framework that attendees would use for their own group projects the following day.

On the conference’s final day, attendees presented their final projects. Each presentation was followed by questions and feedback from the audience. Afterward, a graduation ceremony was held where each participant received their LEAD diploma for completing the course.

**Participant reaction**

LEAD attendees said they came away from the training inspired by the ILWU. They learned concrete skills that they could take home to their locals and left with an appreciation for the union’s diversity and rich history.

“This has been a great opportunity with a lot of experiences that help you bond with different people in our union,” said Local 502 member Cheryl Dow. “The experience gave me a clear idea of just how vast our union is and the power that we have when we come together.”

“The training has been fantastic,” said Gary Fincher from the Alaska Longshore Division. “I learned a lot of information that I’m going to take back to the membership. The Robert’s Rules of Order session was particularly helpful and will help make our meeting run more smoothly.”

“The L.A. Port Police have been part of the ILWU since 2000,” said Local 65 member Jane Britten. “Learning the history of the ILWU and the surrounding locals in our area has been very enlightening. It’s made us feel that we are part of a much bigger picture.”

**LEAD attendees**

**Maria Abadesco from the UC Berkeley Labor Center** gave the keynote address on “Visionary Labor Leadership.”

**Demetrius Williams, Local 10**

LEAD has been very inspirational. I was inspired to come here to become a student of knowledge. I learned so much through this experience. I didn’t know that we have so many different entities in the ILWU. I just thought we were dockworkers. I didn’t know we represented hotel workers and so many other entities. It was inspiring for me. Now I just want to know more and get deeper.

**Dylan Gaspar, Local 142**

Before coming to LEAD, Local 142 offered week-long training for full-time officers in Oahu. We had every business agent from every island, every division director from every island, and we had the titled officers there as well. We learned about organizing, mobilizing, and campaigns. Coming here and just extending that knowledge was very beneficial to me. It’s a learning experience throughout your whole career. There are not enough books you can read to learn how to do his job. I want as much training as I can get. I have to be a sponge and soak it all up.

**Megan Stevens, Local 5**

I started working at Powell’s in 2017. That was when I first became a member of the union, but I didn’t start actively participating until 2018 and 2019. I started attending social events like game nights and later started going to the general membership meetings and taking part on the Elections Committee. What stood out for me is seeing how many industries are represented here, how many different workplaces are in the ILWU, and learning about how they operate, how they’re structured, what their other goals are, and how they advocate for workers. I found the evaluation of our work personality, and the communications tips for how to message to your workplace and community to be very helpful.

**Steve Spittle, Local 29**

This is a new experience for me. I’ve gone to two-day trainings, but nothing of this caliber or on this level. It really opened my eyes and taught me a lot about how to deal with certain issues and organize more effectively and how to be articulate. It was great meeting all the different people from the different other locals and see the diversity that surrounds the ILWU. I didn’t realize how far it reached.

**Josh Goodwin, Local 4**

It’s been enlightening to be in the same room with a bunch of like-minded folks. I liked the breakout session on public speaking. I gained some valuable tools to help me in my public speaking. And the last workshop about bringing the areas together to fight a common problem has been fruitful. To be honest, it was a spiritual thing for me. The way the ILWU’s Constitution is written, and the way it relates to humanity and uniting everybody in line with my spiritual practices. I get to bring those two together through this experience.

**Jamie Bulaich, Local 63 OCU**

I’ve different types of trainings in other industries but this was more immersive. The business trainings I’ve done have been lecture based only, and this is more interactive, which is my learning style. I greatly appreciate that it was done this way, because I feel like I’m getting a whole lot more from it. LEAD has made me want to become more of a leader in the union and help wherever the cards fall. I know how important it is to be involved and for members to elect leaders that represent their views.

**Drew Gutierrez, Local 94**

Knowledge is power. LEAD is bringing that knowledge to the people here and enhances the potential for this union to be even greater. I intend to go back and take what I’ve learned here and implement it in our local. Coming to LEAD has helped me to organize my ideas and has given me the skills to develop and implement a plan. I think all of us leave here with better organizational skills.
## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT RECOMMENDATIONS

**California State Ballot Propositions**

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**Eureka School Board**

- Mario Fernández
- Patricia Shanks

**Sonoma County**

- Santa Rosa City Council District 6
- Petaluma City Council District 1
- Rohnert Park City Council District 2
- Ukiah City Council

**Lake County**

- Middle Township School Board - Larry Allen

**San Francisco**

- Novato City Council District 2
- San Rafael City Council
- Marin Municipal Water District

**San Mateo County**

- San Mateo City Council District 9
- San Bruno City Council
- San Carlos City Council
- San Mateo Unified School District

**California State Superintendent**

- Tony Thurmond

**State Treasurer**

- Ricardo Lara

**State Controller**

- John Chiang

**State Attorney General**

- Dr. Shirley Weber

**Governor**

- Gavin Newsom
- Kamala Harris

**County Supervisors**

- San Francisco: Matt Haney, Matt Haney
- Santa Clara: Scott Wiener, Scott Wiener

**School Board Endorsements**

- Contra Costa County Board of Education W2 Sarah Butler
- VA Analia Lottos, VA Justin Brown
- Contra Costa Community College WP John Marquez, WP Rebecca Barrett

**Solano County Candidates**

- Solano County Supervisor D3 Wendy Walsworth
- Board of Education A3 Dana Dean, A3 Teresa Lavelle, A3 Ginger Duane
- Alameda County Supervisor D1 Alameda, D1 Mark Leno, D1 Mary Haskett
- Contra Costa County Supervisor D1 J. Anthony Wayne, D1 Susan Renfroe
NOTICE TO ALL ILWU-REPRESENTED WORKERS, ILWU MEMBERS, FINANCIAL CORE NON-MEMBERS AND NEW HIRES

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

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

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

However, however, that financial core non-members deprive themselves of the valuable rights of union membership in the ILWU and their ILWU local or division. Financial core non-members do not have the right to vote, nominate for office, hold office, or be a candidate for office in the ILWU, nor may they participate in or even attend ILWU meetings or any functions of the union that are limited to union members. In addition, financial core non-members have no right to vote on dues increases or on contracts submitted to the membership for ratification. These rights and privileges of union membership are accorded only to union members in good standing.

Nevertheless, financial core non-members are still legally required under a valid union security clause to pay to their union for the costs related to collective bargaining, contract administration, grievance adjustment, and other activities and expenses reasonably related to the effectuation of the union’s representational duties. (hereinafter collectively called “chargeable activities”). However, union expenditures for non-representational activities such as political activities and government lobbying (hereinafter collectively called “nonchargeable activities”) - activities which most workers know help build a better climate for us all in bargaining with employers and in securing fundamental worker rights - may not be charged to financial core non-members who file timely objections pursuant to this Notice. For calendar year 2021 (which is the most recent audited year), the financial review has confirmed that no more than 6.15% of all ILWU International’s expenditures were for nonchargeable activities.

With respect to ILWU locals and divisions that are outside the ILWU Coast Longshore Division, while they may have different percentages of nonchargeable expenditures, financial core non-members are not entitled to challenges to any such expenditures. Nevertheless, those ILWU locals and divisions outside the ILWU Coast Longshore Division who are covered by this notice will reduce or rebate in advance their local dues and fees as to financial core non-union objectors in the amount of 6.15% based on the nonchargeable percentage stated above for the ILWU International, including the International per capita attributed to them, for the applicable collection period herein or until such time as such local issues a separate notice. In cases of objections, such locals and divisions covered by this notice will be required to provide legally sufficient financial proof to confirm that their nonchargeable percentage is no greater than that stated for the ILWU International.

With respect to individuals working within the ILWU Coast Longshore Division, please note that for calendar year 2021 (which is the most recent audited year), financial review has confirmed that no more than 5.11% of all ILWU Coast Longshore Division expenditures were for nonchargeable activities. Please further note that while each ILWU local within the ILWU Coast Longshore Division may have different percentages of nonchargeable expenditures, financial reviews and practical experience confirm that the nonchargeable percentage of expenditures for such ILWU locals is significantly lower than that for the ILWU Coast Longshore Division. Nevertheless, those ILWU locals within the ILWU Coast Longshore Division who are covered by this notice will reduce or rebate in advance their local dues and fees as to financial core non-union objectors in the amount of 5.11% of their local dues less the International per capita based on the nonchargeable percentage stated above for the ILWU Coast Longshore Division, and will also reduce or rebate in advance for such objectors 6.15% of the International per capita attributed to them, based on the International’s 6.15% nonchargeable expense figure, for the applicable collection period herein or until such time as such local issues a separate notice. In cases of objections, such Longshore Division locals covered by this notice will be required to provide legally sufficient financial proof to confirm that their nonchargeable percentage is no greater than that stated for the ILWU Coast Longshore Division.

The ILWU International Executive Board and the ILWU Coast Longshore Division have adopted the following Procedures on Financial Core Non-Members Objecting to Nonchargeable Expenditures (hereinafter called the “Procedures”). Under the Procedures, a financial core non-member of any affiliated ILWU local and division has the right within a specified 30 day period of time to object to paying for the nonchargeable activities and expenses’ portion of his or her local dues or fees paid to his/her ILWU local, the per capita fee, which the local pays to the ILWU International, as well as any Coast pro rata fees paid to the ILWU Coast Longshore Division. In the event that a financial core non-member working within the ILWU Coast Longshore Division properly makes such objection, they shall receive either the appropriate monthly reduction or an advance rebate of a portion of total local dues or local fees, and per capita fees equal to the ILWU International’s nonchargeable percentage of 6.15% stated above. In the event that a financial core non-member working within the ILWU Coast Longshore Division properly makes such objection, they shall receive either the equivalent of a 6.15% monthly reduction or an advance rebate of a portion of local dues or local fees and of the Coast pro rata fees equal to the ILWU Coast Longshore Division’s nonchargeable percentage of 5.11% stated above. In addition, such individual will also receive a reduction or an advance rebate of 6.15% of their per capita that is paid to the ILWU International.

Under the Procedures, an objection by a financial core non-member must be made in writing and post-marked within 30 days from the date of this notice or, alternatively, the date of becoming a new hire or becoming a financial core non-member under an ILWU union security clause and receipt of this notice, whichever is later, and addressed to the ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer, 1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109. To be valid, the written objection must specify the objector’s name, address, the name of his or her employer and the name of the local union or division which represents the objector. A written objection must be timely in order to be valid. Without waiving the 30-day filing period with respect to other notices of this type, please be advised that under this notice only, objections filed by current financial core non-members will be deemed timely if postmarked on or before December 1, 2022. Individuals who after the date of this notice become new hires or financial core non-members may file an objection within 30 days of the date they become a new hire or financial core non-member or the date they receive this notice, whichever is later.

Unlike a later notice, those financial core non-members and new hires who file timely objections will not be charged from the date they file a timely objection through December 31, 2023 for expenditures related to nonchargeable activities based on the applicable percentages noted above and also will be provided detailed, independently verified financial information concerning the breakdown between chargeable and nonchargeable expenditures of the ILWU International, the ILWU Coast Longshore Division (if the objector works within the Longshore Division) and of their ILWU local. Objectors will also be given an opportunity to file, within 30 days of receipt of such financial information, a challenge to the amount and calculation of any such nonchargeable expenditures and percentages, as well as an opportunity to have the matter arbitrated. If the arbitrator rules in favor of the objector, a portion of any such expenditures (as determined by the American Arbitration Association (AAA) in proceedings conducted under AAA Rules applicable to objections to agency fees. Please also note that the amount or portion of financial core fees pending the period for filing any objection and challenge as well as the amount reasonably in dispute pursuant to any challenge will be kept in an interest bearing escrow account pending resolution of such challenge. Objectors who file a timely challenge to the amounts or calculations of fees will receive the amount that may be determined by the Arbitrator to be owed them, if any, plus accrued interest, pursuant to these Procedures.

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

Greg Mitre
ILWU-PCPA President

ILWU Oregon Area Council Election Endorsements
November 8, 2022

Governor:
Tina Kotek
Pos. 3

Labor Commissioner (ROU):
Christina Depew
US House of Representatives:
David Cornelberg
HD 20
Victoria Severson
HD 26
Bart Novack
HD 31
Courtney Bonn
HD 35
Mark Carufel
HD 40
Beth Noss
HD 62
Travis Nelson
HD 64
Oregon Senate:
Melissa Dougherty
CD 10

For more information, please visit Oregon Backing Our Heroes Fund’s endorsing candidates on their site. For a list of OFMIP endorsements, go to evpuc.org/endorsements

ILWU Pensioners Gather for 53rd Annual Convention

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and Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner Diane Middleton, a longtime supporter of the ILWU, was given the friendly politician award. We also were graced with the presence of 98-year-old Sadie Williams, a beautiful ILWU Local 10 widow who has attended countless conventions. It was a true evening to remember and everyone had a grand time dancing away the evening.

Elections are held at every convention, and I’m proud to announce that at this year’s convention the current Vice President Lawrence Thibeaux, Financial Secretary Chris Gordon, and Recording Secretary Yolanda Nuhi were re-elected along with myself as President for another term.

The ILWU Pensioners would like to thank the ILWU Longshore Division, the Titled Officers, and the Coast Committeemen for their unwavering support of the retirees of our great union.

Greg Mitre
ILWU-PCPA President