



THE DISPATCHER

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Local 6 holds 76th Annual Convention
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ILWU members joined with port officials, community members, and elected leaders to celebrate to state's \$110 million commitment to fund a new Goods Movement Training Campus at the ports of LA and Long Beach.

ILWU, port community, gather to celebrate \$110 million funding for future SoCal training center

Longshore workers play major role in starting center to train and upskill workers

On March 24th, ILWU members joined local and state elected officials, and leaders from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, as officials presented a \$110 million ceremonial check reaffirming the state's pledge to help fund a training facility devoted specifically to supply chain workers — the first of its kind in the United States.

The festive event was a testament to the hard work of local ILWU members, leaders and others in the port community who have worked for years to make this training center a reality. The gathering was held at the future site of the training center and attended by more than 50 people and the media.

The Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach Goods Move-

ment Training Campus will provide a single and centralized location to attract, recruit, and retain workers in the goods movement sector. It is a partnership between the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the ILWU, the California Workforce Development Board, and the Pacific Maritime Association. The ports will equally split the balance of the project cost while working to secure additional funding for equipment and curriculum.

Training workers across the supply chain

The Goods Movement Training Campus will provide training for longshore workers, truck drivers, warehouse workers, and other essential supply chain workers. Local 13's Mark Jurisic is among those who been working on bringing this training center to fruition for 15 years. He said that the program will encompass every aspect of longshore work,

including training on every piece of equipment on the docks, and will include maintenance and repair training for that equipment.

"For example, there is going to be crane training for crane drivers," Jurisic said. "But on the flip side, there it's also going to double as a crane maintenance training program. That program doesn't exist anywhere in this country, maybe even the world."

"There are a number of skills that fall into being a well-rounded crane mechanic," Jurisic said. "You have to know medium and high voltage; you have to know hydraulics; you have to be able to weld at height and do complex welding; you have to know elevators and fiber optics; you have to have computer skills. There's a lot. I'm just scratching the surface here."

Jurisic added: "We are already working on the mechanic curriculum.

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ILWU members, community, demand Port of Olympia bargain fairly with Local 47B

Supporters from IBU, ILWU Canada, Hawai'i and West Coast locals denounce port's 'inexcusable' actions

The March 27th the Port Commission meeting for the Port of Olympia in Washington State was standing room only as more than two dozen community supporters and ILWU members packed the room to show solidarity with members of ILWU Local 47B. ILWU members and representatives came out from all over the West Coast, Hawai'i, and Canada.

Members of Local 47B were present in force at the meeting alongside other ILWU and community members. While public employees in Washington State face some restrictions on making comment, fellow members and supporters at their side spoke up in strong solidarity.

Local 47B was formed in April

of 2022 and represents 16 workers from the port's maintenance department, marina, and boatyard. Negotiations began in June of 2022, but the two sides have spent little time at the bargaining table.

The union has filed four unfair labor practices charges with the WA Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) alleging that the port violated state labor law through illegally retaliating and discriminating against union supporters. As the *Dispatcher* was going to press, PERC had not yet made a ruling on the charges filed by the union.

In September and February, supporters participated in Commission meetings demanding accountability at the port—an end to manager violations, a stop to using taxpayer dollars on consultants and lawyers, and a commitment to sign a fair union contract without delay.



Local 47 member Jim Rose urges the Port of Olympia to begin negotiating with Local 47B member earnestly to reach a fair contract for workers.

Seventeen people spoke during the open comments portion of the March 27th meeting urging the port to sit down and negotiate a contract with workers. Several speakers said the port was prolonging negotiations by not devoting adequate

time to contract talks with workers. The Port has devoted only two hours every two weeks to bargaining, several speakers noted. In February, the port requested PERC step in as a mediator saying the contract talks

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Seattle's 'Sip & Solidarity' luncheon honors women on the waterfront



Alison Steichen (Local 19), LeRin Farrison (Local 52), and Jeanine Lofton (Local 19).

For Women's History Month, Seattle's Local 19 put on an event honoring the women of the ILWU for the second year in a row. The "Sip & Solidarity" luncheon was held on March 29th at a local restaurant, Camp West, and was open to all ILWU members. Tickets were sold on a sliding scale, with A and B members paying \$30 and casuals and pensioners eating for free.

By 1:00 p.m. all seats in the restaurant were full, with more than 50 attendees from four different locals, as well as a significant attendance from pensioners. Compared to last year's event which was set up as an educational panel, this year was more social, allowing space for women who didn't know each other to sit together and share a meal. This allowed much more intermingling between different levels of seniority and different locals, as there were guests who drove up from Tacoma's Local 23. We were also honored to have the attendance of both the Associate Director and Assistant Director of the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies at the University of Washington.

After everyone had a chance to fill up their plates, there were several guest speakers. Kesa Sten of Local 52 spoke about the importance of solidarity among women on the waterfront, and not falling prey to feelings of competition between women. She then introduced Kevin Castle, the first woman crane operator in Local 19, who spoke eloquently about her experience, which started in the 1980s. We were honored to have in

attendance several of her cohorts, the first group of women to be registered into Local 19.

Ali Vekich, who is an elected member of the Washington Area District Council and representative of Local 19 on the King County Labor Council, gave a speech in which she encouraged participation through volunteer work and running for office when eligible. In particular, she emphasized the need for more BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) women within leadership roles in the local.

Alison Steichen of Local 19 spoke on the local's recent election results, which brought in women in several new areas of leadership.

At the close of the event, Sten introduced a new mentorship program connecting A women members as mentors to B and casual women. The objectives of this program are: "To facilitate community among ILWU sisters on the Seattle waterfront; To pass along union knowledge from generation to the next in a supportive setting; To encourage active participation in union politics; to foster friendship and sisterhood amongst union members."

This mentorship program is just starting, so if you are interested in participating, please contact Kesa Sten at Local 52.

"The 2023 Women's Event was a success in bringing together the women of the Seattle waterfront, to celebrate each other and honor our past," Sten said. "I was really humbled by the turnout. Our community of women is such a great group, and I am honored to be a part of it. I am excited to get the mentorship program moving in anticipation of the influx of new casuals and work getting busy with cruise season starting up again."

This year's organizers were Ali Vekich, Alison Steichen, and Ann Norton of Local 19, and Kesa Sten of Local 52. Funding was provided by Local 19's Education Committee and Local 52.

All organizers were pleased with how the event turned out and look forward to continuing this tradition in the future.

— Hazel Pine Local 19

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Local 5 organizes new non-profit workplaces, announces new Non-Profit Division

Pioneering a no-cost grievance procedure and securing voluntary recognition are just two of many positive developments



There is a tide rising in the world of non-profit workplaces. Across the country, workers who have been toiling in the service of others by making our society more just are looking inwards and wondering, “Do we not also deserve justice for ourselves? Shouldn’t we also have strong workplace protections and a seat at the table? *Do we need a union?*”

The answer is, emphatically, YES. That need has especially been highlighted through the pandemic years where non-profit organizations have continued to provide support to our communities, and workers at many organizations have been asked to give more to support the organizational missions. Many workers find themselves drawn to non-profit workplaces because of a shared interest in supporting the organization’s mission, but at a certain point, workers also must take care of themselves. Against that backdrop, Local 5 has begun to develop a new division within the local: the Non-Profit Division.

The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) was the first non-profit workplace to join Local 5. Initially having been in an independent union, workers at OHS saw the value of combining forces with Powell’s and Aramark workers to form a bigger and stronger union. Now, years later, the unit of OHS is finding itself with new groups of non-profit workers looking to join the union.

Interfaith Movement for Racial Justice

The first new group of workers organized were employees at the Interfaith Movement for Racial Justice (IMIRJ). Like many non-profit employers, it is a small workforce. However, what workers lacked in numbers, they made up for in solidarity. Throughout the entire process, workers remained engaged and supportive. Those efforts, along with an employer who was earnest in its sincerity about being a part of the social justice movement — including justice for workers — resulted in a ratified agreement within about six months of negotiations.

In addition to many standard agreements any good union contract would include, workers achieved inflationary wage increases and pioneered a no-cost grievance procedure with binding arbitration. The latter development is critical. It not only ensures that the resources of non-profit employers are preserved for supporting their community mission, but it also preserves the union’s resources to be used to organize unorganized workers. Now, less than a year after the ratification of the IMIRJ contract, new workers are joining the ranks of Local 5 and building on past successes.

Neighborhood Partnerships

In February of this year, workers of Neighborhood Partnerships (NP) announced their unionization with Local 5. After consideration and outreach to resources provided by the union, the NP Board ultimately agreed to voluntary recognition. Local 5 and NP collaborated on a joint press release, in which the Worker Organizing Committee wrote:

“We, the workers of Neighborhood Partnerships, are ecstatic to be voluntarily recognized & join ILWU Local 5. This is significant for a few reasons: 1st, as an organization that advocates for economic & racial justice, it was important for us to come together & live into those values that center the expertise & experience of those most impacted in a liberating & equitable way. 2nd, it is significant that NP as a nonprofit joins the labor movement, not solely to protect our own labor but also to emphasize that unionization is possible & needed in the nonprofit sector. We are looking forward to contributing to the movement for worker solidarity & liberation. Lastly, we are excited to continue to help grow NP into the worker-centered, genuinely equitable, & liberatory organization we know it can be. Coming together & using our collective power as workers will help NP exemplify what an economic & racial justice organization looks like.”

“Neighborhood Partnerships values our staff and the hard work they do day in and day out” said Carlos David García, Executive Director of Neighborhood Partnerships. “Our organization is aligned with the values-centered process our workers have organized around, and we are pleased



Workers at the Community Cycling Center received voluntary recognition in less than two days after they notified their employer that they would be joining Local 5.

with the collaborative and open spirit of ILWU Local 5. We know that we all share a commitment to the work and long-term sustainability of Neighborhood Partnerships. We look forward to working together to make that shared vision a reality.”

“ILWU Local 5 is proud to stand with the workers of Neighborhood Partnerships and thrilled about our newly formed relationship with such a leader of economic justice in Oregon,” said Ryan Van Winkle, Local 5 President. “As a labor union, we are honored that those workers who are engaged in the daily struggle of creating economic justice and equity in our communities have chosen to join ILWU Local 5. We know that creating systems of justice at every level of society and for us, within every corner of every workplace, is key to ensuring that all workers have a voice and to uplift and codify the collaboration between leadership and rank-and-file workers.”

Now, less than two months after voluntary recognition, workers have elected their bargaining team; Local 5 has provided training to the team; the union and employer bargaining teams have met twice and come to two substantive agreements (including the employer agreeing to have bargaining “on the clock” and reaching agreement on what positions are included in the union). The parties have scheduled additional bargaining sessions and are optimistic they will be productive.

Community Cycling Center

In March, another group of workers from Community Cycling Center (CCC) who had been meeting with Ryan Takas, the ILWU International Organizer in the region, notified their employer that they would be joining Local 5. This time, in less than two days, CCC agreed to voluntary recognition and, together with the Organizing Committee and the union, issued celebratory statements.

The Workers Organizing Committee of the CCC wrote that they were “proud to announce that we have unionized and joined ILWU Local 5. ... The Community Cycling Center Workers Union is made up of workers in Community Programs, Youth Programs, shop mechanics, and retail staff. As the first union bike shop in Portland, we hope to show what is possible when workers act collectively. We look forward to collaborating with leadership to make the CCC the best it can be: resilient in times of change and steadfast in our mission to serve our community. We are grateful to share values with both the ILWU Local 5 and with leadership at our organization.”

Steph Routh, Interim Executive Director, Community Cycling Center, said, “We are grateful to the Community Cycling Center staff for unionizing, because it expands our organization’s toolkit to meet the challenges before us, together. The strength of a union is leveling the power dynamics

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Workers at the newly organized Neighborhood Partnerships show their love for Local 5.

ILWU, port community, gather to celebrate \$110 million funding for future SoCal training center



ILWU members stand behind then-Local 13 President Ramon Ponce De Leon as he speaks about the hard work it has taken to make the training center a reality.

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If a mechanic wants to learn a skill, they will be able to come through the training program. We're going to build a program that addresses the needs of this industry so that we can train workers for the jobs that they're going to be doing. That's one of the goals for Local 13. We do not want to put people out there on the docks in harm's way without proper training."

20 acres with room to grow

The training facility will sit on 20 acres with an option to expand. It sits on land that is both within the City of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach. "I think this epitomizes what we have come to celebrate — not just the two ports coming together, but industry, labor, and our legislative leaders coming together to recognize how important this project we celebrate is," said Dr. Noel Hacegaba, Deputy Executive Director at the Port of Long Beach.

"I was pleased to champion funding for this state-of-the-art training facility, which will be the first of its kind to serve current and future workers," said State Assemblymember Mike Gipson, who spoke at the event. "This critical resource will support our workers and build a future generation of tal-



State Senator María Elena Durazo

ent for our state's economy. This is a game changer for our communities."

Good jobs, green future

Ramon Ponce De Leon, then President of Local 13, spoke at the event. "We are humbled, thankful, and grateful to the governor, the state legislature, the ports of LA and Long Beach, and everybody involved," he said. "It doesn't happen unless you roll up your sleeves, and you do it, and you prove to the people that you're concerned about jobs."

Ponce De Leon emphasized that there must be equity between the goals of greening the ports and keeping and creating good-paying jobs for the community. "Jobs must be an equal part of the discussion when we talk about the environment and fighting climate change. There has to be a national strategy addressing both economic needs and environmental needs," he said.

Long struggle for a good idea

Making the training center a reality took more than a good idea; it took more than a decade of hard work and persistence. Ponce De Leon recognized the work of Local 13's Mark Jurisic in pressing for the training center for the past 15 years. "I want to thank Mark for rolling up his sleeves, because that's what we do. We roll up our sleeves, we go to work, and we move this cargo."

Noticing disturbing trends

It was shortly after Jurisic began doing work as a relief Business Agent at Local 13 when he first started noticing that something was wrong.

"There was a type of accident that seemed to repeat itself: A new casual coming straight out of training and within the first month or so, a large number of them that would have a similar accident: making a right or left turn with a bomb cart," Jurisic said. "The severity of the accident would vary from very minor to serious property damage and injuries. I started thinking about it, and knew this was a behavior that can be corrected."

Years later, Jurisic became Chairman of the Joint Accident Prevention Committee (JAPC). "I start think-

ing about the need for training, and I started being very vocal at the JAPC about training and the lack thereof." He added, "There are accidents that are clearly preventable with just a minimum amount of training. As a union official, I can't sit by and ignore this."

Looking North to ILWU Canada

Nearly 10 years ago ILWU Canada opened a training center in conjunction with the British Columbia Maritime Employer's Association (BCMEA), the equivalent of the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) on the U.S. West Coast.

"It's a new concept on how to bring people into the industry now," said ILWU Canada's First Vice President Pat Bolen, who helped start the training program in Canada. "They're not the old-school workers that grew up on the farm. I call them video-age people."

Bolen said that the training center was started because the industry needs to prepare to meet the demands of this new workforce and the changing work structure on the docks. "It's no longer

"There are a number of skills that fall into being a well-rounded crane mechanic," Jurisic said. "You have to know medium and high voltage; you have to know hydraulics; you have to be able to weld at height and do complex welding; you have to know elevators and fiber optics; you have to have computer skills. There's a lot. I'm just scratching the surface here."

— Mark Jurisic, Local 13

a gang structure where you're on the ground with other workers," Bolen said. "A lot of the jobs now you are in a box by yourself, whether a truck, or a top lift, or a gantry crane. You have to be independent and knowledgeable of what's going on around you."

ILWU Canada's training center is constantly learning, and expanding. "It's a structure to build on and improve," Bolen said. "It was the first one of its kind. It's a good start to training workers before progressing them to the dock under supervision. That way, they aren't completely awestruck when they hit the terminals."

Shortly after the Canadian training center opened, Jurisic got word of it and asked then-Local 13 President Bobby Olvera, Jr., if he could go tour the facility.

"Bobby recognized it was a good opportunity," said Jurisic, "and he sent me up to Canada. They took me on a tour and showed me the whole facility, and I got to see how it was run. It was an eye-opening experience. Upon my return, I started becoming even more vocal about the need for a training center. And that caught the ear of Dave Arian."

Opening doors

Dave Arian, who passed away in 2019, was a past International President of the ILWU and a legendary figure on the waterfront. He was a Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner when he heard about Jurisic's idea for a training center.

"Dave approached me and said that it's a very good idea and something that the industry needed," Jurisic said. "and he was going to pursue the idea from his Harbor Commission seat."

Arian helped open doors. Jurisic was able to sit down and speak with Gene Seroka, Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles, to talk about the many benefits a training center would provide.

Avin Sharma, Senior Director of Labor Relations and Government Affairs at the Port of Los Angeles, was one of several speakers at the funding celebration event who acknowledge Arian's role in helping to make the Goods Movement Training Campus a reality.

Sharma said that Arian always spoke about the role the port authorities need to play in promoting, good-paying jobs in the community.

"Dave said that back in his day, someone could finish up high school and go work in one of the metal shops here in the community because those

shops were providing parts and components for the shipyards and the canneries," Sharma said. "He told me those days are gone, and it's up to the port authorities to help our communities and provide for jobs. He told me that we need a training facility so people in our community can get the training they need for good well-paying jobs in the harbor. And that it would also support the industry by creating a pipeline of interested people. That conversation was six years ago. Not a day that goes by I don't think about that."

'Not leaving until this is done'

Jurisic estimates that it will be four to six years from the time construction starts and the training campus opens. He is committed to seeing the project to fruition.

"Before I retire, I want to see this thing up and running," Jurisic said. "We're going to get this built; I'm not leaving until this is done."



Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo

ILWU members, community, demand Port of Olympia bargain fairly with Local 47B

Supporters from IBU, ILWU Canada, Hawai'i and West Coast locals denounce port's 'inexcusable' actions



Local 10's Melvin Mackay told the Olympia Port Commissioners that they could get a deal done with Local 47B if they wanted.

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had reached an impasse. The result has been a nearly two-month delay in negotiations. Speakers asked the Port Commissioners to take greater oversight and control of the negotiations to get a deal done with workers.

Jim Rose from Local 47, which represents longshore workers at the Port of Olympia, spoke at the Commission meeting and raised concerns about delays in bargaining. "Instead of making it a top priority to finish and sign a union contract, your managers have gone the opposite way," Rose said. "I really can't believe your executive team tried to claim that two hours every two weeks to bargain was reasonable and equitable."

Jay Ubelhart, President of the Inlandboatmen's Union (IBU), the marine division of the ILWU, also spoke about the lack of time at the bargaining table. "I've spent 20 years negotiating with public employers," Ubelhart said. "It is absolutely inexcusable to take two hours every two weeks. It's just crazy that these workers have to wait."

Olympia resident Glen Ray brought up several actions taken towards union supporters that are a part of the unfair labor practices charges brought by the ILWU, including denying overtime

and delaying promotions for workers who support the union. Ray also spoke about the termination of a pro-union worker who was fired after reporting the Port to state regulators for safety violations.

"Your executive team demoted and fired a union-supporting worker who blew the whistle on the Port," Ray said. "The supervisor never provided him a work schedule and then wrote him up for leaving early. She then denied him office keys and forced him to finish his shift while waiting outside of a locked building for two weeks straight. Finally, he was ordered to work on a rooftop and was then denied a safety harness. When he reported this reckless order to the state regulators, your executive team reprimanded him and fired him soon after."

Several ILWU speakers urged to Port Commission to get to work and sit down to bargain.

"You are the elected leaders here, and it is your responsibility to act and stop wasting time," said Genevieve Lorenzo, an organizer with ILWU Canada. "The time for lip service is over. The time for action is now. We see you, and we are watching, and we will not take our eyes off you until the port workers of local 47B get the fair contract they deserve."

"I'm very concerned about what I'm hearing here," said Local 34 President Sean Farley. "I've had the personal privilege of working directly with the Ports of Sacramento, Stockton, Oakland, and San Francisco. It's not always an easy relationship. And I can understand that, but we always find a way to get it done together. It's not that hard. It takes a commitment to sit down at a table and hash it out."

Local 10's Melvin Mackay expressed a similar sentiment. "What has to happen here is that someone has to put on their big boy pants. The thing that these workers are asking for is to do what they set out to do — provide for their families, as you all do," Mackay said to the Commissioners. "You can get it done if you want to. It's a give-and-take."

Two weeks later on April 10, Port Commissioner Amy Evans Harding made a motion at the Commission meeting to place the port's Executive Director Sam Gibboney on administrative leave. The other two Commissioners—Joe Downing and Bob Iyall—voted down Commissioner Evans Harding's motion and immediately adjourned the meeting just twenty minutes after it started.

Commissioner Evans Harding published an opinion piece online in *The Journal of Lacey, Tumwater* and

Olympia detailing what Harding saw as critical failings of leadership and lack of accountability, including: a Letter of No Confidence in the Director signed by most port employees; turnover of all but one of the Director's reports to the Commission; separation agreements to former employees costing taxpayers almost \$200,000 in payouts; and the Director's attempt to sway the Commission to materially alter and improve her annual performance review.

On April 17, the Commission released a public statement in support of the Executive Director, praising her "high ethical and moral standards," and thanking the Director for "moving the port in a good direction with visible results." Meanwhile, Commissioner Evans Harding stated to *The Olympian* that though "we moved forward as a Commission and I support that," she will "still do what is right" and is committed to being "transparent with the community."

As the *Dispatcher* went to press, Local 47B members were scheduled to begin contract mediation with the Executive Director's team through PERC in late April as Thurston County taxpayers, the public at large and ILWU leaders and members from the mainland, Hawai'i and Canada monitor the situation for results.



Local 47B members turned up in force to the March 27th Port Commission meeting for the Port of Olympia along with others from the ILWU family from along the West Coast, Hawai'i and Canada.



Local 6 convention: Local 6 held their 76th Annual Convention on April 15th at the Local 6 hall in Oakland. More than 60 registered delegates and guests attended, including ILWU International Vice President (Hawai'i) Sam Kreutz and ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris and a delegation of Local 17 pensioners from Sacramento. In the top photo (left to right): Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Jose Nunez delivers the Officers' Report; a group Local 6 delegates listen to speakers at the Convention; In the bottom photo (left to right): Local 6 delegate David Harrell hits the mic; International Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris; International Vice President Sam Kreutz.



Annual Blood drive saves lives:

ILWU Local 13 members have saved 528 lives over the past 5 years donating blood to the Red Cross during their annual blood drive held to coincide with the Spring elections.

Photo by Vivian Malautilu

ILWU International Executive Board meets in person



For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Executive Board (IEB) met in person April 12-13 in San Francisco.

"This is a great day for the ILWU," said International President Willie Adams as he welcomed the Executive Board Members back to the International headquarters. He thanked the ILWU locals and divisions for weathering the hard times through COVID-19 and coming out of the pandemic with renewed vigor and determination to grow the ILWU stronger than before.

In the photo above: ILWU International Vice President (Mainland) Bobby Olvera, Jr. presents retiring ILWU Research Director Russ Bargmann with his decades-old, wooden inbox signed by the entire IEB and International and Coast Staff. The inbox, which has been a part of the ILWU Offices as long as Bargmann, was presented to him by the Titled Officers as symbol of Bargmann's historical connection to the union. Bargmann has served the ILWU for nearly 50 years and has worked with every ILWU International President except for Harry Bridges.

Solidarity with the Tennessee Three

The ILWU International Executive Board meeting, held in San Francisco April 13-14, adjourned in solidarity with the Tennessee Three, the three Democratic legislators who were subject to an expulsion vote from the state's Republican-controlled legislature.

The three Representatives were subject to an expulsion vote after they took to the House floor, chanting "no action, no peace" during a protest on March 30th, in solidarity with hundreds demonstrators who converged on the capitol demanding the legislature take action on gun violence just days after a mass shooting at Nashville's Covenant School killed six people, including three children.

The Republican-controlled Tennessee House of Representatives voted to expel Rep. Justin Jones and Rep. Justin Pearson. The expulsion vote failed against Rep. Gloria Johnson, who also joined the protest. Reps. Jones and Pearson are both Black; Rep. Johnson is white. Jones and Pearson were both reappointed to their positions by local legislative bodies in their respective districts.

Rep. Jones was born and raised in the Bay Area and has a long history of fighting gun violence. Before moving to Tennessee to attend college on a scholarship for his social justice activism, Rep. Jones was born in Oakland and graduated from Hercules High School. During a 2013 demonstration in San Francisco protesting the acquittal of the man who shot unarmed teenager Trayvon Martin, Rep. Jones told NBC Bay Area News, "We're also calling for peace in our communities – whether in the neighborhoods of West Oakland or in a gated neighborhood in Sanford, Florida. We need to end gun violence."

"The expulsion of the Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson from the Tennessee legislature is a slap in the face to democracy and to the people of their districts that elected them," said ILWU International President Willie Adams. "That these two young, Black leaders were expelled by an overwhelmingly white, right-wing legislature just days after the 55th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, is a reminder of how much work remains to be done to combat centuries of systemic racism. Their tenacity and fight to continue to represent their constituents despite the attempts to silence them is an inspiration to us all."

ILWU Walk the Coast: 'Thanks a million!'

When the 2011 Longshore Division Caucus weighed their resolution to create a coastwise fundraiser, the measure passed because it contained three worthy goals: help others in need, unite the ILWU and show the community the goodness of organized labor.

None of the delegates had any idea how their benevolent decision might take flight or, if it did fly, what distance it might travel. Our history and experience shows us that lofty presentations often mean resolutions win passage only to crash from neglect. This resolution was not forgotten. President McElrath and the Officers allowed a committee, with strict guidelines aimed at protecting the union, to start their engines. ILWU Walk the Coast, the fundraiser's name aimed at appealing to the Longshore Division, was adopted. The Division's fundraiser was headed down the runway. As it lifted off the only questions were, would the effort break down, fly for just a moment or soar?

Understanding that the ILWU's reputation was at stake, the committee debated selecting a charity that suited our needs. The union's standing was a top priority. If just one cent was lost, union haters would have had a field day bashing the ILWU for squandering charity money. We enjoy a top-notch union. We cannot be found supporting charities that make headlines for wasting donations. Some wanted to glide toward charities specific to individual ports. Our members are generous and host numerous fundraisers for local causes. Members have a natural desire to help those closest to home - causes they know. That was an excellent call. But, in this instance, the goal was a coastwise fundraiser. The committee needed something bigger, a cause and charity that every local from Washington to San Diego would be able to donate to, identify with and proudly support. The ILWU had never attempted a coastwise fundraiser.

For two years the fundraiser's engines helped the event gain altitude. Local 23 Tacoma's Scott Mason invited Seattle, Local 19 and the Northwest to hold their fundraiser to help an excellent charity that targets pancreatic cancer, PANCAN. Los Angeles Locals 13, 63, 94, Auxiliary 8 and the Southern California Pensioners Group joined forces to aid Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation's fight against childhood cancer. With Frank Gaskin as Local 10's pilot, San Francisco joined Los Angeles to support ALSF.

After those first few years, Southern California began flying solo. They had some very successful in-person fundraisers. Bands, clowns and food were all part of the 2011 and 2012 shows. Richard Harriet (94), volunteered to help the L.A. fundraisers. Rich organized small Texas Hold 'em poker tournaments at a member's home.

They were a bunch of longshoremen who loved to play cards, have fun and help the good cause - our most precious and vulnerable children. When the big in-person events became too costly, Los Angeles appropriated Harriet's poker idea and took the annual tournament to local casinos. As time passed, total donations to ALSF, which came from ILWU locals, the pensioners, auxiliaries, industry companies and our friends, hit \$200,000 then \$300,000 and \$400,000. The event gained altitude. ILWU Walk the Coast generated donations of about \$85,000 per year but still had no idea how far or high the fundraiser was going. Small port next-door neighbor Local 46 Hue-neme joined L. A.'s effort by hosting Las Vegas Night fundraisers and several walks from Ocean Pavilion along the beach to their beautiful lighthouse.

In 2019, ILWU Walk the Coast was busy organizing an electric bike ride. Several of our members volunteered to raise awareness by pedaling through every ILWU longshore local from Bellingham to Los Angeles. Great idea. Covid 19 suddenly deflated the tires on that plan. The officers, President Willie Adams, V.P. Bobby Olvera, Secretary Ed Ferris and Coast Committeemen Frank Ponce de Leon and Cam Williams immediately allowed the committee to take the fundraiser virtual and invite not just the Longshore Division, but every local and affiliate in every division of the ILWU. The timing was right for holding an annual virtual event aimed at participation from every part of our ILWU. The committee wouldn't let the pandemic crash the fundraiser.

The 2021 virtual 38th Annual International Convention passed a resolution that invited the entire ILWU to fly and fundraise together. For Southern California it appeared the pandemic had opened new opportunities to help children and unite the union virtually. ILWU Walk the Coast had garnered about \$700,000 in total donations and was suddenly headed into new unknown air. What was once a small plane with seats for a few passengers morphed into a 747 with room for everyone. Beautiful Alex, the 4-year-old founder of ALSF, had raised \$1,000,000 before her passing at age 8. Was matching her amazing number possible? Would a virtual campaign even work? The committee agreed that any donation in any amount would be acknowledged with a logo or name posted in Thank You newspaper ads. It was important to show supporters how much ILWU Walk the Coast appreciated their donations. The *Dispatcher* Editor Roy SanFilippo kindly agreed to post the Thank You ad that shows every participant. The virtual effort worked. Helping children came from more than the Longshore Division. Every state - Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, California - and Canada answered the call. Friends of the ILWU, the Federated Auxiliary and some of their chapters, the Pacific Coast Pensioners and several pension groups entered the

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Celebrating our \$1 Million Year!



\$1 MILLION THANKS!

Wouldn't you feel like a million bucks if you knew you were helping children have their full chance in life? Since our first fundraiser in 2012, ILWU Walk the Coast has annually invited ILWU locals, our affiliates, community friends and our industry companies to fight childhood cancer. Thanks to our 2022 donors, we raised \$143,343 for the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation. These contributions brought our total donations over one-million-dollars. This milestone is significant. It is the same amount that beautiful Alex raised before her passing at age 8. The success of ILWU Walk the Coast proves that Alex's unselfish love helps children, funds research, and supports families in need. The donors noted here helped us equal Alex's fundraising goal. She continues to be our inspiration. That is why we thank all those who have contributed and invite you to join us in the fall of 2023 and be part of our next milestone. ILWU Walk the Coast Committee gives \$1 MILLION THANKS to those who support this great cause!

To donate or for more information about ILWU Walk the Coast and Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, please visit www.ilwuwalkthecoast.org

2022 - DIAMOND SPONSORS - \$10,000



2022 - PLATINUM SPONSORS - \$5,000



2022 - GOLD SPONSORS - \$3,500



2022 - SILVER SPONSORS - \$2,500



PREVIOUS DONORS

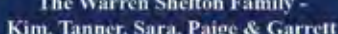
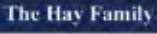


Steve Frazier
The Stockham Family
The Nelson Family
Reyno Local 13
Michele Lujan
Felipe Riley
Dawn Des Brisay
Mike & Tina Carranza
The George Romero Family
Billy Proctor
Richie Rich
Cathy Familathe

Yep Yap
Ventura Democratic Club
Oxnard Democratic Club
Anthony Spanjol
Holly H.
Robert A. Maynez
Ronald Evans
Jennifer Sargent Bokaie
Steve Imbagliazzo Family
Diana B Sparagna ESQ
Shannon & Felix



2022 - BRONZE SPONSORS - \$1,000



2022 - SPECIAL HONOR DONORS



S. Patrick Mellier
Herman & Virginia Moreno
William Loskutoff
Jerry Garretson
The York Family
Lisa Imbagliazzo Conway

Robert Maynez
Dr. Louis & Grace Mascola
Marie Dukeshier
Mark and Cheryle Sundstedt
The 3 Imbagliazzo Family
Steve and Lydia Schiazzano

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation was founded by Alexandra Scott. In the hospital at age four, Alex announced to her mother that she would hold a lemonade stand to raise money for other children. Before her 2004 passing at age 8, Alex had raised over \$1,000,000. The Foundation bearing her name has evolved into a national fundraising movement. Today, ALSF is one of the leading funders of pediatric cancer research in the U.S. and Canada raising over \$250 million, funding nearly 1,000 research projects at 150 institutions and providing family support programs.

Local 5 organizes new non-profit workplaces, announces new Non-Profit Division

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in a workplace. This is a step forward in building the trusting partnership among all members of our staff and Board, to better show up with and for our communities to broaden access to bicycling and its benefits.” -

“Local 5 has long embraced the idea that promoting bikes as a sustainable form of transportation is pro-environment and pro-community,” said Ryan Van Winkle, ILWU Local 5 President. “From negotiating for bike subsidies in contracts to organizing bike posse events for members to participate, we see bikes help make our cities livable for all. So too do unions play a pivotal role in making our cities livable – by ensuring workers have the opportunity to bargain over wages, benefits, and working conditions; supporting living wage jobs; and by raising the bar for all workers in our society.”

Van Winkle continued, “We are ecstatic to have the workers of CCC joining ILWU Local 5 and are impressed at the swift and decisive action the CCC Board took to support workers in this process.”

Currently, the workers of the CCC are nominating their bargaining team

and conducting surveys of the membership in preparation for upcoming negotiations.

Looking ahead to help others

All told, the addition of these workplaces have doubled the size of the Non-Profit Division of Local 5, bringing the total to around 60 workers. While the two newest non-profit groups to join Local 5 are just starting on their path to achieving a union contract, with the support of both the ILWU Organizing Department and Local 5, they are well on their way to achieving an excellent contract. Of particular excitement, however, these new members are not resting on their success in organizing their workplace — many of them are already looking to reach out further and help others who are also looking to unionize.

In the future, Local 5 will inevitably be seeing a continued rise in the number of non-profit employers joining the Non-Profit Division of the union. Together, we will raise industry standards for all workers and support the inalienable fact: **ALL WORKERS DESERVE A UNION!**

— Ryan Takas
Oregon Area Lead Organizer

ILWU Walk the Coast: ‘Thanks a million!’

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friendly skies. Industry companies, including the first from outside Southern California, continued donating. One region of the Inland Boatmen’s Union answered the call.

In 2020, total donations brought us close to \$800,000. What was going on? Where was this fundraiser taking us? ILWU Walk the Coast was within striking distance of a fundraising goal that was never expected, never even imagined. What was possible? The next fundraiser, 2021, was totally virtual. It revealed the answer. The campaign closed in on \$900,000. With hard

work, the unexpected was within reach. 2022 delivered a one-year donation record, over \$144,000. Everyone seen in our 2022 Thank You ad answered the call – big time. ILWU Walk the Coast is proud to announce that total donations to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation are now over an amazing figure, \$1,000,000. ONE MILLION THANKS to all those too many to list here who have donated or contributed in many ways. Liz Scott, Alex’s mother, acknowledged our achievement and sent us a wonderful thank you video. Go to www.ilwuwalkthecoast.org. It is well worth watching.

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.

ILWU LONGSHORE DIVISION

ADRP—Southern California Tamiko Love 29000 South Western Ave., Ste 205 Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275 (310) 547-9966	ADRP—Oregon Brian Harvey 5201 SW Westgate Dr. #207 Portland, OR 97221 (503) 231-4882
ADRP—Northern California Hunny Powell HPowell@benefitplans.org 400 North Point San Francisco, CA 94133 (415) 776-8363	ADRP—Washington Donnie Schwendeman 3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. #503 Tacoma, WA 98424 (253) 922-8913
ILWU WAREHOUSE DIVISION DARE—Northern California Teamsters Assistance Program 300 Pendleton Way Oakland, CA 94621 (510) 562-3600	ILWU CANADA EAP—British Columbia John Felicella 3665 Kingsway, Ste 300 Vancouver, BC V5R 5W9 (604) 254-7911

TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Frank A. Mildenberger;
Local 10: Patrick Ealy; Phillip C. Jones; Gilbert H. Whalen; **Local 13:** Gennaro DiLeva; Andrew Gross; Paula Krieger; Joel Lizarraga; George T. Lujan; William S. Magallanez; Joseph Mattera; Tamra F. Moody; Jimmy Tomicic; Reginaldo Vargas; **Local 29:** Mario Gonzalez;
Local 63: Brenda C. Gravett; Sylvester F. Washington; **Local 91:** Thomas J. Villeggiante; **Local 94:** Steven G. Barragan; **Local 98:** Mark S. Kalning;

DECEASED PENSIONERS:

Local 8: Tim L. Coddington; Bernard Pilcher; **Local 10:** Houston B. Brown; Louis Corral; George M. Henson; Simon Jefferson Jr.; Alvin Johnson; **Local 12:** Craig I. Bowers; Ernest Payne Jr.; **Local 13:** Robert Arriola; Kenneth M. Buchanan; Douglas L. Guentert; Frank A. Mattera; Rina Pesic; **Local 19:** Warren M. Fairbanks; Glen E. Miller; Robert E. Perin; Dewynn A. Woolford; **Local 21:** Ronald R. Beam (Donna); **Local 23:** William D. Bridges; Thomas R. Chelius; **Local 24:** Henry J.

Brueher; **Local 27:** Wesley Gagnon; **Local 34:** Robert A. Ellis; Darrell Washington; **Local 53:** Maurice L. Strong; **Local 63:** Tony N. Carpenter; Kuang Yae Chang; Victor A. Hietala; David Ysaïs (Lucy); **Local 75:** Chaeo P Ashar; Eric E Bowden;

Local 94: George Duthie;
Local 98: Irvin L. Hansen;

DECEASED ACTIVE MEMBERS:

Local 13: John Onorato; Carsell Swain; Jaron L. Hall; **Local 19:** Joan M. Walsh; **Local 52:** Elizabeth L. Schutte; **Local 63:** Gary E. Bell;

DECEASED SURVIVORS:

Local 10: Tenola Hall; Lilly J. Johnson; Julia Riley; **Local 12:** Joyce A. Johnson; **Local 13:** Margaret Depippo; Rina Pesic; Vaiola Ryan; Margaret Vasquez; **Local 19:** Linda Kesler; **Local 21:** Martha J. Benson; **Local 23:** Christine B. Jurun; Doris M. Peterson; **Local 34:** Elena Hernandez; **Local 63:** Melanie Randolph; **Local 92:** Eleanor Benschoter; **Local 94:** Alice Lopez;

Where is our unique fundraiser flying now? That answer is not in this article. It can be found in the hearts of every local in every Division. The ILWU has the organizational structure and desire to help others. The sky is open. We are winging to a place no union has ventured to go. There is plenty of room to grow. If every local participates, in any amount, ILWU Walk the Coast is going to soar to new heights. The pol-

icy of acknowledging every donation in Thank You ads means just that - every donation is published. Small and large locals, auxiliaries, pension groups, our friends and industry companies are invited to unite. Your union is making a difference. Climb aboard and be proud. We are soaring.

— ILWU Walk the Coast Committee

MAY IS MEDICAL, DENTAL PLAN CHOICE MONTH

Active and retired longshore families in the ports where members have a choice can change medical and/or dental plans during the Open Enrollment period May 1 to May 31, 2023. The change will be effective July 1, 2023. In addition to the May Open Enrollment period, members may change their medical plan and/or dental plan once at any time during the Plan Year (July 1-June 30).

The July 1, 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the ILWU and PMA provides that new registrants in the ports where members have a choice of medical plans shall be enrolled in the Kaiser HMO Plan for the first 24 months of registration. After 24 months, those registrants who have qualified for continued eligibility under the Mid-Year/Annual Review hours’ requirement will have a choice of medical plans. New registrants in all ports located in California, Oregon, and Washington will have a choice of dental plans on the first of the month following registration and may change dental plans during the Open Enrollment period and one additional time during the Plan Year.

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

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

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

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