The ILWU Longshore Negotiating Committee reached a tentative agreement with the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) on June 14. The agreement covers more than 22,000 dockworkers at 29 West Coast ports. The deal was reached with assistance from Acting U.S. Secretary of Labor Julie Su who flew in from Washington, D.C. to attend the final days of the talks. In addition to resolving the “coastwise” contract agreement, separate local, supplemental agreements were negotiated by union leaders to address issues at local ports.

ILWU International President Willie Adams thanked the Negotiating Committee and the Safety Committee for 13 months of grueling work that required long stretches away from their families and thanked the rank-and-file and local union leaders for their patience, fortitude, and unity throughout the long and difficult negotiations.

“This was one of the longest contract negotiations we have ever faced,” said President Adams. “We have been able to secure a good agreement, thanks to the unity and support from members up and down the coast, the solidarity of our ILWU family, and dockworkers around the world. I want to thank all who worked so diligently on these negotiations along with a special thank you to Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su whose leadership helped us cross the finish line.”

Next steps

The tentative agreement will first be reviewed by the Coast Longshore Caucus who are scheduled to meet in July. Caucus delegates will review the tentative agreement in detail and then after vigorous debate and discussion decide on whether to recommend the proposal to the rank and file. If recommended, the complete agreement will be mailed to members, followed by discussions at local union meetings. The process ends with a secret-ballot election that allows members to ratify or reject the proposal. Detailed voting results will be published in a future issue of The Dispatcher.

“We are a democratic, rank-and-file union. The membership will have the final say on whether to accept or reject the agreement,” President Adams said.
today, May 10, 2022, is a day that will live in memory. It’s here on this sacred ground that our ancestors built the ILWU from the bottom up. We are here today in the Harry Bridges building to kick off 2022 West Coast bargaining. After eight years, the Negotiating Committee returns to the bargaining table with aspirations, hopes, needs, principles, militancy, and the fighting spirit of some 22,000 rank and file. We have a tradition of resisting unjust authority, resisting unjust economics, and resisting unjust politics. This is costly; however, continued injustice would cost more. 2022 negotiations may be a long and bitter struggle.

Over the past two years, in the grips of a pandemic, we have lost longshore workers, mechanics, marine clerks, foremen, pensioners, and widows. We lost brothers and sisters who contracted COVID-19 on the decks moving cargo at West Coast ports. And, coincidentally, yesterday, May 9, 2022, marked the 88th anniversary of the start of the 1934 “Big Strike” when dockworkers struck every port on the West Coast. And, coincidentally, today, May 10, 2022, our membership are tired, fatigued, and working without a break; still they will keep working. The ILWU is a stalwart defender of its reputation, the ILWU membership, the American people, and dockers around the world. The working class is a profile in courage, dignity, and honor, and they will never be forgotten.

Today, the ILWU and PMA are here for another round of bargaining. We have a history as adversaries and, at times, we find common ground between the ILWU and PMA. The working class is a profile in courage, dignity, and honor, and they will never be forgotten.

Today, the ILWU and PMA are here for another round of bargaining. We have a history as adversaries and, at times, we find common ground between the ILWU and PMA.

The ILWU is a stalwart defender of its reputation, the ILWU membership, the American people, and dockers around the world.

“...it’s here on this sacred ground that our ancestors built the ILWU from the bottom up...”

Today, the ILWU and PMA are here for another round of bargaining. We have a history as adversaries and, at times, we find common ground between the ILWU and PMA.

The ILWU is a stalwart defender of its reputation, the ILWU membership, the American people, and dockers around the world.

There are several things I must say to set the record straight before we get started.

We are not okay with unfinished business in the prior contract that hasn’t been implemented by the employers.

We are not okay with the toxic relationship with PMA, the lack of integrity, dishonesty, disloyalty, and unfilled promises. The employers in this room have permitted this culture to grow and we intend to come out of this bargaining on different footing. As my grandmother once said, “If you aren’t leading you’re just walking.”

We are not okay with PMA’s false study on automation, published right before negotiations started. This was a cheap shot.

The American people, consumers, and our elected leaders have been watching over the past two years as the foreign shipping cartels raise prices and game the supply chain. We’ve all witnessed the selfish business practices of PMA’s own members. This is pushing Congress, on a bipartisan basis, to seek increased deregulation on ocean shipping. It is critical for our industry to rebuild the trust that our employers have sadly squandered.

Jim, you said everybody is watching us from Washington, D.C., to businesses, the whole world. And, in your interview with the Port of Los Angeles, you said the ILWU has a monopoly and blamed the economy, but it’s not the ILWU and it’s not inflation when the shipping and stevedoring cartels are raking in their highest profit margin in history. I wonder what the White House, the Department of Justice, the American people, and small businesses think about who has the real monopoly. There is a path forward, but it demands labor focus, a plan of action, a pragmatic approach, vision, and boldness of spirit.

No more outsourcing, no more hiding, no more “catch us if you can,” no more giving our work away to supernormals and non-bargaining unit personnel. Laura Ingraham told Lebron James to “shut up and dribble.” We are here today not to sit but to stand up. Our rank-and-file are tired, fatigued, and working without a break; still they will keep moving cargo. The ILWU Negotiating Committee is committed to working day, night, and weekends to hammer out this agreement. The status quo is unacceptable. The industry needs a new M&Ms that includes taking the ILWU along with you, which you have not done, moving the industry forward with vision, boldness, human capital investment, growth, and training. It is time on your side to restore, honesty, integrity, compassion, trust, and a commitment to our communities. It’s time for painful conversations. It is up to both sides if we live in peace or prolonged conflict. It’s time to get to work.
ILWU Canada Longshore Division on strike
7,400 Western Canadian dockers take a stand for future workforce, fair wages

The ILWU Canada Longshore Division on strike 7,400 Western Canadian dockers take a stand for future workforce, fair wages.

A pproximately 7,400 dockworkers on the West Coast of Canada went on strike against the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA) on July 1 after parties failed to make progress on a new contract that expired on March 31. The strike affects 30 terminals including those in Vancouver, Canada’s busiest port.

On June 21 ILWU Canada announced the results of the membership-ship strike vote with an overwhelming 99.24% voting in support of the strike and on June 28 ILWU Canada issued a 72-hour strike notice to the employer.

Fight for the future
“The union is seeking a fair deal that respects longshore workers—one that protects our jobs and our jurisdiction,” said ILWU Canada President Rob Ashton.

The key issues the union is fighting for include addressing contracting out mechanic work, port automation, and wage increases that reflect high inflation.

Warehouse Union (ILWU) stands for ILWU Canada's fight for its maintenance jurisdiction.

ILWU Canada Longshore Division on strike
7,400 Western Canadian dockers take a stand for future workforce, fair wages.

“The ILWU Canada Longshore Division has not taken this decision lightly, but for the future of our workforce, we had to take this step. We are still hopeful a settlement will be reached through FREE Collective Bargaining,” Ashton said.

The Longshore Bargaining Committee has been willing to bargain with the BCMEA since February.”

Maintenance jurisdiction
A central issue in the negotiations is ILWU Canada’s fight for its maintenance jurisdiction.

“The key issue that is holding up agreement is the ILWU Canada maintenance work by member employers of the BCMEA and the referral of the Association and its member companies to agree on a regular maintenance document,” Ashton said.

“Our jurisdiction in maintenance has been aggressively eroded by member employers by using third-party contractors. This is not an issue of cost for the direct employers because they already pay for this work to be done by maintenance contracting companies.”

ILDU Canada’s skilled trades employees will be more cost effective and will result in a higher quality of work because that industry experience and competency.”

Pandemic heroes
Dockworkers kept cargo flowing throughout the pandemic, keeping the Canadian economy moving and generating record profits for shipping companies that amassed tremendous wealth on the backs of dockworkers.

“Longshore workers stepped up and proved that we are here to support the people of Canada. It is unfortunate that our employers hold us in such contempt,” Ashton said.

Solidarity from President Adams
On June 29, ILWU International President Willie Adams sent a statement of solidarity with unequivocal support for ILWU Canada’s fight for a fair contract.

“The International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) stands united in solidarity with our fellow ILWU Canada brothers and sisters.”

DISPATCHER • JULY 2023

3
Secretary-Treasurers’ Conference emphasizes oversight, transparency, and accountability

Nearly 100 members, officers, and staff who oversee local union finances attended the Secretary-Treasurers Conference in San Diego May 21-25. The five-day training was conducted by the ILWU’s Education Department. The workshop used a combination of interactive exercises and presentations from legal experts and experienced local officers to help participants understand their legal and ethical responsibility to protect the membership’s money.

The event allowed participants to network and learn from one another and also included dedicated “office hours” for participants talk with legal experts and experienced local union and International officers.

Topics included best practices for record-keeping, federal reporting obligations, the importance of creating record-keeping, federal reporting obligations, and also included dedicated “office hours” for participants talk with legal experts and experienced local union and International officers.

The training also covered the obligations and responsibilities of unions as employers for locals with paid staff. In addition, the conference covered democratic safeguards, including the proper conduct of local union elections, laws regulating the use of political action funds, bonding requirements for staff and officers who handle union funds, and proper management of current and archival union records.

Welcome from Secretary-Treasurer Ferris

ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris welcomed participants to the conference on Monday morning, Sec-Treas. Ferris spoke about his own experience attending the training in 2013. “I hope you all get out of this program what I did, and that is confidence. These are such important jobs in the organization,” Ferris said of the secretary-treasurer and trustee positions. “The administrative work is what nobody sees but it is a crucial role that keeps our locals and union functioning. We are going to have some tough discussions. And we’re going to leave with an understanding of what it means to be a secretary-treasurer.”

History Lesson

Eleanor Morton, an attorney with Leonard Carder, the ILWU’s law firm since the 1930s, began by providing historical context for the laws that provide for the regulation and oversight of labor unions in the United States. Morton covered the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) which was passed in 1935 and it made it legal for workers to join unions—agricultural and domestic workers were excluded from NLRA protections. The National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 (NIRA) previously protected collective bargaining rights, but that law was gutted by the Supreme Court shortly after it was passed. Prior to the New Deal, forming a union was considered to be an anti-trust conspiracy.

“Workers organized to force the passage of what was called the Wagner Act (NLRA),” Morton said. “It was passed in 1935 and it made it legal to form a union—something we completely take for granted today. It was a sea change in our national labor policy.”

The passage of the NIRA led to a wave of labor organizing with workers winning 80 percent of union elections.

The Empire Strikes Back

The Wagner Act altered the relationship between the federal government and workers and reduced the ability of employers to extract profits and control the labor force. This provoked a backlash from business owners and management against the New Deal that Morton characterized as “The Empire Strikes Back.”

Business organized to pass two laws that made it harder for workers to organize and greatly increased government oversight and regulation of labor unions. The Taft-Hartley Act, passed in 1947, stifled the power of unions by prohibiting some collective labor actions including solidarity strikes, and secondary boycotts, and also allowed states to enact so-called “right-to-work” laws that banned union shops. The Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (Landrum-Griffin Act) was passed in 1959. This law was the most relevant to the attendees of the conference as it regulates labor unions’ internal affairs and union officials’ relationship with employers and is the basis for much of the oversight and regulations of unions by the government.

Culture of transparency & oversight

Many of the training sessions focused on the importance of open and transparent financial practices, so members can see that their dues money is being fully accounted for and properly spent. This requires proper bookkeeping practices, documentation of expenditures along with constant oversight by trustees elected by the membership. Larger locals were also encouraged to conduct periodic, independent audits by outside firms, which adds an additional layer of oversight to verify that local finances are in order. The ILWU’s International financial records are audited quarterly—a level of oversight that is far more frequent than most organizations. Having multiple layers of checks and balances is important to protect union finances and ensure proper oversight and transparency.

One of the event panelists, Local 18’s Secretary-Treasurer Rena Way said that these oversight and checks need to be in place even if you trust your officers. “I’m from a small local and I’ve been elected as Secretary-Treasurer for over 16 years consecutively,” Way said. “I’m honored that the membership keeps voting me into office but they trust me too much. I would never do wrong by my local, but it’s okay to ask questions. It is okay to look at the books. Just because someone has been in office a long time, doesn’t mean that that fraud can’t happen. I want the members to check out my books. I’m proud of my good job. So come check it out. I appreciate the trust but at the same time, check it out and verify things are being done right.”

“Members have an obligation to keep track of our leadership and make sure that they’re doing things correctly,” added another event panelist, Alaska Longshore Division Secretary-Treasurer Darryl Tseu. “Don’t take my word about how well we are doing. We really rely on the trustees to ask those hard questions, analyze the books, and look at every transaction.”
Tackling fraud

The conference also tackled the hard lessons of fraud. The conference featured a panel discussion that frankly addressed the rare instances when local union officers or staff abused the trust of the membership. The ILWU has a strong record of protecting members’ dues money from fraud and abuse. However, over the years, isolated instances have occurred in a few locals.

Instead of ignoring such instances or sweeping them under the rug, these rare examples were used as case studies to learn from and to help guard against future abuse. Group discussions focused on the shortcomings that enabled fraud initially to go unchecked until it was exposed. Presenters discussed lessons that were learned and the new practices and controls that were put in place to tighten oversight of union finances.

New perspectives

Throughout the conference, participants reflected on what they had learned. “The biggest thing that stood out to me was having these concepts explained to me,” said Local 5 Trustee Megan Stevens, a conference participant. “I’ve been a financial trustee for my local going on almost a year. I’ve done audits hands-on, but a lot of that has just largely been learning from doing. It’s a little different having things explained to me and the reasoning behind certain practices and why this actually matters. Transparency is important to make sure you’re maintaining trust between you and the members who have entrusted you with these tasks.”

Commitment to education

The ILWU Titled Officers are committed to education to train the next generation of union leaders.

“As a young officer, I benefited from the ILWU’s education programs to develop my skills as a leader,” said Secretary-Treas. Ferris, “and there is a good chance that the person who succeeds me is sitting in this room. Our education programs are an investment in the future of our union.”

ILWU WOMEN’S CONFERENCE 2023

The ILWU Titled Officers are pleased to announce:


The theme of this year’s conference is See It, Believe It, Be It. We will be covering issues such as gender equity, developing and mentoring new leaders, and women’s contributions to building the union. Instructors will be drawn from the ranks of active and retired members, staff from the International, university labor centers, and labor activists.

Local unions or affiliates may nominate participants, who are each required to fill out the conference application form. We welcome all nominations, regardless of gender. For reasons of space and diversity, we anticipate having to limit each affiliate to two participants, but we will create a waiting list in case of cancellations or non-participation by any locals.

The ILWU Women’s Conference budget will cover participants’ hotel stay, breakfast and lunch, training materials, facilities, and instructors. Participants will be housed together in double rooms, but may upgrade to a single room at their own expense.

Any reimbursement for expenses such as lost wages or travel will have to be covered by the participant, their local or affiliate, or by area fundraising activities. The International will not pay lost wages.

Questions may be addressed to Educational Services Director Robin Walker at robin.walker@ilwu.org.

Use the QR Code on the right to register or visit https://www.ilwu.org/womensconference/

Please register no later than 5 p.m. August 18, 2023.

Sukh Bains
Local 502

I don’t have a finance background but my father was in accounting, so math was always a big part of my life. Before coming into longshore, I started in computers. I also minored in physics so I am used to dealing with a lot of numbers.

We think there are big differences between the United States and Canada but I also saw a lot of similarities in the way our locals operate, our constitutions, and the policies and procedures that we have. I’m glad that I’m in Canada though because there are a lot of legal requirements and regulations that U.S. unions have to deal with. In Canada, we have fewer legal requirements. I learned a lot this week from speaking with people from different locals and how they do things. This has been a great experience for me.

Jesse Mschichowski
Local 4

It’s been great to be able to mingle and meet people from different locals down the coast, from Hawaii’, and throughout the union. Transparency is key. The union has resources and people who will make themselves available to help with any questions. It’s powerful to hear that message and to know we can reach out with questions and ask for help or support to figure out how to resolve problems.

Luke Davis
Alaska Longshore Division, Unit 60

I think it’s important to come to these events because you learn how big the union is. We are kind of isolated from the rest of the union in Alaska. This was my first event. I’m definitely absorbing a lot—how important networking is, making connections, building solidarity, and basically learning what being in a union is all about. I’ve been learning how to set budgets and about all these laws that regulate unions and how important it is to follow them and to do the right thing. This is a great opportunity for me to come down, get some education, and become more involved. I’m a B-man so I can’t hold a position right now. I will be sworn in as an A-man next year.

Alanna Veles
Local 100

I’m the secretary and treasurer for our unit. It is especially important to fill the title officer’s position and represent the members’ voice so I stepped up. I don’t want to be at the forefront. I would rather be in the back and take care of things behind the scenes and support the union that way. There are so many take-aways from this conference. I have been learning from other people’s experiences about what is effective. I have also been learning about the reporting requirements and the legal responsibilities of this position.

Ryan Murphy
Local 75

I am serving my fourth term. I’m the Business Agent and the Secretary-Treasurer at Local 75. This conference is price-less. There is a lot of information that you need to know to be successful at the job that we are elected to do. There are a lot of reports that need to be turned-in in a timely manner. There is a lot of informa-tion and knowledge that you get at this conference that you can immediately put to work to make your local better place.

DISPATCHER • JULY 2023 5
Danny Glover sworn in as an honorary Local 10 member on Juneteenth

Actor, director joins Martin Luther King, Jr., and Angela Davis on honorary list

Local 10 marked Juneteenth with a celebration at their hall where actor, director, activist, and San Francisco native Danny Glover was sworn in as an honorary member by Local 10 President Farless Daily. The holiday marks June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers arrived at Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved African Americans of their freedom and the end of the Civil War. The soldiers came to Galveston two-and-a-half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation abolishing slavery throughout the Confederacy – and two months after the Confederate surrender at Appomattox, Virginia. Slavery was officially abolished in the United States on December 6, 1865, when the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified.

Juneteenth, also known as “Freedom Day” and “Emancipation Day,” has long been celebrated by African Americans but did not become a federal holiday until 2021. On June 19th, 2020, ILWU dockworkers stopped work for eight hours in observance of Juneteenth and in solidarity with the movements for racial and social justice that erupted following the murder of George Floyd. Glover has been active in struggles for civil rights and workers’ rights since the 1960s when he was a student activist at San Francisco State. Glover worked as an ILWU casual in 1968. That struggle provided the foundation for his radicalism and his revolutionary spirit as an artist.

Local 10 and Glover were active in many of the same social justice struggles over the years. “He has compromised his income to take on causes that the ILWU has supported,” while they were refusing to work South African cargo in the 1980s. Danny Glover was in the vanguard of entertainers and artists opposing apartheid in South Africa,” Thomas said.

Danny Glover has been a steadfast comrade to the ILWU and in particular to Local 10,” added Trent Willis. “The fact that we are swearing in these iconic persons into our local says something. Local 10 opened up its casual jobs to teachers and students, Danny worked as an ILWU casual in 1968. That struggle provided the foundation for his radicalism and his revolutionary spirit as an artist.

“Danny Glover has been a steadfast comrade to the ILWU and in particular to Local 10,” added Trent Willis. “The fact that we are swearing in these iconic persons into our local says something. Local 10 opened up its casual jobs to teachers and students, Danny worked as an ILWU casual in 1968. That struggle provided the foundation for his radicalism and his revolutionary spirit as an artist.

The event was organized by The Juneteenth Committee to Stop Police Terror and End Systemic Racism, a coalition of labor and community groups led by longshore workers and chaired by Local 52 Vice President Gabriel Prawl.

Marchers walked 1.4 miles while chanting the names of three black men from Locals 19 and Local 52 that died from COVID during the pandemic: “Jeff Berry say his name! Anthony Lemon say his name! Ronnie Thomas say his name!” ILWU members worked valiantly through the pandemic and took heavy losses. We will not forget.

Prawl. The emphasized that incarcerating persons making pennies an hour is an a.

Marchers walked 1.4 miles while chanting the names of three black men from Locals 19 and Local 52 that died from COVID during the pandemic: “Jeff Berry say his name! Anthony Lemon say his name! Ronnie Thomas say his name!” ILWU members worked valiantly through the pandemic and took heavy losses. We will not forget.

After a 40-minute march to Terminal 46, participants were greeted at the rally site with the sounds of C.T. Thompson and the Classic Soul Band crooning, “A Change is Gonna Come” along with water and other refreshments. Those already at the rally bumped the number of participants to 200. The program of speakers and music lasted about two hours. They represented a variety of labor and community groups who came together in a spirit of solidarity, support for racial justice, and in celebration of Juneteenth. Among the speakers were Local 19 Vice President Matt Ventola, Local 52 President Chris Romoser, Local 52 Vice President Gabriel Prawl, Local 23’s Joseph Womack, and representatives from MLK Labor, Railroad Workers United, and more.

Speakers addressed the crowd from a secure flat rack with a banner below that read in big orange letters, “ALL WORKERS WIN WHEN SLAVERY ENDS.” Ricky Reyes from the community organization, Wa Na Wari, spoke about the importance of reclaiming Black ownership of cultural archives.

Representatives from the Black Prisoners Caucus, an organization formed over 50 years ago inside Washington State prisons, spoke about the exploitation of prison labor. They requested help from the labor movement. The emphasized that incarcerating persons making pennies an hour is a labor issue.

Moon-Ho Jung, the Harry Bridges Endowed Chair in Labor Studies at the University of Washington spoke about
ILWU Canada Longshore Division on strike

7,400 Western Canadian dockers take a stand for future workforce, fair wages

continued from page 3

who have issued a strike notice to their employer, the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA) due to their refusal to negotiate on issues important to the union including wages, automation, and jurisdiction,” Adams said.

“We note that for nearly five months, the ILWU Canada Bargaining Committee has negotiated in good faith for a fair deal that respects longshore workers and protects the jobs and jurisdiction of dockers. We also note that for the past three years, BCMEA and its investors have enjoyed enormous profits on the backs of union dockers while our members risked their lives during the pandemic. We are all too familiar with this kind of fight as the ILWU Coast Longshore Division faced similar issues during our recent contract negotiations.

“Our message is clear – we will not settle for a second-rate contract. We will not accept anything short of what’s best for our members.

“The ILWU stands in solidarity with ILWU Canada in your pursuit for a just and fair contract. An injury to one is an injury to all!”

Outpouring of solidarity

In addition to the ILWU International’s statement of solidarity, ILWU Canada received statements of support from dockers around the world, including the International Dockworkers’ Council (IDC), the Maritime Union of New Zealand (MUNZ), Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) the International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF), and the All Japan Dockworkers’ Union (ZENKOWAN) among others.

International Solidarity Rally

On July 9, an International Solidarity rally filled Vancouver’s Jack Poole Plaza with union members and community supporters. The ILWU family showed up big for ILWU Canada’s rally and to walk picket lines on the days leading up to the event including ILWU International President Willie Adams, Vice President (Mainland) Bobby Olivera, Jr., Vice President (Hawaii’s) Sam Kreutz, and Coast Committee-man Cam Williams. Solidarity delegations and rank-and-file members from throughout the ILWU traveled to Vancouver including from Locals 10, 13, 19, 23, 63, 63-OCU, Alaska Longshore Division, Hawaii’s Longshore Division, and the Inlandboatmen’s Union. Dockworkers traveled from all over the world to attend including delegations from MUNZ, the MUA, and the ITF. In addition, unions from all over British Columbia attended the rally to show their support for ILWU Canada’s fight for a fair contract.

Boots not Bots

The negative impact of automation on communities is another key issue in the negotiations. Earlier this year, the Canadian government approved the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority’s proposal to build Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (RBT2), a $3.5-billion, semi-automated container terminal that Ashton said would result in many workers being done by robots. ILWU Canada wrote an open letter to the Canadian government in February about the proposed project stating that “the proposed level of automation and subsequent job losses would cause job disruptions on a significant scale that will be felt by the provincial economy and will have an acute effect on some communities, particularly those that rely on this industry for good jobs and economic benefits they bring locally.”

“Automation kills communities,” Ashton said. “We are fighting not just for the current workforce but for the long-term prosperity of our local communities. We want to ensure that this industry continues to provide good-paying jobs for our communities for generations to come.”

As the Dispatcher was going to press, ILWU Canada and BCMEA reached a tentative agreement on a new contract. We will update the story in future issues of the contract.

Longshore Negotiating Committee reaches tentative agreement with PMA

continued from page 3

Milestones

The Committee approached their negotiating task with clear directions from the Coast Longshore Caucus that met for two weeks beginning January 31, 2022. The Negotiating Committee opened talks with the PMA on May 10 and continued bargaining past the contract expiration date of July 1, 2022. Important progress was announced on July 20, 2022, when a tentative agreement on health benefits was reached, on April 20, 2023, when agreement on other key issues was reached, and on June 14, 2023, when the parties reached a tentative agreement.

Collective bargaining wars

After the final tentative agreement was reached on the evening of June 14, Acting Labor Secretary Su addressed both parties, thanking them for their work in reaching an agreement.

“From left to right: ILWU International President Willie Adams, Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su, Coast Committeeman Frank Ponce De Leos, DOL Counselor Lynn Rhinehart, Coast Committeeman Cam Williams, and ILWU International Vice President Bobby Olivera, Jr. Sec. Su flew to San Francisco from Washington, DC and aided in the final stages of negotiations.

Dockworkers around the globe participated in a social media campaign posting photos of their locals posing with a banner reading ‘Global Solidarity’.
Seatle-area ILWU members celebrate Juneteenth with march and rally

continued from page 6

the role that enslaved people played in their emancipation during the Civil War. “Every fall I ask my students this question: who was the most responsible for the abolition of slavery? Usually, more than half write down the answer that we are often taught: Abraham Lin-coln. He supposedly freed the slaves by signing the Emancipation Proclama-
tion on January 1st, 1863. The answer that generations of American historians have tried to ignore and dismiss is that the people most responsible for the abolition of slavery were the enslaved Black people themselves.” Prof. Jung, quoted W.E.B. Du Bois who, in his seminal book, Black Reconstruction in America, described the mass exodus of enslaved people from Southern plantations during the Civil War as a general strike of a half million black workers.

You can view the whole event on YouTube at: https://youtu.be/PVscCW0Z7tG

– Aha Lighter 
Local 19

Longshore Negotiating Committee reaches tentative agreement with PMA

continued from page 7

Dockers Stand in Solidarity with the ILWU.” The Longshore Division sent

“...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.

A Helping Hand...

ILWU LONGSHORE DIVISION

ADRP—Oregon
Brian Harvey
5201 SW Westgate Dr. #207
Portland, OR 97221
(503) 231-4882

ADRP—Washington
Donnie Schwindeman
3600 Port of Tacoma Rd. #503
Tacoma, WA 98424
(253) 922-8913

ILWU BOOK & VIDEO ORDER FORM

ORDER BY MAIL

____ copies of Solidarity Stories @ $17 ea. = $_____

____ copies of A Spark Is Struck @ $13.50 ea. = $_____

____ copies of The Legacy of 1934 @ two for $5 = $_____

____ copies of The Big Strike @ $9.00 ea. = $_____

____ copies of Labor Under Siege @ $19.00 ea. = $_____

____ copies of Harry Bridges, Labor Radical, Labor Legend @ $31 ea. = $_____

____ copies of Along the Shore Coloring Book @ $5.00 ea. = $_____

____ copies of The Union Makes Us Strong @ $20 ea. = $_____

____ copies of Eye of the Storm DVD @ $5 ea. = $_____

____ copies of We Are the ILWU DVD @ $5 ea. = $_____

____ copies of A Life on the Beam DVD @ $5 ea. = $_____

Total Enclosed $_____

No sales outside the U.S.

We regret that U.S. Customs and postal regulations create too great a burden for our staff to maintain book sale service to our members and friends outside the United States.

Name ___________________________________________________________

Street Address or PO Box ___________________________________________

City ___________________________ State ________ Zip ______________

Make check or money order (U.S. Funds) payable to “ILWU” and send to:

ILWU Library
1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Prices include shipping and handling. Please allow at least four weeks for delivery. Shipment to U.S. addresses only.