Eastern Washington Machinists News



Volume 3, No. 4 - June-July 2011

Top-Notch Technicians at Pacific Power Products

For more than 40 years, the mechanics at Pacific Power Products in Spokane (formerly Spokane Diesel and Pacific Detroit Diesel) have worked hard to support their customers by providing superior service and customer support. The 18 Machinists Union members at the Spokane location dedicate every day to ensuring that each customer's equipment needs are met. This is one of 10 locations that provide a multi-million dollar

One of the 18 trained service technicians hard at work at Pacific Power Products in Spokane.



parts inventory.

Steward John Dill, who has worked in the full service shop since 1988 explained, "We work on trucks from bumper-to-bumper. We perform complete service on Allison transmissions, Mercedes Benz, and new engines including the DD13 and DD15."

To ensure the work is done quickly and efficiently, employees at Pacific Power Products

dedicate many hours to continued education. "We take online training courses and even fly over to Kent and take week long courses," John explained. "Things are constantly being updated, especially when a new product comes out. So, we go to school to learn new skills and even train



To ensure the work Members at Pacific Power Products are continually learning to ensure done quickly and ef- they have top-notch skills.

for updates on older products."

Through hours of online and in-school programs, the employees earn their G2 Certifications and Allison certifications, among other training.

The training comes in handy for these specialized mechanics when servicing customer Continued on page 6

Delivering Our Message Face to Face in D.C.

For once in more than a decade, the IAM delegates attending the National Legislative Conference did not lobby for the U.S. Air Force refueling tanker contract. Although this seemingly perennial issue was resolved earlier this year when Boeing won the tanker contract, there was still plenty of issues filling the agenda important to Eastern Washington and our Union.

Union leaders meet with Senator Patty Murray while attending the Legislative Conference. Gary Swartz (far I), Local 86 Legislative Chair, gave Eastern Washington perspective. Gary Swartz, a Local Lodge 86 District Council delegate from Eastern Washington and a member of our Legislative Committee lobbied on your behalf. He, along with the rest of Washington state delegates, worked the halls of Congress on a variety of issues. The Air Transport and railroad locals needed help to lobby against proposed changes to the National Mediation Board



rules for union representational elections. The proposed changes would make it nearly impossible for workers to successfully vote for a union. The committee also lobbied on behalf of our Brothers and Sisters in the federal sector. Just like workers in the private sector union members in the federal government are fighting to keep their pensions.

NASA funding was the issue which created the most passion for Brother Swartz. He personally knew several members of the Florida delegation affected by these proposed cuts. He also knows how important NASA has been to America's strength and leadership as a nation. "So many good things we take for granted came from the space program. Everything from medical telemetry technology to Velcro comes to mind," said Gary.

Foreign trade and opposition to the

Delivering Our Message Face to Face in D.C.

Continued from front page

proposed Korean, Colombian and Panama Free Trade Agreements (or FTA's) moved to center stage for our Union's work at the 2011 Legislative Conference. These trade agreements will cost Americans their jobs, Columbian trade unionists their lives, and provide a more secure foreign tax haven for this nation's wealthy individuals and corporations. These FTA's will also further damage American domestic manufacturing.

The Korean Free Trade Agreement is a bad deal for America because it will:

• Cost an estimated 159,000 jobs in 7 different manufacturing sectors (including aerospace).



751 delegates, including Local 86 Legislative Chair Gary Swartz (r), meet with Congressman Rick Larsen to talk worker issues.

- · Provide revenue for North Korea's dictatorship to build missiles and nuclear weapons using sweatshops within that country's borders providing content to products shipped to the U.S.
- · Add \$700 million to our already ballooning trade deficit.

Columbia is the most dangerous place in the Western Hemisphere for workers and their unions. As the world capital for violence against workers, every year more trade unionists are killed there than the rest of the world combined. Last year 51 labor leaders were murdered. Of the 2,680 total trade unionists' murders committed, only 6% have ever been prosecuted. Columbian

> unionists brave enough to speak out on the subject oppose the Columbian Free Trade Agreement

> The Panama Free Trade Agreement will make it more difficult to combat one of the world's worst tax havens. Panama is home to over 400,000 corporations including U.S. firms that incorporate there to avoid tax obligations at home.

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police of any Panama is also the main site of drug money laundering for the Mexican and Columbia drug cartels. The Panama FTA would challenge U.S. enforcement of financial and tax crimes enforcement.

There was no shortage of other items to work on in our nation's capitol. Those issues included protecting Social Security and Medicare. The Committee lobbied for Occupational Safety and Health Administration jurisdiction for flight attendants, funding for Amtrak and collective bargaining for VA workers and for FAA reauthorization.

The Legislative Committee of District Lodge 751 learned there really is life after the tanker.



Dist. 751 Sec-Treasurer Susan Palmer met with Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

Delegates Join SAMs Workers to Rally for Justice

While attending the IAM Legislative Conference dozens of IAM members rallied in downtown Washington, DC, demanding

an end to an employer's refusal to recognize the IAM as their union. The DC Safety/ Hospitality and Maintenance (SAMs) workers picketed outside Downtown Business Improvement District (BID) office demanding the company recognize the

Machinists Union as the workers' certified union. Delegates attending the IAM Legislative Conference bolstered the pickets and showed solidarity.

SAMs workers are often seen out and around downtown DC donning red shirts and caps. Their job is to assist the public with direc-



Local 86 Legislative Chair Gary Swartz (far right) takes part in a rally in downtown DC during the Legislative Conference to support a local NFEE first contract effort. NFEE is an IAM-affiliated union.

lations Board certifying the election twice, Downtown BID continues to draw out the legal battle, and refuses to recognize the union," said Cory Bythrow, spokesperson for

the National Federation of Federal Employees/IAM Federal Dist 1. "This is an effort to undermine support for the union among employees."

Downtown BID has fought two NLRB decisions certifying the election in favor of the IAM. The company recently appealed an April 4th NLRB decision in which the Board dismissed BID's unfounded claims of union intimidation.

"We need to get a public hearing with the City Council and the people of Washington so they are aware of Downtown BID's hostile treatment of its employees," said NFFE-IAM Federal District 1 Business Representative Roosevelt Littlejohn. "In my 30 years of union work I have never met a company that treats its employees as unfairly as the Downtown BID."

"BID is acting unfair in fighting the union," said John Wright, a SAMs worker who was wrongfully fired for taking time off to take care of his sick wife. "Let the union come in and let us have a place at the table. Respect our workplace rights."

Raffle Delivers \$5,270 for Guide Dogs

Eastern Washington members again showed their fundraising skills with their third annual Guide Dogs of America prize raffle. This year's raffle raised an impressive \$5,270 for the worthwhile charity. Officers and Stewards from Locals 86, 1951 and 1123 combined their efforts to ensure the fundraiser was successful.

The drawing was held at the regular June Local 86 meeting in Spokane. Thanks to all who bought and sold tickets for the raffle.

The \$1,000 shopping spree at Ranch and Home went to Local 86 member Scott Cook. When Business Rep Steve Warren delivered the prize, Scott pointed out he and co-worker Darrin Truitt bought a ticket at the same time, but his name was put on both tickets. Since Scott's name was drawn and there is no way to know which ticket was drawn, Scott and Darrin are splitting the prize.

The second prize a \$300 round trip air



L to R: Business Rep Steve Warren presented Scott Cook and Darrin Truitt with the \$1,000 Ranch & Home Certificate. The drawing raised more than \$5,200 for Guide Dogs of America.



voucher, two tickets to a Mariners/Texas game and one night at the SeaTac Radisson Hotel was won by Local 1951 President Craig Smoot

Third prize, which consisted of one night at the Davenport Hotel and a \$50 dinner certificate was won by Local 1123 Trustee Fred McNeil.

Fourth prize was won by Rich Szymanski, who bought a ticket at the Ranch & Home BBQ event. He won a Seattle Weekend night at the SeaTac Red Lion, including breakfast for two and a \$50 dinner gift certificate.

The fifth place winner donated the \$50 gift basket back to use in a future drawing/fundraiser.

This year members in the Tri-Cities again partnered with Ranch and Home to raise money for Guide Dogs of America. The of the event and placing it on their reader board (see above). Members helping at the event L to R: Steve Ely, Jesse Cote, Ken Howard, Brad David, Dennis Meech (and his guide dog Lefty), Jim Henle, Craig Smoot and Steve Warren.

Thanks to Ranch &

Home for their support

Ranch and Home barbecue event was part of the Eastern Washington Guide Dogs Raffle Fundraiser.

In May, Machinists Union members set up tents in the Ranch and Home parking lot, handed out organizing material, gave away hot dogs and sold raffle tickets to raise money for Guide Dogs. Selling tickets for the raffle plus donations raised over \$1,200 in ticket sales and \$1,200 in donations. Local 1951 member Dennis Meech, who received a Guide Dog last year after losing his sight in a motorcycle accident, was on hand to promote the benefits of the Guide Dog organization.

"Ranch and Home is big in the Tri-Cities and very active and supportive of our efforts," said IAM Staff Assistant Ken How-

Continued on page 4

Workers Rally in Wenatchee for Family-Wage Jobs

On June 24, the North Central Washington Central Labor Council hosted the second annual Family-Wage Jobs Rally at Wenatchee's Memorial Park. The focus was clear: Working families in Central Washington know there is no such thing as a "jobless recovery" from the Great Recession.

Hundreds of workers and their families turned out to send the message that restoration of quality jobs is what will signal an end to this recession, not the return of corporate profits or stock market gains. Machinists Union members from both the west and east side of the state turned out on a Friday night to show: "Machinists Put People First."

Local 1123 member Adam Focht attended and noted, "We are here letting people in Wenatchee know what the union is all about and how it benefits the community."

Local 1123 member Jeremy Scaramozzino added, "It is important to get the message out that we need a fair wage because even twice the minimum wage won't raise a family today."

Bailey Olin, also a member of 1123, suggested, "We should be in the Wal-Mart parking lot protesting their low-wage policies."



Some of the Machinists Union leaders attending the family-wage job rally in Wenatchee, L to R: Political Director Larry Brown, Jim O'Brien, Jeremy Scaramozzino, Fred McNeil, Bailey Olin, Adam Focht, Staff Assistant Ken Howard and District Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer.

Machinists Have Strong Showing at Bloomsday Event

Spring in Spokane brings the annual Lilac Bloomsday run – one of the largest road races in the country. The event attracts more than 50,000 participants. This year the Machinists Union had a presence – not only along the course and at our information booth, but in the race itself with our team.

The Lean Mean Machinists team, who ran the Bloomsday Corporate Cup, showed their excellence and finished first in their division. The Lean Mean Machinists consisted of John Warren, CJ Auckerman, Mark Quick, Nick Bauer and Tracy Hawkins. Our team was the only Union affiliate that participated in the event.

John Warren, who served as team captain, said, "I want to thank the Machinists Union for sponsoring our team. We proudly wore the Union shirts. In 30 years of running Bloomsday, this was the first time I was part of a winning team. It was very rewarding and we appreciate all the support."

Members were positioned at Pettit Drive (known as Doomsday Hill) on the 7.46 mile course with banners declaring "Machinists Support Bloomsday Runners."

In addition, the Machinists had an information booth located at the finish line



Allen Eveland and Mekenzie Hawkins hand out information bags complete with giveaways.

UNION

Building Better Communities

Today's Union...Are You Ready?

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MACHINIST

Volunteers handed out 3,000 information bags in the first few hours at the Machinists Union booth.

in the concession area. There, volunteers handed out more than 3,000 bags of Union brochures, promotional items and giveaways in the first few hours. The booth provided an opportunity to make contact with the runners as they congregated after the race. Seven volunteers (Business Rep Steve Warren, Gary Swartz and his wife, Jodi Swartz, John Kofol.

John Carbury and his

daughter, Koryne Carbury, Allen Eveland, Mekenzie Hawkins) handed out packets and signed up individuals for free raffles. The booth also featured 14 photo collages depicting all of the Machinists Union shops in Eastern Washington. The displays were a huge success and drew comments from past and present machinists, as well as from other participants affiliated with the professions we represent.



Lean Mean Machinists Team receiving first-place medals at the Cor-

The Lean Mean Machinists team runs the race.

Raffle Delivers \$5,270 for Guide Dogs

Continued from page 3

ard. "It is not very often a merchant allows a union to put a sign up in their parking lot and give away hotdogs and organizing information. It is a very cool relationship. They even advertised our fundraiser on the store reader board."

"We hope to make it a yearly event and have it bigger and better next year," Ken added. "Members find it fun to give away organizing packets, and it gets our union name out in the community."

The booth also featured displays of our members at work in various shops throughout Eastern Washington.

In addition to allowing the booth and fundraising event in their parking lot, Ranch and Home donated \$400 toward the first prize of a \$1,000 shopping spree at their store.

Thanks again to all who took part in making the raffle successful.



The barbecue promotion in the Ranch & Home parking lot resulted in \$1,200 in raffle ticket sales and \$1,200 in donations.

Summer Kids' Coloring & Essay Contest

Writing Contest (Grades 7-12)

1) Answer one of the following questions, based on your current grade, in a maximum of two pages, double-spaced. Include your name, current grade, school name, family member's BEMS or CLOCK (last 4 of SSN), family member's place of work, and contact number on a cover page.

7-8 Grade: What does union membership mean to your family? 9-10 Grade: Why is solidarity important?

11-12 Grade: How will union membership benefit your generation as you prepare to enter the workforce?

2) Mail your entry in to: IAM&AW District 751, Attn: Writing Contest, 9125 – 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108

3) Entries must be post-marked by **October 1, 2011**. Entries will be reviewed and awards granted to the top two essay writers in each grade group.

Writing Contest Prizes:

1st Place - \$200 Visa Gift Card 2nd Place - \$100 Visa Gift Card

Coloring Contest (Grades PreK-6)

1) Color the picture below indicating your current grade, school name, family member's name and BEMS or Clock number (last 4 SS#), family member's place of work and contact information.

2) Mail your entry in to: IAM&AW District 751, Attn: Coloring Contest, 9125-15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108

3) ALL entries must be post-marked by **October 1, 2011**. Entries will be displayed at November Local Lodge meetings for members to vote on each grade category.

4) Three winners will be chosen from each grade PreK through 6th Grade and awarded at the December Local Lodge meetings.

Coloring Contest Prizes: (top 3 in each grade PreK-6 awarded)

1st Place - Class Pizza Party & \$50 Toys 'R Us Gift Card

2nd Place - \$50 Toys 'R Us Gift Card

3rd Place - \$25 Toys 'R Us Gift Card

All entries must be related to an IAM member or retiree.

Meet Tina Tug!

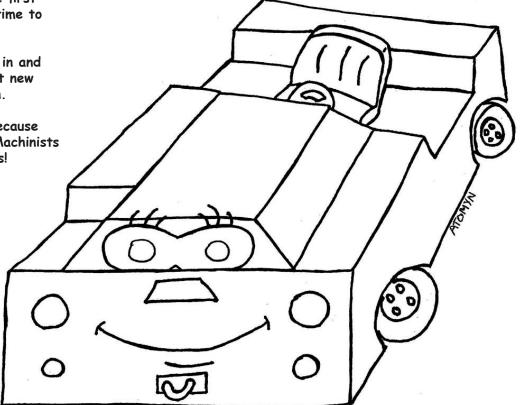
Tina the Airplane Tug is the first helper on the scene when it's time to move Machinists planes.

Machinist Union drivers hop in and Tina steers into the shops that new planes are stored safely within.

And the planes just smile because they know that Tina and the Machinists can drive them safely for miles!

Any questions can be directed to the Communications Department at 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3340 OR

send an e-mail to: rosannet@iam751.org.



Name:	
Age:	Member Relative's Workplace:
School:	
Current Grade (circle one):	Member Relative's BEMS or Clock (last 4):
PreK K 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6	Sth
Member Relative's Name:	Phone:



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Top-Notch Technicians at Pacific Power Products

Continued from front

vehicles - especially large fleets - and there are many of them. The Spokane location services fleets for Penske, Hatfield, Gordon, and more. "There's a ton of bigger fleets that we provide service to," John added.

A steward since 2008, John said the shop

not only works well as a team but also works well at the negotiation table. "It's pretty mellow here. Very few people leave because we treat each other very decent here," he said. "You get a fair wage, and it's in general a pretty great place to work."

> After more than four decades as a leading repair shop dedicated to continuing education for its employees, it's no surprise Pacific Power

and maintained a large customer base that keeps coming back. With strong Union support, and an active and open relationship at the bargaining table, it's also no wonder that



Members discuss work to be performed on a truck in the Spokane shop.

Products in Spokane has built employees make a career for themselves at Pacific Power. "One of the benefits of having the union is that we are able to just go in as a group into our negotiations," John said. "I would say it makes us a stronger unit."



These skilled technicians regularly service large customer fleets.

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