Boeing of violating federal labor law by announcing it was locating a second 787 manufacturing line in North Charleston, S.C., in retaliation for strikes by members of Machinists District 751 in 2005 and 2008.

A hearing on the charges has been underway in Seattle since June 14, and has so far been dominated by Boeing’s efforts to keep executives’ testimony secret, along with much other key information. Boeing executives’ statements that they chose to move the second 787 line outside of Puget Sound due to the strike activity of IAM members are well known. But since the NLRB filed its complaint in March, Boeing’s lawyers have argued that South Carolina made such good financial sense for the Company, that it would have moved the second 787 manufacturing line there even if there hadn’t been strikes in Puget Sound. But the company’s leadership harbored serious doubts about the wisdom of going to Charleston, the subpoenaed documents show.

Boeing Commercial Airplanes executives from Puget Sound considered Project Gemini to be their highest-risk option, with the highest likelihood of failure, the most serious consequences of going to Charleston, the subpoenaed documents show.

Boeing, say the documents, chose to build its second 787 manufacturing line in Charleston for a variety of reasons, including that it was more important than building and selling profitable airplanes. The internal documents paint a picture of corporate leadership more interested in punishing unions for recent strikes than ensuring the 787 is profitable. The internal documents paint a picture of corporate leadership more interested in punishing unions for recent strikes than ensuring the 787 is profitable.

This information comes from heavily edited versions of some of the internal documents Boeing’s Board of Directors relied on when making its October 2009 decision to move the second 787 line from Everett to Charleston. The documents were delivered by Boeing after subpoenas from the Union and the NLRB. Boeing has edited out financial information in the documents so the true extent of the risk and loss of moving the line is not yet known. The law enforcement agency accuses Boeing of violating federal labor law by announcing it was locating a second 787 manufacturing line in North Charleston, S.C., in retaliation for strikes by members of Machinists District 751 in 2005 and 2008.

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Boeing Commercial Airplanes executives from Puget Sound considered Project Gemini to be their highest-risk option, with the highest likelihood of failure.

Continued on page 4
Union Delivers Solid Contract at Solid Ground

District 751 members who help provide services and disabled people in Seattle with personal transportation have approved a new three-year contract. The eight workers are employees of the community-service agency Solid Ground, which runs the Seattle Personal Transit service.

Seattle Personal Transit provides round-the-clock, door-to-door personal transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. The union members work as operations supervisors for the service and must cover shifts seven days a week.

The union workers voted unanimously on Aug. 31 to approve the deal. Under the terms of the contract, they will receive:

• 1.5-percent wage increases in each year of the contract;
• Improved rules for calculating overtime pay;
• A $25 increase in bonus pay for working holidays; and
• Guaranteed eight-hour rest periods between shifts.

In addition, health care benefits were kept at current levels for the duration of the contract.

The overtime language is a real plus. “It had been an ongoing problem where the work you late one day and send you home early the next,” said Kimmy Jones, who is the Steward at Solid Ground. “There are a lot of good things in the contract.”

District 751 President Tom Wroblewski thanked the bargaining team, which included Business Reps Ron Bradley and Heather Barstow along with Administrative Assistant Jim Bearden.

He said union officers “feel good about the hard work and for negotiating a good contract,” said member Sandy Dameaine. “Getting paid overtime for a shift rather than during a pay period is huge. Plus we have a new holiday right after ratification (Labor Day).”

The work Machinists do there is “important to the quality of life for the people they serve,” Wroblewski said. “I’m proud to have them as members of our union.”

Contract 2012: There’s a Role for You in Your Union

by Tom Wroblewski, District President

The clock is ticking toward the start of our 2012 contract talks with the Boeing Co. Our four-year agreement with Boeing expires at midnight on Sept. 8 of next year — about 11 months from now.

As you can read elsewhere in this AeroMechanic, your union is putting out surveys this month to get a sense from you, the members, about what your priorities are. I want to hear from you about what items in our contract you’re happy about, and which ones you want improved.

Should our negotiators focus on improved health care benefits, or are you happy with what we have? Are you happy with your current retirement plans, or would you like to hear about other options? Armed with your recommendations, we’ll be able to negotiate for the kinds of improvements you want, to make your job at Boeing better in the ways that mean the most to you.

The surveys, which will be available from your shop steward, are just the opening line in what I hope will be an active give-and-take amongst all of us at District 751.

Starting this month, you’ll also see AeroMechanic articles that talk about the different aspects of our Boeing contract — pay, benefits, work rules and so on.

— and the history of how things got to where they are today.

That’s an important part of the conversation, because it’s critical — particularly for our new members — that we all understand exactly what Machinists Union members at Boeing enjoy solid middle-class pay and benefits.

It’s not because Boeing leadership is incredibly generous and puts the health and happiness of its workforce ahead of everything else. No, it’s because over the past 76 years, Machinists Union members like you and me have battled hard to make sure that the world’s best aerospace workers had industry-leading pay and benefits.

In some years — as in old timers remember — that has meant rejecting bad contracts and going on strike until Boeing came back to the table with a better offer. That’s never an easy decision.

But the fact we worked together in 2005 and 2008 to reject bad contracts offers means that District 751 members at Boeing have better, lower-cost health insurance today than we would have had the company got its way. It means that the hundreds of new hires coming into the company each month have a pension benefit, which Boeing wanted to deny them.

It also means our members got general wage increases in each of the last four years and — most importantly — it means that some 2,000 of our brothers and sisters are still working in good-paying union jobs, instead of having been replaced by low-wage, low-skill non-union contractors.

I know that all of you are busy. Our members all across Boeing are working incredible amounts of overtime to make sure the company meets its commitments to its customers, and you’ve all got lives outside work too.

But if there’s one common ground, job security and the ability to one day retire with dignity are important to you, then you should take the time to get involved with next year’s negotiations. Fill out the surveys, talk with your stewards, learn the history and discuss the issues with your co-workers and families.

They say there’s “no I in team,” but there’s definitely a “you” in union.

One more thing I’d urge you to get involved with is our Machinists Volunteer Program.

Every month you see pictures of our hard-working MVPs out in the community, helping make life better for our friends and neighbors. One of the MVPs’ biggest events of the year is still ahead, however. That’s the annual KING-TV Home Team Harvest food drive to benefit Northwest Harvest.

District 751 volunteers have been a part of Home Team Harvest almost since its beginning. But this year, they’re taking their efforts to a whole new level. Starting this month, the MVPs will be collecting donations of canned and dried food at all our District 751 union halls, and the drive will continue into December.

The food drive is starting a month earlier than normal, and there’s a simple reason why: people here in Washington state are going to bed hungry every night. The latest estimates are that one out of every six of our neighbors doesn’t get enough to eat every day.

And with the state and federal governments slashing budgets with deep cuts being proposed to food stamps and other emergency food programs — the need is only likely to get worse.

We, as Machinists, take pride in making our communities better places to live. So over the next few months, I’d like to see each of you to help the MVPs by donating food, cash or your time to the Northwest Harvest food drive.

Working together, we can help make things better for the people of Washington state — the same way that working together can make things better for each of us on the job.

Local E Contract Countdown Raffle

As an incentive to attend Local E meetings and “Get involved in Your Union” effort, Local E officers raffled off a Tatupu Seahawks jersey.

The raffle was held at the September Local E meeting to commemorate one year until our contract with Boeing expires in 2012.

Any member who attended a Local E meeting between June and September was entered in the drawing. Member Alan Gibson’s name was drawn and he was presented the jersey. Local E Recording Secretary Dan Meddaugh and Local E President Jay Ira Carterman (r) presented Alan with the jersey.
Delegation Stands Up for Workers

In the 30 plus year war on workers in America, there have been many pitched battles. Currently the battle is whether or not workers and their unions will have their day in court and whether corporations can be punished for violating the rights of workers. In September, we fought two significant skirmishes: we won the first and won the second.

Early in September the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 2587. This bill would have crippled the National Labor Relations Act. Unfortunately, Representatives Jaime Herrera-Beutler, Cathy McMorris Rogers and Dave Reichert voted against workers and the bill passed out of the House.

It should be noted that there was no call from Senator Graham to curtail the NLRB when it fined an employer in Indiana at the Longview ILWU Local 21 $293,000 for actions taken by members in their struggle against EGT.

and overhauls on planes operated by overseas airlines.

Representatives Norm Dicks, Jay Inslee, Adam Smith and Rick Larsen voted with workers and against HR 2587. Unfortunately, Representatives Jaime Herrera-Beutler, Cathy McMorris Rogers and Dave Reichert voted against workers and the bill passed out of the House.

This bill is unlikely to get a hearing in the U.S. Senate but in a questionable parliamentary move, Sen. Lindsey Graham sponsored an amendment to the Senate Labor appropriations bill which would have defunded the NLRB’s ability to enforce the law. The IAM Legislative Department and District 751 Legislative Department worked closely with Senator Patty Murray and Machinists Union members nationwide to narrowly defeat this amendment.

$20 Million Grant to Expand Aerospace Training

Continued from page 1

AJAC plans to use the money on two important projects: standardizing curricula for Federal Aviation Administration airframe and powerplant training programs statewide, and also pursuing a plan to make Washington state the only place in North America where aircraft maintenance mechanics can receive training to meet European Aviation Safety Agency standards.

Standardizing the A&P license courses statewide should make it easier for District 751 members and other aerospace mechanics to get their FAA certification so they can pursue better jobs, Hopkins said.

Meanwhile the EASA training program could open the doors to bring new work to Washington state.

In June, AJAC and Lufthansa Technical Training signed a memorandum of understanding to set up the one-of-a-kind EASA training program in Washington. Once Washington has a school training program — including potentially some of our members — we should make it easier for District 751 members to be home to the largest aerospace cluster in the world.

“We also must ensure that we’re the best,” he said. “This grant will help do that, by ensuring that the next generation of Washington aerospace workers have the basic skills they’ll need to make Boeing, its suppliers — and any other companies that come here — successful for years to come.”

Inside the mobile training trailer, 751 Organizer and District President Tom Wroblewski agreed, saying it’s not enough for Washington state to be home to the largest aerospace cluster in the world.

“We need to set up the training here that will make it possible for us to have the next generation of aerospace workers that we need in order to stay competitive,” he said.

The grant will help to do that, by ensuring that the next generation of Washington aerospace workers have the basic skills they’ll need to make Boeing, its suppliers — and any other company that comes here — successful for years to come.”

The Union wants to see Snohomish County’s contract renewed with Allied Waste which employs 350 members in Klickitat County.

Pushing to Protect Jobs

In July of this year, 751’s District Council voted to endorse Aaron Reardon for re-election as Snohomish County Executive.

We’ve had a long relationship with Executive Reardon on many issues in Snohomish County and have worked together to keep aerospace jobs in the community and enhance training opportunities in the industry.

Our District is also part of a unique partnership that ties together 751 members’ jobs in Klickitat County to the solid waste system in Snohomish County. This system, which has been in place for over 20 years, is a model for the industry.

Garbage collected from Snohomish County is sent by rail from Everett to Klickitat County, where about 150 IAM members work at the landfill turning the garbage into power which is then sent back up to Snohomish County for use by residents.

In recent conversations with Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and Council members, we have learned there is work underway to extend this partnership and keep the system in place for the future.

This means job security for our members in Goldendale and a continuation of the great collaboration with Snohomish County.

Reardon has indicated there will be a contract extension for these workers. We are looking forward to seeing results that protect those Machinists’ jobs.
Co-Workers Help Union Brother Deal with Loss

Losing a child is one of the most devastating events that can happen in a person’s life. However, when such a tragedy strikes, it helps to know you are not alone and that is exactly the message that 751 member Eric Niemela received from workers at the Renton Boeing facility after his daughter was killed in an automobile accident last month.

Eric has worked at the Boeing Company for 20 years and, judging by the outpouring of support, he is family to the employees in the plant. As word spread throughout the 737 J&L, the crew organized a fundraiser to allow additional time off to deal with the loss and to show their support.

The chance to help Eric brought together a lot of different people, but 751-member Annie Ackerson, Steward Doug Rigby and president and manager Joy Samora were the driving factors.

Despite being one of the biggest employers in Renton, this Boeing facility is very unique and tightly knit, which allows the workers to better adapt to changes and achieve record production, while bringing the people closer together.

“Joy suggested a bake sale, and Annie turned the idea into reality. It started at 5 a.m. and ended when everything was gone. People brought in delicious desserts, but the overriding theme was their generosity and want to help Eric in his time of need. With only a contribution jar set out on the table more than $1,000 was raised by 8 a.m.,” said Rigby.

But Eric’s “family ties” to Renton weren’t limited to first shift. The crew worked on third shift for several years also took up a collection and delivered $400 to help—even though there are very few on the shift. 751-member Mike Underwood spearheaded the graveyard effort, redid the brakes on Eric’s wife’s car, and lined-up guys to bring food to Eric’s house nearly every day.

“I was overwhelmed by the generosity and outpouring. We are so blessed and so pleased that so many people care. It was more than helpful,” said Eric. “I was speechless when they gave me an envelope with nearly $3,000. It was amazing, and I can’t begin to thank everyone for their support.”

“Many contributors didn’t know Eric but said he is a union brother and we want to help him through this tragic situation. It brought everyone together and gave us a way to help Eric financially so he could focus on his family,” said Ackerson.

“We had plenty of volunteers to help and still got our work done. It was a true team effort. Everyone loves Eric and for something this tragic to happen, people showed up in droves. Eric deserves this way to do that,” said Samora.

People came from all over to show support – flight line guys stopped off to give $20 and even the plant manager put in an appearance. The old fashioned bake sale was truly an outpouring of love and compassion and a demonstration of the family/team spirit Renton is known for.

Renton Machinists Solidarity Helps Member During Battle With Cancer

Solidarity is alive and well at the Renton plant, as workers pulled together to help a fellow union brother during his time of need.

Tim T.J. Frederick has been a fixture at the Renton plant for nearly 25 years. Over the years, he has served as a mentor to countless co-workers—sharing his skills and tribal knowledge to ensure others are successful in their work.

When T.J. was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma, he faced the challenge with courage and determination. However, after he completed his chemotherapy and radiation, his immune system was devastated and required a costly stem cell transplant. Even with top-notch health insurance, the stem cell transplant added up to extraordinary expenses that put a financial burden on his family—especially since he has not been able to work for several months.

While T.J. is eager to get back to work, doctors want him out as long as possible because of his compromised immune system.

He is hopeful to return to work in early October.

With a union members learned of the financial burden T.J. was facing (in addition to the cancer battle), they immediately jumped into action to help someone who had mentored so many over the years. Members have continually looked for creative ways to help with car washes, barbecues, fundraisers and just outright contributions.

“I started here about 4 years ago in panel pickup. T.J. took me under his wing and shared his extensive knowledge so I would be more successful in my job. He has so much experience that he willingly shares with others,” said 751-member Matt Cline. “When we heard about this, we all asked who we could help. The fundraisers were a way we could give back to such a great guy. My personal goal is to make him laugh as often as possible.”

Steward SteveRoss teamed with Local 751A Recording Secretary Rich McCabe to put together one of the events—a barbecue/fundraiser at the Renton Hall. With only a few days notice, they were able to get an impressive crowd to stop by the barbecue after work and raise more than $1,800.

The diverse group that took part demonstrates the tremendous impact T.J. has made on our membership.

Cliff Simpson and Paul Ohnemus, who worked with T.J. in the 10-50 building years ago, heard about the event and stopped by to contribute.

But the barbecue is just the beginning of members helping members.

751-member Kurt Westerdahl noted “T.J. has been a friend for over 10 years and always treats people fairly. During his battle, we gathered a bunch of money several times anonymously just to help with their bills.”

“When T.J.’s wife organized a car wash, lots of us took part and even managers stopped by to give money,” Cline said. “We all tried to make sure to pitch in.”

“So many people care about T.J.—he is like family. It was important for him to know he isn’t alone in this fight. Making a financial contribution is a way we can help him during this tough time,” said 751-member Sue Martin.

And the support keeps coming. One member gave $200; a member from facilities wrote a check for $300; and another gave $500 but wanted to be anonymous. Most impressive was a $2,600 donation from a member who worked overtime (and wanted to remain anonymous) to help pay for the apartment T.J. stayed in during treatment rather than having to be hospitalized.

T.J.’s family has also been working with the National Transplant Assistance Fund (NTAF) so people can make tax-deductible donations for transplant-related expenses only. Make checks payable to: NTAF Northwest Stem Cell Transplant Fund, Note in memo section: Donation in honor of Tim Frederic, NTAF, 150 N. Radnor Chester Rd, Suite F-120, Radnor, PA 19087.

To make a credit card contribution, call 800-642-8399 or visit www.ntaf.org and enter Tim Frederic in the “Find a Patient” box on the homepage.

Together, members continue to make a difference and help each other during their times of need.

After losing his daughter in a car accident, Eric Niemela was overwhelmed by the generosity and support from co-workers at the Renton plant. L to R: Joy Samora, Mike Underwood, Eric Niemela, Annie Ackerson, Doug Rigby. The support is just one example of the team spirit that is prevalent throughout the Renton site.

Documents Confirm Boeing Broke Law; Pursued Riskiest Choice

Continued from page 1

ure and the most serious consequences should failure occur.

• Even if “successful,” the cost of Project Gemini would have a long-term “negative impact to 787 profitability,” the executives warned. The new buildings would cost more than $1.5 billion, they said—“significantly greater” than the cost of keeping the line in Everett.

• The new Charleston workers would not be as productive as those in Everett, increasing the likelihood of missed deliveries, they warned. That would mean payments of more late fees to angry customers that have already demanded billions of dollars in compensation after three years of delays.

• Finally, Puget Sound executives feared that having separate 787 lines 3,000 miles apart would delay introduction of the more profitable 787-9. They warned of “skill dilution” with managers, engineers and assembly workers spread between two sites, as well as the risk of “management distraction.” The only real advantage to moving the work to Charleston, in fact, was to run away from the union, according to the documents.

But instead of focusing on problem-solving in Everett, Boeing created a whole new set of problems for itself in Charleston, said Kellihier.

This has had a ripple effect throughout Boeing, and can be directly linked to the delays on the 747-8, and the indecision about how to proceed with the replacement for the 737, which in turn has meant the loss of orders for hundreds of planes, as traditional Boeing customers like American Airlines and Qantas opted for Airbus’ new A320Neo.

“The documents show that the overall driving factor behind the Charleston plan was Boeing’s desire to settle old scores and gain leverage against the Union in the future. The driving factor was not building profitable airplanes,” Kellihier concluded. “We only hope that Chicago’s misguided zeal hasn’t broken our company as well. Our members can fix flawed airplane parts, but there’s only so much they can do to fix a broken company.”
Louie Receives Spirit of Labor Award

United Way of Snohomish County held its annual Spirit of Labor awards breakfast on September 9 to honor those volunteers who have made a difference in the community. While 751 has many members who are active volunteers in the community, one earned special recognition at the banquet. Chris Louie was presented the Spirit of Labor Award.

This prestigious award is presented to a union member for outstanding Leadership and Community Service through the partnership between United Way and Organized Labor. The recipient must demonstrate a commitment to our community through long-term notable volunteer service and giving at a leadership level to United Way.

Chris continually strives to help others whether it is through his union activities, community service, or United Way participation. As one of the top Union volunteers, Chris has already volunteered over 250 hours in 2011 and received the President’s Service Award for each of the past two years. His volunteer work includes projects with Employees Community Fund, and Books and Backpacks, as well as building wheelchair ramps, food drives and sorting food for Northwest Harvest, the National Letter Carriers’ Food Drive, Volunteers of America, serving food at area missions, and the Salvation Army Toy N’ Joy program.

District 751 President Tom Wroblewski presented the award saying, “Chris is the Spirit of Labor. Whenever there is a need in the community, Chris is there to help make a difference and build a better community. Volunteering is a way of life for Chris."

“The best thing about volunteering is knowing someone will benefit from your assistance. It’s why I’m active in the union and volunteer in the community. At 751, we’re all about building a better community,” Louie stated.

Candy Drive for Kids

District 751 members are once again organizing a candy drive to benefit children living in White Center. Union officers are accepting donations of unopened, individually wrapped candy through Oct. 27 at all Puget Sound union halls – in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle.

The candy collected by the union is given to the Salvation Army of White Center so it can provide treats to children who attend its Halloween party, which it supports as a safe alternative to trick-or-treating.

Each year, the union collects enough candy to help the Salvation Army provide treats at other holiday celebrations as well, said Auburn Business Rep Mark Johnson, who is one of the leaders of the effort.

“It tides them through Easter and sometimes into summer camp,” he said.

Johnson is the focal point for the Auburn candy drive. Anyone with questions can call him at the Auburn Hall: (253) 833-5590.

Last year, the union collected nearly a half-ton of candy. You can find a video of union officers and staff delivering that candy to the Salvation Army on YouTube at www.youtube.com/IAMBuildingCommunity.

Volunteer Efforts Make a Difference Throughout Puget Sound

The Machinists’ helping hands were visible throughout Puget Sound in September as volunteers stepped up their activity.

On September 17, Machinists volunteers turned out for a day of hard work and heavy labor constructing a playground at Marsha Lake Elementary School in Lynnwood. Organizers were very appreciative of our help.

In addition, volunteers also built a wheelchair ramp for a couple, who are both IAM members, and constructed a second ramp for the relative of an IAM member.

Volunteers continued to adopt both the Everett Gospel Mission and Tacoma Rescue Mission – preparing and serving meals at both locations several weekends a month.

Machinists volunteers also continued to help out on Wednesday evenings at the Northwest Harvest Warehouse in Kent. Every month because of the efforts of our volunteers, area residents have a better life – and Machinists continually work to build a better community.
Machinists Step Up Efforts to Fight Hunger

District 751 Machinists are stepping up their efforts in support of the annual KING-TV Home Team Harvest food drive to benefit Northwest Harvest.

The union’s MVPs — members of the Machinists Volunteer Program — announced last week that they will begin collecting non-perishable food items at local lodge meetings starting in October — a month earlier than normal.

MVPs will accept donations of canned or dried foods at all District 751 union halls throughout the months of October and November. The halls are in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle.

The announcement came days after a U.S. Department of Agriculture report said the number of Washington state families living in hunger nearly doubled between 2008 and 2010, to the point that nearly one in four Washington children now lives in a family that struggles to put food on the table.

The report estimates that roughly one out of every six Americans goes to bed hungry. That figure is expected to grow locally, after the Washington Legislature made deep cuts to free meal programs for low-income children during its past session. Congress is also weighing deep cuts to federal food stamps and other food programs, like the Women Infant Children program (or WIC) that provides extra food for low-income families.

District 751 MVPs regularly volunteer to serve meals to the homeless at rescue missions in Everett and Tacoma, and also help sort food at Northwest Harvest’s warehouse in Kent. As a result, they’re seeing first hand how the national recession and a lack of good-paying jobs is hurting Washington state families.

“The need is real,” said Robley Evans, the MVP Committee chairman. “As union members, we believe in taking care of our brothers and sisters. With the food drive, we’re extending our solidarity to include our neighbors in the community.”

This will be the 10th year that District 751 will team with KING-TV for the Home Team Harvest drive. Last year, the union and its members raised more than $3,100 in cash and collected more than a half-ton of food during a month-long campaign, and more than 200 volunteers turned out on the first Saturday in December to collect food donations and load them into semi-trailers.

“Truly, the Aerospace Machinists Union has become as much a part of HomeTeam Harvest as anyone else,” said Betsy Roberson, the community relations manager for the TV station. “You’re the ones out there directing traffic and carrying those big bags of food from trunks to trucks.”

Because there is such a great need, Machinists are collective non-perishable food throughout October and November for area food banks.

Union Makes Progress in Securing First Agreement with Hytek

Since workers at Hytek Finishes voted for IAM representation on August 11, the Union has made progress in efforts to obtain a first collective bargaining agreement.

The more than 160 workers at the Kent plant specialize in making various types of metal finishing and coating for aerospace manufacturers including Boeing, Lockheed and Bell Helicopter.

On August 27, Hytek members turned out in force to celebrate joining the IAM and to begin identifying issues of importance. At the barbecue, members filled out surveys, met Union officials and members and provided good input on concerns in their facility.

The Union polled members to identify individuals to work directly with negotiators through the bargaining process as shop floor representatives.

IAM negotiators toured the Hytek Finishes facility on September 23 to get a better understanding of the production system and work environment. Management spent several hours answering questions and concerns raised during the tour. We take this as the first step towards a long-term working relationship.

On September 26, the Union conducted a training and education session for the temporary stewards at Hytek.

The training provided temporary stewards with an overview of their roles and responsibilities to help them better represent members in the plant.

The training also included an in-depth explanation of Weingarten Rights. These are rights every unionized worker has available to them, which include your right to have a witness present in the event you are called into a meeting with management that “may” result in disciplinary action. Members need to speak up and exercise this right as soon as they feel any meeting may be used for disciplinary action against them. If you make the request, you have a right to have a witness present and manage- ment must stop and allow you to call in a steward.

Union negotiators continue to meet with the shop floor Hytek committee to identify issues, discuss needed changes and gather valuable information to form contract proposals. The committee reviewed the old UFCW contract line by line and determined appropriate changes that members said need either a major overhaul or minor tweaking.

Memorial participation throughout the process is critical to secure a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Hytek that addresses members’ needs.

787 Team Rides for Kids

Four members from 787 EMC hit the streets taking part in the “Ride for the Kids.” The fundraiser is to benefit children with brain tumors and involved a motorcycle ride from Remlinger Farms through the Cascade foothills and back again. A number of other Machinists Union members also took part in the ride.

Ryan Nielsen raised $350 from the shop for the 787 EMC Team, as well as recruited co-workers to join him on the ride.

Join Team 751 Effort to ‘Make Strides Against Breast Cancer’

The District 751 Women’s Committee has again formed TEAM 751 to support the ‘Making Strides Against Breast Cancer’ non-competitive walk on Sunday, October 9.

This is an opportunity to honor breast cancer survivors, remember people we have lost, and to raise money and awareness to help.

Join us on October 9 at Downtown Bellevue Park (10201 NE 4th St.) Registration is at 8 a.m., the walk begins at 9 a.m. TEAM 751 will meet at the fountain in front of JC Penney for a group photo at 8:30 a.m.
Examining the Issues

As part of the education/preparation process for next year’s contract negotiations with Boeing, the Aero Mechanic will begin highlighting the history of various issues each month.

In October, we look at the history of health benefits. Union-negotiated and company-paid health and welfare benefits were not introduced into collective bargaining agreements until 1952. Before then, virtually all health and welfare costs were paid by employees.

The Union continues to push for better benefits in each round of negotiations. Unfortunately, Corporate America (and Boeing’s) Chicago executives are no different) are intent on shifting more cost of medical onto employees.

If members had not rejected Boeing’s proposed cost shifting in 2005 and 2008, members would be paying substantially more for their health care coverage. Union solidarity has ensured our share of medical costs did not increase.

Survey Asks for Initial Input

Continued from page 1

I have identified.

To provide more valuable information to negotiators, the survey asks members to rank various contract issues as Not Important, Keep the Same/ Maintain, Important to Improve, or Top Priority.

As part of this two-page survey, there is a box for members to identify the single most important issue they would like to see resolved in the negotiations.

In addition to the survey, the Union is asking members for home email addresses to enable members to take online surveys and receive updates as negotiations progress.

This is just the first in a series of surveys to prepare for the 2012 contract negotiations. The surveys, which will be a combination of print and online forms, are designed to gather feedback from our members to help determine which issues are most important to them.

Stewards Jim Roberts (l) and Terri Myette complete the first contract survey at Boeinging, which is currently being distributed by Stewards.
Machinists Ensure First Delivery for 787

Continued from page 1

“...I firmly believe that without you, there wouldn’t be any 787 deliveries this September - and maybe not for years to come...”

Don Bykonen drives down the fairway.

The delays cost Boeing at least $32 billion, The Seattle Times estimated after conversations with several industry analysts. That doesn’t include penalty payments to customers for the late deliveries, or compensation to suppliers who’ve been waiting for deliveries to start so they could get paid. It also doesn’t include more than $1.5 billion Boeing poured into new Charleston plant as part of its controversial Project Gemini.

The only major 787 supplier to provide parts on the original timetable – and quite possibly saved the Boeing Co. in the process...

The Dreamliner became a nightmare for Boeing and its workers thanks to a series of well-publicized failures by the company hired to do work traditionally done by District 751 machine operators around the globe. And in the process, you pioneered new techniques for building 21st century carbon fiber aircraft...”

For Hetland, the delivery ceremony marked the coming of age of a new generation of aerospace mechanics at Boeing. “It’s a fairly young workplace on the 787 and to see those guys accomplish 787, and you were the ones who solved those problems,” Wroblewski said. “Working with our brothers and sisters from SPEEA, you overcame the mistakes made by suppliers around the globe. And in the process, you pioneered new techniques for building 21st century carbon fiber aircraft.”

751 member Jacob Bustad shows King TV reporter Glen Farley where he worked on the forward body join.

Taking home first place L to R: Joe Crockett, Jesse Cote, Jim Roberts and Tommy Wilson.
Seniors Vocal on Issues at Legislative Conference

More than 450 seniors met with their Senators and Congressional representatives to voice their concerns about Social Security, Medicare, and other issues close to their heart. The activists came to Capitol Hill as part of the Alliance for Retired Americans Legislative Conference 30th anniversary, reaching more than 200 offices with the message, “Don’t balance the budget on the backs of seniors!” The appointments came on the exact same day as the first meeting of the Congressional “Super Committee” that is deciding how to tackle the nation’s deficit.

This year’s Alliance conference theme was “Celebrating Our Past, Fighting for Your Future.” Social Security and Medicare were central focuses of the conference and lobbying effort, as well as fair taxation.

751 retirees had a strong voice with delegates T.J. Seibert, Helen Lowe, Carl Schwartz, Jim Hutchins, Ron McCaugh, John Guervara and Mike Keller, as well as Betty Hutchins and Wilda Luttmersomer.

Alliance President Barbara Easterling reported the national Alliance has 4 million members, 1,400 chapters and 32 state organizations, including Washington state. Delegates participated in educational workshops that included “Using Facebook to Communicate” and “Senior Fraud Patrol: Let’s Stop Medicare Fraud.”

An entire afternoon was dedicated to lobbying on Capitol Hill. District 751 delegates met with Senator Maria Cantwell and spoke to the staff of Senator Patty Murray, Representatives Jim McDermont, Jay Inslee and Norm Dicks. Delegates asked the officials to help pre-serve retiree health care benefits, preserve Social Security and Medicare, protect the pensions retirees earned during their working years and enact a fair tax code that makes the rich pay their fair share (and rolls back Bush tax cuts for the rich).

On Capitol Hill, seniors left behind a letter that summed up many of the points they had made during those meetings.

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September Retiree Minutes

by Ruth Rend, Retired Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order on September 12 by President T.J. Seibert. President Seibert suspended the meeting as printed.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present or excused.

President T.J. Seibert suspended the regular order of business to open nominations for officers for the 2012 through 2013 term. The following nominations were made: T.J. Seibert for President; Helen Lowe and Lucia Raum for Vice President; Ruth Rend for Secretary; Lenny Miller for Sergeant-at-Arms; Betty Ness for Treasurer.

President Seibert announced that the trustees have a 3 year term so nominations are not needed for them. John Guervara made a motion to elect by acclimation those who were nominated and were not opposed. M/S/P. President Seibert said everyone who attends the October 10 meeting will be given a ballot to vote for the Vice President position.

Minutes: It was M/S/P to accept the July meeting minutes as printed.

Financial Report: The August expense reports were read by Treasurer Betty Ness. M/S/P to accept the reports as read.

New Members/Visitors: T.J. introduced new member Tom Lux and welcomed visitor Henry Hendrickson.

Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased members: Robert Boe, George Bockman, Harry Delizzo, Richard Girsch, Marion Howell, Lulu Hurst, Jack Panton, Kenneth Pearl, Zemula Robinson & Kelvin Weaver. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz announced the District will be hosting a Job Summit meeting on Monday, November 14. He made a motion to move the Retiree Club meeting to Monday, November 7. M/S/P. Carl added that everyone is welcome to attend the Job Summit meeting even though the emphasis is on jobs there will also be useful information for retirees.

Carl gave a report about the Alliance for Retired Americans convention in Washington DC in early September that he attended along with six other Retiree Club members and two spouses. They participated in workshops on Social Security, Medicare and advocacy. They also heard several speakers including past IAM&AW President George Kourias and various political leaders. Carl said they also spoke to the staff of Senator Murray, Representatives Jim McDermont, Jay Inslee & Norm Dicks and spoke with Senator Cantwell who is “right on” with our issues. Carl thanked everyone for sending the delegates to the convention and for listening to our message. Then the following delegates gave a short report of their impressions of the convention: Helen Lowe, John Guervara, Mike Keller and T.J. Seibert.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: The following celebrated birthdays in August & September: Lucia Raum, Ruth Rend, Louise Burns, Lenny Miller & Helen Pompeo. There were no anniversaries.

Good & Welfare: Helen Lowes said the recent went on a trip sponsored by a local senior center and met others who told her they were members of the Boeing retiree trip club. They told her they need more members and are about to fold. If you are interested in joining look frup on the Boeing website. John Guervara spoke about a Reader’s Digest tool called Behind the Grades which can be used to evaluate political candidates. Copies of the tool will be available at the October meeting.

President’s Report: T.J. Seibert thanked the delegates who attended the Alliance for Retired Americans convention. He said everyone worked well together and learned a lot. He also mentioned how physically demanding it was to get around “the Hill.” Due to extra security related to the anniversary of September 11th it took longer to get around to the various buildings.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at noon. M/S/P

NOTE: November 14 Retired Club Business Meeting is moved to November 7.

Union Retirees

Congratulations to the following members who retired from the Union:

Maurice L. Adams
Paul M. Boller
Robert T. Bondy
Lenny Boyd
Pamela A. Brown
Albert J. Dionne
John S. Evans
Patricia Evans
William Fitzgerald
Thomas Gillespie Jr
David Gilliland
Linda D. Gilmore
David E. Gould
Gary G. Grinolds
Paulie C. Hammer
Daniel J. Harty
James L. Hoag
Lawrence P. Kimbhall
Timothy J. Knott
Daniel J. Kuramoto
Carole Lamoureux
Arthur D. Lange
Michael J. Lantz Sr
John M. Lee
Wendy M. Lindley
Bobbi Maes
Lisa A. Maher
Andrea D. Massey
Roy R. Mayes Jr
Selvinio B. Mencias
Ivan E. Morgan
Frederick L. Mueller
Heidi E. Mueller
Larry R. Nelson
William D. Norton
Billy W. Owens
Robert M. Sandovall
Jou C. Schmidt
Kenneth Schneider
Evertt K. Sherwood
Timothy M. Shiers
Lloyd C. Smith
Brice C. Snyder
Keith H. Stimson
Pat L. Sullivan
Mark K. Tapley
Frederick L. Teppner
Gergo C. Teser
Kent A. Tullis
Erling Ulstein
Terry M. Strahan
Steve L. Willand

Celebrating birthdays at the Retired Club L to R: Ruth Rend, Louise Burns, Lenny Miller, Lucia Raum, and Helen Pompeo.
Social Security has not caused the deficit and should not be part of debt reduction strategies; that privatizing Medicare into a voucher program will do nothing to reduce the cost of health care, but, instead, shift huge medical costs onto seniors; and that raising the Medicare eligibility age is especially cruel, since older Americans face the most difficulty in finding insurance due to chronic health conditions.

Attendees heard from strong political and labor leaders like Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Sen. Bernie Sanders, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, past Alliance of Retired Americans President and past IAMAW International President George Kourpias, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka and others on issues of importance to seniors. Singer and activist Judy Collins offered entertainment while Robert Adler from the Consumer Product Safety Commission provided helpful tips for seniors.

U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont addressed the national outrage that millionaires and billionaires, many benefiting from corporate tax loopholes and overseas accounts, are not asked to pay more to strengthen Social Security.

Secretary Sebelius thanked Alliance members for their role in passing the Affordable Health Care Act. Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), a member of the “Super Committee” addressing the national debt, stressed that seniors had paid into Social Security, and it would be wrong to now take it away.

Jim Hutchins said he was impressed with the information he took away from the conference.

“The thing that struck me the most was when we went onto a website healthcare.gov. It showed the people in poverty in State of Washington at 30%; however, if citizens were not receiving Social Security, the number would jump up to 60%.”

He also liked the workshop on Facebook, which encouraged seniors to get on it to communicate with seniors from other parts of U.S. to discover their problems and share information.
Local 86 in Spokane recently congratulated members for their service to the union and acknowledged their long-term presence. This year’s event was held at the Beacon Hill Event Center and included a delicious catered dinner and music by the “Doghouse Band.”

District President Tom Wroblewski, Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer, and Business Rep Steve Warren attended the event, along with the Local 86 Executive Board.

“We consider it important to recognize our members and believe it is important to celebrate significant milestones and acknowledge long-time members for their dedication to the union,” said Business Rep Steve Warren.

Among those honored at the dinner were members reaching their 15th year of Union service and awards for every 5 years thereafter – culminating with two 60 year members. Special thanks to Randy Weatherbee, a member from Triumph, who served as the official event photographer. Local 86 holds the awards banquet every three years.

Past Local 86 Executive Board members were also recognized: L to R: Steve Warren, Mike Blashill, and Roy Hays.


Receiving 15 year awards: L to R: Rod West, Kenya Conway, Gordon Cockrell, Victor Ivanov.

Receiving 40 year awards: L to R: Roger Walker, Don Colenso, Les Blom

Receiving 35 year awards: L to R: Craig McClure, Wayne Denman, Alva Brodin, Earl Carnes, Robin Stevens, Nhunng Vu

Receiving 45 year awards L to R: Keith Armagost, Dan Fulton, Carl Rantzow, Tom McInerney, and Ed Gately.

Photo left: Receiving 30 year awards: L to R: Marv Kelly, Roy Hays, Cheryl Baker, and Alvin Roath.


Receiving 50 year awards: Donald Johnston (l) and Miriam Randolph.

60 year awards were presented to Richard Star (l) and Paul Dougerty.

Local 86 Banquet Recognizes Service Pin Milestones

Eastern Washington locals continued to build on the success of their annual raffle when they presented a check for $5,270 for Guide Dogs of America. The money was raised in the third annual Guide Dogs of America prize raffle.

Officers and Stewards from Local 86, 1951 and 1123 worked together to secure prizes for the drawing and sell raffle tickets.

Representatives from Local 86, 1123 and 1951 presented the big check to District President Tom Wroblewski and District Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer at a September District Council meeting.

Raffle Delivers Green for the Guide Dogs of America

Representatives from across Eastern Washington proudly presented Guide Dogs with a check for $5,270 from their raffle. L to R: Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer, Staff Assistant Ken Howard, Chris Siegfried, Craig Smoot, Jim O’Brien, Andy Cashion, Gary Swartz, Fred McNeil, Alan Eveland, and District President Tom Wroblewski.