The first week of December hundreds of concerned members filed their union halls from Everett to Auburn to express their concerns about Boeing’s QA Transformation Plan. Boeing informed our Union of their transformation plan in November. That plan is to eliminate thousands of specific inspections from each airplane. Recognizing the magnitude of this direction and the detrimental impact it will have on our members and the production system, our union held membership meetings throughout Puget Sound for all three shifts. District 751 President Jon Holden shared the Company’s PowerPoint so those attending could see the information Boeing gave our Union, which conflicts with what management has been telling our members on the floor, claiming this will not result in elimination or job loss in any way.

Per the PowerPoint Boeing presented to our Union, Boeing estimates their plan will impact 451 QA jobs next year and potentially a similar amount in 2020. This will not only place a heavier burden on our mechanics but will also eliminate the second set of eyes on thousands of work packages.

751 President Jon Holden presents information on Boeing’s QA Transformation which the union is trying to challenge.

IAM Members working at UTC Landing Gear in Everett recently saw first hand the benefit of having union representation as one of their long-term co-workers Joe Moore returned to work with $40,000 in pay, restored seniority and benefits – overturning an unjust termination. The action was accomplished even before these workers had finished negotiating their first IAM contract - demonstrating it pays to be union and that worker solidarity can correct any employer injustice.

In March of this year, the day after his co-workers voted overwhelmingly to have IAM Union Representation, Joe found himself called into the office 15 minutes before the end of his shift. Earlier that month he had reached 25 years seniority so he wasn’t worried. He was shocked when management fired him for allegedly leaving his stamp out, which they declared a breach of their policy.

As a vocal supporter of the union, the timing and premise was suspect since others had periodically done the same thing with no one getting fired. The abrupt, questionable termination of a strong union supporter was an obvious and shameful attempt to chill support for the union.

Since we are still in the process of negotiating a first contract at UTC, there is still no grievance procedure in place. Therefore, our Union filed Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charges with the National Labor Relations Board challenging Joe’s unjust termination and pursued justice through legal avenues. But it was Joe’s stewards and other supporters that made the difference. They rallied to gather statements showing the inconsistency of this discipline. Among the documentation collected was proof a manager left his stamp out as well, but no discipline was administered.

While at the bargaining table for the first contract, our union repeatedly brought up the ULP and unjust termination. During meetings in November, the Union and UTC reached agreement to bring Joe back to work with $40,000 and seniority and benefits reinstated.

“I was ecstatic when I learned I would be going back to work. It is an amazing feeling to know someone has your back and you are not alone,” said Joe. “Without the union I wouldn’t have my job back or even have had a way to question the decision, I would simply be out of a job after working three 25 years.”

Our IAM members working at UTC remain united and determined to secure a fair first contract. Negotiations continued in December with Joe’s return to work a big boost for everyone; reinforcing that our union is there fighting for justice on the job.
Every day our union stewards work tirelessly to enforce the contract – often focusing on a single sentence because every word is important.

**Overtime Language Enforced**

Recently, Union Steward Teresa Smith worked tirelessly to ensure our contract and prevented mandatory weekend overtime that was designated after first break on Friday.

Her shop had been working designated ten-hour days that week with all the overtime assigned as pre-shift overtime. Starting Monday, however, management wanted their first break to be adjusted to 4:50 a.m.

Our contract is very clear that Boeing must provide notification of designated weekend overtime no later than the first rest break on Friday (page 153, Letter of Understanding #16).

Despite clear language, one manager tried to designate the crew for weekend overtime at 7 a.m. on Friday (the normal first break), two hours and 10 minutes after first break that day.

Teresa immediately challenged the mandatory overtime. She explained to senior management that any designated weekend overtime should have been assigned by 4:50 a.m. because of the 10-hour mandatory workday.

Senior management agreed with her interpretation and the weekend overtime was changed to voluntary.

“I want to thank Teresa for ensuring management is following the contract and our members had the option to take the weekend off. Many times people will volunteer to work the weekend, but no one likes to be told they must work,” said Business Rep Grace Holland. “Enforcing our overtime language is important. Grace, Teresa, for their commitment to that mandatory long hours during the week.

**Business Rep Grace Holland** (1) thanks Union Steward Teresa Smith for ensuring overtime language was followed, which changed mandatory weekend overtime to voluntary for her crew.

mean our members were entitled to notification of designated weekend overtime earlier than normal.

Rules for assigning overtime are spelled out in 6.10.0/Overtime (page 153) and LOU #16 (page 146).

**Proper Pay for Work Performed**

Union Steward Carl Bauer worked with management to ensure that member Jerry Curtin received proper pay for time he worked a temporary upgrade. The result was Jerry received an additional 32 days’ pay at the higher labor grade.

Jerry was periodically asked to run a machine; when another member was absent. He kept a journal of the days and times he worked in the higher labor grade, dating back to April 2017. Carl helped Jerry review his pay stubs and found he had received the higher pay for only 4 of the 36 days he worked the higher grade.

While the contract only allows going back 30 days for back pay, Carl showed the manager the documentation and noted the previous management had told Jerry to keep a log and submit it periodically for the upgrade pay. Management agreed that it should be paid, submitted it to HR and the member was paid for the days working the higher graded job.

“I appreciate our union and the representation we have always known when you are dealing with a company as large as Boeing, you need to have an advocate and it is important to have a union,” said Jerry, who has been a member for over 35 years.

“I appreciate management doing the right thing to pay our member for the time worked in the higher labor grade even though it was outside of contractual time limits. The member was continuing on with a practice the previous manager had approved. Thanks to Carl working with management, our member was properly paid for time worked in the higher graded job,” said Business Rep John Lopez.

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Solidarity Sends Strong Message at Cadence

Machinists Union members working at Cadence Giddens demonstrated their solidarity and support for negotiators by turning out in force to authorize strike sanction by 92 percent. The overwhelming vote on November 30 sent a strong message to Cadence that these members are united in their efforts for fair contract terms and resoundingly support union negotiators.

“Thank you to all the members who turned out in an incredible show of solidarity and support and voted 92% to authorize strike sanction,” said Business Rep Greg Campos. “Members were encouraged to provide additional input on any issues they have in the workplace. Members also received a negotiations survival handbook their committee prepared so they would better understand the process and their role in negotiations, as well as their rights under the law and frequently asked questions.

This will be the second contract for these members who voted for IAM representation in May 2015. Members are looking forward to build on the foundation of their first contract. The real loud and clear message from surveys and input is that the struggles and e economics are the top issues they want to see addressed.

On Dec. 6, District 751 Legislative and Political Director Larry Brown was elected President of the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC). District 751 is proud to have one of our outspoken, dedicated leaders elected to this position to succeed WSLC President Jeff Johnson, who is retiring at the end of the year.

The WSLC is widely considered to be the “voice of labor” in Washington State with more than 600 affiliated local unions and organizations, representing some 450,000 rank-and-file union members – making it the largest union organization in Washington.

Brown joined the IAM in 1979 as an inspector at Saturn aeronautics serving in the U.S. Navy from 1973-1977. He immediately became active in the Machinists union, serving as a Union Steward, various local lodge positions and on the District Council. He joined the District 751 staff in 1997 as Steward Coordinator, was elected as a Business Representative in 1998 and has worked in his current position as Political Director since 2006. Brown is a graduate of the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee and has served on the Board of Trustees for Green River College from 1998-2011 and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges from 2011-present. In 2017, he was also elected to serve on the Auburn City Council.

“We are proud to have Larry representing labor in his new role. He has had an amazing career at 751, serving always with integrity and the motivation to make life better for those he represents,” said District 751 President Jon Holden. “Larry was sought out by several affiliates who wanted to see a candidate that would lead the labor movement on many fronts. Larry will be that person. He will work to ensure that every worker has a voice in this state. He will do the work necessary to allow workers without a union to gain the rights that only a unionized worker enjoys.”

“Larry’s successful election will certainly leave a void here at District 751 that is hard to fill, but I know that we will be able to count on him to look out for Machinists in Olympia and around the state in his new role,” Holden added. “We are looking forward to the new role as he continues his work to support the labor movement.”

April Sims, currently the WSLC Political and Strategic Campaign Director, has been elected WSLC Secretary Treasurer, the chief financial officer of the organization. She is the first woman of color to be elected as a WSLC executive officer. Prior to joining the WSLC staff, Sims served as the Legislative and Political Action Field Coordinator for the Washington Federation of State Employees, AFSCME Council 28 (WFSE), where she was responsible for member education, communication, and mobilization around legislative issues and political campaigns.

She was a WFSE member, shop steward, elected union officer, and union staffer from 2002-15. In a message to union members after her election Brown stated: “Thank you to the labor leaders for putting your trust in me to lead the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO — the voice of all of Washington’s workers. Thank you for believing in a vision for a labor movement that brings together workers to solve our most pressing challenges, to organize new workers, and to incorporate social justice into the everyday work of our unions. I very much look forward to working with Secretary Treasurer Elect April Sims to continue to build a strong vibrant labor movement in our state.

During my campaign, we had hundreds of conversations with workers and labor leaders from around this great state, from all different industries, backgrounds, and ideologies, and if there was any doubt, I can say clearly that we have so much more in common than what divides us. My promise to you is that we will find these common grounds and we’ll fight like hell to win. I’m honored to have been given this opportunity and I promise to do my best to be a President for all of us. Our solidarity is what built this movement and our solidarity will grow this movement!”

On December 6, District 751 members voted 92 percent to strike. The 6 of December was set aside in the machinery calendar for IAM members who have lost their jobs without any income. These fellow IAM members would get the money before the holidays. 751 members continue to show their solidarity with IAM members working on the flightline at Boeing South Carolina.

Just a few weeks before Christmas, six IAM brothers working the flightline building South Carolina were UNJUSTLY terminated simply for supporting our Union. Unfair Labor Practice charges have been filed at the NLRB and our legal team feel we have a very strong case. In the interim, these fellow members – some of whom have small children – are left without any income. District 751 set up a GoFundMe page to ensure these IAM members can have Christmas without any income.

In just five days, donations exceeded 30,000. Thank you to all who contributed. Your generosity has shown them what being part of a Union family and solidarity is all about and ensured they can provide for their families this holiday season.

The GoFundMe account was closed after five days so those members could get the money before the holidays. Union Power is alive and well – an injury to one is an injury to all! Again, thanks to all who contributed.

One of the South Carolina workers wrote: “To all my brothers and sisters of the IAM, WOW! I can’t even begin to say thank you, it doesn’t seem to be enough to express the impact you have all had on my family and I. I read the solidarity posts on the GOFUNDME, and I know you all meant it.

Boeing was my first work experience outside the military. I never thought I would find that sense of camaraderie or family that I experienced in the service. Each and every one of you proved me wrong. I know some of you have your own personal challenges and issues to deal with let alone worry about someone you have never met. But you did it anyway and I am floored by the outpouring of support.

I understood from the beginning of our campaign that some of us would get bloodied in our fight to have our voices heard. It’s built into the labor way of life. The struggle is more important than ever in a time when the middle class is under attack from big business and the government seems to favor business over people. The 6 of us have been fired for our unwavering support for our union. The union busting effort in South Carolina will fail because we do have Solidarity behind us. Our brothers and sisters across the country and a willingness to fight for what is right!

My family has been amazed by what all of you have done for us. All of you who showed love and support has made an impact on my family. We hope that we will be able to return that love and support to all of you.

Words will never be enough to show how grateful we are. Thank you all. You have made a world of difference! My family and I wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season! Go IAM! With deepest thanks and love, Rich, Sherry, Amber, Faith and Fritzzy”
New Career Advisor Came Up Through Our Membership Ranks

I AM/Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisors provide a wealth of information and knowledge to help our members with their career goals.

Our newest Career Advisor is Cynthia Bell, who brings years of firsthand experience utilizing Joint Programs and our rich educational benefits before getting hired as a Career Advisor.

Cynthia worked as a Machinists Union member at Boeing for 33.5 years. She originally hired in as a Dispatch Clerk and retired in an Aviation Maintenance Tech (AMT). Starting in 1996, she took advantage of I AM/Joint Programs services, using EA (Employee Assistance) funds and LTP (Learning Together Program) and developed relationships with the Career Advisors who assisted her with career plans for growth and development. Prior to retirement, Cynthia received a Masters in General Management, Graduate Certificates in Human Resources and Diversity/Inclusion.

Cynthia accepted the voluntary layoff in 2016. Wanting to help others, she went to work for an employment corporation. She recruited and hired temporary workers to work with various companies and advised them about career goals, assisting writing resumes for the workers to successfully pursue permanent employment.

Knowing the value Career Advisors bring to our members, through her years of first hand interaction, she applied to put her skills to work helping our members full time and was hired as a Joint Programs Career Advisor in November. In her new role, she will not only help members pursue their educational and career goals, but also be a focal point for assisting our members with their resumes.

Members are entitled to two custom resumes each year and should take advantage of these benefits and the skills Cynthia brings to her role.

“Cynthia is perfect for this position. Her main focus will be resumes so members do not have to use their Education Assistance (EA) funds for resumes, this gives them a chance to use the EA benefits for other things. We are proud to have her as part of our team – helping our members every day,” said I AM Joint Programs Administrator Heather Barstow.

“l’m excited to share my experience and help others make progress toward their goals,” said Cynthia. The service and the resources Joint Programs has to offer are available for IAM members at Boeing to take advantage of. It’s an opportunity for them to professionally market themselves to pave the way for their future to evolve within the company.

To contact a Career Advisors, call 1-800-235-3453.

Not OK to Cut QA is Message on Boeing’s Plan

Continued from Page 1

An Everett member voices his concerns over Boeing’s plan.

Examples of issues you see on the floor. Members should provide the pdf and all supporting documentation to a Steward, BR or one of our Union halls. This information will be collected and utilized to show that this decision by Boeing is short sighted and jeopardizes the integrity of the manufacturing process. NOTE: You have a right to provide this information to your Union, as we are addressing grievances and bargaining the impacts of these changes.

At each of the meetings, when asked if they have ever been pressured not to write a pickup, nearly every QA member raised their hand.

The company is taking advantage of QA and manufacturing working together essentially masking defects and coming back later with a “risk assessment process” to eliminate inspections where there were no documented defects. Inspectors spoke of being asked to “hang tape” and talk to the mechanic about defects rather than writing a pickup. Other inspectors complained that despite record build rates, they have not increased inspectors, which means they are understaffed resulting in less time to write up defects.

Eliminating inspections on close tolerance holes and “OK to close” operations drove lots of conversation and concern. Member after member expressed the dangers of going this direction and employment practices look at things from a different perspective and haven’t been trained in the principles of inspection.

“We are constantly pressured to go faster and move the planes. They are eliminating inspections without giving additional time and training to perform the necessary verification processes. The Company claims this is to improve first pass quality. How does any of this make improvements in first pass quality with the current management culture that is scheduled driven?” asked one member.

“Inspections are removed from the process, how does that make the mechanic drill better holes – especially when we are held to tolerances measured in thousandths of an inch? This is dangerous idea,” chimed in another member.

Members were eager to share incidents from their shop. But one thing was clear: no one attending thought this was a good idea or helpful to the manufacturing process. Boeing referred to this BCA Quality Transformation “Verification Optimization,” but in Boeing speak that simply means they are eliminating inspection processes to the tune of thousands per airplane.

Again, knowledge is power and documentation is essential. Members should share concerns with their Steward and give specific examples of incidents or issues from their areas so the Stewards can print out the supporting documentation for the Union.

We will use every option to preserve our QA jobs and the integrity of the inspection and production process. Our members are very proud of the high quality products they build. All jobs are important, and these jobs are worth fighting for. Our message is simple and clear “It Is Not OK to Cut QA.”

Always Fight – Our Motto in 2018 and into the Future!

Continued from Page 2

751 has welcomed thousands of new members in the last 5 years. I would ask our senior members to reach out and mentor newer members in your shops. Let them know the collective strength of Machinists when we stand together to defeat a bad idea from a company like Boeing. These new members are excited to be building the best airplanes in the world and are eager to learn more about our union.

This year we introduced 90-minute seminars for new members to learn more about our union and collective strength. We emphasize that every word and phrase in the contract was fought for by someone who came before us, and this language is a building block for the future. One example is LOU #11, which prevents mandatory overtime during the Boeing holiday shutdown.

These seminars are very well attended, and we will continue in 2019 and look for more ways to engage our newer members and fill our union meetings with relevant content.

If we demonstrate union solidarity every day like we show when we are threatened, Boeing and the other companies where we represent workers, might reconsider their tactics. We must be united because when we are divided it only benefits the company.

Knowledge is power! The more informed and educated our members are, the more successful we will be when challenging any negative changes in working conditions.

District 751 has been proactively promoting Washington State as the best place to build the next airplane program, which would ensure success of Boeing’s next airplane program. These actions are well ahead of any decision Boeing will make on the New Middle Market Airplane (NMA) or siting scenarios impacting our members.

We are active on the state’s Choose Washington NMA Council. In that role, District 751 was instrumental in securing Richard Aboulafia and the Teal Group to conduct an independent competitiveness analysis of all 50 states. The Teal study, released in June, confirmed what we already knew that Washington State is number one and far ahead of even the number two state. Having independent data backing up our claims makes it harder for Boeing to justify going elsewhere.

The Teal Group competitiveness study drove Price Cooper Waterhouse to revise the metrics used in their study. When they revised their methodology, Washington State was number one (after being #12, #10 and #13 the past three years). Again, making our state the logical choice to build and design Boeing’s next airplane.

We are also active on the Choose Washington Workforce Development Strategy, assuming current investments in our aerospace workforce and ensuring we have a robust training pipeline for the future. We want to continue to have members entering the workforce ready and able to build Boeing airplanes today and the planes of the future.

The newest in this long-term contract, together we will find ways to use our collective strength, such as engaging in efforts bargaining to build for a stronger future. Together, we will continue to uphold our strength and collective power, because we are the Fighting Machinists, continually striving for justice on the job and service to the community. I look forward to building on this in 2019. Always Fight.
New Contracts Ratified for Members at JBLM

751 Machinists Union members working at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM), continued to see the value of union membership. After their employers changed, members in units approved new agreements on Nov. 30th that provided yearly wage and benefits improvements—reinforcing it pays to be union.

Because they have union representation, these workers are guaranteed a voice and a vote even when their employer changes as new contractors are selected at JBLM.

Pilot instructors for the C-17 program, who previously worked for LST, approved a new 3-year contract with FlightSafety Services Corp (FSSC). The FSSC agreement provided wage increases each year of the contract, health and welfare benefit increases each year, & one additional holiday (the day after Thanksgiving), expanded sick leave benefits and faster accrual of vacation time.

Each C-17, members required to travel will now be given a minimum of one week's notice and all time on travel will be compensated.

The maintenance technicians approved a 3-year agreement with C2 Technologies; these technicians had previously been covered by two separate contracts one with TruSim and the other with DRG.

Prior to reaching an agreement with C, our members held informational pickets to alert others at the base of their efforts to secure a contract with their new employer.

The new contract with C is a master agreement that covers maintenance technicians at JBLM, and also IAM members at Travis AFB, CA; March ARB, CA; Elmendorf-Richards AFB, AK. The C contract provided wage increases each year. Health and Welfare Benefits increases each year, employer contributions to the IAM National Pension Fund increased 1%. Members also secured a new “flexible” holiday.

“These Machinists Union members do work that is essential to the defense of our nation,” said District 751 President Jon Holden. “They are highly skilled specialists and they deserve a contract that recognizes and rewards them for all they do.”

Special thanks to District 751 Pilot instructors Jon Holden, Chief of Staff and District 751 Machinist instructors who previously worked for JBLM.

Local C Poker and Slot Tournament to Benefit Guide Dogs - Sat. Feb. 23

Hold ‘Em Poker Tournament

Local C’s charity poker tournament promises to be a fun deal.

The Local C Guide Dogs of America Hold ‘Em Tournament will be held on Saturday, Feb 23, at the Muckleshoot Casino in Auburn. Registration will start at Noon, and the tournament begins at 1 p.m.

Registration is $100 per player. There will be a $3,500 payout to the top 10 players at the final table. Players registering by Feb 15 will receive an additional $500 tournament chip.

All proceeds from the tournament will go to Guide Dogs of America.

Slot Machine Tournament

In addition, for those who prefer to play the slots, Local C will host a slot tournament at the Muckleshoot simultaneously with the poker tournament on Saturday, Feb 23. Slot tournament card sales begin at Noon.

2019 Monthly Dues at Boeing $83.90

The IAM Constitution requires dues rates be adjusted each January 1st in accordance with the District bylaws.

Month $35.06 for District Machinists.

Boeing will increase $2 a month to $83.90 in 2019. Per the formula approved by our members in 2010, the 2019 dues were calculated at 2.25 times the weighted average hourly earnings.

Teamwork in the IRC Saves a Member

Four members working second shift in the Interior Responsibility Center (IRC) in Everett demonstrated true teamwork when they sprang into action to save the life of their co-worker.

751-member Stan Ranyou was at his desk when he went into cardiac arrest. Gordon Halverson noticed Stan slumped at his computer, called out to others, which began their lifesaving effort. Gordon, Craig Chapman, Daron Acton and Bert Bryant worked quickly understanding critical time was wasted. They got Stan to the floor, began taking turns performing compressions while another called for help from one of the few landlines in the building. The fire department arrived quickly because the fire department left them know what door to enter and approximately where to go. The fire department arrived quickly because the fire department left them know what door to enter and approximately where to go and arrested Stan. They hope other members will take the classes to be prepared should they face a similar situation with a co-worker or family member.

“It is so important to have proper training and confidence to perform CPR should you find yourself in this situation,” said Craig. “In my first few weeks at Boeing years ago, a co-worker passed away on the shop floor from cardiac arrest and no one performed CPR because they weren’t trained. That motivated me to take the training and take refresher classes as well so when the need arises, I can give that person a second chance. Everyone should take the training and be prepared.”

“I appreciate the quick response of our members to help a member in need. Our union has submitted these members for the Governor’s Life Saving Award, and we hope they are honored for their actions,” said Business Rep Grace Holland who served on the negotiating committees.
Hungry families in Western Washington will find it easier to put food on their table this winter, thanks to the efforts of the Machinists Union and its members. Dozens of 751 members gave up time on Saturday, Dec. 1 to help out during KING-TV’s recent HomeTeam Harvest food drive to benefit Northwest Harvest.

District 751’s local lodges and the Machinists Council donated $3,600 and did live presentations on King 5 News at both the Tacoma location and Everett location.

This is the 17th consecutive year that District 751 volunteers have taken part in KING-TV’s HomeTeam Harvest event.

751 volunteers always enjoy helping with the Salvation Army Toy N Joy event.
Machinists Volunteers Visible Throughout the Region

Machinists members continued to help others throughout the region by preparing and serving breakfast at area missions in Everett and Tacoma, building wheelchair ramps for area residents, sorting food at the Northwest Harvest Warehouse, and cleaning up our stretch of the road. Each month Machinists help with various projects.

Wearing Machinists Veteran shirts and flanked by the two red, white and blue Machinists vans, 20 Machinists Union veterans proudly marched through the streets of downtown Auburn in the annual Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 10.

Twice during the parade, Machinists District 751 Veterans Committee was announced, drawing many cheers and thank you’s from spectators along the route.

This was the first time the 751 Veterans Committee, which formed earlier this year, took part in this event, which is the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi.

The committee plans to make it an annual event with even more of our veterans marching next year.

751 Veterans Committee Marches in Annual Parade

Wearing Machinists Veteran shirts and flanked by the two red, white and blue Machinists vans, 20 Machinists Union veterans proudly marched through the streets of downtown Auburn in the annual Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, November 10.

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The committee plans to make it an annual event with even more of our veterans marching next year.

751 veterans received cheers from the crowd along the streets in Auburn.

Above: Many of the 751 veterans who marched proudly in the Auburn parade pose next to one of our union vans. This is the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi.

Right: 751 veterans carry the Proud Machinists Veterans banner and waved American flags as they marched.
Green for the Guide Dogs

In 2018, District 751 raised $251,297 for Guide Dogs of America through various events and fundraisers. Thank you to all who have supported these events.

Right: Linda Ramos organized a Guide Dogs booth at Touchdown City prior to the Seahawk Monday Night Football game on Dec. 10 to raise awareness for this worthwhile charity.


District Golf Tournament raised $24,438.06 for Guide Dogs. L to R: Les Muller, Susan Palmer, Howard Carlson, Mark Clark, Chris Schorr, and Jon Holden.


Local A Car Show raised $12,000 for Guide Dogs. L to R: Paul Richards, Jerry Banks, Wes Heard, Joel Hefland, Melody Dillon, Paul Schubert, Adrian Camez, Matt Hardy, Jon Holden and Derek Gottschalk.

November 751 Retirement Club Meeting Minutes

The Nov. 12 meeting was called to order by President Jackie Boschok.

Roll Call: All officers were present except Vennie Murphy, Jim Hutchins and TJ Selbert who were excused.

Minutes: The October meeting minutes were approved. M/S/P

Executive Board Report: President Boschok read the following motions:
1) Donate $50 to the MVP turkey drive to benefit the Everett Gospel Mission and $50 to the Seattle APRI turkey drive to benefit the Puget Sound Labor Agency. M/S/P
2) Spend $600 to purchase appreciation gift cards at $50 each for the Seattle support staff and maintenance staff. M/S/P
3) Spend $300 to purchase Fred Meyer gift cards for the monthly meeting attendance drawings. $10 gift cards for business meetings and $100 gift cards for the summer picnic and December holiday luncheon. M/S/P
4) Spend $1,000 to purchase attendance prizes, including gift cards, poinsiettas and other gifts to be raffled off at the December holiday luncheon. M/S/P
5) Spend up to $4,500 to purchase a catered lunch from the Des Moines Creek Restaurant for the December holiday luncheon. There was discussion about the expenditures. M/S/P

Financial Report: Tom Lux gave the report. The Financial Report was M/S/P.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz remembered our veterans then spoke about the November election results. There will now be a Democratic majority in the House of Representatives so we are looking for some labor-friendly legislators and health care improvements.

In 2019 we will consider the following activities to stay involved in the political process: meetings with our state congressional delegation, attending Senior Lobby Day in Olympia on February 21 and possibly attend the IAM&W Legislative Conference in Washington DC next spring to be sure senior and retiree issues are on the agenda.

He also spoke about a bill that would allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices. This has been introduced many times before but because the Republicans have been in charge even some Democrats have not signed on to the bill. Hopefully now they will. Senator Cantwell and Representative Del Bene sent the club letters stating they would sign on to the bill.

Health and Benefits: Vice President Helen Lowe read the deceased list: Local A: Mary Jaton, Grace Moos, John Omarsich, Vaughan Philpot, Helen Thompson, Agnes Ulrich, Local C: William Blair, Thomas Cook, Richard Fahlgren, James Forsythe, John Grapes, Max Jackson, Robert Ladd, Joe Lewis, David Rundhaug, Ron Sloan, Richard B. Smith, Robert Stewart

Legislative Report: Boschok mentioned upcoming volunteer opportunities including: Northwest Harvest KING 5 food drive on December 1 and the Coat and Blanket Drive sponsored by the Human Rights

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The Seattle Union Hall was festive for the annual 751 Retirement Club Holiday Luncheon. The event provided a chance to present service pins to some of our long-time members reaching 50, 55, 60 and 65 years of service.

Dr. Kim Schrier thanked the group for their help in winning her election to the 8th Congressional seat and vowed to support senior citizens. She also thanked 751 Retirees for their help getting her elected.

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The three-day conference included guest speakers and workshops to help retirees learn new advocacy skills, grassroots organizing, as well as providing a chance to collaborate with retiree leaders from across the country. The goal is to have more senior activists working to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare, as well as resisting the special interests that threaten our retirement security.

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It’s easy to understand why elderly individuals are attractive targets for financial abuse. They may have significant assets or equity in their homes and usually have a regular source of income such as Social Security or a pension. They also may be especially vulnerable due to isolation, cognitive decline, physical disability, or other health problems. In fact, nearly one out of every five Americans over the age of 65 has fallen victim to elder financial abuse.

That’s why it’s important to raise awareness of the red flags surrounding this crime by talking with elderly loved ones and helping them understand they are not alone in dealing with financial abuse.

Watch out for these common stranger scams:

Some financial scams are easy to identify, but many are not quite so easy to spot. Here are a few of the most common scams strangers may use to trick elderly individuals into giving up money, on personal information, or property.

Password fraud / identity theft — Technology-savvy fraudsters set up fake websites for the purpose of obtaining personal information such as Social Security numbers, dates of birth, addresses, or a variety of personal passwords — including those tied to personal bank accounts, credit and debit cards, and loan applications — then use that information for criminal purposes.

Government scams (IRS / Medicare) — Scammers pose as government officials requiring their victims to wire cash or use prepaid debit or gift cards to pay a bogus tax bill. Or they may provide sham Medicare services at makeshift mobile clinics in order to bill the first person who pays the money.

Granny scam — Fraudsters play to the emotions of grandparents by identifying themselves as grandchildren calling or emailing about an emergency situation. They may say, “I've been arrested and need money wired quickly” or “I need cash cards for bail.”

Prize and sweepstakes fraud — Under the guise of a telemarketing call to notify the winner of a lottery or sweepstakes, the victim is told he or she must pay taxes on the jackpot via mail or wire before claiming the prize.

Sweetheart fraud — With the false promises of love and companionship, elders are conned into trusting a new “friend” that they meet in person or through social media. The romantic partner then swindles them out of money and/or property before disappearing.

When the abusers are known:

According to the 2018 Wells Fargo Elder Needs Study, most elder investors (68%) believe that a stranger would be the most likely perpetrator of financial exploitation against them. But the reality is very different — 66% of elder financial crimes are committed by family members, friends, or trusted persons.

One typical type of financial abuse by trusted individuals includes using ATM cards and stealing checks to withdraw monies from victims’ accounts. Another type involves in-home care providers charging for services they did not provide, keeping change from errands, paying bills that don’t belong to the vulnerable adult, asking the vulnerable adult to sign falsified time sheets, spending their work time on the phone, and not doing what they are paid to do.

Where to find help:

For more information on what to do if you, loved ones, and others you suspect are victims of an elder financial abuse crime go to https://www.wellsfargo.com/privacysecurity/fraud-bank-scams/.

Investor Protection Trust (IPT) elder Fraud Survey, 2016.


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Administering the Oath of Office

Photo right: District President Jon Holden (l) administers the oath of office to Local F District Council Alternates Dave Bryant and Tom Keller.

Seattle General Strike Bus Tour

The IAM Scholarship Competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada. Awards to members are $2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years leading to a bachelor’s degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification.

Awards to Children of Members are:

• College: $1,000 per academic year. All awardees are renewable each year, until maximum of four years, whichever occurs first.

• Vocational/Technical School: $2,000 per year until certification is reached for a maximum of two years, whichever occurs first.

Eligibility for Competition

Any applicant must be either:

• an IAM member, or

• the son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.

Child of a Member Applicant:

• Must have one living parent with two years of continuous good-standing membership up to and including the closing date of Feb. 22, 2019.

• Must be planning to graduate during the winter or by the end of spring 2019 school year (i.e., normally a high school senior);

• Must plan to take a regular college or vocational/technical program on a full-time basis, maintaining qualifying grades;

• Will be eligible if the parent died after the son or daughter entered high school, if the parent had two years of “continuous good-standing membership” at the time of death.

For information on all rules of eligibility to obtain an application form, visit www.goiam.org/iamscholarship.

NOTE: Completed Application Packets must be postmarked no later than Feb. 22, 2019.

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For more information or to join the Veteran’s Committee.

She also spoke about Initiative 1000 which District 751 has endorsed. This ballot measure overturns Tim Eyman’s I-200 and repeals the doors of education, employment and procurement opportunities for qualified women, the disabled, minorities and all honorably discharged veterans, without any quotas or preferential treatment. Copies of the initiative are available to take and gather signatures.

New Business: none

Upcoming Business: none

Nov/Dec Birthdays: Dan and Ardis Stachlowski, John Robinson, Helen Lowe and Mike Keller. The club sang happy birthday to them.

Betty Ness won the Fred Meyer gift. Meeting adjourned at noon.
New Agreement at Kenworth Sales

Machinists Union members working as diesel mechanics at Kenworth Sales accepted a new three-year agreement by default in early December.

The new three-year agreement had many positives including all members will receive $1.35 an hour raise (between 5 and 7 percent depending on the job classification); a new $2 an hour premium for road work off property during regular working hours; a minimum of 4 hours pay for call out road work outside their shift at 1.5 times regular pay plus $2 an hour premium; $100 per calendar year toward the purchase of boots; increased vacation accrual and swing shift premium increased from $.75 per hour to $1 an hour.

Thanks to all the members who provided input throughout the process and turned out to vote.

Union negotiators review some of Kenworth’s proposals.

Spokane Machinists volunteers have been building a better community in recent months working on several projects.

When the Masonic Temple in Spokane had a wheelchair request from an area resident, they knew who to call to get it done - Machinists Local 86. Machinists volunteers turned out in force and built the ramp to ensure the resident can now easily come and go from her house.

Machinists in Spokane also helped ensure many area families will not go hungry during the holidays with a food and donation drive. Local 86 members raised $740 and District 751 donated $500 for a purchase of boots; increased vacation accrual and swing shift premium increased from $.75 per hour to $1 an hour. Volunteers delivered the money and food to Second Harvest Food Bank on Dec. 19.

Union nominees help in Spokane

2020 Grand Lodge Convention Poker Tournament Fundraiser
Jan. 26 at Northern Quest Casino

Eastern Washington local lodges are holding a poker tournament that promises to be a fun deal while raising money for the 2020 Grand Lodge Convention. The tournament will be held Saturday, January 26, at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino (100 N. Hayford Rd, Airway Heights, near the Spokane Airport). Registration and/or lessons will be from 5 to 6 p.m. with the tournament running from 6 to 10 p.m.

Individual entry is $80 per player. $1,000 cash final table payout and $1,000 in prize drawings. Any player registering by Jan. 18 will receive an additional $500 tournament chip.

Entry/registration forms are available at all District 751 Union Halls or online at http://www.iam751.org/easternwaevents.

Note: Northern Quest Resort & Casino is offering discounted guest rooms for DL 751 members at $199 per night; while the Hampton Inn Spokane Airport is offering DL 751 room rates of $102 per night (Saturday, Jan. 26 and Sunday, Jan. 27).

Irrigation Lunch Promotes Interaction

The three irrigation districts that comprise the Columbia Basin Project (South Columbia Basin, East Columbia Basin and Quincy Columbia Basin) recently came together for a yearly recertification for herbicide spraying. The four unions representing the workers (Machinists Union, Operating Engineers, Teamsters and Laborers’ Union) welcome the opportunity to share information and discuss issues and concerns. The unions, who work as a team under one collective bargaining agreement at each location, hosted a lunch to allow members from the three districts to interact and share information.

Retirees

Congratulations to the following members who have retired, their employer is noted in parenthesis.

Local 86
Scott Daugherty (UPS)
Russell Deming (DRG)
Ted Hogeweide (Cummins)
Lucile Plum (Triumph)
Debbie Ronquille (Triumph)
Doug Schmiginski (Triumph)
Joe Venzlowsky (Penske)

Local 1951
Earl Kuhnhausen (Republic Services)
Roger Pearce (Republic Services)
Sam Redding (So. Columbia Irrigation Dist)
Robert Wells (Republic Services)
John Wilde (Republic Services)

Local 751 Aero Mechanic
Dec 2018/Jan 2019