This Contract Is All About Doing the “RIGHT” Thing

Negotiations this year are about “Doing the RIGHT Thing - For All the RIGHT Reasons.” This will be our message throughout negotiations with Boeing. We believe the right thing to do is to work to maintain and improve the quality of life for every member and every worker across the State of Washington.

As preparations for the 2005 negotiations shift into high gear, District 751 President Mark Blondin is outlining our negotiation strategy at Local Lodge meetings throughout the month of April, as well as introducing the 751 members on the Negotiating Subcommittees. The Union has mapped out a month-by-month plan of events designed to get every member involved and ensure all members have input into the process.

In March, the Union began a series of face-to-face activities that will continue through the contract and give the Union much-needed two-way communication. District 751 is confident we can negotiate what our members deserve and will get Boeing to “Do the RIGHT Thing” at the bargaining table. We have put together a communications plan that will increase participation from all levels of our membership, and your help is vital to the success of these negotiations.

Blondin noted, “Participation by all Union members is our strength at the bargaining table. Every member must make a commitment to get a good contract. The Union will commit to do better at communicating with members on the shop floor, and it starts with face-to-face interaction now.”


District President Mark Blondin (center) talks with SooH Tomala, Mitch Christian, Hazel Powers and Nate Gary about recent meetings in their shops.

Face-to-face interaction with Union leaders will be key throughout the negotiation process to ensure accurate two-way communication. Mitch was surprised at how many people attended his meeting and the positive reaction. It led to good discussion on issues and gave people a chance to be a part of the process.

An Everett focus group discusses their top issues this year.

The Union also kicked off focus groups in March at various locations. Members are encouraged to attend to give honest feedback and input into the Union.

Initial groups were glad they took the time to attend. The groups are a good mix of different work areas from each factory. Members were eager to share their ideas, issues, concerns and experiences with the Union. By asking tough questions and getting unfiltered dialogue, we can better address the issues and revise our plan to better address members concerns.

Jeanne Anacker, was one member at the Everett focus group. She got off work at 1:30 p.m. and stayed around until the focus group started at 3 p.m. She noted, “I’m glad I went. I have already told others about it and hope they will attend when they get an invitation. The Union obviously wants to know what we think and this is a good opportunity.”

continued on page 6
Membership Involvement Will be Key to Contract Success

by Mark Blondin, District President

First of all, I would like to thank the Boeing members of District 751 who recently completed the second of three contract surveys. This year is about “Doing the Right Thing for All the Right Reasons” and maintaining and improving the quality of life for our members. The “Right” thing for members was to fall out the survey. We had a very high return rate for the second survey, which was comprehensive and contained many issues of importance in the upcoming negotiations.

The involvement of such a high percentage of our membership ensures the Union Proposal to the Boeing Company is right on target with the member’s desires. Results are being tabulated and will be utilized by the negotiation committees as we prepare the Union’s proposal. We intend to deliver our proposal, based on our member’s input, to the Company in late June. Your input and involvement in the entire negotiation process is critical. Share your thoughts and concerns with the Business Representatives and Shop Stewards. Two-way communication will be the key to this successful round of talks. Business Representatives have started meeting with crews during lunch and breaks. Your input at these meetings is critical and appreciated. These meetings will be an ongoing part of our communication strategy. Different issues will be discussed each month so try to attend more than one meeting to get as much information as possible.

We continue to see recalls at Boeing in the assembly areas, but machining and manufacturing areas are just as critical to our membership. I, like most members, am disappointed in the number of workers returning to those crafts. I assure you that I will continue to press the Boeing Company to keep our work in house. Auburn and Frederickson are every bit as important to this Union membership as Seattle, Everett, and Renton. Our future at Boeing should not be just final assembly. We will discuss this subject throughout the bargaining process. Pension will be a priority issue for our Union, based on your input, and I believe that past retirees deserve something as well. Rising health care costs should not just be passed on to the worker at the bargaining table - this is a national problem that requires elected officials, organized labor, and business to resolve. This Union has continued to lobby and press for health care reform, while working with many agencies to improve services and hold down costs. As I have stated though, ALL parties must participate if this national problem is to be resolved.

If we stick together, more involved in our process, these and many other issues important to you and your family can be bargained to your satisfaction.

I visited the Triumph Composite Systems Plant in March and can report our members in Spokane are doing an outstanding job. New work is in the plant and the headcount is up. In fact, it looks like additional hires will enter in May. Our skilled workforce in Spokane has secured work beyond Boeing work, and this is to their credit. We have a gain sharing plan in place, which was put together jointly, and I know our members look forward to the first payout – scheduled for July.

Our workforce remains steady at Rabanco in Goldendale, Grand Coulee Dam, at Alcoa in Wenatchee, and at the Hanford Site. Also in the Tri-Cities, Ben Franklin Transit has hired additional workers. ASC Tools in Spokane has increased hires too, and we have nearly 110 IAM members at the company this time.

Although we represent many workers in many different occupations, geographic locations, and time zones, all have a common bond. We all do the right thing for the right reasons. We’re all in this together, to improve the quality of life for those we care about – each other, our families, and our communities.

District Lodge 751, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
Mark Blondin
President,
District Lodge 751
Business Representative
Gloria Millsaps
Vice President
Bruce Spalding
Secretary-Treasurer
Kim Leufroy
Sergeant-at-Arms
Tommy Wilson
Roy Moore
Susan Palmer
Ernest McCarthy
Paul Knebel
Mary Johnson
Jackie Boschk
Ray Baumgardner
Larry Brown
Zack Zaratsianicz
Tom Wishniewski
Emerson Hamilton
Stan Johnson
Paul Miliken
Union Business Representatives
Union Offices:
• 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle: 206-763-1300
• 120 A W, Auburn: 253-833-5390
• 233 Burnett N, Renton: 425-235-3777
• 8729 Airport Rd., Everett; 425-355-8021
• 4220 E. Milton, Spokane (509) 334-9609 or 1-800-763-1305
Toll-free to Seattle from: Nationwide 1-800-763-1301
Tacoma 253-627-0622
Hotline: 1-800-763-1310
Web: www.iam751.org

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Members Take Oath of Office

Local A Audit Justin Bailey (r) repeats the oath of office from District Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Spalding. L to R: Business Rep Mark Johnson administers the oath of office to Local C Secretary-Treasurer Gary Boulch and Local C Audit John Davis.

Machinists at Lockheed Ratify New Agreement

Machinists Union members employed at Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Georgia; Meridian, Mississippi; Clarksburg, West Virginia voted on March 15th by a 3 to 1 margin to accept a modified contract proposal from the company. Approval of the 3-year agreement brings an end to the week-long strike that began on March 8th, following the members’ rejection of an earlier Lockheed proposal. The vote on the new agreement took place following an informational meeting where full details of the new accord were presented to IAM members.

“...I want to commend the IAM Negotiating Committee for their work to bring this dispute to a conclusion. The settlement represents a compromise by both sides,” said IAM Aerospace Coordinator John Crowdis.

Machinists Union members at Lockheed in Palmdale, California; Sunnyvale, California; Vandenberg AFB, California and Cape Canaveral, Florida voted to ratify the new three-year agreement on February 27.

Some of the provisions of the new contract included:

• 10 percent in General Wage Increases over the life of the agreement (4% payable March 2005, 3% payable March 2006, and 3% payable March 2007)
• $1,500 ratification bonus
• Dental benefits increased from $56 to $66 per month of service effective March 2, 2005
• 401(k) Retirement Savings Improvements. Employer matching contributions increased from $53 maximum to $58 maximum.
• Recall rights increased from 60 months to 72 months.

Apprenticeship Program Accepting Applications

The IAM/Boeing Joint Apprenticeship Committee is accepting applications for five apprenticeship programs from April 1 through April 30. Applications will be accepted into the following programs: Cellular Manufacturing Machinist, Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician, Machine Tool Maintenance Mechanic, Model Maker, and NC Spar Mill Operator. To qualify:

• You must be at least 18 years old and be a Puget Sound area Boeing employee who has been on the active payroll within 6 years of the start of the current application acceptance period (employed any time from April 1999 to present)
• You must have a GED or a high school diploma.
• You cannot have been enrolled in or completed an IAM/Boeing Apprenticeship Program.
• You must meet specific defined vocational training or trade related work experience requirements in applicable program.

You must be able to perform the physical requirements of the apprenticeship program. For Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician, applicants must be able to distinguish between primary colors.

Programs are 8,000 to 10,000 hours in length and include mandatory off-hour (nonpaid) related training. On-the-job training with skilled journeymen provides the apprentice with the skills and knowledge to remain in high demand.

Applications are available at any Union Hall or by calling IAM 751 at 1-800-763-1301, ext 3328 (Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or call 253-951-8261 (Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.). You can also download an application from the web by visiting www.iam751.org/appr.html or http://apprenticeshipweb.boeing.com

Join Us Today!
**POLITICAL ACTION**

**Family Leave Bill Passed by Senate**

Progress is slow on our issues in Olympia. Several of the bills are moving along, but a few have died for the 2005 session.

**Family Leave Insurance Bill**

One of the most promising is SB 5069, the Family Leave Insurance bill, which passed the State Senate on Tuesday, March 14 by a vote of 26 to 21. Under SB 5069, workers who must temporarily leave their jobs to care for newborn or adopted children or for sick family members would get up to 5 weeks of job-protected paid leave. The maximum benefit would be $250 per week, and cost workers about $40 a year. It was amended before passage to exempt employees with 50 or fewer employees but allow them to opt in, if they so choose.

The bill passed out of the House Commerce and Labor Committee and was in the House Rules Committee as the Aero Mechanic went to print.

**Unemployment Insurance**

Attempts to reform the Unemployment Insurance system continue. District 751 remains adamant that any reforms cannot adversely affect benefits for our laid-off members nor disproportionately tax Boeings. As long as the new tax system stays cost neutral, District 751 is committed to help those workers who have had a reduction in benefits due to changes made two years ago. 751 Political Director Linda Lanham testified at hearings that were held on the issue the last week of March, but no formal proposal is moving forward yet.

**Health Care Responsibility Act**

The Health Care Responsibility Act (HCRA) is officially dead for the 2005 session. This was the bill that would have expanded access to health care by increasing the number of large employers who provide health benefits to their employees and imposing a fee on large employers who do not offer such benefits. It would require companies with 50 or more employees in Washington state to take responsibility for providing basic, affordable health insurance for their employees. Investing in employee health should be a requirement for large businesses in Washington. Every week it seems, another state announces Wal-Mart has been officially designated the company with the most employers and their dependents on state health care programs. This week it was Wal-Mart’s home state of Arkansas that announced the world’s richest corporation is its #1 recipient of taxpayer-subsidized health care.

Also every week, you hear reports of responsible employers that provide affordable health care benefits must layoff workers because they can’t compete with the employers who don’t.

**HCRA will be back next year.** We hope that in the interim, lawmakers who weren’t quite ready to support it will look at the economic consequences happening all around them and realize we can’t afford inaction. Health care is a shared responsibility and all sectors — public and private — must do their part to address this growing crisis.

**Portland to Host 2005 AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show; April 29 - May 2**

North America’s only all-union produced and skills exposition opens at the Convention Center in Portland, Oregon, April 29 – May 2. For four days, virtually everything union men and women make or do will be on display, admission free, for the public to touch, see and sample.

“The AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show has everything from union-trained seeing eye dogs to union-made wedding cakes, motorcycles and blue jeans, all under one roof,” said Charles Mercer, president of the Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, which produces and manages the event.

More than 300 exhibitors covering an area equal to four football fields will bring to life the show’s theme, “Good Jobs Build Strong Communities.”

The public will see live demonstrations by skilled union workers performing brick and tile laying, “high iron” construction, cake decorating, electrical wiring and safety checks and sheet metal work. More than $300,000 in free products and raffle prizes will be given away during the show, including a Harley Davidson motorcycle, automobiles, trucks, clothings, groceries and more.

Students and job seekers can meet training and apprenticeship coordinators and representatives from dozens of different industries. Visitors can try their hand at driving a railroad locomotive or operating a construction crane inside ultra-realistic training simulators.

“Every union member should grab a friend, neighbor or family member and come to the Union-Industries Show. This is a chance to show the world the best our unions have to offer: the skills and creativity of union workers, the thousands of high quality products and services we perform; the millions of ways we and the companies we work for improve life for everyone in our community,” said AFL-CIO President John Sweeney.

“Local and national unions and employers will work together at the show to demonstrate the importance of good jobs to the economic and social life of the community,” Mercer explained, adding “This is a highly entertaining, as well as an educational experience, for the entire family — and it’s free admission!”

Show hours will be 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Friday, April 29 through Monday, May 2. Information about the event, including how to become an exhibitor, is available at www.unionindustriesshow.org.
Showing Kids the Ropes

On March 10, hundreds of IAM members at Boeing had a shadow on the job even though they work inside a building. The shadows were area high school students taking part in Boeing’s Job Shadow Day.

The students were eager to learn about life as a Boeing employee and see first hand the skills required to build the world’s finest jets.

While the day was an opportunity for local students in the Junior Achievement program to see inside a Boeing plant, it also provided an opportunity for members to bring their own high school age children to work. Job shadowing enables kids to shadow a workplace mentor as he or she goes through a normal day on the job, providing an up-close look at how the skills learned in school are put into action in the workplace. This experience can begin to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to achieve their dreams.

Job Shadow Day:
• Demonstrates the connection between academics and careers—often inspiring students to learn by making their class work more relevant.
• Builds community partnerships between schools and businesses that enhance the educational experience of all students.
• Introduces students to the requirements of professions and industries to help them prepare to join the workforce.
• Encourages an ongoing relationship between young people and caring adults.
• Provides an opportunity for the students and members who participated. 751 Member Randy Kissinger volunteered to assist Foster High School students. He has brought his own kids in for the day in the past, but this year he volunteered to help other area students. He believes so strongly in the program, he even came in on day shift to serve as a mentor and worked his regular second shift later that day.
• For Colby Taylor, the day was the first time he got to come to work with his mom Kimberly Taylor. Over the years, Kimberly had brought her two older children to work on Job Shadow Day. Colby found the expedite job interesting because ‘you get people their parts, get to move around the factory, and keep production moving.’ His favorite part of the day was watching a crane move from the catwalk high above the factory floor.
• With additional publicity for the event next year, we hope to have even more members take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to share their skills with the next generation of workers.

Accepting the Oath

On March 22 Council Meeting.

From District President Mark Blondin at the March 22 Council Meeting.

Accepting the Oath

Local C District Council Alternate Jim Kakuschke (l) proudly accepts the oath of office from District President Mark Blondin at the March 22 Council Meeting.

Support Good Jobs!

Quick Action Saves Co-Worker’s Life

751 member John Schwebke is thankful he works near fellow Union member Michele McSpadden. In fact, if it weren’t for the swift action of Michele, John might not be alive today.

Recently at the lunch table near their work area, Michele noticed John was choking and quickly sprang into action. While others thought he was getting sick, she immediately recognized the signs of choking. She slapped him on the back several times and was getting ready to perform the Heimlich maneuver when her slap managed to dislodge the food.

Michele noted, “John was sitting next to me at the lunch table. When I looked over, he was turning blue and getting ready to pass out. I knew he wasn’t breathing and just let my motherly instincts takeover. He hardly ever eats lunch with us, but did for some reason that day. I was just glad I could help.”

John added, “If Michele wasn’t there, I might not have made it. I am very thankful she didn’t hesitate to take action. It was scary to know you are choking and not be able to help yourself.”

The Everett Site Safety Committee has nominated Michele to receive a Governor’s Life Saving Award for her prompt response that saved a co-worker.

Michele McSpadden’s quick action saved co-worker John Schwebke’s life when he was choking at the lunch table. She has been nominated for a Governor’s Lifesaving Award.
**Our Voices at the Bargaining Table**

751 leaders at the bargaining table are determined to get Boeing to "Do the RIGHT Thing" and improve the quality of life for our members. Union leaders continue preparing for negotiations with The Boeing Company. While the actual negotiations occur every three years, these meetings are active throughout the duration of our contact. These groups meet to work through issues that arise between negotiations. Meetings become more frequent as the expiration date approaches.

While the Corporate Negotiating Committee has the overall say on all proposals, it is impossible for them to negotiate every article. To assist, there are four subcommittees (Benefits, Workforce, Jobs and Joint Programs) responsible for drafting contract proposals for their assigned area. Negotiators on all committees must possess in-depth knowledge of specific problems facing bargaining unit members and the contract language necessary for members' protection. Subcommittee members negotiate with Company appointed counterparts to arrive at a proposal to present to the Main Table. Each of the subcommittees has representatives from Puget Sound, Wichita and Portland to ensure all issues are addressed.

**The Corporate Committee or Main Table** includes the elected Directing Business Representatives from District 751, District 70 and District 24 and Overall Boeing Aerospace Coordinator Dick Schneider.

The Union’s Corporate Negotiating Committee, or Main Table, has the overall say on all proposals and all contract language, including all Letters of Understanding. Since the contract covers literally hundreds of issues, the four negotiating subcommittees (Benefits, Jobs, Workforce and Joint Programs) assist the Corporate Committee in the negotiation process by drafting substantive contract proposals for their assigned areas based on membership input from the recent contract surveys. Subcommittee proposals will be submitted to the Corporate Committee in late May for inclusion in the Union proposal, which will be presented to Boeing the last week of June.

After the contract opener, the Corporate Committee and all subcommittees meet on a regular basis with their Company counterparts to exchange proposals. When a subcommittee reaches resolution on a given issue, it is sent to the Corporate Committee for concurrence to be included in the final contract offer presented to the membership.

**Continued on page 7**

**Assigned Issues Include:**

- Voluntary Investment Plan
- Retirement Plan
- Group Benefits, including medical and dental coverage, life insurance, A&D&D insurance, Weekly Disability Plan, Retiree Medical Plan

**ENRICHED CONTENT**

**COMPANY COMMITTEE**

**Workforce Subcommittee**

**JOINT PROGRAMS**

**Benefits Subcommittee**

**Jobs Subcommittee**

**Assignments**

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<td>• Group Benefits, including medical and dental coverage, life insurance, A&amp;D&amp;D insurance, Weekly Disability Plan, Retiree Medical Plan</td>
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**Assigned Issues Include:**

- Shift Preference
- Seniority
- Employees with industrial injuries or illnesses
- Team Leader
- Leave of Absence
- Promotions
- Transfers
- Lay-offs
- Downgrades
- Recall Rights
- Workforce Administration

**Continued on page 7**

**Benefits Subcommittee**

**Jobs Subcommittee**

**Joint Programs**

Every issue the Aero Mechanic will feature questions raised at shop floor meetings. This is just another way to improve communication with members.

**What is the schedule for negotiations?**

- We have just completed the second membership survey and are going over the results. We will help format the final contract survey. The priorities established from membership input on the surveys will formulate our formal proposal. The contract opener will be held in Seattle at the Machinists Hall the last week of June. At that time, Union leadership will present and explain our comprehensive contract proposal to the Company. The strike sanction vote will be held on July 13. Round-the-clock bargaining begins August 15. Members will vote on a contract offer September 1.

**How are contract issues determined?**

- In the last round of negotiations, we were in a very difficult time in our nation’s history. Hundreds of members were holding a layoff notice, the Spokane plant was up for sale and Boeing did not have customers who needed airplanes. This year is very different. The Union is in a much better bargaining position. Orders are picking up, members are being recalled, the 737 and 777 have scheduled rate increases. Boeing needs to stay on schedule with the Navy MMA and the 787, which is set for delivery in 2008. The Company needs to be fair at the bargaining table and do the right thing for their workers.

- Members help determine the most important issues through various activities. We have distributed two surveys that will help establish membership priorities. Business Reps identify problems areas in the contract through their daily enforcement of the current Agreement. In addition, the Union is continually gathering membership information, which is used at the bargaining table. Input from individual members given to
Meetings Provide Opportunity for Input

Continued from page 1

just as important to get feedback from the members attending. Our goal is to ensure Union negotiators accurately portray concerns and issues of the members, which requires two-way communication.

Business Rep Stan Johnson noted, “Many of my stewards, like Kim Engstfelt in the automotive shop, do an outstanding job of communicating Union issues to their crew members and invite me, as their Business Representative, into their shop on a regular basis to update them on negotiations progress and other shop concerns. I enjoy meeting with all the different crews, often on a weekly basis, throughout my building assignments because I want the members to feel that their concerns and point of view are heard. Union Business Reps must stay in touch with the membership.”

“I would like my members to know me on a first name basis when I go into their shop or speak with them at their crew meetings. Greater visibility of the Business Representatives on the shop floor gives support to my Stewards and helps build confidence with our members,” Stan added.

Because shop floor communication in this negotiation year is crucial, look for your Business Rep to come through your area on a regular basis and try to attend any meetings in your area. Your involvement will help ensure Boeing does the right thing this fall and extends an offer that addresses our issues.

Above Business Rep Mark Johnson conducts a meeting with the Renton flight line employees. The meeting prompted good discussion and interaction.

Defense Committee Already Planning for Upcoming Events

The voting process and mass meetings that accompany negotiations take months of planning. This is the duty of the 751 Defense Committee.

When members attend the strike sanction vote or mark their contract ballot, few give much thought to the huge effort behind the scenes to coordinate such events. Long before the ballots are cast and the final offer extended, this committee is busy working.

This committee arranges the strike sanction meeting and contract ratification vote – recruiting volunteers to work the meetings and ballot locations, coordinating activities on the day of the event, and assisting with rallies.

The 2005 Defense Committee is co-chaired by Political Director Linda Lanham and Business Representative Jackie Boschek. The committee is comprised of Perry Osgood from Local 751-A, Rod Sigvartson from Local 751-C, Dan Meddaugh from Local 751-E, and Nate Gary representing Local 751-F. Additional Business Reps and staff have also been assigned to help with their specific plant assignments – Tommy Wilson in Auburn, Mark Johnson in Renton and Abdul-aleem Ahmed in Seattle.

In addition, these members must prepare things in the event the membership votes to strike. As negotiations approach, look to hear from more critical members.

The Defense Committee is preparing for negotiation events. L to R: Nate Gary, Dan Meddaugh, Linda Lanham, Perry Osgood, Rod Sigvartson and Jackie Boschek.

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Quick Updates Are Just One Click Away

Want to stay informed on the status of Boeing negotiations?

Give us your home e-mail to receive updates on the upcoming negotiations with Boeing. Having access to instant information will be critical – especially when we enter round one of the clock bargaining on August 15.

Remember, the Union cannot use Boeing e-mail to send negotiation information updates. The forms to provide your home e-mail addresses are available from your Union Steward, at any of the Union offices or simply e-mail us at webmaster@iam751.org and indicate you would like to get updates. Home e-mails will not be disclosed and will only be used for negotiation updates.

How Can I Get Involved?

• Share your questions and concerns with your Union Steward, Business Representative and fellow Union members.

• Participate in Union surveys, focus groups, shop floor meetings, town hall meetings and regular monthly Union meetings. Two-way communication ensures negotiators have an accurate read on membership concerns.

• Attend the Strike Sanction Meeting on July 13.

• Plan to attend the contract rally and bring family members and friends. Make a day of it.

• Vote on the contract proposal September 1.
FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS

Identifying the Issues. Members determine the most important issues for our Union contract negotiators through a variety of methods, including:
- A series of contract surveys
- Input from members given to Union Stewards and Business Representatives at shop floor meetings and in daily interaction.
- Business Reps identify problem areas in the contract through their daily enforcement of the current Agreement.
- Membership input at focus groups, as well as through the website and phone calls to the Union halls.

Stay Informed and Give Input. Throughout the negotiation process, it is essential that we have two-way communication with the members. Attend shop floor meetings, focus groups, town hall forums and tell Stewards your concerns and issues.

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Questions and Answers from the Shop Floor

On the Corporate or Main Committee, District 751 President Mark Blondin is the lead negotiator representing the Puget Sound Region. Representatives from the International, District 24 in Portland and District 70 in Wichita also serve on the Union’s Corporate Committee. In addition, individuals from the IAM Strategic Resources Department, our Aerospace Coordinator, our lawyers, and other experts in the field also sit at the table.

Subcommittees are made up of Business Representatives, staff and elected officers from the three district lodges.

Committees Meet with Boeing. The Union Corporate Committee and The Boeing Company (as well as the various subcommittees) meet informally throughout the contract to continually work issues – not just during actual negotiations. As the contract expiration date approaches, the meetings become more frequent.

Round-the-Clock Bargaining Sessions Begin. Both the Corporate Committee and all Subcommittees meet round-the-clock with Boeing Company negotiators beginning August 15 to negotiate key contract issues. When a Subcommittee believes there is a resolution to a given issue, it is sent to the main negotiating table for concurrence.

The last draft, the formal contract proposal delivered to the Union, is presented to the Corporate Committee, which will meet on formal.

Strike Sanction Vote. This important vote will be held on July 13. Union members will meet in Seattle, Portland, Wichita and the outbases to grant strike sanction support to our negotiators. This show of solidarity gives our negotiators power at the bargaining table.

Contract Vote. On September 1, IAM members vote a two-part ballot. First, members vote to ACCEPT or REJECT the contract proposal submitted by the Company. Second, members vote to reaffirm strike sanction. The IAM Constitution requires 2/3’s must reaffirm strike sanction in order to call a strike.

Continued from page 5

Union Stewards and Business Representatives in shop floor meetings are reviewed. The Union is holding focus groups at the various halls to get honest feedback from the members. The Union wants to hear from members every available chance to ensure we accurately represent membership concerns.

Who negotiates our contract?

On the Corporate or Main Committee, District 751 President Mark Blondin is the lead negotiator representing the Puget Sound Region. Representatives from the International, District 24 in Portland and District 70 in Wichita also serve on the Union’s Corporate Committee. In addition, individuals from the IAM Strategic Resources Department, our Aerospace Coordinator, our lawyers, and other experts in the field also sit at the table.

Subcommittees are made up of Business Representatives, staff and elected officers from the three district lodges.

How will the IAM approach this year’s negotiations?

We are approaching this year’s negotiations as we do all negotiations: very seriously. These are people’s livelihoods we are talking about, and all we want is for the Company to negotiate fairly. We believe that strikes can be avoided if the Company negotiates in a cooperative manner as we intend to do. Our message will carry over throughout the negotiation process—“Doing the Right Thing for all the Right Reasons.” We believe the right thing to do is to work to maintain and improve the quality of life for every member and every worker across the State of Washington.

Have a question you would like to see answered? Send us an e-mail with the question to webmaster@iam751.org.
Machinists Leave a Trail of Good Deeds Around Region

751 members continue to make a difference in the community by participating in the Union’s Volunteer Recognition Program (VRP) activities. From Everett to Tacoma, they have left a trail of good deeds that was greatly appreciated.

Recently, 751 volunteers built wheelchair ramps in Seattle, Renton, Federal Way and Tacoma. Every second and fourth Saturday of the month at 6 a.m., volunteers prepare and serve meals at the Tacoma Rescue Mission. The second, third and fourth Sunday of the month, our members are at the Everett Gospel Mission at 7 a.m. serving meals to the less fortunate.

Once a quarter, volunteers clean up our stretches of road in Everett and Renton, and the list of projects goes on.

**Wheelchair Ramps and the VRP**

In eight short weeks the Puget Sound Labor Agency, AFL-CIO and 751’s VRP volunteers have built four wheelchair ramps from Pierce to King County. Four additional ramps are scheduled for April.

Recipients of the ramps are so gratified that they can now enjoy the outdoors beyond their front door. One woman in Federal Way said she slept through the whole process and was thrilled when her son reported the project was complete.

A Tacoma resident reported his friends would donate to the agency to help these people pay for the raw materials if they can, but when they can’t it puts a strain on the Puget Sound Labor Agency.

The agency is looking into applying for grants to help pay for raw materials but in the mean time it would help if people could continue to take foster children and provide a stable home and opportunities that may not otherwise be available to these children. Their generosity has helped hundreds of kids during their time of need.

Recent volunteers include: Bruce Bob Anderson, Nathan Brettsch, Patrick Bertucci, George Braun, Kurt Boeing, Rick McKinney, Todd Campbell, Bud Francis Cheever, Howard Churchill, Carey Cote, Jesse Cote, Gail Crandall, Scott Crookston, Mike Cummins, Connie Dang, Michael Dingus, Gus Gustavsson, Loren Guzzone, Fred Hamilton, Randy Haviland, David Henry, Jason Henry, Vennie Murphy, Garth Luark, Ed Lutgen, Nick Lutgen, Rick McKinney, Megan Millard, Kerry Millick, David Morgan, Eudacio Munoz, Vennie Murphy, Noel Nazanjo, Elizabeth Oen, Nicholas Oen, Brian Pantkratz, Steve Parsley, Gary Perry, Will Pogue, Teysha Potter, Joseph Qualls, Jason Redrup, Harvey Ritland, John Saywers, Stephany Saywers, Art Schilling, Don Shove, Kenny Smith, Jason Taylor, Bill Sherburne, Rod Sorenson, Cliff Standfieh, Dave Thompson, Sandy Torfin, Paul Velkamp, Sydney Velkamp, Mike Vereneke, C. Lee Verfaillie, Steven Wessels, Steven Weston, Bill Young.

Wheelchair ramps are on the rise and so is the price of materials. The ramps that have been built this year have a cost of about $500 each. The agency does ask that people pay for the raw materials if they can, but when they can’t it puts a strain on the Puget Sound Labor Agency.

The agency is looking into applying for grants to help pay for raw materials but in the mean time it would help if people would donate to the agency to help these people that are in need.

Recent volunteers include: Bruce Bob Anderson, Nathan Brettsch, Patrick Bertucci, George Braun, Kurt Boeing, Rick McKinney, Todd Campbell, Bud Francis Cheever, Howard Churchill, Carey Cote, Jesse Cote, Gail Crandall, Scott Crookston, Mike Cummins, Connie Dang, Michael Dingus, Gus Gustavsson, Loren Guzzone, Fred Hamilton, Randy Haviland, David Henry, Jason Henry, Vennie Murphy, Garth Luark, Ed Lutgen, Nick Lutgen, Rick McKinney, Megan Millard, Kerry Millick, David Morgan, Eudacio Munoz, Vennie Murphy, Noel Nazanjo, Elizabeth Oen, Nicholas Oen, Brian Pantkratz, Steve Parsley, Gary Perry, Will Pogue, Teysha Potter, Joseph Qualls, Jason Redrup, Harvey Ritland, John Saywers, Stephany Saywers, Art Schilling, Don Shove, Kenny Smith, Jason Taylor, Bill Sherburne, Rod Sorenson, Cliff Standfieh, Dave Thompson, Sandy Torfin, Paul Velkamp, Sydney Velkamp, Mike Vereneke, C. Lee Verfaillie, Steven Wessels, Steven Weston, Bill Young.

Jefferson Nominations for Mason and Meduna

Two 751 members were nominated for Jefferson Awards in Washington State for their service to others: John Mason and Ray Meduna. These individuals have continually shown their concern for others.

751 member John Mason, and his wife Cheryl have been foster parents for more than 20 years. To date, they have adopted and raised seven children from the foster care system. They continue to foster children and provide a stable and loving home and opportunities that may not otherwise be available to these children. Their generosity has helped hundreds of kids during their time of need.

751 Union Steward Ray Meduna spent two and a half years on the pro-competitive eating circuit. During his time in the competition, Ray “The Bison” Meduna donated all the proceeds of his winnings to charities, including a $9,000 fund-raising effort for a co-worker battling cancer.

Congratulations to both for the most prestigious nomination and your concern for others.
March Retired Club Minutes

by Ruth Render, Retired Club Secretary Pro Tem

At the March 14th business meeting, Al Menke called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. The Lord’s Prayer was said followed by the flag salute and the singing of “God Bless America.”

Roll Call of Officers: Al Wydick was excused. Minutes were accepted as printed. No communications.

Financial Report: The Financial Report was accepted as read.

New Members: The Club welcomed Hilda Jones as a new member.

Business Representatives Report: Business Rep Paul Knebel reported on the status at the Boeing plants throughout the region. He noted that our negotiations this summer are about “Doing the Right Thing – For All the Right Reasons” and that includes working hard to get an increase for existing retirees. He noted that we are limited by federal law, which says Boeing does not have to bargain on behalf of existing retirees. The Union will include language in our proposal and push hard to get Boeing to acknowledge the contribution our retirees made to their success by offering them additional benefits.

Health & Welfare: Ill brothers and sisters this past month included: Frances Dinwiddie, Norm Irwin, Mike Rawley. Get well cards were sent. A moment of silence was held for the following members who have passed away: John Alexander, Robert Andrews, William Beeson, Billie Burns, Eskil Hamus, Ernest Harding, James Hart, Jerry Howards, David Karacak, Elsie Lovelett, William Mickey, Glenn Pennock, Max Pittman, Alva Rantapaa, Anthony Reinpold, Richard West. Sympathy cards were sent to the families.

Calendar of Events: April 4 Bingo, April 11 Business Meeting, April 18 Bingo, April 25 Potluck.

Good and Welfare: Robin Guevarra thanked IAM District 751 for providing new educational opportunities for laid-off workers from Boeing in the Pacific Sound area. She noted that she wished those same programs were available to the Oregon plants as well. Several apprenticeship programs are being made available to laid-off members as another way to get back on the active payroll. She added we also feel for the Boeing workers in Wichita who have all received layoff slips and have been told they must re-apply for their jobs with the new company owners. Hopefully, they will be offered not only their jobs back, but the same salaries and benefits. She noted to keep them in our prayers.

Robin Guevarra reported the journal of political issues he started keeping in January is getting full as Bush promotes his agenda. He referred to a column by Molly Ivins reporting that Bush has renominated 20 of his choices for the federal bench who never got a vote in his first term because of threatened filibusters. The nominees have a collective record showing opposition to human rights, civil rights, abortion rights pretty much everything but property rights. John also talked about a public meeting on March 15th regarding the South Park Cleanup. The site is contaminated with PCB’s and other toxic chemicals and is part of the “Early Action” plan to clean up areas of the river with the highest risks to the environment and human health. He hoped the EPA will not be pressured to shut human health in the cleanup of the river as they did with mercury pollution (as reported by GAO in the Seattle Times 3/30/05).

He encouraged everyone to review the Opinion Page of the Seattle Times March 13 on the Bush train wreck. How can the American worker support such a failed Administration? We have a big job now and the responsible must be challenged. Truth and a Constitutional government are under attack and we must fight back.

Retirees

Congratulations to the following members who retired from Boeing:

Boyd Baker, Maxine Pascal
Gerald L. Bakko, Sharon A. Perauld
Dean C. Barnes, William A. Raynes
Sandra L. Bartley, Stephen D. Rich
George C. Bornkamp, Joseph P. Benson
Ray S. Deans, Harley J. Ross
Howard D. Frazier, Darrell J. Salle
Larry R. Funk, Daniel W. Scott
Louis I. Holton, James L. Siebert
Wayne J. Hoskins, Murray C. Snow
Virgil R. Iverson, Lawrence J. Stuart
Robert J. Kieffer, Jr., Clyde O. Tottier
Hosa M. Le, Ronald L. Uren
Charles R. Masterson, Martin J. Vanhorn
Floyd McKenna, Daniel D. Monagle
Randy B. McPhee, Larry S. Webb
Don H. Oliver, Robert E. Williams
Kenneth A. Yantzer

McGaha Retires After Years of Union Service

As March drew to a close, so did the Union career of Ron McGaha, who retired from District 751. For nearly 40 years, Ron has put his heart and soul into the labor movement. His devotion is evident whether he is convincing others about Buying American, Unions, about jobs, power, introducing a crowd at many a rally - just talk about jobs – human rights. Many will remember his famous chants that energized the crowds at many a rally talking about jobs, Union power, introducing a political candidate, or promoting another worthy cause.

Ron did more than just talk about jobs – fighting for Union jobs was truly a way of life. Ron is passionate about Unions, about jobs, about Buying American, and about exposing the job loss under George W. Bush. Even on his vacations, he managed to promote the Union cause. Many of his vacations consisted of his “Hogs for Hunger” cross country rides with Retired Business Rep Don Brainin. Together they raised over $160,000 for the King County Labor Agency. He made other rides for Guide Dogs of America and to build a handicapped-accessible playground in Kirkland – bringing the total raised to over $230,000. He made these treks on his Harley Davidson bike with personalized plates that read “US Made.”

Throughout his Union career, he has served this membership in a variety of positions, including the past 15 years as Administrative Assistant to the President. Over the years, Ron served as Steward Coordinator, worked as a Union Organizer, and was assigned as a temporary business representative. Yet he also had an impact in many other ways. He coordinated the construction of the Everett Hall, helped countless members who faced medical layoff, actively promoted human rights and worked on a multitude of other issues for members. Ron represented 751 for many years in the broader labor community – as a Vice President for the King County Labor Council and also as a Vice President for the Washington State Labor Council.

We wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

Fight to Preserve Social Security is Ongoing Battle for All of Us

by Carl Schwartz, (425-868-2821) Retired Legislative Chair

Thanks to those members of our Club who wrote letters to our Congressional Representatives regarding the proposed changes to Social Security. Individual letters always have a lot of impact. Please continue to write, e-mail or phone. This is, as you all know, a very important issue for us, our children and grandchildren.

We are members of the Alliance for Retired Americans. The Alliance locally has been trying to set up a meeting with Congressman Dave Reichert (8th Congressional District), so far without any luck. We will keep it up. We just want to know, face-to-face, where he stands on Social Security and other senior issues.

We can report that the President’s campaign to destroy Social Security is not generating much support so far, but we should not think that this project of Bush’s Administration is ending. You have read their efforts to smear AARP – truly reprehensible. The people who want to get their fingers on our retirement money just keep at it. There should be no changes, adjustments, “corrections” to Social Security. If they are necessary, wait until we have a new, more people-friendly President.
MACHINIST WORK BENCH (wood) – 8’ x 2’ with metal trays 9” x 11” long – very heavy and sturdy $300, shop cabinet (wood) 36” x 36” x 53” high with large divided drawers and 5 smaller – very well built $75. 253-852-6000
PINK TOILET TANK LID (1955) good condition $15 OBO. TOYL TRAYS 6”x18” $1 each. LANTERN (Coleman 1956) army color w/seeded glass globe, nice cond $50 collectible - 253-852-6809
TOW CHAINS Metal, heavy for logging 1-5/4”, several different lengths with hooks. 253-852-6809
IMPEX COMPETITOR BENCH – Model CB-556. 2 years old. Like new $75 obio. 206-762-0725
FIVE 10-SPEED BIKES – in fair condition, need some work $5 each. 206-323-4774
Sundial Garden Section 17 - Easy in and out new traveler. Ready to go $8495. 253-841-...
including queen bed, tip out/in kitchen, sound excellent condition, low miles, many extras infees. 206-524-0266
ONE CEMETERY PLOT – Washington Memorial $1800 (regular price $2795). 253-735-1119
TERRESTIAL PRESERVATION – over 54 years ago and remains a top to Guide Dogs of America. The Machin-
y any individual turning in $150 in dona-
tions will be held Sunday, July 17 at Elk...
On March 4, thirteen members were honored at the annual Apprenticeship Graduation Banquet for their hard work and dedication that earned them the right to be called ‘journeymen/women’ in their respective trades.

The banquet was more than just the culmination of years of hard work. It spoke volumes to their character, drive and determination. These industrious individuals faced fierce competition just to get accepted to the program. Literally hundreds of people applied to get these thirteen spots.

Yet most people are unaware of the rigorous schedule and standards these members endure once they are accepted into the program. For four years, these individuals rotated shifts and plant locations every quarter, attended school two to three days a week after working eight hours, and learned a new machine every few months. In addition, their progress was regularly reviewed by a group of people. This is just a small sample of what an apprentice goes through in the program.

Since this year’s class has the first graduates of the Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician Program, they helped develop and refine their program. This year’s graduates represented three trades: Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician, NC Spar Mill Operator, and Machine Tool Maintenance Mechanic. See chart below for graduates and their respective trades.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Arnie Durall Achievement Award, which is named after a former Boeing employee who spent over 40 years as an apprenticeship-related instructor. Duane Mero received the award for being the graduate receiving the highest marks in both shop work and classroom work over the life of the program.

This year’s class had two graduates speak on behalf of the class. Each had an energy and drive that was apparent as they addressed the crowd. Both recognized many of the instructors, technicians, family and friends who helped them throughout the program.

Kevin Pelky delivered a heartfelt message that conveyed the emotions every graduate was feeling. He noted how he had been through other training programs in the military and elsewhere. He declared, “This Apprenticeship Program blows them out of the water. The experience and knowledge I gained is unmatched. Since coming to Boeing, I have had my hands on every heritage project Boeing has to offer. If it ended tomorrow, it was a great experience.”

Carol Budrow also spoke for the graduates. She noted, “I am so proud to represent Boeing, the Machinists Union and most of all, the Apprenticeship Program. It has changed my life. It taught me that anyone, at any age, can accomplish just about anything with the right tools, accommodations and training.”

She ended saying, “It is not what we learn that makes a difference in our lives, but what we do with what we learn. All these people have demonstrated that fact to the fullest and showed us how to utilize our talents.”

District 751 President Mark Blondin, along with IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger, congratulated the graduates on their accomplishment and presented them with awards. How fitting that the banquet was held at the Museum of Flight – filled with so much aerospace history – while these graduates prepare to make their own history.