

DISTRICT 751 AERO MECHANIC

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLD'S FINEST WORKERS



VOL. 66 NO. 3

APRIL 2011

White House Honors Union for Service

District 751 and eight of its members have been honored by the White House for outstanding community service in 2010.

The union was awarded a gold-level President's Volunteer Service Award for the community service work done by members of its Machinists Volunteer Program.

As a group, 684 volunteers from District 751 took part in 144 different MVP-sponsored community service projects in 2010, giving a total of 6,197.5 hours of their time to projects that ranged from food drives and holiday bell ringing for the Salvation Army, to building 10 wheelchair ramps for home-bound people around Puget Sound.

Eight of those volunteers were honored for outstanding individual contributions, including Local C member Rob Curran, who donated 268.5 hours of his time last year to public service, thus earning an individual silver-level Presi-



District 751 demonstrated our commitment to building a better community by earning the gold-level President's Volunteer Award for community service with more than 6197 hours in 2010. Seven members were honored with a bronze award for more than 100 hours of community service and Rob Curran earned a silver for more than 250 hours. L to R: Dist. President Tom Wroblewski, Terri Myette, Robley Evans, Tom Lindberg, Dist. Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer, George Braun, Rob Curran, Vennie Murphy, Chris Louie and Clark Fromong.

dential Service Award.

Seven more Machinists received bronze-level awards for donating more

than 100 hours to service projects. They were retired member George Braun, Local C members Clark Fromong, Tom

Lindberg, Chris Louie, and Vennie Murphy and Local F members Robley

Continued on page 6

Politics Matter and Elections Count M.N.P.L. Your Voice in the Process

Solidarity brings strength at the bargaining table, and the same is true in the political arena. The 2011 Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL) drive kicked off the week of March 28 with called Steward meetings in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle.

This year's theme is "Politics Matter, Elections Count." That has never been more true than it is today. These are perilous times for workers. We have never seen this level of open hostility toward workers. That is why this year's MNPL drive is more important than any other.

Keep in mind that union dues are not spent for candidate contributions, which is why we ask you to sign an MNPL authorization card – for a separate deduction designated for political use.

MNPL gives you a strong voice in the political process. The power of that voice is multiplied by the thousands of other union members belonging to MNPL.

Past efforts have paid off for members in countless



At the Seattle Hall, Stewards review information in the MNPL packets to help persuade members to sign up for a voluntary payroll deduction to MNPL of at least \$1.

ways. MNPL allowed us to wage a successful decade-long battle to win the U.S. Air Force tanker contract. That tanker contract will provide more than two decades worth of at least 11,000 living-wage jobs in Washington. This will create momentum for keeping Washington the center for aerospace manufacturing.

MNPL also helped us fight for the funding to rebuild the South Park Bridge. Ground breaking for this project will take place next month on Cinco de Mayo. The bridge will serve our members, community and industry for the next hundred years.

Last year when the insurance industry sponsored Initiative 1082 to privatize our workers comp system, MNPL helped defeat this effort.

It also helped elect enough friends in the state legislature so that we will hopefully defeat a legisla-

tive attack on workers compensation called compromise and release. Compromise and release would allow employers to delay an injured worker's claim until he or she is so financially desperate they will take a cash settlement while at the same time, signing away their rights to future benefits. This will save money for business but at the expense of the worker.

During the month of April, Union Stewards will be asking members to join MNPL by signing a payroll

Continued on page 4

Progress Toward First URS Contract at Whidbey NAS

Recognizing that union negotiations are a first for many of the URS Negotiating Committee members from Whidbey NAS, the IAM wanted to deliver proper training so members would be most effective. URS Negotiating Committee members spent an intensive week of training at the IAM Education and Technology Center—with the focus on moving forward toward a first contract.

Joining the URS members at the training were Business Reps Jon Holden and Richard Jackson, along with 751 Administrative Assistant Jim Bearden – who are just a few of the Union leaders negotiating with URS on the contract.

The rigorous training focused on:

- Drafting specific bargaining agreement language to address issues members have identified;
- Studying the IAM National Pension Plan;
- Building the next membership survey (which will be distributed by the URS Negotiating Committee);
- Developing a communication plan to keep the membership informed throughout the negotiation process.

Continued on page 7

L to R: Bill Neighbors, Greg Ringelstetter, and Jim Ward map out a communication plan for negotiations going forward



Go With the Flow

Members at irrigation districts ensure agriculture is a cornerstone of our state economy

12

Testing Their Skills

Flightline Mechanics finish strong in nationwide competition

2



see page 3 for details on the worker rally in Olympia

Inside Index

President's Message	2
Political Action	3
Joint Programs	5
Community Service	6
Retirement	9
Want Ads	10
Eastern Washington	12

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let's Work Together to Protect Workers' Rights

by Tom Wroblewski,
District President

After Boeing was named the winner of the U.S. Air Force tanker contract, my one thought was that we should just ride that wave of good feeling for as long as possible.

After all, it had been a tough 10-year struggle with an incredible amount of twists and turns. But in the end, after the Pentagon had made the right decision and this union had proven its ability to work hand-in-hand with Boeing and community leaders, I felt we had earned the right to feel pretty good about ourselves.

For a week or two, anyway – and that's about how long it lasted.

In the past month, we've seen unprecedented attacks on working Americans.

We all know that most cities and states have budget problems stemming from the Wall Street crisis of 2008, which spawned the Great Recession that we're still trying to get out of. There have been pay cuts and layoffs for public workers nationwide, including for some of our own District 751 members working for the city of Woodinville.

That's incredibly unfortunate for those workers and their families, but it is the reality of our times, and for those public employees who were covered by union contracts, at least they had some degree of input in the process. Their ability to



bargain collectively helped them make the best out of this bad situation.

But while that's the reality, what's happened next is stranger than fiction. Many state governors are blaming financial troubles on public workers in general, and unionized public workers in particular.

From Idaho to New Jersey, they're spreading the lie that governments are going bankrupt because unions for teachers and firefighters have done too good a job bargaining for pay and benefits – completely ignoring the hundreds of millions of dollars worth of tax breaks these states have given to Corporate America. That's money that should be going to pay workers to fix roads and provide us with clean water. Instead, it's padding corporate profits at taxpayer expense.

Rather than work with those public employee unions to find solutions to the budget problems, the governors have decided they'd rather just do away with them. Wisconsin's governor doesn't want road repair workers to be able to bargain for on-the-job safety improvements, and says wage increases can't exceed inflation. Idaho's Legislature wants to eliminate seniority rules for teachers. And Ohio's governor wants to eliminate the right of public workers to strike altogether.

Think of what that would mean if our contract with Boeing had provisions like

that: we couldn't bargain for safety training, our safety shoe reimbursement program would be gone, and our members might end up having to buy their own hardhats, gloves and ear plugs. If a dangerous piece of equipment was likely to kill or maim someone, that would just be too bad.

With no seniority rules, managers could lay off or fire anyone for whatever reason – or no reason – and there'd be nothing any of us could do about it. With raises capped to the inflation rate, I'd be sitting down to the bargaining table trying to win you 4-cent-an-hour pay increases in 2012 – 4 cents being the COLA we've generated since ratifying the last contract in 2008.

And if you didn't like it, tough – without a right to strike, there's not much you can do.

There are people – even some of our members – who say they don't believe in public employee unions. I'd argue, respectfully, that is incorrect. Working people are working people, whether you're a machine operator in Auburn or a building inspector in Woodinville. The laws that allow for unions have their basis in the First Amendment to the Constitution, and that Constitution applies for all Americans, no matter who they happen to work for. And as working people, we all know what it's like to deal with bad bosses who make arbitrary decisions. Public employees are workers and deserve a voice and the benefits of a

union.

Furthermore, if these union-busting politicians are successful in stripping away the rights of public workers today, you can be sure that they'll team up with their corporate campaign donors to do the same for private sector workers tomorrow. We're already seeing that. In fact, Congressmen from South Carolina and Indiana have co-sponsored a bill that would keep your family from getting food stamps if you exercise your federal right to strike. They'd rather see you starve than get a fair shake at the negotiating table. And others in Congress are trying to roll back the rules that make union elections in the airline industry the same as the rules for all other elections in America – something that will directly

Continued on page 5

Flightline Mechanics Second in National Contest

A team of District 751 members who work for Boeing as flight line mechanics and AOG technicians took second place in the recent AMT Society Maintenance Skills Competition.

"It was a lot of fun," said Joe Fancella, who works at Boeing's Everett delivery center. "It's probably one of the best, most-positive motivating things I've seen Boeing get involved with in a long time."

The five-member team was picked from among all the Machinists at Boeing who hold aviation maintenance technician or AMT licenses from the Federal Aviation Administration.

The AMTs themselves picked the team by voting for their co-workers. "It was actually a great way to do it," Fancella said.

Along with Fancella, the team was made up of Mike Barnes, an AOG mechanic from Renton; Seth Marshall, a flight test mechanic; Sean Rosenlieb from the Everett delivery center; and Phil Haldeman from the Seattle delivery center.

The Boeing team was one of 26 groups from four countries to compete in the event, which was held in Las Vegas in late February. The competition was divided into five categories, with the Boeing team compet-



The Boeing team finished second overall. L to R: Mike Barnes, Sean Rosenlieb (Team Coach and Everett Manager), Phil Haldeman, Seth Marshall and Joe Fancella.

ing against teams of AMTs from other aircraft manufacturers and maintenance, repair and overhaul shops.

They competed over two days, facing 12 different challenges that required them to use their troubleshooting and repair skills. They faced malfunctioning engines, electronics, hydraulics, APUs and wiring, and also were required to use their computer skills to research aircraft repair regulations online. They were scored on their quickness and accuracy.

It was the first time Boeing has sent a team to the contest, so the group didn't know what to expect. Fancella said they were caught off guard by one of the events, which required them to do composites repair. No one in the group had experience with that, because Boeing has specialists who do that kind of work, Fancella said.

But that didn't hold them back too much. The Boeing group finished second in their category, behind an all-star group put together by the Association of Maintenance Professionals. A group represent-

ing the best AMTs from Mexico finished third.

Fancella said he thinks that having a team in the contest has motivated all the AMTs at Boeing. "People are saying, 'I

Continued on page 11



Phil Haldeman removes the combustion can from a 737 APU, inspects and documents damage inside, and re-installs all within the 20 minutes allowed.



Phil Haldeman and Seth Marshall build and troubleshoot a hydraulic system.

**District Lodge 751,
International Assn. of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**

Tom Wroblewski
President, Directing
Business Representative

Jason Redrup
Vice President

Susan Palmer
Secretary-Treasurer

Clark Fromong
Sergeant-at-Arms

Tommy Wilson
Heather Barstow

Don Morris
Ray Baumgardner

Richard Jackson
Mark B. Johnson

Jon Holden
Brett Coty

D. Joe Crockett
Ron Bradley

Emerson Hamilton
Charles G. Craft

Steve Warren (Eastern WA)
Stan Johnson

Union Business Representatives

Union Offices:

- 9125 15th Pl S, Seattle; 206-763-1300
- 201 A St. SW, Auburn; 253-833-5590
- 233 Burnett N., Renton; 425-235-3777
- 8729 Airport Rd., Everett; 425-355-8821
- 4226 E. Mission, Spokane (509) 534-9690 or 1-800-763-1305

Toll-free to Seattle from:
Nationwide 1-800-763-1301

Tacoma 253-627-0822

Hotline: 1-800-763-1310

Web site: www.iam751.org



751 AERO MECHANIC

Connie Kelliher, Editor
Bryan Corliss, Editor

Member of The Newspaper Guild,
CWA #37082

District 751 AERO MECHANIC (ISSN 0894-7864, USPS 008-660) is published Monthly except Bi-monthly in December/January by Aerospace Industrial District Lodge 751, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle WA 98108. \$3.50 of the annual dues goes toward a one-year subscription to the Aero Mechanic. \$4 per year for non-members by District Lodge 751, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108. Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, WA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to District 751 Aero Mechanic, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108

POLITICAL ACTION

Workers Are Under Attack – MNPL Gives You a Voice

Wisconsin – where radical anti-union acts by a Tea Party-endorsed governor have sparked massive protests – has gained the most attention, but government attacks on workers and workers’ rights are spreading across America.

Even in Olympia, pro-labor Democrats find themselves on the defensive as minority Republicans team with Big Business lobbyists to push workers compensation “reforms” that would both insult and financially injure workers hurt on the job.

That’s why District 751 leaders are urging members to take part in a series of Union Solidarity events in April, in conjunction with unions and other progressive groups across Washington and British Columbia.

The rallies will be Saturday, April 2, at the Peace Arch in Blaine; Monday, April 4, at Martin Luther King Park in Seattle; and Friday, April 8, on the steps of the state Capitol in Olympia.

“We believe that every worker in America should be able to join with their coworkers to bargain for basic things, like better pay and benefits, consistent work hours and safety,” said District 751 President Tom Wroblewski. “That should be true whether you work in the public or private sector: every working American should have a say in their own future.”



April Day of Action –

Plan to take part and help defend public employees and workers’ rights. Buses will be leaving from the Everett, Seattle and Auburn halls. Call 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3331 to reserve a place on the bus.

“But this new generation of conservative office holders hates that idea,” Wroblewski continued. “They want to organize government and society for the benefit of Corporate America, and they don’t want anyone – especially workers – telling them to put people first.”

Some of the anti-union attacks have become absurd. In Maine, for example, Republican Gov. Paul LePage has ordered that a mural depicting Maine’s labor history be removed from the lobby of the state’s Department of Labor on the grounds that the painting wasn’t friendly enough to business. (This from a governor who proposed that all state employees take a 2-percent pay cut, with the money funneled to make up a pension shortfall – but who exempted himself from the cut.)

But other attacks have been frightening. In Indiana, a Republican county prosecutor has resigned after urging the governor of Wisconsin to stage a fake attack on himself and blame it on union members.

“If you could employ an associate who pretends to be sympathetic to the unions’ cause to physically attack you (or even use a firearm against you), you could discredit the unions,” the county attorney, Carlos Lam, suggested in e-mail to Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker.

This came just weeks after another incident where an

Continued on page 4



Members can purchase a “We Are One” t-shirt to show their solidarity.

“We Are One” T-shirts

District 751 is making it easy for members to show their solidarity with working people nationwide with new “We Are One” t-shirts.

The shirts are being offered for sale in conjunction with the fund-raising drive for the Machinists Non-partisan Political League to help the public workers. Members who sign up to join MNPL—or who are already donors—can get the bright red shirts for \$5. Everyone else can buy them for \$15 a piece. Union Stewards will have order forms for the shirts after April 1.



Joint Program Administrator Tom Lux (l) and 751 Political Director Larry Brown signed the Workers’ Bill of Rights in front of the capitol despite snowy weather on Feb. 28.

Solidarity With State Workers

A delegation from District 751 joined Washington’s labor unions and their political allies to stand in solidarity with workers in Wisconsin during a recent rally at the state Capitol.

The Machinists joined more than 2,000 people – fire fighters, state workers, teachers and trade unionists – for the Feb. 28 rally in Olympia.

“We were standing up for union members and their right to collective bargaining,” said Larry Brown, 751’s Legislative and Political Director.

The turnout at the solidarity rally dwarfed the attendance at a Tea Party-sponsored rally held at the same time. The anti-union group only managed to scrape up between 400 and 500 people, who expressed support for union-busting governors nationwide.

Not all private-sector union workers see a connection between their daily lives and what’s happening in places like Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and Florida, Brown said.

That’s a mistake, he said, pointing to efforts by corporate lobbyists in Olympia this year to gut Washington’s workers comp program.

“The fact is that we’re fighting the same fight,” he said. “The same kind of politicians who attack public employees and their rights in Wisconsin are here in Olympia, trying to cut our workers comp benefits, cut our unemployment benefits and cut our health and safety regulations.”

The events around the country show why it’s important for District 751 to be active in politics, Brown said. “We support candidates who support workers, and we support candidates who don’t attack unions.”

You can watch a video from the Feb. 28 rally online at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jkb7-XCGuo>



Steward Coordinator Ed Lutgen recruited support from the next generation of workers with daughter Lily doing her part.

751 Activists Honored for Role in New Bridge

A District 751 staff member and two retired union activists were among those honored March 7 as Seattle’s South Park community celebrated the announcement that King County is moving ahead to replace the now-closed South Park Bridge.

The county plans a groundbreaking ceremony for the new bridge project on May 5.

King County Executive Dow Constantine presented trophies to dozens of South Park community activists on March 7 for their role in helping to secure the \$138 million in local and federal funds needed to replace the former bridge, which was closed for safety reasons in June 2010.

Among them were Larry Brown, 751’s legislative and political director who was co-chairman of the New South Park Bridge Coalition. An award also went to John and Robin Guevarra, two members of the District 751 Retired Club who were active in the South Park Bridge campaign.

Tim Lane, the King County engineer who is project manager for the bridge replacement, credited the community activists for securing the funding after nearly 12 years of failed attempts.

“You wrote the letters,” Lane said. “You made the phone calls. You pumped some hands and you talked to the right people.”

The bridge was already more than 70 years old when it was damaged in the Nisqually Earthquake of 2001, and engineers determined it was unsafe to keep it open.

However, various efforts to find funds for a new bridge failed, and in the spring of 2010, the county announced the bridge had to be closed.

At that point, District 751 became involved. The bridge was a key link between the Boeing Co.’s factories at Boeing Field and storage facilities on the west bank of the Duwamish River, noted District President Tom Wroblewski. It was also used by many Boeing employees commuting to their jobs at Boeing Field, as well as District 751 members who attend meetings at the union’s main hall in South Park.

In October, after a coalition of state and local government agencies had agreed to put up the bulk of the funds, U.S. Sen. Patty Murray announced that the Obama administration had agreed to provide the last \$34 million in economic stimulus funds needed to rebuild the bridge.

On March 7, King County officials announced that they’d received the final permits needed to go ahead with the construction project, and planned to open bids the following day. That sparked a round of cheers from community activists who had gathered at the Machinists Union Hall for the awards celebration, which included ethnic music and dancing, and food donated by South Park restaurants.

Construction is expected to start this year and stretch into 2013.



751 Legislative & Political Director Larry Brown was honored as an activist who helped secure funding for the new South Park bridge. Also honored were retiree activists John and Robin Guevarra.

POLITICAL ACTION

Politics Matter & Elections Count: MNPL Your Voice

Continued from page 1

deduction of \$1 or more per month or by giving a cash donation. Brochures explaining MNPL will be distributed to educate our members on its importance.

These are examples of what MNPL has done for us in the past. Now we must face the future. What will that future look like?

Unlike any time in our lifetimes, American workers and their unions are under attack. Jobs are being outsourced and offshored to low wage countries. Across the nation Right to Work (for less) initiatives are being proposed and passed into law. Earlier this year a Right to Work bill was sponsored in our own state legislature. Fortunately, we were able to kill this bill. We have not been so lucky elsewhere in the country.



In Wisconsin, workers, their unions, pensions and healthcare benefits are under attack. That state passed a law eliminating collective bargaining rights for large numbers of workers.

Similar efforts are underway in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. You may have read last week the Governor of Maine ordered the removal of a mural in that state's Department of Labor. This is a mural honoring working



Jason Redrup looks over the new MNPL brochure used to educate members.

people. Make no mistake about it, this is a war on workers and we are under attack.

And a Supreme Court decision last year makes MNPL contributions even more important. On Jan. 21, 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Citizens United vs Federal Election Commission to allow Corporations *UNLIMITED* contributions to political campaigns.

The decision is a major victory for big oil, Wall Street banks, health insurance companies and the other powerful interests who have much deeper pockets than any of us and will use their power to drown out the voices of everyday Americans.

Our future will be one of our own making. As union membership has declined, so has the middle class. We must join together and fight – we do that through MNPL. Contributing to MNPL gives you, as a worker, a voice!

How You Can Help?

You can PARTICIPATE in the MNPL program through your Union on a year-round basis. Here is how:

- ✓ Simply sign up for monthly payroll deductions of \$1 or more. Donating \$7.51 or more a month enrolls you into the prestigious 751 Club.
- ✓ You can participate in get-out-the-vote campaigns such as mailings, phone banks, and putting up yard signs.
- ✓ Watch for legislative alerts asking you to call or e-mail legislators on proposed legislation.
- ✓ Help educate other members on issues and candidates.
- ✓ Show your solidarity with working people by donating "\$5 for the Fight." Stewards have collection envelopes.
- ✓ If you sign up for MNPL, you get a \$5 "We Are One" t-shirt to show your solidarity. With no MNPL donation, purchase a "We Are One" shirt for \$15.

Some Common Questions About MNPL

Q) What is MNPL?

A) Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL) consists of **VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS** and is the political arm of the Union. It is not tied to any one political party. Its main goals are:

- To lobby on issues directly affecting our members.
- To encourage 751 members and their families to register and vote.
- To educate 751 members and their families on issues that concern them.
- To help elect candidates who support working families.

Remember: UNION DUES ARE NOT SPENT FOR CANDIDATE CONTRIBUTIONS, which is why we ask you to sign an MNPL authorization card.

Q) Why is the Union involved in politics?

A) Many people, even some Union members, say that unions should stick to collective bargaining and



leave government to the politicians. The fact is that even if we wanted to, we shouldn't. Government decisions affect Union members in too many ways both on and off the job - 767 tanker deal, 787 site selection, unemployment benefits, Social Security, health care, pension, workers' compensation and the list goes on and on.

Q) Why can't I make my political contribution directly to the candidate?

A) You can, but MNPL works on the theory and principle that a united effort is best – the same way your Union does when it negotiates your contract.

Q) What difference will my small contribution make when it takes so much money to elect a candidate?

A) STRENGTH IN NUMBERS – By itself, your contribution does not mean much.

But then, your voice alone would not mean much in improving your wages, hours, and working conditions.

When we pool our MNPL dollars, like we pool our strength in collective bargaining, we are strong. Collectively, MNPL money gains your Union access to officials, which is critical to get our issues addressed and ensure our input is heard.

Q) What happens to the MNPL money after it is deducted from my check?

A) The Company will deduct the amount you are willing to give from your check once a month and send it to MNPL. District 751 works with MNPL to determine how the money should be spent and which candidates are worthy of a contribution from MNPL.

Without the ability of workers to join together through MNPL, attacks on the middle class will go unanswered. Contributing to MNPL (even at \$1 a month) gives workers a collective voice in the political process that is otherwise dominated by big business

Workers Are Under Attack – MNPL Gives You a Voice

Continued from page 3

Indiana state attorney sent messages on the Internet encouraging Wisconsin police to use live ammunition to silence protests.

Federal lawmakers are also jumping into the act. Legislation proposed by Republican Congressmen from Indiana and South Carolina would deny food stamps to any family that has one of its members on strike – even though the right to strike is guaranteed in federal law. A spokesman denied that the bill was intended to discourage people from striking by forcing them to starve, but their intention is clear.

In Wisconsin, the law that would all-but-dissolve collective bargaining rights for public workers is on hold while judges decide on a lawsuit that claims Republican legislators broke the state's open meetings law in order to push the anti-union bill to a vote. The bill effectively cut pay for public workers by 8.6 per-

cent to fund a state \$137 million state budget gap that was created largely by the governor's plan to give \$140 million in corporate tax breaks.

The bill also denies most collective bargaining rights, allowing only for negotiations on wages and capping wage increases to the inflation rate.

If a provision like that was in place in the District 751 contract with Boeing, Machinists would have received no general wage increases after the 2008 contract, and would only be able to negotiate for pay increases up to 4 cents an hour – that being the amount of cost-of-living adjustments since the contract was ratified.

Closer to home, Idaho Gov. Butch Otter has signed a bill to strip seniority benefits from state teachers, and to limit the ability of teachers' unions to negotiate for anything other than pay and benefits. That means they'll have no say in setting class sizes or other working conditions at their schools, including safety.

And here in Washington, pro-business lobbyists are pushing forward with Senate Bill 5566, which would allow companies to force injured workers into "volunteering" for lump-sum buyouts of their workers' comp claims. One estimate says corporations would save \$1.2 billion over the next two years – mostly by convincing an estimated 7,000 Washington families to give up long-term payments worth \$171,000 apiece in favor of smaller upfront cash settlements.

The voluntary buyouts were a key component of Initiative 1082, which Washington voters soundly rejected just six months ago in the November 2010 elections.

Washington's labor unions are again fighting the proposal, saying it would take away the reliable workers comp safety net and replace it with a system whereby injured workers would only get a fair settlement if they had the money to hire a good lawyer to fight for them – which would be unlikely, given that

they'd be injured and out of work.

If you agree, you should call the Legislative Hotline in Olympia at 1-800-562-6000 and leave messages for your legislators and the governor, telling them you oppose Senate Bill 5566, Wroblewski said.

"If we don't fight back, we lose the legal protections that make Washington a good place to live and work," he said. "Similarly, if we don't stand in solidarity with our union brothers and sisters in Wisconsin, Idaho, Indiana and the rest of the nation, we'll lose more of America's middle class."

"All of us want to believe we can make a difference, and improve conditions for our children and grandchildren, so that they can have better lives – just like our parents and grandparents did for us," Wroblewski said. "Getting involved in the rallies in April is one way to do that, to send a message that we are one in support of workers' rights, and in putting people first, ahead of corporate profits and tax giveaways."

IAM/BOEING JOINT PROGRAMS

Nia Neal: Joint Programs Helped Her to a Double Success!

Nia Neal, an MPRF (Material Processor Requirements Facilitator) in Renton Wings, knows what it means to set your sights on a goal and keep going until you get there.

Nia was hired in April 2008 as a factory service worker. She soon became a Steward, and learned about the benefits of being a Union-represented worker. Having attended some college while living in Atlanta, she knew that she wanted to go back and finish her AA degree.

Nia researched and learned about IAM/Boeing Joint Programs and the Education Assistance (EA) Program. Shortly after the work stoppage in 2008, Nia met with IAM/Boeing Joint Programs QTTP Career Advisor Brenda Ames. Brenda, along with Career Advisors Mark Anderson and Laura Bell, made sure that Nia understood the EA program funding and reimbursement process, and helped her get enrolled into Pierce College in Tacoma. Nia attended Pierce College and obtained her AA degree in 2010. She plans to continue her education, and her next goal is to get her



bachelors' degree through the University of Phoenix.

Still, she wasn't satisfied. Nia made the decision that she wanted to get a new job and advance in The Boeing Company. By now, Nia was familiar with the IAM/Boeing Joint Programs career advisors, and once again made an appointment to talk about the Employee Re-

quested Transfer (ERT) process. She learned about the Career Explorer, which lists the training that is required for a given job before an ERT can be filed. Together with Brenda Ames, Nia was able to determine what type of job would be the best fit for her, and what skills she already had that would apply towards required training for that job, commonly

After hiring into a factory service position, Nia Neal used Joint Programs EA to complete an AA degree and turn her lights green to transfer to an MPRF job. She is currently working on her bachelor's degree.

known as "green lights." Together, she and Brenda mapped out a training plan, and in the summer of 2010 Nia successfully completed all the required training, turning all her lights green. With Brenda's help, she filed an ERT. In August of 2010, Nia accepted a job offer as an MPRF in Renton Wings receiving and started in her new position in October.

Nia said that she likes her new job a lot. "My new job gives me so much more exposure to what the company is all about, and what might come next. I get to work with employee involvement teams, do walkthroughs, and meet different people from all levels. I didn't have that opportunity in my factory service job." Nia stated that she would like to be a Steward again, now that she has more knowledge about the contract and benefits. Congratulations to Nia for a double success!

For more information about IAM/Boeing Joint Programs, the EA Program, and the ERT process, please visit our website at <http://iamboeing.web.boeing.com> from your work pc or www.iam-boeing.com from home.

Workshops Help Plan Strategy for Retirement

IAM/Boeing Joint Programs regularly offers several workshops to assist members in planning for their golden years. The Personal Money Management workshop and Boeing Retirement Workshops are offered in Auburn, Everett, and Tukwila.

The Boeing Retirement Workshop explains how the retirement process works, how pension benefits are calculated, different ways to collect VIP funds and information on retiree medical. To prepare for the workshop, review and print the seminar materials from the pension plans section for union-represented employees on the Boeing Benefits website (<http://www.boeing.com/benefits>).

The Personal Money Management Seminar is for anyone who wants a comfortable retirement or has other financial goals such as your child's college or a new home.

Register for the workshop that is most convenient.

Upcoming Boeing Retirement

To register call QTTP at 1-800-235-3453.

QTTP Auburn, 1102 15th St. SW, 17-239.1 Bldg.

Aug. 3 Noon to 2 pm AND 3 pm to 5 pm

QTTP Everett, 7710 Evergreen Way, 7-61 Bldg.

April 14 or **July 21** or **Oct. 20** 11:30 am to 1:30 pm OR 3 pm to 5 pm

QTTP Tukwila, 6840 Fort Dent Way, 7-68.2 Bldg.

April 7 OR **Aug 4** OR **Nov 3** 11:30 am to 1:30 pm OR 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Personal Money Management Seminar

QTTP Everett Office, 7710 Evergreen Way, 7-61 Bldg

April 27 OR **May 11** OR **June 8** from 11 am to 1 pm OR 3-5 pm

QTTP Tukwila Office, 6840 Fort Dent Way, 7-68.2 Bldg

April 14 OR **May 19** OR **June 16** from 11:30 am-1:30 pm OR

QTTP Auburn Office, 1102 15th St SW, 17-239.1 Bldg.

April 19 OR **May 17** OR **June 21** from Noon to 2 pm OR 3-5 pm

To register call, 888-223-8311 or mail: mmepugetsound@mmeeducators.org

OnlineExpert Lets You Learn at Home

Do you need help with Windows XP, Microsoft Excel or Word to help prepare for the Level 1 ERT courses? Do you wish you understood Adobe and other software? IAM/Boeing Joint Programs would like to introduce you to a tool called "OnlineExpert," which gives you access to dozens of hours of free online videos and exercises on various subjects including Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suites, among others. The exciting thing about OnlineExpert is that you can access and use it from your home computer! The application form is available under the "training opportunities" link at www.iam-boeing.com (from home) or <http://iamboeing.web.boeing.com> from your work computer.

IAM/Boeing Joint Programs now offers you the opportunity to attend a computer lab to help you get familiar with and learn more about OnlineExpert. The lab is open weekly on Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Tukwila / Fort Dent Joint Programs building (7-68.2 Computer Lab). This is a facilitated lab with an instructor on site to help answer questions and guide you. No registration is required to attend the lab.

Check out this great learning tool by applying today.

For other information about IAM/Boeing Joint Programs and the services and benefits it provides, please see the website (www.iam-boeing.com) or call the main office at 1-800 235-3453.

OnlineExpert Computer Lab

Learn Microsoft Excel and Word skills in Preparation for Level 1 ERT Courses.

Gain access to dozens of hours of free online videos and exercises, including content for Office and Adobe Creative Suite, using the OnlineExpert learning tool.



Visit our Lab!

Mondays, beginning April 4, 2011

10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

7-68.2, Computer Lab

IAM/Boeing Joint Programs

6840 Fort Dent Way S., Tukwila, WA 98188

Questions? Contact Jeremy.I.Jordan@boeing.com

President's Report: Let's Work Together to Protect Workers' Rights

Continued from page 2

affect our Machinists Union brothers and sisters working for the airlines that fly our Boeing planes.

So what can we, as individual Machinists, do about all this? A lot – but only if we work together.

In the next few weeks you will be approached by your union steward about joining MNPL, the Machinists Non-partisan Political League. As most of you

know, not a single dime of your union dues goes to political campaigns. Every dollar that District 751 contributes to a politician is money donated by members like you, who believe that it's important for working people to have a voice in the political process. And I pledge to you that every dollar we collect in this drive will go toward protecting the rights of working people, and creating more jobs.

The other thing you can do is take part

in rallies that District 751 is planning along with other labor unions and progressive groups around the state. Our main effort will be a workers' solidarity rally in Olympia at the Capitol on April 8, but Machinists also will take part in an evening rally on April 4 at Martin Luther King Park in Seattle, and a rally with our Canadian union counterparts April 2 at the Peace Arch in Blaine.

We need to make our voices heard.

As the saying goes, when one man cries for justice, he's a nut, but when 10,000 cry out together, it's a movement. It's time for us to remind the powerbrokers that America has a government that's for the people and by the people – not for-profit and not for sale.

Thank you for all you do to support this cause, and I look forward to seeing you at the rallies this month.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteers Serve Dinner and a Smile at Tacoma Mission

More than 300 of Tacoma's most at-need residents got a hot meal and a smile from District 751 volunteers recently.

Eighteen members of the union's MVP committee cooked and served dinner at the Tacoma Rescue Mission on Feb. 26. The union's District Council also contributed \$400 to provide extra food for the meal.

MVPs have served weekend breakfasts at the mission for years, but this is the first time they were asked to help with dinner, said Vennie Murphy, a member of the MVP committee who helped organize the effort.

"Instead of just serving breakfast, it was preparing, cooking and serving the meal," he said. "When you're peeling 200 pounds of potatoes by hand, it keeps a lot of people busy for a while."

The Tacoma Rescue Mission serves two meals a day to the hungry, with no questions asked. Last year, as the job market worsened, the number of people coming in for the free meals climbed.

"Last year they served 90,000 more people than the year before, so their budget was in the red," Murphy said.

The District 751 volunteers have seen it as well. For years, they regularly served slightly more than 100 people for breakfast on a weekend, but "lately it's been close to 200," Murphy said.

To help close the budget gap, the Tacoma mission's managers have started asking volunteers to work in the kitchens on weekends to supplement the paid staff.

When they approached the District 751 MVPs, "we decided to give it a shot," Murphy said.

In all 18 people connected to District 751 – including the children and wives of a couple MVP members – came out to help. Four of the volunteers — Murphy, George Braun, Chris Louie, and Tom Lindberg – had also come in the morning to serve breakfast, then stayed all day to prepare dinner while Clark Fromong, Dave Henry and Rob Curran helped in the morning, but left to bring their spouses back to help with the dinner.

Along with the potatoes, the MVPs made 150 pounds of meatloaf, plus enough green beans to feed 350 people. They also baked 300 cupcakes.

The effort was a big enough success that Murphy said he'll propose that the MVPs do it again this spring.

"It was a good time, and we were able to help a lot of people," he said.



Chris Louie, Dennis Lewark, George Braun and Rob Curran made batter to make 300 cupcakes for the dinner.



Rob Curran and Clark Fromong helped peel 200 pounds of potatoes.



Above: Sydney Price cuts peppers for the dinner.



Ady Rose, Tricia Fromong and Jeff Rose help prepare 150 pounds of meatloaf for dinner.



L to R: Vennie Murphy, a mission employee, David Henry and George Braun prepare dinner at the mission on Saturday, February 26.



Left: Vennie Murphy (l) presented Frank Johnson from the Tacoma Rescue Mission with a \$400 check from 751 to help pay for meals for the less fortunate.

Volunteers Help Widow of 60-Year Member

When 89-year-old Ginny Edwards needed help, she knew she could count on her family – both her actual relatives, and her union family from District 751.

Fifteen District 751 volunteers turned out in the rain on March 12 to rebuild the back deck of Edwards' home in Kent and install a handrail on the front steps.

"It was a really nice project," said Robley Evans, the chairman of the Machinists Volunteer Program. "She wants to stay in her house as long as she can and the deck and rail will help."

Ginny Edwards is the widow of Lyman "Eddie" Edwards, a retired Machinist who worked 31 years for Boeing. The Edwards' had been active in the District 751 Retired Club, up until Eddie's death last year at the age of 91.

Replacing the rotten wood on the back deck was "something that needed to be done for a long time," said Jeff Katzele, who is the Edwards' son-in-law and a District 751 steward. "But as Eddie got older, he just wasn't able to do it."

Jeff and his wife, Karen, contacted the MVPs to see if they could help. They certainly could. It took the group – which included Katzele – about four hours to rip up the rotted deck planks



751 volunteers rebuilt a deck for the 89-year old widow of a long-time member, who had been active for years in the 751 Retired Club.

and replace them, then install the new front porch rail.

The railing wasn't in the plans at first, Evans said, but was added after Mrs. Edwards took a fall coming down off the porch in early March.

Jeff Katzele wrote a letter to the MVPs, thanking "all the great guys from the IAM 751 union who came out on March 12." And Ginny Edwards herself was grateful for the help – especially the railing.

"I won't worry about falling

down these steps any time I go down," she said.



After completing the deck project, volunteers installed a rail on the front steps.



District President Tom Wroblewski (l) presented Rob Curran with the Silver Presidential Award for 268.5 volunteer hours.

Union Community Service Earns Top Honors

Continued from page 1

Evans and Terri Myette.

In recognition of their contributions, the individual Machinists received silver or bronze pins, a certificate and a letter signed by President Obama thanking them for "the kind of commitment to your community that moves America a step closer to its great promise."

"Thank you for your devotion to service and for doing all you can to shape a better tomorrow for our great nation," the President wrote.

The awards were announced March 8 during a meeting of the union's District Council. The individual award winners also will be honored on April 2 during the union's annual MVP banquet, which honors members of the Machinists Volunteer Program for their community service.

"Our union has two goals," said Tom Wroblewski, District 751 President. "We want to make the places we work better, and we want to improve the communities where we live. The outstanding work done by our union MVPs is making a difference, and making our corner of America a better place."

Focus Groups Aim to Involve Younger Members

With more than 3,000 new members at Boeing since the last contract was signed, Union leaders are exploring new ways to reach out and connect with the membership.

One group of members that have had little exposure to solidarity and unions is our members aged 18-25. As Boeing has accelerated its hiring, more and more of the membership falls into this age demographic.

In an effort to engage these members, the Union began holding focus groups – with the first meetings held in March at the Everett hall.

Local A Steward Jason Schmelzer, who has been active in union communications and organizing, agreed to serve as facilitator since members in this demographic could more easily relate to him.

The goal of the small meetings is to provide the Union with better ideas on how to engage younger workers, determine best methods of communication, encourage each member to take ownership of the Union and make the Union “cool” so others will want to be involved.

The members who attended shared their opinions and were eager to help shape the direction their Union takes in the future. Members suggested solidarity events as a fun way to bring the membership together. Other ideas included: more face-to-face communication from Stewards, ‘flashier’ Union bul-



Everett Business Reps listen to ideas from younger members who work at the Everett facility. The focus groups asked members what type of activities they would like to be involved with, communication methods and contract issues.

letin boards, webcasts, vanpools to union meetings, and quarterly Union meetings at area halls to update them on activities.

Some contract issues of concern included preserving education assistance benefits, the progression system, pension, health care, dental coverage, and the ERT process. Members also discussed incentives and premium pay for certain jobs to keep a stable workforce in those positions.

One of the focus group participants who was new during the last negotiations advised, “When the contract comes around, it is amazing how many people are talking about it and the activities that just happen. It

is cool to be a part of it.”

Members appreciated having input, open discussion and an avenue to get their questions answered.

“It is important that we reach out to not just welcome the next generation of members, but learn their issues, how to get them to participate, and to answer their questions,” said District 751 President Tom Wroblewski. “The more members we have actively involved, the stronger we are. I hope every member who gets an invitation to attend a focus group will attend and help shape the direction our union takes in the future.”



Local A Steward Jason Schmelzer leads a focus group with second shift members who are relatively new to the union to get their input, suggestions and concerns.

Machinists Cheer as Intercontinental Takes its First Flight

Several thousand Boeing workers – including a sizeable group of District 751 Machinists – cheered on March 20 as the first 747-8I passenger jet took its first flight from Paine Field in Everett.

“No matter how many times I see it, it’s still pretty cool,” said Marilyn Brock, who works on the Everett flight line and has been with the company since the ‘70s.

The flight test pilots said the Intercontinental performed well on its first flight, with pilot Mark Feuerstein going as far as to call it “one of the cleanest first flight airplanes of a new design that I’ve seen.”

Machinists on the ground marveled at how quiet the big jet was. “I got to watch it lift up and rotate, and go smoothly into the air,” said Jean Jones, a 787 inspector. “It was wonderful.”

A second 747-8I is expected to take its first flight this month. The first two will spend about 600 hours in flight testing between now and fall, with the first deliveries expected by year’s end.

The first Intercontinental will be reconfigured after flight testing to become a VIP aircraft for the government of Kuwait. The second one will be delivered to Lufthansa, making it the first of a new generation of 747s to carry airline passengers.

The new planes are the largest Boeing airliners that Machinists have ever built. They’re 18 feet longer than the 747-400s they’re replacing, and can carry 467 passengers in normal configuration – 51 more than the older 747s.



Boeing employees lined the flightline to watch the first flight of the 747-8F on Feb. 26.

The Intercontinental has not been a world-beater in terms of sales. So far, Boeing has firm orders for only 38 of the new passenger-carrying jumbo jets – although an order for five more, worth an estimated \$1.6 billion – is waiting for approval from the Chinese government.

In comparison, Boeing has sold 76 747-8F cargo jets, as the company continues to dominate the market for large air freighters.

But Boeing has great hopes for both versions of the 747-8. The company’s commercial sales chief has dubbed

2011 “the Year of the 747” and predicted that half of Boeing’s sales revenues this year will come from sales of both passenger and cargo versions.

The program got some good news in March, when Boeing signed a firm order for two 747-8F cargo planes for Korean Airlines, and signed the preliminary agreement with China Southern for five Intercontinentals.

Anyone who knows the work done by District 751 Machinists wouldn’t be surprised.

“We build the best planes in the world,” Jones said.

Progress Toward First URS Contract at Whidbey NAS

Continued from page 1

cess and informed about union activities.

- Researching and defining issues with the current health care plan.
- Defining language concerning TDY

assignments.

The course provided the bargaining committee with the skills and tools needed to deliver the best possible contract for members at URS. It was customized to meet the needs

of URS members at Whidbey.

“It was a great week,” said Greg Ringelstetter. “I appreciate the IAM 751 group for allowing us to educate and prepare ourselves for the upcoming negotiations. We have really had our eyes opened to the process.”

Don Fabrao was also impressed and stated, “It was definitely not what I expected. The facilities, staff, as well as the hospitality, are top notch. The long hours spent gaining information to be utilized in drafting our very first Collective Bargaining Agreement is invaluable. Definitely money well spent. Thank you IAM!”

Immediately after returning from the week-long training, Union negotiating committee members distributed another membership survey asking specific questions on health care, dental coverage, pension and the 40-hour work week. In

addition, negotiators posted information on the IAM National Pension Plan and printed a flyer to help educate members at URS on the benefits of this defined-contribution pension plan.

“I could see that each committee member was focused to get as much out of the classes as possible. Their level of commitment to learn as much as they could about the negotiating process was evident by the long hours they put in each day,” said IAM Business Rep Richard Jackson. “I’m proud to be working with this committee and the membership can be proud of them too.”

Overall the sharing of ideas and the understanding we are gaining is a benefit to us all and will help deliver the best contract for members at URS.

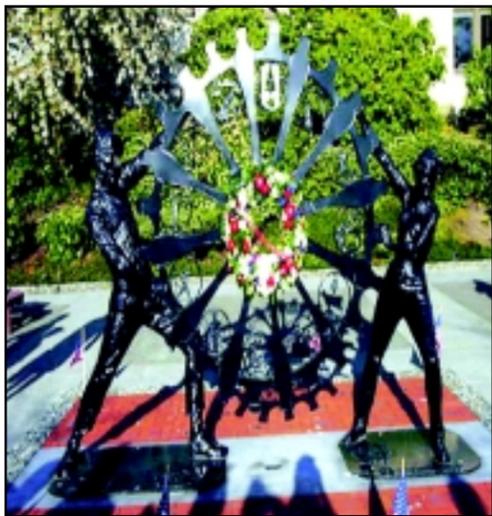
Formal negotiations are scheduled with URS management the first week of April.



Members of the URS Negotiating Committee, along with Union representatives, took part in an intensive week of planning, research, strategy and education at the IAM Education and Technology Center – as they progress toward a first contract.

Workers' Memorial Day Ceremony in Snohomish County: April 27 at 5:30 p.m.

Workers' Memorial Day is a day to remember workers injured and killed on the job and a day to renew the fight for safer workplaces. Under the rallying cry "Mourn for the Dead, Fight for the Living," the Snohomish County Labor Council is planning a ceremony on Wednesday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the Worker Safety Memorial at the Snohomish County Courthouse (3000 Rockefeller Ave. west side of Mission Building on Wetmore).



Workers' Memorial Day ceremony at Worker Safety Memorial (shown above) **Snohomish County Courthouse (3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett) Wednesday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m.**

Concerned citizens will gather there to remember the men and women of Washington state who went to work, but never returned home. The Snohomish County ceremony will feature a speaker from the United Steelworkers who will talk about the tragic Tesoro refinery explosion in Anacortes last year, which killed seven men and women in a single incident.

Featured speaker: Steelworker rep from the Tesoro refinery explosion that killed 7 workers.

Decades of struggle by workers and their unions have resulted in significant improvements in work-

ing conditions. But the toll of workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths remains enormous. Workplace deaths increased dramatically in Washington state in 2010 with 86 men and women killed because of job-related injuries – up from 65 deaths reported in 2009. Keep in mind this does not consider those killed while serving in the military, which would also significantly increase the number.

and renew the fight for safe workplaces so plan to attend a rally and ensure our voices are heard and those injured or killed on the job are not forgotten.

Check our online calendar at www.iam751.org for additional Workers' Memorial Day events across Washington state, which were still being planned as the paper went to print.

Workers' Memorial Day is a day to raise awareness of workplace hazards

Interested in IAM/Boeing Apprenticeship? Start Now

The IAM/Boeing Joint Apprenticeship Committee will accept applications for apprenticeships from May 1 through July 6, 2011. All interested parties will have to apply to the Boeing Company at <http://www.boeing.com/careers/> before they will be eligible to receive an apprenticeship application.

Apprenticeships available include Blue Streak Mechanic, Cellular Manufacturing Machinist, Composite Manufacturing Technician, Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician, Machine Tool Maintenance Mechanic, Maintenance Machinist, Model Maker, NC Spar Mill Operator, and Tool & Cutter Grinder.

The Committee allows for Boeing and non-Boeing interested parties to apply. All of the apprenticeship programs have minimum requirements that include, but are not limited to, the following math courses: Practical Math, Level 2; Beginning Algebra, Level 2; Practical Shop Geometry; and Trigonometry. These math requirements must have been completed within the past five years. For a complete list of minimum requirements for each trade, visit the IAM Boeing Joint Programs website at <http://www.iam-boeing.com/apprenticeship.cfm> to download a Preparing for an Apprenticeship packet.

Interested parties may apply during the month of May using the Boeing Careers website at <http://www.boeing.com/careers/>. Applicants may apply for only one apprenticeship program. An IAM/Boeing Joint Apprenticeship application will be sent to those who successfully complete the steps on the Boeing Careers site.

Labor History in Story, Songs and Pictures

Wednesday, April 20 - 5:30 p.m.
Seattle Labor Temple, Hall One
2800 First Avenue

The M.L. King County Labor Council Education Committee is sponsoring a labor history presentation by Sarah Laslett, director of the Washington State Labor & Education Research Center at South Seattle Community College.

The presentation will give a broad overview of U.S. labor history, with particular attention to events in the Pacific Northwest. It will include a slide show and music, in addition to stories of our successes and those moments from which we need to learn.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring friends and family members for an entertaining and informative evening of labor history.



Just a couple of the photos from the U.S. Labor History presentation.

5th Avenue Theater's "Rosie the Riveter" at Museum of Flight April 23

Seattle's acclaimed 5th Avenue Theatre brings its Adventure Musical Theatre Touring Company to The Museum of Flight for a special performance of a new musical, "Rosie the Riveter," on April 23 at 2 p.m.

The show tells the story of the heroic women in the World War II workforce who built the airplanes that helped win the war, known collectively as "Rosie the Riveters."

There will be a question and answer session with former Rosies after the performance, followed by an autograph session with them in the Museum lobby.

The musicals are written by Northwest writers and composers - many with Broadway credits - and are created to entertain and spur the imagination with song, dance and stories.



Photo from Museum of History & Industry.

World War II "Rosie the Riveters" shown building airplanes.

For details about the 5th Avenue Adventure Musical Theatre Touring Company, see: <http://www.5thavenue.org/education/adventuremusicaltheatre.aspx>

For details on events at the Museum of Flight visit: www.museumofflight.org.

Guide Dog Charity Golf Tournament: July 17

The 20th annual Guide Dogs of America Charity Golf Tournament will be July 17 at Willows Run Golf Course in Redmond. The annual event is sponsored by District 751, and is a fundraiser for Guide Dogs of America.

Last year's golf tournament raised more than \$12,000 for the charity, part of a record \$276,000 raised by the District to support the Guide Dogs.

This year's tournament will be a scramble format with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The winning team will get a trophy, along with \$100 for each person on the team. Individual prizes will be offered for the longest drive and any holes-in-one. There will also be prize drawings.

Registration is \$90 per person, which covers greens fees, cart rental, a tourna-

ment T-shirt and a buffet at the end of play. The event is capped at 280 entrants, and the deadline for entry is June 17. Entry forms are available at District 751 union halls in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle. You can also register by calling the Everett Hall at (425) 355-8821.

If you'd like to donate a prize, volunteer, sponsor a hole – or if you have any questions – you can call Auburn-based organizers John Carter (206-437-0470), Ron Coen (253-735-0577) or Dave Swan (253-640-5161); Mark Clark in Everett (425-232-6088); Rich McCabe in Renton (425-965-5735) or Lori Dorsey at the Everett Hall.



Flight for Sight Fun Run & Walk: Saturday, June 4

The 10th annual Flight for Sight Fun Run & Walk will be June 4 in Everett.

The event includes 5- and 10-kilometer timed races on courses certified by U.S.A. Track & Field. There will also be a non-competitive one-mile walk.

The race day sign-in will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the courses' start/finish line at the Everett Boeing Activity Center, 6098 36th Ave. W. The timed races will start at 9:30 a.m., with the walk to start at 9:45.

Registration costs \$25 if done before

noon on June 2. Day-of-race registration will cost \$30. Registration can be done online at www.iam751.org/funrun.html or www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp



Register online for the event at: www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp

The event is sponsored by the District 751 Women's Committee. All proceeds will go to benefit Guide Dogs of America.

Last year's fun run raised more than \$10,000 for Guide Dogs, part of the more than \$276,000 raised by District 751, which made it the top contributor to the charity nationwide.

RETIREMENT NEWS

March Retired Club Minutes

by Ruth Render,
Retired Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President T.J. Seibert. The Lord's Prayer was said followed by the flag salute. Members sang "God Bless America."

President's Report: President T.J. Siebert welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reported that there is going to be a Day of Action on April 8, 2011, and he would like to see Retired Club members come out to join other District 751 members at the Capitol that day. Buses will be leaving all of the halls and you are asked to contact Kay Michlik at (206) 764-0335 if you would like to ride a bus.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present or accounted for.

Financial Report: The report was read by Treasurer Betty Ness. A motion was made to accept the report as read. **M/S/P**

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

Communications Report: There were no communications.

New Members/Visitors: T.J. introduced new member Tom Lindberg and welcomed him to the Club.

Business Representatives Report: Health and Benefits Representative Garth

Luark read the report.

Garth also spoke about the announcement that Boeing won the tanker contract. It's been a long time that we've been fighting to make sure that the next tanker was built right here in Washington. Every year we were in D.C. meeting with legislators to talk about the tanker.

It's been a long road and we are definitely very happy with the result. They made the right decision for this country. When the decision came down, District President Tom Wroblewski was actually in his office reciting the concession speech he was prepared to give. He got a phone call from Senator Patty Murray who asked him to turn on the television. He said it took a while for it to sink in, but he had to switch gears and quickly work on changing from a concession speech to a "We Got It!" speech.

Congratulations are in order for not only Boeing, but for all of you also. A lot of hard work was put into ensuring that this tanker contract was awarded in the best interest of American workers and taxpayers.

Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased members: Bruce A. Cromoga, Robert C. Des Rosier, Lyman "Eddie" Edwards, Ronnie D. Flowers, Robert E. Gokey, Bertha L. Guidry, Daniel F. Maddaugh, James R. Mathieson, Charley W. Nelson, Robert D. Ripley, Warren Tarkelson, Alfred M. Thompson, Joline C. Woodard, and Donald G. Zippy. Sympathy cards were sent to next of kin.

Ruth Render added that



T.J. Seibert (far left) and Vera Doss (far right) celebrated March birthdays while Isaac and Rose Motola celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in March.

long time member Clara Atkins is quite ill. She asked that everyone pray for her.

Legislative Report: John Guevarra gave the report. John spoke about a Town Hall meeting hosted by Representative Bob Hasegawa and the issues described in the Friday Alert.

He also spoke about the victory for the South Park Bridge and how Legislative Director Larry Brown was given an award for his help in that victory.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: There were two birthdays in March: T.J. Siebert and Vera Doss. There was one anniversary: Isaac and Rose Motola celebrated 62 years. The Club sang Happy Birthday.

Good and Welfare: Vice President Helen Lowe reported that her doctor said that they will no longer hand out prescription drug samples because of new rules. Those samples saved people on a

fixed budget a lot of money. Now, you can turn to a website to get coupons and help with copay cards. That website is www.internetdrugcoupons.com.

John Guevarra spoke about the importance of healthcare and how there is a possibility that the Republicans could shut down everything we've worked so hard to achieve for those who need healthcare benefits in this country.

President T.J. Siebert reported that he spoke with Al Wydick and he said to tell the Club "hello" for him. He isn't feeling very well, but he is hanging in there. We're keeping him in our prayers.

T.J. also thanked Helen for her help with the meeting last month.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

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

RETIRED CLUB OFFICERS

President	T.J. Seibert	206-329-0160
Vice President	Helen Lowe	206-523-9526
Secretary	Ruth Render	206-324-4055
Treasurer	Betty Ness	206-762-0725
Srgnt-at-Arms	Leroy Miller	206-878-0601
Trustees:	Louise Burns	206-242-5878
	John Guevarra	206-762-3848
	Mike Keller	206-723-4973

Union Office: (1-800-763-1301) or 206-763-1300



Retired Club officers met with Congressman Jim McDermott to express concerns with Social Security. L to R: John Guevarra, T.J. Seibert, McDermott, Helen Lowe, Carl Schwartz, Mike Keller, Robin Guevarra.

McDermott Supports Social Security

by Carl Schwartz, Chair
Retiree Legislative Committee

On March 23, a group of 751 Retired Club officers and legislative committee members met with Congressman Jim McDermott in his office in Seattle.

Many of our Retired Club members have heard a lot of criticism about our Social Security system, by politicians and by TV commentators. Retirees expressed concerns and questions about the system.

Our group met with the Congressman to discuss these criticisms and to get his position on them. McDermott unequivocally stated that the Social Security system is sound, that it is working as intended and that there is no emergency.

The only suggestions made were that

the cap on taxed earnings should be removed, and that the calculation of the cost-of-living for retirees should include factors more relevant to retirees, such as medical costs.

Retirees agreed that the siphoning off of 2 percent of the Social Security tax (cutting the tax from 7 percent to 5 percent), to be aimlessly spent, is a criminal attack on the integrity of the system.

McDermott expressed concern that proposed cuts to staffing of the administration of Social Security, which is already under-staffed, would cause severe damage to the ability of the system to function.

The group thanked McDermott for his support and for meeting with us and answering our concerns.

Union Retirees:

Congratulations to the following members who retired from the Union:

James P Aiello	Richard A Hansen	Allan J Richter
Larry E Anstett	David L Harrop	Susan M Ross
John H Baker	Raymond M Havlick	Fernando Y Ruiz
Bruce J Becklund	Nancy S Holston	Steven W Schelin
Frances J Berkley	Kenneth B Jordan	James M Sicafoose
James H Boll	John D Jorgensen	Thomas C Smith
Geraldine A Caldwell	Myung Kim	Allen R Stach
Michael G Cavaiani	Rose M Leick	Leigh L Stratton
Raymond G Crawford	Maurice P Mertens	James W Stroomer
Kevin L Daniel	Darrell W Mooers	Mark L Tallmadge
Kenneth D Faught	Kathleen M Neal	Gerald G Waddel
Marilyn L Ferrell	Rochelle L Oen	Michael J Wickoren
Evelyn E Fischer	Marilyn J Pfrimmer	Howard E Wigand Jr
Robert C Gunter	Wade T Pfrimmer	Arthur Williams
Richard B Hall	James W Phillips	Judy L Williamson
Nancy L Hanks	Paul Reed	

Retiree Meeting Dates

- 751 Retired Club meets every Monday at 11 a.m. in the Seattle Hall (9135 15th Pl. S.). Second Monday of the month is the business meeting. A free lunch is served at noon every Monday following the meeting.

- Everett Retirees Group meets at the Everett 751 Union Hall (8729 Airport Rd), the fourth Tuesday of every month at 11 a.m.

- Alliance of Retired Americans South Area Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Kent Senior Citizen Center (600 E. Smith St). We share information about developments affecting seniors, we decide on letters and e-mails to public officials expressing elders' concerns and what is happening to us. Come on in and sit in and see what goes on. For more information, contact Leroy Miller at 206-878-0601.

FREE WANT ADS FOR MEMBERS ONLY

AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

EXHAUST HEADER PIPES for small block Chevy to FJ40 Land Cruiser, have heat tape on, never used, custom made to go around steering parts, \$250. 360-793-1215

ISUZU DIESEL ENGINE in a frame, doesn't run, has pulleys instead of trans, \$200 OBO. 253-840-2108

4 TIRES 215/75 R-16, were on Jeep Liberty, \$60. 253-854-4606

AIRPLANES

CESSNA 120, always hangared annual to August 2011, 460 hours on major overhaul, sliding seats, all instruments and radio, \$16,850 OBO. 360-829-0719

BOATS

HONDA 4-STROKE, 10 horse, long shaft, \$685. 253-839-9266 ask for Henry

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

RETIRES FROM KSC shop 2-2165, 18-62 bldg, meet for breakfast monthly in Auburn, contact clintbonnie@hotmail.com for more info

RETIRED TOOL GRINDERS from Auburn Shop, meet for lunch 2nd Wednesday of every month at Old Country Buffet in Federal Way at 11:00 AM.

GOLD'S GYM, RENTON, 10728 NE Carr Rd. Take advantage of Special Boeing Employee Rate - simply present your Boeing badge for discount! Family Owned & Operated by Boeing Employee Michael Cavaiani, a strong Union brother! One time processing fee of \$49, single monthly membership dues of \$29, family add-ons \$20. Personal Training rates available at \$49 per session (reg \$60). 425-793-5457

BOEING CRANE OPERATOR also licensed, experienced Real Estate Broker, available to answer all you questions, Von Provo, Admiral Real Estate. 425-359-0165

HOUSE CLEANER, 20 years of experience, hardworking, efficient, honest, very thorough and reliable, positive attitude, free estimates, references, call Diana. 206-949-6178

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING & SAFETY. ABC Learning Center, 6819 196th St SW, Suite C Lynnwood. 425-361-7330 or email abclearningcenter@comcast.net.

FRESH LOCAL SEAFOOD, high quality seafood from all over the world, smoked salmon, Dungeness and king crab, live oysters, mussels, clams, salmon, halibut, prawns, lobster tails, frog legs, sole, cod, scallops. We can special order almost any type of seafood, located on corner of Hewitt Ave and Marine View Drive in Everett. 425-258-1987

LET ME BAIL YOU OUT of paying high insurance rates. Are you a member of AARP? Call for low insurance rates on your home and auto. 360-658-1800

AD RULES

Each single ad must be 25 words or less. Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each ad, as they are pre-classified physically. Ads are free only to members - active, laid-off, or retired. For best response, include phone number instead of addresses in ad copy. When using own paper for ads, include information required on regular ad blank.

Deadline For Next Issue April 15th

QUALITY PRINTING SERVICES, including copies, fax, laminating, color copies and prints, large format copies, bulk scanning, business cards, letterhead, envelopes, business forms, rubber stamps, desktop design, labels, wedding invitations, spiral and comb binding, folding, padding, stapling, located in downtown Snohomish, 1030 Ave D., Suite 3, call Barb for quote. 360-568-1644

ELECTRONICS & ENTERTAINMENT

TOSHIBA LAPTOP NOTEBOOK computer satellite L305-S5921 with wireless mouse, ac power cord, \$200. 425-290-5857 leave message

GPS GARMIN NUVI 205w series, with case stand mount, \$75 OBO. 425-290-5857 leave message

FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES

BEAUTIFUL TWO PIECE oak china cabinet/hutch, with rose etched leaded glass doors, must sell, \$350 OBO, after April 5. 425-787-9746

ADJUSTA-MAGIC electric adjustable bed with massage, twin size, \$175. 253-839-3173

15.1 CU FT WHIRLPOOL side-by-side refrigerator, water and ice in door, white, 5 years old, \$300. 253-770-5607

HOUSING

HOME FOR SALE, 3BD/2BA, 2 car carport, shed, 1550 sq ft, Palm Harbor, asking \$73000, 4 years old. 480-654-8840

HOME FOR SALE, Kent-Covington area, 3BD/3BA, 2100 sq ft, bonus loft, sun room, 18' x 36' in ground pool, pool house, close to Soo's Creek Trails and Lake Meridian. 253-508-3264

SHOREBIRDS! SHELLFISH! Sea life! 1-bdrm Hood Canal beach cabin. Rates start at \$190 for weekend, \$550 for week. See it online at www.explorehoodcanal.com/details/sister-s-point-cabin.html

KONA HAWAII OCEANFRONT CONDO, enjoy spectacular views, 2BD/2BA condo w/ private lanai, pool jacuzzi, see www.banjantreecondo.com for more info, \$1025-\$1175/wk, Boeing discount pays for taxes. 206-938-9214

2000 SQFT HOME, shop, outbuilding, on 49 acres, view property, well property taxes \$675, 20 miles from Walla Walla, \$235,000. 541-938-9414

TWO STORY HOME with full basement, cedar deck with privacy fence length of house, 6.5 miles from Renton Boeing Plant. 740-643-2495

3 LARGE BEDROOMS, spacious living and dining rooms, wood stove, large rec-room, inexpensive to heat, insulated with triple-pane windows, garage with shop, level, fenced, 1/3 acre in Burien, \$199,995. 360-435-2430

MOTHER-IN-LAW APARTMENT, Everett, 1 BD w/shower, living room, kitchenette, new appliances, water, garbage, basic cable included, separate entry, building not attached to main house, very private, non-smoker, no pets, \$300 deposit. 425-501-6808

5 BD/3BA, 2700 sq ft, new 2010, easy access to stores, 2 minutes to I-5, Hwy 9, 17 min to Boeing Everett plant, please call Diana. 425-231-6987.

MISCELLANEOUS

SUPERSPORT HUBCAPS, 13" for 3 of them, 1 smaller 1964 or 1965 from Chevy car, Nova or Chevelle, \$15 each OBO. 253-852-6809

LINCOLN HUBCAPS, 3, 15", good condition, \$15 for all. 253-852-6809

10 FT METAL HAND BRAKE pro II by Tapco, in great condition. 253-852-6809

MOTORHOME CHEVY 454 HUBCAPS, 4, 17", \$25 for all, good condition. 253-852-6809

HEALTH RIDER EXERCISER, with computerized monitor displays, like new, \$400. 253-922-2013

HOUSEPLANTS, Dieffenbachia picta a tropical plant with large leaves - some 3 ft tall, some 2 ft tall, some in dirt and others in water, \$20 - \$35, very healthy, nice plants. I so-called corn plant, 5 ft tall, \$35 nice. I split-leaf philodendron, nice, \$25. Outgrowing my home. 253-852-6809

COMPUTERIZED AIROFIT Pro elliptical exerciser, \$75. 253-922-2013

LIKE NEW WOMEN'S SPECIALIZED Roubaix bicycle with upper end shamano components, extras included, new seat, carbon fiber handles for extending rides, clipless peddles, and bike computer. 425-268-7849

3-TIER CONCRETE mountain fountain, new pump, \$75. 206-870-0777

NEW STEAM CLEANER, \$50. Utility trainer chassis, licensed. 206-870-0777

6 FOLDING CHAIRS, \$6 OBO. 1 folding table, 36" x 72", \$8 OBO. 206-878-0601

2 SETS WHITE/GOLD TRIM dining dinnerware, 8 piece sets, \$5 each set OBO. 206-878-0601

_ DRILL VARIABLE speed, reversing, \$4 OBO. 206-878-0601

SPORTCRAFT POOL TABLE, all accessories, in excellent condition, Arlington, \$200. 360-474-1492

JOHN DEERE RIDING lawn mower, runs great, 12HP, \$450. 253-839-9266 ask for Henry

ANTIQUE STEAMER TRUNK, original drawers, curtain, hangers, \$250. 253-854-4606

WHEELCHAIR with 20" wide seat, includes foot rests and tray table, \$150. 253-854-4606

3x5 MOVING DOLLY with full bar handle, easy to take apart for storage, \$30. 253-854-4606

COMPLETELY REFURBISHED Briggs and Stratton lawn mower, \$80. 206-523-9526

OAK CHINA CABINET, lights and glass, small and beautiful, \$299. 206-523-9526

PROPERTY

4 PLOTS, GARDENWOOD Memorial Cemetery, Renton. 425-255-5920

5 WOODED ACRES just a few minutes east of Arlington, very quiet, private, underground power and telephone to property, \$49,995. 360-435-2430

TWO CEMETERY PLOTS, side-by-side in Washington Memorial Cemetery, located in Veterans Section, \$2000 each, buyer pays transfer fee. 253-859-0343

RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

OWN YOUR OWN DEEDED, 2BD/2BA condo on beautiful lake Chelan, always on the 17th week of the year, call George for more information, \$2500. 253-846-2071

SHELL VAC, 1500 points per year, \$407 maintenance fee a year, cost of transfer fee only, must let it go now. 360-691-0307

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

1989 7-250 LARIAT camper, special tow package, low miles, 18,000 S-S camper, self contained, 8 ft, Lynwood area. 425-745-8909

2001 HARLEY HERITAGE SPRINGER FLSTS, lots of extras, 18K miles, garaged and well maintained, jade green and black, call Ralph. 206-940-9258

VEHICLES

1991 HONDA 5-SPEED, time belt, alternator, radiator, brakes all mechanically fixed, lights work but a dent, good runner, sell at \$750 OBO. 360-387-5083

1972 DATSUN PICKUP Truck, rebuilt engine, runs and drives, lots of extras, \$1400 OBO. 360-333-4142

2001 YAMAHA VINO scooter, 2 stroke, runs well, \$800 OBO. 360-333-4142

ISEKI TS1610 4X4 20HP tractor, complete overhaul and reconditioned, have list of work done, has front bucket, front blade and new brush-cutter, \$6500 best offer. 206-463-2484

WANTED

HIDABED SOFA, twin size needed, no wider than 67", good to excellent condition, ask for Debbie. 253-249-4553

DO PATRONIZE:

The following businesses that employ fellow IAM 751 members:



UNION HOME SERVICES. Check them out at: unionhomeservices.com or call 1-877-779-0197

Circle One:

ANIMALS
BOATS
TOOLS
HOUSING
AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

ELECTRONICS & ENTERTAINMENT
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
RECREATIONAL VEHICLES
MISCELLANEOUS

PROPERTY
RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP
SPORTING GOODS
VEHICLES
COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

Ad (25 word limit. Please print).

Phone (or Address)

The following information must be filled in for your ad to appear:

Name _____ Clock Number _____

Address _____ Shop Number _____

Mail Coupon to AERO MECHANIC NEWSPAPER, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, 98108 Deadline is April 15th!

2011 Kids' Coloring & Essay Contest

After the huge success of the 75th Anniversary Celebration contests for kids last year, District 751 is starting a new tradition! Each year, children in member families will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of contests. Check out the details for this year's contests below!

Writing Contest (Grades 7-12)

- 1) Answer one of the following questions, based on your current grade, in a maximum of two pages, double-spaced. Include your name, current grade, school name, family member's BEMS or CLOCK (last 4 of SSN), family member's place of work, and contact number on a cover page.
7-8 Grade: What does union membership mean to your family?
9-10 Grade: Why is solidarity important?
11-12 Grade: How will union membership benefit your generation as you prepare to enter the workforce?
- 2) Mail your entry in to: IAM&AW District 751, Attn: Writing Contest, 9125 - 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108
- 3) Entries must be post-marked by June 1, 2011. Entries will be reviewed and awards granted to the top two essay writers in each grade group.

Writing Contest Prizes:

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

Any questions can be directed to the Communications Department at 206-764-0340 or 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3340 OR send an e-mail to: rosannet@iam751.org.

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

Coloring Contest (Grades PreK-5)

- 1) Color the picture below indicating your current grade, school name, family member's name and BEMS or Clock number (last 4 SS#), family member's place of work and contact information.
- 2) Mail your entry in to: IAM&AW District 751, Attn: Coloring Contest, 9125-15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108
- 3) ALL entries must be post-marked by June 1, 2011. Entries will be displayed at July Local Lodge meetings for members to vote on each grade category.
- 4) Three winners will be chosen from each grade PreK through 6th Grade and awarded at the August Local Lodge BBQs.

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

1st Place - Class Pizza Party & \$50 Toys 'R Us Gift Card
2nd Place - \$50 Toys 'R Us Gift Card
3rd Place - \$25 Toys 'R Us Gift Card

Meet Frankie Forklift!

Little Frankie Forklift lifts and carries while Machinists help him steer. And they guide him around as he loads and lifts all kinds of heavy stuff to the ground.

His best friends are Machinists because they help him stay the safest and cleanest even when he's in a real hurry.

They help him drive around with the expertise of the best around and even partner with him to win Forklift Rodeos!

Name: _____

Age: _____

School: _____

Current Grade (circle one):

PreK K 1st 2nd
3rd 4th 5th 6th

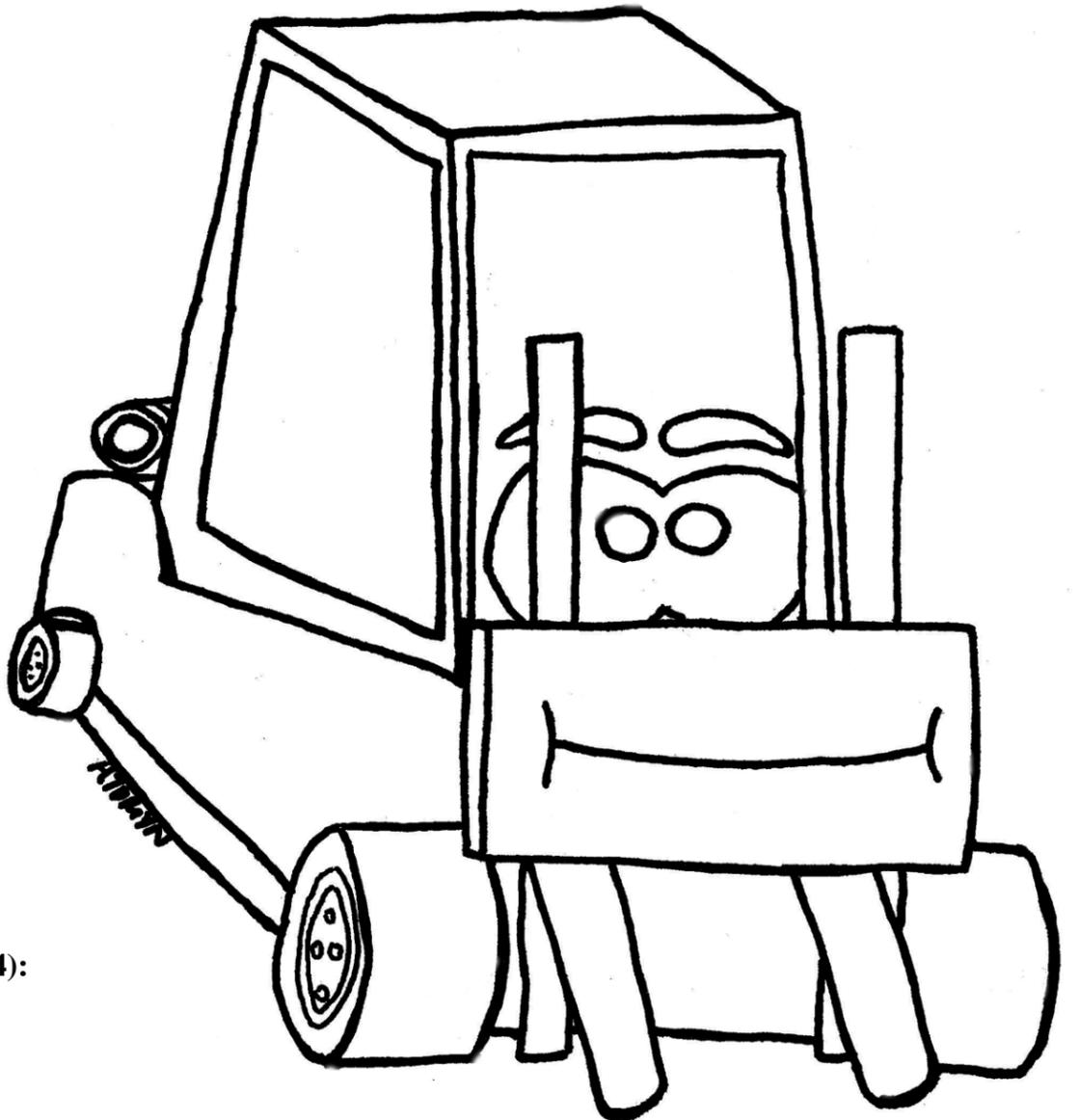
Member Relative's Name: _____

Member Relative's Workplace: _____

Member Relative's BEMS or Clock (last 4): _____

Phone: _____

Meet Frankie Forklift!



The Lucky Ticket



L to R: Business Rep Ray Baumgardner presents Steward Brian Pelland and his wife Laurie with a Seattle Thunderbirds jersey, drawn from tickets of those attending the March Union meetings.

Flightline Mechanics Second in National Contest

Continued from page 2

need to do a better job so I can get picked next year," he said. "These guys are going to do better work and that's what we all want."

The team was sponsored by Boeing, but since it was made up primarily of Machinists, Fancella said they wanted to show off their union pride, which they did by wearing custom Team 751 hooded sweatshirts.

"We were pretty proud to wear them," he said. "What a great time to show off the union."

And in its own way, the competition was another example of the good things that happen when Boeing management works together with the Machinists Union, he said.

"It's another good thing to see," Fancella said. "The union's here, the company's here. We're working together on the same task and we're getting something done."



At the national AMT competition, Mike Barnes (r) works on Electrical Troubleshooting event while Sean Rosenlieb coaches. Our team finished second in the competition

EASTERN WASHINGTON

Machinists Keep B&B Truck Service Rolling

Four talented Machinists Union members are the heart of B&B Truck Service Inc. in Spokane. This general truck repair shop handles all kinds of vehicles from company fleets to individual units of owner/operators. This includes one ton pick-ups to Class 7 and 8 trucks and trailers and everything in between.

"We handle everything from preventive maintenance to repair. If a truck breaks down and is movable, they bring it to the shop; however, we also make road calls to help customers," said Bill Nikkola, who serves as Union Steward for the members. "Basically for our regular customers, we are available 24 hours



John Quinn has worked as a mechanic at B&B Truck Service in Spokane for 20 years.

a day, seven days a week. We go out all hours to help."

Because their focus is on keeping the trucks running in top condition, it often requires long hours and extra effort.

It is this dedication that has won B&B a reputation for quality service, which keeps their customers coming back year after year. This family-owned shop has been in business for nearly 50 years. For more than 30 years it has been owned by the same couple. When employees are hired, they tend to take ownership and stay. Bill hired in 24 years ago, but he is not the only one who views it as a good job. John Quinn has worked there 20 years, Eric Comer has 17 years while Steve Myhal was hired at the first of this year after another member left.

The wide variety of work that comes into the shop requires our members to be expert certified technicians – skilled in the latest technology. All continually update their skills so the shop can offer a complete line of service. Whether it is engine overhauls, computer diagnostics or routine maintenance, these professionals are there to help. "We are always ready for a challenge and we seem to have a knack for keeping a lot of antique trucks on the road." Says Bill.

Besides serving as Steward for members at B&B, Bill is also active in IAM Local 86 where he holds the Trustee position and is an Alternate District Coun-



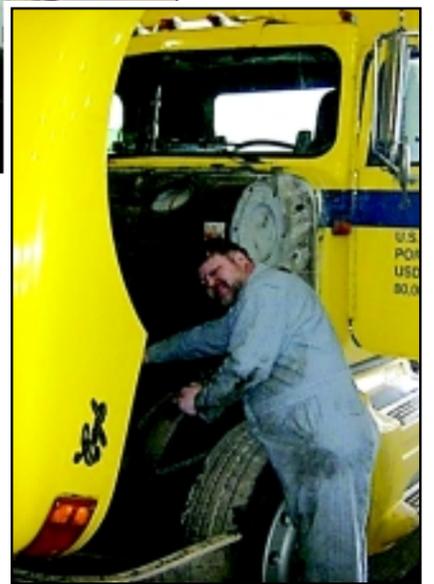
Our four Machinists Union members are the heart of B&B Truck Services.



Left: Eric Comer works on a dump truck.

cil Delegate. In addition, he has served on the negotiating committee in the last several rounds of contract bargaining. He noted that negotiations are typically pretty friendly and that B&B has a good working relationship with the employees and the union – making it a good place to work where employees stay for years.

B&B Truck Services is located at 814 N. Yardley Road in Spokane (509-535-2028).



Below: Bill Nikkola performs preventive maintenance on a truck.

Irrigation Workers Ensure Agriculture Thrives in Our State

Rich soil, diverse climate and large-scale irrigation make Washington state one of the most productive growing regions in the world. Yet much of that would not be possible without the expertise of more than 200 employees of the Columbia Basin Project irrigation districts – many of them Machinists Union members.

These skilled workers play a vital role in the state's \$38 billion food and agriculture industry. They service more than 670,000 irrigated acres in Eastern Washington and maintain more than 5,000 miles of ditches, drains and canals. Too much or too little water can have a significant impact on crop growth – highlighting the importance of their work. If a canal is clogged with debris from a windstorm, a field could be flooded. If a pump house fails, water will not get to the fields and crops can wither. It is a delicate balance that these technicians deliver daily.

The Columbia Basin Project is separated into three units: East located in Othello, South located in Pasco, and a third site operated out of Quincy. The three districts work together to keep the intricate irrigation systems flowing through the eastern side of the state.

Jobs at irrigation districts range from ditch riders and canal maintenance to heavy equipment operators, mechanics, electricians, pump mechanics and drainage technicians. These professionals cover a lot of miles cleaning any debris or obstructions that might keep water from

flowing through the thousands of miles of irrigation. In addition, all equipment must be in top-working order. Our members do everything from repairing the equipment that delivers water to farmers to priming the ditches for water to come in. Members maintain not just the equipment, but the pumping plants required for irrigation delivery. Reservoirs collect return flows from all irrigation for reuse – another system our members oversee.

Members working at irrigation districts function as a team and operate under the South Columbia Basin Trades Council, which is comprised of the Machinists Union, Operating Engineers, Teamsters and Laborers' Union. The four unions also work as a team under one collective bargaining agreement.

"We have a good working relationship between the unions," said Staff Assistant Ken Howard. "It is a team approach that has developed over many years. If someone has a question about their work, it doesn't matter which union he is a member of, I am there to help."

Water delivered by the irrigation districts allows billions of dollars worth of crops to be grown annually.

"Without our members at irrigation districts much of Eastern Washington would be sand and sagebrush," added Howard. "Irrigation is critical to the massive agriculture industry on the eastern side of our state and IAM members play a critical role to ensure that this industry remains a vibrant part of our state's economy."

Alfalfa, wheat, soybeans, mint, potatoes, corn, apples, cherries, peaches, apricots, oats, barley, wine grapes, beans, sugar beets, carrots, squash, watermelon, and various other crops are grown within the irrigation district, as well as livestock, ensuring that agriculture remains a cornerstone of Washington's economy.

So the next time you go to the grocery store, farmers market or your local restaurant, look for Washington grown food and wine – you'll know you are supporting our state's farmers and Machinists Union members played a role in delivering that product.



Above: Workers clear debris from an irrigation ditch to prevent flooding.



Left: Willie Filan works on a vehicle in the Mattawa shop.



A.J. Kielian (l) and Russell Akins (r) ensure maintenance equipment is in top condition. Members at SCBID service over 1 million irrigated acres, which is critical to our \$38 billion food and agriculture industries.



Tom Warren works on equipment in the Mattawa shop of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District. These members maintain more than 5,000 miles of ditches, drains and canals to ensure irrigation is supplied to vital crops in our state.