Pickets support Hytek Machinists

NLRB rules in favor of IAM, says Hytek broke the law

Some 75 District 751 Machinists picketed at Hytek Finishes in Kent Dec. 17 in a show of solidarity with Machinists Union workers at Hytek Finishes in Kent.

“We’ve got a message to our union brothers and sisters—and especially to Hytek management,” said Local C President Ron Coen. “We’re here, we’re not going anywhere, and if you’re part of our union, we’ve got your back.”

The picketing came three weeks after the National Labor Relations Board determined that management at Hytek had committed eight separate violations of the National Labor Relations Act over the past 14 months, during negotiations with the union on a contract for hourly workers at the plant.

The two sides sat down for talks with a mediator on Dec. 18. It was the first time they’d met since the NLRB had determined that Hytek managers had broken the law.

Among their findings, NLRB investigators determined Hytek managers improperly withheld information from the union necessary for fair bargaining, improperly withheld important information about chemical releases at the plant that impacted the health and safety of both workers and the public, and failed to bargain with the union prior to changing working conditions.

As a result of the findings, NLRB prosecutors will try to negotiate a settlement with Hytek management. If that fails, the prosecutors would file a formal complaint and move to a trial before an administrative law judge.

Because NLRB prosecutors take on only the most serious and clear-cut violations of labor law, the agency wins its cases more than 90 percent of the time, legal experts say.

The board is still investigating other charges against the company.

Union officers hailed the findings, which came after months of investigation.

IAM 751 raises record $299,000 for Guide Dogs of America

Wroblewski honored as union’s 4-year fundraising total goes over $1 million

District 751 raised nearly $299,000 for Guide Dogs of America in 2012, thanks to the work of hundreds of union volunteers, spodiers and donors.

District President Tom Wroblewski presented the California-based charity with a check for $298,949.66 at the annual Guide Dogs Banquet Nov. 17 in Las Vegas.

That’s a record one-year fundraising total for District 751, which is Guide Dogs of America’s top fund-raiser across North America.

“IT is an honor to lead a district with so many selfless individuals,” Wroblewski said. “Rarely a week goes by that someone isn’t giving their own time to support an event for Guide Dogs of America.”

The union raised the money through voluntary payroll deductions and through community fundraising events.

The district’s annual Guide Dogs Golf Tournament, Puppy Putt motorcycle horseshoes tournament, and "Dog Days" drag racing event at Pacific Raceways;

Local A’s Bill Baker Memorial Steel & Wheel SuperShow;

Local C’s “All in for Guide Dogs” poker tournament;

Local E’s annual “Shoes for Puppies” horseshoes tournament.

The Flight for Sight fun run sponsored by the Women’s Committee; and

Prize drawings sponsored by Local F

Wroblewski himself was honored at the banquet and presented with a 2012 “Gift of Sight” award recognizing his efforts on behalf of the organization.

For more than a year now, Hytek managers have dragged their feet and refused to follow the law,” said Kevin Cummings, the IAM Grand Lodge Rep who is the union’s lead negotiator. “Maybe now they’ll get serious about negotiating a fair contract with our members. They’ve had their lives on hold long enough.”

Hytek Finishes is a subsidiary of Bellevue-based Everline Corp. The 175 hourly workers at Hytek do metal finishing and etching with hazardous chemicals to produce high-quality aircraft parts for the

Officers to serve another 4 years

District President Tom Wroblewski and the rest of the union’s district officers will serve another four years.

Wroblewski, Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer, Vice President Wilson “Fergie” Ferguson Jr. and Sergeant-at-Arms Clark Fromm were re-elected by acclamation by the union’s District Council on Nov. 27, after no other candidates from the District Council submitted nominations to challenge them.

That vote came after local lodge nominations in September, where members voted to re-elect their current slate of 15 business reps, also without opposition.

This is the first time in at least 50 years that all the local-lodge, District Council and District 751 officers have been elected without opposition.

“I take that as a vote of confidence Continued on page 5

Wroblewski as president, District 751 has raised more than $1 million for Guide Dogs of America. The charity used that money to breed, raise and train 24 guide dogs, to be paired with people from across North America who are blind or have impaired vision.

“At 751, before the last event of the year is completed, it’s only a matter of days before the next one is in the planning stages,” Wroblewski said as he accepted the award.

He said one of the highlights of his involvement with the organization came in 2010, when he attended the graduation ceremony for Dennis Meech and his guide dog, Lefty.

Meech is a District 751 Machinist from Goldendale, who was blinded in a motorcycle accident on his way home from work for Allied Waste in the Roosevelt Landfill in August 2007.

With Lefty’s help, Meech has been able to live a more-independent life, which includes a part-time job at a Goldendale golf course and weekly Texas Hold’Em poker games.

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Making a difference

MVFs help collect food, cash and gifts to make the holidays better for some of our neighbors in need

Union yes at JBLM

Joint Base vehicle mechanics vote overwhelmingly to join IAM District 751

Happy New Year from the Officers, Business Reps and Staff of 751

Vol. 67 No. 11 December 2012/January 2013

AERO MECHANIC

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5
**Report From the President**

New Year’s Resolution: Safety in the workplace for all

by Tom Wroblewski, District President

The past year has been a very important one for District 751. New programs have been established to meet the needs of our members, and we have had the opportunity to show what we can do best: build- ing airplanes and communities. That’s thanks to your vote in December 2011 to extend the current contract by another four years.

As a result, many good things have happened. In 2012, for the first time in more than a decade, Boeing delivered more airplanes than Airbus. That was possible only because of the teamwork, dedication and hard work of all of our union members, the experience of our long-time Machinists and the energy of our new members.

We went through production ramp-ups on both the 737 line in Renton and the 777 line in Everett in 2012, and now both programs are producing and delivering planes at record rates.

And we seemed to have started a new chapter in our long relationship with Boeing in the past year. The Joint Council that was created in last year’s contract extension has been meeting monthly, and we’ve done a lot of good work. Our union has also partnered with the company to recruit and train a new generation of Machinists at Boeing.

Away from Boeing, our union had great successes as well. We organized two new groups of workers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, workers who do essential work to keep America strong and free, who deserve the kind of protections and benefits that only a union contract can bring.

In Eastern Washington, our members ratified a number of contracts – sitting down across the table from their employers to work out agreements that benefit both sides. I congratulate both our union bargaining teams and their employers for that achievement.

And in our community “shop work,” we set a record this year, raising $299,000 for Guide Dogs of America.

As I start a new term as your union president, I see a number of challenges ahead. First and foremost is safety.

In the past year, we suffered an increased number of accidents at Boeing – some well-publicized, some not. That may be understandable. We’ve got a lot of new people and we’re working at record-high rates.

But while higher accident rates may have been predictable, they’re certainly not acceptable – not to me, and I hope to none of you. That’s why I’m calling on each and every one of us to make a renewed commitment to safety in the new year.

Your union leadership will do its part, to ensure that you have the equipment, procedures and training you need to do your job safely, each and every day. And I’m calling on each and every one of you to do your part as well.

Veteran Machinists must share their safety wisdom with the new members in their shops, to ensure they know not only what the safety procedures are, but why they are in place.

And if you’re a new Machinist, you must take responsibility for yourselves, and your colleagues, to ensure that you learn proper safety procedures and then follow them, each and every time.

If we all do our part, we can go a long way to ensuring that everyone can go home to their family and friends at the end of their shift just as healthy as they were when they came to work.

And if we can accomplish that in 2013, I’ll consider it to be one of the greatest years our union has ever had.

IAM contract secures pay, benefits at NAS Whidbey

More than 200 workers meeting at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station again saw the value in having union representation when their employer changed on Nov. 1 from URS to L-3 Communications.

These talented members do maintenance work on EA-60 Proving Ground Scrambled E.A. 18G Growlers flown by the U.S. Navy.

“Because these members voted to be unionized in 2010 and had a collective bargaining agreement in place, their wages and benefits were protected, and wage increases occurred on Nov. 9 as previously negotiated, their pension is locked in place and will be there in the future,” said Business Rep Jon Holden.

“The protections we secured remain in effect even though it is now a different employer. All the language negotiated by the union continues, and we were successful in making a few additional improvements.”

These members are covered under the Service Contract Act. In the past, these workers would have been vulnerable when a contractor changed – wages would be uncertain and health benefit coverage could be decreased and most costs shifted to the employee, a different 401K plan would be introduced and there would be no pension plan. Basically, when a new contractor came in, workers started over.

With union representation, the union members of the new contractor still secured a “bridge” agreement for the remaining duration of the current agreement, which in this case was through July 31, 2015.

The union negotiating team consisted of Business Rep Jon Holden, Administrative Assistant Jim Bearden, IAMAE Aerospace Coordinators Remy Bennett and Mark Johnson, and Stewards Greg Ringelstetter, Jim Ward, Eddie Fry and T.J. Goodman.

This team held five meetings with the goal of not just preserving the wages, benefits and working conditions previously negotiated with URS, but making improvements as well.

As a result of union representation, members got their 3.5 percent wage increase effective Nov. 9 (as previously negotiated), and workers in five job classifications also got a $1 an hour raise prior to the general wage increase – making their wage increase close to 10 percent.

L-3 had a different medical plan and healthcare options. Union negotiators worked hard and secured a better health care plan in 2013 with a 90/10 plan. It was a significant improvement from the 80/20 plan offered by URS with minimal monthly premium increases that are less than what the URS plan would have required in January 2013.

The union was also able to increase the company-paid pension contribution in the fourth year from 55 cents to 60 cents. The aircraft servicer position was also added. It will remain unpopulated at this time and be used as an entry position in the future.

“Not having to worry about paid and benefits, puts your mind at ease during what in the past would have been a stressful period,” said Business Rep Jon Holden (right) talks with District 751 members from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station about the “bridge” agreement with their new employer, L-3 Communications.

Second chance to take Health Assessment for members at Boeing

IAM members (and their covered spouses) working at Boeing who did not complete the health assessment questionnaire by the Dec. 1 deadline will have a second chance available until March 29, 2013.

Members can visit Boeing TotalAccess and click “My Well-Being” for meetings with the health assessment.

Covered spouses or domestic partners enrolled in Boeing-sponsored medical plans who wish to take the health assessment also have the second chance option until March 29, 2013. Spouses who want to take the health assessment must register, then create a user account on the WebMD health assessment site at www.webmdhealth.com/boeing.

Since the original assessment deadline has passed, the additional payroll contributions will apply until the health assessment questionnaire is completed.

COLA adds 10 cents to Boeing paychecks

District 751 members who work at Boeing saw a 10-cent-at-an-hour boost in their paychecks on Dec. 7.

The 10-cent cost of living adjustment (or “COLA”) was generated during the three-month period of November, September and October 2012 to reflect inflation.

COLAs are calculated every three months under the IAM contract with Boeing, based on the federal government’s Consumer Price Index. The next quarterly COLA will take place on March 1.

Since the current contract was ratified in 2008, wages have increased 80 cents an hour to cover inflation.

**751 AERO MECHANIC**

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**POLITICAL ACTION**

**Union plays key role in 2012 campaigns**

Labor unions – especially the Machinists – played a key role in deciding this year’s elections at the federal and state level. “Nationwide, corporate SuperPacs outspent unions 15-to-1, trying to elect candidates who would continue the attacks against labor and the middle class,” said District 751 Legislative Director Larry Brown. “But volunteers from unions like ours stood strong, and showed that political offices aren’t something to be auctioned off at the highest bidder.” Nearly 150 District 751 members in Puget Sound – plus more from Eastern Washington – volunteered their time during the election season on behalf of labor’s endorsed candidates, either by going door-to-door during Labor Neighbor walks, or by taking a shift on the phone, calling union households.

They were overwhelmingly successful, Brown said. “This year, endorsed candidates won all but one of the statewide races in Washington, and all of our endorsed Congressional candidates won as well,” he said. District 751 in particular was influential in Congressional races. The union was the first to endorse First Congressional District candidate Suzan DelBene, Sixth Congressional District candidate Derek Kilmer and 10th Congressional District candidate Denny Heck – each of whom won.

Union volunteers also did much to help Jay Inslee win the state governor’s race against a flood of out-of-state money. The Republican Governors Association handed Inslee’s opponent, Rob McKenna, $11.35 million and promised out-of-state donors that McKenna would bring Wisconsin-style anti-labor laws to Washington. “Unions will never have that kind of money to spend on elections,” Brown said. “But we have something more important – motivated volunteers.”

Labor’s election successes are especially remarkable when you consider that political action do it because we know it’s important to elect candidates who will look out for the interests of working people in general and unions in particular,” Wroblewski added.

**IAM’s Brown helps Inslee pick his team**

District 751 Legislative Director Larry Brown (left) testified in November about the effects of outsourcing on Washington’s aerospace industry before a state legislative committee studying the potential impacts of U.S. foreign trade agreements on Washington companies and workers. Brown said the union is working with Boeing and its suppliers to grow the industry in our state, and could not support any trade agreements that would take jobs away from aerospace workers in Washington. Previous outsourcing has hurt the industry, he said.

**Union testifies at hearing**

**Thanks to the following members of the District 751 Legislative Team:**

- Aaron Coleman
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- Wale Frederick
- Chuck Fromong
- Clark Fromong
- Oscar Frost
- Sonja Fryberger
- Christine Fullerton
- Bob Giannetti
- Christine Fullerton
- Doug Givens
- Ken Howard
- Richard Jackson
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- Dwyane Johnson
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- Ray Medina
- Bob Merritt
- Suzan Merritt
- Gloria Milhassa
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- Don Morris
- Jared Moschkau
- Dan Mulder
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- Edadgie Muncio
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- Hazel Powers
- Shannon Preutt
- Jason Redrup
- Jim Ron
- Doug Rigsby
- Gabrielle Rogano
- Jeff Rose
- Philip Romio
- Paul Schubert
- Aaron Schumacher
- Robyn Scott
- Alex Sez.
- Jerry Selman
- Troy Seraf
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- James Smith
- Joe Smith
- Dave Smith
- Craig Smooth
- Bret Snickers
- Princek Stewart
- Dave Swan
- Gary Swartz
- Tom Sweeney
- Susanna Thomas
- Stosh Tomala
- Thong Trang
- Rhonda Tutino
- Paul Vlkamp
- Steve Warren
- Phil Westerberg
- Roy Wilkinson
- Kip Wilson
- Tom Wroblewski
- Tony Young
- Bill Young

**IAM says no to benefit cuts**

A Machinists Union delegation – led by Western Territories VP Gary Allen – took part in a candlelight protest vigil at the Federal Building in Seattle Dec. 10. The Machinists joined other community activists in speaking out against potential government safety net programs like Social Security and Medicare proposed by Republicans in Congress to pay for continued tax breaks for the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans. The proposal was floated during negotiations over the “fiscal cliff.”
Women made a key difference in the 2012 elections, and can continue to make a difference in their unions and workplaces, attendees at a recent Coalition of Labor Union Women conference were told.

“You used to be told that unions are good for women,” Michael Cambiioso, president of IATF Local 42 in Kansas City, told the conference. “But now in 2012 women are good for unions.”

A dozen District 751 members took part in the three-day, international skills-building conference sponsored by CLUW in Kansas City Nov. 9-11.

Rogano, an officer of the conference, was providing training for union women in three important areas – public speaking, community engagement and skills for emerging leaders – so that they can take on broader roles within the labor movement.

The conference also celebrated President Obama’s election win, which came despite well-funded attacks on the rights of women and unions both.

“We women made a huge difference in this election,” Missouri state Sen. Jolie Justus told the conference goers. “The combined attacks on union and women “made no sense to me,” she added. “It was a war on the backbone of this country.”

In all, the conference drew about 180 activists from 27 states and from Canada. The attendees represented 24 different unions and organizations that support workers.

“We’re all here for one purpose,” said Gabby Rogano, a District 751 activist who took part. “There’s a goal in mind: to further the labor movement, women, labor – everybody together. The union’s important. We can all make a difference.”

The conference also included short workshops covering violence in the workplace, the history of women in the labor movement, organizing, women and global solidarity, CLUW’s history and advocacy, leadership and mentoring.

The conference concluded with a panel discussion on how CLUW can make itself more attractive to young union women and how unions can get more young women to attend union meetings and participate in the union.

“We need to go out and become leaders,” added Kenda McKinzy. “We need to make that effort. Because we’re not going to see a change unless we’re willing to take a step forward and make that difference.”

To see a video highlighting the District 751 members who took part in the conference, go online at IAM751.org.

### IAM celebrates UW labor studies center’s 20th anniversary

Lever’s role in elections, the economy, the community, education and history were the focus of the 20th anniversary celebration of the University of Washington’s Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies in November.

District 751 was well represented as retiree Tom Lux (who also serves as a delegate to the Center’s Visiting Committee) attended along with 10 members of the Machinists group – Gabrielle Rogano, Alejandro Camacho, Rob Carver, Andrew Dennis, George King, Oscar Frost, Kenda McKinzy, Susanna Thomas, Levi Wilson and Jason Chan.

Tom Geoghegan, a noted labor lawyer and author of books on the labor movement, spoke about his forthcoming book “Why Our Country Needs to Snap Out of It and Have A New Kind of Labor Movement.”

Geoghegan explored how a reinvigorated labor movement is the solution to many of the country’s most pressing issues including increasing inequality, the faltering middle class and corporate dominance. He also discussed using civil rights laws to counter corporate dominance, rather than pursuing the Employee Free Choice Act.

The conference continued the next day, exploring a range of economic and political topics. A panel discussion appraised the accomplishments of the UW Harry Bridges Center since its founding by a grassroots fundraising campaign in the early 1990s. Subsequent sessions brought together union veterans and labor studies faculty to discuss global solidarity, CLUW’s history and advocacy, leadership and mentoring.

The closing workshop featured officials of the M.L. King County Labor Council, Washington State Labor Council and UW’s Political Science faculty, who discussed the outcome of the elections and their impact on the future activities of labor unions.

“I was an active member during the 1990s as the labor movement was emerging leaders,” added Kenda McKinzy. “We need to make that effort. Because we’re not going to see a change unless we’re willing to take a step forward and make that difference.”

To see a video highlighting the District 751 members who took part in the conference, go online at IAM751.org.

### Workers’ rights are a core human right, says union GVP

Workers’ rights are at the heart of basic human rights, one of the top officers of the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers said.

“The right to collectively bargain is a human right,” declared Gary Allen, who is the general vice president for the Machinists Union’s Western Territories.

“The right to stand together, to protect ourselves and our loved ones against an existence to just and favorable pay, ensuring for ourselves and our family an “existence worthy of human dignity;” and Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions. “That language is pretty clear,” Allen said. “And it’s pretty clear that it is being ignored.”

“I criticized free trade agreements like NAFTA (the North American Free Trade Agreement) for provisions that block the Declaration of Human Rights from being enforced,” that’s wrong, Allen said. “No business or financial transaction is bigger than the protection of human life,” he said. “We cannot allow such atrocities as forced labor, child labor, any form of discrimination and unsafe working conditions to stand unchallenged.”

Allen said Congress needs to do more to end wage discrimination against women, who on average earn only 78 percent of what men are paid for the same work. And he blasted Republicans in the U.S. Senate, who in December blocked ratification of a United Nations treaty on the rights of disabled people – even though it was based on the Americans With Disabilities Act and wouldn’t have changed American law.

Allen said the Machinists Union is doing its part to improve protection of human rights, in part by taking a lead role in the development of Council FIRE, a group to represent the interests of Native Americans within the labor movement.

Native Americans were “first on this soil, but last in the American Dream,” he said. IAM Grand Lodge Rep Kevin Cummings, who is based in Seattle, is one of the leaders of the effort to address that wrong, Allen said, and the IAM’s Grand Lodge this year voted to support Council FIRE.

“Labor has always stood at the forefront of issues like this, and we will not rest until this initiative is fully realized,” he said.

Allen spoke out against recent efforts to limit voting rights, particularly among minorities. “There are those who still believe that voting is a privilege for those of a select class, and not the right of every U.S. citizen.”

And he praised Washington’s voters for legalizing same-sex marriage. “It is my hope that your example will be followed by other states,” Allen said.

He called on activists to stand up and stand together.

“We have to take this nation in the direction we want it to go,” Allen said. “Nobody is going to do it for us.”
JBLM vehicle mechanics vote to join Machinists Union

Continued from page 1

Mechanics who maintain military vehicles and related equipment at Joint Base Lewis-McChord have voted by a nearly 4-to-1 margin to join the Machinists Union.

The group includes heavy-duty vehicle mechanics, leads and supply technicians who work for defense contractor URS Federal Services at the base. Nearly 80 percent of those voting on Dec. 7 were in favor of joining District 751.

District 751 also represents hourly employees of JBLM contractors DOSS Aviation, L-3 Vertex, Eagle Systems, AAI Textron, L-3 Link Simulation, as well as another group of URS Corp. employees who reset helicopters and do site maintenance.

"I'm proud to welcome our brothers and sisters to our union," said District President Tom Wroblewski. "Our district represents hundreds of civilian employees who work at JBLM, at Whidbey Island and Naval Air Station and at Fairchild Air Force Base. The work they do is essential to preserve America's might, and they deserve the kind of pay and benefits that a Machinists Union contract can bring."

The union has already started surveying the new members at URS to determine what their priorities will be in a first collective bargaining agreement, and the members have nominated co-workers who will take part in negotiations, said Organizer Jesse Cote.

The fact that another group of workers has voted for the Machinists Union to represent them in negotiations is "a testament to the work our District 751 representatives do," Cote said. "We've got a record of success, particularly when it comes to work on behalf of the people working for defense contractors."

Once the National Labor Relations Board certifies the election, the union will contact the company to set dates for the start of negotiations, and to request information negotiators will need to bargain intelligently over the workers issues, Cote said.

"We've got a lot of work to do to get to our first contract," he said. "But when we work together, through the union, we've got a track record of improving wages, benefits and working conditions for our new members."

Officers to serve another four years

Continued from page 1

From left) District 751 Organizers Loren Guzzzone, William Dempsey, Chris Wymore, Terry Hill, Rudy Sombra and Business Rep Joe Cross celebrate the members' vote to join the Machinists Union in front of their dispatch center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Naval Air Station and Fairfield Air Force Base. The work they do is essential to preserve America’s might, and they deserve the kind of pay and benefits that a Machinists Union contract can bring.

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Susan Palmer

Palmers picked for Housing Authority board

District 571 Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer has been appointed to the King County Housing Authority’s Board of Commissioners.

As one of five commissioners, Palmer will help set policy and direction for the housing authority, which administers a wide range of affordable rental and home ownership programs for residents of King County. The authority serves more than 18,000 elderly, disabled and family households.

Palmer has experience in the affordable housing arena. As the union’s secretary-treasurer, she oversees Aero Machinists Inc., an arm of the union that operates five low- and moderate-income apartment complexes in King County.

Palmer's work has focused on preserving living wages and an adequate safety net and promoting strong communities,” Palmer said. “I believe my experience will bring real value to the King County Housing Authority and I am excited to work with the other board members in continuing to advance the housing authority’s efforts.”

Besides her new position on the Housing Authority Board, Palmer also serves as a trustee of Renton Technical College. She’s a member of the Puget Sound Labor Agency board of directors and serves on two committees for the King County United Way.

Palmer has been District 751’s secretary-treasurer since 2006.

Prior to that, she spent 10 years as a business rep based in Everett, in which she helped negotiate and enforce the terms of the Machinists Union’s contract with Boeing.

Palmer hired on at Boeing in 1986 as a storekeeper. She later was promoted to be an expediter, then an inspector at Boeing’s Renton plant, where she also served as a union steward.

Ferguson has been vice president of District 751 since January 2011. He is also president of Local 751-A, which is the largest local lodge in the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers.

He was a delegate to the IAM Grand Lodge convention in 2008, and served from 2008-10 on the District 751 Council. He is a union steward and president of local lodge 751-A.

Ferguson works as a 737 delivery mechanic for Boeing in Seattle at Boeing Field. He hired in at Boeing in 1987. He is a native of Beaver Falls, Penn., and served 12 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Fromong has been the district's sergeant-at-arms since 2010. In that role he helps keep order at District Council meetings.

Fromong served 10 years as a District Council delegate from Local 751-C, and has been an active volunteer, including service on the Machinists Volunteer Program committee since it was formed in 1997.

He works for Boeing in Auburn, where he’s a union steward, and recently marked his 25th anniversary with the company.

Fromong grew up in Seattle’s South Park neighborhood, a few blocks from where the Seattle Union Hall stands.

“We’ll have many challenges over the next four years, as we try to grow both our union and our aerospace industry,” Wroblewski said. “But we’ve got a very strong team in place here at District 751, and our successes over the past four years gives me great confidence.”

Union raises $299,000 for Guide Dogs of America

Continued from page 1

“I got to see first-hand the joy our member had upon gaining back his freedom after receiving a guide dog,” Wroblewski said. “It was a great day, and a moment I will never forget.”

Wroblewski thanked all the donors from our members, and a sign that we’re going in the right direction," Wroblewski said. “It’s a great honor.”

The district officers started their new terms on Jan. 1. The business reps will start new four-year terms on Feb. 1.

Wroblewski has been president and directing business representative of District 751 since March 2007, when he was elected to fill out the remainder of former president Mark Blondin’s second term, after Blondin had been appointed as an IAM aerospace coordinator.

Prior to that, Wroblewski had served three years as the District 751 grievance coordinator, and 15 years as a business representative with assignments in Everett, Renton, Auburn, Frederickson and Seattle.

Wroblewski won re-election to a full four-year term in 2008, after a contested race at the district council level.

Palmer has been District 751’s secretary-treasurer since 2006.

In that role, she functions as the union’s chief financial officer.

Prior to that, she spent 10 years as a financial officer.

Palmer has been appointed to the King County Housing Authority’s Board of Commissioners.

As one of five commissioners, Palmer will help set policy and direction for the housing authority, which administers a wide range of affordable rental and home ownership programs for residents of King County. The authority serves more than 18,000 elderly, disabled and family households.

Palmer has experience in the affordable housing arena. As the union’s secretary-treasurer, she oversees Aero Machinists Inc., an arm of the union that operates five low- and moderate-income apartment complexes in King County.

My union work has always focused on preserving living wages and an adequate safety net and promoting strong communities,” Palmer said. “I believe my experience will bring real value to the King County Housing Authority and I am excited to work with the other board members in continuing to advance the housing authority’s efforts.”

Besides her new position on the Housing Authority Board, Palmer also serves as a trustee of Renton Technical College. She’s a member of the Puget Sound Labor Agency board of directors and serves on two committees for the King County United Way.

Palmer has been District 751’s secretary-treasurer since 2006.

Prior to that, she spent 10 years as a business rep based in Everett.

Palmer hired on at Boeing in 1986 in Renton plant, where she also served as a union steward.

(Bottom left) Local F officers present a check for $5,380, which they raised during this year’s MasterCard raffle fundraiser to benefit Guide Dogs. L to R: Susan Palmer, Robley Evans, Paul Veltkamp, Dwayne Johnson, Prinice Steward, Tom Wroblewski.
MVPs and United Way help Everett Toys for Tots drive

District 751 MVPs teamed up with the United Way of Snohomish County and other local unions to bring some holiday cheer to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots warehouse in Everett.

The unions and United Way donated roughly $1,500 worth of toys and supplies on Dec. 15, while volunteers – including nearly 50 Machinists – helped sort donations and pick up toys from drop-off points around Snohomish County.

“By helping out with Toys for Tots, our Machinists Volunteer Program members are making the holidays a little merrier for some Snohomish County families,” said District President Tom Wroblewski. “We’re proud to partner with United Way and the Marines for this event.”

Along with the Machinists, volunteers from ATU Local 1576, IBEW Local 89 and the Snohomish County Labor Council took part.

United Way and union volunteers also helped two families by providing them Christmas trees and ornaments. One family, with twin 4-year-old boys, had been displaced by a fire in Everett on Nov. 8.

Santa Claus had previously picked up toys for the children, but without a tree and decorations, he had no place to leave them Christmas Eve, a United Way spokesman said. So the volunteers took care of that.

The project was organized and funded through a partnership between United Way and the labor council.

District 751 volunteers at the start of the Snohomish County United Way Toys for Tots drive Dec. 15 in Everett.

United Way’s Labor Advisory Committee was established to support Snohomish County residents with the help of the labor community. District 751 volunteers have helped the committee with several projects, including a wheelchair ramp and other home safety and mobility improvements for community members in need and by supporting annual projects like the Letter Carriers Food Drive and Toys for Tots.

“We’re thrilled to work with our partners in the labor community, Toys for Tots and the Marines to reach out and help all of the children of our community,” said Dennis G. Smith, president and CEO of United Way.

Above: Union volunteers Jennifer Bender and Jessica Clark look through the toys at the Toys for Tots warehouse in Everett.

Right: MVPs Josh Divers, Gabby Rogano, Oscar Frost and Paul Schubert make their list and check it twice during the Snohomish County United Way Toys for Tots drive Dec. 15 in Everett. Photos courtesy of United Way.

Holiday tradition: Machinists ring bells for Salvation Army

More than 50 volunteers from District 751 turned out Dec. 7 for the union’s annual night of bell-ringing at Westlake Center in Seattle.

At right: Sandra Desimone had the kettle near the entrance to Nordstrom.

Far right: L to R: Kelly Coty, Brett Coty, Gabby Rogano, Jeremy Coty, Paul Bartman and Dena Bartman.
Curry of The Rescue Mission.

Mission honors Machinist as Volunteer of Year

A District 751 retiree has been honored by The Rescue Mission in Tacoma as one of its Volunteers of the Year.

Vennie Murphy was presented with the award at a Rescue Mission luncheon in Puyallup on Nov. 2.

Mission CEO David Curry praised Murphy, who has volunteered in the mission’s Tacoma kitchen since the ’90s, and presented him with a plaque.

“I don’t know of anybody who’s had as much faithfulness about serving, and has been so influential in bringing in other people to serve,” Curry said.

Curry said Murphy has forged a strong link between the Tacoma mission and the Machinists Volunteer Program.

“Vennie has invited us to be part of their organization, and they’re part of ours,” Curry added. “We need lots of Vennies.”

MVPs now prepare and serve breakfast to the mission’s homeless clients two weekends each month. They periodically throw Sunday dinners as well.

The mission serves about 1,000 meals a day to homeless people, and provides shelter to about 160 homeless children – as well as their parents – each night, Curry said.

It wasn’t hard to find Machinists willing to help, Murphy said.

“Once they came down and did it, you didn’t have to invite them back,” he said. “Once they saw what the need was, and how they could make a difference.”

Now retired, Murphy said he plans to keep volunteering at the mission.

“I really do enjoy it,” Murphy said. “It’s part of my life.”

Sweet! Union collects 500 pounds of candy

Local C President Ron Coen helps load some of the 500 pounds of candy collected by union stewards and officers in October for the Salvation Army of White Center’s annual Halloween Party.

“The donation made the holiday season a little bit sweeter for low-income children in the south Seattle neighborhood. “That much candy should be enough to get them through Halloween and their Christmas party too,” Coen said.

Volunteers join Hometeam for food drive

Close to 150 Machinists Union volunteers were out Dec. 1 at sites around Puget Sound helping KING-TV’s annual Hometeam Harvest food drive.

The annual food drive took place at malls and shopping centers across Western Washington. It was to benefit Northwest Harvest food banks.

Union volunteers presented two checks totaling $3,300 to Northwest Harvest. One, for $2,300, was donated by Machinists District 751 and the other was from the Washington Machinists Council, which represents all Machinists Union members statewide, including those in the forest products, transportation, manufacturing and airline industries.

With Northwest Harvest able to provide a meal for 22 cents, the union’s contribution was enough to pay for nearly 15,000 meals, food drive organizers said.

Along with the cash, the Machinists contributed labor, helping to load the Northwest Harvest semi-trailers with food donated by the public. The volunteers also brought non-perishable food items donated by union members during local lodge meetings.

“Hungry’s no game,” said Robley Evans, the chairman of the Machinists Volunteer Program, which is the community service arm of District 751. “We see hungry people all too often, when we volunteer at the homeless shelters around Puget Sound, and we know that everything we can do as a community helps.”

This was the 11th year that Machinists Union members have taken part in Hometeam Harvest. It is always one of the largest community service events of the year for the union’s “MVPs,” who volunteer year-round in support of Northwest Harvest, the Salvation Army, Guide Dogs of America and homeless shelters in Everett and Tacoma.

“Our union has two goals, making our companies better places to work and making our communities better places to live,” said Evans. “Thanks to Hometeam Harvest, a lot of our neighbors will have things a little better this winter, and we were proud to do our part to help surpass this year’s target of 3 million meals.”

One of the many 751 volunteers helping out at the Tacoma Mall Hometeam Harvest.
Volunteers bring toys n’ joy to needy Seattle families

More than 40 volunteers from District 751 helped bring Christmas magic to some Seattle-area families in need.

Two groups of union MVPs took part in this year’s Salvation Army Toy n’ Joy event. On Dec. 18, volunteers drove around to business and community groups to pick up toys that they’d collected. The next day, a second group of MVPs joined other community volunteers at the Century Link Field Events Center to distribute the toys.

“We all love the joy our own children get on Christmas Day,” said MVP Committee Chairman Robley Evans. “To know that something we’ve done is going to bring that some kind of joy to someone else’s child really means a lot.”

Machinists support Wal-Mart strikers

District 751 members who work at Boeing can take advantage of retirement planning workshops being offered in early 2013 in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle.

The sessions will cover:
• VIP options, potential taxes and penalties;
• Maximizing Boeing pension options;
• Tax-favored investing and proper asset allocation;
• Health and life insurance options;
• Ways to calculate your real post-Boeing retirement income; and
• Creative budgeting techniques and dealing with debt.

The sessions will be:
Auburn – noon to 2 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m., Jan. 16, Feb. 13 and Mar. 13 at the Auburn Union Hall, 201A St. SW.
Everett – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Jan. 24, Feb. 12, Mar. 12, at the Everett Union Hall, 8729 Airport Road.
Renton – noon to 2 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m., Jan. 23 and Mar. 20, at the Renton Union Hall, 233 Burnett Ave. N.
Seattle – Noon to 2 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m., Jan. 17, Feb. 21 and Mar. 14 at the Seattle Union Hall, 9125 15th Place S.

Union works with Boeing to recruit next generation

The Machinists Union and Boeing teamed up at a recent Snohomish County career fair promoting opportunities for young people in advanced manufacturing.

About 1,000 middle school and high school students from across the county took part in the event, which was held Oct. 9 at the Everett High Fairgrounds, and sponsored by the Snohomish County Workforce Development Council.

“We’re trying to find different avenues to get the message out that manufacturing is a family-wage job and a good career choice, and to get kids excited about that,” said Grace Holland, a District 751 member who’s a program administrator for IAM/Boeing Joint Programs.

Four District 751 members – Holland, Howard Carlson and Mark Clark from Joint Programs and Gerald “Bear” Chaput from Boeing’s Everett wire shop – manned a booth at the job fair. They supervised teens working on two hands-on activities, one involving following instructions and a blueprint to assemble components with Cleco tools and fasteners, and the other involving using lock wire pliers on a wiring assignment.

That hands-on experience was one of the best things about the career fair, said Genesis Ramirez, who is a junior at an alternative school in Monroe.

“I liked that they showed how to do things instead of just talking about them,” said a reporter from The Herald newspaper. The career fair was an eye-opener for Charlie Van Slageren, who is a junior at the Sno-Isle Tech Skills Center in Everett. “There are a vast number of work opportunities out there besides logging and farming,” he told The Herald.

And Boeing is certainly one of them, Jimmy Burton, a Granite Falls High School senior, told the newspaper. “It showed me there are steps you can take to be there.”

That was the message from the Machinists Union and Boeing at the career fair. Holland said she told the students that “what you really need to know is that 50 percent of our workforce is eligible to retire in the next five years. We need you to be ready to take our spots.”

Financial seminars to help members at Boeing plan for their retirement

District 751 members who work at Boeing plan for their retirement

Financial seminars to help members at Boeing plan for their retirement
Happy Holiday Luncheon

Retirees and their guests filled the Seattle Union Hall on Monday, Dec. 10 for the annual holiday luncheon. District President Tom Wroblewski greeted the crowd and thanked them for all they did to build our union. Darrell Wallis read a Christmas poem while retired Business Rep Larry Monger delivered the invocation.

The event gave retirees an opportunity to hear about the previous year, catch up on friends, family and learn what’s going on in the union and at Boeing.

District 751 business reps, officers and staff filled the stage with hundreds of prizes that were raffled off following the lunch.

The annual event was the perfect way to kick off the holiday season.

November Retired Club Minutes

The meeting was called to order by T.J. Seibert. Roll Call of Officers: Louise Burn was excused.

Minutes: M/S/P as printed. Financial Officers report: A motion was made to accept the report as read. M/S/P.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz thanked all those who worked hard on the elections and made a difference – especially Tom Lux who spent more than a month in Ohio. He noted it was a real challenge to get our financial house in order, which must include letting the Bush tax cuts expire at the end of the year so those making more than $250,000 pay their fair share. Carl noted that our legislative committee is asking our members to reach across the aisle and vote for the Obama tax plan.

On statewide issues, we will be watching the legislature to ensure there are no cuts to senior or worker issues.

Carl reported the club is looking for ways to build the membership and urging retirees to get active in the club, which meets every Monday at 11 a.m. at the Seattle Union Hall.

Carl marched with Vets for Peace in the Auburn veteran’s day parade.

Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was held to honor the following deceased members: Michael D. Cobb, Arthur Dawes Jr., Genevieve Goode, Edwin C. Johnson, Yukio Takeuchi, Lilly Sley, and William Wise.


This table had two additional reasons to celebrate. Ginny Edwards (far left) had just celebrated her 90th birthday. Seated behind her Donna and Mark Thomas celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on Dec. 20.

Glen and Arlene Haasman were in the holiday spirit.

Retirees filed the Seattle Union Hall for the holiday event on Dec. 10.

Those attending the Retired Club Christmas Party were treated to a hot turkey lunch with all the trimmings, including pumpkin pie for dessert.

Three weeks in Ohio helping with the election there. He felt it was worthwhile and encouraged others to do it if they get the chance. It involved visiting union households and phone banking. He believed it had an impact.

Tom Lux reported he was one of a dozen retirees who spent about five weeks in Ohio helping with the election there.

Carl Marched with Vets for Peace in the Auburn, veteran’s day parade.

Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was held to honor the following deceased members: Michael D. Cobb, Arthur Dawes Jr., Genevieve Goode, Edwin C. Johnson, Yukio Takeuchi, Lilly Sley, and William Wise.


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GERIEEES

Congratulations to the following members who retired from the Union:

Jill D. Adler
Jerry D. Austin
Tho B. Banya
Kenneth R. Bartlett
Michael L. Burter
Jeffrey S. Bylin
Randy J. Carroll
Kay A. Castonguay
Theodore L. Clun
Robert M. Conaway
Stewart M. Davey
Don D. Desa
John Diep
Lyle R. Eddington
Edward Hardegger
James M. Harris
David L. Harwood
Brian C. Hawkins
Jeffrey L. Heim
Dwight D. Hilligen
David A. Hostetler
John T. Hutchings
Erwin D. Kilien
Richard T. Jefferson
Clifford S. Johnston
T.J. thanked veterans current and past for their valuable service to our country. Keep them in our prayers.

Mike Lough encouraged everyone to come up with ideas to grow the club. Continued on page 11

Those attending the Retired Club Christmas Party were treated to a hot turkey lunch with all the trimmings, including pumpkin pie for dessert.

Eddie and Sandi Kuckyna celebrated 51 years of marriage on Dec. 4.

Glen and Arlene Haasman were in the holiday spirit.
FREE
WANT ADS
FOR MEMBERS ONLY

AD RULES
Each single ad must be 25 words or
Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each, as they are
pre-classified physically. Ads are only
members to identify, ad paid for, or retired. For best response, please
include the most complete and accurate information in your
ad. The following information must be filled in for your ad to appear:
Deadline For Next Jan. 10th

KONA, HAWAI'I OCEANFRONT condo, enjoy
spectacular views from lanai, 2 BD/2 BA condo, pool, Jacuzzi, DLR, see www.konahawaiicondos.com

ASSISTED LIVING IN PRIVATE HOME.
Private room, wheelchair accessible,
medical supervision, home cooking,
outdoor patio. S. Everett, easy I-5 access.
Lynn's Place. Lynnalinda2012@yahoo.com

Nikon MAGNETIC KENKOPAD, the thinner style that goes over your mattress, 100 cm, new in original box, queen size, $250.223.852-6809

COLLECTIBLE CHANDELIER, all brass
with painted flowers, 6 electric bulbs, plus big bottom omie. $300. 223.852-6809

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WINDMILL, 21" high,
very nice, will make a great gift for all birthdays over 100. $35. Plate glass
shelving, 1 1/2 x 3 5/8, each $5. 223.852-6809

VENETIAN WINDOW BLIND oil
molded, 3" plus inside diameter, good condition. $15. Vinyl window blinds drop
downs, shade pole. $5. 223.852-6809

KITCHEN LIGHT, 25" L x 10", oak frame and two fluorescent bulbs. $10. Thighbuster exerisier. $5. 223.852-6809

OLD FARMHOUSE FRUIT
DIAMS JARS, quartz storage vase.
The jars had coffee in them, 3 sides are quilted.
$9.99 ea, several sizes. 223.852-6809

VINTAGE KERR JELLY GLASS JARS
V批 selective glass jars, in original buns.
Several sizes. 206-459-3444

STAINLESS STEEL TOWBAR
Stowmaster. 9 pairs of shoes, real neat, has differ-
ent but no phone number. Members' "cottage

Circle One:
ANIMALS
BOATS
TOOLS
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
HAUSING AUTOPARTS & ACCESSORIES
PROPERTY RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP
VENTURE SPORT TRUCKS
King's Auto Recyc.

Address
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. Southeast, 98108 Deadline is Jan. 10th!
2013 IAM Scholarship Competition Now Open

The IAM Scholarship Competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada.

Awards to members or the son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.

Child of a Member Applicant—
• Must have one living parent
• Two years of continuous good-standing membership up to and including the closing date of Feb. 25, 2013.
• Must plan to graduate during the winter or by the end of the spring 2013 school year (i.e., normally a high school senior).

Eligibility for Competition
Any applicant must be either:
• an IAM member,
• the son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.

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Kenworth Machinists Ratify 1-Year Deal

Machinists Union members working at Kenworth Sales in Spokane have ratified a new one-year agreement. The 19 members voted to accept the agreement by more than 90 percent on Nov. 30.

One of the top issues was preserving the Automotive Pension Plan. The new agreement does that, and specifies that all pension surcharges will be covered by the employer. The contract also maintained other benefits and provided a 40-cent-an-hour wage increase.

“Everyone feels pretty good about the contract and getting a bit of a raise is always a good thing,” said Scott Hanks, who participated in the bargaining sessions. The Machinists at Kenworth ensure that the new and used trucks sold at their facility are in top working condition, and operate a full-service shop open seven days a week, covering two shifts to provide maximum service to their customers.

They work on all kinds of trucks -- including Peterbilt, Freightliner, Mack and Volvo -- do regular fleet maintenance for various companies, and do repairs and maintenance for independent truckers.

There are job openings in the aerospace industry, now and for the foreseeable future, District 751 Machinists told students at North Central High School in Spokane.

Eastern Washington Business Rep Steve Warren and Local 86 officer Gary Swartz spoke at the school’s Career Day in November. So did Kevin Quinn, the Spokane project director for the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee.

“Our goal was to help engage, excite and educate these students about our field,” Swartz said. “With a rapidly aging workforce, and a near-record retirement boom forecast over the next 10 years, reaching out to the next generation of youth is the right thing to do.”

A career in the manufacturing trades is a viable – and attractive – option for many young people, the Machinists told the students.

“Most of the students may not attend traditional college and are looking at other occupations,” Warren said.

Apprenticeships are one option. Quinn discussed the benefits of earning while you learn through an AJAC-sponsored apprenticeship program.

Warren said he discussed the kind of training that’s required to get into different aerospace manufacturing careers, including certifications and journeyman-level skills needed for specific jobs.

Swartz talked about job opportunities at Triumph in Spokane and at Boeing in Puget Sound. He brought samples of the aerospace parts Machinists build at Triumph, including dash boards for 737s, floor panels from 777s, air ducts from 787s and carbon fiber clips Airbus uses on A380s.

The samples – along with toy airplanes provided by Triumph management and Machinists Union Friscoes and yo-yos from the District 751 Organizing Department - were a hit, Swartz said.

“The young women in the class were especially engaged and interactive,” he said.

Triumph and the Machinists are working together to help recruit a new generation of aerospace workers in Eastern Washington, Swartz said.

“Both corporate and labor institutions can agree there is an impending skilled labor crisis coming down the pipe in the aerospace industry,” Swartz said. He said he’s talked with Triumph’s Spokane president, Tim Stevens, about doing more joint union/company Career Day programs at other Inland Northwest high schools.

“We’re available in the future should the local high schools ask again,” Swartz said.

Machinists help to get out the vote east of the Cascades


Left: Staff Assistant Ken Howard attended Cantwell’s rally at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 598 Union Hall in Pasco. Cantwell and other Democrats stressed pro-worker themes at the campaign stops.

Above: Kenworth Sales bargaining team of Ric Petersen and Kip Eker discuss issues with Business Rep Steve Warren, Scott Hanks and Greg Rash during a negotiation session.

Left: Greg Rash (l) and Scott Hanks count the ballots on the new one-year agreement at Kenworth Sales, which was ratified by more than 90 percent.

Gary Swartz, a Union Steward at Triumph Composites, shows off one of the aerospace parts Triumph workers build during a talk on the aerospace industry at North Central High School’s Career Day.

Business Rep Steve Warren discusses training and certifications needed for jobs in aerospace at a Career Day event at North Central High School in Spokane.