Spokane Members Say YES!

Relief characterized the mood as 75 percent of the members in Spokane voted to accept the first contract with Triumph Group Inc. on January 6.

For over a year, members in Spokane have lived with uncertainty over whether or not the plant would remain open. Our members made the decision to keep this plant open by overwhelmingly ratifying the first contract.

Immediately after learning Triumph was the buyer in late November, the Union surveyed the members and began an accelerated negotiation pace to ensure the purchase went through. The high percentage approving the contract confirmed members were eager to finalize the deal and go to work for a company that plans to expand and grow.

Spokane member Doug Parker, echoed the sentiments many members expressed, and stated, “I was not happy with Boeing selling the Spokane plant. With the soft economy and the alternative that Boeing would close the doors, I was impressed with the contract the Union negotiating team brought to us. They did a fantastic job.”

As District President Mark Blondin, Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Spalding and Business Reps Craig McClure walked through the factory on the day the sale was finalized, one member made a point of stopping them to say, “I was never a big fan of the Union, but I want to say thank you. It was reassuring to know we had someone watching out for our interests. You did a great job and turned me into a Union supporter.”

The Union Negotiating Team consisted of District President Mark Blondin, Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Spalding, Business Reps Craig McClure, Larry Monger and Tommy Wilson, Administrative Assistant.

Members to Maintain Executive Cars

When 751 Union Steward Jason Bailey learned work from his shop was being considered for subcontracting, he jumped into action to ensure the work remained in the automotive shop at Plant II. Thanks to his efforts, the shop will continue to service, repair and maintain Boeing-owned automobiles driven by approximately 60 Puget Sound executives.

Jason’s shop is responsible for maintaining and repairing all motor vehicles for Seattle, Plant II and Kent, yet their work scope goes beyond the normal Boeing-owned vehicles. The shop also has traditionally performed all the maintenance and repair work on Boeing executives’ automobiles. This covers approximately 60 vehicles driven by executives in the Puget Sound region. Jason and his co-workers have taken great pride in working on the vehicles, delivering top quality service with a quick turn-around.

In December when an executive’s vehicle was brought in, Jason realized it had been serviced somewhere else and immediately began inquiring about the situation. He learned that Boeing was planning to take the vehicle to another shop. In doing so, they would lose quality and seniority provisions, a greatly improved pension, wages between $21 and $25 an hour, and the establishment of a profit-sharing plan (see page three for details of the contract).

“It was a difficult vote for our members,” said 751 President Mark Blondin when he announced results of the vote. “When we began negotiating with Triumph, one of the top concerns was the security and seniority provisions, a greatly improved pension, wages between $21 and $25 an hour, and the establishment of a profit-sharing plan (see page three for details of the contract).”

Focusing on Members’ Issues Face-to-Face

As we start a new year, the Union also stepped up efforts to improve communication with shop floor members. The Union began holding member focus groups as part of an ongoing communication plan.

These informal small group meetings provide members an opportunity to meet face-to-face with Union leaders and voice their concerns, discuss issues, get answers to questions or offer suggestions on how the Union can better service the members. The main objective is to hear what you - the members - have to say. A computer program randomly selects members for the groups by their work location.

Call to Action

Use the information to contact legislators throughout the 2003 session.

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Unity in Tough Times Will See Us Through

by Mark Blondin, District President

As we enter this new year, I am sure that we all have hopes for a better outlook for our industry and for our members. This has certainly been the toughest couple of years that most of us have ever had to endure. As stewards, our brothers and sisters are on the line. We experienced very bitter negotiations with our biggest employer – Boeing. Layoffs are imminent at Hanford and there is uncertainty at Alcoa in Wenatchee.

But even in these tumultuous times, I still see the unity and support across the state from our membership that has always defined our Union. While attending the 50th anniversary of our Union at Alcoa, I sensed and saw first hand, the deep pride our members in Local 1123 have in our Union. We had retirees from the past five decades attend this event and exchange stories from our Union’s past. Working at Hanford we see Union members from Local 1951 training fellow Union members at the Volpentest/Hammer Training Facility. In Seattle, over 80 members from District 751 recently attended the Martin Luther King Rally and March. Our members logged in thousands of volunteer hours in our communities – from Tri-Cities to Everett. These are just a few of the positive examples that even in the toughest of times, we stick together and we help each other. Thanks to all the members in Spokane who supported the Union during the Boeing negotiations last summer – all the while knowing that their plant was up for sale. Thanks to all the members who supported the Spokane Memorial while we negotiated a new contract with the buyer – Triumph. Considering the circumstances, negotiate or close the plant – I believe that we got a deal we can live with. Besides maintaining nearly 300 jobs, our members will enjoy a better retirement, better seniority protection, and many of the same benefits they had under the Boeing agreement. First and foremost, they now have an employer who is committed to the area and focused on growing the business. While the process was very tense for our brothers and sisters in Spokane, they were very supportive and appreciative of the Union Leadership. I was proud to meet with Spokane members and families at our informational meetings and very proud of the way they handled all the pressures associated with this deal. We all look for growth in the Spokane area and return to work for our laid off Spokane Members.

We are currently raising funds for the Guide Dogs of America. This IAM-Sponsored charity has given guide dog assistance to blind citizens for more than 50 years. Last year we raised enough money to fully train three guide dogs and blind recipients. To take away the darkness for a blind person is something we can all be proud of. Our Union Stewards are currently circulating payroll deduction cards, and you can help by donating just $1 per month. I sure hope you will consider helping.

We will also be helping the Employees Community Fund this year. With all the layoffs in our industry and others, there are many more needy people and families than in the past. Our community needs us. If you are interested in becoming a booster for this year’s drive – we need your help. I know many of our members are already giving, and that is great. I trust, consider joining. It’s Union members helping people and our community.

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

Mark Blondin
President, Boeing Business Representative

Gloria Millsaps
Vice President

Bruce Spalding
Secretary-Treasurer

Kim Leufroy
Sergeant-at-Arms

McClure
Larry Brown
Paul Knebel

Tommy Wilson
Ray Baumgardner
Ernest McCarthy
Jackie Boschak

Emerson Hamilton

Stan Johnson
Jerry Shreve
Larry Monger

Susan Palmer
Zack Zaratkiewicz

Carl Ritcheson

Unity Business Representatives

L to R: Business Rep
Zack Zaratkiewicz
(administers the oath of office to Local A Members)
Officers Clifford Wyatt (President), Gloria Millsaps (Recording Secretary), Rick Weyner (Vice President) Heather Barstow (Secretary-Treasurer), Pam Black (Trustee), Jason Redrup (Trustee), Linda Naden (Trustee), Chery J Peterson (Local Audit), Richard Jackson (Local Audit), Scott Campbell (Local Audit), Sam Argue (Conductor-Sentinel).

L to R: Past Local C President Dick Fahgonk swears in the newly elected Local C Officers: Auditor Jim Rivet, Vice-President Mark Johnson, Vice President James Darrah, Recording Secretary Gary E. W. agier, Secretary-Treasurer Curt Thorfinson, Trustee David Henry, Trustee Rob Stonericker, Auditor Rod Sigward, Auditor Gary Bouch and Trustee Tony Johnson.

Automotive Work Remains In-House

Continued from page 1

ment and convinced them to continue servicing the vehicles at Plant II. Jason noted, “As soon as I learned we were going to take the vehicles elsewhere, I began voicing my concern and highlighting our strengths. Many times these decisions are made without weighing all the consequences and knowing the full story. Once management understood the importance of keeping the work in-house, along with our excellent service record and the convenience it provides, they met with the executive car management and convinced them to continue bringing the vehicles here. I hope Stewards in other areas are as vocal and speak up to preserve our jobs and challenge decisions to offload our work.”

Officers Installed in Locals 751-A & 751-C

Changes to VIP

Effective January 2, 2003, hourly employees can contribute up to 20 percent of their base salary in the Voluntary Investment Plan (VIP). Previously, the limit was 15 percent. You can make such a change by accessing your personal account info by calling the VIP service center at 1-800-555-9809 or on the Boeing website (www.csplans.com).

751 AERO MECHANIC

Connor Kellinner, Editor

Member of The Newspaper Guild, CWA #37082

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Spokane Members Vote to Accept

Continued from page 1

Triumph, our top priority was keeping this plant open and preserving jobs for our members. This agreement accomplished that and is one we intend to build on for the future.”

While Triumph was adamant they would only pay top-Spokane wages, which translated into wage concessions, the Union worked to increase compensation in other areas such as pension, job security, and creating a new profit-sharing plan that will be developed in the next 180 days. Boeing had warned if the contract was rejected, Triumph would walk away from the purchase and Boeing would shut down the Spokane factory.

“Some of the members wanted me to call their bluff, but there is no way I could take that kind of risk with the livelihoods of 300 families,” Blondin said.

District 751 focused on saving as many jobs as possible and brokered an agreement that hired 90 percent of the Spokane employees. SPEEA, on the other hand, focused on maintaining market the plant open and saw only 70 percent of their members hired at Triumph.

While the question of whether the plant remains open is settled, working for a new employer automatically causes some anxiety as people adjust to the new company and work through their questions.

Erin Blashill, whose husband is also a member at the plant, noted, “People really wanted these jobs and appreciate the Union’s work to keep the plant open. Now that the sale is done, there is apprehension about how the new company will work, but overall people are relieved to know it will remain open. We want to know how Triumph will bring in and go forward from today. We expected cuts in the contract and there were, but our benefits remain intact and are better in some regards - particularly with getting the IAM pension.”

“Over 1/2 years, I believe we will be in a better bargaining position at that time and ask to get that back,” Erin added.

Member Ken Winn stated, “I am still working and that is the best alternative we could get. Triumph is talking of the growth and expansion like they say. ‘We want to build the plant. We will show what type of workforce we can accept and were eager to work for a Company that wants to expand. Dave Saugen noted, ‘If I went away from some areas, I feel this could be a new beginning for us. Unlike Boeing, Triumph wants to build the plant. We will show Triumph what type of workforce we can be.”

Adjusting to a new company will have its trials and tribulations, but the Union will be there every step of the way to address member concerns, answer questions and hold Triumph accountable for what was agreed to at the bargaining table.

While not all employees were happy with the agreement, and some were not, it was described as acceptable and were eager to work for a Company that wants to expand.

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The Spokane contract with Triumph was ratified by 75 percent of the members and is a very good first contract – one we intend to build on for the future. Our top priority was keeping the plant open and preserving jobs, which was accomplished. Below are highlights from the 4-1/2 year contract, which expires May 31, 2007.

WAGES

Wages for current Triumph employees range from $21.16 to $25.78 per hour. General Wage Increases of 2% on 1/1/05 and 2% on 1/1/06. The Company and Union will meet within 180 days of ratification to agree upon a profit-sharing program that could equal two-times weekly pay to bolster the economic package.

JOB SECURITY

Language that the employer will not subcontract work customarily and currently performed by our members during a reduction in force or if it would directly result in a reduction in force. Just as important – Triumph intends to expand and diversify the work with the hope of recalling those on layoff (as opposed to the current layoff situation with Boeing).

RETIREMENT

Established IAM National Pension Plan with immediate vesting for all employees. Company contribution and benefit vesting rates outlined at right. IAM Plan includes 30 years and out with no reduction rate. In addition, 401K plan with Company matching 50% of first 6% of employee contribution.

Pension benefits from Boeing are frozen at the rate of $58 per month per year of credited service.

SENIORITY

Seniority will include Boeing bargaining unit seniority plus time on the active payroll of Triumph for purposes of vacation, promotions and surplus. ALL PROMOTIONS will be based on seniority, subject to a 90-day probationary period. No reten tion, seniority or benefits will be considered to accrue for time on layoff equal to length of employment not to exceed three years.

PREFERENTIAL HIRING LIST

Triumph will maintain a list by seniority and by job classification of employees who are currently laid-off from Boeing Spokane. Those employees shall be given preferential hiring rights over all other job applicants for a period of three years.

LIFE INSURANCE/ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT

Benefit is two times your annual salary (base rate plus shift differential excluding overtime) up to a maximum of $150,000 (Boeing benefit is currently $32,000).

VACATION, SICK LEAVE, HOLIDAYS AND BEREAVEMENT

Basically same as current Boeing contract. Current Boeing vacation accrued and earned will transfer to Triumph.

EDUCATION BENEFITS

Secured QTTP Education Assistance and Advising Benefits for three years same as offered to laid-off Boeing employees.

MEDICAL COVERAGE

Includes a PPO (preferred) plan, as well as HMO plan. Employees will pay 15% of medical premium costs (which is still less than Boeing employees will pay for equivalent coverage in 2004). Employees will not have to pay taxes on their portion of the health care premiums, if they so choose. Employees can also choose to have child care expenses deferred to a pre-tax account.

The over $2 billion revenue shortfall facing our state highlights why members need to be vocal in the 2003 legislative session. Save the 2003 legislative session. Save workers and bills that encourage business such as Boeing to remain in this state. Following are issues of concern:

- These bills, which is why we need our pharmaceutical lobby continues to oppose the ergonomics rule to ensure workplace safety.

TRANSPORTATION – Legislature is considering a small gas tax or sales tax, which would be gradually implemented over time. Freight mobility, which is of great concern to keep companies such as Boeing in this region, must be a crucial part of any transportation solution.

TAX EQUITY/UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - Proposed legislation to maintain unemployment insurance benefits and assist states in getting fairly taxed by the Employment Security Trust Fund.

BUSINESS & OCCUPATIONAL TAX - Proposed tax credits for companies that maintain stable employment.

Check the website (www.iam751.org) and Union Bulletin Boards for updates throughout the session.
Marching To Remember King's Message

On Monday, January 20th, thousands gathered at Seattle’s Garfield High School to pay tribute to one of the greatest civil/human rights leaders this country has ever known - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

District 751 had a definite presence at this moving event. Local 751-A President Clifton Wyatt, who serves on the MLK Committee, chaired the event. The 751 Human Rights Committee hosted a workshop in the morning. Local F Steward Len Charleston, who is an ordained minister, took part in the ceremony, and Union leaders presented $751 to help offset the costs of the event.


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McGinnis Retires After Years of Service

In 1963, John I. McGinnis Jr. came to work at the Boeing Company and immediately joined the Machinists Union District 751. Little did he know, that would be a career decision. Throughout his years as a member, John actively served the membership and the labor movement. In January, John retired from his most recent Union position, IAM/Boeing Joint Programs Co-Director - a position he held for the past five years. Yet his full-time service to this Union began long before that. In 1981, John was first elected Business Rep and served the membership in that capacity at various plants until he moved to the Joint Programs’ position in 1997. From 1983 through 2002, John played a role in negotiating every Boeing contract during that time. Much of the workforce administration language in

February 2003

New Quit Tobacco Program Offered

District 751 members at Boeing are eligible to take part in a new Quit Tobacco Program. The Free & Clear Quit Tobacco Program is offered at no charge to Boeing employees. Boeing spouses and dependents over the age of 18 may use the program at cost.

Members can begin the process by calling 1-800-292-2336 to enroll in the program. After verifying your eligibility, you will be sent a complete Quit Kit with materials to help you through the different phases of tobacco-quitting process. Within seven to ten days of enrollment - after you’ve had time to get familiar with your Quit Kit – your personal quit-smoking specialist will make the first call.

If you’re ready to quit, start Free & Clear to change your life in a healthier direction. With Free & Clear on your side, you can be part of the more 25,000 people who’ve picked up the phone and put down the ciga-

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Hands-On Training at Auburn Center

 Members at the Auburn facility now have a place in the plant to receive hands-on training on the various machines used in their jobs. This unique opportunity housed in the 17-10 building is the new IAM/Boeing Quality Through Training Program (QTTP) Skills Center. It is another in a long line of successful Skills Centers that are giving our members a voice in the training they need to do their everyday job.

What makes this Center unique is the variety of complex machines that are available for hands-on training. The Skills Center was born from the vision and foresight of members serving on Advisory Skills Teams, who recognized the need to offer hands-on training in the workplace to sharpen existing jobs skills. Yet the Center does much more than sharpen existing skills. If you haven’t worked on a particular machine or need to refresh your skills, the Center is the place to turn. The Skills Center is also available to help employees who are new to an area and want additional training or need time to become more proficient with unfamiliar machines.

Careful planning ensured that all four Manufacturing Business Units (MBU’s) from the Auburn plant are represented in the Skills Center so all MBU’s will get the necessary training. MBU’s represented include:

- Developmental Manufacturing-Machine Shop Equipment Services;
- Emergent Tooling Center;
- Developmental & Manufacturing Products;
- Quality Assurance.

By locating the Center in the 17-10 building, members have convenient access to the training and can obtain the assistance without alerting other co-workers or their supervisor. What makes the Center even more inviting is the fact that the Subject Matter Experts, who assist on the machines, are 751 members from the shop floor.

The Center offers both on and off-hour training. The variety of machines in the Center enhances the skills training available. Machines at the Center include:

- Wilton Drill Press
- Standard Lathe
- CNC Track Milling Machine
- Universal Cutter Grinder
- Revolution Conventional Mill
- 3 types of grinders - 1 pedestal and 2 disk grinders (1 for aluminum and 1 for hard steel)
- Optical comparator
- Granite & Steel Table
- Precision Measurement Equipment including micrometers, calipers, etc.

Training on the more complex machines, such as a 5-axis milling machine, will occur on the shop floor as machines are available between work packages. The Center will continue to develop and evolve as additional needs surface.

777 Signs on to Safety Partnership

In December, the 777 line stepped up efforts to make the workplace safer by creating the “777 Safety Partnership.” The idea to form this partnership originated at the IAM/Boeing Health and Safety Institute (HSI). As layoffs occur and members are transferred to new work areas, there is an increased need to remind workers that safety remains the top priority - even before work schedules.

751 Business Rep Stan Johnson (l) and Director of 777 Manufacturing Mark Johnston (r) pledge their support to the new 777 Safety Partnership, which features working together on safety from the top.

However, to form an effective partnership, a true commitment is required at the highest level – hence the new partnership brings together the Director of 777 Manufacturing Mark Johnston with 751 Union Business Rep Stan Johnson. By setting an example and working together at the top, it is hoped the same commitment will carry through to the shop floor - with Stewards and first-line managers partnering for a safer workplace. Stewards, managers and safety monitors attended the kickoff for this new program.

“The idea is to get all employees looking out for one another with an increased awareness of safe practices in the workplace,” stated Business Rep Stan Johnson. “We want to see the same commitment to safety on the shop floor that we have at top management/union level. Safety is everyone’s job.”

HSI Union Administrator Roy Moore is also a driving force behind this program and hopes it will spread to other areas. Roy noted, “This partnership is about removing roadblocks that get in the way of us working together to mitigate workplace hazards. Perhaps this safety partnership can be used as the model for how the Company and Union can work together on all issues.”

QTTP Retirement Workshops Offered

The IAM/Boeing Quality Through Training Program (QTTP) is offering workshops to help members prepare for retirement. The personal money management seminar offers an educational discussion specific to IAM-represented Boeing employees who want a comfortable retirement or have other financial goals. This workshop is also helpful for those facing layoff.

Individuals learn to take advantage of the opportunities available to you as a Boeing employee that can help you get where you want to be. If you are serious about financial goals, this workshop is a must. Participants learn:

- Your VIP options, and potential taxes and penalties associated with 401K plans and IRA’s.
- How to maximize your Boeing pension options.
- Tax favored investing and proper asset allocation.
- Examine health and life insurance options.
- Calculate your real post-Boeing income.
- Examine creative budgeting techniques and dealing with debt.

Workshops are held at QTTP’s Everett Site (7710 Evergreen Way), QTTP Central Site in Tukwila (6840 Fort Dent Way) and QTTP’s Auburn site (1102 15th St. SW).

Call 1-800-235-3453 for class schedules and to reserve your seat today!
In what has become a 751 holiday tradition, several dozen volunteers descended on the Northwest Harvest Warehouse to help this very worthwhile organization. Yet more than just members take part in the annual event. Many members bring children and spouses during this important family time, as a way to give back to the community.

On Friday, December 27, volunteers filled the warehouse early in the morning. The volunteers sorted, categorized and boxed literally thousands of pounds of food. One group took on the task of putting together boxes; another group began emptying big bins of food; dozens of others sorted and boxed the food, while remaining volunteers transported the sorted boxes and shrink wrapped them on huge pallets. By lunchtime, nearly the entire warehouse of food had been sorted and boxed for distribution. An impressive 939 boxes had been sorted and filled with appropriate food.

The volunteers worked like a well-oiled machine and appeared to be competing against an unseen opponent. Each year our volunteers work feverishly to increase the boxes processed from the previous year. The amounts boxed by other groups decorate the warehouse beams overhead. Ed Lutgen proudly wrote - IAM 751 volunteers processed 939 boxes 12/27/02. Leaving a permanent reminder of the work done that day.

Tom Lux, who brings his children each year, stated, “I always ask my kids if they want to help, and they usually do. I think it is good they want to help people in the community who may not have it as good as they do, especially in times like these when so many people are out of work. I also think it is good for them and their friends to see Union people in a positive light to counter the anti-union propaganda that they hear elsewhere.” His daughter Katie added, “I like going to Northwest Harvest every year because it makes me feel like I am helping people. It is fun working with other people to make a difference in the community. You don’t feel like you are just doing it by yourself.” Gayl Bailey also brought his son Alex and daughter Kaitlin, stated, “It’s amazing how much work gets done in a short period of time. Everyone works together as a team. It shows kids the importance of working for such a worthwhile organization that helps so many and reminds them of the true spirit of Christmas.”

Holiday Harvest

District 751 members continued to stand out for their efforts to serve the community and improve the life for others, which was evident when 751 members received half of the 2002 Community Service Awards at the Snohomish County Labor Council Awards Banquet held in late December. District 751 earned the Union of the Year Award. 751-F Member Jon Holden was presented the Seth Dawson Award; 751-A Member Bob Neumann received the Jack Purcell Award; and 751 retiree Al Schultz was awarded the Jo Marie Schultz Award. Each award provided distinct recognition for community service.

751 Recognized: District 751 has actively been involved in community service for many years, but stepped up the pace in 1997 by creating our Volunteer Recognition Program (VRP). Since then over 159 community events have helped improve life throughout our region. Everything from serving food at area missions, to building wheelchair ramps, to constructing playgrounds, cleaning up roads, sorting food at Northwest Harvest, supporting Guide Dogs, and even painting a health center. Yet participation was not just limited to community service. Union members also turned out to support members of other unions in their efforts to obtain and preserve living wage jobs. This constant presence in the community earned 751 the Union of the Year Award.

Neumann Honored: With nearly 30 years as a 751 member, Bob Neumann dedicated his life to helping others. This commitment has not gone unnoticed and earned him the Jack Purcell Award for outstanding lifetime achievement to the community. His union activity has included various positions including Union Steward, Local A Trustee, Local A Auditor, and Local A Conductor. Bob also avidly promoted safety throughout his years at Boeing and helped establish the Everett Site Health & Safety Committee following the 1989 negotiations and served on the committee for many years. He remains active in the Snohomish County Labor Council and has been a delegate for many years, as well as currently serving as Sergeant-at-Arms. Yet Bob has been equally dedicated to community service - constructing playgrounds, building wheelchair ramps, serving meals, volunteering at his granddaughter’s school, assisting with stop smoking classes, and volunteering at Providence Hospital’s Pulmonary Rehab Center 4 days a week.

Holden Awarded: The Seth Dawson Award, which was presented to Jon Holden, is awarded each year to an individual who has shown outstanding volunteer leadership in our community on behalf of youth. Jon has chaired 751’s Volunteer Recognition Programs (VRP) for the past three years, actively promoted community service in the Union and participated in over 120 community service projects. His projects have included wheelchair ramps, painting, fence building, food drives, toy drives, helping at area women’s and men’s shelters and building playgrounds. Many of the projects have benefited area children. Keep in mind, these volunteer activities are in addition to the various offices he holds in the Union, which include Local F Vice President, Union Stew-ard, legislative volunteer, and fundraiser.

Schultz Honored: A new award was created this year in honor of QTTP Administrator JoMarie Schultz, who recently passed away following a battle with cancer. The JoMarie Schultz Award goes to an outstanding labor leader in service to the community. How appropriate that the first year the award was presented to her widower - Al Schultz, who is a retired IAM Grand Lodge rep. Both Al and JoMarie devoted years to the community and labor unions. Al has served on the Board of United Way in both King and Snohomish Counties, as well as serving on the American Red Cross Board in both King and Snohomish Counties. He has been a faithful supporter of Operation Shortfall, which provides food to the needy in Snohomish County. In addition, he retired after 37 years of service in the IAM, which included holding multiple leadership positions, negotiating various contracts, and working as a strong labor advocate in the legislative and public policy fields.

Appropriately, the first JoMarie Schultz award for outstanding labor leadership in the community was presented to her widower, 751-Retiree Al Schultz (l), and Retired Steward George Braun were among the many volunteers that sorted boxes of donated food at the Northwest Harvest Warehouse on December 27th.
Holton Honored for Commitment

For nearly 25 years, 751-A member Lois Holton has steadfastly served her Union family in a variety of capacities. Time and time again she has helped other members, as well as those in the surrounding community.

Lois was honored at the January Local A meeting for her service as Local A Recording Secretary from 1995 through 2002. To allow others to get more involved, Lois chose not to run for re-election, but will continue representing Local A on the District Council and serving as Union Steward.

Her tremendous contribution was awarded as Local A Officers presented Lois with a plaque which read, “In appreciation of your dedication and service to the members of Local A as Recording Secretary from 1995-2002 and in recognition of the countless times you went above and beyond the call of duty to help members, co-workers and the community. You have truly made a difference in so many lives. Thank you!”

As she slowly pulls back from duties to her Union family, Lois plans to spend more time with her real family. She beams with pride as she tells of attending a family reunion this past summer in North Dakota that included five generations. Relatives from across the country came together to celebrate her father’s 90th birthday. Her great grandson Dallas is especially blessed to have five generations on his mother’s side of the family, as well.

One thing is certain: family will continue to be a top priority to Lois – whether it is her Union brothers and sisters or her parents, children, grandchildren or great grandchil-

Focus Groups Promote Two-Way Communication

Continued from page 1

District President Mark Blondin noted, “We have learned that the best way to communicate with members is through face-to-face meetings. The Union hears from Stewards and Officers on a regular basis, but we believe it is just as important to hear what shop floor members are thinking. These groups provide members an opportunity to participate and offer input. The intent is for the Union to hear first-hand your concerns and thoughts.

Education is always one of the strongest tools and arms members with knowledge to better recognize contract violations and understand their rights. Just as important, membership participation ensures that Union leadership maintains a shop-floor perspective and has that two-way communication with members to more effectively address your issues in dealing with Boeing and elected officials.

Blondin added, “An informed membership and improved two-way communication will make us stronger at the bargaining table in 2005. This will be an ongoing program, in which we incorporate as many suggestions as possible into the everyday services, activities and programs offered by the Union.”

Job Shadow Hosts Needed

Boeing is partnering with Junior Achievement and local school districts in the Puget Sound area to participate in National Groundhog Job Shadow Day on March 13th. Volunteers are needed to host high school students participating in Junior Achievement by providing the opportunity for students to observe what professionals and skilled workers do on the job. Students in grades 9 through 12 (ages 14 to 18) who have completed a pre-visit assignment are eligible to participate. Eligible children of Boeing employees also can take part by “shadowing” their parents.

The limit to the number of job shadow hosts and parent hosts will vary by site.

Each student will spend about four hours observing and asking questions during the job shadow. The event is designed to help students with career planning by providing a real-world experience in the work environment. Employees in all skill codes are invited to volunteer and students will be matched to hosts by site. In addition, information Technology volunteers will be matched with students taking computer science courses whenever possible.

Those who would like to host a Junior Achievement student or their own child should visit: http://community.web.boeing.com/jobshadow. The deadline is Feb. 20.

Local C Golf Tournament July 20th

The eleventh annual Local C Golf Tournament will be a one-day tournament held Sunday, July 20th at Elk Run Golf Course in Maple Valley. The cost of this year’s tournament will be $100 per person, which covers green fees, cart rental, tournament shirt, prizes, and a buffet at the end of play.

Proceeds from the tournament will go to the Guide Dogs of America.

The tournament will be a “scramble” format with a shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. for all golfers. Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place teams. Individual prizes will be given for longest drive, KP and 50/50 honey pot. All other prizes will be raffled off at the end.

Boeing to Take Dues Adjustment

The Boeing Company was unable to deduct the full amount of $54.10 on January 9, 2003 to cover your January, 2003 Union dues — only $49.70 was taken. Due to the holiday schedule, the timing of the new dues information and the early date of the first pay period cutoff, the change could not be implemented on this first check.

Therefore, to rectify this matter, on February 6, 2003, a one-time deduction of $58.50 will be taken to cover February dues ($54.10) plus $4.40 (shorted for January). March dues deductions will revert to the correct rate of $54.10.

Your Union is sorry for this inconvenience, but this action is necessary to respond to the invitation and provide suggestions and ideas to strengthen our Union.
January Retired Club Minutes

by Mary Wood,
Retired Club Secretary

At the January 13th business meeting, Al Wydick called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. The Lord’s Prayer was said followed by the flag salute and the singing of “God Bless America.”

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present except Bill Baker, who was excused. Minutes were accepted as printed. No communications.

Financial Report: The Financial Report was accepted as read.

New Members: The Club welcomed Mike and Kathy Waldo as new members.

District President: District President Mark Blondin reported on the Triumph negotiations in Spokane and presented highlights of the first contract (see details on page 3). Blondin also reported in December, he met with Congressman Rick Larsen and discussed legislation that would allow Unions to negotiate on behalf of their retirees. Currently, this is not a mandatory subject of bargaining and the Union can bring it up, but cannot force Boeing to negotiate for current retirees. Larsen agreed to support such an idea and work to make it a reality.

Health & Welfare: A moment of silence for the following members who have passed away: Carolyn J. Andrews, Donald E. Black, William E. Bolam, James P. Convey, Perry Delo, Barrett L. Donnissen, Fred Gibson, William P. Hibischuk, Chauncey E. Johnsson, Don H. Kimbelin, George J. Kirk, Earl K. McGee, Lloyd R. Pickle, Leslie A. Reid, Whitney R. Ruochou, George P. Salver, Truman Schilling, Mary Skochilich, Dolce A. Stroud, Angela Ward, Clark E. Wheaton. Sympathy cards were sent to the families.

Travel: Mary King gave a short report on upcoming trips (see below).

Calendar of Events: Feb 3 Bingo
Feb 10 Business Meeting
Feb 17 Video
Feb 24 Bingo

Good and Welfare: Everyone gave a standing ovation to Business Rep Paul Knebel for his part in saving the life of one of our members as reported in the last issue of the Aero Mechanic newspaper.

An editorial printed in the Post-Intelligencer concerning the U.S. Senate’s failure to fix the Medicare payment schedule - thereby hurting seniors was read to the Club.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the report on upcoming trips (see below).

Adjournment: Adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Upcoming Travel Opportunities

March 28 - Free transportation from Seattle Union hall to Lucky Eagle Casino in Rochester, Washington.

May 14 - 7 day trip to Branson, Missouri

For additional details, please call Mary King on 206-363-5915

Senior Politics

by Cy Nobile, 751 Retired Club Legislative Chair

Who didn’t have idols when we were teenagers? Mine were Elvis Presley and the Beatles. As a senior citizen, my idol has been Captain Kirk. He chose to care and aid in our struggle for adequate and economic benefits for seniors! He could have chosen to simply retire without any concern for others. Instead, he met with Congressman Rick Larsen and discussed legislation that would allow Unions to negotiate on behalf of their retirees. Currently, this is not a mandatory subject of bargaining and the Union can bring it up, but cannot force Boeing to negotiate for current retirees. Larsen agreed to support such an idea and work to make it a reality.

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ATTENTION TO AD RULES
Each single ad must be 25 words or less. More than 25 words will not be printed. Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each ad, as they are pre-classified physically. Ads are free to members - active, laid-off, or retired. For best response, include phone number instead of addresses in ad copy.

Deadline For Next Issue February 12th


FRESH BROWN EGGS for sale on the East Hill of Kent. These eggs are laid by free-range chickens and are absolutely yummy! Only $1.75 per dozen. Call to give me a call at 253-630-8520. We’re easy to find.

NEED TO LOSE WEIGHT AFTER THE HOLIDAYS? I have proven and money-back guarantee. Include phone number. Call 206-323-6829 for installation available $50. 253-826-4378 or email karl@253-826-4378.

COMPUTER DESK & HUTCH. Cherry color, Saurer model #2766. Six adjustable shelves, 2 glass doors on hutch, 2 solid doors on desk with/pullout keyboard and printer shelves. Both pieces measure 71 _ H x 65 _ W x 20 _ D. See photo at www.sauder.com. Asking $175. 425-432-6134 (9 AM – 8 PM)

CABIN FOR RENT: Copalis Beach, WA. Sleeps 5. 5 miles north of Ocean Shores - 2 blocks from ocean. For reservations or information, call 253-529-5444. St外墙


FACING LAYOFF? Want to significantly lower your monthly mortgage payment? Refinance your home with an OPTIONS loan. No credit problems okay. Call for details 206-627-7182.


LADY JAMES GETAWAY on Alaska Air- lines. Stay at the Plaza Hotel. $500 per person. Leave April 25, Return April 28. For more info, call 255-630-3994

HANDED-HELM PLANTS for sale. $30 each. 360-829-0504

LAVISH LURE PLANTS for sale. 360- 829-0504

WET BAR. 10’ oak and brass $2100; large wood playset $3800. 37’ CHEVY 34 ton truck- rebuilt motor $10,000 miles $3000. Cash only. 206-775-8975

NEW CAREER? LEARN HYPNOSIS at Skagit Community College. Help others heal and enjoy a good living. QTTP pays for classes. Registration starts January 6. 360-387-1197 Ron

CABIN FOR RENT. Copalis Beach, WA. Sleeps 5. 5 miles north of Ocean Shores – 2 blocks from ocean. For reservations or informa- tion, call 360-529-5444. $75/nights.


APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR 2003 IAM SCHOLARSHIP

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

AWARDS TO member’s children are $1,000 per academic year, plus any other awards earned each year. For more information, visit www.iam-intl.org or call 206-781-3686.

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Revisiting the legacy of the Old West

If you’re interested in reading about old ghost towns, million-dollar mining camps, or learning more about historical sites in Northeastern Washington, you need look no further than Jerry Smith. While Jerry has logged in nearly 35 years working for The Boeing Company, he has also put in countless hours over those years pursuing his hobby - exploring ghost towns and discovering relics in Northeastern Washington.

Jerry has become a resident expert on the subject – exploring the remains of the pioneer days and conducting extensive research into various historical sites. This passion for the prospector days has really panned out for this Boeing employee. Jerry published a book last April entitled “Boom Towns & Relic Hunters of Northeastern Washington.” Critics have hailed it as the most informative book on the topic. Judging by how quickly it has been selling, readers agree with the assessment.

The book is available at most libraries and sells at many bookstores, including Barnes and Noble, Borders, and even Amazon.com.

Yet Jerry does more than just share his expertise in this book. During the summer months, he spends many weekends serving as an experienced adventure guide - taking tourists and vacationers back to the Old West in his “Premier Guided Ghost Town Tours.” On these riveting day trips, guests experience first-hand the ghost towns and historical sites in beautiful Okanogan County, including Night Hawk, Ruby City, Molson and Four Metals Mine. Tours cover historic buildings, ghost towns, mining camps, gold and silver mines, and much more.

His interest in the Old West started when he was a child. Jerry recalled, “When I was very young, my dad took me hunting and fishing in Northeastern Washington. On those trips, we would explore ghost towns from the pioneer days. The interest carried over as an adult and has been something I have avidly pursued. My wife, Laurie, and son, Cody, share my enthusiasm and are equally involved in the tours and research.”

As a long-time member of the Okanogan County Historical Society, Jerry has documented the history of Northeastern Washington State for various magazines and newsletters, as well as assisting with TV documentaries and radio talk shows. With such a vast wealth of knowledge, he decided to put it together into one comprehensive book everyone could enjoy. For nearly two years, Jerry worked on the manuscript. Once the writing was complete, he experienced the tedious process of getting it published and distributed.

The time was well-spent and resulted in a top-notch product. In his book, Jerry takes you back in time to the boom town days of yesteryear and brings to life the ageless Old West mining-era days of boom towns, miners, prospectors, and pioneers.

Yet the book goes far beyond providing simply a historical account and includes rare historic maps, 98 outstanding photos and exact locations of long-lost famous ghost towns and mines in Northeastern Washington State. Jerry also included a chapter on metal detecting and relic hunting, which offers advice on how to search out and locate those long-lost valuable treasures from the past with just a little knowledge about research and how to use a metal detector.

Much of the information from his book is shared on his website www.ghosttownsusa.com. Since posting the site, he receives over 4,000 hits per month, as well as enticing many to take his guided tours.

His book and tours were recently featured on the television show “Northwest Backroads Great Escapes” and most certainly will keep the spirit of the Old West alive and well for many years to come.

Stroke Victims Returns to Shop To Visit Friends

by Tom Sweeney, Union Steward

Myron Cochran returned to his electronics shop to visit his friends and coworkers, who were instrumental in saving his life when he suffered a stroke in his home last September, where he lives alone. Myron, a former steward, was transported for the visit from the convalescent facility, where he has been recovering, by retiree Larry Lamb who was Myron’s former steward, lead and Local E officer.

Myron looked amazingly healthy and was obviously pleased to see his coworkers. He has lost considerable weight and is sticking to a disciplined, healthy diet. He is now able to formulate sentences and to lift his right leg. He had enough strength in his left arm to wrestle his coworker, Danny Pham down for a hug. Also pictured Union Rep Paul Kredel (l) and Doug Gould (standing).

Myron Cochran had enough strength to wrestle coworker Danny Pham down for a hug. Also pictured Union Rep Paul Kredel (l) and Doug Gould (standing).

Union involved, which resulted in several visits to his home. Concerned individuals convicted the King County Sheriff’s department to break down the door, where they found Myron, who had suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed on his right side and unable to speak. He was transported to the hospital.

Myron, who is actively involved with several churches, had many friends visit and minister to him, as well as helping oversee his affairs during his period of incapacity. Supervisor Pat Beireis and second shift Steward Sandra Desimone repaired his door and secured his home. A few conclusions can be drawn from this series of events:

• A consistent attendance record and prompt absence reporting may benefit you in more ways than you realize.
• If you live alone, make sure you have people touch base with you frequently – maybe even give your emergency contacts a key to your house.
• Your Union not only preserves jobs through negotiating and enforcing contracts and work rules but sometimes might save your life through the determination of compassionate members, Union reps and staff.
• Finally, educate yourself about the symptoms of stroke (or brain attack). The quicker medical intervention is applied, the less damage will occur.

Common Stroke Symptoms:
• Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
• Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
• Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.
• Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
• Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

Less Common Stroke Symptoms include:
• Sudden nausea, fever and vomiting distinguished from a viral illness by the speed of onset (minutes or hours vs. several days).
• Brief loss of consciousness or period of decreased consciousness (fainting, confusion, convulsions or coma).