Members Help 7E7 Pass Production Test

As Boeing unveiled the first composite fuselage section for the 7E7 airplane, 751 members were there playing an integral role in the development of this unique new plane. Our members are striving daily to make the Developmental Center (D.C.) the “Composite Center of Excellence.” Work being done here is critical to the success of the 7E7, as well as several other Boeing projects.

This first full-scale, composite fuselage section measures 22 feet long and nearly 19 feet wide. Its successful production marks the first major developmental piece of the 7E7. This new fuselage section is the largest single composite part of a pressurized air vessel ever produced. Boeing chose to make the 47 section of the fuselage first since it is one of the most challenging with many complex curves. Because it is one big part, the composite fuselage barrel does not need rivets.

Our members, who operate the largest autoclaves (the high-pressure oven used to cure composites) in the world, worked closely with engineers and 7E7 partners to ensure this first fuselage sec-

Continued on page 5

Surveying Health Care

Understanding that health care will remain a top issue for our members, the Union distributed a health care survey in late January, which will help formulate the Union’s contract proposal to Boeing later this year.

751 member David Brayer was eager to give input. He noted, “Health care is the biggest issue for me—especially as I look toward retirement. I have had a four-way bypass surgery and have a pacemaker. In addition, I have sleep apnea and must use a C-pap machine to breathe at night. Good health care coverage is critical.”

With health care premiums rising in double digits each year of the contract, the Union asked members to prioritize their health care issues and coverage. As our average age approaches 49 to 50, health care becomes more and more important to every member.

Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to your Union steward or any of the Union offices as soon as possible.

Steward Gets Emergency Room Bill Recovery

Thanks to efforts by Union stewards Steve Parsley and Todd Campbell, a member will be reimbursed the $700 he paid after his wife was taken to the Emergency Room at Providence Everett Medical Center.

The member knew the facility was covered by Regence and assumed the treatment would be paid at the customary percentages. He was shocked to receive a bill for $900 from the Emergency Room doctor. His wife made some calls and was told by the doctor that 500 of the bill was his responsibility. The member went ahead and paid the bill because he had never received a direct bill before from a doctor. When the member told stewards Steve Parsley and Todd Campbell, they agreed to look into the matter.

Steve made numerous phone calls to the insurance company and explained it was an emergency situation. Regence agreed to pay the doctor after the member submitted the bills, then the member will be reimbursed from the doctor for the amount he paid. What Steve discovered in his investigation, he wanted to share with other members so they can avoid the same problem and know how to handle such a situation.

Regence BlueShield had been negotiating an agreement with North Sound Emergency Medicine, whose doctors practice in the emergency rooms at both Providence-Everett Medical Center and Valley General Hospital (Monroe). Unfortunately, effective October 15, 2004 the emergency room doctors decided to terminate their contract with Regence. This change affects only the services provided by the emergency room physicians and practitioners employed by North Sound Emergency Medicine at Providence-Everett Medical Center and Valley General Hospital (Monroe).

Providers who do not contract with Regence set the charges for their services (“the billed charges”) at their discretion. On Oct. 15, 2004 NSEM no longer had a contract with Regence BlueShield. That means Regence will apply your benefits to the billed charges set by NSEM. Be aware, any coinsurance you are responsible for will be applied to those billed charges—resulting in higher out-of-pocket expenses.

Without a contract with NSEM, Regence cannot pay Continued on page 5
by Mark Blondin, District President

Welcome back. I hope the holiday season was a happy one for all, and I hope all members and their families came through it safely. You deserved your Union- negotiated break now; it’s time for all of us to go to work. When I say get back to work, I’m talking about working on coming together, sending a strong message of solidarity, unity, and strength that will lead us to victory by having the membership overwhelmingly ratify the contract with Boeing.

We have always taken the high road, and will continue to do so. We have always had strong and honest right-to-work, and this year we will do just that. It is right to protect jobs. It is right to protect pensions, and it is right to control health care costs incurred by our members and their families. It is also right that past and future retirees get good benefits.

2002 is in the past – we want to forget what happened but we are negotiating for our future. Let’s get to work.

You should have received and filled out your health care surveys by now. They will be important when our bargaining committees prepare the contract proposal. In March, the Union Stewards will disperse and collect the full contract survey. We need your input or as our negotiations will open in late June. We have a big year ahead of us with the Boeing negotiations, but we will get through it successfully, together. Healthcare has been in the news a lot lately – some good, some bad.

Our members in Local 86 in Spokane won the contract to build the floor panels for the new Airbus A380 freighter. Congratulations to our members who proved they can build the best products for any aircraft, and to the company officials – especially Triumph Composite Systems President Mary Lou Thomas – a former IAM member, who negotiated the deal with Airbus. It is truly remarkable when a company goes out looking for work that not only keeps them profitable, but more importantly, keeps us employed.

What a concept.

On February 18-20, 2005, A Festival of Workers’ Culture will be held at the Seattle Labor Temple. This festival of labor music, art, poetry and theater will highlight the 100th anniversary of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW).

Three general sessions will explore issues such as free speech, the culture of itinerant workers, and the use of culture in organizing — historically in relation to the IWW, as well as in the context of the present day labor movement. The festival will bring performers and presenters together with other interested trades unionists and friends of labor to not just exchange songs, stories and ideas, but to devise ways of integrating this culture into the life of workers and their unions.

A participatory feature that will run throughout the festival is the Arts Exchange, during which time festival participants can sign up to “be on stage” for five minutes to perform a song, recite a poem, tell a story, etc. A number of interesting workshops will also be presented, such as making a Video on Organizing, Racism and Labor, The Soldier as Worker, and Library Workers as Cultural Workers.

The Saturday evening session will feature an interview of “Hold The Fort,” written and performed by singer and songwriter John Foxx. It is a narrative of IWW history in the Pacific Northwest, interspersed with Wobbly songs as presented on page 12.

Wobbly Centenary to be Highlighted at February Festival of Workers’ Culture

The Pacific Northwest Labor History Association, RiseUp! Productions and the Seattle Labor Chorus have teamed up to present an exciting celebration of Workers’ Culture.

The festival will feature a presentation of “Hold The Fort,” written and performed by singer and songwriter John Foxx. It is a narrative of IWW history in the Pacific Northwest, interspersed with Wobbly songs as presented on page 12.

Letters to the Editor

Social Security

It is disconcerting to hear politicians talk about “reforming” or “saving” Social Security in deliberately vague and confusing terms and not being straight- forward about their real aims. It strains credulity to think that 60 or 70 year old politicians really care about what happens to Social Security system 50 years from now. Their concern has to be with dealing with the program, especially its assets — now.

If the goal was simply to abolish Social Security on ideological grounds, political debate to scrap the system could be basic enough — end the deductions and matching payments, and borrow enough money to phase out the benefici- ciaries over some years. We might see a small group of some economic “bounced” or younger people take home and spend a little more money, this would phase out all retirees receive less. The economy would continue on its present borrow and spend basis, except that se- nior citizens would not have the financial security and peace of mind they now have.

However, this is not what the Bush Administration or its advisors have in mind. Their hopes focus on the continu- ously enforced collection of monies, and in fact, depend on it. Monies would still be deducted from wages and presumably matched by employers. Rather than being directly sent to retirees on a NON-MATCHED basis, the funds would be channeled to financial “advisors,” brokers, “get rich quick” assisting — who have contributed massive financial aid to the election campaigns and put their friends in positions of enough political power (they hope) to make this massive payoff. There is a lot of money at stake. There is an entire industry anxious to run these funds through their fingers, charging fees, service charges — commissions. And this is only the somewhat reputable people. Many others would simply steal the funds entrusted to them, which the unwary investors would only learn when it’s too late.

One has only to read the financial pages or the crime reports to see the plethora of scams and phony investment schemes either being offered and pro- moted, or in various stages of investiga- tion, indictment, and/or prosecution — all with people’s retirement funds.

The politicians who are eager to do the bidding of this “investment” industry are, frankly, not people of integrity. Many of these political office holders, especially at the Congressional level, could never have achieved in private life the salary, expense account, or prestige. As candidates, they got their positions by accepting the financial contributions needed to buy favorable publicity, especially “killer” television ads. The sad fact is that absent financial contributions of a magnitude to buy an equal share of TV commercials, more people friendly candidates will fail to be elected.

The industry of “money changers” looking at this mother lode of financial

Finally, longtime IAM Business Representa- tive Jerry Shreve, who worked at Boeing for many years prior to full time Union office, is retiring effective Febru- ary 2, 2005. Jerry has helped thousands of workers make ends meet during his career, and his work ethic has not gone unnoticed. Besides providing leadership to Local 751E, Jerry was past president of the Evergreen Valley IAM, and has trained hundreds of Union Stewards who worked with Jerry and together they made a difference for the workers of the stadiums. Jerry, enjoy a long and happy retirement, you earned it and our appreciation.

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Three general sessions will explore issues such as free speech, the culture of itinerant workers, and the use of culture in organizing — historically in relation to the IWW, as well as in the context of the present day labor movement. The festival will bring performers and presenters together with other interested trade unionists and friends of labor to not just exchange songs, stories and ideas, but to devise ways of integrating this culture into the life of workers and their unions.

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The industry of “money changers” looking at this mother lode of financial
Health Care, Jobs and UI Still Issues in Olympia

As the 2005 Legislative Session opened in Olympia, District 751 went to work on a variety of issues.

District 751 continues to work on Unemployment Insurance and Workers’ Compensation – with the goal of protecting the interests of our members.

This session, the Union is again working on health care in a number of different ways. Governor Christine Gregoire has also made it a priority and hit the ground running by introducing a package of executive-request health care legislation. She also issued an Executive Order directing DSHS to return to 12-month eligibility review cycles, a move that will keep more than 19,000 children from losing health care coverage.

Gregoire’s legislative proposals include:

• Allowing private employers to purchase health insurance through state-administered programs;

• Seeking a federal waiver to authorize the state to license Canadian prescription drug wholesalers, which would allow the reimportation of cheaper medicines;

• Creating a prescription drug-purchasing consortium that expands the existing evidence-based prescription drug program and its preferred drug list; and

• Creating a long-term care task force to develop recommendations on public and private mechanisms for financing long-term care, particularly in rural communities.

The Union supports each of these measures and congratulates Gregoire on her immediate leadership on this important issue.

Even more must be done. Large employers should not be allowed to abandon their employees and pass on enormous costs to taxpayers and the taxpayer-funded health care system. It’s not fair that businesses that do the right thing (such as Boeing, GKN and Triumph) and provide affordable health benefits must compete with such employers. Investing in employee health should be a requirement for large businesses in Washington, whether that coverage is provided through the employer or through a fee paid by the large employer to the state.

District 751 joins business, community and social service-interests in a Fair Share Coalition that is supporting legislation called the Health Care Responsibility Act. This would require large employers who fail to provide affordable health care benefits to pay a fee to the state to create slots in the Basic Health Plan (BHP) for their employees.

The Union also supports a Health Care Disclosure Act. This legislation would allow taxpayers to determine which employers are shifting the cost of employee health care coverage to the state. It requires the state to collect and disclose the employers of applicants for publicly funded health care programs like Medicaid and the BHP, as well as the employers of any person receiving uncompensated care in a hospital.

The Union is also working on job creation for the state through a variety of avenues. Last year a bill was passed designed to bring back manufacturing jobs to Washington State. We are currently looking for ways to implement this and determine how to attract manufacturing jobs to our state.

The Union is working with other unions to try and limit or restrict the outsourcing of state jobs.

No specific bill numbers were assigned to our issues yet, but we will keep members informed when action is required on legislation.

Airbus Ploy Renews Push for 767

In January, EADS, the majority owner of Airbus, held a high-profile press conference to kick off the search for a U.S. site to build aerial refueling tankers for the Air Force. In response, the Washington Congressional delegation renewed its push for the Boeing 767 to be the only plane for the Air Force Refueling Tanker.

Congressman Norm Dicks, who has pushed hard for Boeing to receive the contract, denounced the move, stating, “The United States government has a duty to protect our industrial base. This is a case of Airbus trying to get it all. It’s a lot of chutzpah to think they can get the U.S. government and the Pentagon to fund 100 percent of their planes.”

Dicks said that if EADS does win the contract, it would use commercial Airbus planes made in Europe and then merely modify them for U.S. military use here.

Workers on the 767 were appalled at the thought of U.S. defense planes, paid for with U.S. tax dollars potentially being built by a foreign company.

Tony Young, who works on the 767 and has served this union for 21 years, wrote to his state Senator. “Airbus can do whatever they want, but it is unconscionable for our government to even consider a foreign company to provide defense planes when our whole economic system is dependent on our industries. If our government chooses to just look at the bottom line – especially when there is no competition because Airbus is subsidized, it is very short sighted. Every Boeing job creates a number of other jobs in America that multiplier effect should not be forgotten.”

Ryan Stott, lead mechanic on 767/747 for the past 19 years, said, “Airbus is not a U.S. built plane – it is foreign competition. Our government requires that Air Force One be built in America. The same should hold true for other defense planes. Why would we even consider releasing our government defense requirements? It is an insult to even consider spending my tax dollars with Airbus. When we get into war situation, you never know who our enemy might be. We can’t be dependent on other countries for our defense planes. It also brings up the whole tax burden issue and the mounting deficit.”

U.S., EU to Negotiate on Jet Subsidies

On January 11, U.S. Trade Representative Robert B. Zoellick announced the U.S. and the European Union (EU) had reached agreement on the terms of negotiating to end large commercial aircraft subsidies. The goal will be to try and eliminate different types of subsidies and to establish fair, market-based competition between the two aircraft manufacturers.

This step is a significant development to the level playing field against Airbus – something the Union has been pushing for years.

“For the first time in this long-standing dispute, the U.S. and the EU have agreed that the goal should be to end subsidies,” stated Zoellick. “We agreed that our negotiations should be concluded within three months. During these negotiations, each side will refrain from taking additional steps in the WTO process and from committing to any new government supports for large commercial aircraft.”

Boeing President and Chief Executive Officer Harry Stonecipher called the agreement an important step “to establish much-needed balance in the commercial aircraft market.”

“Boeing is encouraged by the good faith displayed by both governments, as evidenced by their understanding not to provide additional development and production support and to refrain from pursuing WTO litigation during the time they are negotiating,” added Stonecipher. “Boeing will continue to support and work with the U.S. government during the negotiations, and looks forward to the conclusion of a meaningful agreement to end subsidies.”

U.S. Senator Patty Murray said she and other lawmakers would monitor the talks to make sure any final agreement “truly levels the playing field for our commercial aircraft industry and workers. That is the only acceptable outcome for this most important process.”

Murray and other members of Congress have long complained that Airbus received billions in cash advances that have enabled it to pursue virtually risk-free product development.

“Finally, through our direct action, the Europeans have acknowledged the need to come to the table to account for and defend Airbus’ unfair trade practices,” Murray added.

Representative Jay Inslee said the negotiations are likely to “break Airbus’ addiction to European launch aid subsidies” that caused “harm to our domestic work force.”

This will obviously continue to be an issue the Union follows very closely.
As the average age of our membership increases, so does the risk of injuries from strains and sprains. To reduce some of these injuries, many shops have begun daily exercise/stretch programs to warm up the muscles and wake up the bodies.

In Renton, the average age of the forklift drivers is 51-1/2. In late October, they began a daily stretching/exercise program to cut down on strains and sprains and promote better health.

What prompted the new program? While at the National Safety Conference, Bill Scott, the drivers’ Safety Monitor and Supervisor Dennis Fenton attended a class on the aging workforce, which reported the average U.S. factory worker is 47.3 years of age. They knew Boeing’s workforce was even a bit older. When they returned from the conference, they met with Tina Herman of Boeing Health and Fitness Center, who set up a program with three different sets of stretches/exercises.

Bill noted, “These employees are one of the most at-risk groups due to the fact that they spend much of their time in the driver’s seat. When they have to get off to move a load, they are at risk for stiff and tight muscles. The program will hopefully prevent future soft tissue injuries. We hope to transition this into a self-paced program drivers can do throughout the day when they need to. The goal is to have fewer incidents or strains.”

Member Rick Kocor regularly takes part in the exercises and noted, “Exercise is an essential part of a healthy lifestyle. Why not incorporate it into our workday?”

The forklift drivers have seen results. 751 member John Liedke has lived with a bad back and neck pain so he wasn’t excited about the exercise program. Since he began with the stretching, the pain in his lower back has been noticeably less. Many workers have commented their pain has lessened because it has strengthened their muscles. The Renton Facilities Group has asked to establish a similar exercise program.

In the Everett wire shop, music blairs each morning at 7:30 a.m. as employees go through an aerobic routine that combines stretching and cardio combinations. The music helps motivate employees and has enticed workers from other areas to join in the program.

Steward Connie Dang is encouraged by the turnout. She noted, “The music makes a difference. It took a while to motivate people to stretch. Originally, the exercise program began in the wire shop in Renton before it moved to Everett.

We added the music and are getting more people involved. We even have people from other shops joining us. We have been asked to train other people in the IRC to lead the program in other shops.”

Putting their exercise program to music in the Everett wire shop has resulted in much higher participation. Members from other shops have joined in.

Safety Tip: Use Extra Caution in Winter

by Larry Brown, 751 Safety Coordinator

Winter means, among other things, the days are short and darkness descends early. Combined with the usual amount of clouds and rain, driving visibility is severely affected.

For those of us who work within the gates of the Boeing plants, we need to be mindful of the dangers of seasonal darkness, weather, other vehicles and pedestrians. Each of our plants, from Everett to Fredrickson has seen changes due to asset utilization and consolidations of buildings. There has also been a marked increase in vendor vehicle traffic as a result of the new material delivery and point of use process. This has caused modifications in both vehicle and pedestrian traffic patterns.

At the Renton plant, the “Move to the Lake” has drastically changed the physical makeup of the plant. Before these changes, Renton could have been described as a “Los Angeles” model. In other words, the population of the plant was spread out over a larger geographical area. Now, with the consolidation, closures of buildings and relocation of support people into the final assembly and wing manufacturing buildings, the plant resembles the “New York” model. That means a greater population density built up but not out. It also means more people and vehicles in closer proximity.

To deal with the greater potential for traffic hazards, the Renton Facilities organization, along...
Making the 7E7 Fuselage

Continued from page 1

tion was done right – thus keeping the 7E7 manufacturing process on schedule.

Boeing showed off the 7E7 fuselage section to media at a press conference on January 11 – just one week before Airbus rolled out its A-380 super jumbo. While the A-380 will use more composites than previous planes, it will not use nearly as much composites as the 7E7. In fact, Airbus had doubted an all-composite fuselage could be made.

Walt Gillette, Boeing Vice President of Engineering, Manufacturing, and Partner Alignment, hailed the fuselage section as “a piece of aviation history.”

“Nothing like this is already in production,” declared Gillette. “We now see how all advanced airplanes will be built from this time forward.”

It is the innovation and skills of our members and Boeing engineers that have made past models successful. The same will be true for the 7E7. For months, members at DC have worked hand-in-hand with Boeing engineers and other 7E7 partners building prototype parts for the 7E7. Members are also involved in developing production processes so these parts can be mass produced most efficiently – all with the goal of making the 7E7 a best-selling airplane.

Our members at DC are excelled for the opportunity to work with composites and have a role in the 7E7. Composites are a huge leap forward in the aerospace industry – weighing about 30 percent less than aluminum. In addition, composites won’t corrode or fatigue like metal does, which means less maintenance for airplanes.

This barrel fuselage section was built in December, after several months of development work. Building the piece, which included stringers, started with computerized laser cutting of composite tape on a huge mold. That mold was mounted on a tool that rotated the barrel as the tape was applied. The structure was then wrapped and placed in Boeing’s autoclave for curing. The final step was to wrap, inspect, and tool removal. Next, windows and doors were cut out and a paint process was tested.

Seven more 7E7 development pieces, representing different sections of the plane, will be built at the Developmental Center this year. In addition, 751 members working in the wind tunnel have also played a role in the 7E7, where they have been performing various performance tests for nearly a year and a half.

Business Reps Take Oath of Office

The four District Officers and 14 Business Representatives elected during the October Local Lodge elections accept the oath of office at the January 25th District Council meeting. They began a four-year term of office effective February 1, 2005.

Members Volunteer to Help Union Efforts

Continued from page 1

Since both companies are in the aerospace industry, it helps our members at Boeing if we can bring up their wages and benefits. Staff Writer Greg Gustavson, who worked at Goodrich before getting hired at Boeing, noted, “These workers need a Union so their pay scale and benefits are fair and employees are treated equally. Two people doing the same job may make $3 or $4 an hour different. In a downturn, they don’t hesitate to layoff workers and it doesn’t have to be based on seniority. They also don’t have any safety guidelines.”

If you know people working at Goodrich or Giddens, please provide their contact information to the Union or ask them to contact our organizing department at 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3306 to improve their pay and benefits.

Winter Calls for Extra Caution

Continued from page 4

with Renton SHEA has designed new pedestrian and vehicle traffic flow routes. These new routes were reviewed by the Renton HSI committee and Union Stewards. The traffic patterns are now established with the re-painting of vehicle traffic and pedestrian lanes. Signage has been changed to match transportation industry standards. Pedestrians, for example, are now the graphic depiction you see in walkways. It is important that when we are pedestrians we use these walkways. It is also important when we are drivers that we are aware of the walkways and pedestrians who stray from the walkways. Let’s all slow down in the plant, making sure we all get home safely. Let’s re-mind each other of the need to drive and walk safely while at work. With all the new vendor vehicle traffic and the increased employee traffic there has never been a greater potential for vehicles and people coming together with tragic results. By taking just a little more time and paying a little more attention, we can make sure we all are safer.

IAM Flies High With First Contract at Fort Lewis

Employees working for DynCorp at Fort Lewis are excited to have Union representation and a first contract. In fact, 100 percent of the workforce ratified the contract 751 negotiated, which is a testament to their level of satisfaction.

A laid-off Boeing employee contacted the Union about possible representation. After meeting with the employees, the IAM was proud to be their collective bargaining agent.

The first contract delivered employees a 20.5 percent increase in wages over the three-year agreement, including a 14.7 percent general wage increase at the ratification. Their sick leave accrual rate doubled, vacation days were increased, bereavement leave and jury duty language were added, and employees also introduced report time, call-back time and on-call pay. Before this first contract, there was only a 401K plan. Now, DynCorp members also secured the IAM National Pension Plan, with contributions of $80 an hour by the end of the three years.

Bill Johnson, the member who initially contacted the IAM, noted, “We are all very happy with the contract. It is much better than what we had before and reassuring to know it is all in writing. We are happy to be Union members and have someone to stand up for our rights.”

Bill had been a member of the IAM when he worked at Boeing and contacted the Union for representation after a problem with his pay working as a lead man.

When he brought it to the company’s attention, DynCorp agreed he should have been making an additional $1.50 rather than the 96 cents he was being paid. However, they refused to consider paying backpay. The next call he made was to the IAM for representation.

These satisfied Union members have been spreading the word around Fort Lewis that it pays to be Union and go with the IAM. The IAM also recently ratified first contracts for DynCorp employees in Idaho, Oregon and Montana.

IAM members working for DynCorp unanimously ratified their first contract, which provided 20.3 percent wage increases over three years. Above left to right: Business Reps Tommy Wilson, and Bill Johnson.
Loaned Employees Honored for Community Service

Fourteen Boeing employees, including four IAM members, in the Puget Sound region were honored in January for their work as loaned employees at the United Way. The group spent four months on assignment working within their county to help the United Ways in Pierce, Snohomish and King counties raise money for their annual campaign. IAM members serving as loaned employees were Max McEvoy, Byron Lymburn, Jim Scott and Jim Smith.

“Through my adventure as a loaned employee, I have come to realize the important part I can play to make our community a better place for all of us,” said Max McEvoy, who works at Boeing Frederickson and served as a loaned employee for Pierce County.

The loaned employee program provides skilled people to local United Ways during the annual fall fund-raising campaign to help local people in need. The program began more than 50 years ago at the hand of then Boeing president William M. Allen. Interested employees can visit http://ldw.web.boeing.com:description.asp?id=40 for more information about the program.

Wanted: Boosters for Annual ECF Campaign

Make a difference in your communities and learn leadership skills at the same time! Be a booster during the annual Employees Community Fund (ECF) campaign May 2-6. Training will be provided; no experience is necessary for this fun, challenging and fast-paced assignment. Boosters will thank co-workers for past community support, answer questions about the Fund and ask for contributions via payroll deduction. Contributions go to help people needing services of local community nonprofit health and human service organizations. Because the Employees Community Fund annual campaign has shifted from two weeks to once, more boosters are needed for a shorter time commitment. For anyone who has ever considered taking on this assignment, now is the time!

For more information, visit the Northwest community web site http://community.web.boeing.com/nwregion/ and click on booster information or call the appropriate contact below.

Site Contact Phone
Renton - Yvonne Plata 425-237-7872
Everett - Jeanetta Roberts 425-750-6020
Auburn - Christine Sterba 253-653-9160
Frederickson - Chris Colleran 253-846-4419
Kent - Shirley Wilder 425-965-4464
West Corridor - Paul Wehrle 206-544-1374
Bellevue/Issaquah - Ron Bloomster 425-957-5338

Marchers Celebrate King’s Legacy

Working families celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his legacy in January. In Seattle, the celebration began at Garfield High School with a series of workshops, a rally with speeches from various organizations and a march through downtown Seattle on Monday, January 17. Everett held its celebration on Thursday, January 13 with a march that ended at the Everett Event Center and a program that included Governor Christine Gregoire.

Despite tornnential rains, over 80 members and their families turned out for the march through downtown Seattle. Special thanks to 751 members Lem Charleston, Abdul-âleem Ahmed, Clifton Wyatt and Louis St. Cyr for serving on the MLK Celebration Planning Committee. Lem served as master of ceremonies and had the pleasure of introducing Local 751 A Vice President Tony Perry, who spoke to the crowd and presented 751’s donation to the event.

While Dr. King is primarily known for his work as a civil rights leader, he recognized that labor’s needs were identical to those in the fight for civil rights. Through Dr. King’s work, a common bond was formed between workers, regardless of race, gender, or other differences. Our fights as trade unionists are forged in the same belief that Dr. King had: all of us deserve an equal voice.

Thanks to the following who participated:

Dr. King spoke to the 1961 AFL-CIO Convention; his words are as true today as they were then.

“I look forward confidently to the day when all who work for a living will be one with no thought to their separateness as Jews, Italians or any other distinctions. This will be the day we bring into full realization the American dream—a day unfulfilled. A dream of equality of opportunity, of private property widely distributed; a dream of a land where men take necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few, of a land where men will not argue that the color of a man determines the content of his character; a dream of a nation with all the resources of science and the arts to win glory and hold in the fear of all nations. This will be the day when all of you will be truly free. This will be the day when all of you will be truly free.

From the web site of the Northwest Community Fund at http://community.web.boeing.com/nwregion/.

Northwest Harvest and Mission Volunteer Event

Many 751 members took part in the Everett MLK celebration on Thursday, January 13th. Participants marched through downtown Everett and culminated in a program at the Everett Event Center.

Many 751 volunteers again helped others throughout the holidays by packaging food at Northwest Harvest and serving meals at both the Tacoma Rescue Mission and Everett Gospel Mission.

The Northwest Harvest warehouse project has become an annual event with many members bringing their entire family. Volunteers bagged 8,280 pounds of frozen corn on the cob, which will serve 20,700 people.

In addition, volunteers repackaged 5,500 pounds of rice from 18 pound bags into 2 pound bags, which will provide 33,000 servings.

751 members and their families also prepared and served meals at both the Everett Gospel Mission and Tacoma Rescue Mission. Several teenage students took part to earn their community service requirements for school.

Students have begun volunteering through the Union to fulfill their community service requirements.

751 members serve meals at the Everett Gospel Mission every month.
King’s Legacy

751-member John Mason and his wife Cheryl (standing) opened their home to hundreds of foster kids, adopted seven children (above), and also raised their two biological children.

Eight Isn’t Enough for Masons

How many people would open their homes and hearts to kids at the drop of a hat? 751-member John Mason and his wife Cheryl have done just that for over 18 years.

When 751-member John Mason and his wife Cheryl agreed to be foster parents for Childhaven, little did they know how it would change their lives. This amazing couple have not only served as foster parents for between 160 and 300 kids, but adopted seven children along the way – in addition to raising their two biological children.

Helping others – especially kids – is just a way of life at the Mason home. It has earned them the respect of many. Debra Ronnholm, President and Chief Executive Officer of Childhaven, gets choked up talking about the Masons. “Their entire world revolves around their kids. They are unsung heroes, and I feel honored to know them. I wish the world had more people like John and Cheryl. Our former clients look up to them and want to emulate their parenting abilities.”

John noted, “I love being a foster parent and making a difference in the kids’ lives and in the community. I have seen so many changes in children who have come through our house. We don’t have a lot of money, but we have kids. I was one of five children and grew up in a big family so it just came naturally.”

Some of the foster kids stay for months and others stay for a day. Each situation is different and each child has a unique set of needs. Childhaven has inspired the Mason family to reach out to others. In fact, their two oldest children Jenne (age 26) and Jeremy (age 24) went to work for Childhaven after completing degrees in education.

So how did they go from being foster parents to adopting seven kids? It was the right thing to do seems to be the answer.

“Eight Isn’t Enough for Masons”

For 18 years, the Masons have been active in Childhaven and participated in a recent fundraising drive that collected $15 million for this worthwhile organization. During the 1995 strike, John volunteered nearly every day at the Seattle Union Hall, helping out where he could and doing whatever needed to be done. It is something that directs his life.

Yet all the Mason kids share who sentiment. When they hear a new foster kid is coming, they still get excited. The entire Mason clan greets a new foster child and attempt to genuinely make them feel welcome and comfortable.

“…we felt it was important to keep the children together. When we would hear they had another child in the foster care system, we would track them down so they could be with their brothers and sisters.”

John noted, “Our kids gave us a lot to adopt the others, but they got a lot in return, which is why they decided to work at Childhaven. They want to continue to give back and help others. It is a way of life in our house.”

“…”There was never a kid that didn’t do well in the Mason home. It is amazing and speaks volumes to the love they show,” added Ronnholm.

The giving extends beyond just their home. John, Cheryl and the entire family have been active in Childhaven and participated in a recent fundraising drive that collected $15 million for this worthwhile organization. During the 1995 strike, John volunteered nearly every day at the Seattle Union Hall, helping out where he could and doing whatever needed to be done. It is something that directs his life.

“One thing is sure – life is never dull at the Mason home, but it is always full of love and children.”
Remembering Roman Year After Year

At the Grand Lodge Convention this past fall, delegates took action to name a scholarship after one of 751’s most beloved members – Roman Mayfield. Throughout his 54+ years of service, Roman inspired many to get involved in the Union, encouraged countless individuals to pursue educational opportunities and counseled many on their career paths.

At the final District Council meeting of 2004, Roman’s widow, Albetha, who is also a retired 751 member, was presented a commemorative plaque for the Roman Mayfield Scholarship. Beginning with the 2006 IAM Scholarship (since 2005 applications were already being accepted before the Convention action), one recipient will be named the Roman Mayfield Memorial Scholarship. The yearly scholarship is a fitting way to pay tribute to this member that played such a rich role in our history.

2005 IAM Scholarship Applications Available

The IAM Scholarship Competition is open to members of the IAM and their children and grandchildren of members through the United States and Canada. Scholarships are awarded for a specific period from one to four years, leading to a Bachelor’s degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification. Awards to Children of Members are $1,000 per academic year for college. All awards are renewed each year for a maximum of four years until a Bachelor’s degree is obtained. Vocational/Technical School awards offer $2,000 per year until certification is reached for a maximum of two years, whichever occurs first.

For rules of eligibility or to obtain an application, complete and return the form below. No application forms postmarked later than February 25, 2005, will be considered. No exceptions will be permitted even if a three-month extension for the delay.

REQUEST FOR IAM 2005 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

Please send me an Application Packet for the 2005 IAM Scholarship Competition. If the proper packet is not received within 30 days, advise the Scholarship Department immediately. I understand that this request is not an application, and that the Application Packet must be completed and postmarked no later than February 25, 2005.

REMEMBER: Please check the appropriate box listed below and the requested application will be mailed to you. As an IAM member who will have 2 years’ continuous membership in the IAM as of February 25, 2005, I am requesting an Application Form for:
- IAM Member applying for a College Scholarship
- Child of a Member applying for a Vocational/Technical Scholarship
- Child of a Member requesting a College Scholarship

Print your name and address clearly:

IMPORTANT: Complete this coupon & attach a SELF-ADDRESSED LABEL for reply.

Mail to: IAM Scholarship Program, 9000 Machinist Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Albetha Mayfield (seated) was presented a plaque launching the new IAM Roman Mayfield Scholarship named in honor of her husband who passed away in 2004.

Jerry Shreve Retires

On February 1st, District 751 bid farewell to its senior Business Rep – Jerry Shreve, as he retired from the Union. Jerry has served continually as a Business Representative for the past 24 years, but his Union Service goes much farther back.

He takes with him a wealth of knowledge and experience that cannot be easily replaced. Over the years, Jerry has helped countless members to enforce the contract, resolve their issues, negotiate contracts and make it a better place to live and work. As Business Representative, he has been assigned to the Everett, Auburn and Seattle offices – covering a wide variety of buildings and assignments. His commitment to the Union and bettering the quality of life for others was evident in all his work. He continually volunteered for organizing assignments – eager to bring the benefits of Union membership to others in the community.

Jerry hired into Boeing in June 1955 and worked for over 25 years as an Electronic and Mechanical Inspector. From the start, he was active in his Union – serving 18 years as a Steward, 8 years on the District Council, and 4 years as the District Vice President. He also played a critical role in the Local E leadership – serving as Local E President for 4 years, Local E Recording Secretary for 7 years and Local E Sentinel for 3 years.

We wish him well in his retirement!

Wilkinson Named Trustee at Cascadia

751 continues to play a role in area community colleges with another member getting named as Trustee. Effective October 14, 2004, 751 Member Roy Wilkinson was appointed by Governor Gary Locke to serve as Trustee of Cascadia Community College.

Wilkinson has been very involved in promoting education for years in his position as Union Program Coordinator at the IAM/Boeing Quality Through Training Program (QTTP). The trustee position will give him a more active role in one of the many schools our members utilize through QTTP. Since becoming a trustee, Wilkinson has already attended three board meetings, one legislative meeting and a retreat.

Trustees are responsible for hiring and firing the president of the colleges. They also vote on whether the professors receive tenure and negotiate contracts for unionized workers at the college.

Cascadia Community College is currently in the process of becoming accredited. Cascadia shares its campus with the UW Bothell branch with a library that is jointly shared. It offers many IT programs and biotech programs to support the industries in the surrounding area. Cascadia also offers many remedial classes such as Accounting 101 and classes to help balance a checkbook.

Wilkinson is excited to play a role in this developing college.

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January Retired Club Minutes
by Betty Nies, Retired Club Treasurer

At the January 10th 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 Mary Wood who was excused. Minutes were accepted as printed. Communications were read and are on file.

Financial Report: The Financial Report was accepted as read.

Business Reps Report: Business Rep Paul Knebel spoke about the recalls at Boeing from Frederickson to Everett. The rehire orientation on January 7 had 230 hourly members returning to the payroll.

Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Spalding reported on the negotiations with Boeing later this year. He noted that orders are increasing and production rates are increasing. He pledged to work closely with the Retired Club in the negotiations.

Health & Welfare: Ill brothers and sisters this past month included: William F. Bagley, Beverly A. Hayes, Willard M. Johnson, Marian M. Witt. A moment of silence for the following members who have passed away: Gregory Anglin, Herbert Balbula, Donald Barnes, Allen Box Jr, Robert Coburn, Edward Dellauba, James Doty, Floyd Hagen, Jesse Hall, Robert Hammund, Larry Hessen, Raymond Heier, Neil Schlosser, Katherine Sterling, Donald Vanderpool, Julia White, JosieWieczorek, Frances Wolff. Sympathy cards were sent to the families.

Calendar of Events:
Feb. 7 Bingo
Feb. 14 Business Meeting
Feb. 21 Video
Feb. 28 Bingo

Good and Welfare: Carl Schwartz reported he submitted an article on a cost-of-living provision in the last AeroMechanic. The Bush Administration is trying to destroy Social Security. We do not want the same people who have bankrupted so many companies and hurt shareholders to be in charge of our Social Security. He urged everyone to get involved and write letters to Senators and Representatives to protect Social Security.

Steve, from the Alliance of Retired Americans, spoke about how they are going to fight for Social Security. There is no crisis in the system. Ask everyone to get involved and write letters to protect and ensure Social Security is there for the next generation.

Al Wydick thanked the Union members who helped with the Christmas luncheon decorations and set up. Catholic Seamen’s Club will get a $25 gift certificate.

John Guevarra reported on a recent news article that slammed the White House for creating fake news such as one that doubled the Defense Administration’s new Medicare Drug Benefit. The news articles were produced by a former journalist, now on the government payroll, and packaged to look like an objective news report. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) scolded the Bush Administration for distributing phony, prepackaged news. Viewers have no idea their tax dollars were used to write and produce these phony news spots.

John also reported on the Bush Administration’s attack on Social Security that will affect all of us, our children and our grandchildren. He referred to an article by Molly Ivins which emphasized under the current system we pay less than 1 percent to administer Social Security. The private accounts Bush has proposed will cost ten to thirty times more! The article stressed Social Security is in no danger whatsoever of going broke or even having to pay out less than full compensation for at least 50 years. Ivins noted the Republicans do not want to fix Social Security, they want to kill it. They don’t want to ‘partially privatize’ Social Security, they want to end it. Their proposal of private accounts is a giant fee-generating scheme for Wall Street. The Administration is spending $50-$100 million on a propaganda campaign to convince America there’s something seriously wrong with Social Security while they ignore the collapse of the American health-care system.

Tom O’Brien spoke about getting a COLA raise in the pension plan.

Unfinished & New Business: None.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: The Club celebrated the following December birthdays: Dan Stanclowski, Ardie Stachowiak: January birthdays: Mel Kung, Jerry Balken. December anniversaries included: Leroy & Helen Miller (56 years), Betty & Ray Ness (50 years), Jerry & Sherrill Balken (45 years). January anniversaries included: Mary Allen (55 years).

Adjournment: Adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Retiree Legislative Chair

by Carl Schwartz, Retiree Legislative Chair

Our report today centers on two main issues – we are still working on getting a cost-of-living provision included in our Union’s platforms – and eventually enacted. We hope you read the letter about it in the AeroMechanic newspaper - feel free to clip the item and use it.

Our second item is the campaign to save Social Security. I hope you read Molly Ivins column. Our committee also has an editorial, copies available, discussing the issue. Remember what is driving the issue is the hope of “Friends of Bush” to get their hands on the money – OUR money. I’ll be meeting with the Board of the State Alliance for Retired Americans on January 17 in Olympia to discuss the issue and other senior issues.

I want to urge everyone to keep informed, read the AeroMechanic, and keep in contact with our legislators and Congressional representatives. There is a lot at stake, OUR income and especially the futures of our children and grandchildren.

Senior Politics

We Must Fight to Preserve Social Security

by Carl Schwartz, Retiree Legislative Chair

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AD RULES
Each single ad must be 25 words or less. Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each ad, as they are pre-classified physically. Ads are free only to members - active, laid-off, or retired. Full cost for commercial ads. Include phone number instead of addresses in ad. Members “cottage industries” will be OK on ads, but no commercial ads. When using own paper for ads, include information required on regular ad blank.

Deadline For Next Issue February 11th

Pocket Angels, $1 plus postage. Great fund raiser! Contact: P.O. Box 2664, Renton, WA 98059

Hand Made Gifts: To get more information on these beautiful chimes, inquire at: P.O. Box 2664, Renton, WA 98059

Boeing Employee Now Selling real estate with John L. Scott, Marysville. Honest and fair. 26 years with EAM, I’ll take care of you. 253-268-1259

For Rent: 3 BDRM home, double car garage, large fenced yard $250K. Renton Highlands close to Boeing. 206-772-1752 or 206-772-1153

Room for Rent – apartment in my home. 500 minutes to Boeing. 206-772-1752 or 206-772-1153


For Rent – 1 BERM2 BATH in Renton Highlands. Newly remodeled mobile home with large garage/shop/garden fenced 75’ x 100’ Fireplace /750 square. $900/month. 425-460-7831

Wanted: Old slides, photos, negatives of Boeing. 206-612-5709

Rented Boehm Piano. 75” grand made in Germany (has to be armed), Newer model. 206-501-3619

Older Piano – 6’ 6” square grand. $1,800. 206-501-3619

Service: Renton WA – $40. 206-542-0104

Car Alarm – Starting at $50. Brand new and unopened! Flash park lights, dis- able starter, keyless entry, etc. Includes all manuals, warranty. Installation available. 253-262-4378


Pickup For Sale – antique in excellent condition. $1,300. 206-542-0104

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. SE, Seattle, 98108 Deadline is Feb. 11th!
District Council Delegates and Alternates accept the oath of office for a four-year term at the January 11th District Council meeting.
Alaska Airlines Trying to Make IAM Jobs Excess Baggage

IAM members working at Alaska Airlines have asked for our help. Alaska Airlines is threatening to outsource nearly 500 baggage and ramp service agent jobs unless they take massive pay and benefit cuts, as well as work rule changes that will put their full-time careers in jeopardy. They have threatened to subcontract these jobs at the end of January. IAM negotiators have made concessions to try to help Alaska, but it seems to be a moving target. Initially, Alaska wanted $13.8 million in concessions from the ramp employees. When IAM negotiators offered $11 million in concessions, Alaska then demanded $18 million in concessions.

And they’re not just small concessions either. Alaska Airlines is asking IAM members to move their maximum pay rates from $20.80 an hour down to $13 an hour. In addition, Alaska wants to increase employee contributions for health care.

751 members joined IAM members from Alaska on an information picket in February – trying to bring public attention to the situation. Alaska Airlines is the considered the hometown airline, which many of our members fly when taking their vacations. Use your power as a consumer and write a letter asking them to do the right thing and keep their unionized ramp workers.

A few facts you might want to mention in a letter or e-mail:
• On November 17, 2004, with all the “losses” the company has taken, Alaska Airlines issued over 46,000 shares of stock worth more than $1.5 million to upper management AT NO COST.

• Alaska Airlines has “asked,” with the threat of outsourcing, that the Union employees take large cuts in pay and benefits.
• Currently at Alaska Airlines, there are approximately 9,000 Union employees in contract negotiations covering pilots, flight attendants, ramp service agents, stores agents, and customer service agents.
• They have outsourced the plane cleaners’ job to an outside firm that does not provide the quality service the former Alaska employees did.
• Claims of “losses” are exaggerated.

IAM members at Alaska Airlines Management if their employees are satisfied with their jobs. This has led to the lowest morale in over 20 years. Please call or e-mail the corporate officers listed below and tell them you support Union employees at Alaska in their endeavor to obtain fair and equitable contracts.

How You Can Help...

Please call or e-mail the corporate officers listed below. Tell them you are an Alaska Airlines customer and you support Union employees at Alaska in their efforts to obtain fair and equitable contracts. Ask them not to outsource the ramp jobs.

• President & CEO, William Ayer (206) 392-5329 or Bill.Ayer@Alaskaair.com
• Executive VP George Bagley (206) 392-5445 or George.Bagley@Alaskaair.com
• Vice President Dennis Hamel (206) 392-5278 or Dennis.Hamel@Alaskaair.com
• Executive VP & CFO Bradley Tilden (206) 392-5362 or Brad.Tilden@Alaskaair.com

District Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Spalding (l) and District President Mark Blondin (r) presented 751 Editor Connie Killihner with numerous awards from the recent IAM Newsletter and Website Contest. 751 captured first place in the best feature and layout design categories and second place in general excellence. Our website also earned a second place for best layout design.