Lost decades: Union helps Boeing worker regain seniority

Business Rep helps Renton Machinist get back 24 years worth of seniority

After being laid-off two different times from Boeing in the past, Fred Christianson understands the importance of seniority.

Recently, he came to appreciate even more the value of having a union contract.

Thanks to Section 14.4 of our IAM contract, Fred now gets credit for his previous time working at Boeing as a Machinist Union member, which adjusted his seniority date from 2011 back to 1987.

The value of the additional 24 years of seniority is hard to estimate, but it should ensure he remains on the active payroll until he decides to retire or leave.

In addition, the added seniority means he accrues vacation at a much quicker rate. As a result of the restored seniority, he was awarded an additional 130 hours of vacation, which should have been generated since his last hire date in 2011.

Christianson initially hired into Boeing in 1987 and was laid-off in 1993. He rehired in 1996 only to be laid-off again in 1999.

Unfortunately, he did not get rehired before his recall rights expired.

When he learned Boeing was again hiring toolmakers in 2011, he applied and was rehired once again.

Most members return to Boeing from layoff by exercising their Category A or recall rights. However, for members who get hired after their Category A rights expire, Section 14.4 of the contract becomes a very important paragraph.

Christianson didn’t initially question having a 2011 seniority date, but after talking to others, he decided to stop by the Renton Union Hall to see if he had any rights.

Business Rep Heather Barstow checked into his work history and was happy to get him the additional seniority he was due.

Barstow was thankful to have assistance from the union.

“It was wonderful to know that my previous years at Boeing would still be counted,” he said.

“I hope sharing my story educates others on this contractual language,” she added. “I already talked to another member who is checking his work history to see if he can regain seniority.”

While each situation is unique, the key is that the separation from the active payroll cannot exceed the amount of seniority at the time of layoff plus the amount of seniority accumulated while on the union.

“We hope to educate members on Section 14.4,” said Barstow. “It doesn’t apply to a lot of people; however, for those affected, it is very important.

“Without this language,” she continued, “he would have remained a new hire -- as though he had never worked at Boeing before. Thanks to the union contract, Fred gets credit for the years of seniority he had already earned.”

The added seniority will also provide more opportunities for promotion.

Members who believe 14.4 might apply to them can contact the Union Hall to find out if they are eligible.

Continued on Page 5

District 751 supports Inslee’s plan for future of aerospace industry here in Washington

Long-time Everett union steward Becky Beasley isn’t willing to watch Boeing’s next airplane – the 777X – get built in some other state.

“After 16 years of building this airplane, it would be like putting my first-born up for adoption to see it go somewhere else,” Beasley said.

That’s why Beasley and other 777 stewards said they were pleased to hear Gov. Jay Inslee’s plans for ensuring the 777X – and all future Boeing planes – will be fabricated and assembled here in Washington.

“I think we can pull it off,” said steward Tom Murphy. “The 777 was born here. It needs to stay here.”

Beasley and Murphy were part of a delegation of District 751 Machinists who heard Inslee outline his vision for the future of Washington’s aerospace industry during a speech at the Future of District 751 supports Inslee’s plans for ensuring the 777X campaign takes off

Government, business and labor united: Gov. Jay Inslee discusses his vision for Washington’s aerospace industry while Seattle Chamber of Commerce President Maud Daudon and Washington State Labor Council President Jeff Johnson listen.
By Tom Wroblewski
District 751 President

I know what a lot of you must have been thinking re-
cently, with all the talk about where Boeing is going to fabri-
cate composite wings and all. It’s not only about where the 737 MAX would be fabricated and assembled, whether South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley would send more of her citizens’ money to Chicago, or if some other state would enter into a bidding war.

Of course, we all know how that one turned out. We signed our contract extension with Boeing in 2011 and soon the 737 MAX will be assembled – and largely fabricated – by Machin-
ists Union members here, in Portland and at Spirit in Wichita. Now in 2013, Boeing is playing much the same game, trying to pit South Carolina and Washington against each other to see who will make the best offer and land the 777X. South Carolina’s Legislature recently approved a $190 million subsidy for Boeing, and the company has agreed to move some 737 work that used to be done in Canada to Charlotte. That – and some cryptic talk from Chicago – is what has set off this latest rumor-fest.

This, I’m afraid, is just the way it’s going to be. The Harvard MBAs who are in charge in Chicago are going to do their best to squeeze every last dime out of our state and local gov-
ernments, all in the name of “compet-
tiveness.” We may not like this game, but now we know the rules – and we know how to play to win.

The good news, for us here in Washington state, is that we’ve got three huge advantages over any po-
tential competitors for the 777X.

• All the facilities and support infrastructure Boeing needs to build the 777X are already in place, which means that the company can get the program off the ground and into the sky faster – and cheaper – which is what the customers want.

• In Jay Inslee, we’ve got a gover-

Continued from Page 1

which is currently set at $3,000 a year. This revision in policy equates to an ad-
nitional $6,000 in education benefits for those members who are laid-off with less than one year of seniority.

Those members who are laid-off with less than one year of seniority.

The COLA will be adjusted to reflect inflation in the price of basic goods for February, March and April, based on the federal government’s Consumer Price Index.

For the year, the COLA provision in the contract with Boeing has deliv-
ered 18 cents an hour.

Laid-off Machinists get better benefits

Joint Programs Career Advisor Ben Brynildsen explains training options for those facing layoffs to District 751 member Alicia Incrocci.

Joint Programs Career Advisor Ben Brynildsen explains training options for those facing layoffs to District 751 member Alicia Incrocci.

It is rewarding to help someone de-
velop that personalized plan,” Brinkley said.

“Personally, I wouldn’t want to go through a layoff without a career ad-
viser,” said Brenda Ames, who has been helping members through layoffs since the early 1990s.

“The system is too complex,” she said. “We’re here to help smooth over the ripples and help determine the next steps so the process is not so over-
whelming. As advisors, we recognize there may be other life challenges happen-
ping at the same time and often we serve as their sounding board. Most members are not aware of how we can help. With us, there is no agenda. It is simply what do you need? Once mem-
bers have met with us, they realize we will not do them wrong.”

Adviser Jodale Brinkley enjoys the individual attention she can give mem-
bers.

Boeing COLA pays 17 cents

District 751 members working at Boeing will receive a 17-cent-an-hour cost-of-living adjustment on June 7.

The COLA reflects inflation in the price of basic goods for February, March and April, based on the federal government’s Consumer Price Index.

For the year, the COLA provision in the contract with Boeing has delivered 18 cents an hour.
District 751 Machinists lobby Congress

By LARRY BROWN
District 751 Legislative Director

The Machinists Union itself and the labor movement in general are in a fight for their very existence. “That was the message International President Tom Buford gave as the 2013 IAM National Legislative Conference kicked off May 12 in Westport D.C.”

During his keynote address, Buford said there is a strong push by the enemies of working people to destroy the protections and rights of workers to join unions and bring redress when those rights are violated. Buford encouraged the delegates to give a strong and clear message to our Senators and Representatives in Congress that they must stand up for working people or they will be held accountable.

District President Tom Wroblewski led an IAM 751 delegation to the conference. Our group met with nine of the 12 members of Washington’s Congressional delegation during the conference.

This included both Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell and Congressman Rick Larsen as well as the three freshman members of the U.S. House: Representatives Suzan DelBene, Derek Kilmer and Denny Heck. The union also met with staffers for Congressmen Dave Reichert, Jim McDermott and Adam Smith.

There were several issues for discussion with our Congressional delegation.

Our union is asking for an end to the sequester, which is a senseless and destructive approach to cutting government spending.

As Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer from Maryland, one of the conference speakers stated, it makes no sense to cut uniformly any and all spending without regard to priority.

If a family has to make cuts to the family budget, they wouldn’t make across the board cuts to food, entertainment, medicine and the cable bill,” he said. “You would make your cuts to entertainment or other non-essential items.”

Our union believes that Congress needs to fix this. Too many people are getting hurt – many of them Machinists Union members who work on military hardware at places like Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Whidby Island Naval Air Station and Fairchild Air Force Base. We reminded our Congressional members that Boeing’s KC-46 tanker and P-8 Poseidon programs are also vulnerable to the sequester.

Another important issue addressed during this conference was protecting the National Labor Relations Board. The Republican majority in the U.S. House has passed numerous bills attacking the NLRB, including some that would eliminate the board’s funding or its enforcement powers. The NLRB is vital for enforcement of federal labor laws that protect the rights of working people everywhere, and we urged our Congressional delegation to stand up for them.

A good deal of effort by our Legislative Conference attendees was devoted to fight the so-called chained CPI. This is a proposal to cut future Social Security benefits, which would hurt retirees now and into the future. If you want to put Social Security on more secure footing, the IAM argues, simply “scrap the cap” – meaning the cap on Social Security taxes.

Currently, everyone pays the same rate of Social Security taxes on earnings up to the cap, which is $112,000 a year. If you make more than that, you don’t pay any more Social Security taxes. That is wrong. Let the wealthier earners pay their fair share and Social Security will be secure.

Perhaps the most outrageous bill passed by the U.S. House is H.R. 1406, the so-called “Working Families Flexibility Act.” This bill, if it becomes law, would amend federal law to allow em-ployers to give workers comp time instead of overtime pay.

There are two problems with this: 1) the employer would be allowed to decide when employees get their comp time; and 2) enforcement powers would be assigned to the NLRB, which is the very organization House Republicans are trying to eviscerate. Overall, Washington has a very good Congressional delegation that for the most part, supports working families. District 751 and the rest of the Machinists Union will continue to work with Congress to keep them accountable to the hard-working members of the IAM.

Local C sets annual salmon derby for MNPL

Local C’s annual Jimmy Darrah Memorial Salmon Derby to raise money for MNPL will be July 28 at Westport.

The cost is $200 for the day-long trip on Ocean Sportfishing Charters, which is based in Westport. The cost covers lunch, snacks and refreshments for everyone, plus trophies and cash prizes for winning.

Local C has reserved four boats for the day, and they will be filled on a first-paid basis, said Don Fike, who is organizing the salmon derby for Local C.

“The boats are starting to fill up already,” he said. “A lot of people are planning family weekends around this event. If you wait until the last minute to register, you may miss out.”

Entry forms are available at all Puget Sound union halls and from Local C committee members on the derby organizing committee: Ron Coen, Paul Burton, David Henry, Rod Vogt, and Chris Louie and Fike. Checks should be made payable to MNPL and mailed to Fike at 11303 116th Place NE, Kirkland, WA 98033.

This year, Local C also is sponsoring a Big Fish Calcutta prize drawing in connection with the derby. For details, contact Fike at (425) 822-5189.

The derby is held in honor of the late Jimmy Darrah, a District 751 grievance coordinator and former Local C president who passed away unexpectedly in 2009.

MNPL – the Machinists Non-partisan Political League – is the political arm of the Machinists Union. All donations the union makes to political candidates come out of voluntary contributions made by members to the MNPL fund.

GOP tries to change rules on overtime

By DAVID GROVES
Washington State Labor Council

As Democratic House members of Congress — Reps. Doc Hastings, Jaime Herrera Beutler, Dave Reichert and Cathy McMorris Rodgers — voted May 8 for legislation to allow employers of hourly workers to pay their employees less money. In fact, they have each signed on as co-sponsors of the bill. And they’ve done it not because it stands a chance of becoming law — but because they think it will help their party “rebrand” itself as family friendly.

House Resolution 1406, titled the “Working Families Flexibility Act,” would give employers the ability to avoid paying time and a half overtime wages by offering compensatory time off, to be taken at the employer’s discretion. The bill’s proponents say workers get to choose between comp time and overtime pay, hence the “flexibility.” It passed the House 223-204, with all six Democratic House members from Washington state voting “no.”

“This family-centered bill would allow employers to decide how to manage more overtime,” Herrera Beutler said.

But, as the AFL-CIO and other advocates point out, H.R. 1406 does not allow workers to choose when they take comp time. That would be up to management. They say employers could simply refuse to schedule the comp time and pay the wages owed at the end of the year, amounting to employees giving a no-interest loan to their employer. But more importantly, opponents say workers who choose to keep their overtime pay could see their hours cut or be fired and would have no legal recourse.

“We are tired of being presented with false choices by Republicans and business,” said Jeff Johnson, President of the Washington State Labor Council. “This is really a Bosses’ Flexibility Act.”

The National Partnership for Women & Families opposed the bill saying, “it would leave workers with neither pay nor time.”

The measure has no hope of passing the Democratic-controlled U.S. Senate and the White House has already warned of a veto by President Obama should it somehow reach his desk.

With far more pressing issues like immigration reform and the federal budget, why would House Republicans waste time passing legislation like H.R. 1406 that is doomed to fail?

As reported by MSNBC’s Chris Hayes, H.R. 1406 is part of the Republican Party’s effort to rebrand itself after devastating losses in the last election. Voters largely saw Republicans out of touch with middle-class families because of their advocacy for policies that cut workers’ benefits and put them at risk.

H.R. 1406 demonstrates that the rebranding effort is not about changing the party’s priorities and values, it’s just about changing their talking points. An identical version of H.R. 1406 was introduced in 2003 (it died in committee), and in fact, replacing overtime pay with comp time has been a goal shared by Republicans and corporate lobbying groups like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for decades.
NAS Whidbey technicians vote to join Machinists Union

Technicians who maintain P-3 Orion simulators at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station have voted to join the Machinists Union. The hourly workers at Delaware River Group at NAS Whidbey voted unanimously on May 4 to join District 751. Members of the group had tried on their own for several years to improve their pay and working conditions, without success, said Jesse Cote, who leads District 751’s organizing department.

“They learned through that experience that the Machinists Union is the way to go for professional representation,” he said.

The union is making arrangements with DRG management to start first contract negotiations and working with a committee of DRG workers to formulate proposals that adequately address the group’s needs.

The 16 DRG employees maintain U.S. Navy P-3 Orion submarine hunter simulators. The DRG employees are part of a growing number of civilian contract workers at NAS Whidbey to join the Machinists Union. In 2010, nearly 250 defense workers who maintain EA-6B Prowlers and EA-18G Growlers for the Navy voted to join District 751. Those workers now are employed by L-3 Communications.

District 751 now represents more than 700 defense workers employed by civilian contractors at NAS Whidby, Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Fairchild Air Force Base.

“We’re proud to have the DRG technicians as part of our union,” said District 751 President Tom Wroblewski. “They are specialists who do work that’s essential to maintaining America’s might, and they deserve the kind of pay and benefits that a union contract can bring.”

Union stewards take training to serve members better

District 751 stewards have been working hard since January on what union staff officers describe as a “very aggressive” training schedule.

It’s the first of its kind in nearly a decade, said Steward Coordinator Ed Lutgen.

“We lost our Education Department during the downturn that followed 9/11,” he said. “Since then, the district hadn’t offered any formal, structured training for many of the new union stewards.”

To remedy this, District 751 coordinated with the Washington State Labor Education and Research Center at South Seattle Community College and its Director Sarah Laslett and educator Will Brucher.

The planning started with a survey of Business Reps asking about the most common topics their respective stewards would seek help and advice on. That was followed with a more-comprehensive survey sent to all 650 of District 751’s union stewards to get their input on the most common problems and issues they deal with the most.

“What the survey also showed was our stewards, even with not having formal structured training over the past eight years, do a pretty darn good job dealing with issues and resolving them at the first level of management,” Lutgen said.

He called it a “testament to the good job our business reps do coaching and mentoring their respective stewards, and the monthly meetings stewards attend on their own time.”

The surveys found that most issues are resolved at the first line manager level.

“With 33,000 members, there are inevitably going to be myriad issues arising,” Lutgen said. “Our stewards play a pivotal role in ensuring not only that the company adheres to what they agreed to in the contract, but also keeping the peace between members.”

Laslett and Brucher from the Labor Education and Research Center used the survey results to develop a curriculum and schedule that suited the needs of the stewards.

Once the final curriculum was developed, an all-day session was held with the union’s Business Representatives to gather feedback and tweak the training, which was designed to include role-playing and other learning techniques.

They then launched an aggressive schedule of 68 individual three-hour training sessions to be held over a three-month period, ending in June. Class sizes were kept to 25 to ensure each steward was able to participate in hands-on training exercises.

The Labor Center educators segmented the training into four modules:

• “The Role of The Steward,” including stewards’ duties, the history of unions in general and District 751 in particular, and contract language;

• “The Contract and Grievances,” including types of grievances, enforcing past practices, the art of note taking, the steward as decideive and stewards’ rights to represent;

• “The Contract and Representation,” including ways of winning grievances before they become grievances and determining if complaints are grievances, assertive grievance presentation and problem-solving techniques; and

• “Communication and Mobilization,” which includes ways to communicate with members.

Nearly 300 union stewards are on track to complete all four modules. The stewards have attended the training on their own time. Classes are being held at all four Puget Sound locations.

“We are committed to providing not only the best aerospace workers in the world, but the most highly skilled trained union stewards to better serve the membership we represent,” said District 751 President Tom Wroblewski. “The classes will continue, and additional classes will be developed to ensure we continually educate our steward ranks.”

“We are proud of our stewards for going above and beyond taking their own time to ensure your rights are protected on the job and also provide the members of our union the best representation possible,” Lutgen said. “Our stewards are the backbone of our union and we are grateful to have the best of the best.”

He added that being a union steward often is a thankless job.

“Stewards put in a lot of their own time to ensure your rights are upheld,” Lutgen said. “If you get a chance sometime, a simple ‘Thank you for what you do’ will make it worthwhile for the vast majority of our awesome union stewards.”

IAM 751 volunteers help Portland drive

In May, nearly 75 volunteers from District 751 went door-to-door in Portland, where some 2,200 hourly employees of Precision Castparts will vote this month on whether to join IAM District W-24. The volunteers answered questions about union membership.
Flight museum, which sits just across the Paine Field runway from Boeing’s Everett plant and flight line.

“This is the take-off of our efforts to make sure the 777X has its first takeoff right here,” Inslee said, gesturing to the runway.

But Inslee said his vision goes beyond the 777X. He said he’s looking ahead to the day when Boeing announces it’s going to replace the 737 MAX and even the 787.

“We’re getting ready for that today,” he said. “We’re thinking long term.”

The plan Inslee outlined had four broad themes:

• Growing and diversifying the state’s aerospace cluster;
• Cultivating a deep and talented aerospace workforce;
• Fostering a culture of aerospace innovation; and
• Linking what Inslee called Washington’s “aerospace support chain.”

To implement those goals, the governor called for state agencies to do specific tasks, from expanding on science, math and technology education in public schools to creating a Federal Aviation Administration Center of Excellence for alternative jet fuels at Washington State University.

Among his proposals, Inslee said he wants to develop a new multi-level aerospace training partnership at Renton Technical College, and work with the FAA to make Washington home to a national test site for unmanned drones.

Inslee said he supports growing aerospace worker training programs at the state’s community and technical colleges, as well as apprenticeships, and short-term training for high-demand fields.

Inslee said he would push the legislature to make transportation improvements Boeing and its suppliers need to move people and parts around more efficiently, and he announced he’d appointed Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson to lead a group that would ensure aerospace companies don’t face unreasonable delays in getting state and local permits approved.

Statewide business and labor leaders pledged their support for Inslee’s agenda.

“For the first time, we have a plan to grow the industry in a sustained way,” said Washington State Labor Council President Jeff Johnson. “We will stand by the governor and our business allies.”

It won’t be easy, said Maud Daudon, the president of the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

“Everybody wants our jobs,” she said. “They’re middle class jobs and they’re rare in our country. We’ve got to hang onto them.”

As a union, District 751 strongly supports Inslee’s proposals, union Legislative Director Larry Brown said.

“The proposals Governor Inslee made are real-world solutions to the needs of companies in the world’s largest aerospace cluster,” he said. “Other states can throw taxpayer dollars at companies like Boeing, but only Washington can provide these kinds of targeted investments that benefit companies, workers and taxpayers alike.”

So do individual Machinists.

“It was a great kick-off,” said 777 Steward James Close. “It’s good to get started right away.”

Union helps Boeing worker regain seniority

More than a dozen members of the Young Machinists group at District 751 took part in Seattle’s annual May Day March.

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them can provide their union steward with a copy of their work history, which includes hire-in date, layoff date and re-hire data.

Keep in mind Section 14.4 does not apply if you turned down a recall offer, accepted lump sum layoff benefits or quit Boeing.

For those impacted, this section of the contract is invaluable and is simply a matter of documenting your history to show your time on the payroll and recall rights are longer than time off the payroll.

It’s another benefit of union membership.

May Day: Young Machinists march for immigration, labor rights

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

The 300-mile wheelchair odyssey of a Kirkland woman with cerebral palsy will begin with a warm-up lap at the Flight for Sight fun run on June 8.

Tania Finlayson plans to drive her electric-motor wheelchair from Kirkland to Spokane to raise money for people she says are less fortunate than her — those who are blind.

Finlayson — with the help of District 751 union stewards — has been collecting donations for Guide Dogs of America. Her effort has attracted media attention: She’s been profiled in the Kirkland Reporter newspaper, done radio interviews with KIRO-FM and KMPS-FM, and is scheduled to meet with a KOMO-TV news team before she leaves.

Her goal is to raise $42,000, which is the cost of breeding, raising, training and pairing one guide dog with a blind person. She’s calling her effort the “Spokane Dash for Puppy Cash.”

Finlayson will be escorted during her cross-state journey by her family, in a motor home, and by District 751 volunteers in a union van. Her husband, Ken, will ride alongside much of the way on his bicycle.

District 751 local lodges in Eastern Washington are planning events to greet Tania when she arrives in Ellensburg, George and Ritzville. If all goes according to plan, Tania will arrive in Spokane’s Riverfront Park on June 11.

Finlayson’s journey actually started at last year’s Flight for Sight fun run. Finlayson — who communicates through a computer device she controls with her head using Morse code — says she tagged along to cheer on Ken, who works for the union as an information technology tech. Ken had been training for months to run the 10k portion of the Flight for Sight.

On the way to Everett, Ken convinced Tania that she too should take part in the race.

“As I was doing the race, I thought of how it would be if I was blind,” she said. Trying to drive a wheelchair without her vision “would be pretty scary.”

“Not to mention, it would put limits on my independence, and that would be something that I would just hate,” Finlayson said. “My independence is something that I treasure and value every day.”

That experience got Tania thinking about what she could do to help Guide Dogs of America to help other people. When she first approached him with the idea for the Spokane Dash, “I thought she was crazy,” Ken Finlayson told KIRO radio reporter Rachel Belle.

“But, I mean, she’s come up with a lot of crazy things. We met skydiving.”

“One thing I learned about Tania,” he continued, “is that it’s a lot more comfortable and safer to get behind her when she gets her mind on something, than get in front of her. Because if you get in front of her, she’ll probably just run you over.”

“People say driving to Spokane is an amazing endeavor,” Tania said. “But in my eyes it is just a pebble in my journey in life, to lend a helping hand to Guide Dogs of America. Hopefully I will be able to help knock a boulder out of someone’s path in their journey in life.”

Wheelchair ramp makes life easier for Renton mother and daughter

A wheelchair ramp built by District 751 MVPs in May has “made a world of difference” for a woman and her daughter in Renton.

“There are no words to adequately express my gratitude,” said Lynn Lau, whose daughter Staci is confined to a wheelchair. “Our new ramp has made a world of difference in the ease with which my daughter and I come and go these days.”

Union volunteers built the ramp on April 27.

To see a video of the ramp-builders in action, go online at www.YouTube.com/IAMBuildingCommunity.

For more information about union community service projects, call the Seattle Union Hall at (206) 764-0335 or go online at www.IAM751.org and click on the “Calendar” tab.

Union MVPs build better communities

(Below) Volunteers from District 751 helped serve breakfast at the Everett Gospel Mission on May. (Top right) Union volunteers pose for a picture after finishing with a new wheelchair ramp at their Renton home (right). (Bottom right) The Auburn volunteers did a landscaping project at a shelter for homeless teens.
**Community Service**

**Tacoma honors union with ‘City of Destiny’ award**

The city of Tacoma has honored District 751 with one of its 2013 “City of Destiny” awards.

“I can’t think of another group that’s more deserving,” said David Curry, the executive director of The Rescue Mission in Tacoma.

“Of course the Machinists are a very important part of our industry in this area, but they’re also a huge part of our community,” he added. “They’re helping The Rescue Mission and probably dozens and dozens of other charities."

District 751 received one of nine City of Destiny awards given by Tacoma’s mayor and City Council at a May 7 awards ceremony. Union volunteers were honored for their support of North- west Harvest, The Rescue Mission in Tacoma, and the Special Olympics and the Emergency Food Network in Pierce County.

The union has a “tremendous and robust volunteer program,” said City Council Member Victoria Woodwards, who presented the award. “They’re a fantastic group,” said Northwest Harvest Communications Manager Andrea Flatley. “Without volunteers like the Machinists, we could not do what we do.”

Union volunteers play a big role in the

**District 751 collects more than a ton of peanut butter**

District 751 Machinists donated well over a ton of peanut butter to Pierce County food banks during a recently concluded food drive.

The Pierce County Central Labor Council – which coordinated the effort – delivered 8,112 jars of peanut butter weighing 8,156 pounds to the Emergency Food Network on May 9.

For the second year in a row, District 751 Machinists were the top donors, giving 1,690 jars, which was 33 percent of the total collected by all 35 unions in the drive. The weight of the district’s contribution was estimated at 2,690 pounds, which would be more than 1.3 tons.

Each jar was marked with a sticker saying it had been donated by a District 751 member. The majority of it was Jif and Adams brand peanut butter. This is made by union workers in Ohio.

“Our goal was 2,001 jars,” said David Henry, the Local C recording secretary who represents District 751 on the Pierce County labor council. “We didn’t get all the way there, but we tripled our donations from last year, and we made a real difference for a lot of hungry families in Pierce County.”

One of the groups that made a big difference was the wing lay-down team in Renton. Union Steward Terri Myette collected 398 jars and $210 cash.

District 751 also got some help from outside the union. Henry thanked Michael Centono, a manager at the South Hill Safeway store in Puyallup, who allowed Henry to buy $300 worth of peanut butter at a sale price after the sale had ended. That helped stretch cash contribution from the Machinists even further.

Because peanut butter is a source of protein almost every child enjoys. Emergency Food Network organizers plan to keep the peanut butter in storage until June, when school lets out and low-income children no longer have access to school lunches.

The peanut butter drive was timed to tie in with the annual Letter Carriers Food Drive, sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Members of District 751 MVP Committee took part in that effort as well, volunteering at food collection sites around King, Pierce and Snohomish counties on Saturday, May 11.

In all, 35 Pierce County union locals contributed to the peanut butter drive, said Patty Rose, the secretary-treasurer for the county’s labor council.

“I thank each and every one for their amazing generosity,” she said. “It will be pretty hard to top this effort next year, but we will certainly try.”

**Watch the video**

To see the city of Tacoma’s video about District 751 volunteers, go online at www.YouTube.com/IAMBuildingCommunity

-- end --
Targets on April 14 were focused on the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL), as 14 teams took part in the first annual Local C Sporting Clays event at the Sumner Sportmen’s Association in Puyallup. The event raised $15,430 for MNPL, which is the political arm of the Union.

The event was a fundraiser for the Local C Sporting Clays Committee – Jon Holden, Jim Bearden, Garth Luark, and Don Fike – to support their annual Local C Sporting Clays event at the May 21 District Council meeting.

The Local C Sporting Clays Committee especially wants to thank all who were in attendance at this first shoot and hope all return to shoot in next year’s event.

First place team had a combined score of 309. Local C President Ron Coen (far left) and Local C President Ron Coen (far right) congratulate: Steve Firthbanks, Jay Carlson, Karl Blom and Kyle Bloom.

Silver Shoot Sponsor: $3,000; GVP Mark Blondin & the Aerospace Territory
Silver Ammo Sponsor $3,000: Scott Wealth Management Group
Silver Lunch Sponsor $3,000: Local 751-C

As silver sponsors Casey Scott (l) and GVP Mark Blondin (r) had a major impact on the success of the event. Aerospace Coordinator Mark Johnson (center) also contributed.

The Local C Sporting Clays Committee – Jon Holden, Jim Bearden, Garth Luark, and Don Fike – would like to give individual thanks to all of the Local C members for making this event successful.

The Fenwick award was incorrectly awarded to Jason Redrup at the shoot, but it was rightfully earned by Loren Guzzone.

Trophies were presented to the highest overall average scores for the individual male (Steve Fairbanks score of 85), individual female (Peg Look with a score of 52), and team (Tom Wroblewski, Jon Holden, Jim Bearden, Garth Luark, and Don Fike with a score of 336).

Tickets were also presented for first, second and third place teams (see photos right). In addition, the Fenwick award was given to the shooter with the lowest score. The Fenwick award was incorrectly awarded to Jason Redrup at the shoot, but it was rightfully earned by Loren Guzzone.

Thanks to our generous supporters and sponsors, everyone claimed something worthwhile in the prize department (see list below). Eastern Washington Business Rep Steve Warren won the 50/50 shoot contest and walked away with a little over $500 in cash. Please review our list of sponsors listed on the adjoining page.

Special thanks to our three Silver Sponsors, whose generosity offset our expenses and made this event possible: IAMAW.

Special thanks to our three Silver Sponsors, whose generosity offset our expenses and made this event possible: IAMAW.
Retired Club business meeting minutes for May

by RUTH RENDER

Retired Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President T.J. Seibert. The regular order of business was suspended for a special program to acknowledge that May has been designated as “Older Americans Month.”

Communications Director Connie Kellpher read President Obama’s proclamation and thanked the retirees for all they have done to build the union and our country. May is Older Americans Month, when communities around the country come together to honor seniors. The proclamation notes the contributions retirees make to the country through volunteer programs such as Senior Corps. Older Americans Month provides all Americans with an opportunity to recognize the contributions of seniors. The U.S. Senate also passed by unanimous consent a resolution to designate May 2013 as Older Americans Month. The resolution points out that seniors rely on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid for financial security and high quality healthcare. It also stresses the important role that seniors play within their communities by being sources of experience and knowledge. The resolution encourages the people of the United States to emphasize the importance of seniors and provide them with opportunities to share their wisdom and skills with the community.

President T.J. Seibert then led the attendees in the Lord’s Prayer followed by the flag salute and the singing of God Bless America.

Roll Call of Officers:

All officers were present.

Minutes:

It was MED to accept the April meeting minutes as written with one correction under Good & Welfare: the South Sound ARA should have read South King County chapter of the ARA.

Financial Report:

The April expense report was read by Treasurer Betty Ness. Communications Director Ruth Render spoke about the Women in Trades event she attended the previous weekend.

Visitors:

The club welcomed Dorothy Woods, who retired in 1965.

Business Rep Report:

Health & Benefits Rep Garth Luark gave the report.

Health & Welfare:

Helen Pompoe gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased members: Robert Burnham, Jerry Dargitz, R.G. Gagnon, Jr., William Harris, Joseph Hofflecker, Paul Jeffrey, Terry Nielson, Nellie Smith. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin. Get well cards were sent to James Evanson, Helen Mah and John Guevarra.

Legislative Report:

Tom Lux gave the report. He spoke about H.R. 1102, the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2013, which would allow Medicare to negotiate for lower prices for prescription drugs. The bill has been introduced in the House but none of our state’s 10 representatives have signed on to co-sponsor the bill. The Club voted to send a letter to each of our Congressional representatives on behalf of the Retired Club asking them to sign on as co-sponsors of the bill.

Tom spoke about the “Making the American Dream Real for Everyone” workshop to be held June 17 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Seattle Union Hall. IAM retirees have first preference but all are welcome. A free lunch will be served following the workshop.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Birthdays for May: Helen Miller, Dean Dickinson and Carol Hubbard. The Club sang Happy Birthday to them. No anniversaries for May.

Good and Welfare:

Vennie Murphy and Jim Hutchins spoke about the City of Destiny award the union received from the city of Tacoma for our volunteer efforts. Tacoma Mayor Marilyn Strickland, presented the award during a ceremony attended by several of our members. The award itself is a beautiful hand blown glass bowl created by youth enrolled in a special glass making program created by Dale Chibuly for disadvantaged youth. Vennie said he was honored to attend the ceremony and that it was good PR for Continued on Page 10

INFORMATIVE WORKSHOP

Monday, June 17

10 a.m. to noon

Seattle Union Hall

9135 15th Pl. S.

Workshop is open to ALL members, retirees and their guests

RSVP to Kay at 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3335

Using a combination of personal stories, history and political and economic analysis, the workshop identifies the root causes of the historic shifts from growing economic injustice to justice and back to injustice today. The primary goal of the workshop is to bring individual and collective hope based on our own history as working people. The intent is to ensure a better future by focusing discussion on how we can move toward a more economically just and secure nation for all.

Reserve your spot by calling Kay at 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3335 or 206-764-0335 or email at kaym@iam751.org.

The Retired Club has invited Mark McDermott to present an economic justice workshop.

“Fighting to Make the American Dream Real for Everyone” is a two-hour interactive workshop on Monday, June 17 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Seattle Union Hall. McDermott has presented to several other unions, retiree clubs and community groups.

“Making the American Dream Real for Everyone” is designed to educate, inspire and stir working people, retirees and their allies to take action to reclaim a more just and secure economic future for all. It builds from the economic difficulties experienced by workshop participants and those close to them. Anchored in a long historical perspective, the workshop explores the struggles of working people to ensure that economic prosperity is shared fairly rather than concentrated primarily among the wealthy.

Workshop: Fighting to make the American Dream real

Congratulations to the following members who retired from the union:

Pablo C. Ajeto
Larry J. Akers
Donald J. Balzer
Remedios B. Banez
Gary M. Bradbury
Gordon E. Callan
Michael G. Champeaux
Jerry Cobb
Dale G. Daby
John R. Davis
Paul H. Demuelenaere
Patrick Q. Denney
Larry D. Farrington
Steven A. Fein
John H. Frizzle
Michael J. Fredette
Charles G. Gangwish
Gary Goebel
Barbara D. Greene
Darrell L. Haman
Daniel J. Hanley
Nancy K. Hart
Tony G. Heim
Thomas G. Helmecke
Donna J. Hensley
Leslie J. Hewa
Robert G. Hiltz
David W. Hueyge
Thomas A. Judson
Glenm M. Lipp
James R. Lorkowski
Mo Luangamath
Kevin M. Marchant
Donald D. Martin
Michael E. Matero
Michael L. McCorkle
Thomas F.McCarty
Michael C. Mceean
Wayne L. McMeans
Eliott R. Medoff
Jerome R. Miller
Richard J. Miller
Kerry E. Millick
Ernest C. Monaghan
Jonathan D. Moody
Bruce E. Nagel
Frank Niederle
Kenneth M. Pololten
Thomas A. Puertz
Robert E. Rairden Jr.
Stephan A. Reames
Theodore E. Reintegra
James A. Rodger
Mike J. Sassen
Randall V. Schmidt
David R. Seymour
Evan R. Sharp
Karen W. Simons
Terry L. Sonnenfeld
James W. Stewart
Stephen P. Stocks
Mike Timmerman
Timothy H. Timmons
Thanh C. Tran
Hsin V. Tu
Bernard B. White
James M. Williams
Tae K. Yang
Mark A. Zoich

Kathy Vennie (left) and Kay Mah (right) emcee the 300th birthday celebration and present the 300th birthday card to Dorothy Woods (center).
Save the dates: Guide Dogs events to raise fun and funds

District 751’s annual Flight for Sight fun run will kick off a full summer of fun events that aim to raise money for Guide Dogs of America.

The events are a key part of the union’s efforts to raise money for the charity, which provides trained guide dogs—and instructions in how to work with them—free of charge to people who are blind or have impaired vision from across the United States and Canada.

Over the past four years, District 751 has raised more than $1 million for Guide Dogs of America, including a record $280,000 in 2012.

Flight for Sight

The 12th annual Flight for Sight fun run will be Saturday, June 8, at the Boeing Everett Activity Center.

District 751’s Women’s Committee sponsors the event.

The Flight for Sight includes two timed races - 5K- and 10K-runs – on a USA Track & Field-certified course. These will be a non-competitive 1-mile walk.

Race check-in will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Boeing Everett Activity Center, which is at 6098 36th Ave. W. in Everett. The races begin at 9:30 a.m.

Registration costs $30 in advance, or $35 on race day. Runners will get a t-shirt. Registration forms are available at all District 751 union halls in Puget Sound, or you can go online at www.flightsforight.com and follow the links to the online registration form.

Last year’s event attracted nearly 140 runners and raised about $12,000 for Guide Dogs of America. Since it was started in 2001, the Flight for Sight has raised more than $191,000 for the charity.

Puppy Putt

The 11th annual Puppy Putt motorcycle ride to benefit Guide Dogs of America will be July 13 at locations around Puget Sound.

This year, riders will leave between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. at the Everett Activity center, which is at 6122 Smokey Point Blvd. in Marysville and from Northwest Harley-Davidson at 8000 Freedom Lane in Everett.

The separate groups will meet at District 751’s Seattle Union Hall – 9135 15th Ave. NE – for an afternoon of food, music and fun.

Dog Days drag racing

District 751 is teaming up once again with Pacific Raceways for a joint fundraising event. The union is selling $5 discount tickets for drag racing on Aug. 15-18 at the track, which is at 31001 144th Ave. SE, in Kent.

The tickets are on sale at all District 751 union halls in Puget Sound. They are good for entry on any one day of the event. Children under 6 get in free.

Racing starts at 9 a.m. each day, and will feature racing in the top alcohol and sportsman classes and the Screamin’ Eagle Harley-Davidson series.

This will be the eighth year that District 751 and Pacific Raceways have teamed up for the event. The previous seven race weekends have raised nearly $43,000 for Guide Dogs.

Local F go karts

Local F plans its first go-kart challege fundraiser for Guide Dogs from 2 to 6 p.m. Sept. 7 at Pacific Raceways in Kent.

The challenge will be a go-kart race, with teams of four drivers racing for two hours around a track at PGQ Motorsports Park at Pacific Raceways. Prizes will go to the teams that complete the most overall laps in the time allowed.

The cost is $100 per person, which includes lunch. For details, contact Local F Vice President Robley Evans at (253) 350-6725.

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Local E’s 10th annual shoes for puppy event

Local E’s annual horseshoes tournament on Aug. 10 will once again be at the Red Dog Saloon near Renton.

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California aerospace workers vote to join Machinists Union

A group of 154 workers employed by Doncasters Group Ltd. in Chula Vista, Calif., has voted decisively to be represented by IAM District Lodge 947.

The workers manufacture precision components and assemblies for aerospace, automotive and various other industries.

“these brave workers were tired of being treated unfairly by their employer,” said District 947 Organizer Nick Fernandez.

“Congratulations and welcome to the IAM,” said District Lodge 947 Directing Business Representative Richard Sanchez. “I look forward to representing the workers of Doncasters at the bargaining table.”

Western Territory GVP Gary Allen congratulated the team, headed by Grand Lodge Rep Joel Ochoa. Allen said Sanchez and Fernandez played key roles in the campaign, along with District 947 Organizers Felix Osuna and Jason Hardwick, and District 725 Organizing Leader Brian Miller.
On May 10 a majority of members working at Triumph Composite Systems in Spokane voted to reject the Triumph offer, but did not vote to authorize a strike. As a result, Triumph’s last and final offer took effect on May 11.

Under the terms of the IAM’s Constitution, a majority must reject the contract and two-thirds of workers voting must authorize a strike or else the contract is ratified by default.

“Our members clearly disapproved of the contract, but just as clearly felt intimidated and threatened by management,” said IAM Aerospace Coordinator Mark Johnson. “Triumph has used scare tactics, threats and the economic hardships of these times to force our members to take concessions at a time when the company is reporting record profits.”

“Those profits are the result of the hard work of our members,” Johnson added.

The IAM Constitution, a document written by IAM members, requires a two-thirds vote to authorize a strike. The super-majority protects our members from sacrificing their earnings and savings when the support necessary to sustain a strike does not exist.

The Machinists Union is very democratic and ultimately, the decision on every contract is decided by the members. Thanks to all members who voted and took part in the process.

Bloomsday 2013 brought together more than 47,000 runners in one of the largest road races in the country. When you consider that thousands more turn out to watch, it is truly a major event for Spokane. The Machinists had a presence both on the course with our Corporate team that finished first in its division, and at our information booth located near the finish line.

With such a large gathering, the Machinists Union capitalized on the opportunity to educate others on the value of union members and demonstrate we are an important part of the community. Local 86 volunteers handed out 5,000 bags of union brochures, promotional items and giveaways in just a few hours. The booth also featured photo collages depicting Machinists Union shops in Eastern Washington.

District President Tom Wroblewski was on hand and impressed with the massive crowd. “It was a perfect time to remind the community of all the good things we do to help others and how unions are important both on and off the job. I was amazed at how many people took part in the run, as well as how many simply came to watch. It is a great event.”

The Machinists team of Joe Marek, John Warren, Tracy Hawkins, Pete Randazzo and Chris Tuck were honored at a Bloomsday luncheon on May 17 for finishing first in their division. A second Machinists team comprised of Darrin Truitt, Ryan Coorides, Theresa Baumgarten, and Mike Fink finished 22nd.

Thanks also to the volunteers who spent hours in April stuffing the bags to use at the event.

Some of the Machinists Union volunteers who spent several hours handing out 5,000 union bags to runners and others at the event. L-R Ken Howard, Steve Warren, Chris Siegfried, Craig Smoat, Gary Swartz Jr., Rene Ochoa, Domingo Ochoa, Tom Wroblewski.

Above: Machinists Union members who work at Triumph Composite Systems along with their families packed the Local 86 meeting on May 9 to hear details of the agreement and talk to union negotiators.

Photo left: Members turned out in droves to vote on a proposed new three-year agreement.

Above: Local 86 Steward Gary Swartz enjoyed enlightening others to the benefits of union membership.

Left: Chris Siegfried provides runners with informational packets and promotional items from the union near the finish line.