Standing strong on the line in Spokane!

Machinists Union members are holding strong in Spokane in their battle against Triumph Composites (the former Boeing plant). Despite Triumph’s intimidation and fear tactics, our 403 members remain determined to obtain a fair contract that resolves many of the injustices implemented in a destructive contract in 2013.

Throughout this round of bargaining, Triumph has continued to disregard the law. In fact, they actually locked our contract. Triumph failed to bargain in good faith by not providing information required to bargain, direct dealing with members on the shop floor using intimidation and coercion, while knowingly presenting incorrect information to the floor, and the list goes on. As a result, the Machinists

Union filed multiple Unfair Labor Practice charges against Triumph. The National Labor Relations Board was interviewing witnesses and taking affidavits as the AeroMechanic went to print.

For these members, the fight really began three years ago when Triumph implemented a divisive and destructive contract that 71 percent of the members rejected; however, they missed the strike vote by just six votes – meaning it was accepted by default. Knowing a majority clearly rejected the contract and now had a two-tier wage system with the maximum pay being lowered by 12.5 percent for those hired after May 2006 and new hires being excluded from the IAM National Pension Plan, members there set out with a strategy to unite and push back in this round of bargaining.

For three years since they backed into a destructive contract, members worked to unite their individual shops and stand together to achieve One Equal Team 2016, which is their contract slogan. They have talked tough, educated everyone on the importance of having

Continued on Page 12

Steward ensures back pay for flight line license premium

With assistance from his union, IAM 751-member Kevin Flynn received $3,100 to correct a back pay issue. Kevin works third shift on the Everett flight line and the compensation was for his Airframe license premium of 56 cents an hour.

Credit goes to Union Steward Chip Thom who presented the information to Boeing Human Resources, outlined the issue, and ensured Kevin was properly compensated.

The issue arose when Kevin accepted an upgrade to a Grade 9 flight line job about two-and-a-half years ago. He had his airframe certificate when he transferred to Puget Sound from Boeing Wichita. Upon moving to the flight line job from the factory, Kevin should have received 56 cents an hour premium for the airframe certificate.

He tried to correct the issue on his own, but could only get the 56 cent an hour premium going forward without any back pay for the two-and-a-half years he worked the Grade 9 job.

It was then that he contacted Chip. Once the union was involved, he got the back pay retroactive to when he accepted the Grade 9 job.

“I didn’t want to cause an issue due to the oversight,

Continued on Page 4

Union saves job for member at AIM

A Machinists Union member still has her job at AIM Aerospace in Sumner thanks to the actions of her union steward.

The incident underscores the value of having a union in two ways, said Auburn Business Rep Brett Coty, who represents the workers at AIM.

“The fact that workers at AIM have a union to represent them means that this person had someone to go to bat for her when there was a misunderstanding in the workplace,” Coty said. “It also meant that she had Weingarten rights, which ensured that she had the help of a union steward when she called in to talk to HR.”

The incident occurred last winter, said Union Steward Jim Dildine. A female union member asked him to accompany her to a meeting with Human Resource managers at AIM.

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To donate to help the strikers in Spokane, simply text STRIKE to 91999, you will then be directed to a form to donate!
Battle at Triumph matters for all workers in America

By JON HOLDEN
District Lodge 751

Our union is on picketing against Triumph Composite Systems in Spokane.

Our long-time members at Boeing know what that means: the intense feeling of solidarity you feel as you and your brothers and sisters take on a powerful corporation; the comradery and the deep sense of understanding that your fight is not yours alone and the appreciation for those going through this battle with you.

Many of our members have walked the line in our previous strikes, but may be unaware of the events triggering the current strike in Spokane.

We began contract talks with Triumph in April. There are just over 400 hourly workers at the plant in Spokane, where Machinists Union members fabricate some crucial parts for 737, 747, 767, 777 and 787, along with parts used in Airbus and Gulfstream jets. Our members at Triumph build floor panels, air ducts and manifold and cockpit assemblies among other things.

We had a three-year contract at Triumph, which was set to expire just before midnight on Tuesday, May 10. If we didn’t have a new agreement in place by then, we were prepared to go on strike. However, Triumph locked out our members before the expiration of the agreement.

While the contract talks began in April, the issues relate back to 2013, when Triumph demanded some pretty steep concessions from our members.

The company wanted to do away with the pension contribution for new hires and also created a two-tier wage system for those hired after May 2006 lowering their maximum pay by 12.5 percent – paying $6,000 to $7,000 a year less – than co-workers hired prior to that.

At the recommendation of our union, our members rejected that contract by 71 percent. However, we were unable to get a two-thirds strike vote as required in our Constitution - missing it by just six votes.

It is never easy to strike and our organization requires a two-thirds majority to authorize a strike to ensure we have overwhelming support to take such drastic action.

And in 2013, the concessions demanded by the employer were devastating to our bargaining unit and unfortunately support for a strike fell just shy of the two-third requirement and as a result the contract was accepted by default.

Even though the company got everything they wanted and during the process claimed they needed these concessions to remain competitive, Triumph began to shift work from Spokane to two Triumph facilities located in Mexico. This is despite the fact that Washington State tax payers have provided more than $790,000 in tax breaks to Triumph over the last two years.

This was a devastating blow for our members at Triumph, and it would have been very easy for them to have fallen apart, dividing into two camps – the haves and the have-nots.

But instead, something remarkable happened. The Machinists at Triumph rallied together and began preparing for this year’s contract talks. They declared that they were “One Equal Team,” and vowed not to accept any contract that didn’t provide retirement security for everyone and eliminate the two-tier wage scheme.

Triumph’s negotiating team had no interest in doing that – and in fact they proposed a reduction in the 401k match to those not eligible for the pension that put an already unjust secure future in further jeopardy. Our members sent a very loud and very clear message back to the company: 94 percent of them voted to reject the contract and 93 percent voted to authorize a strike.

As a result, our members were locked out late on May 10 prior to the expiration of our agreement when pickets went up at 12:01 a.m. May 11.

Our picketers are getting strong community support. Members of other unions – teachers, nurses, steelworkers, ironworkers, letter carriers, transit workers and grocery workers – have all spent time on our picket line, or have stopped by to drop off snacks and drinks.

Local businesses also understand how important it is to have good-paying jobs in Spokane. The owners of Pizza Rita restaurant donated pizzas that they delivered to our picket line, and Consumer Auto Liquidators has made three separate deliveries of water and soft drinks to our picketers. As Local 86 President Rick Olson said, they are “well aware that our family-wage jobs buy cars and trucks.”

Our community understands full well that a decrease in the wages, benefits and outsourcing of our community jobs undermines the foundation of our communities causing less revenue to be generated for local businesses, schools, and other vital services. We have seen firsthand the devastating support from the community because they understand how important our fight is for working people not only in our community, but across this country.

Our union, of course, will strongly support our members at Triumph in their fight. We will do everything possible to build on the principles we all believe in.

Although the fight we are taking on is

Continued on Page 8

I AM 751 Member Appreciation Day
Saturday, June 25 - 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Puyallup Fairgrounds & Evergreen State Fairgrounds Monroe

IAM 751 Member Appreciation Day is our union’s way to say “Thank You” to our members, retirees and their families. Mark your calendar and the turn of the clock, June 25, Watch for a mailing in June that will include your ticket to fun.

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Continued on Page 8
751 delegates hard at work in nation’s capitol

By LARRY BROWN
IAM 751 Legislative & Political Director

Fifteen members of District 751 attended the 2016 IAM National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Our union joined several hundred Machinists from across the country to lobby on issues important to workers in manufacturing, transportation, wood products, shipbuilding and repair as well as government service. Each morning during the conference attendees heard from Congressional supporters of our union and the labor movement. Each afternoon all the Machinists headed up to Capitol Hill to lobby for our issues.

First and foremost, the IAM lobbied against the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the 12 nation free trade agreement. Congress could soon vote on the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a secretive agreement negotiated by government bureaucrats and corporate lobbyists. If ratified, it poses an urgent threat to our democracy and American jobs. Your delegates explained to the Washington members of Congress that the TPP was designed to grow corporate power and profits at the expense of workers and the environment. The TPP has gained more negative attention during this year’s presidential campaign and all three major candidates remaining in the race now oppose passage of the agreement.

The next item to discuss was the so-called Cadillac Tax or the Affordable Care Act excise tax. This tax, originally passed to help pay for the subsidies to low income workers to help them afford healthcare, is merely another cost-shift of healthcare cost to workers who have won hard fought healthcare benefits. Through the hard work of unions across the country, Congress was convinced to give us a temporary reprieve on this healthcare take away by moving the effective date forward to 2020. We still have more work to do on this.

Congress has reauthorized the Export Import Bank (Ex-Im Bank), which provides credit guarantees for financing the sales of U.S. made products sold to overseas customers. Boeing and Caterpillar are two U.S. and Machinists Union represented employers who benefit from the Ex-Im Bank. Unfortunately, the Republican-controlled Senate has refused to confirm the appointment of a member of the board to Ex-Im Bank, depriving the institution of a quorum required for the bank to operate properly. According to expert observers, this is already costing us jobs and has probably already cost Boeing sales to overseas customers.

On the last day of the conference, District 751 members joined several hundred union members from the Machinists, the Airline Pilots Association, the Flight Attendants and others to protest the Norwegian Air International or NAI’s application to operate domestically within the United States. The reason for the protest is the unprecedented approach of NAI. First, the airline is registering its business in Ireland so they are not subject to Norwegian labor laws; some of the strongest in the world. The airline plans to hire non-Norwegian and non-American low-wage contract workers and fly domestic routes within the United States. This plan would undercut hard-fought wages and benefits for American airline workers. Our message to the President was loud and clear; “Deny NAI.”

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Manufacturing jobs no longer ticket to middle class

One in three U.S. manufacturing workers are on welfare

Nearly one in seven manufacturing workers in Washington State are paid so low they need food stamps to feed their families, and nearly one in four is receiving some kind of taxpayer-funded public assistance, a new report shows.

This University of California-Berkeley report shows two things, said IAM 751 Legislative Director Larry Brown:

“For starters, it shows how very important unions are when it comes to raising the standard of living for working people,” Brown said. “And clearly, it reinforces the message we’ve been trying to send in Olympia about making sure we get good-paying jobs in return for giving Boeing and the rest of the aerospace industry the largest tax break in U.S. history.”

In all, Washington residents pay $143 million a year to fund state and federal assistance to manufacturing workers who for the most part have full-time jobs, the UC-Berkeley report found. That’s just a sliver of the $10.2 billion the researchers calculate gets spent each year to provide public assistance to low-wage manufacturing workers nationwide.

“It’s true that factory jobs once helped build America’s middle class,” wrote Ken Jacobs, one of the UC-Berkeley report’s authors, in a essay for Time magazine. “But new evidence shows that, today, many manufacturing jobs in the U.S. pay wages that are more in line

COPEnge with politics

Thirty-five Machinists spent an entire Saturday on May 21 representing District 751 at the Washington State Machinists Council’s (WSLC) Committee on Political Education (COPE) endorsing convention. The COPE convention is when labor decides which candidates will receive endorsements. COPE is comprised of delegates from all of the affiliated AFL-CIO unions. The work done at the convention is the capstone to months of preparation with candidates filling out questionnaires, voting records evaluated and interviews conducted. County central labor councils from across the state conduct the interviews and make recommendations to COPE. It is the delegates at COPE spend the first half of the day listening to candidates’ speeches. Then at noon the hall is cleared of candidates, and the serious work commences – deciding which of the candidates are to receive the coveted labor endorsement. One significant idea emanating from the WSLC was the decision to temporarily withhold the endorsement for candidates who had voted for the Trade Promotion Authority (or TPA), a measure much reviled by labor. It is expected that the candidates who have been long and steadfast friends of Labor will receive reconsideration for the endorsement in late July.

District 751 delegates who attended state-wide Washington State Labor Council COPE (Committee on Political Education) heard from candidates in the morning before voting in the afternoon which candidates would get the WSLC endorsement.
Everett team takes on work package from South Carolina

Our members working machine maintenance in Puget Sound are some of the most gifted craftsmen in the world. While their headcount has dwindled over the years, these skilled mechanics continue to take on more work with increased production rates, while still incorporating preventive maintenance and not equipment on the various airplane lines. They do their work with pride, and all with the goal of ensuring Boeing is successful.

Recently, the Everett machine maintenance group took on a task of importance that had been previously outsourced from South Carolina to a company in Sweden.

In the past couple years, Everett replaced many Quackenbush drillers with new orbital drillers. Two members, Union Steward Tom Botterill, an electronic precision machine tool maintenance technician, and Chris Thompson, a machine repair mechanic, added maintaining the drillers into their work package.

Currently, there are 124 orbital drillers used in Everett with 24 newly designed drillers coming in September. Everett will receive an additional 100 drillers in 2017.

Last fall, these two members took on maintenance and repair of orbital drillers from Boeing South Carolina. A time and motion manager knew South Carolina used the same orbital drillers. However, instead of having mechanics and technicians on site do the maintenance, South Carolina was sending their orbital drillers to the manufacturer in Sweden.

“Originally, I was asked to go to South Carolina to train their maintenance folks,” said Chris. “I said no because I like the security of my union and suggested they send their drillers here instead.”

South Carolina agreed and sent the first drillers to Everett in September. Our skilled craftsmen performed the required maintenance and made necessary repairs.

Mechatronics grievance moves to arbitration

Last year Boeing installed a job classification (Mechatronics #87760) for a combined set of work functions already included in active job descriptions.

Our union had filed a grievance not simply protesting the labor grade assigned, but even more important the fact that Boeing did not have the right to implement the job at all because it intentionally excluded other parts of the contract such as inline promotions, seniority, etc.

Boeing notified us they denied our grievance; therefore, the union is taking the issue to arbitration. Obviously, nothing is resolved at this time; however, we will be taking every step available to enforce our contract and protect both our labor grades and our seniority rights within the contract.

Six months of free financial advisors for IAM members working at Boeing

Professional Management, Other Retirement Planning Resources Available

Financial Engines’ June 1 to June 30 annual campaign is one of several retirement planning resources available to IAM 751 and W24-represented employees.

Financial Engines’ June 1st home-mailing will include a retirement evaluation featuring its familiar “stoplight” image. Financial Engines offers advisory services to help participants manage the investments in their Voluntary Investment Plan (VIP) account. Through its annual campaign, Financial Engines reminds VIP participants about these services.

The campaign offers participants who are not already enrolled in Professional Management (PM) an opportunity to experience this fee-based service for six months with no program fees if canceled by Dec. 29 if they do not wish to continue the service.

Those who continue beyond Dec. 29 will be charged program fees retroactive to enrollment date and for each quarter they continue the program. Fees are deducted directly from participants’ VIP accounts.

With PM, Financial Engines puts their VIP investment recommendations into action, monitors your account and rebalances as needed.

Financial Engines also offers Online Advice, which provides the same advice via Financial Engines’ online tools; there is no fee to use Online Advice. Available at TotalAccess® Total Compensation® My Retirement Benefits® Income Planner & Investment Advice.

Retirement counselors from The Ayco Company can help employees understand the retirement program changes that take effect on Nov. 1st and the VIP Roth options that were added in February.

Ayco can also help these employees learn how to save more and handle other financial issues that get in the way. Available by phone 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central time, Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central time Friday, excluding holidays. Call TotalAccess at 866-473-2016 and enter your BEMSID. Request “Retirement Counseling” and have your TotalAccess password available. This service ends Dec. 30, 2016.

The Retirement Income Modeler is a tool that projects employees’ total pension, including Social Security, and total retirement savings, including VIP balance and outside amounts they enter. Available at TotalAccess® Total Compensation® My Retirement Benefits® Model My Retirement Income.

The new Income Planner is a Financial Engines tool that helps VIP participants compare options for when to start Social Security. If at least age 55 and within 7 years of assumed retirement age, it also projects VIP balance and outside amounts they enter, and breaks out the projected retirement income as annual amounts. Available at TotalAccess® Total Compensation® My Retirement Benefits® Model My Retirement Income.

Steward ensures back pay for flight line license premium

Continued from Page 1

Boeing has always treated me well. I mentioned the situation to Chip and asked what his thoughts were. Chip thought I should be compensated and said he would look into it for me,” said Kevin. “I figured Chip would be better able to navigate the issue to the right people based on his working knowledge and experience as a union steward. And sure enough to my surprise, the following week, I received the entire amount on my paycheck!”

“Boeing already had the certification on file and knew he had it when they upgraded Kevin to the flight line job,” said Chip. “Obviously, if they had asked Kevin to submit the paperwork, he would have done so.”

“Chip does a great job representing our members on the flight line,” said Business Rep Wilson Ferguson. “He is knowledgeable about the contract and can get HR to look at things differently to the benefit of our members.”

For those not aware of the premium pay for the flight line, the 56 cents an hour for each certification (airframe or power plant) was a result of the 2005 contract renegotiation. Since it is not printed in the contract, often members working the flight line are unaware of this pay premium they are entitled to receive.
Members’ Bill of Rights: In April and May, District 751 members nominated and elected delegates to be our voice and representatives at the IAM Grand Lodge Convention in September. The convention convenes every four years with elected delegates from across the U.S. and Canada. These delegates determine the rules of how our union runs, debates policies, and programs, and outlines and revises our union structure. The actions taken at the convention shape the future of our union. Delegates present revisions to the IAM Constitution, resolutions, and policies. The IAM Constitution, which governs how our union runs, has been around since inception. It is not easy to change since the document was designed to withstand the test of time. Since last fall, when District 751 first held workshops, we have had lots of membership discussion and good idea sharing, which helped us formulate the IAM Constitutional changes that were voted at the April and May lodge meetings. Revisions and additional input were accepted and undealt with after each meeting. In the past few years, we have seen first hand the need to make changes in how union operates. We focused our efforts on a Membership Bill of Rights to promote democracy, empower members with more control of bargaining unit direction and power flows from the events like the Jan. 3, 2014 contract extension vote forced on 751 from then International President Tomurger. To view all proposed changes visit, www.iam751.org/amendments.htm

Membership Bill of Rights

Article XX, Section 2, page 78
Sec. 2 - The rights held within this Membership Bill of Rights shall not be usurped by any other officer or provision of this constitution.

1) No contract may be implemented without honest and transparent outcome of a vote of the members it covers.

2) No notice of or actual contract vote can be held within five business days of an observed holiday.

3) No contract negotiating committee must contain at least one member from the bargaining unit.

4) International shall take an advisory role in all bargaining negotiations or informal talks that could lead to contract negotiations unless District President (or unaffiliated Local Lodge President) requests International take a greater role.

5) No contract shall be renegotiated or opened at other than normal expiration of duration without a majority vote of the bargaining unit members.

6) Only the union leadership at any level receives a request to bargain from an employer, the bargaining unit membership must be notified.

7) Automatic audit/recount of any votes (% or less)

8) Date, time and location of contract vote shall be determined by District or Local leadership.

ELECTED DELEGATES BY ACCLIMATION

(no opposition nominated)

LOCAL A

Grand Lodge Delegates

Jerry Banks ..........................5
Patrick Boone ........................5
Amanda Hines ......................4
Amanda Hines ........................5

LOCAL F

Grand Lodge Delegates

Donald Bykonen ..................4
Charles Cesmat ....................4
Cristiano Doffredo ...............4
Robley Evans ......................4
Christine Fullerton ..............4

LOCAL E

Grand Lodge Delegates

Levi Wilson .........................4
Darryl Woodson .................4
Kendra McKinley .................4

LOCAL A

Grand Lodge Delegates

Bruce McFarland .................4
Roy Wilkinson ....................4

LOCAL B

Grand Lodge Delegates

Ira Carterman .....................5
Crisanto Dofredo ...............4

LOCAL C

Grand Lodge Delegates

Rick Olson .........................5
Peter Hedemark ................4
Allan Eveland ....................4

LOCAL D

Grand Lodge Delegates

Charles Cesmat ..................4
Cristiano Doffredo ...............5
Robley Evans ......................4

LOCAL G

Grand Lodge Alternates

Jerri Pomer ........................4
Darrin Truitt .......................4

LOCAL H

Grand Lodge Alternates

Wallace (PeeWee) .................4
Pleasant ..................4

LOCAL I

Grand Lodge Alternates

Shane Velt .........................4
Keith Faul .........................4

LOCAL J

Grand Lodge Alternates

David Bryant ....................4
Richard Anderson ...............4
Earnest Hopson ..................4

LOCAL K

Grand Lodge Alternates

Roy Alexander ..................4
Debra Hey .........................4

LOCAL L

Grand Lodge Alternates

Thomas Kohler .................4
Bill Langholt .................4

LOCAL M

Grand Lodge Alternates

Charles McGrew ................4
Terri Myette ......................4
Princie Stewart ..................4
Denise Strike .....................4

LOCAL N

Grand Lodge Alternates

Paul Schubert ....................4
Jill Fullerton .....................4

LOCAL O

Grand Lodge Alternates

Jason Chan .......................4
Ama Bourne .......................4

LOCAL P

Grand Lodge Alternates

Amanda Hines ......................5
Amanda Hines ......................5

LOCAL Q

Grand Lodge Alternates

Robert Walker ....................4

LOCAL R

Grand Lodge Alternates

Roger Walker .....................4

LOCAL S

Grand Lodge Alternates

Levi Wilson .........................4
Darryl Woodson .................4
Kendra McKinley .................4

LOCAL T

Grand Lodge Alternates

Bruce McFarland .................4
Roy Wilkinson ....................4

LOCAL U

Grand Lodge Alternates

Ira Carterman .....................5
Crisanto Dofredo ...............4

LOCAL V

Grand Lodge Alternates

Rick Olson .........................5
Peter Hedemark ................4
Allan Eveland ....................4

LOCAL W

Grand Lodge Alternates

Charles Cesmat ..................4
Cristiano Doffredo ...............5
Robley Evans ......................4

LOCAL X

Grand Lodge Alternates

Shane Velt .........................4
Keith Faul .........................4

LOCAL Y

Grand Lodge Alternates

Paul Schubert ....................4
Jill Fullerton .....................4

LOCAL Z

Grand Lodge Alternates

Jason Chan .......................4
Ama Bourne .......................4

Elected joint programs advisors to participate in the Learning Together Program that only ensures you get the full advantage of our contractual education benefits. The participating IAM-Boeing Joint Programs advisors to send a reading list ahead of time for others required a commitment of time and energy. Hazel Powers not only found the time to get her Bachelor’s degrees but also has been a steadfast volunteer for community service projects, legislative activity, and union organizing drives and Guide Dog fundraisers. Her community service efforts won her the silver Presidential award in 2012 when she volunteered 579 hours and the gold Presidential award in 2013 when she volunteered 621 hours. “I plan to use my educational expertise and passion to inspire and realize my dream of teaching or training others about the continuous struggle of the labor movement and why it is more important now than ever before for all workers to stand up and stand together for workers’ rights,” Powers said. When asked what’s next, she replied, “Dr. Powers has a nice ring to it.” She hopes her story will inspire others to take advantage of this unique educational benefit that has very few restraints. She cautioned it is hard for members to locate the Learning Together Program that only IAM 751 members enjoy on the Boeing website and recommends using the IAM-Boeing Joint Programs advisors to ensure you get the full advantage of our educational contract benefits. Some of the unique benefits available to our members through LTP, include: no waiting period; it does not require supervisor approval; no requirement to remain a Boeing employee after graduation; and stock options are earned after you receive your degree.

Starting on your education today by scheduling an appointment with an IAM-Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor at 1-800-235-3453.

Powers earned her Masters thanks to education benefits

IAM 751 members working at Boeing have education benefits that are virtually unlimited. Hazel Powers is one of our members who recognized this tremendous benefit and has used it to earn two degrees. However, few members take advantage of this unique benefit that provides the opportunity to learn while working at Boeing enjoys in part because it is hard to find accurate information on the Learning Together Program for IAM 751 members (Contact an IAM-Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor at 1-800-235-3453 to access these educational benefits).

On May 6, Hazel completed the Union Leadership Administration program earning her Master’s degree in Labor Studies at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Amherst. This has culminated several years of hard work and many late nights.

“Toward would not have been able to afford getting this education without union benefits. Others in the program had to get student loans,” said Hazel. “Our union made it easy for me by providing these benefits in our contract.”

She learned of the program while taking a leadership class at the IAM’s WW2 Education Center in Placid Harbor. An instructor asked if anyone was interested in getting their Master’s degree and Hazel responded.

Twice a year, she would fly to Massachusetts for two weeks of intensive classes. While our contract benefited covered tuition and books, she had to use vacation time and pay her airfare and hotel. The only online portion was submitting her final paper. UMass would send a reading list ahead of time and expect her to have done the work before she arrived.

Hazel was joined in her Master’s program by nine other Machinists Union members from around the country and Canada. They joined other AFL-CIO affiliated union members as well as training drives and Guide Dog fundraisers. Her community service efforts won her the silver Presidential award in 2012 when she volunteered 579 hours and the gold Presidential award in 2013 when she volunteered 621 hours. “I plan to use my educational expertise and passion to inspire and realize my dream of teaching or training others about the continuous struggle of the labor movement and why it is more important now than ever before for all workers to stand up and stand together for workers’ rights,” Powers said.

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Powers earned her Masters thanks to education benefits

Hazel Powers not only found the time to get her Bachelors and Masters degrees but also has been a steadfast volunteer for community service projects, legislative activity, and union organizing drives and Guide Dog fundraisers. Her community service efforts won her the silver Presidential award in 2012 when she volunteered 579 hours and the gold Presidential award in 2013 when she volunteered 621 hours. “I plan to use my educational expertise and passion to inspire and realize my dream of teaching or training others about the continuous struggle of the labor movement and why it is more important now than ever before for all workers to stand up and stand together for workers’ rights,” Powers said.

When asked what’s next, she replied, “Dr. Powers has a nice ring to it.” She hopes her story will inspire others to take advantage of this unique educational benefit that has very few restraints. She cautioned it is hard for members to locate the Learning Together Program that only IAM 751 members enjoy on the Boeing website and recommends using the IAM-Boeing Joint Programs advisors to ensure you get the full advantage of our educational contract benefits. Some of the unique benefits available to our members through LTP, include: no waiting period; it does not require supervisor approval; no requirement to remain a Boeing employee after graduation; and stock options are earned after you receive your degree.

Powers earned her Masters thanks to education benefits

Hazel Powers used contractual education benefits to earn her Masters degree at University of Massachusetts Amherst.
Family and friends struck up a good time at the annual Local F Unity Bowl on April 24. This year the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League was rolling in the money with two separate tournaments taking place simultaneously at Secoma Lanes in Federal Way and Glacier Lanes in Everett.

The event brought home more than $13,270 and more money is still coming in. MNPL is the political arm of the Machinists Union (since dues money is not spent for political candidates). Every bowler at both locations took home a prize. Trophies were given to the top two teams at each location. In Everett "Team Fireball" took first (Paul Marcello, Desiree Barnett, Rick Quintana, Nelson Apostol Jr and Nelson Apostol Sr). Hammer Time took second with Steve Frank, Ed Draper, Nathan Ha, Sone Afualo, Ethan Le. In Federal Way, “Lucky Strikes” took first (Gary Janssen, John Woodward, Chris Moser, Curt Johnson, Pam Johnson, Hal Stewart and Robert).

High men’s game and men’s series went to Tom Hayden in Federal Way and Desiere Barnett in Everett. Women’s high game and high series went to Joyce Wray in Federal Way and Desiere Barnett in Everett.

“We Tried” trophies in Everett went to Paul Veltkamp, Garth Luark, Sarah Baumgardner and Amanda Hines while the team of Larry Brown, Donna Brown, Carla Mattson and Jaylen White took the south end trophy. Thanks to all who helped organize the event and to all the sponsors and volunteers who ensured it was a day of fun.

Thanks to our lane sponsors:

- Heather Barstow
- Dena Bartman
- Jackie Boschok
- Ron Bradley
- Larry Brown
- Greg Campos
- Howard Carlson
- Rick Carpenter
- Charles Cermak
- Jason Chan
- Mark Cerk
- Jesse Cole
- Brett Coty
- Jeremy Coty
- Rick de la Fuente
- Robby Evans
- Wilson Ferguson
- Christine Fullerton
- Loren Guzman
- Jon Holden
- Grace Holland
- Richard Jackson
- Connie Kellher
- John Lopez, Jr.
- Garth Luark
- Marty Mullen
- Terri Myette
- Susan Palmer
- Eric Rayner
- Chris Scharr
- Rod Sigvartson
- Princie Stewart
- Stosh Tomala
- Paul Velkmp
- Ray Wilkinson
- Kathy Evans
- Beauty Shadle
- District 751
- Local A
- Local C
- Local E

In Federal Way, Joyce Wray won high game and series with scores of 214 and 486 respectively.


In Everett, “We Tried” went to a team that had lots of fun L to R: Paul Velkamp, Sarah Baumgardner, Amanda Hines, and Garth Luark.

In Everett, the “We Tried” went to Larry Brown, Donna Brown, Carla Mattson and Jaylen White.
Volunteers honored for community service

On Saturday, April 30, the Machinists Volunteer Program (MVP) held its annual potluck banquet as a thank you to the members and their families who step forward and participate in these important community projects.

Unless you have been there helping out with the projects, it is hard to imagine what a difference IAM 751 Machinists Union volunteers made in our community over the last year. About 420 of our volunteers took part in 397 community outreach events in 2015 – more than one a day. Projects included building wheelchair ramps, preparing and serving meals at area missions, road cleanup, Salvation Army bellringing, Northwest Harvest food drive and food sorting, and the list goes on.

We've improved life for area residents from Everett to Tacoma and everywhere in between. Special thanks to the MVP Committee who works diligently throughout the year to coordinate events, give reports at meetings, encourage participation and put together the awards banquet.

While everyone was applauded for their efforts, awards were given to the top three volunteers in the member, steward, officer, retiree and family member category (see chart below right). In addition, the MVP Committee gave special recognition to Kay Michlick for her steadfast help over the years in coordinating each event, tracking volunteer hours and her general support of the program.

The highlight of the banquet was the presentation of the “Bill Johnson True Trade Unionist Award” which is given to an individual who demonstrates the characteristics of a true trade unionist whether it be volunteering or going beyond the call of duty as a union member. District President Jon Holden presented the award to Terri Myette who has continually worked to improve life for others both in her union activities and her volunteer efforts (see story below).

Myette honored as “True Trade Unionist”

The highlight of the MVP banquet was the presentation of the “Bill Johnson True Trade Unionist” award given to Union Steward and Local F Vice President Terri Myette. The award is named after the late Bill Johnson who founded the committee when he was District President. This award is given annually to a union member who gives to others “what little free time they have without expectation of getting anything in return,” said Ed Lugen, who was co-founder of the union’s MVP Committee. “Terri goes above and beyond in her volunteerism.”

Myette is involved in a long list of community service activities as part of the union. She’s chairwoman of the union’s annual Puppy Punt charity motorcycle ride and is involved in the annual Flight for Sight fun run as a member of District 751’s Women’s Committee.

Through the union, Myette also regularly volunteers to support groups like the Salvation Army, Guide Dogs of America and Northwest Harvest, as well as Project Homeless Connect, which is Pierce County’s twice-annual homeless outreach program. She helps build wheelchair ramps for home-bound people and cleans up trash along highways around Auburn. Myette is also one of the leaders of the union’s annual peanut butter drive, which aims to benefit both the Emergency Food Network in Pierce County and the Everett Food Bank.

MVP’s earning top volunteer honors Back row L to R: Dave Curran, Betty Hutchins, Jim Hutchins, Brenda Branner, Julie Braun, George Braun, Shirley Fastig, Patience Sarzynski, Adrian Camez, Sidney Murphy and Jon Holden. Front row L to R: Dallas Anderson, Vennie Murphy, and Terri Myette.

Representatives from a variety of agencies in King, Pierce and Snohomish County that have benefited from our volunteers took a moment to thank our members. Several noted that 751 has set the standard for other unions throughout the region and inspired other unions to start community service programs (you can see their speeches thanking us on our IAM 751 Facebook page).

“I am so proud to be a part of this group. I appreciate this event each year and doing 397 separate events is amazing. That is thousands of hours you donate,” said District President Jon Holden. “Think about the last 19 years we’ve had this committee and the hours are tremendous. It shows we don’t just work here, we make life better for our communities every day.”

“We will continue this long into the future because there won’t ever come a day when there’s not someone in the community who needs help, and there won’t be a day when we aren’t there to help,” Holden added.

MVP Chair Rob Curran (l) and District President Jon Holden (r) present Terri Myette with the “Bill Johnson True Trade Unionist Award” for always going above and beyond to help others.

And in addition to all this, Myette serves as Local F’s vice president and an IAM 751 delegate to the Coalition of Labor Union Women – and she’s a regular volunteer who helps supervise union elections and takes part in unionizing campaigns - demonstrating she is indeed a true trade unionist.

MVP’s helping hands felt throughout our communities

Machinist volunteers continued to help in the community with a variety of projects in May including adopt-a-road, Toy Rescue Mission, Letter Carriers food drive, Project Homeless Connect and preparing and serving meals at both The Rescue Mission and Everett Gospel Mission.

MVP’s helping with Project Homeless Connect, which provides basic medical and dental care, hair cuts, helps with resumes and employment searches and other basic needs. Helping out: Terri Myette, Rob Curran, Brenda Curran, George Braun, Hazel Powers, Sidney Murphy, Jill Saunders, Lee Verfaille, Princie Stewart, Brian Butler and Andrew Dennis (and Vennie Murphy not pictured).
Knowledge is power. Members can sign up for union education classes.

Manufacturing jobs are no longer ticket to middle class

That’s right in the middle of the middle class. But for non-union aerospace workers, pay is much worse. Data collected by the Washington Department of Revenue shows that in 2014, 38 percent of aerospace workers at companies other than Boeing were paid less than $15 an hour. The difference, said Brown, is that manufacturing workers at Boeing have a union contract.

“For more than 80 years, District 751 has been negotiating a better standard of living for Machinists at Boeing,” he said. “We’ve had our ups and downs, certainly, but the overall benefit is undeniable.”

The UC-Berkeley study’s authors recommend that state and local governments should be more aware of how much they’re already spending to subsidize low-wage manufacturing work before they give major tax breaks to manufacturing companies – something that District 751 and SPEEA have advocated for in Olympia during the past two legislative sessions.

“Conditioning subsidies on strong wage requirements across the workforce would reduce state and federal costs for public assistance, and allow states and local governments to better target how their tax dollars are spent,“ the study’s authors recommended.

Politicians and voters both need to realize that not all manufacturing jobs are good ones, wrote Ben Casselman in an essay for FiveThirtyEight.com.

“When politicians pledge to protect manufacturing jobs, they really mean a certain kind of job: well-paid, long-lasting, with opportunities for advancement,” he wrote. “Those aren’t qualities associated with working on a factory floor; they’re qualities associated with being a member of a union.”

Battle at Triumph matters for all workers in America

Continued from Page 2

an uphill battle, I’m extremely proud of our members for standing on principle. This is not about more money as much as it is a battle to maintain pay and benefits that do not divide and destroy our members’ ability to support each other long into the future. Many members have told me “this is about the future, it is not just for us.” To that I tell them, this is not your fight alone. There are many of us across this state and this nation that are in your corner because this war is being waged for all workers and the battle line happens to be in Spokane.

It won’t be easy, but already, the Local 86 Machinists at Triumph are inspiring all of our members at District 751 to not give up on showing the power of solidarity and working together as a union. With that solidarity and determination, I am convinced that We Will Triumph in Spokane.

Union saves job for member at AIM

Continued from Page 1

A male co-worker had complained she was harassing him, Dildine said.

“Supposedly she was using derogatory terms and talking kind of rough,” he said. “Things like ‘Hurry up, Stupid,’ and stuff like that.”

Human Resources was ready to fire her, Dildine said. But the problem was, there was no proof of what had actually happened. “It was pretty much a he-said-she-said kind of thing,” he said. “There was no real documentation.”

Under federal law, union-represented employees have the right to have a union steward come with them as a witness any time they are called into a meeting with management that the worker believes could result in discipline or termination. These are called Weingarten rights, and by asking Dildine to come with her, the member was able to exercise them – and it worked in her favor.

After listening to the accusations against the union member, Dildine began asking questions specifically asking whether instead of firing the woman, could AIM management simply offer some kind of communications training?

“I really don’t think she knew she was talking that rough,” Dildine said.

Dildine also pointed out that the worker who was complaining had never told their supervisor there was a problem, but instead had gone straight to HR to try to get her fired.

The fact that there was no investigation wasn’t right, he said. “When it comes to putting a job on the line for a union member, you’d better have something more than just unsubstantiated claims.”

After some conversation about better ways to communicate with co-workers, the HR team decided to let the matter drop, Dildine said.

AIM’s actions were right on the money, Coty said.

“He listened, asked good questions and helped management come up with a solution that I think helped everybody,” Coty said. “Our member kept her job, AIM kept an experienced and productive employee, and together, we were able to keep a misunderstanding from snow-balling into a much bigger issue.”

Workers at AIM – and all other IAM 751-represented shops – should always remember they have Weingarten rights, and ask for a union steward to be a witness or advocate, should they ever get called into the boss’s office, Coty said.

“This is one of the fundamental things unions can do,” he said. “We help resolve problems and make sure that our members are treated fairly.”
Seniors hear about fraud protection

On Monday, May 23, retirees got good advice on how to reduce their likelihood of becoming an identity theft victim, avoid consumer scams, avoid fraud and cut down on unwanted sales pitches. He noted that seniors are often the target of these schemes because they still have home telephone numbers or landlines. Consumers lose billions of dollars each year to fraud. The criminals use everyday tools to reach into your pockets — the phone, the internet.

Some tips to better protect against identity theft and fraud:

- Learn how to recognize fake schemes at www.fakeschecks.org
- Do not give your Social Security number, mother’s maiden name or account numbers to strangers who contact you, especially by phone, internet or mail.
- Do not defend your computer with the latest software and a firewall.
- Pat passwords on your credit card, bank and phone accounts. Avoid using easily available information like birthdates, phone number or an easy series of numbers.
- Don’t carry PIN numbers, birth certificates, Social Security cards or passports unless absolutely necessary. Do not carry credit cards or ID cards you don’t need.
- Guard your mail from theft. Don’t leave outgoing mail in an unsecured mailbox.
- Register for Do Not Call. You can register a personal phone number online at www.donotcall.gov if you have an unlisted phone or 1-888-382-1222 from your personal phone number online at www.donotcall.gov if you have an unlisted phone.
- More information on preventing senior fraud, visit atg.wa.gov/senior-fraud.

Eric Moss, Consumer Protection Outreach Coordinator from the office of the Attorney General, gave a presentation to retirees and tips to prevent identity theft, consumer fraud and other scams.

The meeting was called to order on April 11 by President Jackie Boschok. She led the club in the flag salute and John Guevarra led the prayer which was followed by the singing of God Bless America.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present.

Minutes: The April meeting minutes were MS&P to approve.

Financial Report: Tom Lux gave the report and it was approved.

Executive Board Report: Lucia Raun read the following motion: To spend up to $2,000 to purchase a set of 100 dishes (plates and bowls) and flatware to use for serving lunch at the club meetings. Discussion followed: Tom Lux on it that there has been a problem of figuring out which can to use when disposing of the paper plates, cups and plastic flatware. Jackie Boschok also said money would be saved in the long run by not continually purchase disposable products. However, disposable should be available for the picnic and Christmas luncheon. Jackie said the dishes that would be purchased are made in the USA and would be purchased from an American company. Max Templin asked if this would create extra work for the kitchen staff. Vennie Murphy said the kitchen is equipped with an excellent dish washing sanitizing system so it should not cause extra work. MS&P

Health and Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased IAM 751 retirees: Robert Glassburn, Shebba Horton, Cloyd Paxton, Thomas Slosson and CurtThorfinson. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin. Jackie Boschok mentioned that Curt Thorfinson worked at Joint Programs before retiring.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz gave the report. We are encouraged that all four of our Seattle District 751 locals have endorsed the two resolutions submitted by our retiree club that will be sent to our Grand Lodge convention (in Chicago, Labor Day week) and when adopted will become official policy of our union and part of our ongoing lobbying efforts. One resolution is for a one-time payment of $580 to make up for the fact that there was no cost-of-living added to Social Security in 2016. The other will pernit Medicare to negotiate for lower drug prices.

The Obama Administration’s Labor Department has put forward a regulation requiring financial advisors to put their client’s best interests ahead of their own when they give investing advice for investing retirement funds. Incredibly the Republicans in Congress voted to kill this measure, introduced by Representatives Dave Reichert and Cathy McMorris Rodgers. Shame on them.

The Washington State’s political candidate filing week is May 16-20. A wide range of political positions will be elected this year from President, governor, congress and legislature. Filing includes Precinct Committee Officer. So those of us who are PCOs also need to refile. It is all done on the internet. Those who do not have computers at home can use them at the library. Our District’s Legislative Committee will be reviewing and interviewing candidates, getting their positions on labor and retiree issues. We will bring you those recommendations, which will be listed in the Aero Mechanic. Carl has asked if a member of the Retirement Club sit in on those interviews.

Three candidates are running against Dave Reichert. Carl said he thinks Santiago Ramos has the best campaign so far.

Good & Welfare: Tom Lux spoke about the John O’Comor labor concert to be held at the Seattle Union Hall on Saturday, May 14 and encouraged everyone to attend.

John Guevara recommended everyone review the Friday Alert and discuss issues with their neighbors and friends.

President’s Report: President Boschok reported on two issues the Executive Board has been discussing. The first is the proposal to hold a second summer picnic/potluck in Everett for the 2,500 retirees who live in Snohomish County and north. A survey is being sent to retirees to determine if enough are interested in attending and the results will be published in the July Aero Mechanic.

The second is the annual club special group event. Jackie conducted a survey by a show of hands of members present if they wanted to do another Blake Island Tillicum Village excursion or a chartered Lake Washington dinner cruise. She will be providing more details soon on the dinner cruise which was the preferred choice.

Jackie then provided more information to clarify last month’s discussion on the Raise Up Washington Initiative 1433. Backers will need 246,372 valid signatures of registered Washington voters by July 8 in order to qualify for the fall statewide ballot. The campaign’s goal is to bring in at least 300,000 signatures to cover duplicate and invalid signatures. The proposal would increase the current minimum wage of $9.47 an hour to $11 in 2017, $11.50 in 2018, $12 in 2019 and $13.50 in 2020. It would also allow workers to accrue up to seven days of paid “sick and safe” leave per year for those who currently do not get sick leave. Jackie reminded members that a Special Educational Program will be held on Monday, May 23rd. Eric Moss from the Attorney General’s Office of Consumer Protection Division will do a presentation on senior fraud & scams.

May is Older Americans Month: In 1963 President Kennedy proclaimed May Senior Citizens Month, now known as Older Americans Month. In his statement he talked about honoring the contributions of older Americans. As we recognize Older Americans Month, let’s celebrate our contributions. Thank you seniors!

Jackie then announced the following events:

- Local C has an election Thursday, May 12 for Grand Lodge Convention delegates.
- The Peanut Butter drive ends May 10.
- Don’t forget the Letter Carriers Food Drive is Saturday, May 14.
- No meeting on Monday, May 30.
- No Memorial Day.
- Jackie then spoke about the recent

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RETIREE CLUB OFFICERS

President Jackie Boschok 206-890-1009

Vice President Helen Lowe 206-523-9526

Secretary Lucia Raun 206-772-5110

Treasurer Alan Smith 206-651-1371

Sign-off-Arms: Varicopus Murphy 253-985-0951

Trustees: Michael Keller 206-723-4973

John Goewerne 206-672-1648

Jim Hutchins 206-349-2309

Unions Office: (1-888-763-1301) or 206-763-1300

Retirement News

Retirement Club May business meeting minutes

James Frederickson and Helen Miller celebrated May birthdays.
AD RULES
Each single ad must be 25 words or
Use a separate piece of paper or a
AD RULES
Each single ad must be 25 words or
Use a separate piece of paper or a
try to increase quarterly deposits into the amount that fits within their budget consider. college without taking on large amounts providing a child with the chance to go to largest expenses many parents will face. start, as it’s important to start saving as they even have children.

Wealth Management Support Consultant College Savings: Think Beyond the 529 FINANCIAL $ENSE: Kelleher Road, Burlington. Aug. 6, at Avalon Golf Links, 19345 will begin with a shotgun start at noon, - for contractors at Whidbey Island Naval - online at www.FlightForSight.com. the race. Registration forms are available - a.m. The courses will be certified by USA - with the 15th annual Flight for Sight fun run -ers for Guide Dogs of America. Over the -s in Puget Sound. To request a form, -s in Puget Sound. Infor -co-signer's credit score and history. -s, parents may be able to get a better interest rate because of their credit history, a loan in a parent’s name may not be eligible for forgiveness due to hardship or through incentives such as Peace Corps service. -s on a co-signer’s credit score and history. -s, such as Peace Corps service. -s, the federal financial aid, because there are many -s, a loan in a parent’s -s. It’s best to avoid using your retirement -s. It’s best to avoid using your retirement -s. The event will start at 9 a.m. The cost -s. The tournament will be a scramble -s. A trophy will be awarded to the first-place team with a cash prize for each winning team member. A chance to win individual prizes will be offered for longest drive and closest to the pin. All other prizes will be raffled off at the end. The cost is $110, which covers green fees, cart rental, tournament t-shirts, prizes and a buffet at the end of play. Entry forms are available at all District 751 union halls in Puget Sound. Information is also available by calling the Everett Union Hall at (425) 355-8821. -s, there will be food and live -t, speed and quality. The event will start at 9 a.m. The cost $25 on the day of the event, or $20 in advance. Registration forms are available at all District 751 union halls around Puget Sound.

Guide Dogs fundraisers: Fun for a great cause

Our union plans a series of fundraising events in support of a lot of families while also raising money for Guide Dogs of America. District 751 is one of the top fundraisers for Guide Dogs of America. Over the past seven years, our union has raised more than $2 million for the charity.

Flight for Sight fun run

District 751 is lining up its running shoes once again this 15th annual Flight for Sight fun and walk on Saturday, June 4, at District 751’s Everett Union Hall, 8726 Airport Road. Registration is from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Chip-timed racing on 5K and 10K courses will start at 9:30 a.m. A non-competitive 2-mile walk will start at 9:45 a.m. The courses will be certified by USA Track & Field. Registration, which includes a t-shirt, can be purchased for $35 on the day of the race. Registration forms are available online at www.FlightForSight.com.

NAS Whidbey Golf Tourney

Machinists Union members who work for contractors at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station can participate in an annual charity golf tournament. The four-man scramble tournament will begin with a shotgun start at noon, Aug. 6, at Avalon Golf Links, 19345 Kelleher Road, Burlington.

Guide Dogs Golf Tournament

The 14th annual Puppy Putt charity motorcycle ride will be Saturday, July 9. Riders will leave between 8 and 10 a.m. from either Sound Harley-Davidson in Marysville (1612 Smokey Point Blvd.) or from Northwest Harley-Davidson in Lacey (8000 Freedom Lane). The separate groups will meet at District Lodge 751 Seattle Union Hall (9135 15th Pl. S.) for an afternoon of motorcycle-themed food, music and fun. Advanced registration is $15 for a rider and $5 for passengers. Registration costs $20 on the day of the ride. Forms are available at all District 751 union halls in Puget Sound or online at www.PuppyPut.com. For details, go online at www.PuppyPut.com or call District Lodge 751’s Everett Union Hall at (425) 355-8821.

Local 68 Trap Shoot

Local 86 in Spokane will hold its fourth-annual charity trap shoot on Aug. 20 at the Spokane Gun Club (19615 E. Spangue Ave, in Gonzaga). The event will start at 9 a.m. The cost is $80 per person, which includes lunch, trophies and door prizes. There will be additional drawings for prizes including

shotguns, televisions, barbecues and tool packages.

To register, call the Spokane Union Hall at (509) 534-9690 or e-mail aveland28@msn.com.

Local A car show

The Bill Baker Memorial Steel & Wheel Car Show is coming to Everett again this year. Local A’s annual show for classic cars, hot rods and custom motorcycles will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Satur- day, Aug. 20, at Machinists Union District Lodge 751’s Everett Union Hall, 8729 Airport Road. Along with displays of custom cars and cycles, there will be food and live music, and the 1973 National Hot Rod Association world champion funny car, The Green Elephant, will be on display. Check-in for exhibitors will be from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 20. Registration costs $25 on the day of the event, or $20 in advance. Registration forms are available at all District 751 union halls around Puget Sound.
Standing strong on the line in Spokane!

Continued from Page 1

one pay structure and one benefit package. Rather than accepting that the two-tier wage and divisive pension is forever a part of their contract, they are united to remove it.

From the start our union pursued a fair contract that would provide every member at Triumph with an equal opportunity to earn wages and retirement security. The goal was to right the wrongs that were imposed in their last contract.

Instead of Triumph paying attention to the growing solidarity, the company offered an insulting proposal and committed unfair labor practices and bargained in bad faith. Machinists union members demonstrated their solidarity by rejecting Triumph’s offer by 94 percent and voting to authorize a strike by 93 percent. Triumph locked our members out before the expiration of our contract. Pickets went up at 12:01 a.m. on May 11. Our members have been on the line ever since.

Triumph continues to try and intimidate and divide the membership, including busing in replacement workers each day, but it has not diminished the resolve of our members. We are hearing reports every day in Puget Sound that the strike is creating shortages so Triumph is feeling the pressure.

“Our goals are reasonable,” Holden added. “This dispute will be settled once management recognizes the hard work and dedication of the skilled workers who earn Triumph millions of dollars every day.”

Support continues to grow as businesses drop off food and supplies; other unions join our picket line and donations are delivered. The Spokane Regional Labor Council approved $1,000 to help in the effort on May 24. The same day 751’s District Council approved $1,000 to help our brothers and sisters on strike against Triumph.

United Steelworkers Local 338 walked our picket line and delivered a check for $500. SPEEA hosted a barbecue lunch on May 18.

On May 19, International President Bob Martinez along with GST Dora Cervantes, Western Territory GVP Gary Allen and HQ GVP Ricky Wallace walked the line with our members.

“The strike at Triumph matters to workers across the U.S.,” declared IAM President Martinez. “Any time a profitable company outsources good jobs and hollers out the ones that are left, it’s a clear signal for other companies to do the same. These workers, this community and this country all deserve better.”

Triumph continues to send our jobs to Mexico.

Unresolved Issues at Triumph

• Contributions to the IAM National Pension Plan were eliminated for new hires in the 2013 contract.
• 401(k) match was eliminated in 2013 for those receiving a pension. Match only offered to new hires not eligible for pension.
• A lower tier wage table was created in the 2013 contract for those hired after May of 2006 with the new maximum at 12.5% less.
• After getting these items in the last contract “to be competitive,” Triumph rewarded our members there by offloading work to Mexico. In these 2016 negotiations Triumph stated they will continue to send work to Mexico and will not offer any job security language (while continuing to receive Washington’s aerospace tax incentives).
• 2016 negotiations the company proposed to lower the 401(k) match for those not receiving a pension.
• 2016 negotiations the company proposed removing the cap on healthcare premium increases in 2018 and on.
• 2016 negotiations only offered GWIs to those in the lower tier wage table and offered nothing to other employees.
• During 2016 negotiations we have also filed several ULPs for direct dealing, intimidation and coercion, failing to provide information and bad faith bargaining.

Another first in Bloomsday Corporate Cup race

Local 86 Machinists are walking a picket line today, but were moving much faster the first weekend in May. A union-sponsored team of runners (John Warran, Darin Truitt, Tracy Hawkins and Dan Brown) won its division in the Bloomsday Corporate Cup race.

Local 86 began sponsoring the team six years ago, after Triumph management decided not to pay the $350 registration fee. Since then, the Local 86 team has won its division in four of the past six years.