Take Action on the Worker Privacy Act

On February 3rd, more than 100 supporters (including many 751 members) packed House and Senate committee hearings on the Worker Privacy Act (HB 1528 and SB 5446). This legislation will allow workers to choose whether or not to participate in employer communication on matters of individual conscience including politics, religion, charitable giving and unionization.

District 751 President Tom Wroblewski testifies for the Worker Privacy Act, at House and Senate hearings in Olympia on February 3rd.

751 members gather outside the capitol in Olympia to split lobbying assignments for the Worker Privacy Act.

Call 1-800-562-6000 Today!
Tell Legislators to Support HB1528 and SB5446 to protect workers’ First Amendment Rights. Workers should not be forced (under threat of termination or other retaliation) to participate in employer communication on matters of individual conscience including politics, religion, charitable giving and unionization.

Boeing Issues 466 WARN Notices to IAM Members

District 751 President Tom Woohleski issued the following statement in response to Boeing’s WARN notices on February 20th. “Boeing’s announcement to issue layoff notices to 466 Machinist Union members defies reason. The Company has a backlog of more than 3,700 airplane orders and plans to build and deliver up to 485 airplanes in 2009. Boeing has not announced big order cancellations or rate reductions. It does not make sense to reduce employment during this time of nationwide recession especially when orders are strong and customers

Continued on page 2

Contractual Provisions Surrounding Surplus

With several hundred members receiving 60-day notices of potential layoff (WARN notices), many members have expressed an interest in learning more about the surplussing procedure, their rights to downgrade, lateral transfers and emergency reclassifications. We will examine the contract language on this subject to help members better understand their rights.

Section 22.5 – Surplussing

The order of surplussing is in reverse seniority order within each job title.

Section 22.6 – Rights to Downgrade in Surplussing

An employee who is subject to surplussing has the right to downgrade to the highest of the following:

• To a lower job title which is not lower than the next lower job title in his or her job family or previously held job families.

• To the highest graded job title, including emergency classification, held for 90 or more consecutive calendar days during the preceding eight year period.

This means that an employee being surplussed has the right to downgrade to any job he or she has permanently held (90 days or more) during the preceding eight years. If the employee’s seniority does not entitle him or her to placement in either of the above cases, the employee may be downgraded to any job he or she is willing to accept or may be laid-off.

Lateral Reclassifications and Lateral Transfers also are used during times of surplus.

Lateral Reclassification 22.1(b)

Refers to the reclassification of an employee from one job title to another job

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Plan Ahead

Joint Programs

Career Advisors help you plan your future and can assist those facing layoff

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The Union was able to deliver good news to sev- eral hundred members who found themselves re- imburasing Boeing for edu- cation expenses incurred during the strike. Knowing that Boeing was not making any provision for the time it was taking to abide, which would be significantly delay returning money to our members, Boeing did the right thing and began reimbursing those members in the near future.

In early February, I met with Boeing management, including Scott Carson and Boeing’s lead negotiator Doug Kight. I emphasized it was important to put last year’s strike behind us and focus on the issues at hand – building 480+ airplanes this year and getting both the 787 and 747-8 back on schedule. With the ongoing delays on the 787, I sug- gested creating a taskforce with some of our most talented mem- bers – along with SPIRA members and other skilled veterans to get this program back on track. Rather than continuing to say “I told you so,” I believe we must focus on getting that airplane flying and delivered to the customers so eager to buy the plane. Further delays hurt our members, the Union, Boeing and the customers.

We all have a vested interest in seeing the 787 succeed, and I hope Boeing will utilize the vast resources we have of- fered in order to resolve the production issues facing Boeing.

In regard to the Air Force Tanker deal, I toured the Everett factory in Feb- ruary with Representative John Murtha, who chairs the House Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, along with most of the Congressmen Norm Dicks and Rick Larsen, as well as other local and state officials. While Murtha told report- ers Everett believes the split contract would be the quickest way to deliver new tankers, it is a position we would argue vehemently. With the current eco- nomic turmoil, awarding the tankers to EADS (even partially) will bring strong reaction from U.S. taxpayers. The Union stands ready to mobilize our member- ship to protect our military, our region, and our workforce.

With nearly 500 members getting WARN notices, the Union is putting together information to direct members to the many resources we have assembled as a safety net. Since many of our members have not been through a surplus, we are clarifying for them the options available.

We strongly believe Boeing should keep all available Boeing employees working to complete and certify the 787. There are over 900 orders for this model which is already two years behind schedule.

Quickly, the 751 members will be able to get help resolving the production issues facing Boeing with resolving the issue rather than taking the case to arbitration, which would significantly delay returning money to our members. As recently as mid-February, the Union again offered to partner with the Company to help resolve the production issues facing Boeing with resolving the issue rather than taking the case to arbitration, which would significantly delay returning money to our members. As recently as mid-February, the Union again offered to partner with the Company to help resolve the production issues facing Boeing.

For those who may be laid off, we have a negotiated layoff benefit as well as Education Assistance through our Joint Program. You can send an e-mail, and they will quickly get back to you about reimbursement. The Learning To- gether Program (LTP) has an internal education benefits. He was stunned when he found out he could get reimbur- sed for his educational expenses from August 15th. All the credit he had acquired was returned to our members, “noted Union Business Representative Mark B. Johnson.

Continued from page 1

an issue in the first place, I was glad to see Boeing do the right thing and return the money to our members. I credit Boeing with resolving the issue, and to date, that offer has gone unanswered.

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Momentum Continues for Worker Privacy Act

The House Commerce & Labor Committee hear testimony on the WPA.

President Obama Delivers for Workers

President Barack Obama has already done more to help the workers in less than two months than the previous administration did in eight years. President Obama has issued four pro-labor executive orders that reversed Bush-era anti-worker executive orders. Obama also created the White House Task Force on Middle Class Working Families to develop and coordinate policies to rebuild the nation’s middle class. Vice President Joe Biden will chair the task force, which will set up a website, www.strongmiddleclass.gov/worker-practices, and consult with employers about ways to help restore an economy that works for everyone.

Employers CAN’T do under the Worker Privacy Act, threaten, punish or fire employees who choose not to attend meetings on issues of individual conscience or religion.

Why America Needs the Employee Free Choice Act

More than ever, working people today need a way to get ahead. Wages are dropping, health care costs are rising and pensions are disappearing. Unions are the best route to the middle class – as union members make over 28 percent more than non-union workers. Union members also have a higher percentage of those covered by health insurance.

The Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) is a proposed federal law that would enable working people to bargain for better benefits, wages and working conditions by restoring workers’ freedom to choose for themselves whether to join a union. EFCA will:

• Help workers secure a first contract with their employer in a reasonable period of time, and provide Federal Mediation if the parties are unable or unwilling to reach an agreement in 90 days. If the mediators are unable to bring the parties to an agreement, the bill will be decided by an impartial third party, and the terms of the agreement will be binding for two years.

• Most importantly, EFCA will toughen penalties against employers who unlawfully terminate workers for exercising their right to unionize by providing triple back pay for discharged employees, and civil penalties of $20,000 per incident.

More than just workers see the value in EFCA. On February 25th, three dozen of the nation’s top economists (including two Nobel Prize winners) called on Congress to pass EFCA to help restore an economy that works.

President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. Named for Ms. Ledbetter, 4th from left, who at the end of a 19-year career as a supervisor complained she was paid less than men.
Applications for IAM/Boeing Apprenticeship Accepted in April

Because it takes time to gather the necessary documentation and complete the required classes, members who want to apply for an IAM/Boeing apprenticeship program need to begin the process well before they submit an application. Applications will be accepted for the IAM/Boeing Joint Apprenticeship Program April 1, 2009 through April 30, 2009. Applications will be accepted for the following trades:

• Cellular Manufacturing Machinist
• Composite Manufacturing Technician
• Machinist
• Industrial Electronic Maintenance Technician
• Model Maker
• NC Spur Mill Operator
• Tool & Cutter Grinder

To obtain an application, call the apprenticeship office at 253-351-1918 between April 1st and April 30th or print an application from the web at http://www.iam-boeing.com/apprenticeship.cfm.

To qualify, you must:

• be at least 18 years of age.

The recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices is without discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or the presence of a disability.

A Preparing for an Apprenticeship packet detailing the prerequisites for each trade will be sent to those interested in applying. This information is also available on the apprenticeship website at http://apprenticeship.web.boeing.com.

EFCA Needed to Level the Playing Field

Continued from page 3

for everyone, built on a sustainable, wage-based growth.

The group pointed to the failure of U.S. labor laws to protect employees’ freedom to form a union and bargain as a major factor in our economic crisis. These economists, representing respected universities and policy institutions from across the nation, point to the corporate-dominated system for forming unions—and the coercion and anti-union campaigning by management—as the causes for declining wages and a gravely weakened economy.

All workers should have the freedom to decide for themselves whether to form unions to bargain for a better life. It’s time for change in America. It’s time for the Employee Free Choice Act.

President’s Message: Focus on Saving Jobs

Continued from page 2

with job search and relocation expenses. We will explore other options to provide assistance, as well as push to keep and create additional jobs in this region—both inside and outside of Boeing. We are working with legislators, community leaders, our new apprenticeship and many other avenues to create good family-wage jobs. This includes pushing Boeing to eliminate all vendors before any Boeing employees lose their jobs.

One thing is certain, during these turbulent economic times, the need for Unions has never been greater and the pressure to keep workers from exercising that right continues to increase. Recent government data confirms it pays to be Union, yet very few workers get the chance to have a voice in their future.

Seattle Times Misrepresents the Worker Privacy Act

Continued from page 3

employer free speech to remove the elements of compulsion and threat from employer opinions about unionization or other matters of individual concern. Whether to form a union and engage in collective bargaining.

President Obama has also pledged his support for the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA). Business leaders have warned of “Armageddon” for the construction industry if the bill and are throwing hundreds of millions of dollars in a media campaign to defeat the legislation. Business leaders have also threatened a filibuster in the Senate.

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 Forty-one Boeing employees working on the C-17 at McChord voted unanimously for IAM representation.

The organizing drive—one of five locations in the Western Territory—showcases what a joint effort can do. By combining resources, utilizing existing workplace contacts and working on multiple sites simultaneously, word spread quickly between the air bases.

"The unanimous vote is a strong testament to the fine job of our Organizing Department. These workers obviously understand the benefits of Union representation and are eager to have the Machinists Union negotiate their wages, hours and working conditions. We look forward to having them as members and representing them for years into the future," stated IAM District 751 President Tom Wroblewski.

Continued on page 11

Union Advantage Continues to Grow in Wages and Benefits

One thing is certain, during these turbulent economic times, the need for unions has never been greater. CEOs and Corporate Executives continue to take in millions in excessive bonuses, stock options and other perks (often at taxpayers expense) while workers are struggling to fight off attacks on their wages, pensions and benefits.

New data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in January 2009 suggest that unions are making a comeback under these very difficult circumstances. Union membership rose from 12.1 percent to 12.4 percent last year, continuing a second year of growth.

The BLS data also verifies the advantage of Union membership—and it is an advantage that continues to grow.

Across the board, wages and benefits are higher for employees who speak with one voice and have union representation. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) confirms that it pays to be union is more than just a slogan—as union members on average earn 28% more than their non-union counterparts. In fact, the decline of the middle class runs directly parallel with the reduction in the number of unionized workers in this country.

The BLS figures for 2008 reported median weekly earnings of wage and salary workers for union members at $806 compared to $594 for nonunion members. On an annual basis, this $212 per week difference in median earnings works out to an $10,440 advantage for the union worker. On average, male union members had weekly earnings of $935 compared to $764 for their nonunion counterparts. Female union members had a larger advantage with union members making $809 and nonunion bringing in $615 per week or 31.5% more.

However, wages only tell part of the story. The union advantage also carries over into the area of benefits, with items such as health insurance, pension and savings plans, and paid leave.

Union workers are more likely than their nonunion counterparts to receive health care and pension benefits, according to the BLS.

In February, 79 percent of union workers in private industry had jobs with employer-provided health insurance, compared with only 52 percent of nonunion workers.

The union advantage is also evident in pension benefits. Eighty-six percent of union workers are covered by pension plans versus 51 percent of nonunion workers. Even more dramatic is the comparison on workers at a defined-benefit retirement plan, which has become even more important as the financial markets have crumbled. Seventy-seven percent of union workers have defined-benefit retirement coverage, compared with 20 percent of nonunion workers. (Defined-benefit plans are typically insured and provide a guaranteed monthly pension amount regardless of fluctuations in the stock market. They differ from defined-contribution plans, in which the benefit amount depends on how well the underlying investments perform.)

The union advantage is also evident in other benefits including life insurance, paid holidays and paid vacations.

Beyond just monetary and benefit advantages, union workers have a say in their working conditions, hours of work, defined promotion system, safety programs and other grievance procedures to dispute management actions. These issues, coupled with giving a member a true voice in their workplace, are priceless.

Having a higher percentage of union members is good for the economy of a state. In states that have laws restricting workers’ rights to form strong unions (right-to-work states), the average pay for all workers is lower than the states where workers have the freedom to form strong unions. Washington State ranks fourth in union members with 19.8%. Only New York, Hawaii, and Alaska have higher percentages of unionized workers. Despite these union advantages, part of the nonunion workers get to exercise their rights to form a union because of illegal tactics by their employers—making the Employee Free Choice Act (a proposed federal law) and the Worker Privacy Act (a proposed state law) even more important. Both of these pieces of legislation would help ensure that any workers who would like to have union representation would have the opportunity without retaliation from management for exercising that right (see articles on page 3 for more detailed information).

Union vs. Nonunion Earnings by Occupation

In nearly every occupational category, union members earn more than non-union workers. By comparing the wages of workers within occupational groups, the union difference is more clear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Union Mean $</th>
<th>Non Union Mean $</th>
<th>Increase</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction &amp; extraction</td>
<td>$992</td>
<td>$621</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protective service workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; material</td>
<td>$789</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance &amp; repair</td>
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<td>$570</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial, cleaning services</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Health care administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal occupations</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Defined-benefit pensions are a subset of all pensions.
IAM/Boeing Joint Programs Helping You Meet the Challenge of Change

The aerospace marketplace, along with the corporate economy, is changing rapidly and significantly. We know that coping with change can be frustrating and distressing. IAM/Boeing Joint Programs is here to help you meet the challenge of change, whether you are looking to further your education, are in pursuit of a new job, or if you’re facing the challenge of a WARN or layoff notice. No matter what your situation, IAM/Boeing Joint Programs may just be the solution you’re looking for. Listed below are just some of our services that you might find beneficial during these challenging times.

**Education Assistance**

The Education Assistance (EA) Program, as administered by IAM/Boeing Joint Programs, is one of our most recognized and successful services. Whether you plan to continue in your present work or seek a career change, EA provides both active and laid-off IAM-represented employees opportunities for training and education. Active IAM-represented employees are eligible to receive funding for tuition and required fees for approved education and training courses. Employees who are active on the start date of a program or training need to contact their IAM Union Steward or Business Representative to ensure they are eligible for funding.

For approved education and training courses, employees must meet the following criteria:

- Have less than one year of seniority with IAM.
- Receive Education Assistance benefits for up to the full tuition for training at accredited educational or training institutions, or up to the funding limit per calendar year for non-accredited and approved training.

The EA Program is also committed to assisting laid-off IAM-represented employees by identifying and developing opportunities to help their employees achieve their career goals and desires.

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The EA Program is also committed to assisting laid-off IAM-represented employees by identifying and developing opportunities to help their employees achieve their career goals and desires.

Here are some examples of how your Career Advisor can help you:

- **Career Planning Assessments and Education Assistance**: How to use the Career Guides
- **Employee Request for Transfer (ERT) Requirements**, Transcript Evaluation, Class Registration Assistance, and Challenge Tests
- Information about the re-employment process
- Resume assistance and Interviewing skills
- Determining a new career path
- Computer classes and refresher materials in math, writing, and more
- Assistance with special learning needs
- Employees may schedule appointments to meet with professional career advisors on a confidential, one-to-one basis. Contact information is available on the IAM/Boeing Joint Programs website www.iam-boeing.com (from home) or http://iamboeing.web.boeing.com (from a Boeing computer).

**Career Guides, Career Explorer, and Employee Requested Transfer (ERT) Process**

Career Guides are a comprehensive source of up-to-date information on hourly jobs in Puget Sound, Portland and Wichita. The guides were written and validated by Union members on staff with IAM/Boeing Joint Programs, using Subject Matter Experts (hourly employees and line managers in each of the jobs) to capture up-to-date information. Each guide provides a job summary, typical tasks, duties and responsibilities, knowledge, skills and abilities, physical demands and potential hazards, and appropriate training. The training courses link directly to enrollment in off-hour classes. Career Guides are available at the Career Explorer website http://carerexplorer.web.boeing.com. The Career Explorer features the Career Guides that provide employment.

IAM Union Steward Tom Sweeney (l) consults on options available for members with IAM/Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor Mark Anderson.

I AM/Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor at Boeing.

**You Meet the Challenge of Change**

As of January 1, 2009, employees must continue in your present work or seek a career change. EA provides both active and laid-off IAM-represented employees opportunities for training and education. Active IAM-represented employees are eligible to receive funding for tuition and required fees for approved education and training courses. Employees who are active on the start date of a program or training need to contact their IAM Union Steward or Business Representative to ensure they are eligible for funding.

For approved education and training courses, employees must meet the following criteria:

- Have less than one year of seniority with IAM.
- Receive Education Assistance benefits for up to the full tuition for training at accredited educational or training institutions, or up to the funding limit per calendar year for non-accredited and approved training.

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I AM/Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor at Boeing.

I AM/Boeing Joint Programs Career Advisor at Boeing.
If employee rejects an offer to a job for which he has lateral bump rights, he can exercise his downgrade rights to another classification and still be eligible for rate retention (see explanation below). If employee is surplused, you have the right to downgrade to a lower job in a job family than what you previously held.

Rate Retention - Section 6.4(c)

When an employee accepts a downgrade, rather than a layoff, he retains the rate of pay held just prior to the downgrade for a period of 90 days. While on 90-day rate retention, you do not receive a COLA, but receive a temporary increase because you are at the higher rate. If the employee receives a temporary promotion during the period of rate retention, the 90-day rate retention will be extended one day for each day of the temporary promotion.

If an employee is doing higher graded work, he or she should be sure that the paperwork has been cut so that the rate retention is extended.

Emergency Reclassification - Section 22.1(e).

When the Company finds it necessary to temporarily assign/reclassify a higher graded employee to perform lower graded work. In each instance, the employee will be notified at the time of assignment. The Union will be notified when the assignment exceeds 30 calendar days. If you hold a job under emergency classification for 90 consecutive days or more, you establish downgrade rights and eight-year return rights to that job. For that reason, it is important to have documentation (paperwork) of the emergency reclassification.

Employees assigned on emergency classification remain classified in their original job number. The employee continues to draw pay at the higher graded work throughout the time he/she is emergency classified. If a surplus situation occurs in the job that the employee is emergency classified in, the Company can only keep the employee emergency classified for 60 days.

If a surplus situation occurs in the job the employee held prior to the emergency reclassification (their original job title), the employee can be surplus classified. However, if surplus classification occurs, unfortunately, your reclassifications are used. What are reclassifications?

Retentions - Section 22.2:

A ‘retention’ is the retaining of an individual whose seniority would have caused him/her to be surplus if the employee continues to some other employee or employees with greater seniority are surplus.

Number of Retentions Allowable - Section 22.3.

At each location (Puget Sound area, Wichita and Portland), the number of allowable retentions for a six-month period is 4.5% of the remaining unit head count at the beginning of the period. The six-month periods are January 1 to June 30 inclusive and July 1 to December 31 inclusive.

Retentions apply only against another employee in the same seniority level. The seniority levels are:

1) zero through nine years; 2) ten years through 14 years and 3) fifteen years or more.

This means the Company cannot retain an employee with five years of seniority against an employee with 11 years of seniority.

BusinessRep (Jon Hendry) explains the importance of taking layoff benefits as income continuation.

If you take the payout as a lump sum, you forfeit all recall rights and seniority.

Following the effective date of layoff. However, if you select a lump sum option, you will lose all seniority under Article 14, as well as lose all recall rights under Article 22. If you select this option and return to Boeing in the future, you would have no seniority.

Many members, who elected the lump sum option following the 9-11 terrorist attacks assuming they would never be employed at Boeing, eventually got rehired and had to start over on seniority. NOTE: No employee shall be paid income continuation benefit more than once during any three (3)-year period. Income continuation benefits shall not be considered as compensation (therefore it does not impact unemployment benefits).

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Volunteers Make Life Better Throughout the Area

Nearly every weekend 751 members and their family and friends are out in the community working to make life better for those around us. While the events change, the theme of helping others remains constant.

Recently, 751 built a wheelchair ramp for the mother of a 751 retiree. Local A Vice President Jason Redrup, who chairs the Machinists Volunteer Program (MVP) noted, “It is always rewarding to build wheelchair ramps. For many residents, a ramp is the only way they will be able to regularly leave their homes. For others, it allows them to get out of a hospital and recover at home. Donating several hours and seeing instant results is very rewarding.”

Members also continue to prepare and serve meals at both the Everett Gospel Mission and Tacoma Rescue Mission on several weekends each month. In February, volunteers also cleaned up our ‘adopted’ road in Everett – picking up trash, trimming the grass and pulling weeds. This quarterly clean up ensures our stretch of Casino Road remains nice for all the residents (pedestrian, as well as passing vehicles).

District 751 will hold our annual MVP potluck banquet and awards ceremony on Saturday, April 4th to honor the time these selfless individuals dedicate toward helping others.

Change to a Union Dentist and See the Advantages

Sunrise Dental is the first dental group to unionize in the state of Washington. Sunrise Dental employees are proud members of UFCW Local 21 and will continue to grow to better serve the needs of our union brothers and sisters and their families.

Under our negotiated dental coverage, you may use any licensed dental provider; however, if you use Sunrise Dental you will have no out of pocket obligation on any covered services through March 31st. These 100% covered services include general dentistry, endodontics, periodontics, oral surgery, and even crowns. Sunrise Dental accepts many other union dental plans at 100%.

Sunrise Dental is now accepting Washington Dental Service (Delta Dental) as full payment until March 31, 2009. This will include all of the above stated services. After March 31, 2009 Sunrise Dental will no longer be able to write off the patient portion for Washington Dental Service due to state law which prohibits this practice (RCW 18.32.533). Delta Care patients must visit their assigned HMO provider.

We hope you will talk to Sunrise Dental about some of the following benefits:

• Free Teeth Whitening for new patients
• 7 to 7, 7 Days a Week (7:00 AM to 7:00 PM)
• One Stop Dental Service for All Your Dental Procedures
• Refer a friend or family member and receive a $20 gift certificate from a unionized grocery store
• Sunrise Dental 100% Guarantees their work (Provided all 6 month check up appointments are maintained)
• Sunrise Dental knows that not all dental procedures are covered by your dental insurance. So we have made arrangements for 0% financing for procedures not covered by your dental insurance.
• Please visit their website at www.sunrisedental.com for more information

*NOTE: After we ran the story on this unique offer in December/January, Sunrise Dental was ordered by Washington Dental Service to comply with RCW 18.32.533 which provides “It is unprofessional conduct under this chapter and chapter 18.130 RCW for a dentist to abrogate the copayment provisions of a contract by accepting the payment received from a third party payer as full payment.” Sunrise Dental wanted to still make the offer and worked out an exception to allow full payment through March 31. This unique dental office is committed to accommodating all members and their family members before that date so they will not experience out of pocket expenses.
February Retired Club Minutes

by Ruth Render,
Retired Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Al Wydick. The Lord’s Prayer was said following the flag salute and the singing of “God Bless America” led by Ruth Render and Betty Ness. Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present or accounted for.

Minutes: It was MNSP to accept the minutes as printed.

Financial Report: The January expense report was read by Treasurer Betty Ness. A motion was made to accept the report as read. MNSP.

Communications: None

Health & Benefits: Al Wydick welcomed Jackie Boschok, who is the new Health and Benefits Representative. Jackie started her new position on Feb. 2. Previously she was a Business Representative for six years and an Organizer for the past two years. She said she would be attending the retiree meetings and looking forward to working with the retirees. If you have any questions, feel free to contact her. If you wish to meet in person she recommended calling and making an appointment. Joe Crockett is now working as a Business Representative in the Renton Union Hall.

Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased members: Keith Berger, Earl Brunette, Clifford Burks, Sharon Chambers, Ronald Cozzens, John Foy, Broderick Gibson, Jeanne Gill, Wayne Gooder, Yvonne Harris, Donald Henry, Nancy Irwin, Harry Johnson, Myrlle McQuarrie, Vivian Moore, Brian Morris, V. “Bud” Naden, Gregory Ockfen, Phillip Salyers, Richard Shanabarger, Lester Staton, Harley Stritchette, Robert Tereterry, Carroll Westrom. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz spoke about the stimulus package and encouraged everyone to learn more about it. He talked about House Bill 684 which would permit Medicare to negotiate for lower drug prices. He announced that the third week in February is President’s week. Legislators will be home and the Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA) has a nationwide campaign to get people to meet with their legislators. Make plans to meet with one of your legislators, if possible. Carl also encouraged everyone to fill out the Retiree Club questionnaire that was in the February Aero Mechanic.

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Record- ing Secretary Ruth Render read the Birthdays and Anniversaries. February Birthdays: John Pompea, Isaac Motola, February Anniversaries: Al & Toni Monzenti, Cal & Vera Doss.

Good & Welfare: Al Wydick reminded everyone that corned beef and cabbage would be served after the March 1st Business Meeting to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day.

John Guerarra stated the Retiree Club paid their $100 affiliation fee to the Washington State Alliance of Retired Americans and with that comes rights and responsibilities. The Club will be sending one or two people to the ARA national conference in June.

Al Wydick stated he would find out how many would be sent after District Council voted on the matter.

John provided handouts of the Monday ARA Alert and a portion of a pamphlet titled “2009 Citizen’s Guide to Washington and the Budget” that talks about the state’s budget shortfall.

Carl Schwartz reminded everyone that it is retiree check in time. Be sure to contact the Union to verify your home address.

Tom O’Brien thanked everyone who tried to get a COLA in the pension plan during the last contract talks. He also mentioned that he predicted the last September there would be layoffs eighteen months in the future.

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Kourpias Retires from Alliance

George J. Kourpias, President of the Alliance of Retired Americans since its inception in 2001, announced in February he is retiring from the organization. Barbara J. Easterling, the former Secretary-Treasurer of the Communications Workers of America, was named the new president by a vote of the Alliance’s executive committee.

It has been a tremendous honor to help grow and lead a progressive army of grassroots retirees. We have fostered lifelong activism among union and community leaders, and I believe our collective voice has made a difference,” Kourpias said.

On the heels of the November election, Kourpias believes it is time to turnover the reins of the Alliance. “I have never been more proud of my fellow union retirees than I was on election night. But all that our hard work and great success guarantees us is an opportunity, nothing more.

The time is right for a new leader, an outstanding woman - Barbara Easterling - to mobilize our nation’s retirees to seize this historic moment.

“George Kourpias can never be replaced,” Easterling said, “but I will do all I can to continue his great work. By standing together and speaking as one, we can reform our nation’s broken health care system, strengthen Social Security and Medicare, and leave behind a better America for our children and grandchildren.”

Ruben Burks, the Alliance’s Secretary-Treasurer, said, “It has been an honor to serve alongside George since the beginning of the Alliance. Retirees owe George a large debt of gratitude for his energy, his vision, and his passion to grow the retiree movement.

Thanks to George, Alliance members are politically savvy seniors. “George is a close personal and professional friend,” said Edward F. Coyle, the Alliance’s Executive Director. “He taught me and many others enduring lessons about how to capture the power and passion of grassroots advocates. It has been a true pleasure to work with him.”

Under Mr. Kourpias’ tenure, the Alliance for Retired Americans developed into a 3.5 million member organization which was a leader in stopping then-President Bush’s plan to privatize Social Security. In the 2008 presidential elections, Alliance activists were mobilized in key battleground states to highlight the stark contrasts between Barack Obama and John McCain on Social Security and Medicare. On election day, union retirees voted for President Obama 72.26 percent.

Prior to becoming Alliance president in 2001, Kourpias had previously served as president of the National Council of Senior Citizens. A member of the International Association of Machinists for 56 years, he served eight years as its president.

Every Monday at noon, those attending the Retired Club meeting are treated to a free lunch at the Seattle Union Hall.
ENUMCLAW 55+ PARK: Goldwater Mobile Home, 1,800 sq ft, 3 bdrm/2 bath. Large family room, laundry room with space for freezer; built-in oven and microwave, refrigerator, wood stove. Large lot. $64,900 ORB. 360-825-1977.

CEMETARY PLOTS, Floral Hills, Azalea Garden, Lot 514, spaces 5, 6, 7, $3,000 each and $1,000 for one card contract for balance. 700-568-3236.

20 ACRE MINIRANCH – EASTERN, WA. 1,800 sq ft remodeled home, 3 bdrm/2.5 bath. Scenic Channeled Scablands valley setting. Great hunting on adjoining public land. Photo tour at www.flyinside.com/ tasp.html?id=30424. Contact k.r.schottcamping@artifl.org

FOR SALE Lot, 330' elevation. Unobstructed view of NW out Strait of Juan de Fuca. In rain shade of Community managed Clubhouse, pool, beach, maintaining since 1971. Near Port Townsend. $159,000. 253-359-8849

RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP


Please contact us if your image isn't displayed correctly.
Donnell Honorary 751-F Member

In February, Local 751-F made a very special presentation in making Marissa Donnell an honorary Local F member. The Union has been a part of Marissa’s life since she was born 8 years ago. In fact, Marissa has only missed a handful of meetings in her life – on the month after she was born, another when her family was out of town on vacation, and two when weather kept her mom from attending the meeting.

This commitment to the Union resulted in Local F President Garth Luark presenting Marissa with a plaque, which read: “In recognition of your commitment and dedication to the Union movement, your steadfast attendance at Union meetings and participation in charitable and community events, Local F hereby declares you an honorary Local F member.”

Many of our members have not attended nearly the number of Union meetings or taken part in as many Union events as this impressive young girl. She is enthusiastic, informed, and understands what the Union is all about.

Credit goes to her mother, Union Steward Debbie Donnell for teaching her about the Union. She believes the Union is an important part of her family and includes Marissa as many different events as possible. Beyond just attending Union meetings, Marissa has also participated in the annual M.L. King workshops, rallies and marches. She walks each year in the breast cancer walk in October – an event with special significance since her mother Debbie battled the disease a few years back. During both the 2005 and 2008 strikes, Debbie brought Marissa with her for picket duty, solidarity rallies and other events so she could better understand what Unions are all about.

For most who attend Local F meetings, it was a proud moment to recognize the little girl they have seen grow up become an honorary member.

Continued on page 4

You are Union. You are a Sportsman/woman. You Belong.

Whether it’s fins, fur or feathers that calls you, everything takes a back seat when the season opener rolls around. You’re always ready to get out and experience the rich rewards of hunting, fishing and the great outdoors. Now you can join a community of union hunters and anglers from District 751 and from unions across North America who feel the same way through the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance (USA) — a hunting and fishing club exclusively for union members, retirees and their families.

Brought to you by the generous support of your Union, the USA is your club. When you join the USA, you’re doing your part to help ensure future generations have a place to hunt and fish. You’re also making a commitment to encourage friends and family to participate because more members means bigger and better benefits, discounts and sponsors. More member means sponsored hunting, fishing and shooting events. More members means a stronger, more unified voice to protect our right to hunt, fish and experience the great outdoors.

So join today and help spread the word about the USA. Because as a proud member of both IAM District 751 and the sporting community, you’re more than welcome. You Belong.

Union Steward Debbie Donnell and her husband Jon were beamng with pride as daughter Marissa was made an honorary Local F member by Local F President Garth Luark (r). Marissa was honored for her commitment to the Union movement.

Celebrating Women’s History Month

February 25, 2009 was a milestone anniversary for Washington State. It was the 100th Anniversary of women’s suffrage in our state. As we celebrate Women’s History Month in March, it is these milestones, and the ladies who dedicated their lives to establishing equal rights for women, that we reflect on.

The United States has a rich history of female activism that dates back to its foundation. Celebrated writers, educators and political activists have, for hundreds of years, given voice to the feminist perspective in our country. These women, including Susan B. Anthony, Abigail Adams, Clara Barton and Catherine Beecher, have provided us with an opportunity to see the movement for women’s rights from a uniquely feminine perspective. But what about the women of labor? Though their names may not be as recognizable as Susan B. Anthony and Abigail Adams, their contributions to women’s rights and the strength of our country are no less significant.

One of these important women, Kate Mullany, was inducted to Women of the Hall in 2000. Her contributions to labor were significant and paid for her life, a testament to the power of women in the workforce. At the age of 19 Kate worked as a laundry worker in Troy, New York. As the primary source of income for her family, a family that included her widowed mother and four siblings, the determined young woman worked 12 to 14 hours each day, six days per week for a total income of about $3.

As a woman worker in 1864, a time when male workers had little rights, Mullany had a lot to lose when she decided to stand up against the unsafe working conditions and low wages at her place of employment. Still, she pushed forward and founded the first female union in the country – the Collar Laundry Union. Her first item of business as the first bona fide female union president? Leading a strike of two hundred laundresses. This strike, successful in many ways, led to 25 successful strikes in the country – the Collar Laundry Union.