Better Method Saves Work and Bodies

Boeing to Conduct Dependent Audit

Do your dependents meet Boeing’s health plan eligibility rules? That is the question Boeing is asking in an upcoming health care dependent audit. They are asking employees and retirees to provide documentation verifying the eligibility of their dependents enrolled in Boeing health coverage. This applies to all 270,000 Boeing employees worldwide.

Over the next several months, employees and retirees (on early retiree medical) will receive information to guide them through this process and help them understand the actions they need to take. To help get the word out, the Union is printing the information in our paper, posting it on our website, as well as in Union News bulletins.

“These dependent audits have been around for a long time, but are becoming more common as companies struggle to keep health-care costs down,” said Larry Brown, who serves on the 751 Benefits Committee. “We encourage members to follow the instructions to ensure their eligible dependents remain covered.”

The dependent eligibility verification includes several steps:

- **STEP 1 - Notification Phase** – Nov. 6 through Dec. 1, 2006. Employees will receive a mailing, which explains dependent verification and includes an eligibility checklist. This is the employees’/retirees’ chance to review Boeing’s eligibility requirements and remove ineligible dependents without penalty – meaning they won’t be asked to repay claims incurred by those individuals. If dependents listed in the mailing are correct, no action is required at this time. You can only do your dependents time and reach up to perform the installations. It was awkward and caused strain on the body. The parts had to be installed on every other rib of the plane, which meant a person was in the awkward position for most of a day. Immediately upon hearing of the offload suggestion, Bob voiced his objection. He pointed out that any offload, no matter how small, could eventually cost someone their job because every task/job adds up. Other members agreed with Bob and joined in the effort to keep the work in-house.

“It was frustrating to hear one of our own members suggesting to offload work. We continually hear complaints about offload, but to have a member initiate it is unthinkable. I knew others were others in our bargaining unit will to do the work,” Bob recalled. “While it might not affect the person who made the suggestion, somewhere down the line an hourly job is impacted.”

Rather than simply oppose the offload suggestion, Bob and several others looked for a better solution. The issue was brought up several times before a better method was suggested. By working together, members discovered that a better method was in place.

**Boeing’s Dependent Audit Timetable**

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**Report From The President**

Organizing Helps Improve Our Bargaining Position

by Mark Blondin, District President

As you know, our success depends on several things. One, we need to make sure all of us are on the same page. We all need to understand the issues that have the greatest effect on us. Those are the ones that are most important to us. Issues like health care and retirement are always at the top of this list. If we don’t have solid health care that is affordable, our families suffer. If the retirement negotiated is not enough, we can’t retire with dignity.

We also understand that laws have a huge effect on us. We are affected by laws at both the state and national level. More importantly, who is elected to govern and enact these laws impacts us. Our industry and our jobs here at Boeing were greatly affected when the state legislature enacted laws that granted tax breaks to Boeing and other aerospace companies to keep work in Washington State. There are only so many sounds good, but if this means companies will be awarded tax breaks simply because Boeing is staying, these kinds of jobs outside our factories to non-union workers.

Another way we can improve our bargaining position during contract time is to improve union density in Washington State. Union density is determined by the percentage of jobs in the community that are Union and provide the wages, benefits, and retirement that workers deserve.

Currently, we average around 100 members a month being recalled back into their Machinists Union jobs at Boeing. They are coming back because of the recall rights successfully negotiated in the contract and because the jobs that are available in the community do not provide the same level of benefits, wages, retirement or fairness and dignity that we expect in our contract.

Although District 751 has over 20,000 members, it is not in all the thousands of aerospace workers in Washington State. There are well over 700 aerospace companies, suppliers, and vendors. Most of them are non-union and do not provide the wages and benefits we have in our contract. They don’t have a grievance and arbitration procedure to ensure fairness. Most do not provide a pension. These non-union companies are setting a low standard that can drag us down during negotiations. When we negotiate with Boeing, we are competing against all the non-union suppliers operating at this lower standard and expectation.

To help us succeed in our negotiations, we need to improve the Union density in this area by organizing these members and giving them the same protections we enjoy. We have the right to bargain with our employers and we demand fairness and dignity. Other workers deserve the same. This workers also deserve to be at near our standard and have that standard protected in an IAM contract.

Union density is not only important in our own industry but in the community as well. When we do poorly for all workers, companies that do business in Washington State will know they have to live up to this standard to compete and retain workers. If we choose to change jobs or industries, they can be assured of enjoying the same standard wherever they go.

This is not about the number of members we have in District 751 but more importantly the number of Union householders in our community that enjoy good family wages, health care, and a strong pension for retirement.

Whether the employees who approach us are in the same situation or not, if we succeed in increasing union density and provide the protection of a strong Union contract, our members will benefit during negotiations from the improved standard we helped set. Our success and a strong community go hand in hand.

We cannot forget that we are not alone. As workers, we rise and fall together in this economy. It is time that we help ensure that our friends, neighbors, and family members enjoy the same fairness and dignity that IAM members enjoy.

$3,000 Lump Sum

Per Letter of Understanding #34 in the IAM-Boeing contract, members on the active payroll at Boeing on September 1, 2006 will receive the $3,000 lump sum payment (less applicable taxes) on their November 22nd paycheck. The contract called for the payment to be made by December 1, 2006. Thus $3,000 lump sum payment is a negotiated item in the 2005 contract—showing it pays to be Union. The lump sum will put over $56 million into the Puget Sound economy.

A Chance to Help Others

Boeing employees in the Puget Sound region have the opportunity to footer a smile on someone’s face with the Spirit of the Holidays, which encompasses three programs: Adopt-a-Family, Adopt-a-Senior, and Adopt-a-Stocking.

Members voiced concern that the Machinists, retired employees, and active members throughout the District have been involved in Union negotiations.

GKN Members Identify Top Issues for Negotiations

Continued from page 1

Boeing sold the plant in late 2001. Since the sale, the company has hired many new employees—making wages a top issue. Like new employees at Boeing, GKN new hires start at substantially lower wages. However, GKN has only one job description. Members voiced concern that even if they learn additional skills, there is no monetary benefit for the added stress and responsibility.

Members also repeatedly requested changes to the pay progression. Currently, they are eligible for up to 50 cents every six months, which makes the 50-cent raise discretionary and depends on the supervisor’s review rather than being automatic like the Boeing contract.

In addition, members would like to see a specific end time for the progression, i.e. six years.

Other top issues include medical, getting quarterly COLA payments rather than semi-annual lump sums, adding more job titles, overtime, and stronger shift preference language so those who want to be on day shift can more easily obtain their preferred shift.

Boeing might also be improved. One member stated, “We met most of our goals, but because profit sharing is based on all West Coast plants’ performance and not just our plant, we didn’t get a big amount. The problems stemmed from the supply management chain, which we have no control over. It should not be a part of our deal. It is the basis of everything – yet if we don’t have material, we can’t make the parts.”

Members were transferred from Boeing at the time of the sale acknowledge they make more than new hires, but are feeling the strain of having frozen wages for five years while the price of everything else continues to rise.

Turnover is also an issue because it requires members to spend much of their time training new employees.

Union negotiators will be holding lunch time meetings with the members to keep the two-way communication flowing throughout bargaining—especially since it is the first time some members have been involved in Union negotiations.

David Muth, transferred from Boeing at the time of the initial sale, appreciates having the Union present. He noted, “If we didn’t have the Union for the last five years, we wouldn’t have gone crazy. Everything sometimes came up, the Union had to push us to get it down to back.”
Lawsuit Aimed to Correct Regence High Performance Network for SPEEA Members

The Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) filed a lawsuit against Regence BlueShield in response to the insurer's attempt to implement a 'high performance' provider network for SPEEA-represented employees at The Boeing Company in Puget Sound.

The lawsuit seeks, among other things, to stop implementation of the Select Network (now delayed until July 2007). It also calls on Regence and Boeing to work with WSMA and SPEEA to find a solution.

This is the same plan that Machinist Union negotiators rejected at the bargaining table. After SPEEA raised objections when the plan was introduced in May, the implementation was delayed until July 2007. Problems arose when the new plan dropped more than 900 physicians, which affected more than 6,000 SPEEA-represented employees and their families. While it was delayed,

SPEEA representatives continue to press Regence and Boeing to work with doctors and SPEEA to build a plan that helps all care providers use evidence-based medicine, thereby improving health outcomes. "If Select Network continues in its present form, it will undermine the credibility of evidence-based medicine," Sorscher said. "It is a step backward and makes real progress that much more difficult in the future."

SPEEA continue to watch the situation and offer support. In its present form, it is certainly a network we do not want to see at the bargaining table in 2008.

Machinists Custom Choices Offers Members More Financial Security

Everyone makes sure they have car and homeowners' insurance, but how many workers have taken out insurance on themselves — life insurance, critical illness or long-term disability? 751 members working at Boeing have a unique opportunity to learn about the Machinists Custom Choices. This unique program offers coverage you can get anywhere else — with no one being denied life insurance. These plans are designed to supplement the comprehensive health care benefits employees receive through our Boeing Collective Bargaining Agreement. Participation in this plan is strictly voluntary (no pressure to purchase) with the cost fully paid by individual employees. The program was developed to provide members with more financial security for themselves and their families. Since 1996, over 65,000 Machinists Union members — many at Boeing St. Louis, Oak Ridge, and Huntington Beach have enrolled.

Members requested such an option be made available. In response to these requests, the Union has worked to provide an opportunity for these options. In negotiations last year, under Letter of Understanding #33, Boeing agreed to provide a payroll deduction service to members who choose to purchase life insurance, long-term disability or accidental death and dismemberment coverage.

Realizing how busy everyone's schedule is, the Union offered these plans in the workplace for our members' convenience, and offer support. In its present form, it is certainly a network we do not want to see at the bargaining table in 2008.

The Life, Cancer, Critical Illness and Disability products were custom made for Machinists and negotiated with features and values based on the size of our national membership (see chart at left for more specifics). Permanent life insurance is available to your spouse and to your children and grandchildren. You can purchase life insurance regardless of your health, and the cost of your policy will never go up. Several requestions if they were currently undergoing cancer treatment, could they buy the insurance. Yes, there is no restriction during this initial offering and the price will never go up.

Long-term disability insurance is available if you meet the eligibility requirements.

Continued on page 4

Boeing Health Care Dependent Audit

Continued from page 1

drop ineligible dependents by callingTotalAccess at 866-473-2016 and say “dependent verification.” Again, you have until December 1, 2006 to remove ineligible dependents.

NOTE: If you do not receive a mailing packet by November 10th, please callTotalAccess 1-866-473-2016.

* STEP 2 Dependent Verification Phase – late January through May 2007. This is when employees and retirees will be required to submit documentation proving dependent eligibility. If no action is taken or the proper documentation is not submitted, ineligible dependents will be dropped from Boeing health plan coverage retroactive to Jan. 1.

* STEP 3 Ongoing Verification Process begins March 2007. This new ongoing process requires documentation of eligibility when any new dependent is added to a Boeing health plan.

* STEP 4 Post-Verification Phase in June 2007. If any dependents are found to be ineligible, Boeing will take action to collect payments made for those individuals between Jan. 1 and June 30. Periodic audits of dependent eligibility will be conducted to ensure compliance with health plan rules.

It is extremely important that employees and retirees carefully read the information they receive, review the eligibility rules and remove ineligible dependents from coverage by December 1, 2006. There will be an appeal process if you disagree with the ruling of an ineligible dependent.

Why Is Boeing Doing This? Boeing benefit plans must be administered according to the rules outlined in the plan documents. One element of this responsibility is ensuring that the plan is providing coverage only to dependents where the plan eligibility rules are met. In addition, providing coverage to ineligible dependents drives health care costs up for all health plan participants - as well as The Boeing Company.

751 staff will continue to meet with Boeing benefits to give input and raise questions on the process, ensure a safety net for unforeseen circumstances.
751 Helps Make Strides Against Breast Cancer

Pouring rain couldn’t dampen the spirit of 751 members and their families who took part in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk. Yet 751 members did more than just walk and donate money. Our Union helped with registration and some even volunteered to be route marshals.

Overall, the event raised over $315,000. For many 751 members participating, it was very personal, and they were proud to wear the survivor ribbon. Union steward Debbie Donnell, who is a breast cancer survivor herself, brings her daughter to the walk each year.


The event coincides with Breast Cancer Awareness month.

Events in December

Bells Will Be Ringing

751 volunteers are again taking over Salvation Army Bell Ringing buckets around Westlake Mall and the evening of Friday, December 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. Volunteers should meet in front of Starbucks at Westlake Center at 5:45 p.m. The event coincides with the annual Figgy Pudding Caroling Competition and makes for a very festive evening.

Help on the Food Drive

The annual KING 5 Home Team Harvest Collection will be Saturday, December 2. 751 will be helping out at the Everett Mall and Tacoma Mall. There are two shifts: 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ten people are needed for each shift. The task includes taking food donations from people as they drive through a designated area in the mall parking lot and putting the donations in trucks. Donations will be given to Northwest Harvest. Contact Kay Michlik at 206-763-1300 or kaym@iam751.org to reserve your spot.

Machinists Custom Choices Offers Insurance for Your Future

Continued from page 3 and are unable to work. You can also purchase critical illness with cancer insurance if you have a heart attack, stroke or other covered event. Importantly, the life and critical illness with cancer policies are fully portable, meaning you keep the same cost and benefits if you leave Boeing and pay the insurer directly.

Machinists Custom Choices Representatives are also Machinists Union members. They are not salesmen, but are representatives who distribute information on the plans. These plans are only offered to Union-represented employees.

Custom Choices Rep Carol Groom truly believes in her products. Both she and her husband have collected on the critical illness policy so she has seen first hand how it can help when you are faced with a medical issue. When she had a bow with breast cancer 8 years ago, she used the benefit to pay ahead on the mortgage and other bills so she didn’t have to worry about finances and could concentrate on her treatment. Her husband also was diagnosed with cancer and his policy paid the benefit which again helped with finances.

“My greatest joy is being able to give life insurance to someone with cancer or a terminal disease. I tell my story because I never dreamed it could happen to me. We all need to be cautious,” Carol stated.

Custom Choices Representatives have already visited some shops in South Puget Sound. Below are remaining tentative dates and locations:

- Plant 2 - Oct. 30-Nov. 17, 2006
- Boeing Field - Oct. 30-Nov. 17, 2006
- Thompson Site - Oct. 30-Nov. 17, 2006
- Renton - Jan. 8-Feb. 9, 2007
- Everett - Feb. 12-May 4, 2007

For more information, visit www.iam751.org/customchoices

Member Needs Help as He Fights for His Life

751 member David Woods has always been a hard worker. He has always been the person who gets things done and helps others out. Yet lately he finds himself in a very different role.

This year has literally been a fight for his life. At age 44, he was diagnosed with lung cancer in February. Since then it has spread to his liver, lymph nodes and brain. The treatments have forced him to miss a lot of work and paychecks in 2006. Consequently, he got behind on everything, including the mortgage.

Instead of focusing all his attention on battling cancer, he has had to worry about the financial strain his illness has put on his family. Before his illness, David could comfortably support his family so his wife Leeann could be home with the children. Since his diagnosis, she went to work between trying to help him with doctor appointments, but was subsequently laid off. With five children, they just aren’t making it. He hasn’t had the strength to do repairs on their house so it is falling into disrepair, as well.

David has always been very private and self-reliant. But now, cancer – and the mounting financial toll it is taking on his family – has forced David to send both his pride and privacy to the sidelines. His shop has taken up several collections to assist David, but it doesn’t come close to his lost Boeing wages. The King County Labor Agency has been offering support through the funds but it’s been insufficient. A co-worker has set up a benefit account at Washington Mutual in David’s name. The Union also has other members in need if shops are looking for families to help during the upcoming holiday season. Please call the Seattle Union Hall at 1-800-763-1301, ext. 3350 for more information.

“751 member Dan Grieve (l) talks with a Machinists Custom Choices rep. Members are given up to 15 minutes to talk with representatives.

751 Member David Woods and his wife Leeann on an outing in 2006. David has been battling cancer since February and is struggling financially, leaving over Salvation Army Bell Ringing buckets around Westlake Mall.

751 volunteer is again taking over Salvation Army Bell Ringing buckets around Westlake Mall and the evening of Friday, December 2. 751 will be helping out at the Everett Mall and Tacoma Mall.

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**HEALTH & SAFETY**

**751 Boeing Team Wins Forklift Rodeo**

Boeing has won top individual and team honors at the Washington State Forklift Rodeo in a near repeat of last year’s performance.

Doug Graham of the Kent site won the state forklift championship by beating 14 other drivers from 10 companies. Tim Eacrett of Auburn placed second and defending state champion Mike Weinman of Seattle placed eighth. Their combined scores earned Boeing the top team award for the third year in a row.

Fierce competitors, Graham, Eacrett and Weinman finished in the same order at the regional finals in Seattle in August, placing first, second and third respectively, to advance to the state championships. They were the top three finishers at the 2005 regionals, too, but in reverse order.

“This was the tightest and toughest competition ever. The top eight drivers were only separated by five points,” explained Mark Ribich, Shared Services Group Material Handling Manager and co-chair of the Governor’s Forklift Rodeo Committee.

Mike Farley, who coordinated the event for State Labor & Industries, noted, “The Boeing team is the one to beat. They have become like the New York Yankees in baseball – they are always the winners. It used to be Columbia Colstor, but now it is consistently Boeing drivers who win.”

The Forklift Rodeo was a featured event at the 55th Annual Governor’s Industrial Safety and Health Conference.

**Lifesaving Efforts Honored**

Forty-three people were given lifesaving and humanitarian awards at the 55th Annual Governor’s Industrial Safety and Health Conference in Spokane. Of the 43 honored, 8 were 751 members. These acts of quick response when they noticed another in trouble. Their heroic efforts aided individuals who suffered heart attacks, were in car accidents, had accidents on the job, were choking, and even pulled them from icy cold water.

John Gilham took quick action when a co-worker was struck and left with a large gash on his forehead. He helped the victim to the floor, used a hat as a compress to stop the bleeding and kept him calm until paramedics arrived.

Gilbert Arellano saw a co-worker collapse and hit his head on a table. Gil rushed to his aid, got others to call 911 and kept him calm until help arrived.

Tom Bigford noticed a co-worker was disoriented and losing control of his normal motor skills. He got him to sit down and stay calm, then called for help.

Mark Tutino (two members of Facilities Maintenance Group) may have saved a life and certainly reduced the severity of an injury. Their rapid response was instrumental in helping an injured subcontractor who was pinned by a forklift while working at the Jorgensen Steel plant adjacent to Boeing’s Plant II property.

The subcontractor was performing maintenance on a large piece of equipment. He had removed the safety chain when the forks came down and trapped his leg. Because he was working alone and workers at Jorgensen were at lunch, no one was nearby on the property, which meant he could have lost his leg or his life – depending on how long he would have been trapped there.

Because of how close they work to the Duwamish River, Al regularly keeps an eye on the river and initially thought someone had fallen in when he heard the screaming. He realized the yelling was coming from Jorgensen, saw the guy was trapped and immediately raced for someone to call 911.

Without hesitation, Al backed his truck up to the fence, pulled a ladder off his truck and used it to climb over the fence and help the individual. Louis was working nearby, heard the call on the radio and jumped into action. He followed Al over the fence and helped with the situation. Al raised the forklift while Louis pulled the individual out. As soon as his foot was free, the man went into shock. Both Al and Louis stayed with the man, calming him and trying to stop the bleeding until the aid car arrived.

Louis noted, “He was very lucky. The forklift could have acted like a guillotine and cut off his foot. Thankfully, he was wearing steel-toed safety shoes. His foot was still crushed, and he required 12 screws to repair it.”

With the forklift running, fans in nearby buildings in use and other industrial noise in the area, it is a wonder they could hear his cries for help.

Little Saves Member

While attending the Governor’s Safety Conference luncheon, 751 Member Mark Tutino noticed 751 member Mark Rogers was having trouble breathing. Rogers’ face was turning red so Little asked if he could breathe. Rogers shook his head no.

Little immediately jumped up and began performing the Heimlich maneuver on Rogers. When it didn’t work the first time, Little continued the procedure until he was able to dislodge the food so Rogers could breathe.

His quick action saved Rogers from a potentially fatal accident and certainly earned him a Governor’s Lifesaving Award at next year’s conference.

**Quick Action Saves Worker at Nearby Plant**

Quick thinking by Al Stewart and Louis Tutino (two members of Facilities Maintenance Group) may have saved a life and certainly reduced the severity of an injury. Their rapid response was instrumental in helping an injured subcontractor who was pinned by a forklift while working at the Jorgensen Steel plant adjacent to Boeing’s Plant II property.

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Due to their quick and decisive response, the subcontractor was able to avoid a major disaster. Without their assistance, he most likely would not have lost his foot and possibly even his life. The Plant II Site Committee plans to submit the two for next year’s Governor’s Lifesaving Award for their efforts.
DISTRICT 751 SUPPORT TEAM

Union Staff Works Diligently for Us Behind

While the Union Reps and staff are very visible in their jobs with the Union, there is another group of people who also work hard for the Union. These are the people behind the scenes who work to help the members, keep the Union halls maintained, perform the accounting work, and ensure computers are functioning and accurate records are kept. With Thanksgiving this month, it seemed only appropriate to give thanks to those who help the Union on a daily basis. These are the office employees at District 751, the Maintenance staff, the Accounting Department and the Internet Technology Department.

Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer works with each group to coordinate assignments, ensure work is done, and help with any problems that are encountered and oversee the tasks. The office employees at District 751 are a talented group of workers, who bring not only top-notch skills, but care and concern to their jobs. Thanks to each for their hard work and dedication: Daphne Becker, Janet Bromiley, Carol Brown, Kewatela Hobbs, Traci Keeney, Rosanne Lawson, Suzan Merritt, Kay Michlik, Alison Satterlee, Marie Schattenkerk, Lori Spafford, and Barb Strole. Thanks also to Gerald Abhold and Laura Williams in Accounting, Eric Monge in Internet Technology and Shawn Diteman, Corey Hubert and Mike Diteman in Maintenance.

The 751 Maintenance and Facilities Group are kept busy maintaining five different Union Halls around the state. Shawn Diteman, Corey Hubert, and Mike Diteman possess a wide talent of skills that keep the facilities in excellent condition. Whether it is remodeling, painting, stalling carpets, building heating problems, preparing the roofs, they all do the tasks. In addition, meetings and events.

INTERNET TECHNOLOGY

Throughout the Seattle Union Hall, office employees provide valuable assistance. They are the faces that greet members entering the Union hall. They answer the phones, check on recall status, direct calls to the proper offices, process retirements, accept change of address, and a host of other important tasks.

Beyond helping the members, the office staff supports the Union Business Reps, Grievance Coordinator, District President’s office and Secretary-Treasurer’s office with grievances, communications, keeping accurate records and a host of other duties. They also work closely with the various departments which include Legislative, Organizing, Communications, Steward Program, Health & Benefits and the Seattle Business Reps.

The Internet Technology Department ensures that our business critical systems function well, so that we are able to leverage technology to better serve our members. We also plan strategically by analyzing the rapidly changing landscape in technology, implementing projects that the members and District will most benefit from in the future.

In addition, the Department provides support for network users, including network access, printer access, application support (things like Windows XP, Microsoft Office, AS400 applications, etc.)

SEATTLE HALL

In our outlying offices, office staff greet members who come in for assistance in person or on the phone. They are always eager to help whether it is looking up recall status, providing bypass grievance paperwork, taking dues and other financial transactions or a variety of other tasks that may be required.

These individuals also serve as support staff for the Business Representatives – helping with correspondence, filing grievances, requesting personnel files, and putting together presentations. The office staff also assist business reps with other assignments such as organizing, negotiations, committee work or event planning.

OUTLYING OFFICES

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Swank Has Personal Connection to Everett Massacre

By Tom Lux, Labor History Committee

Sunday, November 5, 1916 marks the bloodiest battle in Pacific Northwest labor history. On that day, about 300 members of the Industrial Workers of the World (the IWW or “Wobblies”) boarded the steamers “Verona” and “Calista” from Seattle and headed to Everett to support the International Shingle Weavers’ Union which was on strike.

In 1915, the Everett cedar shingle mill owners cut workers’ wages and promised once shingle prices recovered, so would wages. By 1916 prices had risen but wages had not so the Everett shingle weavers went on strike on May 1.

On November 5th Snohomish County Sheriff, Donald McRae, fired up his troops by telling them that the Verona was filled with armed radicals intent on burning Everett to the ground. The Verona arrived first, pulled up to the dock and secured the bowline. Before the stern line could be thrown, McRae, along with deputy sheriff Jefferson Beard and Charles O. Curtis of the National Guard, stood about 10 feet in front of the 200 deputies and local militia and about an equal distance from the ship.

“Who is your leader,” shouted McRae. “We are all leaders here,” they replied. McRae pulled his gun as the gangplank was almost in place and shouted, “You can’t land here!” “The hell we can’t!”

A shot rang out from somewhere. Then another and the battle was on. As spectators watched in horror, bullets tore across the decks of the Verona. Some returned fire. Most Wobblies rushed to the starboard side and the Verona listed dangerously, saved from capsizing only by the bowline. Seven men fell in the chilly water.

On the deck, Beard and Curtis fell. McRae clutched wounds on his legs. On the Verona, at least five men were fatally shot, and an uncounted handful who went overboard never returned. Everett men who tried to launch a swim to rescue swimmers were chased away by gunfire. In all, a total of 50 men on both sides were wounded.

Below decks, an engineer fired up the Verona’s engine and rammed the ship into reverse, which snatched her bowline with bullets churning her as the Wobblies huddled on the bloody deck. Only about five minutes had passed since the bowline was secured. The Calista returned to Seattle without trying to land.

Who were the shingle weavers the Wobblies went to support in Everett? For two decades between 1901 and 1921, the International Shingle Weavers’ Union was one of the largest, most powerful unions of the Pacific Northwest. It set the standard for the other unions of the day, much the same as IAM District 751 does today.

They believed strongly that organizing should be an ongoing project within every union. They believed it kept the membership already in the union united in the workplace. The IAM would grow, enhancing its ability to accomplish the goals of the wage workers. Size means power; power means the capability to win from management the demands and desires put forth by the rank and file of a labor union, to expand into new areas of industry and to keep non-union labor out of the workplace.

The Shingle Weavers’ Union of America was one of the most democratic and progressive unions ever formed. Its structure was a model for many of the unions with their beginnings in the 1910’s and later included the International Woodworkers of America (IWA). The IWA was an industrial union of lumbermen, sawmill workers, timber transportation workers and others formed in 1937. The 20,000 IWA members merged with the International Association of Machinists on May 1, 1994.

So, through our brothers and sisters in the Woodworking Department of the IAM we are linked to the shingle weavers and also to the Wobblies who were murdered in the Everett Massacre for their “crime” of supporting their brothers’ fight. Years later, where have we come today?

• Styles may change, but effects are similar. Violence to the dignity and welfare of workers and their families continues: a recent wood industry strike on Everett’s waterfront lasted three years.

• Though the government violently suppressed the IWW, many of its ideas live on. The dream of the Wobblies to expand into new areas of industry and to keep non-union labor out of the rank and file of a labor union, to expand into new areas of industry and to keep non-union labor out of the workplace continues.

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Over 56 golfers “chipped” in their money for the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL) by taking part in the fourth annual Local C MNPL Golf Tournament. While the weather was gray with low fog most of the day, the event generated lots of green – raising over $3,000 for the political arm of the Union.

With a best ball format, the teams made for a competitive finish. Just one stroke separated first and second, and three teams took part in a sudden death putt off to determine third place.

Business Reps Mark Johnson and Jimmy Darrah did a fine job as tournament coordinators. Special thanks to Barbecue Bob Betsworth, who donated his cooking skills and spent the day barbecuing beef, chicken and shrimp to feed the hungry golfers. Thanks also to the following volunteers who helped coordinate the event: Bob Betsworth, Paul Burton, Tony Curran, Jimmy Darrah, Jim Rice, Cliff Goetsch, Wayne Haddenham, Mark & Cindy Johnson.

Events Raise Funds for Guide Dogs

Despite Business Rep Ernie McCarthy’s unconventional golf attire, his team still managed to take second place.

Bob Betsworth cooked up a delicious feast of beef, chicken, and prawns, as well as many tasty side dishes.

Almost every day on this calendar features an event from labor’s history, which makes it a good educational tool for members and also our families. How many times have you said, “They need to teach more about labor history in the schools.”

Labor History Calendars Available for $7

You can get your labor history all year long by purchasing a 2007 Labor History Calendar. The District 751 Labor History & Education Committee has these educational calendars available for purchase at the Everett, Seattle, Renton, and Auburn Halls for $7 each.
Retirement News

Seniors Hear Candidates

Several hundred retirees gathered in the Seattle Union Hall on October 24th to hear George Kourpias, Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Norm Dicks and 8th Congressional Candidate Darcy Burner speak on senior issues.

President George Kourpias stressed the need for change in this election.

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October Retired Club Minutes

by Ruth Render, Retired Club Secretary

The October 9th meeting was called to order by President Al Menke. The Lord’s Prayer was said followed by the flag salute and the singing of “God Bless America,” led by Recording Secretary Ruth Render.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present and accounted for.

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

Business Rep Report: Business Rep Paul Knebel reported we have seen an increase in the number of people at orientation each week. This last week, we had over 100 people. It was the first time there were more new-hires than Cat A recalls.

Health & Welfare: We have no ill members this month. If members know of anyone who is ill, please contact the Retired Club officers or the 751 Union Health and Welfare Office.


Travel: Helen Pompeo gave the travel report. The bus for the Lucky Eagle Casino in Rochester, WA is currently full for the trip this month.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwarz reported that he and Legislative Director Larry Brown met with Congressman Jim McDermott and his staff on October 5th.

The primary purpose was to discuss two issues. The first issue was to require Boeing (and other companies) to negotiate on behalf of existing retirees for pension increases. Present federal regulations do not make it mandatory to meet with us on this issue. Therefore, if the privatization of Social Security and how the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan must be revised.

Senator Cantwell spoke of her steadfast efforts on behalf of seniors and pledge to continue the fight. Darcy Burner outlined her stand on senior issues and how she differs from her opponent. Many of the retirees took advantage of the opportunity to talk to Senator Cantwell and Darcy Burner one-on-one following the formal speeches.

Rep. Norm Dicks helped welcome 8th Congressional candidate Darcy Burner.

Upcoming Meetings:
- Everett Retirees Group meets at the Everett Union Hall (8729 Airport Rd), the fourth Tuesday (November 28) at 1 p.m. (No meeting in December)
- Alliance of Retired Americans Southend Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Kent Senior Citizen Center (660 E. Smith St). For more information, contact 206-762-3848 or 253-630-5280.

Retirees

Congratulations to the following members who retired from Boeing:

Joanne E. Adair
Harry R. Beyer
Ralph Bize, Jr.
John D. Bogdan
Larry W. Bradshaw
Roger K. Burk
John R. Butler
James N. Campolo
David R. Easterner
Charles W. Gifford
Gary L. Gudyka
Icyphine Jackson
Earl J. Johnson
Lee J. Jorgensen
George H. Kellem
Bruce L. Marshall
Barbara L. Maxon
Ruth F. Moore
Rebecca L. Morral
Edward J. Nash
Sharon L. Nelson
James B. Sayers
Donald J. Schill
Tarjison J. Seibert
Donald L. Shouse
John W. Whittier
Gerald A. Wujcik
Gilbert B. Zickler

Company says they don’t want to talk about existing retirees, that is the end of it and we cannot pursue it further. We hope to change that so that we can at least talk to the company on behalf of existing retirees.

Second, we want to establish the principle that the pension fund was built by monies contributed to that fund in lieu of wages. Therefore, any surplus monies, generated by accrued interest on the fund, should be distributed to the retirees.

Our meeting gave McDermott’s staff information about our goals and gave them the opportunity to evaluate our proposals against existing federal regulations. We will continue to work with them, and other members of our congressional delegation, to seek answers to our concerns.

Calendar:
Nov. 13 - Business Meeting
Nov. 20 - Bingo
Nov. 27 - Bingo
Dec. 4 - Bingo
Dec. 11 - Christmas Party Lunch
Dec. 18 - No Meeting
Dec. 25 - No Meeting

Good of the Order: John Guevarra spoke about the 2744 soldiers who have been killed in the Iraq war to date. We need to honor their sacrifice and in order to do that, we need to make sure we vote. Those who are currently in office need to be voted out so that we can make positive changes to help this country and our military.

George McIntire wrote an article in the Times yesterday. A Lieutenant Commander stood up against the orders he received in regards to detainees. He is currently being punished for it by being ousted from the military. The Supreme Court sided with him, but he is still being unfairly punished. We need to vote next month so that we can change the way this country is being run.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Recording Secretary Ruth Render read the Birthdays and Anniversaries Report. October birthdays were Hank Hendrickson – 91 and Betty Ness. We have no anniversaries this month.

New Members: We have two new members this month – Curt Olson and T.J. Stevenson.

Adjournment: President Al Menke adjourned the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Peggy Arrington played the organ at a recent club meeting, which featured the Prosser Organ Group.

Tickets will not be sold at the door.

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Retired Club Christmas Party

Monday, December 11th
11 a.m. doors open - Lunch served at Noon
$9 for members & associate members - $14 for guests
Purchase tickets at Retired Club Meetings or contact Lori (206) 764-0312
Tickets will not be sold at the door.
FOR RENT: 1 BDRM apt., daylight level, private, rural setting in Kent home, older couple. Furnished, one person only, no pets, all utilities furnished. $500/mo. Call anytime. 253-651-6419

4 BDRM, 1 1/2 BATH, 2-story home located in Mt. Vernon. Privacy on wooded. 37 acre, quiet dead-end road. Newly remodeled kitchen and kitchen upgrades throughout. Beautiful landscape, large yard, pond, large gardens, campfire pit. $340,000. 425-413-7494

ANTIQUE CANARY BIRD CAGE with 5' 255-1804 for more info

unopened brown masonry paint. Call 425- x 15 wheels with tires and chains. (2) gallons (4) 6-hole wheels, nearly new tires 700x15

FORD FERGUSON “9N” TRACTOR, good

FREE – 70’ of 36” chain link fence and posts. WET BAR, tufted leather, 91”, (4) hi-chairs, I-405 area. 425-641-5567 evenings

WILL TRADE downed tree wood (you haul) near new cond, $25. (2) storage cabinets on

PROJECTOR with Prism table stand. Never used. campfire pit. $340,000. 425-413-7439

landscape includes waterfall pond, gardens, acre, quiet dead-end road. Newly remodeled in Maple Valley. Privacy on wooded .37

4 BDRM, 1 1/2 BATH, 2-story home located

negotiable. 253-631-6119

all utilities furnished. $550/mo, cleaning fee couple. Furnished, one person only, no pets, FOR RENT: 1 BDRM apt., daylight level, $10 to $30. 425-255-7963 or 425-226-1760

Five books $10. You’ll get hours of pleasure from $10 to $35. Cookbook Collection, 1950’s & 1960’s. $60. 425-255-7963 or 425-226-1760

$90. 360-556-9254

COLLECTIBLE OLD PLATES, Bradford, see to appreciate. Mint condition. Beautiful LOWERY ORGAN, lift-up bench, bi-level, – plum color, new. $45. 253-852-6809

WOOD BOXES (14), small, medium, various sizes – old. $35. Low back bucket seat cov-

CHIPPER/SHREDDER, Crary Bear Cat

Advances in Resort of America, $200. 253-511-9871

RECVEHICLES

YONEX SUPERTREK 9” GOLF BAG $390. 253-852-6809

SPORTING GOODS

LARGE SHOPCRAFT RADIALSEW -182 CB O520 B. $50

MACHINIST TOOLS, including micrometers (0-6”) including Kennedy Roll-away w/ single and Kennedy Single Tool Box. All are old and very good cond. 509-285-4507

CHIPPER/SHERREDER, Crary Bear Cat

Magnum V-10 engine, wired for 5 th wheel towing. Automatic, reg. cab, original owner, 10,000 original miles, all options, all power, gold exterior, leather, CD, exc cond. $35,000. 425-226-1760

PROPERTY

FOR SALE – 30 acres in Moxee, 15 miles east of Yakima, north of Highway 24 on Moody Road. Ideal for grapes, with view of Mt. Adams, Mt. Rainier & Mt. Hood. 253-230-7703

CEMETARY PLOT, Greenwood Memorial Section. Section F-27, Lot 78, Block C. 253-1451. Sorry $300, very nice, 3 gallon cond, call 315. Small size. $25 - 425-271-8771

RECMEMBERSHIP

ADVANCE RESORTS OF AMERICA, $200. 253-511-9871

LEISUREMEMBERSHIP

$3000, will split transfer fees, Call anytime 253-573-7095

rental.” The IAM Scholarship Competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada. Awards to children of members Awards to Children of Members are $2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years leading to a Bachelor’s degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification. Awards to Children of Members are:

$1,000 per academic year for college. All awards are renewed each year, until a minimum of four years, whichever occurs first. Vocational/technical School – $2,000 per year until certification is reached for a maximum of two years, which ever occurs first.

For information on rules of eligi- bility or to obtain an application form, complete application form below. No application forms postmarked later than February 23, 2007, will be acknowledged or consid- ered for the 2007 scholarships. No exceptions whatsoever will be permitted even if a third party is responsible for the delay.

REQUEST FOR IAM 2007 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET

Please send me an Application Packet for the 2007 IAM Scholarship Competition. If the proper packet is not received within 30 days, advise the Scholarship Department immediately.

I understand that this request is not an application, and that the Application Packet must be complete and returned by the form below. No application forms postmarked later than February 23, 2007 will be acknowledged or considered for the 2007 scholarships. No exceptions whatsoever will be permitted even if a third party is responsible for the delay.

Save this coupon and attach a SELF- ADDRESSED LABEL, for reply.
Unions Built the Middle Class and Must Save It

By Richard A. Levine, Professor Emeritus of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota

The middle class is fading fast. Stagnant wages, rising costs for life’s essentials and massive debt are taking their toll. What can we do to reverse this trend before it is too late? We must recognize that cheap labor can build cars and appliances, but only organized labor can build a middle class.

While the middle class struggles, the country’s wealthiest people are riding the stock market gravy train. Much of my economic work in the past several years has been with farming. Farmers have a better word for those who make money because of what they own instead of what they do. They are called landlords. Landlords, like corporate shareholders, simply sit back and take part of what others have earned.

What many politicians hail as the “ownership society” is really a landlord society. It is one in which money that could be used to reward labor gets skimmed off by a fortunate few. This repackaging of our old friend, trickle-down economics, is downright dangerous.

All strategies that trade good jobs for cheap toastasters eventually erode the market for the goods and services being provided. A society composed of a handful of hyper-wealthy individuals and millions of people living on the economic edge is not the sound, stable market needed for growth. Only a middle class with a widely distributed buying power can provide that. What economists call the “income distribution” in this country is, from a middle-class perspective, as bad as it has been since the years leading up to the Great Depression.

The ideology of ownership would have us believe that the rich getting richer is just how things work in our economic system. The less wetumper with the way profits are distributed among owners and workers, the better off we all will be. The problem is, of course, that the rich and powerful monkey with the system all the time, and always to their benefit at the expense of the middle class.

Corporations are now strong enough to call for, and get, substantial tax reductions. They can call for, and get, substantial wage concessions. They can call for, and get, weakened public oversight of their activities. These changes, which have permitted and fostered the growth of corporations and globalization, are not the result of clever ideas and theories. They result from the exercise of power.

And that, in a nutshell, is the problem. Once corporations pay all their expenses, anything left over must be distributed between labor and owners. When labor has power, wages grow, and with them, the middle class. When owners have power, we move toward a society of rich and poor without much in the middle.

A farmer I have worked with over the years put it this way. When you sit down to dinner with a group of hungry people, it’s not only the size of the pie that matters. The size of your fork is just as important. Because of its generous share of natural resources, and untold public action to build roads, schools and the like, the United States is a wealthy nation.

During the mid-twentieth century, there were two principal methods for making sure this wealth was distributed such that it would not be used to maintain and build the nation’s wealth. The first, the very wealthy were heavily taxed, either directly or through their corporations. This provided for maintenance of existing social investments and creation of new ones. Our system of public education and research, for example, was well supported by tax dollars.

Second, labor unions became strong enough to shift corporate profits from very wealthy owners to the middle class, in the form of better wages and benefits. Money stayed in the hands of those most likely to spend it in ways that would further stimulate the national economy and provide essential public services.

In a few short decades, globalization has raised the specter of moving all of this wealth into the hands of a very few. In so doing, it will destroy the very process that created and maintained our wealth in the first place. Rebuilding the middle class, therefore, will not be a search for new economic ideas. It will instead be a process of changing the balance of power in ways that favor those of us who are not corporate landlords.

Politicians can, and should, put the middle class front and center in their economic thinking. But that alone won’t do the job. The job of building and maintaining the middle class is, like always, a union job.

Richard A. Levine is Professor Emeritus of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota. His most recent book, Middle Class * Union Made, is available from Itasca Books at 800-901-3480.

The Race to the Bottom

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists brought leaders from different unions to the Seattle Hall to focus on developing training leadership for black trade unionists.

When the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) met at the Seattle Union hall on the 20th and 21st of October, 751 was represented by Political Director Larry Brown.

The conference focused on training and developing leadership skills for black trade unionists. It also looked for new ways to inspire more members to get involved in the Union and step up to leadership roles.

The primary goal of CBTU is to enhance black leadership skills and presence within all affiliated unions in the AFL-CIO labor movement. It is a positive agenda with very practical information in its program and presence.

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Meet