

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL



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SEATTLE ILWU-PENSION CLUB**

PACIFIC COAST PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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www.ilwu19.com/rustyhook.htm

STOP MAD COWBOY DISEASE

By DAVE CHADDOCK

So proclaimed a nearby bumper sticker as an enthusiastic crowd, having assembled near Seattle Center at the same time as the State of the Union address, defied the rain to bang pots, blow whistles, and chant "Bush Step Down!" They did not need to listen to the address. They knew it would be more malarkey.

It is not that Bush himself is all that is wrong and that his removal would solve every problem. But his enthusiastic embrace of a whole panoply of perverse and crappy policies has made him a symbol of everything that is systematically amiss.

From his war in Iraq, which was justified neither by his constant references to 9-11, nor to any imminent threat; to his tax cuts for the rich (whom he calls his "base") and his beggaring of every worthwhile government program, his reign is an all-pervasive disaster.

After three years of intervention in Iraq, he has created a witch's cauldron of death and destruction that grows progressively worse. In January alone, according to a recent graphic in the NEW YORK TIMES, there were 832 war deaths in that suffering country.

While Exxon Mobil made profits of \$36 billion last year, corporate tax receipts have been steadily dropping. And a tax break that gives \$100,000 to the average millionaire factors out to be about \$200 to the average Joe, a pitiful amount that does not even make up for higher heating bills.

In his State of the Union address, Bush called for improving math and science instruction. But this will be hard to achieve as he cuts a billion dollars from the education budget. He also called for "cutting edge methods of producing ethanol" at the same time as the Renewable Energy Lab is facing huge staff layoffs as Bush has drastically trimmed its funding. (Sorry folks, we need that money for war and the millionaires!)

Now the latest hare-brained Bush scheme is to offer tax breaks for those who open so-called "health savings accounts." For example, a \$5,000 contribution could save \$630 in income tax. But who can afford to make such contributions? Certainly not the low income families who are now being forced to make co-payments for needed medicines. The real supporters of this plan are the big banks and money managers. As less and less companies with 200 workers or more offer any health care benefits to their retirees (only one third of them today compared to two thirds in 1988), the Bank of America and J.P. Morgan look forward to raking in a pile of loot, charging 50 to 75 dollars to open a "Health Account", and an additional \$40 a year to maintain it.

We in the ILWU family have come to appreciate that the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" is meaningless without the right to health

Continued on page 6

Christmas for Kids 2005

By CURT CUNNINGHAM

The Christmas for Kids program was another success this year. We were able to do 26 families with over 60 children. This year we chose 3 agencies that help the homeless. We are continuing our relationship with the Plateau Outreach Ministries in Enumclaw. They are a Food bank and assist the needy with basic needs. Next we have 2 new agencies. First is Vine Maple Place in Maple Valley. They are a Women's shelter that assists women and their children escape domestic abuse. This agency gives these women a place to stay and they also help them rebuild their lives by giving them a place to live and the opportunity to get back on their feet without fear. Next is Martin Court a transitional housing facility that helps homeless families get back on their feet and to help them become productive members of society by giving them a place to live while they are rebuilding their lives.

These agencies provide the assistance they need such as schooling and job training and placement and have strict guidelines for the families as they must work at getting themselves back up on their feet or they lose the privileges.

We feel that these agencies are optimal for our program, as we are giving to families that are working very hard to get back on their feet. Also this system helps us ensure that the families we choose are truly needy.

I wish to thank the entire Local 19 membership for their continuing support for this program. I also want to thank Local 98 for a donation of \$1200, The Seattle Pensioners for a donation of \$300.00. Also the following pensioners; EARL and VALDA SAMPLE for a donation of \$100.00, PETER CHELEMEDOS for a donation of \$100.00 and GRACE MILLER for a donation of \$28.00. I also wish to thank Local 19 member DANA MONTEZ for donating \$100.00 in toys and Local 19 "B" member JASON KYTLE for donating \$200.00 in toys. In addition to giving toys and food vouchers to these needy families, Our Auxiliary #3 President and Director of the Christmas for Kids program LEONA CUNNINGHAM makes a hand made king size ILWU embroidered quilt and raffles it at the July 5th memorial picnic and then uses these funds to purchase more material and spends countless hours sewing beautiful hand made quilts to give to the children. LEONA told me about one instance where she gave one of these quilts to a child who

then looked up at her not knowing what has happening and when he found out that this quilt was his he started to cry because this was the only blanket he had. Now LEONA says he takes his "blanky" everywhere and will not let anyone touch it. LEONA who for the past 5 years who has worked very hard and spent many hours making sure that this program remains successful.

Letters to Christmas for Kids

Thanks to all of you at the Longshoreman's Union for blessing our family with holiday wishes that made our Christmas merry. To be considered for such a treat helped me to believe that people are still passionate about helping others. I pray that all of your lives will be fulfilled spiritually. May all of your New Years resolutions be a successful time for you to accomplish something dear to you.

Thank you
The BASS Family

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity this holiday season. Christmas morning was truly special thanks to you my son is still talking about Santa.

Thank you
The BILOWS'

Dear Longshoremen,
Thank you so much for all of your wonderful Christmas gifts. My 10 year old daughter was so excited. You were great in blessing us this year. Words cannot express the gratitude we feel.

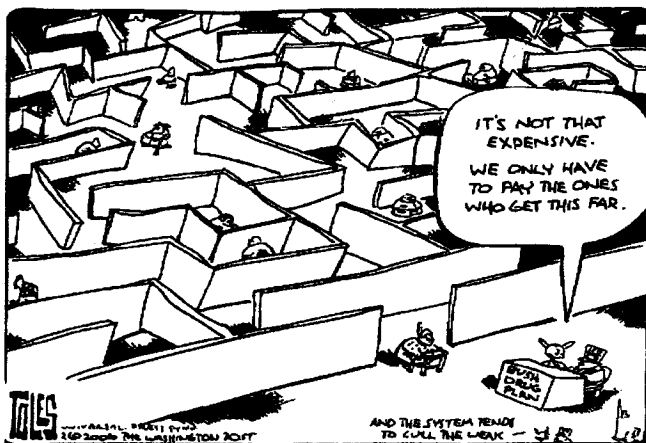
The SPEER family



4 On & 4 Off How I Think it Got Started

By PARKER JOHNSTON

In the mid to late 1950's we were still working 9-hour days. The only time we got a break on the job was when we worked a reefer ship. It was in our contract when it was below zero in the hold we worked 40 minutes on and 20 minutes off. We spent a lot of time at the Navy Dock working on the "Contest" a Navy supply ship. A few years later Alaska Steamship Co started cribbing the cargo boards and that meant the truckers did all the hand stow on the dock putting the cargo into cribs. That also meant a bull in the hold. This also meant the Stevedores had a brainstorm. They could get the job done and keep the hook moving with half the gang. So we set up a program, ½ hour on and ½ hour off. On the ½ hour off we sat in the galley, drank coffee and played cards. (life was good) The best jobs were at Pier 42 North and South Alaska Steamship Co. Soon that ½ hour turned into 1 hour on and 1 hour off but you stayed aboard in case something went wrong a few years later Vietnam. (Funny how it takes a war to get the economy good). We could work almost 7 days or nights a week. Everything was cost plus and mostly bull stow and the PMA left us alone so we naturally went to 4 hours on and 4 hours off. A few years later the PMA looked at the gang size. Almost every contract after that, manning was the biggest issue. Little by little manning was cut from the original 12-man gang, 2 deck 2 sling 8 stevedores and extra men as needed. What's all this mean? Well it gives all us Old Timers a lot to talk about during our bull sessions Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am to 12:00pm. Come on down and get educated. I could be a little off on this but not far.



ILWU/PMA

Alcohol/Drug Recovery Program

Available to all

Actives, Pensioners and their Families.

Contact; Donnie Schwendeman
Puget Sound & Washington Area Rep.
3600 Port of Tacoma Road Ste 503
Tacoma, Washington 98104
253-922-8913 - Fax 253-922-8956
E-mail - DSchwendemanILWU@aol.com

The Good Old Days part 2

After reading PARKER JOHNSTON'S story on bananas, I got to thinking back to the good old days myself.

After the vans came in, most of us forgot about all those jobs we had to take in order to keep our job in the backup pool. The jobs like, hides, -30 degrees in the hold reefers, blood meal, urea, sacked coal, pig iron, the 22 high pile at the salmon dock, the 3 in 1 sacks at Fisher's Mill that were 150 lbs, hand stow pulp and lumber, I think that about covers all the jobs that the "A" men let us have. Then after you got to the job you had to rig gear, pull back from 3 to 4 tarps, about a zillion hatch boards and beams just to get down to where you were going to work. GOOD OLD DAYS -- HA!

Each one of these jobs is a story by itself and it would be fun to tell the whole thing, problem is there's not enough room in the RUSTY HOOK.

Without the ILWU and a lot of good men in it I would never have made it to the 'ripe' old age of 74.

H.D. MCCORMICK #55537

PS We hung a lot of tents in those days.

From the Editor's Desk

Keep sending in your stories! Everyone loves to read them. We will print every article we receive. They are enjoyed by our Actives as well as our Old Timers.

We also have many new members who need to read about what our OLD TIMERS went through in creating the greatest union ever the ILWU.

Thank you
CURT CUNNINGHAM

Report to the Seattle Pensioners

from November 4, 2005 through December 5, 2005

1. I went to visit BOB VAUX at the NW Hospital room 6264. He was very ill. Got cards for the Union and Pensioners to sign. Called KAY VAUX at times to see how she was getting along. BOB VAUX died November 21, 2005
2. Called DEL CASTLE he was not at home. He is traveling and is doing fine.
3. ELI (ED) HEPOKOSKI no answer to phone.
4. Called ELIAS (DUTCH) SCHULTZ 206-329-7749. He would like visitors and phone calls.
5. Called PAUL MCCABE
6. Called FRANK SCHUR He said he would make the Pensioners meeting in December.
7. Called ROY MURRAY 206-935-3897. He is doing fine and would appreciate phone calls at home. Called JOHN JOHNSON He said he would make the Pensioners meeting in December.

Respectfully submitted, W.T. LASSITER #56349

PS if you know of anyone that would like a visit or a call, please call me at 206-938-3207.

Report to the Seattle Pensioners

From Jan. 3, 2006 through February 6, 2006

1. Called JIMMIE STEWART before he passed away on 1-2-06
2. Called LEE ANDERSON 206-255-9775. He is living in California full time now. You can call him at the above number.
3. Called DEL CASTLE. A person answered the phone and said he was out of town.
4. Called PAUL MCCABE
5. Called JOHN JOHNSON
6. Called FRANK SCHUR
7. Called ELIAS (DUTCH) SCHULTZ. His number is 206-329-7749 he would like visitors and phone calls.
8. Called ROY MURRAY. He is doing fine and would like visitors and phone calls. His number is 206935-3897.

Respectfully submitted, W.T. LASSITER #56349

PS if you know of anyone that would like a visit or a call, please call me at 206-938-3207.

Final Dispatch

PENSIONERS

- Leonard Annabelle 19
- John H. Bruce 52
- Leslie M. Hennum 19
- Paul E. Kollen 19
- Donald W. Miniken 98
- Jimmie Stewart 19
- Robert W. Vaux, Jr.52
- George T. White, Jr.19

SURVIVORS

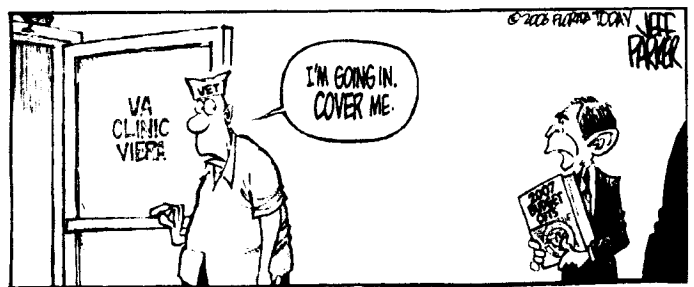
- Roberta. G. DeLeo 19
- Margaret Fisher 52
- Vilola L. Gray 52
- Anna Houchens 19
- Carmela Mirante 19
- Patricia . Simmons 19

Report to the Seattle Pensioners

From Jan. 4, 2006 through March 6, 2006

1. Called ROY MURRAY and visited him at his home.
2. Called ELIAS (DUTCH) SCHULTZ 206-329-7749. He would like visitors and phone calls.
3. Called DON OLSON in Arizona.
4. Called FLOYD DUGGER. He had a hip replacement at Providence Hospital.
5. Called GARY BOWEN.
6. Called THELMA MACKKEY.
7. Called VAL SWEGAL.
8. Called PAUL MCCABE
9. Called JOHN JOHNSON
10. Called FRANK SCHUR

Respectfully submitted, W.T. LASSITER #56349



**Seattle ILWU Pensioners Club
Annual Luncheon
Wednesday April 26, 2006**

Seattle F.O.E. Aerie No. 1 Eagles Club
6205 Corson Ave So. Seattle

Time: 10:30 - 11:15 open bar
11:15 - 12:00 Guest Speakers
12:00 - Buffet lunch
Cost: \$15:00

Widows and Ladies Aux. Members - Free
Door Prizes

Active members remember the pensioners you worked with for many years. This is an opportunity to visit and enjoy a meal with them at our annual luncheon.

Tickets can be purchased at the Pensioners Club or you can order by mail.

Seattle Pensioners Club
3440 E. Marginal Way S
Seattle, Wash 98134

If you or anyone you know that needs transportation contact our office at 206-343-0504

We would like a big turnout this year
SEE YOU THERE !!!!



Conversations With Harry

By IAN KENNEDY

One evening a few weeks ago, while in San Francisco, I found myself at loose ends. I was roaming around a run down area of the waterfront when I wandered into a seedy looking bar. Three or four of the tables were occupied and there were only a couple of people at the bar. I took a seat at the end of the bar and was able to see most of the occupants in the bar's mirror.

At one table, a group of three men sat drinking and chatting. One of them, a man of a goodly number of years, kept glancing in my direction. Finally he got up and come over to me-

"I couldn't help but notice your cap, ILWU, I don't recall local 52." he said.

I responded, "Local 52 is the clerks local out of Seattle. You look familiar to me, but I cant place you."

He chuckled, "That's because you're seeing me out of context." He replied. "Why don't you come over and join me and my friends?"

I did, "This is HENRY SCHMIDT," he nods, "and JERRY BULCKE, Oh, and me, I'm BRIDGES, HARRY BRIDGES."

I didn't know what to think, what kind of a joke were they pulling? Was it a joke? "I'm IAN KENNEDY, retired from local 52." I recalled the few times I had met HARRY BRIDGES and photos I had seen of him. There was a very strong likeness. I decided to play along to see how far they go,

"I see you're a little confused. Did you attend my service? We come back once a month, just to keep our eye on how things are being handled. Same spot, same table, same time,"

I sat back, waved at the waiter for a round as I sucked up the last of my beer. "What have you determined, how does the Union fair?"

Well son," he responds, "I sure do regret, that after all the effort we put into the six hour day, they threw that idea out the window and are now working nine and ten hour days. There really was no-

"Sorry HARRY, we really must be going." HENRY SCHMIDT interrupted.

"Yeah, hay kid why don't you pay the tab for us and come back next month and we'll finish our talk?"

I want up to the bar and paid the tab. When I turned, they were gone. I left the bar, wondering, am I dreaming?

Check future issues for Conversations With HARRY.

From the President's Desk,

If you have not paid your dues, they were due January 1st. By membership action our dues were increased to \$25.00 with a \$3.00 per year convention assessment. The dues & donations are used to print and mail the RUSTY HOOK, run the office, buy coffee, donuts, stamps, paper, etc.

Come to the Hall Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and visit, have a cup of coffee and see old work-time buddies.

All Brothers and Sisters who are not members of the Seattle ILWU Pensioners Club come down and join up. You do not have to be retired to be a member of the Seattle ILWU Pensioners Club. Please join! Have a voice!

Article II of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association Constitution reads,

Object and Purpose

"To promote and preserve our good relations with all our working brothers and sisters, the International and it's officers. This enables the PCPA to have a stronger voice and representation in welfare, pensions, social security and any national or local matters that affect us and to secure legislation in our best interest.

Thank you,
DICK MELTON

Stop Mad Cowboy Disease

From page 1

Care. It should not be a privilege reserved for the wealthy. It should be granted to every one of us.

As many other nations have discovered, providing such universal coverage can actually provide better care and at less cost. For it eliminates a whole army of administrators who preside over a thicket of competing private insurance companies who are all trying to give the least care to those who really need it!

Bush and his cronies may seem to be riding high, but as more and more people are being given the short end of the stick, there is bound to be a comeuppance. The working people of the United States are not a flock of sheep. The vehemence of the protesters in the rain last Jan. 31st is a sign that change is in the air.

CORRESPONDENCE

From J. CARDINAL Monroe, WA
Pensioner's Club,
Please use the enclosed (\$50.00) to bring me up to date. Anything left over use as you see fit.
Keep up the good work, you're very much appreciated.

JIMMY CARDINAL #53281

Thank you JIMMY for the kinds words and the donation.

From HAROLD ANDERSON Tacoma, WA
Dear Sirs,
Here is a few bucks (\$100) for the RUSTY HOOK.
Use as you like, you are doing a good job.

Yours Truly,
HAROLD ANDERSON
Local 98 via 23

Thanks HAROLD for the donation and we will keep doing our best.

From W.P. LEWIS Shoreline, WA
No note but the \$100.00 to the HOOK and \$100.00 to the OLSON funds says a lot.

Thank you W.P. for your generous support.

From JERRY ANDERSON Seattle, WA
Here's a donation of \$100.00 in memory of KATHRYN ANDERSON to the RUSTY HOOK. I would like to express my gratitude to the ILWU for the life it gave my mother.

"Thanks"
JERRY ANDERSON

From RICH MALETA
A \$40.00 donation to the RUSTY HOOK in memory of KATHRYN ANDERSON.

The RUSTY HOOK gives our condolences to the ANDERSON family.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

CORRESPONDENCE

From G.S. PIRTTILA SR. Montesano, WA
Keep up the good work.
Thank you
G.S. PIRTTILA SR. Locals 24/52

We certainly will keep up the good work GERALD and we all thank you for the \$50.00 donation.

From BREARD WILLIAMS Seattle, WA
No note but a cool \$25.00 for the OLSON fund.

Thank you BREARD for your donation.

From DONALD FRANZ Cle Elum, WA
To the RUSTY HOOK,
I liked the article "The Banana Dock" by PARKER JOHNSTON, although I missed the stalks by a few years, I did work it every Monday in the pool. As always everything in the RUSTY HOOK is interesting. Enclosed is \$50.00 for whatever.

DON FRANZ #56495

Thanks DON for the note and the \$50.00 it will be put to good use.

From DONALD REIDEL Port Angeles, WA
Here is my donation for the DAVID OLSON endowment fund and a little something for the HOOK (\$75.00) use where needed and \$25.00 for my dues. Everyone have a Merry Christmas and a happy new year and a BIG thank you to DICK, BOB, TERRY, JOHN, RUDY, PETE and ROBERT.

Thank you DON for the kind words and the donations.

From JAMES CRANSTON Tacoma, WA
JAMES has sent in a \$100.00 donation, which we appreciate greatly. JAMES said he hasn't been getting his HOOK and we are very concerned about this. We will make sure that you get your RUSTY HOOK.

Thank you JAMES for your continued support and we WILL make sure you get your copy.

Some of the world's greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible.

From DENNIS SHORE Port Angeles, WA
The RUSTY HOOK

I wish to thank you for sending me the RUSTY HOOK. The articles are always very interesting. Sending a small donation (\$100) for the HOOK.

DENNIS SHORE
Retired here in PA from Local 98

Thank you DENNIS for the note and the \$100.00

From TANK NELSON Morro Bay, CA
HOOK,
PARKER JOHNSTON wrote about bananas what he kept out was you only went as fast as the slowest guy. Guys smoked cigars while working bananas. In 1951 as an ID we worked every banana job that came in.

Love the RUSTY HOOK,
Laugh Lots,
TANK

PS Got my "A" book in 1952

From CHARLES KOLE St George, UT
Keep up the good work. Really look forward to the HOOK.

CHUCK KOLE

Thank you CHUCK for the kind words and the \$100.00 donation.

From PETE KOLLOEN Redmond, WA
PETE sends us a donation of \$25.00, which is greatly appreciated.

Thank you

December Donations to the DAVID OLSON Endowment Fund

TANK NELSON \$20.00
WILLIAM NEILL \$100.00
PATTIE & CRIS MCCORMICK \$100.00

"THE AMERICAN C.E.O."

TEAMWORK
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THERE
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Who CARES?
I HAVE A
GOLDEN
PARACHUTE



"ROOKIE YEAR"



"SEASONED VETERAN"

JOHN EXAMINER, U.S.

**Seattle ILWU
Pension Club**

President
Dick Melton
Vice President
Bob Rogers
Secretary Treasurer
Parker Johnston
Recording Secretary
Pete Collen
Trustees
Bill Lassiter
Carl Week
Mike Caso

ILWU Benefits Office – Nick Buckles, Director
Jefferson Square 4700 42nd Ave. S.W. #551
Seattle, WA 98116

206.938.6720

THE RUSTY HOOK
3440 E. Marginal Way S.
Seattle, WA 98134

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