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CLUB MEETING DATES:

All Meetings are cancelled until further notice due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

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BRIGHT FUTURE FOR TRADE—WILL THE U.S. BE JOINING THE DANCE?

By Dave Chaddock

I've been looking at long lines of cranes adjoining enormous container yards. They are in Tianjin and Shanghai, China, which is now the largest trading nation in the world. And I'm thinking, we need to be full participants in this worldwide exchange.

The first step, of course, is to recover from protectionist Trumpism. The United States used

to be so dominant in steel production that in 1939 it produced as much as the steel output of Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan combined. But today China's steel output is eleven times that of the U.S. (Mei Xinyu, Beijing Review, 11-5-20). Instead of investing in innovation to be competitive with China, Nucor Steel forked over a million dollars to create a movie version of Peter Navarro's hate-filled rant called Death by China (NYT, 8-6-18) Donald Trump was so impressed by the film that when he later became President he would soon call for his buddy Navarro to be his top advisor on China and Nucor would get a protective tariff against Chinese steel.

And what does China do with all that steel? As U.S. reporters scramble to find new angles of attack upon China, Keith Bradsher, calling attention to a few giant-sized statues built for the tourist trade, broadens his theme. Would you believe it, he says, China has a "bullet-train network long enough to span the continental

(Continued on page 2: TRADE)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table listing contents: Andrea Stevenson (3), Conversations With Harry (3), Correspondence (6), District Council (8), Retirees & Final Dispatch (9)

TRADE: (From Page 1)

United States seven times” (NYT, 11-27). All this work, just so people can get from here to there twice or three times as fast. What a waste!

Janet Yellin, Biden’s pick for Treasury Secretary, seems ready to throw cold water on Trump tariffs. She sees tariffs as a tax on American consumers. She thinks Trump’s final trade deal with China is marred by “leaving hefty tariffs in place.” And she tends to think that many problems blamed on trade are actually a result of a failure to support workers idled by globalization (NYT, 11-25-20).

But Biden himself, as exemplified by his statement that “America is back and ready to lead the world” has more than a touch of the arrogance and ignorance that Trump has displayed in full measure. A dissenting letter to the Times notes that “the world’s nations have not elected our country as their leader” and is unkind enough to recall that disaster of “Democratic world leadership” that gave birth to the Vietnam War (NYT, 11-26). Biden declares that we must “set the rules of the road instead of having China and others dictate outcomes” (NYT, 11-17).

In his little book *A New Foreign Policy* (2018), Jeffrey Sachs points out that the U.S. share of world output (16%) is down from 22% in 1980, while Europe and Asia combined puts out 70% of the total. And he notes that China now turns out more science and engineering PhD’s than we do. China gets blamed for stealing U.S. jobs but as wages are rising now in China companies looking for lower wages have to go to Vietnam and Indonesia. 700,000 manufacturing jobs went to Mexico and 750,000 went to China. But as Sachs explains, this adds up to only about 1% of the U.S. labor force. In 1970, manufacturing jobs were 25% of the U.S. work force but more recently they

only compose 8.4% of that force. Where did all the jobs go? They “went the way of smart machines” (Sachs, 132). I was able to work my way through college by setting up pins in a bowling alley. And here on the waterfront look at all the jobs that disappeared thanks to containerization.

Navarro argues in his book that “American companies must surrender their intellectual property to their Chinese partners as a condition of market entry.” But Stephen Roach was a senior executive in a joint venture in China and knows many businessmen in similar positions. “None of them feel that there is a coercive aspect in which their technology is taken from them” He says “joint ventures are voluntary arrangements willingly entered into” (China Daily, 6-21-19).

In spite of all Trump’s efforts to sunder ties with China, 70% of American companies in China surveyed by the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai and Beijing have no plans to relocate (Beijing Review, 11-19). Selling products to China is not easy, and in some ways it is getting more difficult. For one thing, domestic products are often much cheaper and their quality “can absolutely rival that of imported ones.” Also China is very sensitive about guarding against Covid 19. On November 8, a cold storage worker in Tianjin caught the virus and “the virus was also detected on a door handle” at the freezer. As a result complete disinfection of imported frozen food packages are being carried out at all the ports and those that test positive will be returned or destroyed.

Despite the difficulties, at the recent third annual China International Import Expo, companies from the United States “took up the largest area.” (All references to the same issue of BR)

But now, as Biden prepares to “lead the world” it seems that China and 14 other nations have just signed (in simultaneous online ceremonies) the largest ever free trade agreement – without getting Biden’s permission! Signers include Canada and Mexico, New Zealand and Australia, Vietnam, Thailand and Singapore. And also Japan! The Japanese government declares that the pact will eliminate tariffs on 91% of the goods traded among members. 92% of Japanese exports to South Korea will be tariff-free as well as 86% of Japanese exports to China. Previous levels were 19% and 8% respectively (WSJ, 11-160).



NOTES FROM ANDREA STEVENSON

ILWU-PMA Benefit Plan Washington Area Welfare Director

COVID-19

Services related to the screening, testing and treatment of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently covered per the Plan benefit at this time. This would include telehealth services. Currently there is no documented end date for these services. Participants are encouraged to call your medical Plan, prior to getting services, to ensure the Plan is still covering these services.

Request for proof of 2021 Medicare Part B Premium Information

To ensure you are being reimbursed the correct premium, the Benefit Plans Office is requesting pensioners and beneficiaries to submit proof of their 2021 Medicare Part B Premium. Each year, the Social Security Administration mails you a letter towards the end of November with your upcoming rate for

(Continued on page 5: WELFARE)

CONVERSATIONS WITH HARRY

By Ian Kennedy

We’re into November and I haven’t seen Harry for three months or so. I called Sue to see how everything was going with her. She didn’t think it would be worth the trip down. Though she said Harry would show up every couple of weeks. When she last spoke to him, he agreed with her. After giving it a lot of thought, and going crazy staying home and not seeing anyone for days on end, I decided to take the risk and drive down again.

It didn’t take me long to get the car loaded, clean clothes food for the drive down, Hell ,I even threw in an extra five gallon can of gas. I decided to take Highway 101, it’s more scenic and I’ll avoid most of the snow. I left early in the morning, figuring if I didn’t get too tired I might drive right through.

When I got to Leggett, CA I switched over to Hiway #1. I was still feeling good enough that I felt the scenic route would keep me awake. In Fort Bragg, I stoped for gas and decided to call Sue and let her know when I expected to get into San Francisco. She told me she’d have dinner ready, so keep on trucken. True to her word, she was just pulling out of the oven my favorite food, Mac and Cheese, not quite as good as my daughter’s but top rate. After dinner she informed me, “Harry was in last night and I told him you were coming sometime tonight. So he said he’d come back tomorrow and for you to have a good night’s rest.” She smiles, and remarks, “You do look like hell, so take his advice and get some sleep.” As I was feeling like ready to fall asleep on the table, I headed up stairs to my room. (I call it my room, because I don’t think anyone else uses it.)

(Continued on Page 4: HARRY)

HARRY: (From Page 3)

After breakfast, I washed up our dishes. With nothing else to do at the Bar, I grabbed a cab and headed out to Golden Gate Park for a stroll around. When I returned to the Bar, I saw that Sue had set three tables out on the sidewalk, spaced about eight feet apart, with two chairs each. It looked like she'd had a brisk Lunch business, based on the dishes waiting for me to wash. After cleaning up I was about to bring in the tables, "Don't take them in, I may pick up some late lunches." She said. Instead, I headed up to take a nap.

After a late dinner, Sue and I spent the evening playing cards while waiting for Harry. I was just about to give up on Harry when he appeared. Harry and I moved to "OUR" table as Sue was getting us beer. When she brought over the beer, she gave Harry a big hug, poured the beer and sat down. Harry was taking off his topcoat, smiled at me, "It's good to see you, it's been a long time." He sat and took a long drink of beer, smiling. We exchanged pleasantries before Harry asked, "Do you have any news for me?"

I took a couple of drinks of my beer, then responded, "As you know, this virus makes it hard to get any news so what I have is limited and all meetings are done over the internet. The Caucus and International Convention is supposed to take place in the Spring. And the International Offices are up for election. With the virus getting worse, it doesn't look likely to happen. The NRLB challenge to the election is still up in the air. The Coast has asked for permission to send a delegation to Panama to look into how their voting took place." I refill my glass and was about to continue when Harry interrupts me, "Think this day calls for something a little stronger than this beer." He no longer completed his sentence when Sue

jumps up and heads for the bar. "Don't forget my milk." Harry reminds her.

Once Sue has returned with the whiskey I continue, "You might remember that every November the UW Bridges Labor Center holds its annual awards banquet. This year it was held virtually and President Adams was the key note speaker. The Center used it as a fundraiser that netted about \$25000.00. This will help maintain the present staff as the State money may be cut or reduced."

I continued, "The work picture is hard for me to pin down as I don't get out, but my understanding is that the work is sporadic, October was very good, but November, not so good. Equipment is a problem, Seattle can't work more than 11 or 12 gangs. It seems Tacoma is getting the bulk of the work. While in Southern California, ships are sitting in the bay, waiting for a birth. The Union can't fill all the gangs, ships may work with only one gang."

Harry was showing his concern over the NRLB action though he didn't express it. "What is happening with the lawsuit in Portland?" He asked. Sue had gone back to the bar and brought out the bottle of Whiskey and some milk and we were now on our third round and I was beginning to feel it. Harry smiled as I got up to go to the can and started to stagger, I'm not sure I could walk a straight line. Both Harry and Sue were smiling when I returned and found my chair.

Harry turned to Sue and asked, "How are you making out? Do you have money to get you through the next several months?" He asked. She looks at me, smiling, "I've been making a little money from my lunchtime trade, and the go-fund-me is still bringing in some money. So, for the time being I'm ok." I interject, "I'm keeping in contact with her and will make sure she's good." Glad to hear that." He replies, "And now it's time for me to go.

Take good care of yourselves.” He’s up and in his coat, smiles and is gone.

Sue looks at me, smiles and said, “You’d best get some sleep if you’re going to get an early start.”



WELFARE (from Page 3)

the following year. Please provide the Benefit Plans Office a copy of this letter showing your 2021 Medicare Part B premium, as soon as possible. Acceptable proof would be a copy of your Social Security letter/notice indicating the 2021 Medicare Part B monthly premium or “Notice of Medicare Premium Payment Due” for 2021. If you misplaced or do not have your letter/notice, you can contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 to request another copy. Beginning January 1, 2021, the Benefit Plans Office will be reimbursing \$109 per month for each Medicare Part B enrolled member until your 2021 Social Security Administration letter/notice is received. Letters/notices received by March 31, 2021 will receive retroactive adjustment to January 2021. Letters/notices received after March 31, 2021 will be reimbursed based on the month of receipt and no retroactive adjustment will be made. Please note that more time may be allowed for those experiencing extenuating circumstances which might delay their ability to timely submit their 2021 Social Security notice (e.g., hospitalization, out of the country for an extended period of time, etc.).

From Medicare.gov 9.17.20

Now more than ever, we all need to do our part to prevent the spread of illnesses. The best way to protect yourself from getting the flu and keep you from spreading it to others is to get vaccinated. Once per flu season, flu shots are covered for people with Medicare, when you

get it from your doctor, pharmacy, or other health care provider that accepts Medicare or your Medicare plan.

Shingles Shots and Flu Shots ~

Injectables Benefit

(PPO - Coastwise Indemnity Plan)

This benefit pays up to 100% of PPO or 100% of applicable UCR charges for prescribed immunization materials and any therapeutic agent administered by injection in the course of covered treatment by a doctor.

The benefit is not covered under your prescription card, it is covered under your medical card. (Injectable benefit described above). If you are not in a medical clinic where the facility can bill your medical card, you pay for the injectable up front. Save the proof of receipt and pharmacy label. Fax, mail or email those two items to me and I will submit your information to the Coastwise Claims Office for reimbursement. There is no form for you to fill out for reimbursement at this time, but stay tuned the form requirement is coming in the near future. (Some Bartell pharmacies will bill your medical card.) If you are in a doctor’s clinic your injectable would be billable under your medial card.

Shingles Shots and Flu Shots ~

Injectables Benefit

(HMO – Kaiser Permanente)

This benefit is covered at Kaiser Permanente facilities.

12.22.20 from Medicare Website

You've likely heard the good news that COVID-19 vaccines manufactured by Pfizer and Moderna have been approved by the FDA. There will initially be a limited supply of the vaccine. Initial doses of the vaccine will be

(Continued on page 10: WELFARE)

PENSIONER'S CORRESPONDENCE

By Mary Fuller

From PEPE McDONALD, \$100.00 donation to the Rusty Hook in memory of BROTHER ISSAC KONA. Thank you so much PEPE. KONA was one of the good guys. He will be missed. From LAUREE LOU URLEVICH & BILL URLEVICH, Jr., \$300.00 donation to the Rusty Hook in memory of BROTHER BILL URLEVICH. Thank you so much LAURLEE & BILL. Another one of the good guys that will be missed. From RANDY CAMACHO, \$1380.00 for 39 active years in ILWU (1980 TO 2018) and for 7 years of being a pensioner (2019 to 2025). RANDY you out did yourself. \$30.00 for each of the years you have been a longshoreman and pensioner. WOW. Thank you so much RANDY. From GARY KALDESTAD, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you GARY and I will check to make sure we have your correct address. From LARRY MOONEYHAM, \$10.00 for lifetime dues for 2021 and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks LARRY. From DON BURFITT, \$10.00 for lifetime dues for 2021 and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you DON. From JOE WENZL, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JOE. From ARCHIE SMITH, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$170.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much ARCHIE. From FRANK HOLBERG, \$10.00 for lifetime dues for 2021 and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you FRANK. From JOHN ROSS, \$50.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. JOHN you are all caught up on dues through 2023. Thank you very much JOHN. From BOB BURDEN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks BOB. From DIANNE FAIRBANKS, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$170.00 donation to the Rusty Hook in memory of her husband BROTHER JACK FAIRBANKS. We miss you JACK. Thank you DI. From JAMES BARNETT, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JAMES. From AL WITZLER, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks BIG AL. From SCOTT MARTINEZ, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks SCOTT. From PHIL & PAULA ACOSTA, \$60.00 for each of their dues for 2021 and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you PAULA & PHIL. From HARRY ACKER, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$170.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you HARRY. From MIKE CASO, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you MIKE. From MIKE HEDRICK, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks MIKE. From ARNOLD GUNDERSON, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks ARNOLD. From MANNY ALMO, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks MANNY. From CARL CHRISTENSON, yes, CARL you are paid up on your dues through 2021. We send out a form letter each year to all the members of the club. Our records are the same. From CARL WOECK, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks CARL. From WAYNE THORPE, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$270.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so, so much WAYNE.



An Injury to one is an injury to all!

From CHARLES KOLE, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thank you CHUCK. From DON HOPKINS, \$150.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much DON and your dues are all caught up. From TIMOTHY KNITTLE, \$100.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much TIMOTHY. From BRUCE ROBERTS, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks BRUCE. From NORM HANSEN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$30.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks NORM and congratulations for making it to 90+ years old. From TONY FOWLER, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks TONY. From JERRY STORIK, \$10.00 for lifetime dues for 2021 and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much JERRY. From STEVE FARNAN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks STEVE. From GARY EPPERSON, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks GARY. From JIM MINIKEN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JIMMY. From BOB and \$20.00 donation to the DAVE CHADDOCK \$30.00 for to the Rusty Hook. Thanks \$30.00 for 2021 dues and Rusty Hook. Thanks BAKKEN, \$30.00 for donation to the Rusty Hook. From JOAN 2021 dues and \$70.00 Thanks JOAN. From LANNY McGREW, \$30.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks LANNY. From LYLEKENNEY, \$10.00 for lifetime dues for 2021 and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much LYLE. From ALEXANDER EARLE, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks ALEX. From STORM KING, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks STORMY. From FRANK KROGER, \$30.00 for 2021 dues and \$10.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks FRANK. From KANDI KANDI, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks KANDI. From RAUL URANGA, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks RAUL. From AL ROBBINS, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks AL. From JEFF VAUGHAN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks JEFF. From STEVE MCMANUS, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks STEVE. From CHARLES DEAN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks CHUCK. From RON MARSHEL, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks RON. From JEFF VIGNA, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks JEFF. From ROBERT TAYLOR, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks BOB. From HERMANN MADSEN, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks HERMANN. From RICKY BUSSANICH, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks RICKY. From DON KEZELE, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks DON. From ROMAN JAVILLONAR, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks ROMAN. From WALLY STYRK, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks WALLY. From EMMET WALSH, \$30.00 for 2021 dues. Thanks EMMET. From McDONALD, \$30.00 for 2021 dues Rusty Hook. Thanks BOB. From 2021 dues and \$70.00 donation DAVE. From SVEN LERBREK, \$70.00 donation to the SVEN. From TOM 2021 dues and \$20.00 Hook. Thanks TOM. RETTINGER, \$30.00 for donation to the Rusty Hook. for 2021 dues and \$70.00



CLEANER YARD EQUIPMENT WITHOUT AUTOMATION IS POSSIBLE.

*By John Persak #57598
Washington Area District Council*

Anyone who has ever driven yard equipment on our terminals, especially the second hand machines we get from California, knows how dirty the engines run. A scorching day on the terminal means you are covered in a layer of diesel particulates from having to leave the windows open. What is worse is the air quality, be it from faulty exhaust systems, or the cumulative air quality as hundreds of trucks enter and leave the terminal every day, while over a hundred pieces of yard equipment burn though thousands of moves per shift.

It's not just a nuisance. Exposure to this, day after day, is a long term health risk. According to OSHA, "...workers exposed to diesel exhaust face the risk of health effects ranging from irritation of the eyes and nose, headaches and nausea, to respiratory disease and lung cancer." Studies show positive correlations between chronic skin conditions and exposure to diesel particulates. Our union does not track end of life medical data relating to the affect of diesel exhaust, and the employers do not want to address it. But we all know from a lifetime of experience the hazards, and the impacts on our health and on our friends and families who are down here.

Unfortunately, the solution for marine terminal operators is to automate. Even though automated terminals slash jobs, are less productive, and are unpopular, automation places more control of the operation into the hands of the employers. In the long term, over a generation, this weakens the ILWUs bargaining power, and our ability to effectively

negotiate over future technology. We cannot earn a living and maintain our heath and welfare, when we cannot make hours and the pension is not fully funded.

Solving this requires as many angles as we can find. One is to push the Ports and marine terminal operators toward investing in zero emissions technology for equipment that has a steering wheel. We already have electrified cranes and use cold ironing. Technology for fleets of electrified or hybrid top picks, yard tractors, and forklifts is right around the corner. Over the long term, this equipment is less expensive to maintain and operate. The new equipment also requires an operator to be in the vehicle—these are not automated machines. And because there is a benefit to the public, we can ask that the public plays a role in making it happen.

In this year's legislative session in Olympia, the ILWU's Washington Area District Council is pushing a bill that would encourage public investment in zero (or near zero) emissions container handling equipment, while specifically prohibiting public investment in automated equipment. SB 5026, which is similar to legislative policies in California, would allow funds "available to a port district or a port development authority...to purchase zero and near zero emissions cargo handling equipment and infrastructure supporting that equipment for the use of the port district, port development authority, or tenants." The exception for automation follows: "Moneys available to a port district or a port development authority shall not be used to purchase fully automated marine container cargo handling equipment." The bill is short, simple and unambiguous.

But we also need to get it passed in the Senate and the House in order to see the benefit. The process is more complex than a

simple vote; the bill must wind its way through committees on a timeline, in order for it to reach a vote. Competing bills and priorities make this harder. So does opposition from business groups, such as the Pacific Merchants Shipping Association, the legislative counterpart to the PMA. Their lobbyists work to ensure profitability to companies like SSA, who dominate Port of Seattle operations.

As a Pensioner, and as an active member, and yes, as a casual, you can help this effort along. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, you need not drive to Olympia to sign in or testify at a hearing—at least not this year. But you can write to your state reps and senators. Here is how you do it.

Go to your computer, phone, or other mobile device, and type into the browser:

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/pbc/bill/5026>

A form will come up on your screen. You need not know who your reps and senators are—all you have to do is enter in your address, and the system will find them for you.

Click the “support” button. In comments, tell them in your own words why you support public money for zero emissions equipment, and why you do not want public money for any automation. Click “send comment,” and you are done! Feel free to look back at this article for your reasoning, or tell your own story.

Political action is slow and tedious. But the fact is that it is effective, which is why the employers are opposed to our bill, and why they pay for lobbyists to be in Olympia and DC. We need to be there too, and put them on the defensive.



Recent Retirees

Steve Stuller, Local 19; Brian Alford, Local 19; Kenneth Calvin, Local 19; David McMinn, Local 19; Eboja Aja, Local 52; Sean O'Donnell, Local 52; Michael Conklin, Local 19; Jeffery Lee, Local 19; Dabula Getahun, Local 19; Stan Paddock, Local 19; Douglas Ward, Local 19; Warren Fairbanks, Local 19; Timothy Dunn, Local 19; Keith Pardee, Local 19; Vanessa Raspberry, Local 19; Mark Barnett, Local 52.

Final Dispatch

Shawn Godfrey, Local 19

Steven Baretich, Local 98

Randy Brown, Local 19

Roger Moshier, Local 19

John Walsh, Local 19

Pete Kolleen, Local 52

Rusty Hook Publication Schedule: 2021 - 2022

- Spring 2021: Submission deadline is April 1st, to be published on April 15, 2021.
- Summer 2021: Submission deadline is June 15th, to be published June 28th, 2021.
- Fall 2021: Submission deadline is September 14th, to be published on September 28th, 2021.
- Winter 2022: Submission deadline is November 30th, to be published on December 12, 2021.

WELFARE (from Page 5)

made available to priority groups, such as health care personnel and residents of long-term care facilities, like nursing homes. Pharmaceutical manufacturers are now working to distribute the vaccine to federally- and state-approved locations to start the vaccination of priority groups. State governments will handle the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Look for updates from your state or governor as more doses of the vaccine become available for additional priority groups. While you're waiting for a COVID-19 vaccine, continue to follow CDC's tips on protecting yourself and others – including social distancing, frequent hand-washing, wearing a mask, and limiting gatherings.

Remember: Medicare covers the COVID-19 vaccine, so there will be no cost to you when it becomes available.

12.23.20 from Medicare Website

As the country begins to distribute COVID-19 vaccines, there's no doubt scammers are already scheming. Medicare covers the COVID-19 vaccine, so there will be no cost to you. If anyone asks you to share your Medicare Number or pay for access to the vaccine, you can bet it's a scam.

Here's what to know:

- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to a vaccine.
- Don't share your personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for a fee. If you come across a COVID-19 vaccine scam, report it to the Federal Trade Commission or call us at 1-800-MEDICARE. And check out CDC.gov for trustworthy information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

1.6.21- From Kaiser Permanente:

COVID-19 vaccinations are now being administered. An extremely limited number of COVID-19 vaccine doses have started arriving at Kaiser Permanente facilities, and we are currently administering the vaccine to people who meet Phase 1a eligibility. Phased eligibility varies from state to state. In Washington state, Phase 1a includes high-risk workers in health care settings, high-risk first responders, and residents and staff at skilled nursing facilities and other community-based living facilities for individuals 65 and older. Individuals who are eligible can get the vaccine from any provider that has been approved as a COVID-19 vaccine distributor by Washington's State Department of Health. Kaiser Permanente is an approved vaccine provider in every market we serve. For more details on eligibility, please see Washington's guidelines.

Due to the limited quantities of vaccines, a limited number of vaccine appointments are currently available. Members who believe they are eligible to receive the vaccine in Phase 1a should sign in to kp.org/wa and complete an e-visit. Our members will be receiving an email with directions on how to check their eligibility.



PCPA CONVENTION UPDATE

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am so sorry to announce that the PCPA Annual Luncheon in Seattle will not be happening again this year due to COVID-19.

All we can hope for is this nasty COVID-19 virus gets under control so we can get back to semi-normal and be able to have lunch with friends. Hopefully we will have a PCPA luncheon in May of 2022.

If everything gets back to normal by November or December, I am not against having a Thanksgiving or Christmas luncheon. What do you think? Let me know at rustyhook195298@gmail.com or mlfullfair@gmail.com.

In Solidarity,

Mary Fuller
Luncheon Committee

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Apologies for the delay, but we did finally get our first issue out after the changing of the guard. There are always a few details you need to figure out even when you think you have everything you need. Double that in the middle of a pandemic, I suppose. I want to thank the Pensioners for the opportunity to be a part of the Rusty Hook, our readers for their patience during the transition, and a special thanks to the former publisher, Brother John Persak, for making it as easy as it was to pick up where he left off. As it says in our oath of office, I promise to do the job to the best of my ability until my successor is duly appointed and installed.

If you're wondering who the heck I am, my name is Josh Turgeon. I am currently the Recording Secretary at Local 19, and I have worked mostly as a steady at the Wheat Dock over the years. When I'm not working, you can find me doing something tech or art related (preferably both). Audio production, music, ceramics, and programming are top of the list these days. Send questions or comments to [my last name]@hush.com. Stay safe. See you next issue!

In Solidarity,

Josh Turgeon #57780

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To our members -

On behalf of the International Titled Officers, welcome to the **ILWU COVID-19 Support** website.

The ongoing pandemic has affected each and every one of us in many ways. We know this is stressful and overwhelming, especially for those that are ill with COVID-19 or losBe well and stay safe.

ing their jobs. It is our hope that this website will provide the necessary information and support for our members and their families during this difficult time.

For further questions and support, please contact ILWU International Headquarters as 415-775-0533.

For members of the Coast Longshore Division, please contact your local office for more information.

Be well and stay safe.

VISIT: <https://www.ilwucovid19support.org>

For information in Washington State:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/DataDashboard>

2020 Seattle Pensioner Club Officers

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Bill Lassiter

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