



HOOK

In memory Bruce Meecham

Issue no. 3

May - June 2009

Titled Officers

President; Matt Ventoza
Vice President Jerome Johnson
Day Business Agent; Kurt Harriage
Night Business Agent Gary Bailey

From the President

Lawsuits

There has been slew of charges filed against us. Some are lawsuits by various people and there are also Members who have filed N.L.R.B. charges as well as EEOC charges against us. Some have not properly followed our grievance procedures. Because of this it is costing our members Legal fees to defend us which in turn raises our dues. In the last 12 plus years (roughly) this local has successfully defended itself of all charges like these.

Members need to trust the grievance system and file a basic grievance form first and be patient with the process. Nothing happens over night.

Legal counsel has said that the Local may inform the rank and file as to who has filed a lawsuit or charges against us. However under federal law they are allowed to do this.

If you have a Union Complaint the first step is to ask your Steward, research it and then if you must, file a grievance form.

If you have a complaint, be a part of the solution, don't pass it onto someone else to do for you, ask questions to your Shop Stewards or other members who have been around, you might be surprised how much rank and filers really know. We have a habit of bringing up issues that have been brought up many years prior and were addressed back then, issues like this can be put to rest rather quickly by asking around.

We have created new grievance forms and you can get one from the business office or from the dispatchers. These will replace the old antiquated ones of the past.



We have a responsibility as a local to educate ourselves on the proper way to file a union complaint and members need to be more accountable for their actions, so that the members will get their issues heard and resolved without damaging the Local unnecessarily. Members also need to educate themselves on the proper procedures of our organization. Posted in the hall are posters/flyers of the E-Board members who have been trained to help you fill out grievances properly, use them. Too many people call our officials to complain with hopes that the official will fix the problem. This has become a serious waste of valuable time, energy and resources for our officials and is keeping them from doing their jobs efficiently with matters of the up most importance.

From the Safety Committee

Bad Order Equipment

Do not operate or hook up to red tagged equipment or defective machines. Report any bad order equipment and either take it to the shop or have the equipment red tagged.

Stretching Chassis

Under no circumstances that you are to stretch or shrink chassis under the hook. Drivers are not to stretch or shrink chassis at any time.

Injuries

Be sure to file an accident report if you are injured on the job. Do not let the employer fill it out for you, have your foreman do it. All workers hurt on the job, A,B and casual, come to the business office and fill out an info sheet on your injury so we can track it.

From the Business Agents

Jurisdiction

Members need to be on the lookout for crew doing our work. Every member on the job needs to be aware of this and to call your BA if you see crew members doing our work. It is the responsibility of all of us to protect our jobs.

5 High Stacking

The strads will be inspected to ensure that they are rated to stack 5 high. Do not stack cans 5 high if your machine is not rated to lift loads 5 high. Call your BA if you are told to stack 5 high with a strad that is not certified to do so.

June Stopwork Meeting

The June Stopwork Meeting has been changed to June 25th from June 11th due to the Caucus and Convention per membership action. We now need to get approval from the PMA. We will post the change when they approve it.

Political Action News

L19 Endorses Junior for Burien City Council

The membership voted for a second reading to endorse Brother Jack Block Jr. for Burien City Council. You may have heard some controversy concerning discussions with the Port of Seattle. Brother Ugles informed the membership that there were some misunderstandings and that things have been straightened out. The membership wanted answers from Junior and then verbally beat him up some more to make sure there was nothing left. After he got his rear back, the membership unanimously voted to endorse our brother and donate \$2000 to his campaign.

Congratula-
member who
retired this



tions to our
month, Dennis
Bagwell

Political Action News

Local 19 Endorses Julia Patterson

At the May Stopwork meeting, the membership voted to endorse Julia Patterson for King County Council.

Resolution for the Convention

The following resolution was approved by the membership for the convention.

Subject: Sister Ports between the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Sydney Branch and the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific (IBU) Puget Sound Region and International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Locals 19 & 52

Resolved: The Port of Sydney, represented by the Maritime Union of Australia, Sydney Branch and the Port of Seattle represented by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Locals 19 and 52 and the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific, Puget Sound Region, be united in solidarity as "Sister Ports and Locals".

From the Labor Relations Committee

The President and LRC met with the Employer on May 14th to discuss the manning issues at terminal 91 concerning the cruise ships. Negotiations are ongoing and we have made progress. We will be continuing to meet until we are satisfied and can present it to the membership.

3rd Party Liability

The LRC spoke to the membership about the fact that we are not covered the employer if we injure a worker who is not a member of the ILWU. California has this coverage but we do not have it in Washington and Oregon. PMA has signed off on this around May 15 and it is floating around the hall now.

Routine Physicals

Our Health and Welfare Director Nick Buckles wants the membership to know that routine physicals are covered by our health plan and that you need to get your routine exams done.

International Executive Board Election

The following motion and amendment was approved at the May Stopwork meeting.

M/S/C That Local 19 nominate only one Delegate for the International Executive Board from the 7 delegates at the May Stopwork Meeting.

Amendment to the Motion

Upon notification to the membership via the information tape and postings in the hall for 7 consecutive days commencing Saturday May 16th and concluding Friday May 22nd. Elections for deciding the candidate from Local 19 for the International Executive Board (IEB) be conducted through the business office with ballots produced by the office staff with the oversight of the Elections Committee. Members in good standing (no outstanding debts) shall be eligible to vote. Voting shall be conducted during the hours of 7am to 5pm Monday May 25th to Friday May 29th.

Ballots must be marked immediately upon receipt and returned. No ballot will be accepted that is removed from the area directly outside the business office. Counting shall begin no earlier than Monday June 1st at 8am and conclude no later than Friday June 5th at 5pm.

In the event of a tie for the 1st position the 7 delegates shall decide the candidate from those tied. If necessary the tie breaker will take place at sometime during the first day of the Convention with all 7 delegates present. Each delegate shall have 1 vote. The individual with the most votes shall be put forward and nominated as the sole candidate from Local 19 for IEB. No other delegate shall accept a nomination for the IEB.

The following delegates were nominated for International Executive Board at the May meeting

Local 19 nominated Herald Ugles for IEB.

Local 19 nominated Rich Austin for IEB.

Washington State Labor Council

Women's Committee Scholarships

The Washington State Labor Council Women's Committee is offering six (6) scholarships to rank-and-file union women. The scholarships being offered are for the following summer schools for union women.

Summer Institute for Union Women, August 11-15, 2009, at the University of California at Los Angeles. Two (2) scholarships are available.

2009 Summer School for Union Women, July 22-26, 2009, at the Evergreen State College in Olympia. Four (4) scholarships are available.

Both summer schools offer a series of in-depth courses, workshops, solidarity and fun! While agendas have not yet been finalized, prior summer school classes have included leadership development, organizing our unions and community for action and communication strategies. Scholarships include tuition, room and board provided at the facility and reasonable travel expenses. No loss time will be paid. Participants must be able to take vacation or union leave.

The deadline for applying for these scholarships is May 30th. Application forms (on reverse), along with a 100-word or less letter from the applicant, must be received by the deadline in order to be considered. Individuals may apply for one or both of these scholarships.

If you have questions regarding the scholarships, please contact Women's Committee staff, Bernice Vance, at 206-281-8901 or 1-800-542-0904.

Events

Health care reform March and Rally

Come march and rally for health care reform. Show our demand for change. Health care problems affect us all change is needed now with Mother leading the way. The event will be on May 30th Starts at Pratt Park on 18th Ave S & E. Yesler Way at 12:30pm. Endorsed by Local 19, The Washington State Labor Council, Jobs with justice and many more.

Events

When Workers Rise 2009

Pacific Northwest Labor History Assoc.

41st annual Labor Conference

Friday and Saturday June 12, 13

Featuring: Harvey Schwartz, author, *Solidarity Stories: An Oral History of the ILWU*.

David Kusnet, author.

Roundtable discussions on topics including Labor Studies, education, organizing and union democracy. And much more.

Place: Seattle Labor temple, 2800 1st Ave.

For more information visit www.pnlha.org

We Need You, Join the Pensioners Club

The Seattle Pension Club has seen a decline in membership over the last couple of years. We are the backs of the ILWU. We walk the picket lines with the actives, we are represented at the caucus; and we sit on all committees created by the caucus. The Seattle club also has been active in picketing.

We are politically active on issues that affect the working class in general and the Longshore Union in particular. We are involved in the Harry Bridges Chair, at the University of Washington and in any endeavors that are helpful to our Locals. We have a member of the PCPA with the negotiating team. We send delegates to conferences and conventions.

We need members to remain viable, to continue looking after our needs as well as covering the backs of our active brothers and sisters. A decline in membership means a decline in revenue, thus limiting our activities. The Rusty Hook is solvent thanks to Locals 19 and 52, but the club itself is dependent on the annual dues. Dues at this time are \$25 per year, plus a \$3 assessment for conventions.

WE NEED YOU, Old pensioners, new pensioners, active rank-and-file. Locals 19, 52, 98, we want you all. JOIN THE CLUB. We meet on the first Monday of the month, at 10 AM, in the Executive Board room at Local 19's Hall. There is social time before and after the meeting; but, the one to two hours of the meetings are all business. We invite you all to join us.

Thank you,

Bob Rogers - President

Pensioners Club

Join the pensioners club! Show your support for your Union and for those who came before us. Applications can be found on the Rusty Hook website. www.rustyhook.org. Or you can visit the pensioners. The Pensioners office is open from 8:30am till 12:30pm, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. It is located in the back of the Executive board room. Come to their meeting and join the Club!

I also encourage all member's wives, daughters, mothers and aunts to join the ILWU women's auxiliary. The Auxiliary is the support arm of the union. Inquiries can be made at the Pensioners office.

Meetings

The 3 meetings below, begin on the first Monday of the Month

1. Pensioners; at 10:am, All registered members are welcome. Come meet our Old Timers!

2. Auxiliary #3; at 11am

3. Shop Steward; at 3pm. A members welcome!

Executive; Tuesday before Stop Work and the second Tuesday after first meeting of month. Both meetings start at 5:30.

Stop Work; Second Thursday at 5:50pm

Websites

www.ilwu19.com

The members only area has the most current meeting agenda, minutes, contracts, the Constitution, rules, educational pamphlets and much more. Call the shop steward for your members only access. 206-920-0759 or Email me at ilwu19@unions-america.com

www.rustyhook.org - Pensioners Newsletter.

You can print out a membership application on the site.

Phone Numbers

Day BA	206-898-9960
Night BA	206-679-4416
Night pager	206-995-3286
Shop Steward	206-920-0759
Business office	206-623-7461
Pensioners Office	206-623-7461 Ext 7106
Tape	206-625-0795