



ILWU Local 13 Calendar of Events August - 2013 Regular Membership Meeting - 1st Thursday 7:30 p.m. M & R Meeting 1st & 3rd Monday, 5:30 p.m. ADA JPLRC 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. Regular I.D. Meeting - 2nd Monday, 3p.m./7p.m. Executive Board - 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m. Executive Board - 4th Thursday, 12:30 p.m. Regular LRC - 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. Mechanic LRC - 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. Class "B" LRC - 3rd Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. Casual LRC - 2nd & 4th Monday, 9:30 a.m.

## Websites: ilwu13.com and ilwu.org

### ILWU Local 13 Telephone Numbers

Local Office (310) 830-1130 Business Agent (310) 830-1877 Health Benefits (310) 830-6116 Dispatch Hall (310) 834-7213 Dispatch "The Tape" (310) 834-7217 Record Clerk (310) 834-7386 Casual Hall (Tape) (310) 607-4974 International (415) 775-0533 Clerks Local 63 (310) 521-6363 Foreman's Local 94 (310) 832-1109 Credit Union (310) 834-6411 PMA Training Center (310) 847-1600 Alcohol-Drug Recovery Program (310) 547-9966 Memorial Association (310) 830-3591



International Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 13 630 S. Centre Street San Pedro, California 90731 ILWU Local 13 Executive Board Chris Viramontes - President Julie Brady - Vice-President Mark Williams- Secretary-Treasurer John Espinoza, Jr. - Day Business Agent Luke Hollingsworth - Day Business Agent Mario Medina, Jr. - Night Business Agent Angel Blanco - Night Business Agent Mark Mascola - LRC Representative Harry Dong - LRC Representative Jerry Avila - Health Benefits Officer Larry Manzo - Chairman of Stewards Christine Aguirre **Richard Alvarez Rav Benavente** Alberto Bonilla Joe "JoJo" Cortez Mike H. Dimon Jesse "Nacho" Enriquez Sunshine Garcia Mark Jurisic Andrew Kustich Jeffrey Linares **Steve Linares** Larry Manzo Steve Mejia Bobby Olvera, Jr. Frank Ponce De Leon Mondo Porras Jerry "Scrub" Sanchez Paul Sanchez John Solaro Tui Taliulu Greg Viramontes Ricardo Vasquez Scotty Walker Donald "Donny" White Trustees Jimmy Monti Gary Nilsen Chris Castillo **Publicity Committee** D.C. Chavez - Editor Floyd Bryan - Bobby Olvera, Jr. Local 13 Office Staff

Off The Hook Staff Richard Flores - Robin Doyno - Photos Kent Evans - Editing

Off The Hook! is the official publication of ILWU Local 13. All articles and photos are the property of ILWU, Local 13. Articles, photos, or cartoons may be submitted to the above address, Attn: D.C. Chavez. Include your name, registration number, a phone number and a mailing address with your submission. Deadline is Sept 28, 2012 CD or Floppy using Windows operating system are acceptable. Please save your a file in Text (txt) format. You may submit your files via the Internet using the following e-mail "offthehooklocal13@ charter.net.

### **Message From The President**

### **By Chris Viramonícs - Presidení**

Brothers and Sisters,

he rough road to our Health Benefit issues may finally see light at the end of the tunnel! We had our arbitration on July 16<sup>th</sup> through July 19<sup>th</sup> at our International headquarters in San Francisco. Arbitrator Kagel was given many examples and evidence by the Union that showed Zenith American Solutions was incompetent in processing our claims and outright gimmicked their "Request for Proposal (RFP)." Our International Attorneys put on a great case in our bid to fire Zenith American Solutions as the Third Party Administrator who processes our Health Benefit claims.

We should have Arbitrator Kagel's, decision by the end of August. Special thanks to all our members who took the time to bring in all of your examples of Zenith's inaccuracies and failures. I would also like to thank our ILWU Local 13 team who helped gather and sort all the information given to our International Attorneys. This was a great team effort, and we feel positive results will be coming soon! Next, I would like to thank the 2000+ members, families, friends, and Casuals that marched on Bloody Thursday. It was an awesome sight to see a river of white hats and white T-shirts as far as your eyes could see.

This showed true solidarity and made a direct statement to our employers that we stand united and ready to fight for a 2014 contract. I hope we can keep the same force at all our events, including this year's Labor Day March. Again, Thank you!

I would also like to stress the importance of covering our skilled work! Recently, we have had days where skilled work has been left "hanging" at the hall. It is our responsibility to cover OUR work per section 11.1 of our contract "There shall be no strike, lockout, or <u>work stoppage</u> for the life of this\_agreement." In addition, Section 9.41 of contract states, "Trained and/or qualified skilled men shall accept work in their skill when checked in for work or while working in other categories. Failure to do so shall result in removal from the qualification list of the skill in which they are failing to work, and such men shall not be eligible for future promotion or future skilled training programs." The problem of hanging jobs appears to happen most on the first and second days of the month. Most members like to stay low on hours to start the month, but this has harmed the Local with the possibility of illegal work stoppages if the employer takes us to arbitration. Please help cover our work!

In closing, we are no longer a year away from a 2014 contract. We are into the months and days now. Please be aware of the importance of working now and saving your money in the event of any strike or lockout. To be successful, we must be united and not divided. Solidarity is the reason we will prevail!

If we fail to prepare than we have prepared to fail!

In Solidarity,

Chris Viramontes President Local 13



### Message From The Vice-President By Julic Brady - Vice-Presidení

Brothers and Sisters,

Was given the opportunity to attend the arbitration on our Health and Benefits in San Francisco from July 16<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>. Prior to that arbitration hearing the members were asked to provide claims that were denied to the Health and Benefits office here. The claims were then arranged and sent on to the International Offices in San Francisco. From the first day our side continually told the Arbitrator, through written or verbal examples' of the problems our members are having. There was a clear statement that the information provided by Zenith, in their bid for our business, was false or misleading. Zenith made promises they still have not kept. Zenith bid the job with a guaranteed number of experienced employees, which they have not provided. Zenith bid the job with a particular software, which they switched. Zenith bid the job with a dedicated office, which they have not provided.

There was an explanation from Zenith that any "out of network" provider billing was being processed through another company before coming back to Zenith for payment, causing staggering delays. Testimonies from both sides were heard by the Arbitrator. Everyone was informed that it might be the end of August or maybe even the beginning of September before the Arbitrator's decision. In my opinion the struggles with payment to the providers was made clear, and I believe that he understands the totality of the issue. It was not that he made the wrong choice in choosing Zenith, but that he was given misinformation that he based his original decision upon.

It has been an issue for a couple of month's but more so at the beginning of each month, our skilled work is left hanging after dispatch! We all like the option of working particular ships or at particular docks. But the first couple of days in the month we need to make sure ALL the jobs are covered. The employer took us to task on Aug 1<sup>st</sup> and Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> that skilled jobs were hanging. Agreements were made to stop dispatching all the windows, make an announcement regarding the unfilled job's and leave the jobs on the screen so members who come into the hall will know those jobs need to be filled. There were remedies back and forth but it was felt that this was the least disruptive to our members. So, I'm asking each of our members to make a good-faith effort to cover all the skilled work.

In Solidarity,

*Julie Brady* Vice-President Local 13





"We have obligations to our stockholders, our employees and our community -- fortunately Henderson in legal has found a loophole."

## Message From The Secretary-Treasurer By Mark Williams - Secretary-Treasurer

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

t a time when division and arbitrary issues seem to take a stronghold of our reasoning and judgment, I want to remind you about the Great Depression. Millions of American workers did something extraordinary: they joined a union. Aided by the passage of the Wagner act, which made collective bargaining easier, unions organized industries across the country, redesigning the economy. More than seventy percent of Americans during this time favored unions.

Almost eighty years later things could not be more different. Across the country, governors and mayors battling budget shortfall's are blaming public-sector unions for their problems. Public support for labor has fallen to historic lows. For the first time ever, support for unions has plunged below fifty percent. The hostility towards labor is at an all-time high.

The ILWU has historically been one of the most militant, strong and vocal unions in the United States. The reason being: solidarity. It's been hard for me as a second generation union man to see recent events in Local 13 tear us apart. Resentment and petty squabbles have replaced solidarity. This is a hard thing for me to put in writing.

However, all is not lost. As I write this article, we await a decision to be made by the Coast Arbitrator regarding our Welfare Plan debacle. Brothers Frank Ponce De Leon, Jerry Avila, Sam Alvarado, and Sister Julie Brady did a fantastic and meticulous job of preparing our documentation for this arbitration. Usually hard work pays off and I am confident it will in this case as well.

As the saying goes, "history has a way of repeating itself." The history of the ILWU is one of passionate solidarity! We will get back to that soon if we start truly treating each other as Sisters and Brothers. It is crucial that we stay united, because if we fail, we ultimately succumb to the Employers wishes and cease to exist.

The best way to stay informed on the waterfront is to go to your Union meetings. Listen to what you hear and form <u>your own</u> opinions. I love this Union for giving us the ability to stand by our own convictions.

In Solidarity,

Mark Williams Secretary-Treasurer Local 13 WHY DO THOSE TWO WORKERS WEAR THEY'RE EMBARASSED THOSE HOODED BECAUSE THEY DON'T PAY THEIR UNKN DUES SHIRTS? ©2013.UCS



"Apparently there has been a bit of confusion about your retirement fund and my bonus."

### Joint Accident Prevention Committee By Mark Jurisic - Chairman

During the journey we commonly forget its goal. Almost every profession is chosen and commenced as a means to an end but continued as an end in itself. Forgetting our objectives is the most frequent of all acts of stupidity.

#### ---Friedrich Nietzsche

s the Chairman of the Joint Accident Prevention Committee (JAPC), I am often asked to explain the function of this committee. The JAPC is a committee made up of employers and union representatives from all three locals.

The committee meets on the first Thursday of every month and reviews the injuries that occurred on the waterfront. The committee is charged by the contract (Section 16) to produce mutually practical and effective recommendations regarding corrections of accident producing circumstances and conditions.

On paper it sounds simple, but it is far from that. From a committee comprised of people who are truly committed to safety, from both sides of the table, I am willing to bet most of you have never heard a report from the JAPC or seen anything the committee has done. Your safety is important, and the JAPC is supposed to figure out the cause of accidents and the means to prevent similar accidents from occurring in the future.

The current members of the committee are committed to changing the way the JAPC operates. We are working through a subcommittee and looking into job categories which have high incidents of injury. We have identified lashing as the highest injury category per hours worked, and we are currently working on identifying the causes and possible solutions. We plan on reaching out to the members who do the work in the high-injury job categories for input.

If we are successful we will use this information to reduce accidents and injuries in all the job categories.

The good news is that the JAPC is made of dedicated individuals who are willing to work hard and are dedicated to making sure you go home safely.



### Message From The Night Business Agents By Mario Mcdina & Angel Blanco

hat happens when the ILWU is put to the "TEST??" WE stand together in Solidarity!!!! Less than a year from now our contract is expiring, and we are being challenged on a day to day basis. We do not have to look far to see what the employer has in store for us or what their plan is. It's easy to see, NO cooperation, no good faith, and the fight has gone from the Waterfront to the LRC to courtroom!!!!!! What happened to meeting with the employer about issues? Now they run to the court system. Ask yourself what will happen come July 2014. Will we "Negotiate" or will be put to the ultimate test of recent times?

# "There is a weapon we can fight with. That is the weapon of political action".

-Harry Bridges

### Trademark Committee By Alberío Bonilla - Commitiee Member

the Trademark Committee was very successful at the Bloody Thursday Picnic selling over \$9,000.00 in T-Shirts.

These sales allow the Trademark Committee to help fund ILWU Local 13 Scholarships. This year Trademark has donated \$4,929.00 to the Scholarship Committee.

Thank you to all Committee member's and the rank and file, for supporting the Trademark Committee every year at this event. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who help out at the meetings and many events selling trademark items.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Alvarez, Chairman

Alberto Bonilla, Recording Secretary

Angel Blanco

Julie Brady

Jesse Enriquez

Steve Griego

Tuitufu Taliulu

### **Bloody Thursday 2013** By Jesse "Nacho" Enriquez

ocal 13 honored the 79th annual Bloody Thursday with a march from Harry Bridges bust on Harbor Blvd in San Pedro. Joining the march were representatives from every local in the Harbor Area with members from presidents to casuals, but none any less important than the other, to the First Blood Memorial in Wilmington. This year marked a special year with solidarity over the frustrations of our problems with our benefits and the respect being shown to our brother Mark Passero, the casual who died on the job recently, which touched all of our hearts . We don't take any accidents or deaths lightly regardless of who they are. God bless Brother Mark and his family.

Estimates of 1500 to 2000 who participated in the march. That was a beautiful showing of brotherhood and respect.

The picnic went off without a hitch, at Harry Bridges Park in Long Beach, formerly Queen Mary Park, with over 2000 members and family attending. There are not too many places that can accommodate thousands of longshoremen at one time, but I was very proud of the way our people handled themselves and made it another great event.

The pensioner's after doing the march, came to the park and enjoyed themselves. It's good to see new faces that hadn't been to a picnic in years come and enjoy the festivities.

There was plenty of food to go around and great entertainment to keep your toes tapping and feet dancing.

I like to thank our committee who helped make this event a success: Angel Blanco, Mondo Porras, Melon Ceasar Hall, Steve Linares, Brother Tui, and Paul Zuanich. But above I would like to thank all the host of volunteers who tirelessly worked all day to make this a special day. We could not have done this without them..... **THANK YOU AGAIN!!!!!!** 

Thank you local 13, 63, 94, 56, 26 and 65 for showing ,representing and all of your support .



### CORPORATE NEWS COVERAGE



"Here's the corporate approved news script—management wants a full-blown grimace and negative voice tone delivery when broadcasting news about unions."

## Something Positive for a Change! By Bobby Olvera, Jr. - Executive Board Member

e have become so accustom to flyers and bulletins being distributed in our hall and on the job that are nothing more than rumors and finger pointing. So much so that most members do not even read or take very little stock in them. I think we are all tired of those bulletins, and tired of those people.

So lets talk about something real and tangible. Something that we should all be preparing for: contract 2014. Our coast-wide contract expires in 10 months. If you take assessment of our current condition: we are locked out in grain terminals in the PNW. Our health benefit plan has been raped by the employers. Its obvious we are already under attack, and the real battle with PMA has yet to begin.

Where should we be concentrating our efforts as a local and as individual union members? What can we do to prepare ourselves and educate the membership of the plan? There are many questions and topics that we need to address. NOW is the time to begin that process.

The Executive board has established a "Contract Readiness and Education Committee," which is meeting regularly. This committee is comprised of executive board member's and rank and file members. I urge the membership to get involved, and assist in preparing ourselves for the uncertainty we face next year.

The executive board has also begun the process of assigning Picket Captains and will soon begin sign-ups for the membership. It is important that all of us sign up for Picket Teams, and update our contact information. Once this process is finished the union will have assigned over 6800 members to 35 different site's and assigned over 50 Picket Captains.

It's time for us to close ranks, and prepare ourselves for the battles to come. There is much for us to do between now and 2014. So make a difference and get involved.

### Working Non-Union VS. Working Union

- In a non-union setting workers count on their own individual strength; in a union setting workers count on their own strength plus, the collective strength of the group.
- In a non-union setting the employer makes all the rules; in a union setting the rules are negotiated by the union and the employer.
- In a non-union setting the employer enforces the rules however he sees fit; in a union setting workers have a procedure in place to respond to unfair enforcement of rules even to the point of having an outside, neutral arbitrator decide who's right.
- In a non-union setting the employer decides what employees will be paid and what benefits, if any they will receive; in a union setting, the employer is required to negotiate with the union on all pay and benefit issues the union brings to the bargaining table.

## "Take Care of Our Union!"

# Bloody Thursda White Hat/Shirt V San Pedro to V



# y July 5, 2013 Valk & Procession Vilnington, CA.







Health Benefits By Jerry Avila - Health Benefits Officer

Brothers and Sisters,

ince the start of the ILWU/PMA 2008 Contract, there have been several modifications to our Pension and Welfare Plan that were the direct result of negotiations. Including but not limited to: Dental Implant Coverage, TMJ treatment, an increase to our Hearing Aid Benefits, an increase in our Death benefit, an increase in the percentage paid to our widow/ widowers, an increase in lifetime maximum allowable charges for medical coverage, and an increase in pension rates for both existing pensioner's and new pensioners taking our new total per good year to \$180.

In this contract there was also a Memorandum of Understanding to replace the current Third Party Administrator of the plan (Great West at the time). There were also modifications that impacted our plan from outside the contract including: Taxation imposed at both the Federal and State level on the cost of your benefits for dependents that you did not claim on your annual taxes and several new requirements on the plan based on the Affordable Care Act. Those include maintaining coverage for dependents up to 26 years of age, and doing away with any lifetime maximum charges for medical coverage and other modifications to come.



When there are modifications or amendments to our Plan they are made under Joint approval between the Union (Coast level officers) and PMA Trustees. No one individual can make these modifications independent of anyone else. The shift in the Third Party Administrator was no different and subject to the same approval process. Unfortunately, the current PMA does not function in a manner that involves positive resolution to these types of decisions. In other words, when this decision was brought to the Trustees, there was not consensus between the Union and PMA Trustees resulting in the decision going to arbitration.

In arbitration, the arbitrator awarded the contract to Zenith American Solutions (ZAS), which was the <u>PMA choice</u> as the replacement company, despite the objections of the Union Trustees.

Despite the facts in the above paragraph, there were things in the process that impacted the successful implementation of the transition to the new Third Party Administrator in addition to the poor performance of Zenith American Solutions (ZAS), which include poor communication and ineffective oversight of the transition. Had these two areas been better, the transition may have been smoother, but they would have not made up for the shortcomings of ZAS. Since the onset of that transition, your Union Trustees have made a motion to replace ZAS with the company that they had originally chosen, Benesys, which went to arbitration on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013. As I write this article, we are still awaiting the decision by the arbitrator.

All of your local officers and representatives have been working hard to improve this aspect of your Plan, as evident in their trip to San Francisco to sit with the Trustees and ZAS to express their outrage of the performance of ZAS as well to get in writing a plan for improvement. Additionally, they participated in the arbitration to remove ZAS as the third party administrator and they participate in calls, conferences, as well as other forms of communication with ZAS and their partners on a daily basis.

Where are we today? The last eight to ten months have been a difficult time for all of us in the ILWU, to say the least. With the 2014 contract on the horizon, these Page 13 Off The Hook Volume IX, Number 2, July - August, 2013

attacks on our BENEFITS as well as other areas of our contract by the PMA, it is not time to divide our efforts, but rather, come together as one UNITED front as the ILWU.

This union was born out of struggle, and we perform at our best in the midst of adversity. It is time to use that energy born out of anger and frustration, and turn it into a positive force to move this union into the next generation starting with the 2014 contract. The movement starts with you, the individual member, and how you contribute to the cause. Start attending your meetings if you don't already.

The Labor Day Parade and festivities is fast approaching. Spend a few hours with your Union brothers, sisters, and pensioners showing the PMA how strong we truly are. You will still have time for your families in the afternoon, or bring them along to show them how important your Union family is.

Spread the facts not the rumors so all members are informed with the information that will help them understand the real issues that we face on a daily basis.

Together, we can move THE WORLD one container at a time. Alone we move nothing.

In Solidarity,

Jerry Avila # 37499

Health Benefits Officer



"We all agreed there'd be no outrageous executive salaries this year. I don't think 19 million dollars is outrageous, do you?"



# Mark Passero G4575 February 15, 1968 - July 1, 2013 Rest In Peace!

From the Officers and members of Local 13 would like to express our deepest condolences to the family of our Brother whose life was tragically lost in an accident at Evergreen Terminals.

Brother you will not be forgotten!

# An Injury To One Is An Injury To All!

# July 8, 20 Non-Paymer PMA Offee L





# ILWU Figh

# DIB Protest nt of Benefits ong Beach, CA.

Photos by Richard Flores





# ting Mad!

### Longshore, Warehouse & Marine Divisions Support ILWU Local 56 "Shipscalers"

ocal 13 members – led by President Chris Viramontes – joined other ILWU leaders at a rousing convention in late July to celebrate the proud history of ILWU Local 56 members, known as the "shipscalers," who are preparing for a tough contract fight this November.

#### History of the "scalers"

Today, the "scalers" are employed by contractors who provide hazardous materials and spill-prevention services at Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors. While Local 56 members operate their hiring hall in San Pedro, near Local 13's offices, many ILWU members are just beginning to learn more about the fascinating history of these longtime ILWU members. For oldtimers, the family connections between Local 13 and 56 run deep. Former Local 13 President Jo Jo Cortez recalls that his own father, grandfather, and uncle all worked as "scalers" in Local 56.

#### Powerful documentary film

Connections like this were detailed throughout the fast-paced, two-hour convention that Local 56 held on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at the San Pedro Boys and Girls Club. One highlight was a dramatic 15-minute film, produced by talented local filmmaker Nathan Sacharow, who captured the unknown history of this important ILWU Local that is now organizing workers at the non-union environmental service companies who operate around our docks. Using vintage film and photos from early in the last century Local 56 members were shown scraping barnacles from the hulls of old ships. This dirty and difficult work is what made Local 56 members known as "shipscalers."

#### 97-year-old ILWU member

The star of the film was 97 year-old ILWU member Felix "Blacky" Alvarez who told of the hard work and difficult days that he and other men faced during the early days of their union. Remarkably, Alvarez appeared in person at the convention where he quickly became a celebrity, surrounded by children, ILWU member's and leaders. (Felix Alvarez pictured to right) ILWU International Vice-President Ray Familathe was on hand to congratulate the "scalers" for their past accomplishments - and their ambitious goal to organize workers at the non-union environmental service companies.

"ILWU Local 56 was struggling a few years ago, but now these members are working hard to put things back in order. Your hard work – seen by all of us at this convention – is a positive sign that the best days of Local 56 are still ahead."

Familathe introduced ILWU leaders at the convention, including Local 13 President Chris Viramontes, Local 63 President Mike Podue, Local 94 President Danny Miranda, Local 26 President Luisa Gratz, and President of the Inland Boatmen's Union (IBU), Alan Coté, who attended with IBU Regional Director John Scow. Familathe also introduced former Local 13 President and, former International President, Dave Arian, now an active Pensioner who serves as a Los Angeles Port Commissioner. Other ILWU family included leaders from Local 20, Local 13's Allied Division, and Local 29's Allied Division.

Viramontes praised the "scalers" for their work and efforts to organize non-union environmental services companies.

"We can't afford to have any more non-union outfits working in our harbors," said Viramontes. "It's wrong because those environmental workers are being exploited by non-union companies – but it's also bad because we don't want PMA employers thinking that



Page 17 Off The Hook Volume IX, Number 2, July - August, 2013 the ILWU will tolerate non-union outfits working around us."

Calls for solidarity were offered by the ILWU leaders who followed Viramontes - and all joined him in signing a "support" banner that confirmed the solidarity. Support pledges were also signed by other unions, including Teamsters Port Division Local 848, Hotel and Restaurant workers Local 11, the AFL-CIO, and Steelworkers Local 675. Community supporters offered their support too, including Cathy Jurado from the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the Southern California Pensioners Group and ILWU Auxiliary #8 activist Maureen Montoya.

Political leaders were on hand to show support and sign the solidarity pledge to help Local 56 workers. State Assembly member Bonnie Lowenthal, Long Beach Council members Steve Neal and Patrick O'Donnell, and State Senator Rod Wright were introduced by Cathy Familathe, President of the ILWU's Southern California District Council. Other officials represented at the event included staff from Congress member Janice Hahn and City Council member Joe Buscaino, along with Lorena Cervantes of the Compton College Board of Trustees

But the focus of the convention was on rank-and-file members - not politicians - who shared their hopes and concerns in their own words. Most were speaking in public before a large audience for the first time - and they were doing it in their native language – Spanish. A professional translator - and remote-powered earphones available to everyone who wanted them made it possible for both English and Spanish speakers to speak and be heard without any difficulty.

Member Maria Lapov explained how Local 56 families need health benefits for their families; a priority that members want to win this November when their contract expires.

Armando Trujillo told of the relatively low wages that Local 56 members now receive for their difficult and sometimes dangerous work. He said better wages should also be a priority.

Margarito Suarez reminded delegates and guests that members currently have no pensions or health insurance, but are committed to fighting for these goals in November.

Sergio Naboa gave an eloquent speech about the good work done by Local 56 members to protect the

environment – and the need for companies to provide safer working conditions.

And Jesse Lopez warned delegates and guests about the threat posed by non-union environmental companies and the need to protect ILWU jurisdiction in this area.

After hearing these presentations workers unanimously adopted these goals as their platform to win better contracts when their current agreements expire on November 4.

"We're trying to re-build our union from the bottomup and hold companies more accountable for better jobs and a more secure future," said Local 56 Business Agent/Dispatcher, Ruben Hurtado. "This convention was a big step for us and all the support from Local 13, and the rest of the ILWU family made a huge difference to us."

Before adjourning for the carne asada lunch that was prepared for delegates and guests, President Ilugardo Mendoza reminded everyone that a major struggle is brewing - in the form of a contract campaign and possible strike - that may be necessary on November 4<sup>th</sup> to win basic contract improvements that many union members take for granted, such as decent wages, family health benefit's and pensions.

"Many of us are immigrants who have struggled hard to survive. We love being a part of the ILWU family, because it's a union that isn't afraid to stand up and fight. Working together is the most important way for all of us to win"



### What is a Political Action Committee? (PAC) and...... Why is it Important to me & our Union

### By Floyd E. Bryan - Vice-Presidení, So. Cal. District Council

First – What's a PAC

n our recent elections, both local and national, we have all heard a lot about Political Action Committees (PAC's) and we've also heard a lot **from** them whether you realized it or not. So, what exactly is this apparently powerful entity that seems to have so much influence on our candidates and issues?

A Political Action Committee (PAC) is a type of organization that pools campaign contributions from members and donates those funds to campaign for or against candidates, ballot initiative's or legislation. Various rules govern PAC's at the State and Federal level. Our Local 13 has a PAC that restricts activities to local and State issues and elected officials. ILWU International maintains a separate PAC that addresses Federal level issues and elected officials.

ILWU Local 13's PAC is funded by a small part of each individual's dues. ILWU International PAC is funded by donations from members.

#### Next – Why do we have one?

Our PAC is a tool to help elect State and Local officials who are supportive of Labor and our issues. We are able to make direct contributions to candidates we wish to support.

Our PAC's have become even more important since the 2010 Supreme Court ruling commonly referred to as "Citizens United" that opened the door for unlimited corporate and union donations. Our Union efforts are now up against corporate PAC's with virtually unlimited money available to support their candidates and issues. Those candidates and issues are usually NOT pro-labor. Our PAC supports the campaigns of State & Local candidates who support legislation and actions which further the interests of our ILWU Locals and a LA/LB Port complex. Some recent examples include Pier Pass, replacement of the Gerald Desmond Bridge, and new rail yard close to the docks.

#### Now – What do we need to do?

All Union members have a responsibility to pay attention to local, state and Federal candidates and issues. All of which are becoming increasingly important to our jobs and livelihood.

Support our local PAC and it's activities by helping out when called upon to volunteer.



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₽ Rest In Peace

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>Deceased List</u>	
Henry Aja	38508	(Retired)	04/30/13
Joseph Friscia	30810	(Retired)	04/18/13
Tommy Ramos	33736	(Retired)	04/13/13
Paul Razevich	36305	(Retired)	05/09/13
Margaret T. Bobadilla	35815	(Retired)	05/12/13
Jose Jesus R. Molina	36811	(Retired)	05/13/13
Edward Machado Jr.	33080	(Retired)	05/13/13
Lorelii Hall	39553	(Retired)	05/19/13
Raymond Perea	132352	(Active)	06/10/13
Sandra Arregui	131399	(Active)	06/15/13
Luis Sulsona	38555	(Retired)	06/16/13
Heidi Fields	39428	(Active)	06/16/13
William E. Moore	33830	(Retired)	06/16/13
Mike Contreas	33395	(Retired)	06/17/13
Jesus "Jesse" Velo	132319	(Active)	06/17/13
Leonard Townsell	33528	(Retired)	06/27/13
Sam J. Kostich	32747	(Retired)	06/29/13
Hector Diaz	36666	(Retired)	07/01/13
Fausto Gonzalez	39337	(Active)	07/12/13
Mark Passero	G4575	(Casual)	07/01/13
Elizardo "Gardena" Flores	31614	(Retired)	07/30/13

Number	<u>Name Retired List</u>	YEARS OF SERVICE	
132107	Jerry DiLeva	(8 Yrs of Service)	03/01/13
37509	Andres R. Magana	(16 Yrs of Service)	03/01/13
37001	Henry Pollard	(17 Yrs of Service)	03/01/13
37030	Michael Villarico	(18 Yrs of Service)	03/01/13
36081	Wayland Allen	(15 Yrs of Service)	04/01/13
37325	Manuel Arroyo	(18 Yrs of Service)	04/01/13
37174	Antonio M. Jaramillo	(19 Yrs of Service)	04/01/13
34780	Cornelio R. Martinez	(31 Yrs of Service)	04/01/13
35975	John T. Mingo	(26 Yrs of Service)	04/01/13
36955	Raymond Brady	(17 Yrs of Service)	05/01/13
37240	Michael Chiu	(18 Yrs of Service)	05/01/13
33844	Maurice Johnson	(47 Yrs of Service)	05/01/13
39209	Gregory S. Jones	(13 Yrs of Service)	05/01/13
81732	Neil A. Tufford	(34 Yrs of Service)	05/01/13
35042	Albert Gonzalez	(35 Yrs of Service)	06/01/13
36235	William Houck	(25 Yrs of Service)	06/01/13
132530	Grant E. Anderson	(10 Yrs of Service)	06/01/13
33163	Ted D. Martizia	(50 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
33208	Guadalupe "Tomato" Villanueva	(50 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
07951	Philip "Gold Finger" Douglas	(47 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
33776	Paul C. Quinones	(47 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
34374	Peter Kobzoff	(41 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
35069	Walter Umana	(32 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
34879	Tommy Hurtado	(31 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
35705	Dana L. Keith	(28 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
37883	Uisik Cho	(18 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
38539	Joe Cubit	(17 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
38823	Robert Dragovcic	(15 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
39064	Gerald R. Apodaca	(13 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13
132370	Irene M. Gaston	(10 Yrs of Service)	07/01/13



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Photo by Richard Flores