

# DISTRICT 751 AERO MECHANIC

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLD'S FINEST WORKERS



VOL. 67 NO. 3

APRIL 2012



More than 200 Machinists Union members from Boeing turned out to support Hytek workers in their efforts for a first contract.

## Solidarity with Members at Hytek

Management at Hytek Finishes has rejected an offer from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to help it resolve increasingly contentious contract talks with the Machinists Union.

The union's chief negotiator said he was surprised and disappointed by the company's decision.

"The IAM has continued to listen to Hytek concerns, no matter how far-fetched they are, we have made multiple efforts to

respond and propose options to address their issues – yet they have refused to offer the same level of professionalism and courtesy," said IAM Grand Lodge Rep Kevin Cummings. "We remain open to anything that might lead to an agreement that both sides can live with. For Hytek to dismiss the mediation process is sad and only provides further evidence for our NLRB charges that they are stalling and doing everything to avoid legitimate negotiation.

If ever there was a negotiating process that could use third-party intervention, this is it."

Cummings said that the federal mediation service has assigned an officer to follow the talks between management at Hytek, a subsidiary of Bellevue-based Esterline Corp., and the union as they try to reach a first contract.

Negotiations have been underway since October. Hourly workers at Hytek – there are now roughly 175 of them – voted 2-to-1 in August to join Machinists Union District Lodge 751.

Cummings said talks started well, but bogged down after the first of the year. In February, the Machinists Union filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board, accusing managers at the Esterline subsidiary of deliberately violating the rights of union members under federal labor law.

As a normal courtesy, the IAM has kept the assigned mediator informed of the progress (or lack of it) in negotiations. The mediation service's officer contacted the two sides in early March to see if anything could be done to move the talks forward.

Cummings quickly said the IAM would welcome any attempt to move the discussions forward. "The company has rejected

all our proposals and is dragging its feet about coming back with realistic counter-proposals," he said. "Why not bring in a mediator to help the process?"

But Esterline's management refused the offer, he said.

The Machinists at Hytek do metal finishing and metal plating on aerospace parts. Their work makes the parts – each of them worth thousands of dollars – perform better and last longer. Boeing, Lockheed and Bell Helicopters are major customers, and Hytek is an important supplier for the Pentagon's Joint Strike Fighter.

The union says the workers have asked for improvements in three major areas: safety, pay and benefits.

On the safety front, the union points out Hytek workers routinely handle more than 100 different toxic or cancer-causing materials. Hytek management provides workers with basic safety equipment, but union health-and-safety experts have identified many areas that are in need of improvement.

On pay, the union says Hytek's average salaries are far below the market rate for manufacturing workers in Washington, as calculated by the state's Department of Employment Security.

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Hytek workers share their top concerns with Machinists Union members from other employers who turned out to support them.



District 751 AMTs had 20 minutes to successfully complete each challenge at the AMT Society's annual skills competition.

### AMTs Win Top Award

A team of District 751 Machinists who work at Boeing won top honors in its category at the AMT Society's annual maintenance skills competition.

In addition, two individual Machinists recorded the best times in their individual events.

"All the guys did outstanding," said Joe Fancella, an Everett flightline mechanic who helped organize

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## Presidential Honors for Union Volunteers

Eleven members of District 751's Machinists Volunteer Program have been honored by the White House for their community service, with five of them receiving the nation's top honor for volunteer work.

All 11 MVPs received President's Volunteer Service Awards from the White House. Five of them – George Braun, Rob Curran, Tom Lindberg, Chris Louie and Vennie Murphy, received gold-level awards, signifying they gave more than 500 hours to community service work in 2011.

The remaining six – Robley Evans, Clark Fromong, David Henry, Jim Kakuschke, Terri Myette and Brent Sanchez – received bronze-level awards in recognition of performing more than 100 hours of volunteer work.

"There is nothing so satisfying to the spirit than giving our all to a difficult task," President Obama said in a letter to the award-winners. "Your volunteer service demonstrates the kind of commitment to your

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751-Retiree George Braun (center) displays his gold Presidential community service award for volunteering 963 hours in 2011. District Sec-Treasurer Susan Palmer (l) and Wilson 'Fergie' Ferguson presented Braun with the award at the March 13 District Council meeting.

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# REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Safety Is Our Top Priority for Every Job, Every Day

by Tom Wroblewski, District President



Safety is a core value in the labor movement. One of the main reasons unions were founded in the United States was so that workers could insist on safe working conditions. Working with Boeing in our Joint Programs, this union has pushed hard to improve safety at all our Boeing sites, and we've applied those lessons at our non-Boeing sites as well.

That's why the recent accidents in Everett hurt so badly.

I can't comment directly on those accidents because they're still under investigation.

But as a general matter, I believe its obvious that safety should be the No. 1 priority of each and every one of us.

Just about every job Machinists do at Boeing—and the other companies where

we work—carries with it some type of risk for injury. Even people who spend most of their days at desks or computers run the risk of painful and debilitating repetitive motion injuries.

But manufacturing is an inherently dangerous occupation. We Machinists operate complex tooling that can grind the hardest metal—and instantly slice through flesh and bone. We work in shops and factories around huge machines that can roll or topple over on us.

In our aerospace plants, overhead cranes carry massive aircraft components over our heads—one slip could crush a dozen people without warning. And we handle dangerous paints, solvents and chemicals that can cause long-term irreversible harm with constant exposure.

Yet it's easy to become complacent to these dangers when you work around them every day. It's just human nature. We start to rush, to meet a production

deadline or simply to get a task done so we can go to lunch.

We can't let that happen. These two recent accidents are the hardest and saddest reminders that safety at work is essential. The best pay and benefits in the world are no good to you if you're not able to work to collect them.

That's why I'm calling on every one of you to make safety your top priority, and to make sure the Machinists you work with are making it their top priority too. You have a right to go home at the end of your shift just as healthy as you were when you started it.

Safety is also one of the major issues in our efforts to win a fair contract for our new union brothers and sisters at Hytek Finishes in Kent.

Our members who work at Boeing in Auburn do similar work to our new members at Hytek. As they well know, it's potentially very hazardous, involving hundreds of dangerous chemicals and materials.

At Boeing in Auburn, we have an IAM/

Boeing joint health and safety committee that works very hard to reduce the risks of chemical exposure for our members.

Our brothers and sisters at Hytek don't have anything like that. The company does provide them with a minimal level of personal protective equipment, but when our union safety experts toured Hytek's plant in Kent, they found dozens of things that seem to violate the safety standards and protocols that protect our members at Boeing.

Given that, improved safety is one of the major issues our IAM negotiating team is pushing for as they try to win a first contract at Hytek—along with market-rate pay and improvements to a benefit package that bankrupts as many workers as it helps.

Those contract talks were promising  
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## Union Ensures Member Paid as Witness

751 Member Nick Jensen believes in going by the book—the IAM contract book that is. When he ran into an issue concerning witness duty pay, he knew where to turn for assistance—to his Union Steward Terri Myette.

Terri presented the facts to Human Resources at Boeing and enlisted help from Business Rep Heather Barstow. After presenting the witness duty summons, which clearly showed he was being called as a witness by the city of Renton, management quickly agreed that Nick would be paid for his time as a witness.

The Union contract has clear language on jury duty and witness duty in Section 6.6. Members are entitled to receive pay to respond to a subpoena to appear as a witness in any legal proceeding. The only exceptions for witness duty are:

- The employee is called as a witness against the Company or its interests; or
- Is called as a witness on his/her own behalf in an action in which he/she is a party; or
- Voluntarily seeks to testify as a witness; or
- Is a witness in a case arising from or related to his/her outside employment or outside business activities; or
- Is subpoenaed as a witness while on leave of absence except when serving as a Company witness.

The issue began when Nick was in a hit



751 member Nick Jensen (r) thanks Steward Terri Myette (l) and Business Rep Heather Barstow for their assistance in ensuring he was paid to serve witness duty after receiving a subpoena.

and run car accident last August while going through a fast-food drive thru. He got the license plate number, filed a police report and then dealt with his insurance company to get his car repaired.

The police classified it a hit and run and indicated the driver has a history of such activity. The city of Renton filed formal charges. Nick was startled when a police officer came by his house one Saturday with a summons that indicated should he fail to show in court, a bench warrant could be issued.

Nick was glad he received the summons over a month ahead of time so he had time to ensure he would receive witness duty pay for testifying.

"The facts clearly showed that Nick was a witness, not a party to the legal proceeding and that he was entitled to

witness pay per our contract. Once I explained the situation and pointed out who was involved in the legal proceedings, they agreed he would get witness pay. I'm just glad he didn't take the first answer and got the Union involved. In the end HR agreed and did the right thing by paying Nick for the days off" said Business Rep Heather Barstow. "Terri did a wonderful job, as always in providing facts and the paperwork necessary to resolve this issue before Nick had to take the time off work."

"It is always great to be part of the Union and have someone who will take your fight forward. Members shouldn't give up if they are told no, but firmly believe they are right on a contractual matter," said Nick. "The Union is our advocate and has knowledge and experience on contractual issues."

## Injured Member Offers Caring Bridge for Progress Updates

A note to my friends and co-workers at Boeing:

As most of you know one of your co-workers was run over during a 787 line move on Friday, February 3rd. I'm Josh Divers, and I was the one injured that evening just two months ago. Many of you worked alongside the firefighters from Paine Field and our own Boeing Fire employees to extricate me from under the landing gear. It took about 30 minutes to get me free. If not for the knowledge and skill brought to the emergency by my co-workers, I don't know how much longer it would have taken. My legs received significant injuries and I was flown to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle by an Airlift Northwest helicopter. Unfortunately, the dedicated doctors and nurses were unable to save

my feet and lower legs due to the severe nature of the injuries. While the injuries are not life threatening, I will have a long and complicated recovery. I have been to surgery eight times, but hopefully that part of my journey is behind me. It may be several months before I get my new legs and can walk again.

I have moved on to the Rehab floor at Harborview, and can see some light at the end of the tunnel. I hope to be discharged around March 28, and will continue my healing at home. It will be several weeks before the skin grafts on my legs are able to take a prosthetic, and that will begin the next phase of the process to get me walking again.

I spoke to the investigators about the accident a couple of weeks ago. I am confident that Boeing will work hard to

determine the cause of the accident and take measures to assure no other employee has to endure what my family and I are going through.

I have great friends, a loving and caring family, and my faith to draw my strength from; I am sure I will overcome the challenges that lie ahead.

You can look at some of the high points of my recovery at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/joshdivers](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/joshdivers). My family and I have tried to keep the journal updated when there are changes in my recovery or care during my time here at Harborview.

Thank you all for your support and prayers,

Josh Divers, 751 Member

**District Lodge 751, International Assn. of Machinists and Aerospace Workers**

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District 751 AERO MECHANIC (ISSN 0894-7864, USPS 008-660) is published Monthly except Bi-monthly in December/January by Aerospace Industrial District Lodge 751, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle WA 98108. \$3.50 of the annual dues goes toward a one-year subscription to the Aero Mechanic. \$4 per year for non-members by District Lodge 751, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108. Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, WA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to District 751 Aero Mechanic, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98108

## POLITICAL ACTION

# Candidates in First Congressional Vie for Labor's Vote

On Friday, March 23, Machinists Union members joined other labor folks at the Everett hall for a candidate forum for the new 1st Congressional District. The U.S. House seat being vacated by Rep. Jay Inslee is in a district that was deliberately redrawn to make it a "swing" district, with equal parts traditionally Democratic and Republican voters.

The new 1st Congressional District is determined to be the most evenly divided congressional district in the United States of America. That means this district will be a hard fought race. Whoever wins this race will have a leg up on anyone running in the future. That is why many see the 1st Congressional as a high priority race.

The 1st District race has attracted lots of candidates, which means unions face a challenge determining which candidate will be the best champion for working families.

The candidate forum was hosted by the Washington State Labor Council and the Martin Luther King Central Labor Council.



Enrique Cerna of KCTS9 hosted the forum at the Everett Union Hall for candidates in the First Congressional District. L to R: Larry Ishmael, Laura Ruderman, Darshan Rauniyar, Suzan DelBene, Enrique Cerna, Steve Hobbs, Darcy Burner, and Roger Goodman.

A couple hundred union leaders and staff, and rank-and-file union members attended. The forum was moderated by Enrique Cerna of KCTS 9-TV.

The candidates who have formally announced they are running are Democrats Darcy Burner, Suzan DelBene, state Rep. Roger Goodman, state Sen. Steve Hobbs, Darshan Rauniyar and Laura Ruderman, Republican John Koster, and

Independent Larry Ishmael. All were invited and are encouraged to participate in the forum. Only Republican John Koster missed the opportunity to address the Labor community.

The topics covered included workplace safety, international trade, labor law and the economy. It was clear by the end of the night that all of the candidates were working hard to convince the audi-

ence that each of them were supportive of Labor.

Now the Labor community will be tasked with determining who among the candidates deserve the Labor endorsement. That endorsement will be determined at the May 5th Washington State Labor Council's C.O.P.E. endorsement convention to be held at the District's Seattle Union Hall.

## Machinists Endorse Kilmer for 6th Congressional

The Washington Machinists Council, the umbrella organization for all affiliated Machinists Union Local Lodges in Washington State, announces its endorsement of Derek Kilmer for Congress in the 6th District race. The 6th Congressional District will be an open race in 2012 with the departure of Norm Dicks, an 18 term incumbent.



Derek Kilmer

"I know Derek Kilmer to be a highly capable legislator who has worked hard to support the creation of good living-wage jobs throughout his time in the Legislature and in

his career as an economic development professional," said 751 Political Director Larry Brown.

"I want to thank the hard-working men and women of the International Association of Machinists for their early support," Derek Kilmer said. "I am committed to working hard every day to support the good-paying jobs that will help working families get back on their feet, rebuild a strong middle class, and get our economy back on track."



Displaying 751's multiple awards for political fundraising through MNPL L to R: District Sec-Treasurer Susan Palmer, Larry Brown, Paul Veltkamp, Wilson "Fergie" Ferguson, Dwyane Johnson, Dist. President Tom Wroblewski, Dave Henry and Ron Coen.

## 751 Continues to Lead the P.A.C.

District 751 was again the leader in fundraising for the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL) along with the affiliated local lodges.

MNPL serves as the Union's political action committee (PAC) and gives the Union a voice in the political arena.

At the MNPL Awards Banquet, 751 is consistently in the forefront. District 751 again finished first in the District Lodge total contribution category with \$350,846.40, and took second place in the cents per member division with \$13.33. Washington State also came out on top in the state competition with \$419,983.60.

Among local lodges, District 751 affiliates again swept the top three spots. Local 751-A earned first place

with \$121,557.10; 751-C finished second with \$104,273.20 and Local 751-F captured third place with \$88,188.92.

Local C also took second in percentage of sponsoring members with 14%, followed by Local F with 11%. 751 raises money for MNPL through various methods. The most successful is when members sign a payroll deduction card and have \$1 or more per month deducted for MNPL. Remember: the more members that participate, the stronger our voice is in the political arena.

Each member should be proud of these accomplishments, which demonstrates that our members understand the importance of political action.

## Take Action to Support Reauthorization of Export Import Bank

The Export-Import Bank is a vital tool for creating American jobs and it must be renewed, said leaders of District 751.

"This is important to us, as Machinists, because the Ex-Im Bank helps Boeing customers line up financing so they can buy the planes we build," said District President Tom Wroblewski. "As President Obama noted last month in Everett, the sale of 230 Boeing 737s to Lion Air was made possible by the Ex-Im Bank. That's just one example."

The Export-Import Bank is an independent federal agency that provides loan guarantees and other financing to help American companies, like Boeing, sell their products overseas. By providing loan guarantees – essentially agreeing to be a co-signer on loans – the Ex-Im Bank helps buyers of aircraft and other American-made products arrange financing for purchases.

The bank is facing two major deadlines. Congressional authorization of the Ex-Im Bank will expire on May 31 of this year, and the bank likely will hit its current \$100 billion credit limit sometime in April. Once it hits the credit limit, it can't make any more loans, and it will have to close shop altogether on May 31, unless it's reauthorized.

A bi-partisan group of U.S. Senators – led by Maria Cantwell of Washington – has proposed a measure to reauthorize the bank for the next four years, and also to raise the credit limit to \$140 billion.

The Machinists Union supports Cantwell's bill, said District 751 Legislative Director Larry Brown.

"Roughly 70 percent of the planes our members build for Boeing are sold to airlines and leasing companies outside the United States," he said.

To meet increased export demand for

Boeing planes, the company has hired more than 8,100 workers in Washington state over the past year, Brown added.

"These are good-paying union jobs with benefits, the kind of jobs that support entire communities," he said. "Those jobs exist in no small part because the Ex-Im Bank helps us compete with our massively subsidized foreign competitors."

The Canadian government, for example, provides three times the level of export loan guarantees as the U.S. Ex-Im Bank, Brown said. Chinese exporters benefit from 11 times as much government support.

However, Republicans – operating largely at the behest of Delta Air Lines – are trying to shut down the Ex-Im Bank. While some conservatives publicly cite philosophical reasons, saying corporations shouldn't rely on government aid, behind the scenes, Delta is pushing them

hard in an attempt to block the sale of 42 Boeing 787s to Air India in a deal made possible through Ex-Im Bank loan guarantees.

"The Air India deal represents several years of work for thousands of American aerospace workers," said Brown. "That includes our union members here in Puget Sound, of course, but it also affects workers at aerospace suppliers nationwide and at other Boeing sites, including South Carolina."

District 751 is encouraging its members to contact their members of Congress to support Cantwell's reauthorization bill, Brown said.

"Failure to reauthorize Ex-Im would amount to unilateral disarmament in the face of other nations' aggressive trade finance programs," he said. "It will put billions of dollars in U.S. exports and thousands of American jobs at risk."

# Workers Pause to Celebrate 777 Milestone

Workers on the 777 took time out of their hectic production schedule to celebrate a very significant milestone on March 2 - delivery of the 1,000th 777 to Emirates.

Making it even more significant was the fact that the 777 reached the milestone faster than any other twin-aisle aircraft, in less than 18 years. Boeing's 747 and 767 took 24 and 25 years respectively to get to the 1,000 delivery mark.

Much of the credit for the airplane's success goes to the skills and expertise of our membership. During the celebration Boeing played several videos that showcased the work of our members and pointed out the important role they play in the plane. The video declared "The success of one of the greatest airplanes in history lies in the hearts and hands that help build it. Countless people work together to orchestrate a true feat of aerospace ingenuity."

During the formal program, Boeing acknowledged a number of employees (many of our members) who have been on the program since the beginning and had

several members speak about their work.

"Reaching this milestone puts the 777 in an exclusive club and I would like to thank all our employees, suppliers and customers who made it possible," said Larry Loftis, who until recently was vice president and general manager of the 777 program. "Reaching this milestone requires two things: a product that provides exceptional value and a world-class production system to reliably bring that product to the marketplace - and we have both on the 777 program. As a result, the 777 program reached this milestone faster than any other twin-aisle airplane because of the 777's proven performance, exceptional value, continuous innovation and progressive environmental performance."

It was fitting the 1,000th 777 is a 777-300ER for Emirates airline. "Emirates is the largest 777 carrier in the world. Believe it or not they have 102 in service right now and they have orders for another 93," said Boeing Commercial President and CEO Jim Albaugh. "Emirates is also the only airline in the world that has



Talking after the 777 celebration about the innovations our members have introduced on the airplane l to r: R.C. Chea, Business Rep Ray Baumgardner and Dan Bloodgood.

operated all six models of the 777."

To date Boeing has sold 1,361 777s to 64 customers around the globe. And the

777 continues to sell, with more than 370 unfilled orders on the books, including 202 added last year.



Members of District 751's Human Rights Committee pose for a picture with retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Edward Drummond after he spoke at Boeing.

## Tuskegee Airmen Share Wisdom and History

There really are no limits on what an individual can achieve, surviving members of the Tuskegee Airmen told Boeing employees.

Just look at them.

"There's an opportunity for you to do anything you want to in this life," said retired U.S. Air Force Capt. George Hickman.

But you've got to work for it, added his fellow Airman, retired Lt. Col. Edward Drummond. "Education worked for us," he said. "Determination worked for us."

The two - who are among five surviving Tuskegee Airmen living in Washington State - spoke at Black History Month celebrations at Boeing in late February.

"It was really an honor to hear them speak," said Emerson Hamilton, the District 751 Grievance Coordinator, who led a group of the union's Human Rights Committee members who attended the presentation. "What they accomplished should be an inspiration to all Americans, and for African-Americans in particular."

Their appearance was timed in connection with February's release of the movie "Red Tails," a fictionalized account of the real-life heroes who were trailblazers in the military and later the aerospace industry.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American aviators in the U.S. military, serving in the Army Air Corps of World War II during a time when the U.S. armed forces were still segregated and black Americans were subject to official discrimination in many states.

They got their nickname after training at Tuskegee University, a private college in Alabama that already had an aviation school training African-American pilots before World War II began.

Hickman was part of the 332<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group, which was sent to North Africa in 1943, and it took part in the Allied invasion of Italy.

Initially, the group was saddled with second-hand planes and assigned to low-priority missions, Hickman said.

"We really didn't get a chance to show what we could do," he said. "There were generals in there that

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## Guide Dog Charity Golf Tournament: Sunday, July 15

The 21st annual Guide Dogs of America Charity Golf Tournament will be on Sunday, July 15 at Willows Run Golf Course in Redmond. The annual event is sponsored by District 751, and is a fundraiser for Guide Dogs of America.

This year's tournament will be a scramble format with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The winning team will get a trophy, along with \$100 for each person on the team. Individual prizes will be offered for the longest drive and any holes-in-one, and KP with a 50/50



payout. All other prizes will be raffled off at the end.

Registration is \$90 per person, which covers greens fees, cart rental, a tournament T-shirt and a buffet at the end of play. The event is capped at 280 entrants, and the deadline for entry is June 17. Entry forms are available at District 751 union halls in Auburn, Everett, Renton and Seattle. You can also register by calling Lori Dorsey at the Everett Hall (425-355-8821).



The AMT team poses with its awards. From left, Boeing manager Ron Vanhoy; Machinists Andrew Ortbahn, Jon Renaud, Samuel Nelson, Philip Haldeman and Barry Pelton; manager Sean Rosenlieb and event director Tom Hendershot.

## AMTs Win Top Award for Maintenance Skills

Continued from page 1

Boeing's team. "They all came in with excellent times."

In all 27 teams from three different countries competed in this year's contest, which was held in Las Vegas in March.

The Boeing team finished first in the OEM/MRO category.

The five-member group - Sam Nelson, Andrew Ortbahn, Barry Pelton, Jon Renaud and team captain Phil Haldeman - successfully completed 16 different events that tested licensed airplane maintenance technicians in categories ranging from avionics and electrical repairs to engine servicing to composites repair.

Individually, Renaud had the best time of all competitors in trouble-shooting and repairing an external power receptacle, while Pelton had the best time in an event devised by the Boeing team itself - testing an electrical panel to find the badly bonded connections built into it.

Their scores represented a combination of fastest times to complete the task and fewest errors, Fancelli said. Judges in each event "were looking for quality."

The five member team represented the "best of the best" of the licensed AMTs working on Boeing flight lines around Puget Sound, said Fancelli, who along with George Thompson traveled to the contest as a judge.

"The guys who went down there to compete had to know general knowledge of just about every kind of aircraft situation," Fancelli said.

All five were peer-selected from the licensed AMTs

on Boeing's flight lines last summer, and they met on their own time for a couple hours each week to practice in the months leading up to the event.

While the team was sponsored by Boeing, it had "excellent support" from the Machinists Union, Fancelli said, and the group sported custom District 751 hooded sweatshirts during their Las Vegas trip.

"We're very proud of our members on the AMT skills team," said District President Tom Wroblewski. "Often talk about the high skill level of our Machinists Union members and when I do, these expert mechanics are exactly the kind



Engine troubleshooting and repair was one of the 16 events at the AMT Society's skills competition in Las Vegas

of workers I'm talking about. Boeing is lucky to have them as workers, and we're proud to be their fellow Machinists."

# Intense Training Delivered for Negotiators at URS JBLM

Recognizing that union negotiations are a first for many of the URS JBLM Negotiating Committee members, the IAM wanted to deliver proper training so members would be most effective. The last week of March, URS JBLM Negotiating Committee members spent an intensive week of training at the IAM Education and Technology Center in Maryland— with the focus on moving forward toward a first contract.

Attending from URS JBLM: Jimmy Martin, Matthew Beatty, Dave Anderson, Terry VanScoyoc, Jeff Sayres, Kyle Lynch, and Patrick McCann. Joining the URS JBLM members at the training were Business Reps Jon Holden, Tommy Wilson and Joe Crockett, along with 751 Organizer Jesse Cote and Administrative Assistant Jim Bearden—who are just a few of the Union leaders negotiating with URS on the contract.

The rigorous training focused on:

- The Service Contract Act and collective bargaining process;
- Drafting specific bargaining agreement language to address issues members have identified;
- Studying the IAM National Pension Plan;
- Building the next membership survey;

- Developing a communication plan to keep the membership informed throughout the negotiation process and informed about union activities;
- Researching and defining issues with the current health care plan;
- Examining various negotiations strategies.

The course provides the bargaining committee with the skills and tools needed to deliver the best possible contract for members at URS JBLM. It is customized to meet the needs of the specific bargaining unit. The Negotiating Committee will also get experience in simulated negotiations.

The group was eager to put their new skills to work on securing a first contract.

“We are currently in the process of addressing the important issues and concerns of our brothers and sisters at JBLM Reset Program,” said Kyle Lynch. “And we are in the beginning stages of developing our strategic plan to resolve these issues and concerns.”

“This experience, coming to Maryland, has really opened this group’s eyes and minds of what possibilities the future has in store for our URS employees in the upcoming negotiations,” said Dave Anderson. “We are really looking forward to negotiating a Collective Bargaining Agree-



Negotiating committee members from URS JBLM and union leaders spent a week of intensive training to move closer to a first contract for those workers.

ment for our people.”

“This week is a good step toward paving the road ahead. After arriving here at the training center, it was quickly realized that we have a long road in front of us as a negotiating committee for the URS employees out at JBLM,” said Patrick McCann. “With the caliber of instructors, coaches and information that is being provided to us, we are being set up for success for our upcoming contract negotiations.”

“I am so impressed with the level of

commitment from the URS JBLM members. They were eager to learn everything possible about the process, working as a team and formulating strategies for negotiations and didn’t hesitate to put in some very long days,” said IAM Business Rep Jon Holden.

The sharing of ideas, team building, research materials and negotiation skills will help deliver the best contract for members at URS JBLM.

# Showing Solidarity with Our Members at Hytek

Continued from page 1

In addition, some workers say they’ve been blocked from raises or promotions for as long as 10 years, due to a process at Hytek that can be manipulated by managers so that personal favorites, or relatives, — not necessarily the most-qualified candidates — get promoted.

Finally, Hytek’s health insurance benefits are as bad as Wal-Mart’s, the union says. Workers face up to \$7,200 a year in out-of-pocket health care costs before their benefits kick in, and the union says a number of Hytek workers have been forced to declare bankruptcy because their insurance didn’t fully cover the hospital bills after their children were born.

“We don’t think parenthood should be a luxury reserved for the wealthy few,” said Cummings. “We proposed alternative health care plans that would have provided the workers with better coverage — and cost Hytek less money — but management wasn’t interested. We have made multiple offers to address the inadequate healthcare, but Hytek doesn’t seem to care about the lack of care provided to their workers.”

More than 200 Machinists Union volunteers from Boeing and other companies mounted an informational picket line outside the Hytek plant on March 21, as a show of support for their fellow union members and to call attention to the lack of progress in the talks.

The Machinists at Hytek have been assigned to Local C, and Local C President Ron Coen was among the volunteers who took part in the March 21 picketing.

“We wanted to show our Hytek brothers and sisters that we’ve got their back,” Coen said. “We’ve been down this road before, and if they stay strong and stay together, we can help them through it.”

Dennis Mack joined in solidarity chants during his lunch break at Hytek.



751 solidarity encouraged Hytek workers to stand together in their efforts to secure a fair contract. Hytek workers joined the picket line at lunch.

## Encouragement and Support from Fellow Members

District 751 members speak out with words of encouragement for their brothers and sisters at Hytek Finishes:

“Negotiations for a good contract are seldom easy and sometimes painful. But you must remember, if you believe in what you are doing, then it is worth fighting for. You are very fortunate to have the IAM fighting for your cause ... Your brothers and sisters in the IAM stand with you and beside you in this. We at Boeing in the past had to withhold our work for a time. This too shall work out. Keep the faith and believe in your union.” -- Larry Pfeifer

“People in the past have had to struggle before us so we can have what we have today. People like myself are here to help and that is what comes with this union: an army of help, a family of support, a way of life.” -- Chuck Fromong

“Standing up for a fair and equitable contract is important. Standing united is even more important. Don’t let the company divide you, and stay in the good fight. Us Machinists are pulling for you; a good contract will be the monument to your resolve and dedication.” -- Marnie Young



Hytek member Paul Elliott and his daughter Taryn stand strong.

“Make sure you fight these issues with people power. Make sure you are all on the same page. You can win these fights if you all stay together. You have a very strong union behind you. You can do it.” -- Keith Lofstrom

“Having been through four strikes in the last 23 years, and reflecting on them, I have benefited greatly by taking a stand against corporate greed and securing affordable medical, good union wages, and job security for myself and my family. But most important is I have respect from management. It is your time to do the same.” -- Chris Alan

“Never, ever underestimate the power of solidarity, of ordinary people banding together for the common good. It is as powerful a tool as you can have in the good fight to restore our decent manufacturing jobs here in our United States of America.” -- Tom Keller

“If you stick together and let Hytek know that they need you to make their own living, they will eventually realize it will be in their best interest and yours to settle with a contract that will be the start of a long working relationship.” -- Lester Mullen

“You need to stand stronger now than perhaps you will ever need to again in your work life. What happens now will set the tone for many contracts to come. We, your brothers and sisters at Boeing, know this fight all too well and our hearts are with you all the way.” -- Joseph Perreault

“Sometimes you must fight for what is right! You, the Hytek workers, as a body, must stick together in solidarity to send that very strong message. ... Hang in there, be strong and come out fighting.” -- Dorothy Crace

“Thank you for your courage and desire to stand up for fair labor practices. You are the most important asset to their business, yet they allow corporate greed and a ‘bottom-line’ agenda to blind them from their most important investment, the people. A workforce that hand crafts a quality product continuously, with detailed precision, deserves to be valued and respected. ... The fight for fairness and equality is worth it.” -- Darin Bowman

“Stay strong. You have the backing of the IAM Aerospace Machinists District 751, the largest district in the IAM union, behind you to make it a decent place you can work and be safe.” -- William Young

“Hang in there, don’t give up the fight.” -- Kevin Eastman

# COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Presidential Honors for Union Community Volunteers

Continued from page 1

community that moves America a step closer to its great promise.”

As a group, District 751’s MVPs gave more than 10,000 hours of volunteer service in 2011, which means the union itself is a gold-level presidential award-winning organization.

The MVPs volunteer in support of groups like Guide Dogs of America, Northwest Harvest and the Salvation Army. They also volunteered regularly in the kitchens of homeless shelters in Everett and Tacoma, and built eight wheelchair ramps for homebound people around Puget Sound last year.

District 751 President Tom Wroblewski praised all the union MVPs for their volunteer work in 2011, and singled out the other gold-level award winners in particular.

“Our union has two missions: to make our companies better places to work, and make our communities better places to live,” he said. “The gold-level winners have gone above and beyond in their efforts to build better communities here in our corner of America.”

All 11 Presidential Award-winners were honored by the union’s District Council on March 13, and they were also recognized by the MVP Committee at its



International President Tom Buffenbarger (far left) and District 751 President Tom Wroblewski (far right) congratulate the gold level Presidential volunteers following the President’s visit to the Everett plant. The volunteers were able to shake hands with the President during his visit. L to R: Buffenbarger, Vennie Murphy, Tom Lindberg, Rob Curran, Chris Louie, George Braun, Wroblewski.

annual banquet March 24.

In addition, the five gold-level award winners were invited to hear President Obama speak at the Everett

plant on Feb. 17. They got to shake hands with the President after his speech, and were individually congratulated by IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger.



Photo left: District Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer (far left) and Wilson ‘Fergie’ Ferguson (far right) congratulated our members earning bronze Presidential Community Service awards for more than 100 volunteer hours in a year. L to R with volunteer hours noted: Susan Palmer, Clark Fromong (221.5 hours), Robley Evans (107.5 hours), Terri Myette (130 hours), Brent Sanchez (121 hours), Jim Kakuschke (156 hours), Dave Henry (197 hours) and Fergie. The awards were presented at the March 13 District Council meeting.

Photo right: March 13 District Council meeting Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer (l) and Wilson ‘Fergie’ Ferguson congratulated the Presidential gold level recipients who put in more than 500 hours community service in 2011. L to R: Susan Palmer, George Braun (963), Rob Curran (764.5), Vennie Murphy (691.5), Tom Lindberg (508), Chris Louie (587) and Ferguson.



## Volunteers Visible Throughout Region

751 members continued volunteering throughout the community during the month of March. Volunteers prepared and served meals at the Tacoma Rescue Mission on four different mornings and also at the Everett Gospel Mission on two Sundays. 751 continues to help at the Northwest Harvest Warehouse in Kent each Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. In addition, volunteers performed a road clean-up in Kent and built a wheelchair ramp for a retiree in Auburn. If you would like to get on the mailing list for upcoming events, please contact Kay Michlik at 206-764-0335 or email at kaym@iam751.org.



Preparing breakfast at the Tacoma Rescue Mission L to R: Tom Lindberg, Vennie Murphy, Rob Curran and Gary Perry.



George Braun prepares toast to serve for breakfast at the Tacoma Rescue Mission.



Tom Lindberg (r) and another volunteer cook up a batch of scrambled eggs to provide a hot breakfast at the mission.



751 volunteers performed road cleanup at our Adopt a Road site in Kent during March.

### Food Drive in April for Labor Agency

District 751’s Women’s Committee is conducting a food drive during the month of April to benefit the Puget Sound Labor Agency’s Food Bank. The Feinstein Foundation will donate \$1 for each can or \$1 for every pound of non-perishable food donated during April. Donations can be dropped at any of the Union halls or bring your donation to your Local Lodge meeting.

# COMMUNITY SERVICE



Above: The MVP Committee recognized Kay Michlik for all the work she does on the program year round – coordinating the events, tracking the volunteer hours, and support for the committee.

At the awards banquet top volunteers and family volunteers pose for a group photo. Front row L to R; Rachel Sarzynsky, Chrissy Sarzynsky, Jackie Boschok, Catherine Kakuschke, Jim Kakuschke, George Braun, Rob Curran, Tom Lindberg, Vennie Murphy, Lily Lutgen. Top row L to R: Kelsey Lux, Doyle Sage, Patience Sarzynsky, Brent Sanchez, Christiana Johnson, Lynda Curran, Chip Johnson, Jashra Williams, Moses Williams, Terri Myette, Sajhra Williams.

## Honoring MVP Volunteers Who Made a Difference

Webster’s dictionary defines a volunteer as someone who freely chooses to give without being asked or obliged. On Saturday, March 24, District 751 recognized the Machinists Union members who make a difference in our communities on a regular basis at the annual Machinists Volunteer Program (MVP) banquet.

These incredible volunteers took part in 351 community service events in 2011 – nearly one each day and put in a total of 12,496 hours.

Each volunteer has gone above and beyond that definition and sacrificed their most valuable commodity - their time. Whenever a need arises, these members step up and make a difference to further the Union’s two goals – making the places we work better and improving the communities we live in. The outstanding work done by our union MVPs is making a difference, and making our corner of America a better place.

But it doesn’t end there. Those impressive volunteer hours don’t include all the work that went into the various weekend fundraisers that generated more than \$263,078 for Guide Dogs of America in 2011.

While everyone was applauded for their volunteer efforts, awards were given to the top three volunteers in the member, steward, officer, retiree and family category (see chart at right). Family members who have helped with projects were also honored.

In addition to the top awards, District President Tom Wroblewski also recognized the members who earned Presidential awards for their community service efforts in 2011. Five earned gold Presidential awards for putting in over 500 hours: George Braun (963), Rob Curran (764.5), Vennie Murphy (691.5), Chris Louie (587) and Tom Lindberg (508). In addition, six others earned a bronze Presidential award for putting in over 100 hours: Clark Fromong (221.5), Dave Henry (197), Jim Kakuschke (156), Terri Myette (130), Brent Sanchez (121) and Robley Evans



District President Tom Wroblewski (r) had the honor of presenting Tom Lindberg with the ‘True Trade Unionist’ award for his outstanding volunteer work.

(107.5).

The highlight of the banquet was the presentation of the “Bill Johnson True Trade Unionist Award” to Tom Lindberg. The award is given to an individual who goes above and beyond the call of duty as a Union member or volunteer. Tom was nominated by several MVP members.

Dave Henry was one who nominated Tom and wrote, “He puts in countless hours volunteering in the community and most people don’t even know he has done anything. Tom has a love for giving; he is living his dream of giving back so others might live better and achieve their dream.”

Rob Curran was another praising Tom, saying “Tom is on medical retirement with some health issues, yet he is always there to help out when called upon. He is one of the top volunteers. He represents what this union is all about, taking care of our members and taking care of the commu-

nity. He is unselfish.”

However, union leaders weren’t the only ones congratulating our volunteers. Several others spoke to acknowledge the tremendous impact those volunteer hours have on our community.

Northwest Harvest presented four awards for outstanding volunteers for the impressive hours volunteered at their organization: George Braun (614.5), Rob Curran (140.5), Vennie Murphy (114.5) and Tom Lindberg (77 hours).

The President and CEO of United Way of Snohomish County Dennis Smith applauded our efforts and stated, “We love the partnership with the Machinists Union and all we do together. Machinists Union members know how to be involved in the community. It is in your blood and in your DNA. Thank you for everything you do every day for your community.”

District President Tom Wroblewski praised the volunteers saying, “You are the ones that are here day in and day out - making a difference in countless lives. I want to extend my personal thanks for all you have done. Each of you here tonight is deserving of an award because you have volunteered to help others - wanting nothing in return.”



Members of the MVP Committee gave special recognition to Vennie Murphy and George Braun for the years of volunteer efforts. L to R: Jim Hutchins, Jason Redrup, Tom Lindberg, Vennie Murphy, George Braun, Terri Myette, Robley Evans, Kay Michlik, Rob Curran and Ed Lutgen.

### Top Volunteer Awards

The people listed below were recognized for their volunteer efforts throughout 2011.

#### Stewards

- 1st Brent Sanchez
- 2nd Doyle Sage, Jr.
- 3rd Rachel Sarzynsky

#### Officers

- 1st Rob Curran
- 2nd Vennie Murphy
- 3rd Clark Fromong

#### Retirees

- 1st George Braun
- 2nd Tom Lindberg
- 3rd Jackie Boschok

#### Family

- 1st Amanda Murphy
- 2nd Catherine Kakuschke
- 3rd Christiana Johnson

#### Members

- 1st Elizabeth “Dee Dee” Oen
- 2nd Terry “Caveman” Henderson
- 3rd Merle “Chip” Johnson

Congratulations to our winners!

# Spares Plant Honors Fallen U.S. Marine

Co-workers and management at Spares Distribution Center (SDC) in SeaTac acknowledged the sacrifice made by one of our members' children in late February. SDC flew their flag at half mast on Friday, March 9 in recognition of the passing of Lt. Corporal Nickoulas Elliott – a proud member of the United States Marine Corp who was killed in a Marine helicopter crash.

The tribute was to acknowledge Nickoulas and show support for his stepfather, 751-member Bruce Jones who works at SDC.

The following week, management, security officers, and co-workers presented the flag that flew at Spares to Bruce to recognize his tremendous loss. Business Rep Brett Coty attended to show support from Union leadership.

Bruce knows all too well the dangers that accompany serving in the military. He was in the Air Force nine years, visited 18 countries and took part in both Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

For Bruce, the gesture was a moving moment and provided support through a difficult time, as he proudly remembered his stepson.

Business Rep Brett Coty took part in



LT. Daniel VanZanten, who is head of Boeing Security for Puget Sound, presented Bruce Jones with the flag flown above Spares in honor of his son.



Presenting the flag that flew at half mast above Spares Distribution Center in honor of Nickoulas Elliott (inset right). L to R: Wade Eldredge, Tom McGee, LT. Daniel VanZanten, Bruce Jones, Business Rep Brett Coty, and Scott Haubrich presented Jones with the flag flown for Nickoulas.



the presentation. "I appreciate the freedom I have as a result of all who have served – many of them are the family and friends of our members," said Coty. "Most of the time we remember those brave individuals serving in the military on Veteran's Day, but they are forgotten in the hectic schedule of day-to-day life. We want to honor not just Nickoulas, but all the others who are still serving our country. It is also important to thank the family of our military, who understand how difficult it is to have a loved one overseas or shipped out to sea."

Nickoulas enlisted in the Marines in May of 2009 and was proud to serve his country. He was knowledgeable in all aspects of his job and was never satisfied with just learning the basics.

"Nickoulas took his job very seriously and graduated in the top 2 percent of his class. He was number one in his position as crew chief and also served as navigator and gunner – a testament to his skills and dedication," Bruce recalled. "Nick served as a role model for his peers and was willing to help any Marine regardless of time or location. His work ethic was exemplary; often keeping him at the squadron late at night in order to ensure the job was completed correctly

and efficiently."

His potential, both in the Marine Corps and in life, was limitless. His personal decorations in the Marines include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service medal.

"Nickoulas made the absolute sacrifice for our way of life. I hope doing the story will get other members to stop and think about others who are out there fighting for our freedom and how that impacts all the family and friends of those serving in the military," said Bruce. "The outpouring has been touching. We received a message from the Admiral of the Pacific Fleet and letters from across the country from parents of other military veterans. It is important that every American take the time to recognize the vital role those serving in the military make who have delivered our way of life."

If you know someone serving in the military, take time to write, call or email words of encouragement and appreciation and go the extra step to thank their families for sharing their loved ones to preserve our way of life and this great country.

# Safety Is Our Top Priority for Every Job, Every Day

Continued from page 2

at the start, but over the past six weeks or so, the company has dug in its heels and is refusing to consider our proposals to correct substandard working conditions and pay.

It's unfortunate – maybe even ironic – that now that we've found common ground with Boeing and are enjoying an improved relationship with the company, one of the smaller Boeing suppliers has decided to pick a fight with us over such a fundamental issue as safety.

But if that's the case, so be it. District 751 Machinists certainly know how to fight – and win – labor disputes. We already gave Hytek and its parent company, Esterline, a sneak peek at what a Machinists Union picket line looks like on March 21, when some 200 union activists from all over Puget Sound set up an informational picket outside the plant.

To those who took part, I thank you. You sent an important message to the company – and to our fellow Machinists who work at Hytek.

It's my sincere hope that management at Hytek and Esterline come to their senses and start negotiating in good faith. But if they don't I know you'll be ready to stand with our union brothers and sisters as they stand up for themselves and their rights as workers.

Fighting to improve the lives of working people is another one of the core values of the labor movement. So is working to make our communities better, and when it comes to that, there are no finer examples than our District 751 MVPs.

I attended the annual MVP banquet in March, where we honored everyone who took part in our community service activities in 2011. I was particularly pleased to help honor the achievements of our President's Volunteer Service Award winners.

We've had President's Award winners in each of the past three years, but in 2011, for the first time, we had people qualify for the White House's top community service award by giving more than 500 hours of their own time to help their neighbors.

Those five – George Bruan, Rob Curran, Tom Lindberg, Chris Louie and Vennie Murphy – have made an incredible contribution to our communities, and for that, they deserve our most-sincere appreciation. Like our efforts to improve safety and win better contracts, the volunteer work they do is a reflection of what is best about unions in America.

## Flight for Sight Fun Run & Walk: Saturday, June 9

The 11th annual Flight for Sight Fun Run & Walk will be June 9 in Everett.

The event includes 5- and 10-kilometer timed races on courses certified by U.S.A. Track & Field. There will also be a non-competitive one-mile walk.

The race day sign-in will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the courses' start/finish line at the Everett Boeing Activity Center, 6098 36th Ave. W. The timed races will start at 9:30 a.m., with the walk to start at 9:45.

Registration costs \$25 if done before noon on June 7. Day-of-race registration

will cost \$30. Registration can be done online at [www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp](http://www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp).



Register online at: [www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp](http://www.databarevents.com/flightforsight.asp)

For more information on this event, please visit [www.flightforsight.com](http://www.flightforsight.com).

The event is sponsored by the District 751 Women's Committee. All proceeds will benefit Guide Dogs of America.

Last year's fun run raised more than \$9,661 for Guide Dogs, part of the more than \$263,078 raised by District 751, which made it the top contributor to the charity nationwide.

This event has raised \$106,615 since it began.

## Tuskegee Airmen Share Wisdom and History

Continued from page 4

hated us and didn't want us there, but we overcame that."

But after winning two Distinguished Unit Citations for its performance, the group was reassigned to the dangerous and important task of escorting Allied bombers in raids on German targets deep in Europe, where it was honored a third time.

After the war, many of the Tuskegee Airmen – like Drummond – stayed in the military and were part of the nucleus that formed the U.S. Air Force. Drummond graduated from training too late to serve in World War II, but served in the Air Force during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Discrimination continued at home, he said. Coming home on ships after fighting overseas, "you'd come down the gangplank and there'd be signs say-

ing 'whites' and 'coloreds,'" he recalled. "It would make you sick."

A number of the Tuskegee Airmen had long careers as Boeing test pilots, said Thomas Gray, who is the secretary of the chapter for the Tuskegee Airmen in the Northwest. They couldn't get jobs at airlines, because of racial discrimination, but Boeing was happy to use their skills.

KOMO-TV weather forecaster Steve Pool was the master of ceremonies for the Black History Month events. He said the courage of groups like the Tuskegee Airmen paved the way for the Civil Rights movement of the '60s.

That generation of African-Americans proved "we're all human beings,"



Col. Drummond talks about what it took to succeed in the largely-segregated America of the 1950s and '60s: "Education worked for us. Determination worked for us."

Pool said. "We're all Americans. We all share the same hopes and dreams and ideals."

## Take Part in Local F Unity Bowl



Strike up a good time with food, fun, friends and prizes while raising money for the Union's Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL).

Sunday, April 29 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Glacier Lanes

9630 Evergreen Way, Everett  
Any IAM 751 member, relative or supporter may participate. Trophies will be awarded to high score and those who "tried." \$50 per bowler (includes bowling fees, shoes, dinner and prizes). Lane sponsorships are also available. We'll have fun to spare...so sign up today!

For more information, contact Mitchell Christian at 425-308-6895 or Paul Veltkamp at 425-463-6138.

# RETIREMENT NEWS

## March Retired Club Minutes

by Ruth Render,  
Retired Club Secretary

The March 12 meeting was called to order by President T.J. Seibert.

**Roll Call of Officers:** All of officers were present.

President T.J. Seibert introduced Buck Cameron, who worked at District 751 in the 1990's as an Industrial Hygienist. Buck spoke to the club about a Department of Labor program that helps compensate atomic weapons industry workers who developed cancer and their survivors. It is called Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) and Former Worker Medical Screening Program (FWP). If you worked at Hanford or have a relative who worked at Hanford you may be eligible to receive compensation. Contact the Office of the Ombudsman for EEOICPA by calling 1-877-662-8363 toll free or visit the website [www.dol.gov/eoombd](http://www.dol.gov/eoombd) for more information.

**Minutes:** It was **M/S/P** to accept the minutes as printed.

**Financial Report:** The February expense report was read by Treasurer Betty Ness. A motion was made to accept the report as read. **M/S/P.**

**Health & Welfare:** Helen Pompeo gave the report. A moment of silence was observed for the following deceased members: Emil Anderson, Charles Butler, Donald D'Unger, Buddy Kammer, Wayne Peters, Stuart Norwood and Orville Trover. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin.

**Legislative Report:** John Guevarra gave an overview of the trip that several members took to the state capital last month as part of an Alliance for Retired Americans event. The following also spoke of their experiences that day: Robin Guevarra, T. J. Seibert, Helen Lowe, Ruth Render, Jim Hutchins and Tom Lux.



Celebrating March birthdays at the Retired Club L to R: Chuck Chalfant, Vera Doss, T.J. Seibert and Darrel Walls.

They met with legislators, toured the capitol buildings and stressed the importance of knowing your legislators on a first name basis. They also thanked the District for providing the transportation to Olympia.

John then spoke about a pamphlet that the League of Women Voters has published about how to select a candidate. He will hand out copies at the next meeting.

John reported Representative Zack Hudgins (11th District) has decided to run for Secretary of State.

**Business Rep report:** Health & Benefits Representative Garth Luark reported we negotiated a lot of contracts since the first one in 1935. Current retirees built the foundation for what we have today. Garth thanked the retirees for what they did in the past so we have the contract we have today. Garth read the Business Rep report.

**Good and Welfare:** Ron McGaha reported on his trip to Washington D.C. He tried to meet with 8th District Rep. Dave Reichert but only got as far as his receptionist. He left his talking points for the Congressman.

Ron also spoke about the ongoing attacks against Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and pensions. He

Continued on page 11

**Plan to attend an important Retiree Workshop on Social Security, Medicare & Health Care and What's at Stake. Monday, May 14 - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Seattle Union Hall (9125 15th Pl. S). Please RSVP by calling Kewanda at 206-764-0302.**

### Union Retirees:

Congratulations to the following members who retired from the Union:

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Khin M Aye            | Sunni C Mccgarrity   |
| Robert R Bolan        | Joan L Means         |
| Surathep Boonsripisal | Robert C Mitchell    |
| Donald H Booth        | Mons G Monson        |
| Marc R Breeze         | Sunny G Morales      |
| Wanda L Brooks        | Judy V New           |
| Donald I Campbell     | Wayne J Nutter       |
| Connie M Capitan      | Patricia D Ogard     |
| Nancy J Carr          | Moses O Osakwe       |
| Earl E Clark          | Jeffrey D Paul       |
| James A Curry         | Helen H Pham         |
| Shawn S Dehdari       | Randal D Pierre      |
| Julio R Devera        | William D Radcliffe  |
| Randy L Dewitt        | Michael S Rihn       |
| Charles M Dunlap      | William J Ritchey    |
| Dan R Ekoes           | Gordon J Schloer     |
| Rick A Funkhouser     | Cynthia L Smith      |
| Jo A Gallichan        | Jimmie E Spaid       |
| Bradford N Goodwin    | Larry L Stefano      |
| Gregory A Goodling    | Ivana K Stewart      |
| Wayne L Grass         | Donald L Stone       |
| William G Gunter III  | Richard A Stullivan  |
| Martin D Jensen       | R K Sykes            |
| Loren H Jones         | Walter Y Tak         |
| Timothy W Juneau      | Juno D Thoms         |
| Harold D Keightley    | Sam D Um             |
| Robert E Kim          | Pamela K Vader       |
| Robert C Kinder       | Patricia A Valkenaar |
| Jeffrey L Knolle      | John D Vassallo      |
| Ronald L Komar        | Charles E Williams   |
| Hygenus A Kunnanz     | Lyle A Wilson        |
| Chris C Larsen        | Paul D Youman        |
| Gerald M Leahy        | Douglas G Young      |

### RETIRED CLUB OFFICERS

President	T.J. Seibert	206-329-0160
Vice President	Helen Lowe	206-523-9526
Secretary	Ruth Render	206-324-4055
Treasurer	Betty Ness	206-762-0725
Srgnt-at-Arms	Leroy Miller	253-736-2756
Trustees:	Louise Burns	206-242-5878
	John Guevarra	206-762-3848
	Mike Keller	206-723-4973
Union Office: (1-800-763-1301) or 206-763-1300		

## Seniors Speak Out in Olympia

On Thursday, Feb. 23, 2012, about 375 seniors including a dozen from our 751 Retiree Club met in Olympia to talk to (lobby) our state representatives on senior issues.

We heard from Governor Chris Gregoire, who noted that the state has already cut \$10.5 billion from previous budgets, that the economic downturn means less income to the state while there is more need, especially among the seniors, the disabled and the unemployed. We do need more revenue.

She noted that there has been a heavy toll on senior groups, on education - especially college education, with no corresponding toll on big business. She asked us to work with her and the legislature so that our legacy to our children and grandchildren will be an improved educational and social system.

Jerry Reilly of the Elder Care Alliance introduced a number of speakers who spoke to the legislative priorities facing the legislature and who gave us some of the details of proposed legislation.

State Representative Chris Reykdal (22nd District) suggested a number of proposals to raise revenue, including a tax on capital gains and stock options and a 1% state income tax.

After eating our "box lunch" we then went to meet and talk to our various state representatives. Our 751 group met with legislators from our Seattle area districts and had a generally favorable response.

We returned to the Seattle Union hall about 5 p.m. on our chartered "Geezer Bus" and were satisfied that we had met and talked to our representatives and made our case.

## Conference Provides Skills for Retiree Activists

Four members (T.J. Seibert, Betty Ness, Ruth Render and Tom Lux) from our Retired Club attended the 2012 Western Regional Conference Feb 29 - March 2 in Las Vegas, Nevada. About 250 seniors attended.

There were a lot of good speakers who talked about how important the 2012 elections are for seniors and how seniors need to mobilize and talk to friends to make sure they are registered and go to the polls in November to vote.

If we don't keep the Democrats that are now in Congress and the White House and let Republicans take control, we will see a big change in Medicare and our Social Security for seniors that wouldn't be good.

There were several good workshops that were very educational such as Organizing Tools & Tactics and 2012 Elections: Facts & Stubborn Things and Programs and Funding & Grants.

The conference provided a lot of information that we can use in the 2012 elections for our candidates.

The Regional meeting was an excellent opportunity to strengthen our skills as retiree activists. We participated in interactive workshops and training sessions on:

- Social Security, Medicare and the 2012 elections;
- Using new on-line communication tools to educate people of all ages;
- Building and growing local

retiree chapters and coalitions; and

- Participating in media events and rallies and learning how to organize them.

The Alliance recently celebrated its 10th anniversary as a progressive voice for retirees. This was a milestone marked by increased growth and effectiveness in educating and mobilizing labor and community-based retirees. With over 4 million members and 1,400 local chapters, the ARA plans to build and grow our grassroots strength for the 2012 elections through organizers in key states, arranging media events and rallies and the use of flyers and fact sheets to better inform retirees on the issues and where the candidates stand.

In addition to the workshops there were several

Continued on page 11



L to R: Tom Lux, Betty Ness, Ruth Render and T.J. Seibert attended the Western Regional Conference of Alliance for Retired Americans.

# FREE WANT ADS FOR MEMBERS ONLY

## AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

2010 SNUG-TOP CANOPY with roof racks. Fits 2002-2006 Toyota Tundra, emerald/jade green. Like new. Paid \$2,400 - selling for \$1,200. 360-659-5375

1964-1967 CHEVROLET CHEVELLE CAR-PETS, front and back, new, aqua colored. Fits all 64-67 A-body - Tempest, El Camino, Sky-lark, Cutlas. \$100. 425-228-3326

1967-1972 CHEVROLET PICKUP TILT STEERING COLUMNS, one with shifter, one without shifter. \$350 ea. 425-228-3326

## BOATS

WANTED: Outboard motor, 115-165 hp, in very good condition. Must run well. Boat cover for 20' tri-hull Glaspy boat. 425-432-0976 leave message

19' 4" BAYLINER DISCOVERY 192 CUDDY, 2008 V-6 Mercury, many extras. \$15,000. 425-488-4259

13' SMOKERCRAFT ALASKAN, 64" beam, 24" deep, 15 hp Johnson, fish finder, 43 lb thrust electric bow, mount motor w/ remote steering, 2-6 gal tanks, oars and motor carrier aluminum trailer. \$2,500 FIRM. 425-501-1227

FINISH REBUILDING 1978 BELLBOY FLYING BRIDGE, 25 ft. Tandem EZ load trailer. Stern to bulkhead done, needs cabin rebuilt, needs motor - have out drive. \$800. 360-275-5562

130 VOLVO ENGINE with lots of spare parts. 425-432-9741

## COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

LOSE UP TO 2-5 LBS A WEEK quickly, safely and effectively. Free health coach; proven health program. Maintain that weight loss for life! Call Tracie at 425-308-6641

BEFORE YOU BUY OR SELL YOUR HOME call me. I can answer all your real estate-related questions. I am an experienced, licensed broker. [yonprovo@admiralre.com](mailto:yonprovo@admiralre.com). 425-359-0165

HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS, [www.triplepleasurehorses.com](http://www.triplepleasurehorses.com). Boarding and training available. See website for more info. Packages available - Boeing employee discount. 253-569-4804

DIANA'S CLEANING SERVICE, 17 years in business. Licensed, bonded, insured. BBB and Chamber Member, Angie's List Super Service Award recipient 2011. Got Dirt? We Can Help! 253-631-6032

COLLEGE TRAINED MATH, CHEMISTRY, ENGLISH (including ESL) AND BIOLOGY TUTOR is members' son. Can do middle school up to college, including HSPE, ACT, and SAT. [maifsozu@yahoo.com](mailto:maifsozu@yahoo.com) or 360-805-9868

## ELECTRONICS & ENTERTAINMENT

KOHLER KD-26 DIGITAL PIANO, excellent condition. \$700. 425-501-1227

OVERHEAD FAN - new in box. \$45. Call 206-523-9526 for more info

FENDER STRATOCASTER with hard case and stand, Cube 60 amp, and Screamin Blues foot pedal. \$400. 360-275-5562

MARK 1 METAL DETECTOR, works for metal or coin. \$200. 253-845-0119

## FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES

BOOKCASES - 6' tall, 5 shelves, light colored. Very good shape. \$50 each or all 3 for \$125. Also have 2 stackable dark-color bookcases with sliding glass doors, 5+ shelves. \$100 and \$150 each. 253-875-7944 Graham

CHINA HUTCH, good condition, very nice, lighted. \$150 or trade for 8' pool table. 253-875-7944 Graham

## AD RULES

Each single ad must be 25 words or less. Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each ad, as they are reclassified physically. Ads are free only to members - active, laid-off, or retired. For best response, include phone number instead of addresses in ad copy. Members' "cottage industries" will be OK in ads, but no commercial ads. When using own paper for ads, include information required on regular ad blank.

**Deadline For Next Issue April 15th**

BABY CHANGING TABLE, Ikea brand, almost new; curio cabinet, almost brand new - slightly used. \$50 ea. Size 7 couch shoes, \$40 ea. 2 bicycles - \$100 and \$250 ea. 6 palm trees, \$100. Futon, \$50. 206-805-9268 or 206-805-9669

## HOUSING

2 BDRM/2 BATH HOME, built in 1991, minutes to Everett plant. Eastmont, rv parking, work shop, on dead-end, view, covered deck. Close to mall, medical, schools, 1-5. 13,504 sq ft lot. \$213,000. 206-697-0468

GARAGE FOR RENT, Edmonds, 21' x 33', \$275. 425-776-3862

FOR RENT: 2 bdrm in Bonney Lake area. Fully remodeled, 2 car carport. \$850/mo. Call Gene 206-841-2670

KONA, HAWAII OCEANFRONT condo, enjoy spectacular views from lanai, 2BD/2BA condo, pool, Jacuzzi, DSL, see [www.banyantreecondo.com](http://www.banyantreecondo.com) for more info, \$1025-\$1175/wk. Boeing discount pay for taxes. Sleeps 4. 206-938-9214.

3 BDRM HOME, 1/3 acre in Burien. Large family room with wood stove. Basement rec room, garage with work shop, chicken house with garden space and fruit trees. \$154,500. 206-660-3836

KONA COFFEE FARM VACATION. Spectacular ocean view from deck and the pool of this private farm house located just below historic Mamalahoa Hwy in the heart of the Kona coffee belt. For full details see online listing <http://www.vrbo.com/280051>. 206-719-7788

1500 SQ FT RAMBLER on creek in private gated, wooded Stillaguamish River community. Sports and retirement heaven. 20 miles east of Arlington. Good well. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace w/insert, tool shed, garage, carport. \$175,000. No bank financing. 425-512-4614

KONA HAWAII Direct ocean view condo in heart of Kona; watch spinner dolphins from condo. 1 bd/1ba, pool, underground parking. <http://www.vrbo.com/315920>. Boeing discounts - mention IAM. 425-830-0070

## MISCELLANEOUS

WOOD WORKING MAGAZINES, American Woodworker, Wood, Woodworkers Journal, etc. 30 yrs worth. All or your selection. 253-856-7904

PLATE GLASS SHELVING, 3, 17 x 23.5, \$5 ea. 253-852-6809

BERGMAN LOOM, Pat.#2057-997, Model No. 3A-36. \$850. Made in Poulsbo, WA. 425-776-3862

COOLER CHEST, 21"Lx14"Wx15"H. \$7 OBO. 253-736-2756

COOLER CHEST, 18"Lx10"Wx13"H. \$6 OBO. 253-736-2756

1995 LIBERTY SAFE, Mini-Mag series. 24Wx 25Dx60H. 16 cu ft, 625 lbs. Includes electric de-humidifier, heavy duty steel dolly. Transferable lifetime warranty. 206-920-8333

CHURCH PEW CANDALABRA for weddings or parties. Brass, glass lanterns. 4 prs. \$1,200. 206-937-6092

RETIRED COUPLE looking for pinocchio couple. Federal Way area. 253-230-3263

COMPLETE DRUM SET, five drums, High Hat cymbal, two cymbals and stool. \$350 negotiable. 425-353-8208

KITCHEN CRAFT COOKWARE, lifetime warranty. Basic set - 1 qt, 3 qt, small skillet, 8.5" skillet, dome bonus, gourmet skillet, kitchen cutter, electric gourmet cooker. Made in America. \$700. 253-218-9241

BOEING RAIN JACKET, dark navy blue, Thinsulate insulated. Boeing logo right front chest and on back. Reflective tape on waist and sleeves. \$150 OBO. Email [matthewlubric@gmail.com](mailto:matthewlubric@gmail.com)

10 LITTLE WOOD BOXES, 9" x 12" x 3", great little drawers, etc. \$2.00 ea. Collector shoebox, cardboard, holds 9 pair, real neat, has sayings on it, \$20. 253-852-6809

CUB INTERNATIONAL TRACTOR manual of general contents, fuel system, steering, etc., 9 sections electrical, \$20 OBO. 253-852-6809

26 PAIR plus warm jeans, men's and women's, for quilting, \$15. 253-852-6809

COLLECTIBLE CHANDELIER, all brass with painted flowers, 6 electric bulbs, plus big bottom one. \$100. 253-852-6809

10 FT METAL HAND BRAKE, Pro II by Tapco, in great cond. \$1,000. 253-852-6809

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WINDMILL, 21.5" high, candles to keep windmill turning, 18#'s for all birthdays over 100. \$50. 253-852-6809

NIKKEN MATTRESS, Kenkopad deluxe, thick all new material, consisting of polyurethane foam 100%, queen 60x80, 6" thick, the Kenkopad deluxe represents the summit of excellence in sleep technology, much more than a mattress, this unique innovation is a complete sleep system. A detailed look at the 5 different layers that comprise the Kenkopad Deluxe will reveal its many features and benefits. Very clean & in good cond. about 12 yrs old, one owner. \$100. 253-852-6809

1979 SPORTCOACH MOTORHOME window doors for driver window and table side screen, \$15 both, good condition. 253-852-6809

NIKKEN KENKOPAD, the thinner style that goes over your mattress, featuring a thick rubberthane layer for added softness, offers a more portable version of the Kenkopad Deluxe without sacrificing its important features and benefits, \$300 each, new in original boxes, queen size 60x80. 253-852-6809

MARBLE PIECES, 4, 15.5" x 21.5" and 21" x 12", white and gray marble. \$5 ea. 253-852-6809

HOUSEPLANTS, African violets, dumbcane, African milk tree. \$5 to \$25. House grown plants - purple heart also. 253-852-6809

VINTAGE KERR JELLY GLASS JARS with original gold tin lid. Jar free of cracks or mass. \$8 ea. 253-852-6809

OLD FARMHOUSE FRUIT DIAMONDS JARS, quart storage vase. The jars had coffee in them, 3 sides are quilted. \$9.99 ea, several sizes. 253-852-6809

ANTIQUER BLUE JARS, set of 3 glass. \$22 or \$6.50 ea. 253-852-6809

HALF-GALLON BALL IDEAL REGULAR JAR with glass snap on. \$15. Regular glassball, Atlas, Kerr, etc., collectible jars. Nice, heavy, clean. \$2.50. Also quart snap on jars. 253-852-6809

## PROPERTY

TWO CEMETERY PLOTS, \$2,500 ea. Sells for \$3,900 at cemetery. 206-244-7948

ONE-HALF ACRE, TREES, AIRSTRIP, boat dock, clubhouse, piped water, power available. Secluded, build your own hideout. Contact any broker. Center Island lot 133. [kramer3@post.com](mailto:kramer3@post.com). 206-799-2656

1 BDRM BEACHFRONT CABIN on Hood Canal features shorebirds, shellfish and scenic peace and quiet. Find us on Facebook, search Sisters Point Cabin. 360-275-6816.

A GRAVE SUBJECT: 2 side by side cemetery plots at Greenwood Memorial in the Azalea Gardens. \$1,900 ea or \$3,500 for both. 509-962-4960 or 509-929-1426

5 LOTS (50x100 EA) with water and lights, creek running through year around. Beach rights and 2005 34 ft Dutchman Class C motorhome, 12,000 miles. View of Puget Sound. \$95,000 Paradise Bay. 360-775-8911 or 253-350-5221

PRIVATE .29 ACRE LEVEL LOT, public water and electricity at street. On Canyon Creek. Steelhead fishing in your back yard. Close to all amenities. DOT terms. \$27,921. 360-435-2430

OCEAN SHORES FULL-OWNERSHIP CONDO. Ocean front. \$119,000. Call Karen Rosado, cell 360-589-9877 (Windermere)

## RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

38 FT 1993 FLEETWOOD BOUNDER in perfect cond. \$1,500 FIRM. 253-939-0793

Circle One:	ANIMALS BOATS TOOLS HOUSING AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES	ELECTRONICS & ENTERTAINMENT FURNITURE & APPLIANCES RECREATIONAL VEHICLES MISCELLANEOUS	PROPERTY RECREATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SPORTING GOODS VEHICLES COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
Ad (25 word limit. Please print).			
_____ _____ _____			
Phone (or Address)			
_____ _____			
The following information must be filled in for your ad to appear:			
Name	_____ _____	Clock Number	_____
Address	_____ _____	Shop Number	_____
Mail Coupon to AERO MECHANIC NEWSPAPER, 9125 15th Pl. S., Seattle, 98108 Deadline is April 15th!			

2005 VIVA QUAD ATV, 10 miles, 150cc, 4 stroke single cylinder, air cooled electric start, drum brakes, front disc brakes, rear. \$800 OBO. 206-920-8333

2002 CHEVROLET CUBE VAN/TOY HAULER. Sleeper cab in front, room for two Harleys in back. Great for overnight dirt riders. 425-572-6661

**SPORTING GOODS**

FLY FISHING RODS, reels, lines, & flies. Call 425-267-0552 if interested

ALUMINUM HITCH CARGO CARRIER, \$40. Man's bike, \$10. Coleman lantern, \$20. High beam spotlight, \$10. Craftsman 3-ton jack stand, \$10. Pet's carrier, \$20. 206-372-4810

FOXPRO WILDFIRE GAME CALL, new. \$280. 206-251-7575

BOWFLEX, hardly used. Paid \$1,800 has everything; first \$500 takes it. 425-760-6354

IAM LIMITED EDITION WINCHESTER 30-30, Number IAM 04XX of 1,000. New, sealed in unopened factory box. \$850 OBO. 425-572-6661

**TOOLS**

GAS DRIVEN PUMA, MODEL PUK-5508G COMPRESSOR. Twin cylinder cast iron pump, 5.5 Honda engine, max pressure 150 PSI. Asking \$725 OBO. 253-631-3993

SEARS CRAFTSMAN AIR COMPRESSOR, \$100. Many assorted " " router bits - most never used, for wood workers, various prices. 425-392-2790

**VEHICLES**

JOHN DEERE TRACTOR 2010 ROW CROPPER. \$1,000 OBO. 360-886-1010

2002 TOYOTA CAMRY LE, 47,000 mi, 2.4L, 4 cyl, pwr windows, pwr mirrors, AC, cruise control, AM/FM radio, cassette/CD player. \$10,500. 425-226-2887

1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS, 4-dr sedan, V8 automatic, all power. Runs and looks great. Asking \$2,200 OBO. 253-631-3993

SET (2 SERVICE/1 DIAGNOSTIC REPAIR) manuals for 1978 Buick Regal. \$35. 360-683-4994

1949 LINCOLN COSMOPOLITAN, 4-dr, 3-spd, all stock. Runs and drives great. \$7,500 OBO. 425-760-1949

2006 T.D.I. JETTA VW, 4 dr, black, good running car. Wife and I retired, don't need the extra car. 45 mpg hwy. \$14,000 OBO. Pic on demand. 425-760-6354

2004 DODGE 3500, 2wd, black. 52,000 miles, nice. Asking \$24,000 OBO. Pic on demand. 425-760-6354

1982 CORVETTE. Nice car - must go, 81,000 miles. Retail \$15,000, asking \$9,000 fast sale - retired and moving. 425-760-6354

2005 DODGE 2500 4X4 QUAD CAP. 8' bed, 65,000 miles, airbags, pwr windows, pwr-heated mirrors, camper ready, slider back window, lots of extras. \$22,500 OBO. 360-805-1545

**Officers Accept the Oath Of Office at Recent Meetings**



L to R: District President Tom Wroblewski administers the oath of office to Local A District Council Delegates and Alternates Wilson "Fergie" Ferguson, Les Mullen, Jason Schmelzer, Paul Schubert, and Joel Hetland.



Business Rep Chuck Craft administers the oath of office to Local C Communicator Darren Hadley.

Business Rep Ray Baumgardner administers the oath of office to Local A Officers who moved to new positions L to R: Wilson "Fergie" Ferguson, Pat Bertucci, Monico Bretana, Kent Christian, Karl Blom, Dan Swank, Darry Woodson, Scott Sealey, Dave Hopkins, Spencer Burris (partially hidden), Les Mullen, Robert Villegas, Doug Falkenhagen.



**Benefit Info for Atomic Weapons Industry Workers and Their Survivors**

Members, former members, retirees, and survivors may be able to file for compensation under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act.

Anyone who worked at an Atomic Weapons related facility and who later developed an occupational disease may file a claim. Survivors of deceased atomic weapons workers may also file. If a disease, including cancer, is found to be more likely than not related to work at an atomic weapons facility an eligible claimant may receive monetary compensation, lost time compensation and reimbursement for medical expenses from the time the claim is filed. For more information, or to file

a claim call the local Department of Labor Resource Center AT. Energy Employees Compensation Resource Center in Richland at 1-888-654-0014 or visit hanford.center@rohio.com. You can also contact the Office of the Ombudsman for EEOICPA by calling 1-877-662-8363 toll free or visit the web site [www.dol.gov/eeombd](http://www.dol.gov/eeombd) for more information.

If you know someone who worked in the production and testing of nuclear weapons, please pass along this information. The goal is to educate the public that there is a major compensation program for which nuclear weapons workers (and their survivors) who got cancer or other occupational diseases may qualify.

**Conference Provides Skills for Retiree Activists**

Continued from page 9  
excellent speakers.

Herb Schultz from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services talked about the need to use facts to show what seniors would lose if the Republicans win the election.

Rich Fiesta, the Director of Government and Political Affairs of the ARA, spoke about how the Democrats are losing more and more senior voters. In the 2008 elections, while 62% of ARA members voted for Obama, 53% of seniors not affiliated with ARA voted for McCain. When asked which party would handle health

care better, 47% said Democrats and 47% said Republicans.

Julie Green, the Assistant Political Director AFL-CIO, talked about the voter suppression and voter ID laws being introduced in many states. These laws are meant to discourage voter registration and voter turnout and could affect 18% of senior voters and 11% of all voters.

Hector Sanchez, the Executive director of Labor Council for Latin American Advancement said 75% of senior Latinos rely on Social Security for a majority of their income. He also stated that 11 million undocumented workers is not an accident - it is a policy used for exploitation.

**Retired Club March Minutes**

Continued from page 9

mentioned how some of the airlines have shifted the responsibility of paying for their retired workers pensions to the taxpayers. He also said many years ago Social Security was moved into the general budget and the monies have been used for other budget items ever since, including our current war in the Middle East. The U.S. owes \$1.2 trillion to China but owes even more, \$2.7 trillion to the Social Security fund. There isn't anything wrong with Social Security; it is an accounting problem. We need to "scrap the cap."

Ron also spoke about the Machinists retiree conference to be held in April in Las Vegas. Six people from the Retiree Club will be attending. Some of our retirees who live in Arizona may also attend.

Ron announced that plans are being made to offer a mini-conference here in May to provide information similar to what will be offered at the conference in Las Vegas. A motion was made to hold this conference on May 14, the day the Retiree Club would normally hold its Business Meeting. **M/S/P**

Mike Keller spoke about the American Diabetes Association Expo to be held at the Washington State Convention Center, Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free. Mike said he went to the conference last year and found it to be very informative, even if you don't have diabetes.

Tom Lux stated that this is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA). There are over 4 mil-

lion members. Tom also encouraged everyone to check out the Labor History Board in the lobby which celebrates Women's History this month.

**President's Report:** T.J. Seibert spoke about the ARA conference he attended in Las Vegas. They had good speakers and workshops. He thanked the District for sending him and the others to the conference. The following also spoke briefly about their experience: Betty Ness said close to 200 people attended. They learned about tools to use social media and saw an excellent movie called "Age of Champions" showing seniors doing amazing athletic feats.

Tom Lux said we are hoping to obtain a copy and show it at a future retiree club meeting. Ruth Render also thanked the District for sending her to the conference and thanked T. J. for asking her to attend. She said Ron McGaha stole the show with his rapping on "scrap the cap."

T. J. emphasized it is important as seniors that we get involved in the 2012 general and local elections. We need to work to get other seniors out to vote. Especially due to the fact that there is a move by some Republicans to suppress the vote of seniors and low income voters by trying to make voters provide more documentation in order to be eligible to vote. T.J. brought in copies of a flyer entitled "Know Your Rights Washington" that covers voting rights.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries:** The following celebrated birthdays in March: Vera Doss, T.J. Seibert, Darrell Wallis and Chuck Chalfant.

**Adjournment:** Adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

# EASTERN WASHINGTON

## Workshop Details 'Structured Settlement' Changes

Union leaders in Eastern Washington took advantage of a seminar sponsored by the Washington State Labor Council and the Project Help program to explain the dramatic changes and answer questions about "structured settlements" in workers' compensation.

Business Representative Steve Warren, Local 1123 Recording Secretary Bailey Olin and Eastern Washington Legislative Delegate Gary Swartz took advantage of the all-day seminar to learn more on this issue.

Last year, lawmakers in Olympia dramatically changed Washington's workers' compensation system with the passage of EHB2123. The biggest change was the legalization of "structured settlements," also known as compromise-and-release buyouts, whereby employers can negotiate with injured workers to pay a series of lump-sum payments to settle claims. This new alternative dispute resolution tool is for injured workers who are over a statutorily-established threshold age. This seminar explained in detail the process for negotiating a structural settlement should workers want to go that route.

Although organized labor aggressively opposed this change, it has become the law. Therefore, it is in the interests of unions to learn how this new system will work in order to best preserve the rights and protect the interests of workers injured on the job.

The seminar featured presentations from various perspectives and gave participants an overall picture of the new structured settlement options. Speakers partici-



Above: Union leaders in Eastern Washington attended a workshop that detailed the process for negotiating a structured settlement under revised Workers' Compensation laws. Photo left: Local 86 Legislative Chair Gary Swartz and Eastern Washington Business Rep Steve Warren take notes on the process.

parting in the seminar included:

- Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO;
- Self-Insured Ombudsman's office;
- Department of Labor and Industries;
- Board of Industrial Insurance;
- Washington State Association for Justice; and

- Project Help

The Project Help Program is a cooperative effort between the WSLC, the state's business community, and the Department of Labor and Industries with the goal of facilitating early and successful resolution of workers' compensation claims.



L to R: Staff Assistant Ken Howard, Kevin Quinn from AJAC, 751 Organizer Jesse Cote who serves on the AJAC Board, and Business Rep Steve Warren discuss the importance of attracting future workers to the aerospace industry jobs.

## AJAC Helps Ensure Our Region Has a Strong Aerospace Future

The Machinists Union continues to work closely with the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee (AJAC) to ensure we have trained aerospace workers long into the future.

Recently, Business Representative Steve Warren and staff assistant Ken Howard met with AJAC Lead Program Developer Kevin Quinn and Jesse Cote, who serves on the AJAC Board, to get an update on programs.

Only through apprenticeship programs can you capture and directly transfer the knowledge and skills of the top workers in the industry. Some AJAC

training occupations include: aircraft mechanics, machining, composites, aircraft interiors, and tool and die makers. AJAC continues to develop more occupations as they hear from aerospace industry members which occupations are in need of an apprenticeship program. This constant communication with both industry leaders and labor leaders make the program unique and successful.

If you would like more information on AJAC, visit [www.ajactraining.org](http://www.ajactraining.org) or contact its Spokane office at 509-533-8299 (2110 N. Fancher Way).

## Taking the Oath of Membership

Local 86 in Spokane regularly invites new members to attend the monthly Local Lodge meeting and take the membership oath of office. Business Rep Steve Warren (l) administers the oath of membership to Brenda Burton, who works at Triumph Composites.



## Members at Triumph Learn More on IAM Pension Plan

Machinists Union members working at Triumph Composites have negotiated the IAM National Pension Plan into their contract. To help our 450 members there to better understand the plan and the various options, IAM Western Territories Rep Damien Anderson recently traveled to Spokane to host a series of meetings.

The meetings were conducted on two shifts so more members could participate, as well as in the quarterly brown bag lunch at Local 86 and the monthly membership meeting.

Information was presented on early retirement options, and vesting hours. He detailed the various payment options available, as well as the "pop-up" provision should the spouse die prior to the plan participant.

Damien explained to our veteran senior members the process for filing retirement pension benefits, as well as communicated to our new members the value of their pension benefit.

He suggested each participant utilize the online website to set up a profile so you can see individual information

about you, utilize the pension calculator, view hours submitted on your behalf and explore beneficiary information.

The IAM National Pension Plan is the sixth largest Labor-Management Multi-Employer Pension Fund in the country with more than 1,750 contributing employer locations nationwide and more than 107,000 active employees and 82,000 pensioners. The National Pension Plan has approximately 8.3 billion dollars in assets and has been well funded for more than 50 years.

As the aerospace industry continues to grow, so will the new members coming in who benefit from the plan.



IAM Western Territory Rep Damien Anderson (r) answers questions about the IAM National Pension Fund on a recent visit to Triumph Composites Systems.



IAM Western Territory Rep Damien Anderson explained to our veteran senior members the process for filing retirement pension benefits under the IAM National Pension Fund, as well as communicated to our new members the value of their pension benefit.