



# OFF THE HOOK!

Southern California ILWU Local 13 - Volume IX Number 3 - November - December, 2013

## 16th Annual Feed The Community



Photo by Richard Flores

### ILWU Giving Back To The Community



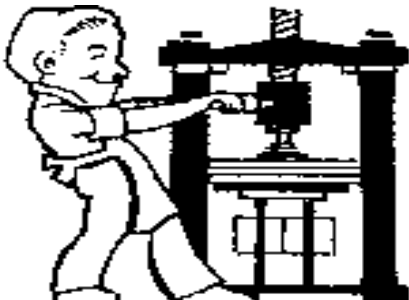
**ILWU Local 13  
Calendar of Events  
December- 2013**

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

*Websites: [ilwu13.com](http://ilwu13.com) and [ilwu.org](http://ilwu.org)*

**ILWU Local 13 Telephone Numbers**

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



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WILLIAMSON

**THIS PUBLICATION  
IS EXPERTLY  
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BROTHERS & SISTERS**

International Longshore &  
Warehouse Union, Local 13  
630 S. Centre Street  
San Pedro, California 90731

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- Mark Williams- Secretary-Treasurer
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- Andrew Kustich - Day Business Agent
- Mario Medina, Jr. - Night Business Agent
- Larry Manzo - Night Business Agent
- Mark Mascola - LRC Representative
- Harry Dong - LRC Representative
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- Open - Chairman of Stewards
- Christine Aguirre
- Tony Alanis
- Richard Alvarez
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- Mark Jurisic
- Jeffrey Linares
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- Floyd Bryan - Bobby Olvera, Jr.

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- Off The Hook Staff
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- Kent Evans - Editing

Off The Hook! is the official publication of ILWU Local 13. All articles and photos are the property of ILWU, Local 13. Articles, photos, or cartoons may be submitted to the above address, Attn: D.C. Chavez. Include your name, registration number, a phone number and a mailing address with your submission. Deadline is April 15, 2014 CD or Floppy using Windows operating system are acceptable. Please save your a file in Text (txt) format. You may submit your files via the Internet using the following e-mail:

**"[offthehooklocal13@charter.net](mailto:offthehooklocal13@charter.net).**

# Message From The President

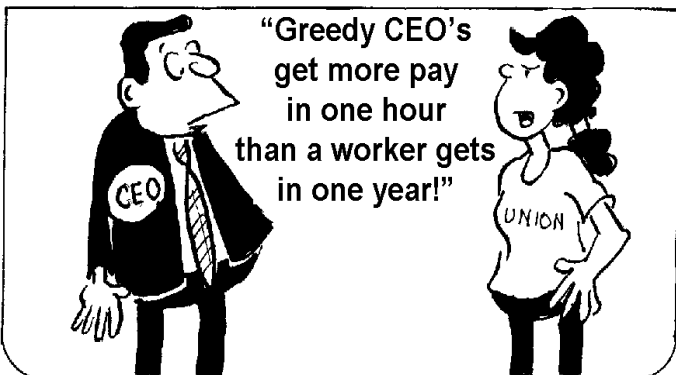
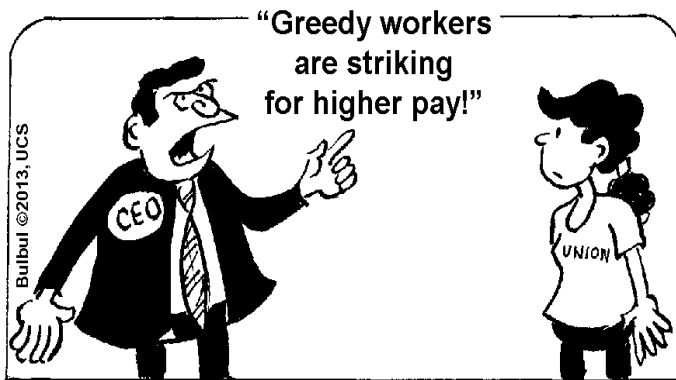
By Chris Viramontes - President

Brothers and Sisters,

**W**e are approximately seven months away from the expiration of our 2008 Contract. Are you ready? Are you mentally and financially prepared? Are you working safe and following the PCLCD and PCMSC? A membership prepared is a membership that will succeed in any facet of adversity no matter what the challenge is. I am confident in our membership and know they will respond when called or challenged. We are the backbone of labor and set the bar for other Unions to achieve our greatness. So, let's talk about issues facing our Union and what your officers are doing to protect our future. The first issue I would like to discuss is Jurisdiction. We are constantly being challenged by employers trying to use non-bargaining and other outside unions to do OUR CONTRACTUAL WORK! We are being challenged with mechanic jurisdiction. The employers feel they have the right to use other union labor to raise cranes and the assembly of smaller cranes on our docks. I am happy to report we were successful with yet another arbitration victory against TRAPAC that resulted in our mechanics performing this work.

We have also been very successful with keeping chassis from going off dock (rotobility) and having repairs done by scab labor! We have won arbitrations defending this chassis work, but the employers want to challenge some of the wording in Coast Arbitrator Kagel's award that addresses outside truck drivers doing ILWU work. In other words, they are trying to get a second bite at the apple and eliminate mandatory rotobility. This will be going back to our local arbitrator soon. It does not stop with mechanic jurisdiction. It continues at non-PMA member companies that use other unions to perform our work. This too will be going to arbitration soon. The attacks will not stop. But your officers continue to battle and prepare winning arbitrations.

I would like to address the issue of Automation. Currently, there are two projects going on now; The Middle Harbor Project in Long Beach and the TRAPAC project in San Pedro. Middle Harbor is a project being performed by OOCL and Long Beach Container Terminal. This is a billion dollar project that will ultimately reduce ILWU manning. LBCT has committed to training the ILWU workforce in the creation of new work created from Automation. They have already started to send Mechanics to computer classes and other technical classes. They continue to invite all three Locals to meetings for updates on the project and training. Trapac on the other hand has been defiant in every way possible. Trying to get meetings with them is like pulling teeth! They do not want to use ILWU in the creation of any new jobs if they have it their way. Yet, they need more money from the Port of Los Angeles to complete the project. I have been at all City Hall, Port of Los Angeles Harbor Commission, and City Council meetings to speak in opposition and to let our elected city officials know just who TRAPAC really is. Our concerns were greatly expressed and echoed by Council members Busciano and Bonin on the importance of training the ILWU workforce and keeping good jobs in the Port of Los Angeles. TRAPAC has a moral, ethical, and a fiduciary responsibility to the community and it's work force. We will continue to voice are concerns loudly and challenge TRAPAC at every turn.



(Continued on Page 4 Presidents Message)

**(Continued From Page 3 Presidents Message)**

Now, I would like to speak about our Health Benefits. We were scheduled to go to Arbitration the second week of November but the Union had to cancel because one of our lead attorneys in this case fell very ill. A new arbitration date has not been set yet. To date, we are still experiencing difficulties with “out of network claims.” For those members who are still experiencing problems please keep bringing your information to the Local. “In network claims” seem to be processed and paid within 30 days. So you can see they want us all to move “in network” and life will be just fine. I say BS! We have negotiated “out of network” doctors so our members can see what doctors they feel are best for themselves and their families. We will continue to fight for a resolve that our membership can accept. This fight is far from over, and when the new arbitration date is set, our membership will be informed immediately.

Another issue I feel needs to be addressed is registration. We have had a referral pending at the Coast for quite some time. We have been sending tens of thousands of jobs to the Casual Hall on a consistent basis. The PMA will never agree to register because they make millions of dollars off the backs of our Casual work force. The millions they make are used against us to fight ILWU during upcoming contract negotiation’s and at the LRC level, to severely impact Union resources while the PMA hires more LRC reps to challenge everything under the sun. Its time for the PMA to start paying benefits and equal wages and quit using our money to finance their attacks against our union. Registration will be coming up at the next CLRC meeting. We have asked the Coast Officers to reach disagreement and

move it to Arbitration.

We have started a new Stewards program on the job that can help many of our members understand contract language and help you stand up for your right’s on the job, instead of being bullied. I firmly believe this will help strengthen and build solidarity among our members. I strongly urge all our members to get involved in the upcoming meetings and help build a better union both on and off the job. Bulletins and recordings on the tape will be sent out on the first scheduled meeting.

In closing, I would like to thank our membership for being vigilant and always looking for opportunities for getting involved. We, as a membership, will be proactive on and off the job on securing a 2014 contract. We will continue to fight the fight and walk the walk! We have great Contract Resolutions that will be read at January’s meeting. If you have some good thoughts and don’t know how to compose a resolution, please contact an officer or caucus delegate to help you put it in writing. I ask our membership to be prepared, get involved, work by the PCLCD and PCMSC, and our union will achieve great success!

I would also like to wish our membership Happy Holidays and the start of a Happy New Year! God Bless you all.

**IF WE FAIL TO PREPARE,  
THAN WE HAVE PREPARED TO FAIL!**

In Solidarity,

*Chris Viramontes*

President Local 13



# Message From The Secretary-Treasurer

By Mark Williams - Secretary-Treasurer

I'm thinking about all of the non-sense that wing-nut talking heads are spinning about The Affordable Care Act. I found this old article from The Dispatcher dated January 16, 1959 which seems as radical now as it was then. It begins:

"ILWU, while proud of the health and welfare plans it has negotiated, recognizes the need for a national health program. The International Executive Board at its meeting last January adopted this statement:

**"A national health program, including medical services, hospitalization, and expansion of medical education and research, is badly needed in the United States"**

This is a report on some of the inadequacies of present methods of meeting health needs, and the chaotic condition of this country's health economics. Various proposals have been made to bring order out of chaos here...Over the years the real issues have become somewhat befogged in a mass of slogans and labels. The parallel with some employers' arguments to the public on "right-to-work" legislation is worth noting. The organized medical profession-The American Medical Association and its branches-warns against "socialized medicine" and "compulsory health insurance" just as General Electric attacks "compulsory unionism". AMA's whole-hearted approval now goes to "voluntary" health plans (of certain types), and the selling job is much like that done on "voluntary" unionism.

AMA spares no dollars in its campaigns against any kind of national health program. For instance, every member doctor was assessed \$25 for the 1949 campaign, providing \$3.5 million to tell the public that:

"The Voluntary Way is the American Way"

"In America, We Don't Like Compulsion"

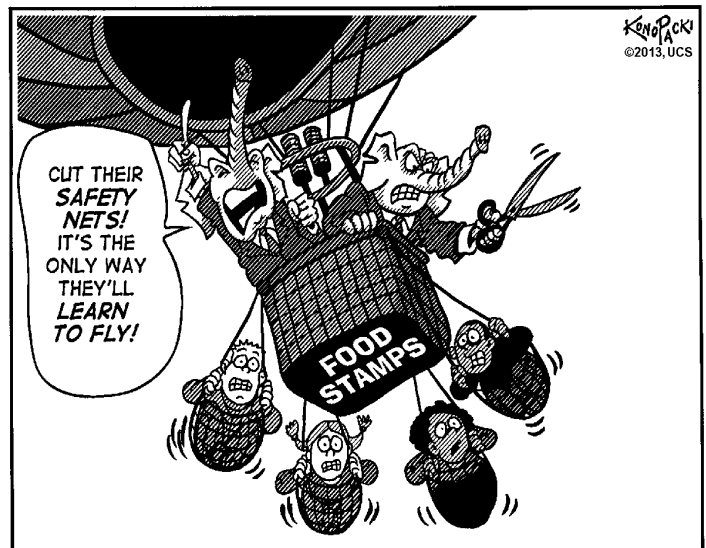
"Compulsory Health Insurance is Political Medicine"

"Political Medicine is Bad Medicine"..."

That is just the first four paragraphs. The stance of the ILWU on national health care is clear and never changing. It is obvious the right-wing political machine is out to get what the men and women before us fought for. While President Obama's Affordable Care Act, "Obamacare", most likely will change in some way you can see that we have been on the forefront of this issue from the beginning. Only time will tell how the Affordable Care Act will materialize. But I will continue to show how relevant the history and activism of the ILWU was and how much it is needed today.

In Solidarity,

*Mark Williams*  
Secretary-Treasurer Local 13



# Message From The Grievance Committee

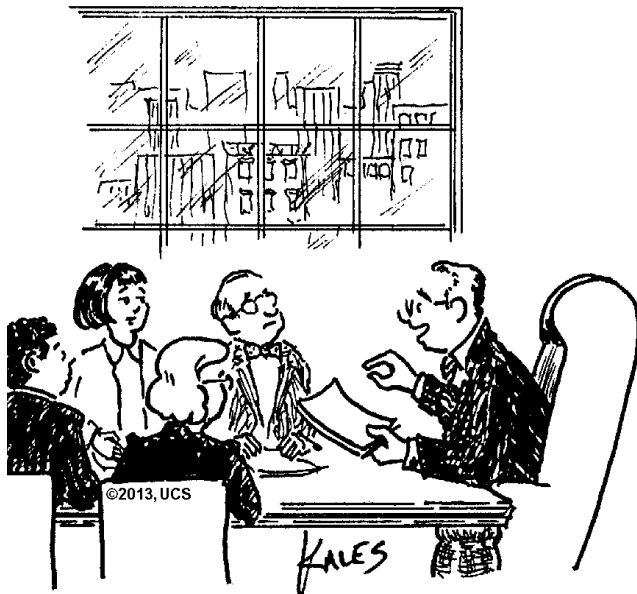
By Mike Dimon #131326 - Chairman

**O**ur constitution, Article III, section 10 states; Traditionally Longshoremen have preferred Union Self-discipline to that imposed by the employers.

The responsibility of your union elected Grievance committee is to aid in the enforcement of the Union Constitution, By Laws, and Rules and Regulations. And to aid in the enforcement of all labor relations agreements including dispatching and working rules written or unwritten.

Our Grievance committee consists of 10 elected members (In good standing) of local 13, and the duties of the Grievance committee are clearly outlined in our constitution. Our committee meets twice a month and has adjudicated as many as 151 cases in one year. When cited for a grievance you must appear or you may be fined, and your case may be heard in your absence.

The Grievance committee is obligated, both legally and morally, to conduct all its affairs with complete impartiality and to seek a fair and unbiased decision in all cases that come before the committee. We have a strict set of guidelines of rules and procedures that are followed by every member of the committee. A majority



“Now, before we begin, does everyone have their moral blinders in place?”

of complaints being heard by our Grievance committee consist of violations of dispatch rules (Chiseling) and conduct unbecoming a union member. Most of the violations of Dispatch Rules are of members checking-in and picking up jobs on their wrong hours. Others consist of checking-in early, not checking-in on average after being unavailable for three consecutive days, not adding flop hours, and calling a replacement for your job then checking-in to go to work for the same shift. Any local 13 member may obtain a copy of Grievance Rules and Procedures at our Local 13 business offices as well as copies of our Class A dispatch rules, contract supplement agreement's and local 13 Constitution. Our committee encourages any Class A member of local 13 to come and observe the proceedings and if a quorum is not met by our committee you may even be sworn-in as a temporary member. I encourage every member of our local to read and keep a copy of our Class A dispatch rules.

In closing, I'd like to say it's a pleasure to be an active volunteer and to serve this Union as both a Grievance Committee member and its current Chairperson. I'd also like to thank our current elected committee members who selflessly contribute their time. Attorney of Facts Ryan Berry 131824, Recording Secretary Scott “Common sense” Paine 130671, Sargent of Arms Marc “Wigs” Gallardo 35880, Sergio Amador 130548, Jonathan “Sticks” Lamborn 39153, Jeff Linares 39811, Will Lundy 130723, and John “Worm” Solaro 38865. Treat each other with respect, and familiarize yourself with our rules and abide by them so as to show respect for the blood and sweat that was shed in order to provide us with a fair, just, and Democratic system as you'll ever find in any organized Labor Union anywhere in the world.

## An Injury To One Is An Injury To All!

# **Health Benefits**

## **By Jerry Avila - Health Benefits Officer**

Brothers and Sisters

**T**he recent implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) known aka: “Obamacare” has caused much confusion and concern. The following should clarify some of the confusion:

- Anything could be changed at any time.
- Pay NO attention to anyone who says they know exactly how it all will work.
- “Obamacare” is not a coherent law. Think of it as a large pot into which a slew of ideas were thrown from academic health economists, lobbyists, advocate’s and politicians.
- Three departments issue regulations: Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, and the Treasury (IRS).
- So far, 20,000 pages of regulations.

Following are resources that may help you find more information regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) aka: “Obamacare”:

- \* The main Federal Health and Human Services website [www.hhs.gov/healthcare](http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare).
- \* The Department of Labor <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform/>.
- \* IRS <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Affordable-Care-Act-Tax-Provisions-Home/>.
- \* Covered California [www.coveredca.com](http://www.coveredca.com).
- \* Kaiser Family Foundation <http://www.kff.org>.

***Information provided by: Knox Consulting***

### **ARBITRATION UPDATE**

Arbitration that was scheduled on the week of Monday, November 11, 2013 to replace Zenith-American as TPA (Third Party Administrator) has been postponed.

Please continue to utilize Zenith-American Customer Service Representatives on site:

ILWU Memorial Hall  
231 West “C” St.  
Wilmington, CA 90744  
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Bring all EOB’s, Claims and Medical Bills (out of the envelope) and have ready for review.

### **DEPENDENT DENTAL COVERAGE EXTENDED TO AGE 26 FOR CALIFORNIA DENTAL PLANS**

Effective July 1, 2013 dental coverage has been extended up to age 26, regardless of student status for eligible dependent children, in California.

The Benefit Plans Office is in the process of working with the California dental plans to update coverage in their systems. If you have any questions regarding eligibility for your dependent children please contact ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans (415) 673-8500.

### **CALIFORNIA STATE DISABILITY BENEFITS – ONLINE FILING**

Effective March 1, 2013, claims for California State Disability Insurance (CSDI) benefits may be filed online with the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Their new electronic filing system is called: SDI Online.

Information about SDI Online can be found on the EDD’s website: [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov).

In Solidarity,

Jerry Avila #37499  
Health Benefits Officer

# Joint Accident Prevention Committee Safety & Training

By Mark Jurisic - Chairman

*Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.*

-- Helen Keller

**A**s new contract negotiations draw near one cannot help feeling concerned. The future seems uncertain and automation is on everyone's mind. But, for one I am optimistic. Certainly, there are challenges coming, but our Union and this local have a history of dealing with issues like these. By staying united, protecting our work, and doing our job we can overcome anything. Staying united, we have done before and when push comes to shove, we always come together. Protecting our work is going to be more complicated, but there are things we can do to defend what we have. While we have a very experienced workforce, we do not have a good or even adequate training program. We still learn how to work on the job. Think about it. This is a high risk industry with the possibility of accident and injury being very high. We are not in the only high risk industry around. There are others and while we have a Safety Code other industries have a training program. If you are going into those industries you will be an apprentice and you will

be trained on how to work safely long before they will let you do dangerous work. Our methods are different and on the job training used to work when the majority of the workforce was in the hold. You always had senior men around to show a new guy how to work. Nowadays, our new men get put in a machine and they work alone. There is nobody in the UTR to teach the "new guy" as he or she learns by making mistakes. That means accidents, lots of them. If we are lucky, nobody gets hurt. As a union, we pride ourselves on safety and we should not stop there. Every expert in the field of occupational safety will tell you safety begins with training. And, while safety and training bring obvious advantages to every worker there is another reason to fight for more training. There are three main reasons the employers want to automate, production, efficiency and safety. I am not making this up. The makers of the automated cranes did a survey and those were the top three reasons. One can understand production and efficiency, but safety is a little more complicated to understand but, its not that complicated. Accidents cause damage and injuries and to the employer that equals money, lots of money. Now you see why safety is one of the top three reasons to automate and why training needs to become a priority for Local 13 in this contract. We need to track accidents and use that data to identify where the deficiencies are in the training program. Once the deficiencies are identified we need change the training program to address this deficiency. Currently, there is no such program in existence. I will give you just one example, UTR training. Today our UTR training program consist of watching a video tape and parking a forty foot container or a twenty foot container where there is little time spent driving a UTR with a load. If you look at the accidents involving UTR's a lot of them involve UTR's turning while attached to a bomb cart. The training center does not have a bomb cart to teach anyone the proper turning radius. In my opinion, safety has to become a top priority for us just as it was 1930's.



# Solidarity



# 16th Annual "Feed The Community"

By Lisa Tonson - Chairman

The ILWU is giving back to the community each year through our Holiday Events committee. ILWU Locals 13, 63 & 94 would like to thank all those who helped make our event a success. On November 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ILWU member's, families, and their friends mobilized to put together and distribute 1,500 Thanksgiving baskets.

Every year P.S.T. 176 donates a UTR and a forklift and CUT donates two 40' containers to transport and store the food. We had volunteers from all of the ILWU locals, pensioners, Aux #8, local 26 who provide the security, and the port police (local 65) who provide traffic control. Special thanks go to Jim Biazavich, of the LAPD Harbor Division, who makes sure that the street in front of the Longshoremen's Memorial Hall is blocked off to traffic. Go to [www.ilwufilms.com](http://www.ilwufilms.com) to view the event.

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, the ILWU's annual Children's Christmas party will be held. Each year the Holiday Events committee invites over 3000 children to come and receive a toy. The committee collects toys during the month of December from all of the locals. On the day of the event volunteers help each child pick out the perfect gift. After picking out a gift, children can have their faces painted or have a caricature drawn. The highlight of the day is the always-anticipated visit with Santa. This year the face painting will be being donated by Brenda Gonzales. Cliff Bayuga is donating the caricatures.

Through out the year, the Holiday Events Committee serves food in the kitchen at the monthly membership meetings. The committee shows up early to make sure that the membership is provided with a home cooked meal. The monies collected during these meetings are used to help with the cost of both events.



# 16th Annual "Feed

November 24

Memorial Hall, Wil



# and The Community"

## 4 & 25, 2013

### Imington, California

Photo's by Richard Flores



# Understanding "Obamacare"

By Jimmy Monfi - Trustee

First off, let me say the title of this article is a little misleading. My intention in writing this article is to give our members a *better* understanding of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or as it's colloquially known – "Obamacare". The original text of "Obamacare" was over 900 pages and included an amendment that contained close to 400 pages. In addition to this, there have been 20,000 pages of regulations issued to date, so, anyone that claims to have a complete understanding of "Obamacare" more than likely doesn't know what they're talking about.

Much of the information included in this article was derived from a one day seminar sponsored by Local 13's legal counsel to aid our officers in unraveling "Obamacare".

One of the foremost concerns of our members is the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health benefit plans known as the "Cadillac" tax and how it will affect our health benefit plan. It's important to understand that the tax will not be on individuals. The "Cadillac" tax goes into effect in 2018 and is a 40% tax levied on coverage providers on any premium above \$10,200 for an individual and \$27,500 for a family annually (not including the cost of vision or dental plans). To make it simpler, let's say your family has insurance through your job and the premiums that the insurance company charges your employer are more than \$27,500 per year. The insurance company has to pay a \$.40 tax

on every dollar *over* \$27,500. Unfortunately, under our longshore contract things are much more complicated. Our PPO plan is a self-funded plan, meaning premiums aren't paid to an insurance provider. Instead, medical claims are paid directly to doctors from our Welfare Fund through a third party administrator. Since the tax is imposed on "coverage providers", an average cost would have to be calculated and the plan would have to pay the tax if the cost exceeded the threshold. The only advantage we have is that the longshore industry is considered a high risk occupation and the annual cap is therefore increased to \$30,950 (family) and \$11,850 (individual).

Personally, regardless of who pays the taxes, I think the "Cadillac" tax is a terrible idea. The justification behind the tax was that it is necessary for cost containment, but anybody who has dealt in collective bargaining knows that cost containment means cuts to our benefits. One way or another the additional costs will be passed on to us.

So, what provisions of "Obamacare" are beneficial to us? First, our plan is now legally required to provide coverage for children until age 26. Previously, children were only covered until age 19, and verified full-time students were covered until age 23. I know there are many longshore families currently taking advantage of this provision and that additional window of security for our children is invaluable. Another very important provision of "Obamacare" that is rarely talked about is the elimination of annual and lifetime limits. To show how important this provision is I've included an excerpt from our 2008 MOU:

*"The lifetime maximum Major Medical benefit per covered person shall be increased from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 and the accompanying annual restoration of the maximum shall be increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000 or the amount of Major Medical used – whichever is less."*

You read that correctly. Prior to "Obamacare" becoming law, our plan had limits on how much it would pay over the lifetime of a person or in one year. Once your lifetime limit was reached, you no longer had health care coverage. You were finished. Now, because of "Obamacare", no person ever has to worry about running out of insurance in a year or over their lifetime.



If you or a family member is struck with a serious long-term debilitating disease, your health care coverage can never be cutoff.

There are many other good provisions of the law either in effect or going into effect soon. Some examples are: no denial of health care coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, a cap on insurance company profits with rebates to customers, preventive services which must be provided free of charge (no co-pay), and limits on out-of-pocket expenses. The law also includes an array of other requirements that improve the quality of health care coverage in the U.S.

While "Obamacare" has a lot of good qualities it also has its share of flaws. Before the mid-term elections in 2010, the idea was that Congress could fix the flaws as they went along. However, Republicans won the House in the 2010 mid-term elections with a large portion of them coming from the Tea Party faction. These ultra-conservative "Tea Partiers" have shown no interest in fixing the law just destroying it completely, and exploiting the laws defects as political targets. In November of 2014 the entire House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate goes up for re-election. Unions need to come together to lobby for candidates that support the working class and are looking for solutions not political fodder. With the right people in Congress, hopefully, we can eliminate the "Cadillac" tax and fix other flawed parts of "Obamacare". In any case, with the upcoming contract negotiations and elections, 2014 will be a very important year for the ILWU.

# Holiday Greetings

**From the Officer's  
and Staff of  
ILWU Local 13...**



# Labor Day Parade Wilmington



# September 2, 2013 Los Angeles, California

Photos by Robin Doyno



## **Are You Registered? Did You Vote?**

**By Floyd E. Bryan - Vice-President, So. Cal. District Council**

**I**f you can answer “Yes” to both questions you are part of a **minority** of the ILWU Local 13 membership.

Did you know that only about 50% of ILWU Local 13 members are registered to vote? Of that 50% only about 25% of those registered even bothered to vote!

If you are registered, AND you voted, pass the following information along to someone who didn't register and vote. **If you are part of the majority who either did not register or vote, or both, keep reading . . .**

Every year a very small portion of your monthly dues is donated to the Local 13 Political Action Committee (PAC). As discussed in my last article, these monies are given to support candidates and issues who share our goals and ideals. All of this doesn't do much good if you then don't vote for the candidates and issues of your choice.

### **REGISTER NOW!**

Registration is easy. Here's 3 easy ways . . .

1. Come to a local 13 meeting. Representatives from District Council will be attending meetings and will have forms available for you to complete and mail.
2. Register on-line. This is probably the easiest way. Go to the following website - [http://www.lavote.net/Voter/Voter\\_Registration.cfm](http://www.lavote.net/Voter/Voter_Registration.cfm) Click on the grey button that says “Register Here Online” and follow the instructions on each page.

3. On the same site you can also request to download a form, or call the indicated number to request a form by mail. Forms are available in six (6) languages in addition to English.

When registering consider checking the “absentee” box to have your ballot mailed to you rather than having to go to your polling place. Absentee voting is very convenient and can be done in advance of actual election days. Super simple – just mail it back.

### **NOW – REMEMBER TO VOTE!**

There are three elections coming up.

1. City of Long Beach primary in March.
2. Primary elections for State & Federal Offices
3. November is mid-term elections.

If you're not sure of the candidates or issues remember that your District Council conducts extensive personal candidate interviews and studies the issues relevant to our industry. Shortly before each election you should receive a “Slate Card” with District Council recommendations. Of course, you may vote for whomever you choose but many find these “Slate Cards” helpful.

***REGISTER AND VOTE!  
YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!***

# **Donate to Local 13 PAC Today!**



# Inside The History and Traditions Conference

By Michael Morales - History and Traditions Committee

It is often said that the past influences the future.

If this simple statement has any truth to it, the rich history that has shaped this union has set the table for better days ahead. But, what good would it be if it was all forgotten by time? It was the goal of the History and Traditions Conference to recall yesterday, and look ahead to the future.

For six days in December, the International hosted volunteers from every local in the Longshore Division. It was like they put down their gloves and picked up their pens. These longshoremen went back to school, and city of San Francisco was their classroom.

Presentations and lectures were given by a variety of speakers. Professors, labor activists, authors, ILWU librarians, labor lawyers, members of the Coast Education Committee and our International Officers took to the podium each presenting a subject from their own expertise.

Some went over the past...speaking on subjects like maritime labor before 1934, an in-depth analysis of the origins of the ILWU, the historical role of pensioners, and contractual gains over the years highlighting the safety code and our welfare plan.

Some went over the present...touching on subjects like how the ILWU works, challenges facing longshoremen worldwide, the impact of labor law on unions, and current jurisdictional struggles.

Others spoke of the future...bringing attention to topics like automation, reviving the labor movement, and organizing the campaigns ahead.

As each day passed, after each person spoke, a message became clear.

The sacrifices of the past may one day have to be made again.

With about six months until the end of the current contract, challenges face us on multiple fronts. However, one only has to look at the examples set by our older brothers and sisters. Solidarity kept them together through their toughest of times, and in the end,

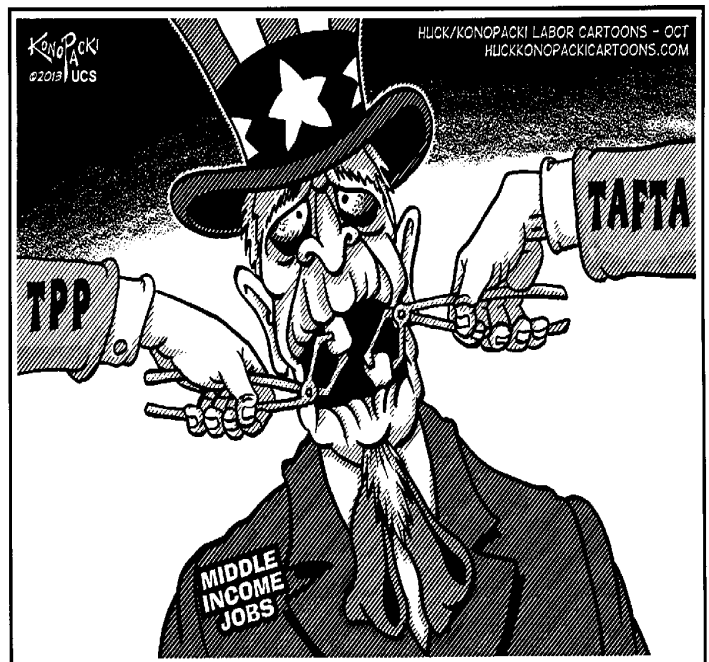
it won for them the toughest of fights.

Take, for instance, the story presented to the conference about The 1948 Strike. The ILWU was branded nationally as a communist organization and employers sought to eliminate the dispatch hall among other concessions. After the Taft-Hartley Act was used against us, the employer issued a “last, best, and final” offer to the membership. Out of 26,965 ballots, not one vote was cast, showing 100% solidarity. A 93 day strike followed, and employers gave in to union demands.

Events like this deserved to be remembered, and so do the nameless thousands that came before us.

If the past does influence the future, then all that we have now is owed to those people who lived in those times and it is up to people like us to protect what we were given while fighting for those who are yet to come. Those who attended the conference have a deeper understanding of this, and are eager to share what they have learned with their own locals. The volunteers from Local 13 will make a push to raise awareness in the months ahead building off of three words that will ask one simple question...a question that has been asked in the past and no doubt will be asked again in the future.

## “ARE YOU READY?”



# ***New Dispatch Hall Rising!***



*Photos by Richard Flores*

## **ILWU LOCAL 13 MEMBERS**

<u><b>Number</b></u>	<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Deceased List</b></u>	
34126	Samuel J. Armstrong Jr.	(Retired)	08/31/13
37470	Cynthia Sutton	(Active)	08/13/13
131352	Robert J. Boskovich	(Active)	08/07/13
35148	Crescenciano Hernandez	(Active)	08/03/13
37136	Slavko Pijuk	(Active)	08/01/13
33199	Malvin L. Walker	(Retired)	09/03/13
38783	Ruben Gonzales	(Active)	09/20/13
32238	Edward L. Carpenter	(Retired)	09/18/13
31967	Richard "Bird" Godfrey	(Retired)	09/21/13
33992	Rosevelt "Black Rose" Carter	(Retired)	09/21/13
37251	Michael Higgins	(Active)	09/22/13
33837	David J. Winston	(Retired)	09/28/13
36999	Rose Calise	(Active)	10/29/13
133463	Bruce Grant	(Active)	10/29/13
34394	Henry "Chief Mijo" Valencia	(Active)	10/11/13
33978	Frank Grajeda	(Retired)	10/08/13
132634	Sam Touchard	(Active)	10/08/13
33810	John L. Nappi	(Retired)	10/07/13
130278	Lori McElhaney	(Active)	10/05/13
131477	Pasko Cotic	(Active)	10/02/13
31018	Eddie P. Ruiz	(Retired)	10/13/13
33813	Enoch Nixion	(Retired)	10/21/13
36846	Antonio Chavez	(Active)	11/02/13
36116	John R. Hauser	(Active)	12/08/13

*Rest  
In  
Peace*

<u><b>Number</b></u>	<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Retired List</b></u>	<u><b>YEARS OF SERVICE</b></u>	
34658	Gary G. Osborne		(35 Yrs of Service)	08/01/13
34693	Floyd J. Wright		(34 Yrs of Service)	08/01/13
35121	Robert Adams		(32 Yrs of Service)	08/01/13
34870	David D. Garcia		(32 Yrs of Service)	08/01/13
132426	Susan K. Jordan		( 9 Yrs of Service)	08/01/13
31555	Henry L. Uranga		(54 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
33952	John DiLeva		(43 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
34815	Albert L. Green		(32 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
35093	David B. Roberson		(31) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
35748	Robert McNeil		(28 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
35734	Alberto Barreras		(28) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
35748	Robert B. McNeil		(28) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
35622	Ramona J. Pack		(28) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
57401	Joan Sample		(20 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
37572	Norma Dominguez		(16 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
38553	Mark S. Heckthorn		(15 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
38730	Pedro Magana		(14 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
39947	Earl Rayson		(12 Yrs of Service)	09/01/13
38553	Mark S. Heckethorn		(15) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
38730	Pedro Magana		(14) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
130219	Holly J. Lindroth		(13) Yrs of Service	09/01/13
35828	Tiana Burkhammer		(26) Yrs of Service	10/01/13
37258	Anthony G. Osuniga		(20) Yrs of Service	10/01/13
37889	Victoria A. Guy		(17) Yrs of Service	10/01/13
37832	Gayle Gutierrez		(16) Yrs of Service	10/01/13
34525	Stanley Brown		(37) Yrs of Service	11/01/13
36273	Gennaro J. DiLeva		(24) Yrs of Service	11/01/13
34416	Leonard E. Armstrong		(35) Yrs of Service	11/01/13

# Children's Christmas Party - 2013

## Memorial Hall

### Wilmington, California

Photo's by Michelle Meese

