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Through Pandemic-Related Abuses, Political Cynicism and Strike Action, Labor Prevails

By Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer,
San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council

The Job Safety Law Turns 51

Nearly 51 years ago, the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act was passed. This law, which gave the federal government the authority to set and enforce health and safety standards for most U.S. workers, was signed under a Republican president, and was opposed by Labor.

How could this be? Well, like most legislative endeavors, the act, also known as the Job Safety Law, didn't end as it started.

This particular battle began in 1968 under President Lyndon B. Johnson. Citing statistics revealing that each year, more than 14,000 workers were killed and 2.2 million more were injured on the job, Johnson described the situation



A 261 member honors the janitor strike line.

as "the shame of a modern industrial nation." Of course, he wasn't wrong.

The Labor Department of the era advanced new standards, and businesses dug in on a multi-year campaign to stop the progress, playing every possible card, including challenging the legal authority of the federal government and claiming that safety regulations would stifle innovation.

Unions supported the original Johnson proposal because the bill included an important general duty clause requiring employers to carry the burden of providing a safe and healthful workplace and gave real access and authority to federal inspectors. Violators could be fined or jailed.

This version of the bill would never see a vote in Congress. Escalating deaths and tragedy among mineworkers and other industrial trades would force an end to the stalemate over federal (in) action, and, eventually, a watered-down version would pass in 1970.

While much has improved since then, with states like California implementing more robust laws to protect workers, the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed how truly inadequate these regulations still are.

In 1968, Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz opined that the carnage would continue because people "can't see the blood on the food that they eat, on the things that they buy, and on the services they get." That rings as true today as it did then. It's a lesson for us. The stories of our workplaces must be told, and perhaps we should mourn our losses

more loudly, so as to guard against the complacency and indifference of consumers and elected officials alike.

April 28 is Worker's Memorial Day. This year, the pain will hit closer to home, and the toll will undoubtedly be greater. The pandemic has left nobody truly safe at work, and regulators have done little to protect the working people who were given labels of "essential" and hailed as "heroes" — titles that amount to nothing more than platitudes, with little regard to these workers' overall health and safety.

This April 28th, let's send a message loud and clear: Our workers and their families deserve more than fair pay. They deserve to reap the benefits of their labor without losing their lives. Take time to honor your fallen, and make sure your employers know the true cost of doing business.

California Senate Bills and the Political Environment

State Senator Scott Weiner lost the endorsement of the California Labor Federation last August. While he succeeded in his bid for re-election, he did so without many of us. The federation made a principled decision based upon the facts, and we have no regrets.

The officers of this Council and other labor leaders have made efforts to "reset" and work with Weiner. Unfortunately, I must report that despite being assured of a new day, we are on what feels like a familiar road.

The senator's challenger made bold and aggressive commitments and levied



criticism as one would expect in any competitive race. Apparently, it stung a bit more than anyone had expected. In fact, we believe it is motivating some rather cynical moves in Sacramento.

The most recent episode involves a bill, SB 617, that would allow virtual self-inspection of renewable energy facilities. This could result in grave consequences for first responders, industry workers, and neighbors, as battery storage and many other aspects of these facilities are anything but safe until thoroughly examined by properly trained personnel.

A second bill, SB 467, touts environmental justice and an end to fracking and other extraction. Unfortunately, it lacks any energy plan to break free of fossil fuel dependence. It's an ambitious bill, but fire trucks, cranes, and emergency generators don't run on good ideas.

SB 467 also lacks dignity for the workers who give their careers and,

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SAN FRANCISCO BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OFFICERS & AFFILIATES



Published Since February 1900
(USPC 411-860) - (ISSN 00199-6452)

Official Newspaper of the
San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
1188 Franklin St. Suite 203, San Francisco, CA 94109
Ph: (415) 345-9333 • Fax: (415) 345-9449

Organized Labor is published monthly
Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA and at additional post offices

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
Organized Labor/Senders Communications Group, Inc.
16501 Ventura Blvd., #400, Encino, CA 91436
Ph: (818) 884-8966 • Fax: (818) 884-7706 • Email: alex@sendersgroup.com

Executive Editor: Rudy Gonzalez
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Email: cherri@sendersgroup.com



Subscriptions \$30 per year

www.SFBuildingTradesCouncil.org • www.SendersGroup.com

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– The Publishers

Official Minutes of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council

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DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2021, 5 p.m.

Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

President Larry Mazzola, Vice Presidents John Doherty and Vince Courtney, Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter from President Mazzola Jr. appointing Dan Torres (UA 483) to Public Policy Committee

REQUEST FOR FUNDS:

None

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Both the SkyStar and Hines Parcel F were approved at the BOS.
- Vaccines are highly recommended and available to our members. We need to take the vaccine, wherever possible, to our members and commu-

nities. Using an EEO decision, we should expect employers to also consider vaccination as a term and condition of employment in the future.

- Members reminded of Brother Tim Paulson's Sendoff on March 19 at 6 p.m. Link provided to all Delegates.

PICKET SANCTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- COVID-19 Construction Update: no further updates.

REPORTS OF UNIONS:

- Peter Lang of Roofers 40 gave update on negotiations. Attended informative class with NABTU. Plan of action being worked on.
- Larry Mazzola of Plumbers 38 gave updates on new building.
- Cameron Robbins of Operating Engineers 3 reported on receiving email from Kaiser notifying that they will be gearing up to provide vaccines for members.

- Jose Alamanza of Electricians 6 recommended vaccination cards be kept/stored safely for future reference.

ADJOURNMENT:

Adjourned at 5:24 p.m.
opeiu 3 aficio

BOARD OF BUSINESS REPS MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2021, 10 a.m.

Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

President Larry Mazzola, Vice President Vince Courtney, Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present. Vice President John Doherty excused.

Malia Vella (IBT 856), Vice Mayor of Alameda, on recent PLA ordinance covering City-owned/leased land.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank-you card received from "Spider" on Labor Fights Lymphoma.

REQUEST FOR FUNDS:

None

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Janitors SEIU 87 rally March 23 at noon, at 101 California in SF. Members asked to look out for email updates.
- Hines Parcel F is going before for second reading, which is procedural. Ten to 1 on first reading.
- COVID vaccines: Affiliates encouraged to continue to sign members up for appointments.
- Workforce training alignment and program account-

ability remains a citywide focus and priority. Letter went out to Supervisor Gordon Mar re: Joint Venture Board at the SFPUC.

- Mission Rock pre-job No. 2 coming up this week. Prep meeting held to go over proper documentation.
- SFPUC pre-job on 696 Cargo Way identified work that had already been completed; second pre-job to be held this week to rectify.
- City reps to caucus in the coming week.

PICKET SANCTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

- Vince Courtney thanked Rudy Gonzalez, Larry Mazzola, and delegates involved on work with Hines Parcel F.
- Danny Campbell reported on BART projects requiring members to have criminal background checks.

NEW BUSINESS:

- COVID-19 Construction Update: Everyone is doing their part, with only four new cases reported.

REPORTS OF UNIONS:

- Richard Koenig of Sheet Metal 104 reported on school district contract negotiations and lack of bargaining in good faith. Members are completely frustrated. Contract expired a year ago. No responses have been received; next bargaining date is April 16. Rudy will accompany 104 reps on a site visit.

ADJOURNMENT:

Adjourned at 10:41 a.m.
opeiu 3 aficio

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Have you checked in?

It's time to prioritize your mental health

You've stepped up to take care of Californians but haven't prioritized yourself. After a year of uncertainty, many are facing mental health struggles but are hesitant to seek help. During Mental Health Awareness Month speak up about any struggles and take steps towards improving your mental health.

 Talk to your doctor about symptoms

 Stay connected with work crew, family, and friends

 Access mental health insurance benefits

 Establish healthy food and activity habits

Blue Shield of California members can schedule a virtual or in-person visit at [blueshieldca.com/fad](https://www.blueshieldca.com/fad)

[blueshieldca.com/laborandtrust](https://www.blueshieldca.com/laborandtrust)

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Sign Display

Continued from page 1

banking system for medical, started running out of hours this month.

“We’ve now become familiar with manuals and guides for Social Security, the California Employment Development Department, [state vaccine scheduling system] MyTurn, and Covered California,” Dosier said. “Our effort has helped members enroll for Social Security, unemployment benefits, healthcare programs, and vaccine shots.”

Worth said the union has created a safety net to support many members. More than 30 members retired in 2020.

“Many more stayed on and retained their seniority,” Worth said. “This will help them maintain priority as work returns.” According to Worth, Local 510 currently has 796 members.

Local 510 accomplishes a multitude of tasks related to large events and signage. Members’ work includes trade show, convention, and event installation and dismantling of exhibits, commercial outdoor sign production and installation, and sign painting and pictorial

work throughout the Bay Area.

“Right now, we’re waiting on the state to develop guidelines for conventions,” said Worth. “We’re also waiting for the City of San Francisco’s COVID-19 headquarters to vacate the Moscone Center.”

Moscone is currently being used as a COVID-19 vaccination site. West Hall is serving as a temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. Before Moscone is regularly used as a convention center again, it will need to be cleaned.

Local 510, whose members install billboards and signs in and around transit stops, is also looking forward to the return of MUNI and BART riders.

“When the riders return, so will the advertisers,” Worth said.

Later this month, Local 510 members will begin meeting again, outside and socially distanced. Worth said Local 510’s contractors have shared there is a pent-up demand for in-person events, which could include wider aisles, plexiglass dividers and partitions, and floor markings for social distancing.

“We’re filtering a great deal of information from the Exhibition Services

“As more people get vaccinated, we look forward to the virus fading into the background. That will bring us back to the norm.”



Every moment of health matters

Programs and resources for your members’ well-being

Protecting your members’ mental health is important. Living with a mental health condition, like depression, can affect their jobs, relationships, and family. That’s why investing in your members’ mental health is essential, especially now.

With more than 75 years supporting labor, Anthem Blue Cross is here for you and your members. Connect to these resources at [anthem.com/ca/coronavirus/resources](https://www.anthem.com/ca/coronavirus/resources):

- PsychHub.** Members can access this free mental health resource for guidance.
- ianacare.** Members can download this app to coordinate support in providing care for a loved one.
- Aunt Bertha.** This platform connects members to programs to help with food, transportation, and other services.
- ArchAngels.** Members can find free caregivers in their area.

Your members deserve peace of mind. To help your members with additional resources such as **myStrength¹** and **LiveHealth Online Psychology²** telemedicine, contact Martin Lutzeier at 415-617-1736 or martin.lutzeier@anthem.com.

1. myStrength is not a healthcare provider and does not provide medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. If a member or you are currently thinking about or planning to harm yourself or someone else, please call 911, go to the nearest hospital emergency room or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

2. Members must be 18 years or older to access LiveHealth Online. Appointments are subject to the availability of a therapist. Psychologists or therapists using LiveHealth Online cannot prescribe medications. Online counseling is not appropriate for all kinds of problems.

LiveHealth Online is the trade name of Health Management Corporation, a separate company, providing telehealth services on behalf of Anthem Blue Cross.

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Jesse Naputi (left) and Jake Passmore (right) of Sign Display Local 510 prepare graphics for the Intersolar North America show in July 2016.



Sign Display Local 510 Journeyperson Pat Wright secures a wood and metal structure for the Dreamforce conference in October 2016.



Journeyperson Frank Ramirez of Sign Display Local 510 installs graphic decoration on a wall at the Moscone Convention Center in July 2018.

and Contractors Association [ECSA],” Dosier said. “We’re also learning more by keeping in touch with contractors and industry contacts. We follow all the COVID-19-related state, county, and city guidelines relating to safety protocols for large events. We’re research detectives.”

Between April 2020 and March 2021, Local 510 did not hold meetings for members, but it did create a new website and turn its dispatch line into a message line.

“We journeyed out 24 apprentices in 2020,” said Worth. “We continued to offer training through the pandemic. These were a union history class online and small, socially-distanced in-person trainings on graphics and power tools.”

Dosier offered a sentiment she attributed to Local 510’s former business representative, Owen Murphy: “Sign display work was the first to be canceled, and it’ll be the last to come back.”

Still, she and Worth are planning ahead, citing Governor Gavin Newsom’s announcement that the state will reopen completely by mid-June. Dosier



Sign Display Local 510 Journeypersons Helen Horne (left) and Adam Spina (right) fine-tune escalator graphics for the Winter Fancy Food Show at the Moscone Convention Center in January 2018.

said she expects the industry to return to regular routines within two years, with a slow initial start in fall 2021.

“As more people get vaccinated, we look forward to the virus fading into the background,” she said. “That will bring us back to the norm.” **OL**

PHOTOS BY CHRIS SPARKS

The Pandemic: Stories From the Front Line



A Guest Column by Charley Lavery, OE Local 3 Senior Business Representative

The unprecedented challenges we have faced since March 1, 2020, are acid-etched into our collective memory. It is through the resourcefulness of organized working people and the determination to have their voices heard that we have been able to surmount these challenges.

OE3, under the leadership of Business Manager Dan Reding, grasped this idea immediately. We prepared for the worst-case scenario while simultaneously going into top gear, lobbying elected officials to reopen construction and to keep it open. We reminded them that blue-collar union construction jobs are the lifeblood of so many families and communities.

On the ground, OE3 business agents put their health on the line to visit jobsites and ensure members' working conditions were safe. Courageous OE3 members in tight quarters ran man and material hoists on building projects, allowing other craftspeople to stay working and feed their families. OE surveyors and equipment, crane, and hoist operators helped keep projects going, providing life support to the local economy.

OE3 staff kept working. In spring 2020, we were in the middle of negotiations for our Northern California Construction agreement. Incredibly, by summer, we had ratified our best economic

increase in history — without concessions.

In fall 2020, OEs and working people organized, and we elected Joe Biden in a knock-down drag-out general election. Hundreds of Northern California OEs spent weekend after weekend in Nevada walking precincts and phone-banking in the middle of a pandemic to help win that swing state for a president who recognizes the value of unions. In January, we phone-banked again, this time for the Georgia run-offs, and we won a majority in the senate.

In 2021, we expanded OE3 outreach to communities impacted by development in San Francisco to help ensure that any economic recovery will include them. We started two new training programs for residents: one for OE members looking to enhance their skill sets and another for pre-apprentices.

Last month, we worked with the SF Building Trades Council and CLC to get more than 85 local OEs vaccinated, along with almost 5,000 other union members.

Through a year of constant stress, we worked. Through Capitol riots, we worked.

Though the kids and partners stayed home, we worked. Though we could not work from home, we worked.

We worked because that is what we do, and there are enough of us — when we stand together, organized — to get through this pandemic and to make a difference.

Never forget it. **OL**



A Guest Column by Colin Johnson, BAC Local 3 Field Representative

It's strange to think that just a year ago, I was only two months into a new job as a Field Representative for BAC Local 3, and most jobsites were in limbo with what to do thanks to the recently declared pandemic.

I felt that I had a major obligation to our membership at Local 3 to make sure they had up-to-date information, as well as all the proper safety gear. Visiting jobsites as a new field rep can be daunting at first, but even more so during a pandemic. The members don't always know who you are, and introducing yourself can be difficult when you're wearing a mask and you can't shake hands.

The same goes when you're walking into a job trailer. At the beginning, it was hard to even get into a trailer without an appointment just to ask a couple of questions. This led to confusion among the workers with what they could do or who to ask for help.

Knowing your rights as a worker

became extremely difficult when new information was coming out almost daily, and I felt like it was up to me, my fellow field reps from my local, and the rest of the Building Trades to keep everyone up to speed on all the news.

Jump forward to today, and vaccines are being administered all over Northern California at a record pace. I am extremely proud that we are helping to lead the way and setting an example for the rest of the country.

On April 15, vaccines will become available to anyone over the age of 16, regardless of your health or preexisting conditions. I urge everyone to sign up in your area and receive your shot. Treat it like car insurance: You get it to protect yourself, but also to protect other drivers.

The construction industry has done an incredible job with maintaining the guidelines set forth by our state and local governments. This ability to adhere to the rules has kept our tradesmen and tradeswomen working and has helped keep the economy flowing. We should all feel proud about that and continue to stay the course.

This too shall pass, and we will all be ready for the next challenge. **OL**

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Material Costs

Continued from page 1

increased costs of steel studs. And the cost of metal has forced contractors to consider using alternative materials like thermoplastic polyolefin roofing panels instead of steel. Other materials that have seen price increases include drywall, vinyl siding, transformers, and appliances and HVAC systems made from metals.

Ken Simonson, Chief Economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, said in February that the supply chain is still being affected. A shortage of empty shipping containers, outbreaks of COVID-19 among dockworkers, and other problems could delay construction projects and prevent the industry from recovering this year.

"Construction demand will remain spotty, both geographically and by project type," Simonson said. "Any owner who is expecting to build new or renovate had better factor in the likelihood that there will be delays, and depending on how the risk is shared with contractors, price increases."

Labor Costs Hold Steady, Expertise Shines Through

While material costs increased substantially, subcontractor labor costs

increased only slightly, and only in the southern region of the U.S., according to the economists at IHS Markit cited in the *ForConstructionPros.com* report.

Adam Spillane at Cupertino Electric Inc. (CEI), an IBEW signatory contractor, told Organized Labor, "Increased material costs have slowed down construction projects in the Bay Area. Developers and owners are evaluating the feasibility of future projects due to rising costs. The volatility of material in today's market has further compounded the issue as contractors cover the risk of commodity pricing." Spillane pointed out that "our skilled union workforce at CEI means we have more predictable labor costs through the duration of a project."

IBEW Local 6 Business Manager John Doherty noted that labor makes up only about 15 percent of the overall cost of construction. "When materials are expensive, that's when it is important to have a well-trained and skilled workforce to make sure that the job is done right the first time," he said.

SF Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez noted that union signatory contractors are "high-road employers" whose well-paid workers spend their earnings locally and boost the local economy.

"It is important to have policies like

Having stable, fixed labor costs provides for predictability in planning and bidding on projects.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL BURTON

Workers at the top of the 950 Market Street project proceed with construction.

project labor agreements and workforce agreements in place that guarantee good wages and benefits, and mandate jobs for local workers and well-trained union apprentices," Gonzalez said. "Several studies have shown that PLAs do not increase costs and can save money by ensuring a project is completed on time and on budget. Having stable, fixed labor costs provides for predictability in planning and bidding on projects."

Gonzalez noted that the increased material costs should not be used by contractors, developers, and public agencies to undercut union wages.

Spillane said, "Union contractors like us, along with our union trade partners, are under constant pressure of being undercut by non-union contractors. Together, we must develop and execute more effective production plans to offset higher labor costs, provide greater production quality, deliver projects on time and, most importantly, maintain

the highest safety standards.

"Contractors like us work closely with our field leadership teams to develop procurement and large material buyout plans to buy more effectively and manage costs."

IBEW's Doherty noted that the cost of labor is more strictly regulated than the cost of materials. While union contracts, local and state laws, and workforce agreements provide certainty in determining labor costs, material costs can rise or fall because of market forces, the drive for profits, and limitations imposed by a global pandemic.

With material costs expected to continue to increase at least through the first half of 2021, contractors and developers may have to adapt and make changes that could include cutting labor costs, shortening project schedules, changing the types of materials used, and speeding up the bidding process where it is possible. **OL**

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Organized Labor
107th Year
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF SAN FRANCISCO

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MONEY MATTERS: Financial Services

How to Protect Your Organization From Fraud

Lindquist LLP Provides an Insight of Tools Available

This guest column was sponsored and supplied by Lindquist LLP.

Unauthorized access to sensitive documentation regarding labor negotiations. Financial operating results details leaked to a media organization. Manipulation of supporting documentation for travel reimbursements. The download and removal of personally identifiable information pertaining to employees' personnel files.

These are all examples of misconduct that oftentimes requires close scrutiny of not only the paper records and documents of an organization, but also a thorough examination of other sources of information — primarily digital evidence.

Digital evidence refers to the "soft" copies (computer files) of data and information that your organization maintains. Examples include: email correspondence, user-generated documents and spreadsheets, web-browsing history, and instant messaging.

So, now you might be thinking, "This is great, but how do I gather and

look at all of this information, which could consist of thousands of files?"

There are solutions available.

Alan Nelson, Director of Digital Forensics at Lindquist, says, "We routinely work on investigative matters similar to those described above. Utilizing specialized software and hardware tools, we can efficiently examine large amounts of data and information and — most importantly — preserve the integrity of that evidence.

"We can perform keyword searches, examine file metadata to ascertain when a document was authored, and by whom, and, many times, we can retrieve and examine evidence that has been deleted by a user but still resides on a computer hard drive."

If your organization finds itself having to address a sensitive internal investigation, contact Lindquist's Forensics Team: Alan Nelson at anelson@lindquistcpa.com or Rich Gordon at rgordon@lindquistcpa.com, or visit www.lindquistcpa.com/forensic-services. They have the skills and the bandwidth to assist you in conducting both traditional and digital investigations.

With Shared Goals, This Bank Brings The Expertise Home

If Anyone Knows Labor, It's United Business Bank

This guest column was sponsored by United Business Bank.

With more than 25 years of experience in the labor community, United Business Bank (UBB) proudly supports Labor's mission through our union shareholders, our partnerships with pro-labor organizations, and our 25-year commitment and financial participation in Labor's worthy causes.

Since 1991, we've been firmly committed to bringing banking to the doorstep of Labor, placing an emphasis on client convenience, employee pride and appreciation, and impressive financial performance relative to your investments.

Echoing the organized labor movement, UBB was conceived with the idea that clients deserve access to decision-makers. What that means from a practical financial perspective is this: We believe our clients deserve the opportunity to have relationships with contacts at their bank who are able to bring real, useful knowledge to the table — knowledge that can be used to

advance your goals, and the goals of Labor in general.

In short, we think you deserve what you yourself strive to provide in your everyday work lives: knowledgeable, professional service.

Our Labor Services Division understands the complexities of labor organizations, and our team serves as trusted banking partners to our clients. We offer a variety of creative financing structures combined with commercial deposit and cash management services specifically tailored to meet the unique banking needs of organized labor locals, trust funds, labor affiliates, employers and members.

The Labor Services representatives of UBB work throughout the West Coast and Southwest regions. Headquartered in San Francisco, the East Bay, the South Bay, New Mexico and Southern California, this staff of experts brings a wealth of knowledge to the table, and they stand ready to assist you with any and all of your banking needs.

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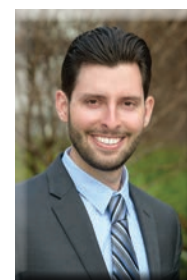


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Golden Gate

Continued from page 1

make the trip across annually — is the world's greatest perpetual monument to something else, too: union labor.

Pride, Yesterday and Today

"Anybody who works in the building and construction trades in San Francisco takes great pride in that bridge and the involvement of union labor in its construction and ongoing maintenance," said Michael Theriault, former executive secretary-treasurer of the SF Building Trades Council. "It's the symbol of San Francisco to the entire world and one of the leading symbols of the United States to much of the world as well."

Theriault expressed pride in the ongoing maintenance of what remains one of the world's longest suspension bridges, with a span of 4,200 feet, by local Bay Area union workers. A member since 1985 of Local 377 Ironworkers, Theriault lauded the work of fellow tradesmen, including electricians, laborers, carpenters, painters, and plumbers.

Though Theriault, who lives in San Francisco, is impressed by the engineering feats achieved in the bridge's original design, he was quick to point out the significance of the ongoing

maintenance for seismic retrofitting of the bridge and other safety concerns.

"It was very cutting-edge, making use of leading engineering technology at the time the bridge was built," he said. "But as we learn more about engineering, and about the behavior of earthquakes in particular, the bridge is subject to frequent reworking to meet that new knowledge."

"There are other safety-related changes to the bridge that are made over time. The movable median barrier is relatively new, and we are in the course of installing a new suicide deterrent system with stainless steel netting to keep people from wanting to jump."

Setting Standards for Safety

The bridge's history of prioritizing safety, according to IBEW 6 Business Representative Sabrina Hernandez, goes beyond suicide deterrence.

Hernandez is the first woman staffer at her Local and also the first woman to represent the SF Building Trades Council on the Board of Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge,

Highway and Transportation District, and she is proud of the bridge's progressive legacy. She said the project tackled the safety of its original union labor workforce head-on.

"Those original engineers recognized that safety was a huge priority on this



L-R: Ironworker Don Zampa; Ironworkers International Union President Juel Drake; Don's grandfather, Alfred Zampa; Don's father, Richard Zampa. Photo taken in 1987 at the opening of the Ironworkers Local 377 Union Hall.

build," Hernandez said. "It was one of the first projects to mandate the use of hard hats on the job. It allotted a huge initial chunk of the budget for safety."

"They set up a first-ever-of-its-kind safety net to protect workers on the stands. There was a significant financial investment put in to ensure the bridge would be built to stand for generations and, at the same time, that the workers would be as safe as possible."

A Wide-Ranging, Resonant Legacy

One of those original workers was Al Zampa, an ironworker with Local 377. According to his grandson, Don Zampa, who is now 62, Al left a job working on the Bay Bridge to work on

the Golden Gate because he knew it was going to be a historic build.

Don, who is the President of the District Council of Ironworkers of the State of California and Vicinity, said his grandfather's storied union career has touched many lives.

"The fact that my grandfather went to work as a union ironworker on that bridge and other big Bay Area projects changed the course of history for generations," Don said. "He made a good wage in hard times. He retired on a union pension for 30 years. His children and grandchildren now recognize the value of the union and entered into the various unions they belong to now like ironworkers, carpenters, nurses, and electricians."

"It made our family what it is." **OL**



TOP: The background scenery might not be quite what it is from the top of the Golden Gate Bridge, but Don Zampa still cuts an impressive figure working high atop the Las Vegas skyline in this photo from the 1980s.

RIGHT: Sabrina Hernandez represents the SF Building Trades Council on the Board of Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District. She noted that the Golden Gate Bridge build was especially groundbreaking in terms of its worker safety measures.

LEFT: Al Zampa, an ironworker with Local 377, was one of the original builders on the Golden Gate Bridge. He worked on other big Bay Area bridges as an ironworker and was able to retire on a union pension for 30 years, according to his grandson, ironworker Don Zampa.



A Pallet Park Rises in Oakland

◆ *Carpenter Darryl Bishop Helped a Crew of Kids Build Their Very Own Space on the Grounds of a Middle School, Teaching Them Many Skills Along the Way*

By Alex Weber
Organized Labor Editor

Bayview-Hunters Point native Darryl Bishop has worked on an impressive array of important and iconic San Francisco construction projects in his 43 years as a member of Carpenters Local 22.

After being recruited into the union in summer 1977, he's had a hand in building and maintaining everything from vital pieces of city infrastructure to glamorous skyscrapers. Just a few of the items on his resume include the San Francisco Southeast Treatment Plant, Kezar Stadium in Golden Gate Park, and a 24-story high-rise in downtown SF.

Bishop is proud to say that each one of these projects — indeed, just about every project he's worked in his life — has been on a union jobsite.

But despite his pedigree, one of the accomplishments he's proudest of was a small one that was, admittedly, a *non-union* job: building a postage-stamp park made of pallets and other salvaged wood on the grounds of an Oakland middle school with a crew of 10- to 12-year-old volunteer students in the summer of 2019.

Bishop said the idea came from a teacher at the Soul School of Unity and Liberation on International Boulevard, where Bishop's grandson was a student. The teacher connected Bishop with a group of students at Soul who were interested in building a small park on campus where they could go to read and relax.

After spending weeks traveling the city and the East Bay calling on his construction connections for scrap materials, Bishop managed to score a haul of donations, from timber to tires.

"Basically, I hustled for them," he said. "I got every piece of lumber and took it over to Laney College to mill it all up on the joiners and the planers and get the wood conditioned so it could be used around kids."

Once it was time to set to work, Bishop served as the foreman on the pallet park project. After school and on Saturdays, he'd show up to Soul, motivate his crew of young apprentices, and oversee them as they painted tires, carried lumber into various locations, dug holes for posts, and blended up concrete.

But more than just a foreman, Bishop found himself acting as mentor and tutor as well.

"It was great, because not only did I get a chance to work with [the kids], but we talked," Bishop said. "It was like a class project. We'd sit down in a little circle, and they'd ask questions."

Bishop recalled grabbing the tape measure and showing the kids how the numbers went from the plan on paper to the plan on the ground. Together, they marked and measured out the area that would become the park in such a way that it would be perfectly square. Bishop made sure each of the kids understood what a framing square was all about, and, in the process, helped get them ready for what they'd encounter in their future schooling.



Carpenter Darryl Bishop hands off the spray paint so a student can apply another coat to a tire.

"I broke down what a square is and what a right angle is, and how it's related to algebra problems," Bishop said. "So, we're doing this in reality to do construction, but I helped them understand how this is going to show up in high school math classes."

The park came together nicely over the months, but the victory turned out to be somewhat bittersweet: Shortly after the park opened and the 2020

schoolyear was underway, the pandemic hit and sent all the kids of Soul home. Many of them had worked on the park but wouldn't get to enjoy it before moving on to junior high and high school.

While the park has sat dormant since March 2020, it will likely spring to life again soon. Bishop sees the bright side in all this, and he remains proud.

"We got it done right," he said, "right before COVID hit!" **OL**



Two students take a break from working to pose for an on-the-job snapshot.



A group of kids work together to lay out plastic sheeting during park construction.



Two young painters transform some donated tires into fresh, white seats for their pallet park.



Young construction apprentices transport one of the building blocks of their soon-to-be park.



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CARPENTERS LOCAL 22



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Website www.local22.org

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Patricio Cubas – Vice President
Andrew Devine – Recording Secretary
Sean McGarry – Conductor
Juan Roman – Treasurer

Patrick Mulligan – Financial Secretary
Gerrit Veneman – Warden
Bill Bergerson – Trustee
David Cortez – Trustee
Otto Gaytan – Trustee

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE:

Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7 p.m.
450 Harrison St., San Francisco
(located between 1st & Fremont St.)
Parking is available on the street and behind the building.

Please bring your current dues card for entrance into the meeting.

We will be enforcing social distancing. Members should bring face coverings and any personal protective equipment necessary.

We regret the loss of the following member.

Rocco Svevo, 92, passed away on March 2, 2021, with 64+ years of membership. Father to Jackie and predeceased by his wife Mimma and son Tony, Rocco emigrated from Italy to San Francisco in 1948. He resided in San Francisco.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION

This letter shall serve as official notice of nominations for a three (3) year term that will take place as a Special Order of Business at the regularly scheduled Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 7 p.m. at 450 Harrison St., San Francisco** for the following offices: President; Vice President; Recording Secretary; Financial Secretary; Treasurer; Conductor; Warden; three (3) Trustees; thirty-six (36) Delegates and eight (8) Alternate

Delegates to the Regional Council; eight (8) Delegates and Four (4) Alternate Delegates to the 46 Counties Conference Board; fourteen (14) Delegates to the San Francisco Building Trades Council; and eleven (11) Delegates to the San Francisco Labor Council.

The election, for those persons who are nominated and qualify for the above-mentioned positions, shall be held on **Tuesday, June 1, 2021, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. by secret ballot at 2085 Third St., San Francisco.**

In order to be eligible for nomination and election, a member must meet the qualifications located in Section 31-D of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBC) Constitution.

Per Section 31B of the Constitution of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBCJA), "Council delegates shall be required to participate in any training program for Council delegates as established by the United Brotherhood."

Per Section 31-G of the UBC Constitution, "In the event of a tie between two candidates, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss. In the event of a tie between more than two candidates, the tie shall be broken by a runoff election" that will be held immediately following the reading of the results at the membership meeting.

Per Section 22(a) of the Carpenters Local Union 22 Bylaws, "By virtue of his/her office, the Financial Secretary of this Local Union shall be a delegate to any general, special, or state convention of the United Brotherhood, or any subordinate body with which this Local is affiliated. This shall be made a matter of record at the time of nominations."

Members who have been contracting within six (6) months prior to the date of election are not eligible to be a candidate or to cast a vote.

All members must bring their dues receipt card with them in order to vote.



Gilbert Valencia outside of the Local 22 hall.



21+ year member Farrell Johnson Sr. pictured with his son, carpenter apprentice Farrell Johnson Jr.



21+ year member Pistol Pete Ortiz and 25+ year member Russian Pete Borodin proudly display their membership pins.

Carpenters 46 Northern California Counties 2021 Scholarship Applications

This application applies only to the 2021-2022 college year.

One hundred scholarships will be given away in the amount of \$3,000, in addition to the first person chosen in the random drawing to receive \$6,000.

Applications are available for download at www.local22.org, or you may pick one up at your Monthly Membership Meeting.

Scholarship Application Rules:

1. The 2021-2022 Scholarship Application must be completed and returned directly to your Local Union, postmarked by Friday, June 25, 2021. No late applications will be considered. To be eligible for scholarship consideration, a scholarship applicant must be a dependent child of a member in good standing with a Local Union affiliated with the Carpenters 46 Northern California Counties Conference Board.
2. Applicants must be seniors in high school or currently enrolled in an accredited educational institution, but be less than 23 years of age, and planning to attend school during the 2021-2022 college year (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022).
3. Dependent children of full-time officers or employees of the following entities are not eligible for scholarship consideration:

- a. United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America;
- b. Carpenters 46 Northern California Counties Conference Board or any of its affiliated Local Unions, or the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council;
- c. Carpenter Funds Administrative Office of Northern California Inc.;
- d. Carpenters Training Committee

- e. California Drywall/Lathing Industry Labor-Management Co-operation Committee, Inc.; and
 - f. 46 Northern California Counties Drywall/Lathing JATC & TB.
4. Dependent children of deceased members who were in good standing with the Local Union at the time of their death are eligible for scholarship consideration.
 5. In the event a scholarship recipient is unable to fulfill the requirements of the foundation, the scholarship award must then be returned to the foundation and would become available to the alternate.

Here's the Deal by Kenny Lukas

President Joe Biden's plans for a major infrastructure bill have encountered a snag. It seems that Mitch McConnell has decided to block any attempt by the Democrats to put together an infrastructure bill.

A bill of this size would do a lot for everyone. It would provide work for engineers, architects, planners, surveyors, soil testers, heavy equipment operators, road workers, bridge and crane operators, carpenters, laborers, concrete finishers, painters, etc. You get the picture.

What happens after it's all over is a nation that is better equipped to move into the future in which we don't have to spend half a day just to get to and from work.

Maybe someone should tell Mitch McConnell that the future is here, and it's time to go with it or get out of the way.

Journey-Level Upgrade Courses

If you're interested in keeping up-to-date with the Journey-Level Upgrade Courses that are being offered, or if you're interested in being placed on a waitlist for future classes, please visit www.ctcnc.org or contact Field Representative Peter Garza at 415-355-1322, ext. 18.

Email addresses

Please update your contact information and provide us with a current email address. You may do this by emailing info@local22.org or giving us a call.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL 3



BAC 3 Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers

10806 Bigge St.
San Leandro, CA 94577
Phone: (510) 632-8781
Website: www.bac3-ca.org

David Jackson, President
Troy Garland, Secretary-Treasurer
Field Representatives – Steve Espinosa,
Colin Johnson, Lenny Paredes
Organizers – Dave Tafoya & Ryan Ruf

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT DAVE JACKSON

Shifting Gears

Our Tile Agreement negotiations are complete. Labor was not in the best position because of the uncertainty caused by the pandemic. It is fair to say Labor and Management took opposing views on how busy the Bay Area construction market will be towards the end of 2021. However, we worked out a conservative increase with improvements to terms and conditions on a one-year extension agreement effective April 2021.

All Tile members will receive updated terms and wage and benefit schedules soon. I would like to thank our negotiating committee, including Monterey Chapter Chairman Hugo Marquez, San Jose chapter member Ernie Romero, Sacramento Chapter Chairman Jared Varney, Oakland Chapter Chairman Steve Vogel,

Manteca Chapter member Javier Casillas, Secretary-Treasurer Troy Garland, Vice Chair Dave Tafoya, and IU West Region Rep Darin Compton.

BAC offers members good careers in the trowel trades. Although the work is physical, it is also very rewarding. I have always enjoyed the work through my apprenticeship and my career as a Journeyman Bricklayer. I grew up in a union household and learned about unionism at a young age. My father, Ray, was a career Hodcarrier and became Business Manager of Local 36. My mother, Wilma, was a member of the Bakery and Confectionery Union and worked seasonally at See's Candies.

My education has continued during my 43 years of BAC membership and 25 years as a union representative. I will be switching gears and retiring as President of BAC 3 at the end of April 2021.

I was honored to be hired as San Francisco Field Representative in 1996 by BAC 3 Officers Tim Paulson,



Front row, L-R: Gary Peifer, Steve Kantoniemi, Steve Espinosa, Sunup Mathew; Back row, L-R: Troy Garland, Dave Tafoya, Darin Compton, Dave Jackson, Colin Johnson, Ryan Ruf



Front row, L-R: Walter Oberg, Russ Higgins, Dave Bettega; Back row, L-R: Jim Boland, Dave Jackson, Brian Walker, Tim Paulson

2021 Chapter Meetings

May 2021							June 2021						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
All Chapter Meetings in May are cancelled due to the General Membership Meeting!													1
							2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							9	10	11	12	13	14	15
							16	17	18	19	20	21	22
							23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

First Tue., 6 p.m., Monterey — 1945 Natividad Rd., Salinas (The Pizza Factory)
First Wed., 5:30 p.m., San Jose — 14940 Camden Ave., San Jose (Round Table)
First Thurs., 6:30 p.m., Sacramento — 7465 Rush River Dr., Sac (Mountain Mike's)
Second Tue., 5 p.m., San Francisco — 2227 Gellert Blvd., So. San Francisco (Round Table)
Second Thurs., 5 p.m., Oakland — 1720 Marina Blvd., San Leandro (SMW Local 104)
Third Thurs., 6 p.m., Manteca — Mountain Mike's, 1120 North Main St.
Third Tue./Even Months only, 6 p.m., Fresno — 324 E. Shaw (Ramada Inn)

Meetings will be held via Zoom until social gatherings are approved.

No chapter meetings in May. General Membership Meeting: May 8 at 10 a.m via Zoom.

Steve Rafferty, and Mark Wuelfing. I was excited and enthusiastic about representing my fellow members. Seeing and learning what labor leaders do every day was a bit overwhelming at first; I look at it like another apprenticeship. The training I received was invaluable, and I truly enjoyed my journey as Field Rep and Trustee, to Vice Chair, to Secretary Treasurer, and then President.

I feel our local's leadership has stepped up and made a difference to our members daily, with representation on the job, assurance of job safety, compliance of our Collective Bargaining Agreements, promotion of our members and contractors, and increasing the rights and wages of all workers. Much can be — and has been — accomplished at the bargaining table, at the trust fund table, in the political arena, and while working with local and state building trades councils.

We have been able to: open state-of-the-art training centers for masonry and tile, merge our brick pensions, structure both brick and tile pensions for immediate and future improvements, start an organizing fund and committee, add fulltime IMI promotion and marketing, and provide Journey worker upgrade courses.

Of course, this work will never stop, and nobody goes it alone. I would like to thank you, the membership, for the privilege of representing and serving you

over the last 10 years as President of BAC 3. I have taken every position in the local seriously and always served with honor and to the best of my ability. I am proud of my time as Steward of our local.

We all stand on the shoulders of those who served before us and do our best to provide an improved union for those who will follow us. I know we are in very good hands with Secretary-Treasurer Troy Garland taking the position of President, and I thank Troy for all of his hard work and for making me a better Officer.

I would also like to thank all the past and present BAC Secretaries, Field Reps, Organizers, and Officers. It truly is a brotherhood that I will miss.

Local 3's future is bright with recent hires of union representatives. Our most recent hire is Field Rep Lenny Paredes, who has the task of replacing Gary Peifer in Sacramento and is progressing well. He joins Field Rep Colin Johnson, Organizer Ryan Ruf, Field Rep Steve Espinosa, and Director of Organizing Dave Tafoya.

I feel Local 3 is fortunate to have these dedicated, hardworking agents to represent our membership for many years to come.

*Work Safe and Honor All Pickets,
Dave*

SERVICE AWARDS (APRIL 2021)

25-year: Wei Zhong Liu
40-year: Robert Sexton
50-year: Eddie Whitaker
Congratulations on your many years of service.

IN MEMORIAM

We are sorry to announce the passing of our Brothers:

Luigi Palombo, BL, 3/5/2021, 07-CA, 53-year member
Miller Woody, BL, 3/6/2021, 07-CA, 63-year member
Lucius Deason, TL, 3/6/2021, 19-CA, 53-year member
Jose Deleon, PC, 3/9/2021, 12-CA, 1-year member
Robert Ratto, TL, 4/2/2021, 19-CA, 57-year member

Find us on Facebook by searching **BAC Local 3 CA** and on Twitter at twitter.com/baclocal3ca.



Bricklayer Dave Jackson

IBEW Local 6



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 6

55 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 861-5752

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Business Manager-Financial Secretary

Russell Au Yeung, President
Ron Lewis, Vice President
John Langley, Recording Secretary
Steve Cloherty, Treasurer

Anthony Sandoval, Executive Board
Carlos Salazar, Executive Board
David McCarroll, Executive Board
Jennifer Kramer, Executive Board
Brendan Greene, Executive Board

MEETING NOTICES 55 FILLMORE STREET

*All meetings subject to cancellation
due to shelter-in-place orders.*

Unit One Committee Meeting
Cancelled Until Further Notice

Unit Five, Muni Railway Shop
Cancelled Until Further Notice

Executive Board
*Tuesday, May 11, 2021
4:30 p.m.*

General Membership
Cancelled Until Further Notice

Unit Six, Sound & Communications
Cancelled Until Further Notice

Retired Members-Senior Sixes
Cancelled Until Further Notice

Executive Board
*Wednesday, May 26, 2021
4:30 p.m.*

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Robert J. Forrest, Inside Wireman, who passed away on February 3, 2021; and to the family and friends of Donald H. Outsen, Inside Wireman, who passed away February 14, 2021; and to the family and friends of Guo Peng Yu, Inside Wireman, who passed away February 24, 2021; and to the family and friends of Edward C. Stokes, Inside Wireman, who passed away April 2, 2021.

Best Wishes to Our Recently Retired Members

Che W. Wong

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Inside Wiremen Allocation

There is a raise scheduled for the Inside Wiremen's Agreement this coming June 1. At this time, we still do not know if the restrictions on public gatherings will be lifted. I will work with the Executive Board and the Unit One Committee on a plan for this allocation. We were faced with this exact same uncertainty last year, and we were able to arrange for an online allocation vote. We will make every effort

have this allocation occur on time. As we were able to do last year, we will include information from the Pension and Health Trusts regarding any recommendations. The final allocation will be voted on by eligible Local 6 Inside members. Your patience, as always, is appreciated as we work through these difficult issues.

City/SFMTA Contracts

The scheduled increase due our members working for the City and County and SFMTA will go into effect on time this year. The federal relief act was signed into law and provided for approximately \$600 million in emergency funding relief for the City and local transit agencies. Much of the funding went to pay the City for its efforts to combat the spread of the coronavirus and to provide safe shelter to those in need.

Continuing Education

All of our Inside Wire members face the task of recertification every three years, which includes a requirement of 32 hours of continuing education. Whether your certification is up this year or in three years, there is no better time to register for a class and get your hours logged. For information, visit the SFJATC's website at www.sfelectrical-training.org to view the classes available.

SF Labor Council May Day March

This year, in coordination with the other Bay Area Labor Councils, the San Francisco Labor Council is organizing a May Day March on Saturday, May 1. Details are still being finalized, and we will get a postcard out with more details when they are available.

May 1 is International Workers' Day, and as we emerge from the global pandemic, the goal is to show that Labor is as strong and united as ever in our efforts to raise the standard of living for all workers. Members interested in attending and marching as an IBEW contingent should check the Local Union's website for more details when they are available.

Are You Prepared?

Are you prepared for the next "big one"? Make sure you take the time to set a plan for when the next big earthquake rattles our region. We have been fortunate to not experience a big one

*The first IBEW article to
appear in Organized Labor
after the 1906 San Francisco
earthquake and fire.*

since 1989, but as the years pass, the risk of the next one gets higher.

This month I've included a copy of Local 6's first article in Organized Labor Newspaper after the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906. By the middle of May, less than one-third of the members were able to register with the Local Union. It was estimated that seven-eighths of the membership had lost everything in the fire.

Be prepared. Have a Plan. Make sure your kids and your parents know your plan.

IBEW Local 6/SFECA Scholarship

Applications will soon be available for the IBEW Local 6/SFECA Scholarship Program. This scholarship is open to the sons and daughters of IBEW Local 6 members who work for an employer that is required to make contributions to the Electrical Industry Service Bureau Inc. (EISB). Please visit www.eisb.org for full details and to download an application.

Warmer Weather Approaching

After another unfortunately dry winter, we should expect that warm weather is approaching. As we move into the spring and summer months, we need to remind ourselves that with the beautiful weather comes some risk. If you are working outdoors, please take the time to use sunscreen, as prolonged exposure to the sun can increase your risk for skin cancer. Whether you are working outdoors or indoors, with the spring comes an increase in temperatures. Although nature's air conditioning will keep things west of Twin Peaks cool, the eastern half of our great city can actually get quite warm.

Workers need to make sure that they drink plenty of water, as this will help to prevent heat stroke. Construction sites are hazardous locations, and the dizziness, increased body temperature, etc., that are associated with heat stroke can make those sites even more dangerous. Look out for your fellow members, and if you notice the signs of heat stroke, make sure to take appropriate action. Always remember that it is by looking out for one another's safety that we all get home safely.

*Work Safely, Save For A Rainy Day,
and Come To A Union Meeting!*

John J. Doherty
Business Manager
Financial Secretary

ELECTRIC CURRENTS.

(By Roundhouse.)

Ed. H. Smith (more popularly known as Roundhouse), like many of the other members of the Electrical Workers' Local, No. 6, Inside Wiremen, lost everything in the great fire which destroyed our dearly beloved city. But in the mad rush to escape the devouring flames, he at least managed to save his fountain pen, and now that the time has come when we must every one of us stand shoulder to shoulder in our endeavor to keep the Electrical Worker among those in the front ranks of the mechanical trades, he believes it his duty to take up his pen again and try to cheer and encourage them in the rebuilding of a Greater San Francisco.

Electrical Workers No. 6, Inside Wiremen, are still thoroughly organized, having survived the great calamity. The first meeting of the "New Era" was held last Sunday afternoon, May 6, in the B. T. C. Headquarters, 640 Golden Gate avenue. There was much handshaking and congratulations in evidence. President Wm. A. Urmy called the meeting to order and a spirit of cheerfulness and harmony prevailed throughout the session.

The Local decided to suspend its working rules on all work known as Relief Work, but on all such work that is being done for profit the rules to stand normal.

Bro. J. L. Cook, Secretary-Treasurer of the Relief Committee, reported that contributions of cash and tools had been received from Los Angeles, Oakland and other sister Locals.

Out of a membership of nearly 700 members only about 200 have registered at the headquarters. Any member knowing the whereabouts of any brother whose name appears upon the "Missing List" should inform our Business Agent at once.

It is estimated that seven-eighths of our members lost their entire belongings, as nearly all of them lived within the burned district.

Brother William McIntosh lost his entire home and a collection of rare curios that had taken him over 25 years to accumulate. His little girl, 5 years of age, proved a heroine by rushing back into the house and saving her pet canary birds, which had been forgotten.

G. F. Keetley, one of the most popular past presidents of the Local, and chairman of the Examining Board, was also a member of that great army that stood in the bread line.

Supervisor Max Mamlock, a member of Local No. 6, and superintendent of the Central Light & Power Co., lost nearly \$800 worth of tools and electrical instruments by the burning of the plant, as in his efforts to save others he had overlooked his own things. He was one of the hardest workers during the fire and for three days and nights worked incessantly, relieving the sufferings of the homeless. As a member of the Relief Committee he proved himself to be made of the right metal, and the local feels justly proud in possessing one of such sterling character for a member of the organization, and all join in saying, "Good boy, Max."

Bro. J. Tietz, the Treasurer, regrets the loss of a valuable library of Electrical books; but one book he managed to save was the local's bank book.

A. E. Yoell, Secretary of the local, lost everything with the exception of the suit he was wearing, as at the time of the fire he was visiting his wife at the Hospital, where she had undergone an operation some days previous, and upon returning found his home had been consumed by the flames.

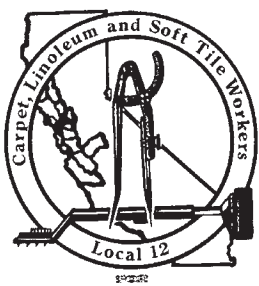
Henry Warfield (Hired Money), lost his entire shop and residence also, but managed to save his wife and children. He has opened for business at 116 Belvedere street. Henry says he does not object to hired money or any other kind just now.

The Local has retained E. C. Loomis as Business Agent, and he can be found at his office, 640 Golden Gate avenue, as usual.

Local No. 151, Linemen, has headquarters at 428 1-2 Waller street.

LIVE BETTER WORK UNION

CARPET LINOLEUM & SOFT TILE LOCAL 12



Carpet Linoleum & Soft Tile Workers Local 12

Administrative Office:
2149 Oakland Road
San Jose, CA 95131
(408) 824-1280 • Fax (408) 955-0150

President: Dave Bradfield
Financial Secretary: Omar Larrea

Regional Offices:
San Leandro - 2020 Williams St., Suite A1, San Leandro, CA 94577
(510) 454-8150
San Francisco - 1939 Market St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 625-0225

Business Representatives: Anthony Nuanes • Juan Calderon • Steve Belong
Organizers: Lance Ryken • Curtis Day

Monthly meetings held every third Thursday of the month
at 6:30 p.m. at 2020 Williams Street in San Leandro.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Local 12 has been without an Administrative Assistant for over a year. I am pleased to announce District Council 16 has hired Edelmira Morales to fill the position. She comes with plenty of experience and recommendations. I have had the pleasure of working with Ede and I can tell you she is hard-working and more than capable of filling all of Local 12's administrative needs.

Speaking of administrative duties: Juan, Steve, and I have been working together in the San Jose office completing tasks, reaching out to members to assist them with paying dues and death benefit fees through the new system, contacting retirees to offer life membership applications, and doing anything else we can to help with a smooth transition for our new Admin.

As a reminder, all dues are to be paid directly to DC16 Centralized Dues. One way is to pay online. To do this, you must have the IUPAT Member Portal App. You can still pay with check or money order and send to DC16 Centralized Dues. Include your member ID number and local in the memo line. The best way is to sign up for auto dues, and the withdrawal will come from

your Operating Engineers Credit Union account. You can request auto dues applications through the administration office.

Unfortunately, I must announce the passing of another Local 12 working member. Daniel Chu passed on March 3, 2021, from complications due to COVID-19.

Daniel was a lifelong floor layer who was a master in the industry. He always had a smile on his face and was great to be around. Daniel went to work, like so many of us, to provide for his family every day. Like so many other members this past year, Daniel contracted COVID-19. He fought for his life for over two months before losing his battle.

Please keep Daniel's memory alive and always practice COVID-19 safety protocol at work, and make it home to your families.

As always, I would like to invite members who have a special milestone in their lives such as births, graduations, marriages, retirements, and, sadly, deaths to contact Juan, Steve, or me to share a few words in a future article.

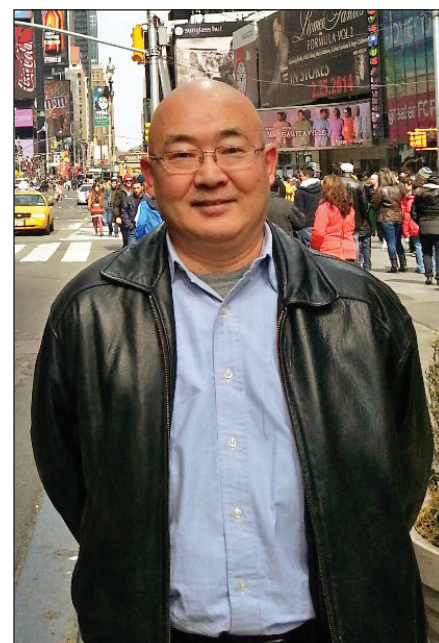
Respectfully,
Anthony Nuanes



Golden State Flooring installing carpet at the San Francisco Opera House.



Kimo Lamont and Uly Jimenez, at work for Anderson's.



Rest in peace, Brother Daniel.

ROOFERS LOCAL 40



United Union of Roofers, Waterprooferers & Allied Workers Local Union No. 40

150 Executive Park Boulevard
Suite 3625
San Francisco, CA 94134
Phone: (415) 508-0261
Fax: (415) 508-0318

JOSE OSCAR PADILLA Business Manager
SALVADOR RICO Secretary/Treasurer
PETER LANG President

From the Desk of Jose Oscar Padilla Business Manager

We are opening our Working Agreement for negotiations since our current one will be expired by the end of July 2021. Our general union meetings are being held via Zoom, and every month we get to see more members participating. Please send us your email and we'll add you to the invite list to participate and be more involved during this important time.

Salvador and I have been in the office, primarily addressing members' questions and concerns regarding

medical coverage, vacation pay, pension, and payment of union dues. If you wish to stop by the office, remember that you must observe COVID-19 safety protocols while visiting.

Some of our members are reporting low working hours, but rest assured there is a lot of work in the hopper. The added cost of COVID-19 construction safety protocols is one of the reasons for delaying some new projects. Also, we've seen a slowdown on production/supply of construction materials due to COVID-19 restrictions on number of workers allowed at some of the manufacturing plants.

On March 18, 2020, the president signed the Families First Coronavirus

Response Act (the "Families First Act") into law, which is intended to respond to the pandemic. Below is a summary of the act as it relates to health plans:

4. Items and services that relate to the evaluation of the individual to determine the need for a test.

Free COVID-19 Testing

Effective March 18, 2020, group health plans (self-insured, fully-insured, and grandfather plans) must provide coverage at no cost to the plan participant (i.e., no deductible, co-payment or coinsurance) for COVID-19 as follows:

1. Approved in vitro diagnostic products (i.e. testing) for the detection of SARS-COV-2 or diagnosis of COVID-19
2. Items and services provided to the individual during a visit to the provider (in-person or tele-health) in relation to #1, above.
3. Urgent care center or emergency room visits in relation to #1, above.

Prior-Authorization

Group health plans cannot require pre-authorization as a precondition to COVID-19 testing.

Under a provision of the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package, the government would pay the hours of coverage needed for those of you who are running low on your bank hours (under the American Rescue Plan Act) for the next six months (April 1 through Sept. 30, 2021). This will exclude employees who voluntarily end employment. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at the office.

Thank you, and as always, work safe and always wear your PPE for the task you're working on.

PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS LOCAL 300



www.opcmlocal300.org

Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 300

Main Office:

100 Hegenberger Rd. Suite 220 Oakland CA 94621
Tel: 510-430-9492 Fax 510-430-9183

Chester Murphy, Trustee
Greg Levy, Senior Business Agent

Business Agents: Emilio Aldana, Carl Crawford, Devin Evers
David Johnson, Chris Knerr, Marshall Vasquez

Work Preservation Officer: Alex Neang

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters of Local 300:

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought changes to our day-to-day lives. We are continuing to learn how to coexist with COVID-19, as if we have a choice. We do — we need to stay vigilant and continue practicing the Three

W's: Watch your distance, wear your face coverings, and wash your hands.

Let's add to that: Get vaccinated as soon as possible. If we all do our part, we can overcome this pandemic together.

Thanks, and be safe.

It's your right to be Union.



Business Agent David Johnson and 30-year Gold Card Recipient Derek Andrews, employee of San Francisco DPW.

SPRINKLER FITTERS U.A. LOCAL 483



Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices Local No. 483

Of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO

2525 Barrington Court, Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 785-8483 – Fax (510) 785-8508

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: STAN M. SMITH
Business Agents: Dan Torres, Dylan Boldt, John Medina
Organizer: Jeff Dixon

Meetings are held on
the 4th Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

Apprenticeship Applications Are Now Open

The apprenticeship application process for Sprinkler Fitters Local 483 is now open, and applications can be submitted online through the Local 483 Application Portal.

To learn more about becoming

a sprinkler fitter apprentice and submit an application, visit www.sprinklerfitters483.org. Read the information on the homepage, and then select "Apply Now" when you're ready.

SIGN DISPLAY LOCAL 510



SIGN DISPLAY & ALLIED CRAFTS

LOCAL UNION 510

Established March 10, 1900

400 Talbert St.
Daly City, CA 94014-1623
Office: 650-763-5405 ext. 1112; Fax: 650-871-8406

Annette Dosier, Business Agent
Morgan Worth, Business Agent
Peter Forni, Field Representative

Office hours:
8:30 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

Members,

There is light at the end of the tunnel. Vaccinations are beginning to turn the tide of the pandemic, and this is reflected in case numbers, testing data, and hospitalization data.

It's only a matter of time before our own work lives begin to emerge from the darkness of the past year, as if from hibernation. It's been a long 12 months since the entirety of our membership has worked to any significant degree. Things are changing, though, and shows in various event venues are being scheduled for this summer and early fall.

One change that's happening as life begins to emerge locally is that Local 510 will begin to have in-person

meetings once again. Our first will be at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14, in the Local 510 office parking lot. The meeting will likely have already occurred by the time members read this. If not, we advise people to bring a chair (seating will be limited), wear a mask, and dress in warm clothing. The Union has reached a tentative agreement with its employers, and we will be discussing the terms of that agreement at the meeting.

On the Subject of Vaccinations

A number of members have called the office indicating that they are vaccinated and ready to go back to work. As far as we know, there will be no

requirement to be vaccinated before members can return to work, either by employers or venues. This might change; however, it remains the case as of this printing.

Masks and other hygiene measures will undoubtedly be required as we return, but vaccination will be

voluntary. While this is the case, we still urge our members to become vaccinated.

Respectfully,
Morgan Worth
Annette Dosier
Local 510

THE ONLY EFFECTIVE ANSWER TO ORGANIZED GREED IS ORGANIZED LABOR

ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 8



Looking Up the Hatch

International Union of Elevator Constructors Local No. 8

690 Potrero Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94110-2117
(415) 285-2900 • Fax (415) 285-2020

Mark Thomas

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Del Garner

Business Representative/
Recording Secretary

Kevin Wright

Business Representative

Ryan Lange

Business Representative

Greg Hardeman

Organizer

MEETINGS

Cancelled:

San Francisco

Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

North Bay

Monday, April 26, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

Please note if shelter and distancing requirements are not lifted by the date of any tentative meeting, it will be cancelled.

Tentative:

Stockton

Friday, April 30, 2021, 11:30 a.m.,
Black Bear Diner, 1703 Yosemite Ave.
Manteca, CA

Watsonville

Monday, May 3, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
Round Table Pizza, 1975 Main St.
Watsonville, CA

San Luis Obispo

Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 11:30 a.m.,
Firestone Grill, 1001 Higuera St.
San Luis Obispo, CA

Sacramento

Wednesday, May 5, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
SMW Apprentice & Journeyman
Training Building
3665 Bleckely St., Mather, CA

San Francisco

Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
690 Potrero Ave., San Francisco, CA

Lake Tahoe

Thursday, May 27, 2021, 11:30 a.m.
Motts Canyon Tavern & Grill,
259 Kingsbury Grade Rd.
Stateline, NV

Reno

Thursday, May 27, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
Nevada Building Trades Hall
1819 Hymer Ave., Sparks, NV

Fresno

Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 5:30 p.m.,
Piccadilly Inn Airport
5115 East McKinley Ave.,
Fresno, CA

Bakersfield

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 7:30 a.m.
Zingos Café, 3201 Buck Owens Blvd.
Bakersfield, CA

We will continue to use the Local 8 website — www.iuec8.org — as an additional means of notifying our members of upcoming Special Called Meeting Items and any upcoming social events.

I have been in contact with all of our outlying meeting venues to see when we can return for face-to-face meetings. If we can return, I will send out a Constant Contact message to all members notifying you of which venues are open.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING ITEMS FOR APRIL

(to be heard by the Executive Board)

- **2021 Reno Area Golf Tournament**, in an amount not to exceed \$5,500
- **2021 Women's Conference** (New Orleans), in an amount not to exceed \$12,500
- **1st Round of Nominations for 2021-2022 Election of Officers**
 - ♦ Business Manager/Financial Secretary
 - ♦ Business Representative/Recording Secretary
 - ♦ Business Representatives, Two (2)
 - ♦ Trustee, One (1)
 - ♦ Executive Board Members, Four (4)
 - ♦ Correspondent to the Journal
 - ♦ Delegates to the Building & Construction Trades Councils:
 - » San Francisco, Four (4)
 - » San Mateo, Three (3)
 - » Santa Clara, Two (2)
 - ♦ Delegates to the San Francisco Labor Council: Four (4)

Please note: If you're planning on running for any of the positions and would like to mail election literature to members, please request labels by May 21, 2021.

ELECTIONS

Due to the current environment, the first Round of Nominations for the 2021 Election of Officers is a mail-in nomination process. Notices were mailed to members the last week of March. Please read the instructions carefully to ensure paperwork is returned in a timely fashion and is sent to the correct address:

**P.O. Box 411110
San Francisco, CA 94141-1110**

While this is not business as usual, we must keep moving forward and completing tasks. I appreciate your understanding of our commitment to complete the nomination and election process.

NEIEP UPDATE

The following Apprentices have passed their mechanics exam this year so far:

Jesse Burnette, Omar Cardenas, Eduardo Cuellar, Christopher Del Sarto, Adam Edwards, Andrew Fowler, Jared Garrett, Jose Gonzalez Jr., Ralph Jones, Aaron Kavanaugh, Jose Leyva, Jason McClinton, Obra Paulk, Michael Ramos, John Reynolds, Jessie Rhoades, Jose Rodriguez, Rickey Royal, Jason Sisneroz, Christian Tyler, David Van Houten, Nathan Wheeler, and Kevin Wright Jr.

Congratulations to all! This is a true milestone in your union career. Remember that it is now your job to teach your apprentices to work safe, and most of all work Union Strong!

MEMBER RIGHTS

Every member receives a copy of the Local 8 Rights policy when they come into the trade, and we expect the language to be followed. Each one of us goes to work with the same expectations — to provide for our families in a safe, conflict-free environment. We are not asking you to do anything other than to treat each other with the respect you would want for any member of your family.

Local 8 is a family of Brothers and Sisters who look to each other for support, so if you see or hear something that make you uncomfortable, say something! Be the one who stands up and puts a stop to it.

COVID-19

On April 15, California opened the ability to make vaccination appointments to everyone aged 16 and older. We also recently sent out a Constant

Contact message alerting everyone that Nevada was open for all construction workers, and gave the contact information as well, so if you were waiting for your turn, you will now be able to arrange an appointment.

I know many of our members are still undecided as to whether or not they are going to get the vaccine — I just ask that you please do the research, so you have as much information as possible to make an informed decision.

Work Safe, and wear every piece of PPE required. Make a plan for the safest way to do your job. If you do not have the correct PPE to go into a hot spot, do not go in. Inform your supervisor you are not properly protected and need further equipment to do the task according to CDC regulations. If they refuse to comply, call me, and I will personally have a conversation with the company safety director. I am at the hall every day and working to do everything possible to keep our members safe.

*Sincerely,
Mark J. Thomas Sr.*

EFFECTIVE DESIGNS

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and **designing printed communications** for
Unions and their members *for over 18 years.*



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Hammers and Leads PILEDIVERS LOCAL 34

55 Hegenberger Place, Oakland, CA 94621
Phone: (510) 635-4227
Fax: (510) 635-1234

Leo Vega – President
Joe Karinen – Vice President
Chris Moyer – Senior Field Rep/Financial Secretary-Treasurer
Martin Espinoza, Jr. – Conductor
Martin, Espinoza, Sr. – Warden
Chris Puglisi – Recording Secretary

Trustees – Fred Barnes, Jesse Johansen, Tina Nixon
Field Reps – Martin Espinoza Sr., Martin Espinoza Jr., Chris Puglisi

From the Desk of Chris Moyer

The COVID-19 recovery seems to be well underway, with shots going in arms and infection and death rates thankfully continuing to come down at a pretty steady clip, at least in California. It was recently announced that the governor expects the state to be fully opened back up on the June 15, with the possibility of masks still being a necessity in public.

That should work out well with all the work that our signatory contractors have been bidding on and lining up. The projects range in scope from water treatment and management to highway-widening and bridges, from Fresno to Auburn. They won't all kick off at once of course, but they're coming. Hopefully, if the new administration can get more infrastructure legislation out of the Congress, there could be even more to come down the road as well.

With a good amount of work on its way, it's time to talk about training again. Some of our signatory contrac-

tors have been showing an interest in getting folks on the job with HAZ-WOPER 40 credentials, and they'd like to find a way to have the Union supply the classes. If we can put together a list of about a dozen eager participants, the good folks at the CTCNC have told us that they can put together a class. Please give us a call at the Hall if you'd like to put this increasingly valuable training tool in your card collection.

On the subject of training and job opportunities, the CTCNC and the Organizing Department are both looking to increase their ranks, with the training folks planning to bring on over a dozen individuals for various positions. Again, please direct your inquiries to the Hall and one of the reps will get you the necessary information.

Counting the daisy-chain of topics on the combined subject of organizing and government affairs, the PRO (Protecting the Right to Organize) Act has made its way through the U.S. House of Representatives and now goes to the

Senate, with the support of the White House. It does a lot that there isn't room to go into here, but, basically, it tips the scales back a little, helping Labor to recover some of the rights and protections that have been eroded away over the past several years.

It would also help the National Labor Relations Board show a little more consideration for the Labor side of the relationship and give it some more teeth in terms of enforcement. Also, former Boston mayor Marty Walsh, who was mentioned in this column a couple of months ago, was confirmed as the 39th U.S. Secretary of Labor on March 23. If having that U.S. Cabinet position headed by a guy who used to work in the Trades, with his tools, in one of our nation's bluest of blue-collar towns doesn't warm your heart ... well, it oughta.

Porch pirates: We all hate them. Given some reports from our members of merchandise we've sent never being received, we're once again going to have to ask folks to come to the Hall in order to pur-

chase T-shirts, hats, hoodies, and such.

The good news is that Brother Espinoza Jr. came across a new design for the backs of our shirts and market-tested it on Instagram. It was pretty well-received. So, our alternate "chain" design shirts and hoodies are on order and will be added to the inventory when the good folks at Alliance Graphics get them ready. The original design will remain available as well.

An important reminder for members with college-bound high school seniors and/or kids already in college: Thomas A. Morton Scholarship applications need to be sent back to the Hall and post-marked by the June 25. If you need one, please give us a call and we'll get it out to you "wiki-wiki," as Pat used to say.

On a very sad note, Brother Dana Trimble's mother called on March 25 to inform us that he passed away. He was only 32 and had been a Member since 2016.

Take Care and Stay Safe.

GLAZIERS LOCAL 718



Glaziers, Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Union Local 718 of San Francisco

1939 Market St., Suite B
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 625-0225
Fax (415) 553-5955

Bart Pantoja – Business Representative
Nick King – President

MEETING DATES

General Membership:

April 13, 2021, 6 p.m.
Virtual (via Zoom)

May 11, 2021, 6 p.m.
Virtual (via Zoom)

Update your email with the Local 718 office to receive notice.

Executive Board:

April 13, 2021, 5 p.m.
May 11, 2021, 5 p.m.

DDO/HOLIDAYS

May 28, 2021 — DDO
May 31, 2021 — Memorial Day

INFO, NEWS & EVENTS

District Council 16 Info, News & Events can be found at www.dc16i-upat.org. You can also find Local Union 718 News and Events listed there.

STAR CLASSES

Select STAR classes are available online. Visit www.dc16star.org for more information on class schedules.

Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this edition finds you healthy. If you are currently out of work, make sure to call in to the union office and have your name placed on the "available for work" list. You will need to call within the first working day of the month to hold your place number on the list. Names will be removed from the list if not updated by the first working day of the month.

Be advised that the local union office will no longer accept IUPAT over-the-counter dues payments. We will be paying our dues to the District Council 16 Centralized Dues Department. You can do this online at www.dc16iupat.org or you can mail a check to:
2705 Constitution Dr.
Livermore, CA 94551

Include your member number on your check. I set up to autopay online, which is also an option. If you have any questions about authenticating your credentials, you can email me at bart@dc16.us or Diana Lujan at diana@dc16.us.

If you've had difficulty contacting me this past month, it was because I suffered an injury while enjoying some downtime snowboarding with my sons. This good time gave me a few broken bones. I am now mostly recovered, back in the office, and on the jobs. Monday, April 5, was my first day back. So, hopefully, by the time you read this, I'll be caught up on my backlog of communications.

The first Local Union 718 virtual meeting took place last month. We had some hiccups and connection issues, but we'll be in better shape for this upcoming meeting. During the last meeting, we discussed the latest

in contract negotiations and the DC16 bylaws that'll be ratified.

You'll be receiving the Local 718 bylaws in the mail for review so that you can vote to ratify. The bylaws committee and E-board have diligently worked to edit the bylaws into a more readable text. They'll make a little more sense to the lay person when trying to research member responsibilities and the responsibilities of the local officers and our funds.

Once they are ratified, you'll be able to find the new bylaws with the constitution and collective bargaining agreement that are currently online.

I hope to see you virtually at our next meeting or on the job. Until then: Work safe, stay safe and stay healthy!

*In Solidarity,
Bart M. Pantoja
Business Representative
Glaziers Local 718
District Council 16*

HEAT & FROST LOCAL 16



Heat & Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Local Union No. 16, AFL-CIO

Northern California – Northern Nevada
3801 Park Road, Benicia, CA 94510

Office: (707) 748-1616 • Fax: (707) 748-1620

CHRIS GREANEY BUSINESS MANAGER

FORTINO CURIEL BUSINESS AGENT

MARK PLUBELL BUSINESS AGENT

ANTHONY VISCUSO BUSINESS AGENT

BILL HODGES PRESIDENT

JONATHAN BLAINE VICE PRESIDENT

AURELIANO OCHOA ORGANIZER

Future Membership Meetings

All Union Meetings and in-person visits to the office have been canceled until the shelter in place order has been lifted and we receive directive from the International to reopen.

California State Senator John Laird has introduced SB 447 into the State Senate.

California is one of just five states in the nation that rewards deadly negligence by allowing non-economic damages for the anguish, misery, or grief a victim has experienced to die with them. Corporate defendants and insurers on the hook to pay those damages often purposefully delay court cases, hoping that their victim will die in the meantime. COVID-19 has made this problem worse, with no end in sight — especially for victims

who suffer from terminal illnesses.

Allowing defendants and bad actors to pocket a windfall of cash simply because a victim of their negligence has died is grossly unfair, and SB 447 would correct this injustice.

Current law creates a perverse incentive for defendants to delay cases and harass ill plaintiffs in the hopes that the plaintiff will die before trial, thereby allowing the wrongdoer to avoid paying any damages for the human suffering they have caused. That is unjustifiably cruel, and punishes surviving families as they mourn the loss of a loved one. It is especially devastating when the plaintiff is elderly, a child, a stay-at-home parent, disabled, lower-income, or anyone else whose damages are not primarily based on how much they earn.

Example: After serving his country in the U.S. Navy back in the mid-1960s, George Sweikhart worked for over 30 years for three separate San

Diego area car dealerships as a parts manager. During that time, genuine brakes, clutches and gaskets contained asbestos, and Mr. Sweikhart regularly handled these parts. His service in the U.S. Navy and his work at car dealerships caused him exposure to asbestos, which ultimately led to the development of mesothelioma in June 2019.

When he filed his case, he was granted a preferential trial date due to his disease and ailing health. The court set trial for June 1, 2020. Then, COVID-19 closed the courts indefinitely, and discovery was ground to a halt. Defendants claimed their clients could not comply with discovery requests and could not do depositions. With L.A. courts closed, Mr. Sweikhart was left with absolutely no recourse until the courts reopened in mid-June 2020.

At that point, his trial had already been continued into July. Despite efforts

to compel the defendants to start engaging in discovery, the court took the unprecedented action of vacating Mr. Sweikhart's trial. His trial was eventually rescheduled for February 22, 2021.

Tragically, Mr. Sweikhart never got his day in court. He passed away the following week. He was 75 years old. His wife and children will have no recourse in seeking justice for all of Mr. Sweikhart's suffering.

This is just one example of why we need the Legislature to act to protect its citizens and pass SB 447.

It's time for California to dismantle its draconian laws that rob victims and their families of the compensation they deserve when their rights are violated. If you would like to sign on and support this bill, email me at retirees-club@local16.us with your name, city and zip code.

Submitted by Alan Pierce



Thank you to all the front-line workers going above the call of duty to keep us safe during these trying times.

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How Unions Can Reduce Construction Site Theft and Better Connect With Communities

◆ *Thanks to the Pandemic, Property Crime Is Up. So Are Eyes on Jobsites. Here Are Some Things to Think About in Light of These New Facts.*

By Jessica Zimmer
Contributing Writer

With crime rates in San Francisco remaining high during the pandemic, union workers can make a significant contribution to reducing thefts from construction sites. Practices and technology that track, protect, and secure materials, vehicles, and equipment are extremely helpful. Yet laborers can make the real difference by communicating about site security with one another, neighbors, and regular site visitors.

San Francisco saw 48,118 total property crimes in fiscal year 2019-2020, up a bit from 47,990 in fiscal year 2018-2019. This is a surprising increase. Many people suffered serious losses in income, leaving them in dire straits. Still, residents all over the Bay Area were also limited by severe travel and work restrictions.

Significant changes included a 34 percent increase in the number of stolen vehicle crimes and a 42 percent decrease in larceny from a vehicle. It seems thieves turned to stealing whole vehicles rather than breaking into them to steal their contents. Suggestions for reducing the theft of vehicles and the equipment inside include removing equipment

from work fleets and personal vehicles. It is also a good idea to consider storing tools in another location other than on-site containers. Thieves have broken into containers to steal tools in the South Bay, even when the containers were locked and secured.

Construction tools are already

a target for thieves. Most tools are expensive. Home remodeling is booming during the pandemic. The tools are also attractive because tourism has decreased, reducing the number of easy-to-reach stashes of consumer electronics in

vehicles. After the rash of vehicle break-ins in years leading up to the pandemic, local residents became more aware of the risk of storing electronics in cars parked in large public and private garages. They have come to use commercial garages less during the pandemic.

Regardless, the old Bay Area rule holds, and now more than ever: Never

leave anything in plain view in your car or in a company vehicle. Anything. Not even a jacket.

The pandemic has also led to unusual regarding relationships with the communities in which we work. There has been less overall foot traffic but a higher number of project neighbors

present during the day. Residents are walking around projects as well as regularly observing progress from their windows. In addition, many more people have become more familiar and comfortable using Zoom

and other communication apps, like digital message boards.

These circumstances present an opportunity for contractors and unions to safely talk about development in progress. In a digital space, with no risk of harm to or from equipment, a host can easily screen questions and mute inappropriate comments. There

is room to share images and video, as well as have positive exchanges.

With interactive video and notice board forums, contractors and unions can invite residents to ask questions about current work. They can explain what the completed project will look like and teach residents more about unions' roles. In neighborhoods where there are a significant number of young people, resident interest could be a part of introducing K-12 students to careers in the trades.

Conditions will change as San Francisco moves into less restrictive tiers. Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the state hopes to reopen all businesses and activities by June 15. Union members can help by noting the changes in foot traffic around projects. They can also communicate with residents to learn whether the outside level of observation and interest decreases. There is a chance that residents want to continue conversations long-term.

Staying engaged with neighbors will help in keeping eyes on a site and everything in it. The result will ultimately benefit union members. It is a great feeling to come to work and to leave it with all the equipment and vehicles available and in good condition. **OL**

Building the Trades

Continued from page 2

often, their health to power our energy demands in California. Rather than provide a fair shake for workers, the bill relegates us to do the cleanup work — if we're lucky. The authors of the bill may even prefer we import our oil from other nations like Saudi Arabia and Russia, so long as we don't extract here.

Both SB 617 and SB 467 are losers for our environment, our workers, and our state. The seriousness of the issues we confront require thoughtful and committed lawmakers to build coalitions in order to tackle big problems. Instead, we are dealt a hand that will only serve to drive deeper wedges among advocates.

My hope is that we focus on building our infrastructure and energy capacity while centering environmental policy around the workers and communities they live in. Until then, SB 467's reference to "just transition" is mere lip service and has more to do with the political environment than the planet.

Three-Day Janitor Strike Ends

On Day 1 of the three-day janitor strike for unfair labor practices

(March 24 through 26), I joined President Olga Miranda, District 6 Supervisor Matt Haney, and DA Chesa Boudin on the picket line at Salesforce Tower. Field reps, signatory contractors, and the news media all waited to see how it would unfold.

The first issue arose when janitors risked being fired for not walking inside to turn in their company badges while on strike. A quick escort of the workers inside, with Boudin on one wing and Haney on the other, settled that matter. Morale peaked as members of the SF Building Trades and other unions, location by location, packed up or refused to enter their job sites in solidarity.

These are not easy times to pass on work, but I am certain our members understood the consequence should the strike not carry the day. While it is the seniority and safety of the janitor in dispute today, if could just as easily be ours tomorrow.

I am humbled by the many members who made the sacrifice to honor the line. Through our solidarity, we showed that San Francisco remains a union town. **OL**

DELEGATES MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2021, 5 p.m.

Zoom call

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

President Larry Mazzola, Vice Presidents John Doherty and Vince Courtney, Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

REQUEST FOR FUNDS:

None

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT:

- SB 617 (Weiner) Discussion. M/S/C to OPPOSE
- SB 467 (Weiner) Discussion. M/S/C to OPPOSE

PICKET SANCTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

- Delegates of IBEW 6 and UA 483 thanked the Council for assistance with vaccines.
- General discussion about the janitor strike.
- Vince Courtney Jr. (LIUNA 261) thanked the Coun-

cil for continuing to address deskilling and transparency/accountability related to pre-apprenticeship programs. We want an opportunity to straighten things out at the City.

NEW BUSINESS:

- COVID-19 Construction Update: Counts are down, but we must stay attentive and own the responsibility to police our own jobsites. We are at a critical point in the pandemic, and complacency kills.
- General discussion around future support of Senator Weiner given disregard for worker protections and safety in his legislative efforts.
- M/S/C to approve purchase of up to \$1,200 for improved air filtration at the Council office to include filter changeouts as appropriate.

REPORTS OF UNIONS:

- Azalia Dornier (Carpenters 22) emphasized continuing testing of members on jobsites.
- Dan Torres (UA 483) announced the retirement of Business Manager Stanley M. Smith and the appointment of Brother Jeff Dixon to fill out the term. Torres expressed confidence and support for Dixon.
- AJ Thomas (IFPTE 21) noted the City Controller reported no deficit given the Federal aid. This is a win for City workers.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:45 p.m.
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Deadline for the Next Organized Labor: May 5



Everyday ways to ease your worries

Everyone gets overwhelmed sometimes. But too much stress can be hard on your health — so it's important to find ways to offset those negative effects. These healthy habits can help you stay cool under pressure, even when you're pressed for time.

Sweat more, stress less

Symptoms of stress can create a vicious cycle between your mind and body. Exercise helps to break this cycle by relieving tension and releasing feel-good brain chemicals that fight the effects of stress.

Take a break to breathe

When stress strikes, try a few minutes of deep breathing. Breathe in for a count of 5, hold for 5, and exhale for 5. Repeat 10 times or until you start feeling more calm, grounded, and focused.

Unplug to recharge

Your phone needs time to recharge, and so does your brain. Disconnecting from digital noise for a little while each day can help you stress less, sleep better, and spend time doing more rewarding activities.

Visit kp.org/stressmanagement.

Serving unions for more than 70 years.

Since Kaiser Permanente first opened its doors, we've been providing high-quality, affordable care to union members. Decades later much has changed, but our commitment has not. Here's to many more years of helping to keep union workers on the job. Learn more at kp.org/laborandtrust.