

Organized Labor

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IMAGE VIA FACEBOOK @CONNIECHANSANFRANCISCO

LABOR SEALS THE DEAL

How Connie Chan Secured Re-election Despite Strong Opposition

By Robert Fulton | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Connie Chan is inaugurated for her second term serving as supervisor of San Francisco's District 1 on Wednesday, January 8.

In 2020, Connie Chan won her first election to represent San Francisco's District 1 on the Board of Supervisors. That victory was undoubtedly a struggle. Chan received a little over 37% of the first tally of votes that year and ultimately won after six rounds of ranked-choice voting. Her margin of victory over opponent Marjan Philhour was a paltry 125 votes in the final total. Our most recent election, however, was a different story. Chan finished the first round of voting with nearly 48% in support and bested Philhour again in ranked-choice voting, winning in the

fourth round by a comparatively comfortable 1,300 votes. What made the November 2024 victory even more impressive was the breadth of Chan's opposition and its attempts to unseat her. Instead, she finished stronger than before — and she did it with the support of the members of the City's building trades.

20/20 Vision in 2024

The first time Connie Chan's name appeared on the ballot, the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council endorsed her opponent, Philhour. But time flipped the script, and in the run-

up to the 2024 election, the council endorsed Chan wholeheartedly. "[Chan] worked hard to gain our trust, and she secured it," said John Doherty, IBEW Local 6 business manager and SF Building Trades Council vice-president. "I mean, it was across-the-board at the council level that everybody was behind her." Chan wasn't a complete unknown to labor four years ago.

The San Francisco Labor Council (SFLC) supported her initial candidacy in 2020 in addition to her re-election bid in 2024. SFLC Executive Director Kim Tavaglione described Chan's tenure as collaborative. She gave Chan credit for her work on the budget and negotiations with the city. "She helps find solutions when people are at a crossroads," Tavaglione said, adding that the key to

Chan's success in this election cycle was the unity between the labor and trades councils. "We weren't fighting each other," Tavaglione said of the two councils. So, what pushed the SF Building Trades Council into the Chan camp during last year's election? Doherty said that the building trades saw their relationship with

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NEWS BRIEF

New Mayor, New Approaches



PHOTO CREDIT: DREW ALTIZER

Mayor Daniel Lurie (center) stands for a photo op with members of the SF Building Trades Council after a meeting on Wednesday, January 8.

On Thursday, January 9, San Francisco Mayor Daniel Lurie announced a temporary hiring freeze until the close of the City's fiscal year at the end of June for all municipal positions, with limited exceptions

for tough-to-fill roles and public safety jobs. According to Lurie's office, the goal of the freeze is to protect jobs and healthcare given the City's \$857 million deficit. The freeze isn't expected to impact the private sector.

With concerns that any pause on municipal hiring will amount to austerity measures, the City's Public Employee Committee (PEC) held an emergency meeting on Wednesday, January 15. We'll report on its outcome in next month's edition of *Organized Labor*. Lurie also recently announced emergency legislation meant to combat fentanyl in San Francisco. Introduced on Thursday, January 16, the Fentanyl State of Emergency Ordinance seeks to fast-track procurement and contracting for behavioral health and homelessness providers and limit the SF Board of Supervisors' oversight to a 45-day window. According to Lurie's policy chief and chief of staff, prevailing wages and other worker protection statutes will remain in effect for the duration of the emergency period. We'll report back on this matter as details become available. **OL**

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A New Year, New Leadership, and New Opportunities for Our Unions



By Rudy Gonzalez
SF BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL
SECRETARY-TREASURER

As we welcome the start of a new year in San Francisco, we also greet the dawn of a new city. Members of the recently sworn-in administration include a new mayor and newly elected supervisors. This transition brings renewed hope and opportunity for our members as we embark on a journey to strengthen our local unions, advance our legislative priorities, and fortify this council.

A special note of congratulations is due to District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who has recently assumed the role of president of the board. We look forward to working with him in pursuit of our shared goals: a robust economic recovery for our city and the creation of good union jobs for skilled workers across all trades.

New Year's Resolution: A Call for Greater Union Participation

At the beginning of each year, people tend to set personal resolutions. Some aim to adopt a new fitness routine, follow a fad diet, or take a break from alcohol. Personally, I aim to tackle long-overdue home projects and dedicate more time to my children. Wish me luck.

But one resolution we could all benefit from making — and keeping — is a stronger commitment to attending our local union meetings. While they might feel routine or even mundane at times, meetings are crucial to our success. The work we do as trade unionists requires participation in regular meetings, where we forge connections and

actively engage with each other to make collective decisions on important matters.

The strength of our solidarity depends on the engagement of every member. Only together can we defend the progress we've made and push that progress even further. A simple yet powerful resolution for all: to attend our local union meetings regularly and, in so doing, to contribute to both the advancement of the labor movement and to our own professional and personal success.

Celebrating 125 Years of Organized Labor

This year marks a monumental milestone for the newspaper you hold in your hands.

At the dawn of the 20th century, the visionary leaders of this council recognized the wisdom of connecting with rank-and-file members through a communications platform that would reach them all. Those leaders' efforts led to the founding of the Organized Labor Publishing Company and to this newspaper, whose first edition rolled off the press on February 3, 1900.

Organized Labor began as a tool for sharing vital information and fostering unity among the City-based affiliates of the recently organized San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council. Today, it serves much the same purpose, but it now does so for a great many more tradespeople who live throughout the Bay Area and beyond. It has become one of the longest-running labor newspapers in

the United States and is the longest continuously published labor newspaper west of the Mississippi.

Organized Labor is an achievement that we can all be proud of. As we celebrate its 125th anniversary, we look back at its legacy of advocacy, education, and solidarity, and we look forward to its ongoing contributions to the labor movement.

Fighting for All Construction Workers

Each local union naturally focuses on the well-being of its own members. However, it's important to recognize how our collective efforts elevate the entire construction workforce, particularly the unorganized workers who remain vulnerable to exploitation.

Take, for example, the Wage Theft Prevention Act of 2022, authored by then-supervisor Matt Haney and co-sponsored by this council. This landmark legislation offers critical protections for unorganized construction workers, especially those in the residential sector, where wage theft and unsafe working conditions run rampant. Many unions lack the density to fully address these issues, but our solidarity and advocacy are helping to safeguard workers who would otherwise be left unprotected.

Recent strikes further illustrate the power of labor solidarity. The glaziers' strike of 2024 tested the resolve of District Council 16 and Local 718 here in San Francisco. Through the united efforts of the trades, labor stood firm in its support of the work-

ers. The glaziers emerged victorious, raising the tide for all.

Similarly, as ironworkers and sheet metal workers enter negotiations, we know that the outcomes of these talks are influenced by prevailing wage rates and working conditions across other crafts. Our struggles are deeply interconnected, so the strength of one union benefits all.

Moreover, our solidarity extends beyond wages and jurisdictional concerns. The historic support we provided to Unite Here Local 2 members during their recent hotel strike serves as a powerful example of how labor can protect its collective interests. After a 93-day strike, Local 2 members succeeded in their fight to preserve union healthcare and retiree benefits, securing a groundbreaking settlement. This victory sent a clear message to employers that labor will not back down on healthcare protections for San Francisco's working families.

The Power of Solidarity

The lesson is clear: Our solidarity is not a burden, but an unstoppable force for positive change. It is our collective action that drives progress, improves conditions for all workers, and strengthens the foundation of this city's labor movement.

As we enter this new year, let us continue to unite in pursuit of common goals and ensure that all workers, unionized or not, benefit from the victories we win together. Solidarity is our strength, and when we stand together, all boats rise with the tide of organized labor. **OL**



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LAWILDFIRES: RESOURCES & RELIEF FUNDS

The recent Los Angeles wildfires have killed more than two dozen people and destroyed 12,000 homes, businesses, schools, and other structures throughout the city and county. Our hearts are with the victims of these devastating fires, which have decimated historic neighborhoods, particularly in the Altadena and Pacific Palisades sections of L.A.

We stand with our L.A. union brothers, sisters, siblings, and all Angelenos in their hour of need — especially those directly affected by the Eaton, Palisades, and Hurst fires.

Want to show your solidarity? The California Federation of Labor Unions has put together an exhaustive list of easy ways to donate online at calaborfed.org/la-wildfire. We've included a selection of those donation links below. Scan one of the QR codes to send your support to our neighbors to the south.



To learn more about how you can help or to access immediate resources if you or someone you know has been affected by the fires, visit the Cal Labor Fed's wildfire resources page.



Labor Community Services L.A. Fire Relief Fund
Provides essentials to help restore a sense of normality to those affected by the fires



Mutual Aid L.A. Network
Locates and funds small, direct, on-the-ground aid efforts in affected communities



California Fire Foundation
Supports surviving families of fallen firefighters, firefighters, and their communities

California Workers Have the Right to Protect Themselves During Wildfires



California law prohibits employers from retaliating or threatening to retaliate against workers for leaving the worksite or refusing to come into work when “the employee has a reasonable belief that the workplace or worksite is unsafe” due to an emergency condition. A reasonable belief that the worksite is unsafe is defined as where “a reasonable person,

under the circumstances known to the employee at the time, would conclude there is a real danger of death or serious injury if that person enters or remains on the premises.”

In addition, the law prohibits an employer from preventing workers from accessing their personal cellphone or using any other communications device

to seek emergency assistance, assess the safety of the situation, or communicate with loved ones to verify their safety.

There are exemptions to this law for workers who are charged with disaster relief, providing emergency response, classified as disaster service workers, or responsible for assisting others in

evacuating during an emergency. The cellphone requirement does not apply to banks or correctional facilities.

This bill can be enforced by the California Labor Commissioner by reporting a labor law violation online or in court.

For more information, contact the California Federation of Labor Unions at info@calaborfed.org.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

The labor movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress. Out of its bold struggles, economic and social reform gave birth to unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, government relief for the destitute and, above all, new wage levels that meant not mere survival, but a tolerable life. The captains of industry did not lead this transformation; they resisted it until they were overcome.

— Martin Luther King Jr.



IF YOU'RE INTERESTED in getting in on the political ground floor and ultimately getting pro-union politicians elected and pro-union legislation passed, then register to vote in the California Democratic Party's Assembly District Elections Meetings (ADEMs).

The **ADEMs** are a process by which Democratic voters select Democratic candidates in each of California's 80 state assembly districts to serve as delegates to the California Democratic Party. The term for each delegate is two years, and each district is represented by 14 delegates who run in this competitive process. It doesn't get much more grassroots than this.

If you want in, then you have to act very fast, as registration closes on Friday, January 31. Scan the QR code or visit adem.cadem.org to register now.

ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, San Francisco Assemblymember **Matt Haney** released the following update regarding new laws set to take effect this year.

In response to the opioid epidemic, Assembly Bill 2115 allows timely access to methadone, which is the most effective treatment for people with opioid addiction to transition to sobriety. AB 1976 also ensures widespread access to naloxone, a lifesaving medication that can completely reverse a deadly opioid overdose, by requiring it to be in first aid kits.

To bring back businesses and people to our downtowns, AB 1775 allows cannabis retailers to sell food and non-alcoholic drinks. These Amsterdam-style cannabis cafes allow retailers to diversify their business and are a simple way to bring revenue to our local economy.

To improve safety in our city, AB 2629 prohibits people who are found to be mentally incompetent in misdemeanor cases from buying a gun. Additionally, AB 2475 allows state hospitals to hold patients for up to 30 days before they are released to allow law enforcement and public health officials to work together to find housing, medication access, and mental health treatment for them.

As the chair of the Legislative Renters' Caucus, I authored AB 2747 that requires landlords to give tenants the option to opt into reporting their positive rent payment to a credit bureau agency.



IN THE LAST EDITION of *Organized Labor*, we mistakenly referred to the UESF — the United Educators of San Francisco — as UESC in a caption referring to late UESF Local 61 president **Dennis Kelly** in the "Building the Trades" column on page 2.

We regret the error.



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A Revitalized Labor Movement Kicks Off 2025 With Wins and Strikes, But Tough Contract and Organizing Fights Lie Ahead

By Robert Fulton | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

How about a bit of labor past, present, and future to start out the new year?

The City's hotel workers recently took it to management with a successful three-month strike that resulted in significant wins. Teamsters here in the Bay and across the country are currently engaged in a strategic war with Amazon to gain an organizing foothold for employees working for the online mega-retailer. San Francisco's teachers — along with those up and down the state — are readying their game plan as their contracts expire by this summer.

Read on for all the details.

SF Hotel Workers to Employers: 'We Are Unbreakable'

It took more than three months and perhaps a bit of Christmas magic from Santa Lurie, but the hotel workers' strike of 2024

contract expires in 2028.

"I'm so proud that my coworkers and I never gave up," said Bill Fung, who's been a housekeeping attendant at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square for 29 years, in a press release from Local 2. "We stood together through the rain and cold, and even though there were some hard days, it was all worth it. We will go back to work with our healthcare, good raises, and the confidence of knowing that when we fight, we win."

"San Francisco hotel workers are unbreakable," said Local 2 President Lizzy Tapia in the same release. "Hilton, Hyatt, and Marriott workers refused to give up their healthcare or go backwards — and we proved on the picket line that we're not afraid of a tough fight. As contract talks begin with the City's other full-service hotels in the new year, they should know that this is the new standard they must accept for

Teamsters to Amazon: 'Goliath Doesn't Stand a Chance'

In the thick of the holiday shopping season, hundreds of Amazon workers nationwide were coordinated by the teamsters to either go on strike outright or to participate in pickets to show their strength to the mighty — and mighty wealthy — online retailer.

The actions occurred at eight separate Amazon sites from Thursday, December 19, through Tuesday, December 24. One such site was a delivery station in San Francisco's Bayview neighborhood. Several workers there participated.

The Amazon workers are demanding a fair union contract with good pay, benefits, and better working conditions from the company owned by the stridently anti-union business mogul Jeff Bezos, who also happens to be the first person in history whose personal wealth exceeded \$100 billion.

Labor. "Despite the millions of dollars Amazon is funneling into union-busting, when thousands of workers start coming together across all corners of the country to demand a voice and a fair paycheck, Goliath doesn't stand a chance."

Teachers to SFUSD: 'We Can't Wait' on Expiring Contract

A lesson in solidarity might be part of the curriculum for the teaching profession later this year.

The United Educators of San Francisco (UESF), which represents approximately 6,500 teachers, will see its contract with SFUSD run out in June. Making things more interesting is that teachers in Oakland, Los Angeles, and San Diego school districts will also see their contracts expire at the same time: the end of the 2025 school year.



United Educators of San Francisco's bargaining team meets on Friday, January 17, to draft proposals ahead of the union's contract expiration in June.

PHOTO CREDIT: UNITED EDUCATORS OF SAN FRANCISCO VIA FACEBOOK @UESF61



Union Amazon workers strike outside of the company's DCK6 warehouse in SF's Bayview neighborhood in the midst of the holiday season last month.

PHOTO CREDIT: AMAZON TEAMSTERS VIA FACEBOOK @AMAZONTEAMSTERS



Striking hotel workers count Hilton ratification ballots on Tuesday, December 24, at Unite Here Local 2's union hall on Golden Gate Avenue in SF.

PHOTO CREDIT: NICK DERENZI FOR UNITE HERE LOCAL 2

didn't roll over into the new year.

The members of Unite Here Local 2 ratified agreements with Hilton, Hyatt, and Marriott that provide pay raises, affordable healthcare, and new workload protections.

The workers ratified the last of the three deals with Hilton with 99.4% approval from membership following a 93-day strike. The Hilton ratification, which came down on Christmas Eve, followed deals reached with Hyatt and Marriott in the preceding days.

The four-year Hilton agreement includes an immediate \$3-an-hour wage increase and new protections against understaffing. The

their own employees."

Hotel workers went on strike effective September 22. As more workers gradually joined the strike, the number of union members participating eventually grew to 2,500.

According to several news reports, newly elected mayor Daniel Lurie played a role in speaking with hotel owners to get a deal done.

"Thanks to the hard work of both the union and management, San Francisco will be ready to welcome the world as we head into 2025," Lurie wrote in a December 24 Instagram post.

"What we're doing is historic," said Leah Pensler, a warehouse worker at Amazon's DCK6 facility in the Bayview, in a release from the teamsters' home office. "We are fighting against a vicious union-busting campaign, and we are going to win."

"California Teamsters know what it means to go up against some of the country's biggest tech giants, stand our ground, and win — and it's no different for Amazon workers at DCK6," said Peter Finn, Teamsters Western Region International Vice-President and President of Teamsters Joint Council 7, in a statement to *Organized*

That solidarity will be on display on Tuesday, February 4, when UESF kicks off its "We Can't Wait" contract campaign with a rally at Oscar Grant Plaza outside Oakland City Hall. Teachers from Berkeley, Oakland, and Richmond will join UESF for the action.

In preparation for negotiations, nearly 60% of UESF members took the union's bargaining survey. The union's platform for demands this contract cycle includes fully staffed schools, improved pay, and better working conditions.

We'll keep you posted on this one. **OL**



[Seeing more housing built by unions and occupied by the workers who build it] has always been our shared and common goal.

—Connie Chan, District 1 Supervisor

Connie Chan

continued from page 1

the supervisor deepen over the past four years and found her to be an elected official who was more than willing to collaborate with labor for working people.

“Once we started working with her, we saw what she championed,” Doherty said. “If we approached her, the door was always open. If she couldn’t do something, she said she couldn’t do it. If she could do something, she tried like hell to get things done.”

Chan said that she values the skilled-and-trained workforce the building trades offer and has become a fan of project labor agreements. She supports prevailing wages and wants to see more affordable housing built by unions and more housing occupied by the workers who build it.

“That has always been our common and shared goal,” Chan said, “and I am grateful to have [union] support for my re-election.”

Chan wants to keep investing in apprenticeships and help continue the pipeline to the trades, and she doesn’t want to hear any more excuses about labor costs making development unaffordable, she said.

“I think this is a moment where we should also recognize that [apprenticeships are] an investment in people and in their skills,” Chan said.

‘Crazy Stuff’

It turns out that Chan’s opposition during the last election might not have been as effective when it came to the results — but the results don’t reflect the opposition’s tenacity.

While Chan enjoyed having the trades and the SFLC in her corner, Philhour benefited from a Whitman’s sampler of backers. These include the big-tech-funded political advocacy groups and political

action committees Families for a Vibrant SF, Together SF, and Grow SF, as well as the NorCal Carpenters Union and then-mayor London Breed’s administration. The San Francisco Chronicle even endorsed Chan’s opponent.

Philhour is a former advisor to Breed, who frequently clashed with Chan on safety issues. Chan, a progressive, even went so far as to call Breed “incompetent” in an interview.

“One of the hardest things about the Breed administration is that she didn’t really open her door and would make decisions without us on matters that affected us directly,” said Doherty, who hasn’t been shy about the building trades’ dissatisfaction with Breed’s way of doing things. “[Chan] took our side on that, and if we needed to run a counter-measure, we could always rely on her to be a solid vote.”

Doherty added that there was some “crazy stuff” said about Chan, including that she was anti-housing. He complimented her on her work in District 1.

“I think she’s been working hard for the members in her district and in the City broadly,” Doherty said. “Her district is full of working families, and she looks out for them.”

Tavaglione said that a number of SFLC members make up the working-class neighborhoods that are a big part of District 1.

In 2022, Chan’s district was redrawn, shifting the demographics to include some more affluent — and presumably more conservative — constituents living in the Seacliff and Presidio Terrace neighborhoods.

But big-money PAC plays to put pressure on the incumbent to move to the right didn’t have the desired effect. The most egre-

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gious bit of mudslinging came from Grow SF, which ran a campaign called “Clear Out Connie.” (Apparently big fans of alliteration, Grow SF also had a “Dump Dean” campaign against District 5 Supervisor Dean Preston, who did end up losing his seat.)

“I think we should have robust policy debates,” said Chan. “But I think when it comes to personal attacks like something like ‘Clear Out Connie,’ then, yeah, I think that on a personal level, it is hurtful, and I think it’s frankly hurtful, also, for my family.”

Moving Forward

Political battles can create wounds that either leave permanent scars or heal in time for the next fight — and the next set of shifting allegiances. Fortunately, labor in San Francisco has historically managed to patch it up and move on, even after not seeing eye-to-eye on each and every candidate.

“We always come together,” said Tavaglione. “I don’t think there’s any hard feelings,”

Doherty added that the trades and carpenters have had their differences over the years and still find commonality.

“They chose a side, and their side was purely based on politics, not based on results,” Doherty said. “We are open to mending fences with the carpenters because we know their rank-and-file people are just like our rank-and-file people. [Members] just want to work, they want to feed their families, they want to retire with dignity.”

Tavaglione said the SFLC will be looking to Chan to guide the City through these difficult economic times.

When asked how Chan could do that, Tavaglione responded, “Primarily, just keep on doing what she’s been doing. She’s a partner in every way for labor.” **OL**



PHOTOS COURTESY RUDY GONZALEZ



Supporters from the various unions of the SF Building Trades Council gather for photo ops before hitting the streets to campaign for Connie Chan in October of last year.



Well ahead in 2025



We’ve never been content with the status quo when it comes to health care. Thanks in large part to feedback from our members, partners, and our own North Star, we’ve been exploring innovations to transform the healthcare system to ensure we’re keeping you and your loved ones well ahead. From improving your online member experience and security, to making it easier to access preventive care – we remain dedicated to keeping you well this new year and years to come.

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'OUR CAUSE'

Excerpts From the First Edition of *Organized Labor*

On Saturday, February 3, 1900, the very first edition of this newspaper hit the streets. Thanks to UC Riverside's California Digital Newspaper Collection, we can peer into the past for a fascinating, detailed glance at what the labor scene was like here in San Francisco 125 years ago, not to mention gain a greater understanding of the mission of *Organized Labor* at the time of its inception.

We're proud to say that we believe we're still standing up for the same values and principles — and sense of levity, when appropriate — that you'll encounter in the following excerpts from Vol. 1, No. 1, of this newspaper. Indeed, *Organized Labor* is here to stay. **OL**



SATURDAY.....FEB. 3, 1900.

Thousands of mechanics and laboring men in this city have for months been anxiously looking for the appearance of ORGANIZED LABOR. A large majority of the leading trade unions of San Francisco have felt the necessity of a labor journal that could be depended on at all times to voice the true principles of organized labor without any false notes. It was a difficult problem to solve, and it took time and considerable work to do it. It has been done, however, and the Organized Labor Publishing Company, consisting of the various trade unions in the city, is the result.

In making our debut we have no great pretensions to offer nor many promises to make. It shall be our aim to present to the toilers of San Francisco and neighboring cities every Saturday night a paper that no good trades unionist will ever have occasion to be ashamed of or be compelled to disclaim.

We shall use our best endeavors to adjust any grievance and harmonize differences existing between recognized unions.

On public questions vital to the interests of the workingmen, we shall always keep a watchful eye, and deal with them from time to time as the case may require. Labor must avail itself of every opportunity to further its own interests, politically or otherwise.

United action by a million wage workers in defining the policy of our national government would be a factor that no party would dare to reckon without.

Organized labor, standing on its just and equitable demands, is an irresistible power. The many victories already gained have amply demonstrated this fact.

Disorganized, labor has been, and is, the prey of greed, and the cart-mule of cunning politicians. This must not and cannot always be. The toilers of the earth are the very foundation of society; but their important position in the social structure has been greatly misunderstood, and very unjustly compensated. Still, the foundation, ignorant of its important position, patiently carried its burden, the entire social building, for centuries without asserting its rights. When the pressure became too heavy, a few spasmodic convulsions shook the structure, and the shock resulted in a little relief. Like the dormant volcano, there was life, and scattering eruptions

periodically, but no concerted action.

Among the wonderful achievements of the past century, in our opinion, none is greater than the emancipation of the masses from the thralldom and prejudices of the past ages, as exemplified in the inventions, philosophy, literature and social evolution now on the march towards economic liberty.

The primeval law cannot be revoked, but we believe that all should obey it, and take their just share of the burdens of life.

We have no favors to ask, nor have we any bouquet to throw. ORGANIZED LABOR is not out for anybody's scalp, nor will it ever be found tied to the ambitious kite of any individual. The cause which we have espoused, and will continue to fight for, is the right of the workingman as embodied in the just and equitable demands of organized labor. This cause is greater than any individual or party, and we shall try to do our duty as best we know how without fear or favor—"with malice towards none, and with charity towards all."

We realize the difficult task before us, and we are fully aware of our many shortcomings, but with the kind assistance of the many excellent co-workers in the cause, we shall do our best to improve. If you find any faults, kindly let us know what they are. The little we know has been learned by mistakes, and we expect to learn a few things yet.

We bow to you all, brothers, friends and merchants of San Francisco! ORGANIZED LABOR has come to stay, and we hope that our acquaintance will be pleasant, profitable and of mutual benefit to all parties.

OUR CAUSE.

Organized Labor stands for something more than shorter hours and increased wages. It means educated children, happy homes, a prosperous community and good government. Organized Labor stands for the elevation of the laboring portion of society. Victories have been won and some progress made, but arrogant wealth on the one hand and the prejudices and passions, the sensuality and selfishness of the masses among the laboring class on the other, have been, and are, the most formidable barriers to improvement. A large number have not as yet awakened to a dim conception of the end for which they are struggling.

The laboring man who sees in his union and the consequent rise of wages only so many more glasses of beer a day is far from being benefited by his organization;

the visionary agitator who tries to stop the industrial machinery by a flood of ill chosen epithets is just as far from it, and the sleek groomed, well fed drone who beholds the man of toil with supreme scorn is equally wide of the mark.

Manual labor in its just proportion is a blessing; in excess it is a curse. When the sole work of life is but an incessant drudgery of toil, life is indeed little worth living; but manual labor justly apportioned, coupled with intellectual and social improvements, is a training school where men receive energy, courage and a character that no institution of learning can give.

We pity the shallow minded individual who sneers at the workingman. Labor has dignity. It is the mighty instrument by which the earth has been conquered and converted into a garden of bounteous beauty; it has successfully combatted the elements and subdued the ocean; not merely this, it has brought forth some of the greatest minds that brighten the pages of history. Man has a wonderful nature that requires a varied occupation, labor and meditation, study and recreation for its successful discipline and perfect growth. A man's life should be so employed and the work so diversified that it would call the man's entire abilities into action. Our present economic system has forced the laboring man into a life of monotonous, stupefying, unthinking toil. This is what organized labor has sought to remedy. It has demanded shorter hours in order that the workingman may have a little more time for study and meditation; better wages that he may have more money for comfort and recreation. Its demands have been just, and being just they have been cheerfully acceded to by all fair minded men. It is only a few selfish silurians endowed by an abundance of greed and a scarcity of brains who have ever dared deny labor a share of its just dues. However, this prehistoric phenomenon is fast disappearing from the civilized parts of earth, and it is but a question of time when the race will be entirely extinct. A large number have received their regeneration at the hands of organized labor. We have seen them time and again walk into our councils of labor and shed their saurian coat in less time than it takes to tell it. They have come into our halls as frothing Philistines and after a pleasant stay of an hour—the most profitably spent in their life—they have left us meek as Arabian shepherds. And still there are some who refuse to come. Some day these gentlemen will arrive on schedule time.

Organized labor has more to accomplish

than merely an adjustment of wages and hours. A system of labor which saps health, shortens life and starves the intellect must be abolished. Labor's only hope at present is organization. First discipline, and education next. The laboring man and the mechanic should have as thorough an education as the best citizen in any community. We do not mean by this that he should study the ancient classics or the higher branches of mathematics. The study of the histories of Greece and Rome is of no account, if it does not kindle the fire of beauty and liberty within the heart of the student, and all education is of no avail if it does not enthrone the idea of justice uppermost in the mind of the disciple. Trade unions and organized labor stand for protection, liberty and justice, and ORGANIZED LABOR will at all times spread these principles to all who give it a hand of welcome.

Attend the meetings of the organization of which you are a member. If you do not take enough interest in its welfare to do this, then, for decency's sake, do not find fault with the actions of those who do attend.

Before passing criticism upon this issue, bear in mind that the entire work was done in less than four days' time. Works of art are never executed in a hurry.

With some men everything is all right when they are having their way, and everything is all wrong when they are not. Are you one of these men?

This paper expects, and has a right to expect, every good union man in San Francisco to patronize the merchants who patronize it.

When spending your money to-night, throw in a good word for this paper. By helping it you help yourself.

Here's to the man who would rather praise than censure: May your tribe increase!

ORGANIZED LABOR has neither the intention nor the desire to please everybody.

A tip to the advertiser: Union men patronize those who patronize them.

ORGANIZED LABOR is here to stay. Now is the time to subscribe.

As a rule, a man never amounts to much until he is "roasted."



Scan to visit UC Riverside's online California newspaper archive and view full digitized back issues of *Organized Labor* from 1900 through 1988.



Main Office
8201 Capwell Drive, Oakland, CA 94621
Phone: (510) 632-8781
BAC3-CA.org

President: Troy Garland
Secretary-Treasurer: Ryan Ruf
Field Representatives: Colin Johnson,
Lenny Paredes, Jordan Mondragon, David Calderon
Organizers: Dave Tafoya, Manny Enriquez, Wayne Jordan

Brothers and Sisters,
I hope everybody had an amazing holiday season, and hello to 2025. Seeing family and friends was a major highlight of the season for me.
I visited a tribal casino on the way home from one of these holiday outings. Though this side-trip was fun, I must admit my wallet was a few bucks lighter after I left. As I sat there playing blackjack, I got to thinking: In my four-plus years on staff with Local 3, we’ve built or expanded several casinos over our 46 counties here in Northern California.
These casinos have been good for the BAC membership, giving them many weeks — if not months — of work. Fortunately, a few more of these casino projects are now on the way for us.
The Sky River Casino in Elk Grove announced its expansion earlier this year. The Wilton Rancheria owns nearly 140 acres of land that includes Sky River Casino; they’re providing the space for the expansion. It will be built under a project labor agreement, so I anticipate many hours for our membership.
The Sky River expansion will occur in two phases. Phase 1 includes a multi-story,

1,600-space parking garage with enhanced valet that’s expected to be finished and operational by Summer 2025. Phase 2 consists of a 300-room state-of-the-art hotel with outdoor pool, day spa, additional restaurants, and a multi-use event and entertainment space.
Phase 2 will also create additional slot gaming options, as well as a high-limit and VIP gaming area. The Wilton Rancheria expects the hotel phase to be up and running by early 2027.
Down in Madera, the North Fork Mono Casino and Resort is currently under construction. It took the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians 20 years to get the project going due to lawsuits filed by various groups, including other neighboring casinos, that left construction in limbo on this 305-acre site. Just like the Sky River expansion, the new casino will be built under a PLA.
In Sonoma County, the Graton Resort and Casino is also expanding. Plans include a new 144,000-square-foot gaming floor with 2,000 slot machines, 40 table games, a poker room, and a high-limit area. The buildout includes a five-story hotel with over

Chapter Meetings

February 2025							March 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30	31					

First Tue., 6 p.m., Monterey — 1945 Natividad Rd., Salinas (The Pizza Factory)

First Thu., 5:30 p.m., Sacramento — 9840 Business Park Dr., Suite B (BAC 3 Sac Office)

Second Tue., 5 p.m., San Francisco — 379 Gellert Blvd., Daly City (Celia's)

Second Wed., 5:30 p.m., San Jose — 1535 Meridian Ave. (Rookies Sports Lodge)

Second Thu., 5 p.m., Oakland — 8201 Capwell Dr. (BAC 3 Oak Office)

Third Thu., 6 p.m., Manteca — 253 Spreckels Ave. (Round Table Pizza)

Third Tue., even months only, 6 p.m., Fresno — 324 E. Shaw Ave. (Ramada Inn)

200 rooms, new restaurants, a food court, an entertainment lounge, retail space, and meeting rooms. This large project will also include a new parking structure and a 3,500-seat theatre.
These casinos will provide BAC members with thousands of work hours. Next time you’re at a tribal casino, check out all of the work performed or installed by the various trades of BAC. When complete, all of these casinos should be able to attract top-tier entertainment and save us all trips to Las Vegas and Southern California’s casino resorts.
On behalf of your Local 3 staff, we wish you all a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2025.

Respectfully,
Lenny Paredes

Service Awards, January

• 25 years: Jose Hernandez, Jose Alfredo Montano Beleche, Martin Perez

Congratulations on your many years of service.

In Memoriam

We are sorry to announce the passing of our brother Alvin Deconge, BL, 12/14/2024, 08-CA, 62-year member.

Find us on Facebook by searching “BAC Local 3 CA,”
on X at [x.com/baclocal3ca](#),
and on Instagram [@baclocal3](#).



Graton Casino rendering



North Fork Mono Casino and Resort rendering



Sky River Casino rendering

IBEW Local 6



Main Office
55 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94117
Phone: (415) 861-5752
IBEWLocal6.org

Business Manager/Financial Secretary:
John J. Doherty

President: Russell Au Yeung
Vice-President: Ron Lewis
Recording Secretary: John Langley
Treasurer: Brendan Greene

Executive Board Members:
Jennifer Kramer, Christie Peterson,
Michael O'Mahoney, Rick Medrano,
Douglas Wydler

In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Keith Wenquist, inside journeyman, who passed away on December 11, 2024; and to the family and friends of Allen T. Menicucci, inside journeyman, who passed away on December 22, 2024; and to the family and friends of James V. Long, electrical maintenance technician, who passed away on December 21, 2024; and to the family and friends of Martin T. Gold, who passed away on October 20, 2024.
May they rest in peace.

Best Wishes to Our Recently Retired Members

Philippe E. Laxague
Stanley J. Schalch Jr.
Vincent W. Wong
James O. Linford
James M. DiRicco
William H. Godwin
Jack D. Jones
George B. Heald IV

Union Plus Scholarship

AFL-CIO Scholarship applications are now available online at unionplus.org/ben-

efitseducation/union-plus-scholarships and are due no later than Friday, January 31. We encourage members and their dependent children who are currently enrolled in an accredited institution to apply.

Current and retired members of unions participating in any Union Plus program, their spouses, and their dependent children (as defined by IRS regulations) are eligible. Grandchildren are not eligible unless they are legal dependents (as defined by IRS regulations). At least one year of continuous union membership by the applicant, applicant's spouse, or parent (if the applicant is a dependent) is required. The one-year membership minimum must be satisfied by May 31, 2025.

Your Future as You See It

We are in the midst of the three-year cycle for electrician re-certification. Every three years, our inside wiremen must either complete 32 hours of continuing education or retake the examination to maintain their certification.

And every three years, people wait until the last minute to seek their required coursework. Some have their certification lapse as a result. Don't be that member. Sign up for continuing education classes at the SFJATC.

Our ability to keep pace with a rapidly changing industry now more than ever is an investment in ourselves. We all benefit from a well-trained and competent workforce. It's what helps us to remain, as our international likes to say, "the right choice."

This year the SFJATC began offering classes online, making it even easier for our members to maintain their skills. This coming semester, the JATC is offering the following courses:

- ✓ Fiberoptic Training
- ✓ Medium-Voltage Splicing
- ✓ Fire Alarm Systems
- ✓ Lighting Controls
- ✓ CPR and First Aid Training
- ✓ Electric Vehicle Charging Systems (EVCS)
- ✓ Programmable Logic Controller Training
- ✓ Cal State Cert Prep
- ✓ Foreman Development Training
- ✓ CPR Refresher (online)
- ✓ PVC-Coated Rigid Conduit
- ✓ Lighting Controls
- ✓ Motor Controls
- ✓ Energy Storage and Microgrid Training (ESAMTAC)
- ✓ Significant Code Changes — 2020 NEC
- ✓ Estimating/Take-Off Class
- ✓ OSHA 30 Training
- ✓ Safe Work Practices — NFPA 70E
- ✓ Code Calculations
- ✓ Large Conduit Bending
- ✓ Intro to Computers for Electrical Construction

It is clear to all that we will see more and more electric vehicles, and, as our industry works to address climate change, battery storage systems will become commonplace in residential projects and high-rise buildings. EVCS and ESAMTAC certifications will broaden your future work opportunities.

Our employers expect you to use your

MEETINGS 55 FILLMORE STREET

Unit 1 Committee
Tue., Feb. 4, 4:30 p.m.

Unit 5 (Muni Railway Shop)
Wed., Feb. 5, 4:30 p.m.

Executive Board
Tue., Feb. 11, 4:30 p.m.

General Membership
Wed., Feb. 12, 4:30 p.m.

Unit 6 (Sound & Communications)
No Meeting Scheduled

Retired Members (Senior Sixes)
Thu., Feb. 20, 10:45 a.m.

Executive Board
Wed., Feb 26, 4:30 p.m.

skills to install electrical work. Your skills are honed in the field as you bend conduit, splice wire, tighten screws or terminals, and nail boxes to a deck. Our skill sets are focused on the built environment, and while technology plays an ever more prominent role in our industry, it is important that we maintain our skills with classroom instruction that ties the technology to the work we do every day.

Sign up for a continuing education class at the JATC, and bring a fellow member with you.

Work Safely, Wear a Mask, and Save for a Rainy Day!
John J. Doherty

HEAT & FROST Local 16



Main Office (Northern California & Northern Nevada)
3801 Park Road, Benicia, CA 94510
Phone: (707) 748-1616
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Insulators16.org

BUSINESS MANAGER: CHRIS GREANEY
BUSINESS AGENTS: FORTINO CURIEL
MARK PLUBELL, ANTHONY VISCUSO
PRESIDENT: JOSHUA PEREIRA
VICE-PRESIDENT: SHANNON MCKINNEY
ORGANIZER: AURELIANO OCHOA

Recent Scenes from Local 16



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Hello and happy New Year to you all. A special thanks this month goes out to all of our members who worked to make a difference in our communities over the holiday season. Our local's president, Josh Pereira, delivered a check from Local 16 to St. Vincent de Paul's food bank in Benicia. We couldn't have done it without our awesome membership.

Stay safe out there. We'll see you next month.

In Solidarity,
Fortino Curiel



ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 8



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IUEC8.org

Matt Russo
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Greg Hardeman
Business Representative/
Recording Secretary

Ryan Lange
Business Representative

Bill Chisholm
Business Representative

Nick Moore
Organizer

Why (It Feels Like) Democracy Isn't Working

I've been doing a bit of soul searching since this last election. I've been trying to find answers to questions that bother me. So, to begin, if I may paraphrase Jimmy Buffett: Why would we believe the billionaire class? Why would we think that *they* — those furthest from the reality of what a workday looks like and from the individual struggles of everyday Americans who are trying to figure out how to keep a roof over their heads, lights on, and food on the table — would be the ones we would trust to fix what many Americans feel is a broken system?

I think those are the questions we should all be asking ourselves. I feel like we're being subjugated by a ruling elite that is somehow allowed to trade on inside information that you and I aren't privy to. There's no way that our elected leaders should be able to earn millions of additional dollars each year when their actual take-home salaries are much the same as our own. That is problematic, and I don't anticipate any of them doing anything anytime soon to fix what clearly benefits them and further hurts us.

I also don't believe that any billionaire has my best interest at heart. I've watched trickle-down economics fail time and again and wonder how much longer we're going to stand by and allow more tax breaks for large corporations.

You and I are the ones who foot the bill for everything, after all, and we haven't gotten a larger slice of the pie for any of it. In fact, with every Republican administration in modern memory, we've seen a drastic increase in spending. So much for the party of fiscal responsibility.

Now, granted, both parties are guilty of overspending. But every time we give breaks to large corporations instead of building and

creating new jobs, their go-to is... wait for it... stock buybacks.

What does that mean? Boards of directors end up controlling more of their corporations and making more money on what's supposed to be a publicly traded company. They're trading their own stock, consolidating wealth, and leaving less and less for you, the worker.

According to the AFL-CIO's website, the average CEO's yearly salary at a Fortune 500 company is \$17.7 million. I'd be curious to learn the average worker's salary at a Fortune 500 company. (Hint: Remove more than a few figures from that \$17.7 million.)

While hoarding all of their millions and billions, the ruling class has also succeeded at creating animus among workers. You are now fighting your neighbor, brother, and sister for the scraps that have been thrown to us as the ruling class sits back and wagers its bets. It's the corporate version of a dogfight. They have nothing to lose; they bring their pit bulls, see who fights the hardest, and leave you to die when they're done with you.

I am not advocating for violence — perhaps I should've led with that, given the recent actions in New York City, with the murder of a CEO from a major medical insurance company. The killer's actions were despicable. But I do understand the deep helplessness one feels who has been taken advantage of by a large corporation.

It's a sentiment held by many a contractor who came up against our nation's president when he was more well-known for being a real estate developer than a would-be authoritarian dictator. Donald Trump was notorious in New York for agreeing to change orders on projects, refusing to pay them, and then waiting out a plaintiff in court, knowing damn well that Trump had the money to absorb any and all civil litigation and force the plaintiff to either eat the

MEETINGS

San Francisco General Meeting
Wed., Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m.
690 Potrero Ave., San Francisco

Monterey/Watsonville
Mon., Feb. 3, 5:30 p.m.
Round Table Pizza
1975 Main St., Watsonville

Tahoe
Thu., Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m.
Mott Canyon Tavern & Grill
259 Kingsbury Grade Rd., Stateline, NV

Reno
Thu., Feb. 27, 5:30 p.m.
Northern Nevada Labor Temple
1819 Hymer Ave., Sparks, NV

Sacramento
Wed., Feb. 5, 5:30 p.m.
Sheet Metal Workers Apprentice & Journeyman Training Building
3665 Bleckely St., Mather

Stockton
Fri., Feb. 7, 11:30 a.m.
New Location: DJ's Restaurant
881 Lifestyle St., Manteca

Bakersfield
Wed., Feb. 12, 7 a.m.
Village Grill
1534 19th St., Bakersfield

Fresno
Wed., Feb. 12, 5:30 p.m.
DiCicco's Old Town Clovis
408 Clovis Ave., Clovis

San Luis Obispo
Tue., Feb. 4, 11:30 a.m.
Firestone Grill
1001 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo

Chico/Redding
Wed., Feb. 5, 11:30 a.m.
Nash's Restaurant
1717 Esplanade, Chico

sum or bankrupt themselves with legal fees.

So, where is forward for us? We've seen significant increases in the cost of goods and services after the Covid pandemic brought about major disruptions to workforces and supply chains, with China all but shutting down for months at a time. I'm sure all of you remember waiting on controller boards for your elevators and seeing new vehicles on lots that couldn't be sold because they were missing certain parts.

This global supply chain trickle-down affected all of us, but so did some major stimulus packages designed to pull us out of what was looking to be a major recession caused by these disruptions. I would be the first to argue that the Fed did a heroic job of easing what was looking like runaway inflation caused by these factors. Read: This wasn't because of the actions of a president but rather because of the reactions of markets jolted by supply issues. In fact, I would argue that the United States did a better job than the rest of the world in recovering from the pandemic-related recession.

To end this diatribe, the point that I'm really trying to get across here is that I don't

trust politicians — but I trust billionaires even less. Especially after hearing two of them laugh it up on a podcast while discussing the topic of firing striking workers. Especially since one of them has actively worked to keep his plants non-union. Especially since he has some grandiose plan to cut spending here domestically. And especially since he controls perhaps the most significant part of global communications with the satellite system that he has created for — *ahem* — the good of the people.

Democracy feels like it isn't working for us because people like Elon Musk and his uber-wealthy cohorts keep making themselves richer on our backs. That's not a party problem. That's a Good Ol' USA problem, and we're going to have to work together if we want to repair it.

Make no mistake: Democracy is still better than any other option we know of right now. Be wary of any individual who claims to be the only one who can fix our problems. Their goal is their own ascent — not yours.

In Solidarity,
Matt Russo

ROOFERS & WATERPROOFERS LOCAL 40



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RoofersLocal40.org

Business Manager: PETER LANG
Financial Secretary: SALVADOR RICO
President: ABRAHAM ESTRELLA

is about more than just work — it's about a lifetime of standing together.

Brian Leitner: Remembering a Valued Member

We also said farewell to Brian Leitner, who passed away at 49. Brian started in this trade at 18, working with Fred S. Hall Roofing and later Lawson Roofing, the Bay Area's oldest union roofing company.

Though Brian moved into management and left the union, he stayed close to Local 40. As a superintendent, he worked hard to support union jobs and maintain high standards in our trade.

Brian's dedication to his work and family will always be remembered. Our thoughts are with his family and friends and everyone at Lawson Roofing. Brian's life reminds us how much our work and relationships matter.

A New Home for Local 40

In December, we moved into our new

office. The bigger space shows our commitment to growing and serving all our members.

This office is more than just a building. It's a symbol of the future we're building together. It's a place to meet, plan, and work for a stronger union. The new leadership team is ready to make 2025 a year of progress for everyone.

Looking Ahead: What We've Learned

The stories of Homer Allen and Brian Leitner teach us to honor those who came before us and to value our time together.

As we move into 2025, let's stay active, support each other, and work together to strengthen our union. With your help, we can make this year one of incredible growth and solidarity.

In Solidarity,
Local 40 Leadership

THE UNION PULSE: HONORING THE PAST, BUILDING THE FUTURE

Reflecting on December: Honoring and Growing Together

As 2024 came to an end, December gave us moments to celebrate, remember, and look ahead. We commended one of our longest-serving members, said goodbye to a member who passed away too soon, and opened a new office. These moments reveal what being part of Local 40 means: sticking together through every part of life.

Homer Allen: A Lifetime of Service

Last month, we honored Homer Allen

from San Francisco as the first Local 40 member to receive the 65-Year Lifetime Membership Award. Homer, now 95, was given a lapel pin and a Certificate of Service to thank him for his years of dedication.

Homer worked for Alta Roofing, a company that's no longer around, but his loyalty and hard work are part of our union's story. While we couldn't meet him in-person due to his declining health, we did try and made sure he knew how much we appreciate him. Homer's service shows that being in a union

CARPET, LINOLEUM & SOFT TILE WORKERS LOCAL 12



Administrative Office
2149 Oakland Road
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Phone: (408) 824-1280
Fax: (408) 955-0150
DC16IUPAT.org/unions/FloorCovers

Regional Offices
1620 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (415) 625-0225
2020 Williams Street, Suite A1, San Leandro, CA 94577
Phone: (510) 454-8150
President: Dave Bradfield • **Financial Secretary:** Dave Mathie
Business Representatives: Anthony Nuanes, Steve Belong, Edgar Flores
Organizers: Ruffin Romes, Martin Garcia

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



Right, below:
Flooring instructors
Val and Dave show
us how it's done.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This new year brings a wage increase for you. As of January 1, your wages were increased by \$3.25. Please see the following breakdown:

\$2 Vacation/Holiday
\$0.85 Annuity
\$0.35 Medical
\$0.05 LMCI

Your taxable net wage as a journey-level worker is now \$61 an hour. Your annuity is \$9.96 an hour, and your vacation pay is \$11.56 an hour.

I would like to introduce our new journey-level workers, who completed their apprenticeship training last year. They are listed below. Please congratulate them on a job well done — they are the future of our industry.

- Jorge Aguilar Garcia
- Alexander Arreola Guerrero
- Juan Barragan
- Alfonso Carrillo
- Andy Del Rosario
- Douglas Freeman
- Ubaldo Garcia
- Anthony Grilli
- Daniel Moore
- Alex Reyes
- Derian Reyes-Guzman
- Jonathan Romero
- Carlos Rubio
- Donnie Small
- Ricardo Sosa
- Senbin Yu
- Carlos Zapata

Our next recognized holiday is Presidents Day on Monday, February 17.

Sincerely,
Anthony Nuanes



Above: OM 3 workers are seen out on the job.



Above left, right: Local 12 members enjoy a crab feed.



PLASTERERS & CEMENT MASONS LOCAL 300



Main Office
4495 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Phone: (510) 430-9492
Fax: (510) 430-9183

Business Manager: Emilio Aldana
Senior Business Agent: Greg Levy

Business Agents: Miguel Duarte, Devin Evers, Chris Knerr,
Caleb Matheny, Walter Orellana, Avel Quiroz,
Israel R. Vargas, Marshall Vasquez

OPCMIALocal300.org

Right: Congratulations to plasterer Devin Evers on his retirement after 38 years with Local 300. We wish you the best, brother!

Below: Local 300 plasterers gather for a photo after a recent contract ratification meeting.



GLAZIERS LOCAL 718



Main Office
1620-1622 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Phone: (415) 625-0225
Fax: (415) 553-5955
DC16IUPAT.org/unions/local-union-718

Business Representative: Trevor Long
President: Lenny Quintana

Congratulations to Deanie Cooper (left), daughter of Local 718 member Kevin Cooper (right), for winning the Walter Cantrell Scholarship.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! January brings us another opportunity to tackle any goals we didn't achieve in the past year, and it also brings a new raise to our income.

The increase of \$1.50 will be broken down as follows: 9 cents to IUPAT administrative dues, 2 cents to work preservation, 35 cents to health and welfare, 5 cents to the LMCI fund, 5 cents to the STARS fund, and 94 cents to the taxable net wage.

Congratulations to Deanie Cooper, daughter of Local 718 member Kevin Cooper, for winning the Walter Cantrell Scholarship. Deanie is attending Boise State University, where she is majoring in business administration.

The Walter Cantrell Scholarship is for the dependents of any District Council 16 member in good standing.

To be considered for the \$2,000 scholarship, you must apply. Please read the rules and follow the guidelines at dc16iupat.org/2024-walter-cantrell-scholarship.

Last month, our membership enjoyed our annual Local 718 holiday party. Over 100 members registered for the event. Members boarded the Pinot Noir Commodore yacht for a tour around San Francisco Bay. Aboard the yacht, we had drinks and hors d' oeuvres before a beautifully prepared dinner.

Once everyone had their fill, the DJ fired up the turntables and got the dance floor moving. A great evening was had by all.

In Solidarity,
Trevor Long

Scenes From the 2024 Local 718 Holiday Party



Sign & Display Local 510



Main Office
400 Talbert Street, Daly City, CA 94014
Phone: (650) 763-5405, x1112
Fax: (650) 871-8406
Local510.org

Business Agents: Annette Dosier, Morgan Worth
Field Representative: Peter Forni

Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Signs of Our Past

In March, Local 510 will mark its 125th year. These days, most of our members set up trade shows and special events, but this hasn't always been the case.

In fact, it was only in the late 1960s and early '70s that Local 510 made the shift into trade show and event work. Prior to trade shows, our members' bread and butter was sign-painting. In the first part of the 20th century, advertisements throughout the Bay Area — on billboards, on poster boards, and on the sides of entire buildings — were hand-painted by skilled members of Local 510.

Examples of the kinds of advertisements our members painted are well-preserved in old footage of San Francisco. "A Trip Down Market Street" — the well-known 1906 footage of a streetcar making its way to the Ferry Building while passing slow-poke horse carriages, weaving automobiles, and daring pedestrians — is filled with building-sized ads for five-cent cigars and various types of beer. Each of these ads was painted by skilled artists. Examples of such work exists at street level as well — on awnings, as window lettering, and even on the sides of streetcars.

The era of hand-painted advertising is long gone, but careful observers might still find our erstwhile members' hand-painted work throughout the Bay Area, faded yet still clinging stubbornly to the sides of buildings. Examples can sometimes be spotted on TV and, in the modern age, even online.

On TV, a Ghirardelli Chocolate ad made an appearance on an episode of Pawn Stars. The 510 bug appears on the bottom of the ad, along with the name of the shop it was painted in: Universal Sign. A similar ad, painted by the same company, was

recently up for auction on eBay.

Online, the San Francisco Ghost Sign Mapping Project (sfghostsigns.com) has photos and an interactive map of hand-painted "ghost signs" from around the Bay. In some instances, as old buildings are torn down, long-hidden hand-painted advertising will see the light of day for the first time in nearly a century. The Ghost Sign Mapping Project has captured and chronicled many of these signs so that interested parties can visit them on their own.

Not all of the vintage hand-painted signs were painted by our members, but those that were will include a Local 510 union bug on them somewhere. The bugs most often appear near the bottom of the piece and sometimes appear crudely scripted.

On a recent trip to an establishment in the Dogpatch, I was surprised to see a sign advertising Milwaukee Beer of SF hanging on the wall of a bathroom. In small lettering, the sign painter had placed his name and the 510 bug; it read "Daggett 510." Another Dogpatch sign sighting was at 2225 Third Street: The sign for Jos. Levin and Sons Scrap Metal has a faded 510 bug in its lower left-hand corner, visible only upon close inspection.

As our local celebrates its 125th year in existence, we encourage members to note the work of those who came before us. It is these members whose shoulders we stand on in the present and whose spirit we intend to carry into the future.

More Reflection

While we recall the contributions of our long-past members, one of our more recently retired members submitted a reminiscence of his time before he became a member of

Upcoming Work Schedule					
Show	Venue	Company	Move In	Show Dates	Size
Photonics	Moscone N, S, W	FDC	1/22	1/28-30	Full
DesignCon	SCCC	GES	1/25	1-28-30	Full
FEB.					
Union Meeting: Thu., Feb. 6, 6 p.m. 55 Fillmore St., San Francisco					
NBA All-Star	Moscone N, S	TBD	2/6	2/14-16	Special
Silicon Valley Auto	SCCC	FDC	2/18	2/21-23	Full
Visa	Moscone S	TBD	2/18	2/20-21	Special
Litho	SJCC	FDC	2/23	2/25-26	Special
Trailblazer	Moscone W	FDC	2/28	3/5-6	Special
MARCH					
Global Sales	Moscone S	TBD	3/2	3/4-5	TBD
Anti-Viral	Moscone N	TBD	3/9	3/12-13	TBD
Nvidia	SJCC	T3	3/12	3/18-21	Full
Games	Moscone N, S	FDC	3/13	3/18-21	Full
Optical Fiber	Moscone N, S, W	FDC	3/27	4/3-5	Full
If you can't show up as scheduled, call your employer: Freeman: 650-878-6008 GES: 650-741-7500					
All dates are tentative and subject to change. This schedule is updated from time to time as new information becomes available. Check local510.org for the most recent show and training schedule information.					

Local 510. Steve Pointer, a 47-year member of Local 510, reflects upon departed Bay Area sports legend and North Oakland native Rickey Henderson.

Rickey Henderson: A Proud Man By Steve Pointer

I had the extreme good fortune to play alongside one of the greatest baseball players of all time. Rickey Henderson and I were teammates in the SF Pro-Am League. We played our games in Golden Gate Park at Big Rec Field. Rickey was in left field when I pitched the most important game of my life. My knees were clacking when I took the mound. I struck out 16 batters in front of Oakland A's head scout Cesar Sinibaldi.

I signed a contract with the A's and went to spring training, where I was given a uniform with the number 1 on my jersey. I was overjoyed — but I wasn't the only person in camp who was feeling proud. I remember seeing Rickey around the facilities wearing his Oakland Tech High School jacket. He

was a phenomenal athlete who, as a running back in football, was a two-time High School All-American.

Anyway, he had about 15 to 20 medals dangling from his chest, jingling like a tambourine. I thought to myself jokingly, "Man, all he needs are epaulets on his shoulders and a cap with some gold braid and he could pass as a military general."

Rickey John Henderson walked proud. He was a proud man. Born on the Lord's Day, December 25, he was special from the very beginning. For a brief afternoon in the autumn of 1976, he was *my* left-fielder.

My sincerest respect to Rickey, and my heartfelt condolences to his family. May he rest in peace, Hall of Fame baller Rickey John Henderson.

Happy New Year to all members. May 2025 bring work and prosperity to us all.

Respectfully and in Solidarity,
Local 510



This Milwaukee Brewery of SF sign dates back circa 1915 to 1935. It was likely not on display during the prohibition years, 1920 to 1933.



A faded Local 510 union bug is seen inscribed on the Jos. Levin sign.



Sign painter Leander Daggett's signature and a Local 510 union bug appear on the Milwaukee Brewery sign.



A ghost sign for Jos. Levin and Sons Scrap Metals, which closed in 2001 after 85 years in business, appears on a historic building on Third Street in San Francisco.



This historic Ghirardelli Chocolate ad was created at the Universal Sign Company.

SPRINKLER FITTERS LOCAL 483



Main Office:
2525 Barrington Court, Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 785-8483
Fax: (510) 785-8508
SprinklerFitters483.org
Business Manager/Financial Secretary: Jeff Dixon
Business Agents: Dan Torres, Dylan Boldt, and John Medina
Market Development Representative: Rik Drury
Organizer: Danny Mangan

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

Official Minutes of the San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council

Over a Century of Excellence in Craftsmanship



BUSINESS AGENTS MEETING

Dec. 10, 2024, 10 a.m.
In-Person

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

President Larry Mazzola Jr. excused.
Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez.
Vice-President John Doherty. Vice-President Ramon Hernandez excused.
Trustees Greg Hardeman, Peter Lang, Anthony Nuanes excused, Dan Torres. Trustee Eddie Reyes excused.
Sergeant-at-Arms Josh Vallis.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REQUEST FOR FUNDS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 10/22/24 minutes, M/S/C
- 11/12/24 minutes, M/S/C

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

- 30 Van Ness negotiations. Special Use; Peskin has proposed new amendments. Council will monitor closely.
- Land Use Transportation Committee update. 700 Indiana, NBC bio labs and Dog Patch and Potrero Boosters will move forward.
- ST thanked members for showing up and speaking at City Hall.
- 530 Sansome project locked in with Related for 20-story high-rise hotel, will compete with TransAmerica Building.
- Legislative Round Table meeting last week for Bay Area Labor Leaders.
- ERICA Childcare Grant, review of rules and disbursement of monies. ST asked members to spread the word to their apprentices.
- Mission Rock Partners, update on TI work.

PICKET SANCTIONS

- Josh Vallis (Sheet Metal 104) requests citywide strike sanction against Sullivan and Associates, M/S/C.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Josh Vallis (Sheet Metal 104) reported on wage claims, wage fraud at two jobsites by Per Josh, 58 notices were submitted to District Attorney and David Chiu. Help is needed to resolve this.

REPORTS OF UNIONS

- Dan Torres (Sprinkler Fitters 483) shared that business

- agent David Bolt ran for City Council in San Leandro.
- Josh Vallis (Sheet Metal 104) reported on upcoming contract negotiations.
- Jose Almanza (IBEW 6) reported on open applications for IBEW 6. Closes Friday.
- Chair extends warmest Holiday Wishes to all.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

DELEGATES MEETING

Dec. 19, 2024, 5 p.m.
Via Zoom

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

President Larry Mazzola Jr. excused.
Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez.
Vice-President John Doherty. Vice-President Ramon Hernandez excused.
Trustees Greg Hardeman, Peter Lang, Anthony Nuanes, Eddie Reyes, Dan Torres.
Sergeant-at-Arms Josh Vallis.

CORRESPONDENCE

- California Democratic Party ADEM Elections — Candidate Registration Open Now!

REQUEST FOR FUNDS

- NorCal MLK Breakfast — 1 ticket requested @ \$225, M/S/C

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 12/05/24 minutes, M/S/C

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

- ST thanked Officers, and Sandra Duarte for all the great work this year.
- Strike at 749 Toland for 24 hours a day for next few days.
- Hotel strike is coming to an end. Hilton and Hyatt are not settled.
- ST reported some topline
- 33 hearings at City Hall advocating for legislation and projects
- Conducted 96 prejobs
- Covered \$6.79 billion in work (\$1.9 in new bonds)
- New Mayor in SF
- Firefighters Toy Program this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ST wished all happy holidays!

PICKET SANCTIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Authorize ST to negotiate consultancy agreement for PLA work and legislative affairs, M/S/C.

REPORTS OF UNIONS

- Trevor Long (Glaziers 718), newest DC 16 rep introduced himself.
- Aurelio Ochoa (Insulators 16), newest rep introduced himself.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

DELEGATES MEETING

Jan. 2, 2025, 5 p.m.
Via Zoom

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

President Larry Mazzola Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez.
Vice President John Doherty. Vice-President Ramon Hernandez is excused.
Trustees Peter Lang, Anthony Nuanes, Eddie Reyes, Dan Torres. Trustee Greg Hardeman excused.
Sergeant-at-Arms Josh Vallis.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

REQUEST FOR FUNDS

- Lurie Inaugural Fund. ST request authorization up to \$5000, M/S/C.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 12/19/24 minutes, M/S/C.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

- Aggressive Legislative year, ST has put together scope of work to review with potential consultants. Lobbying, and toolkit for reps. Affordable Housing Projects.
- All Delegates will continue via Zoom until further notice. Business Reps will continue to meet in-person.
- 2025 Budget for second Delegates meeting in February.
- Consultant fee to be broken up by each 7 International.

PICKET SANCTIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

- Authorized ST to negotiate consultancy agreement for PLA work and legislative affairs, M/S/C.

NEW BUSINESS

None

REPORTS OF UNIONS

- Eddie Reyes (Ironworkers 377) provided update on contract negotiations from International. Settled on 6 months extension at \$5, with a continuance on negotiations.
- Josh Vallis (Sheet Metal 104) reported on preliminary negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

**Affiliates: Your content
deadline for next month's
paper is Feb. 5.**

THE MOST COMPLICATED CASES

Third-Party Crossover Claims

When a third-party is liable for your work injury, often you have both a workers' compensation and personal injury claim arise from that incident.

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ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

Across:

- 2. Toys
- 4. Log
- 6. Teamsters
- 9. Firefighters
- 10. Hanukkah
- 13. Electrician
- 14. Scomas

Down:

- 1. Moose Feed
- 3. Sleigh
- 5. Ghiradelli
- 7. Rock
- 8. Stocking
- 11. Nick
- 12. Kwanza(a)



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