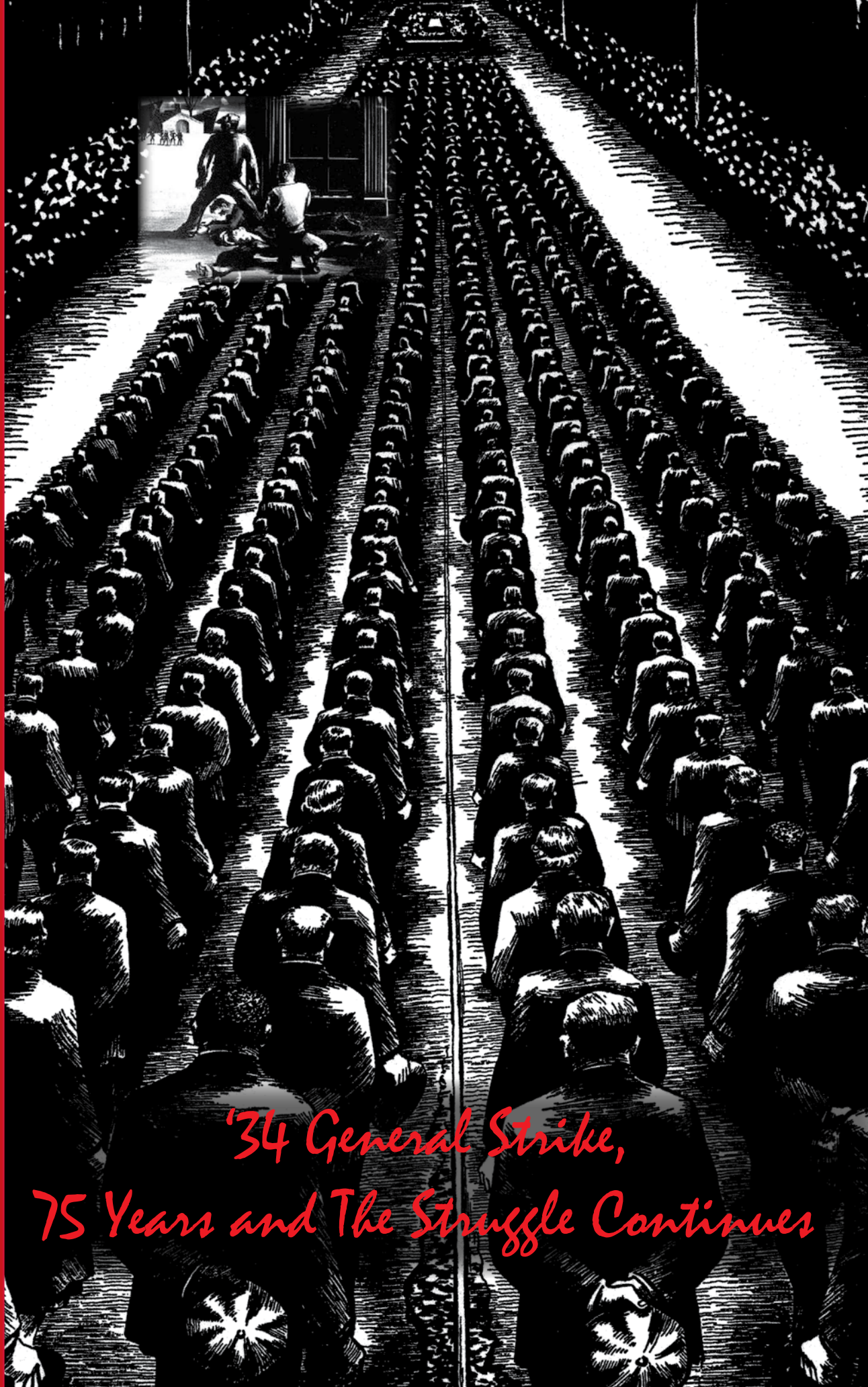


2009

LabourFest

16th Annual

July 2 -
July 31



*'34 General Strike,
75 Years and The Struggle Continues*

Welcome to LaborFest 2009

LaborFest was established in 1994 to commemorate the San Francisco General Strike and West Coast Waterfront strike. This year is the 75th anniversary of these historic events for working people. 1934 was a tumultuous year for labor in San Francisco and the United States. Like today, millions were unemployed and workers had given up waiting for things to get better on their own.

Workers, including longshore workers, began to organize for direct action, and that meant organizing to shut down the docks of San Francisco when they were forced out on strike. They burned their company "blue books"; they broke from the corrupt ILA which was based on the East Coast and they went on strike for a union controlled hiring hall that would end the shape-up. They rallied workers all over the country, and when two members were shot down in cold blood by the San Francisco police and the national guard was called in, they had a funeral march of 80,000 working people. This was followed by the General Strike.

Their actions forced the government to recognize their power and forced the employers to accept a union hiring hall. This victory gave a great impetus to workers throughout the region. Porters at San Francisco General Hospital organized the first hospital workers' union and hundreds of thousands of workers joined unions in an onslaught that could not be stopped by the union busters. Repression also followed the strike and gangs attacked the offices of left organizations that had supported the strike. But this did not stop working people from organizing, including another general strike on July 16, 1934 in Minneapolis by the Teamsters Union. At the same time, in San Francisco, work was going on. Unionized building trades workers were constructing

the Golden Gate Bridge.

Under the first Public Works of Art Project, the first New Deal federal program, artists were at work at Coit Tower painting the murals of the people of California, the very same month as the General Strike. These murals, like the Coit Tower murals of Anton Refregier and his assistant Louise Gilbert, came under a vicious political attack for including the working class struggles of not only the San Francisco General Strike but also of labor history. Fortunately, although there was some censorship, these and other murals have survived and are now a permanent link to the history of working people.



We will also be commemorating the 90th anniversary of the immigration trial of ILWU president Harry Bridges. Bridges was put on trial on Angel Island in 1939 for being a communist. This was the first of 5 trials held to throw him out of the country and break the back of the ILWU. This backlash was the prelude to the later witch hunts that took place during the

1950's, but Bridges and the ILWU were able to survive and carry on their work.

Today, as this economic collapse continues with mass unemployment, the loss of healthcare to millions, the growing homelessness and budget crisis for public workers, the issues that brought the working people into motion are again coming to the fore.

In honor of these events the LaborFest organizing committee again will have many films, musical presentations and educational events to commemorate the strike and the struggles of working people here in San Francisco, the US and internationally.

In Solidarity,
The LaborFest Committee

Front cover picture by Bits Hayden. Back cover is a collage of murals from Coit Tower.

LABORFEST, P.O.Box 40983, San Francisco, CA 94140, (415) 642-8066
www.laborfest.net, E-mail: laborfest@laborfest.net

The History of Public Funding and the Arts

July 2 (Thursday) 6:00 PM (Free) *California Historical Society*- 678 Mission St. SF

The Legacy of the New Deal Speakers: *Lincoln Cushing, Tim Drescher* and *Mark Johnson* Moderator: *Gray Brechin*

Funding public artwork benefits more than the artists – viewers witness their space transformed as the art enhances the urban landscape.

The arts were greatly supported during the New Deal era and many WPA projects are located in the San Francisco Bay

Area. With the recent election of a new president, will money be used to fund art and culture? Panelists speak to the similarities between the present era and the New Deal as they relate to public arts and government funding during the New Deal era.

<http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/cal/index.html>

The 1934 San Francisco General Strike:

An Educational Conference
July 3 (Friday) 9:00 - 4:00 PM (Free) *Marine Firemen's Hall*- 240 2nd St., SF

The San Francisco General Strike and West Coast Maritime Strike was a pivotal point for the working people in San Francisco and the West. This strike which was organized from the bottom up showed that the rank and file have the power to successfully form a union despite the resistance of the bosses, the media, the politicians and the government. The lessons of workers today for this strike are vital when millions of workers are unorganized and facing concession after concession with the economic collapse of our economy.

Videos *Harry Bridges, A Man And His Union* will be shown. This conference will also be streamed on the web for those who are unable to attend the conference.

Speakers including: Harvey Schwartz, Ralph Schoenman, Brad Weidemier, Akio Masuda, Cleophus Williams, Gifford Hartman, Clarence Thomas and Jack Heyman.

Hosted by ILWU Local 34 & Local 10, Transport Workers Solidarity Committee

www.sfgeneralstrike.org



Teachers, Education & Militarization In Japan & The US

July 4 (Saturday) 11:00 AM (Free) 522 Valencia St., at 16th St., SF

Activist anti-war teachers from Japan have been organizing to oppose the militarization of the schools by refusing to stand and sing the nationalist anthem “Kimigayo” that supports the emperor system. As a result of their protest, they have been threatened with firing and discipline. Hundreds of them are now engaged in court cases in Tokyo and around the country to fight this repression for their anti-war views.

They have received support from the Los Angeles UTLA and many other unions in the US. They will be joined by teachers and other organizers against militization in US schools. Visiting Teachers are: Yoshie Yoneyama, Etsuko Sato, Eriko Kojima and Tadashi Misumi.

For information call (415)424-8311 or (415)867-0628
<http://stopdismissal.blogspot.com>

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Bloody Thursday 75th Anniversary Procession

Commemoration

July 5 (Sunday) 9:00 AM (Free)

Meet at Music Concourse - Steuart & Market St. SF

On the 75th anniversary of “Bloody Thursday,” thousands of maritime workers and trade unionists from San Francisco and from around the world will join in remembrance of the workers who were killed and injured in their struggle to establish a union and a union controlled hiring hall.

Please join.

Hosted by BALMA, ILWU Local 10, 34, 91, 75 & ILWU Pensioners. (Somber procession, uniformed, respectful and orderly.)

Labor Bike Tour

July 5 (Sunday) 12:00 Noon (\$15 - \$50 sliding scale donation to

CounterPULSE - Bring a bag lunch) Meet at 1310 Mission St. at 9th, SF

Leisurely bicycle tour with labor historian Chris Carlsson. Learn labor history from the pre-urban history of Indian Slavery to the earliest 8-hour day movement in the U.S., and ebb and flow of class war. SF's radical working class organizations are shaped in part by racist complicity in genocide and slavery, but from the 1870s to the 1940s there were dozens of epic battles between owners and workers, culminating in the 1934 General Strike and its aftermath. This is an entirely

different look, during a four-hour bike tour, at San Francisco labor history.

For more info: call Chris Carlsson (415) 608 9035
carlsson.chris@gmail.com



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Labor Report On Asian Labor Struggles

July 5 (Sunday) 6:00 PM (Free) **ILWU 34 Hall** - 801 Second St. Next to AT&T Park, SF

Labor Video And Report On Asian Labor Struggles: With KCTU Seoul Region Union, Japanese Doro Chiba Railway Workers Delegation, Turkish DISK Healthcare Workers Union, and Philippine Airline Workers Union.

Global labor is under attack, and this forum will have reports on the attack on Korean, Japanese, Philippine and Turkish workers. The economic crisis in Asia, like the US, has been used by the corporations and governments to attack the labor movement with attacks on the right to strike and organize. At the same time, the drive toward militarization and national chauvinism has been used as a pretext to repress the unions. These unionists will report on the economic conditions and what unions are doing to organize and fight back.

Hosted by LaborFest and Transport Workers Solidarity Committee



The Lessons of The Past For The Struggles Today

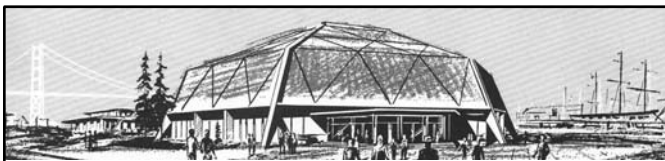
International Labor Conference

July 6 (Monday) 9:00 - 5:00 PM (Free) **ILWU 34 Hall** - 801 Second St. Next to AT&T Park, SF

Working people are under attack through out the world as well as in the US. The labor conference will look at the use of policies such as deregulation, privatization and free trade agreements to attack working people on a global level. The conference will also look at the increasing repression of labor

and working people through legislation and militarization of society. Hosted by ILWU Local 10 & Local 34, Transport Workers Solidarity Committee, Laborfest

<http://www.sfgeneralstrike.org/LaborConfStatement.htm>



*Hiring Hall
"The heart and soul of the
I.L.W.U. ,
the I.L.W.U. is the hiring hall."*

*B.A.L.M.A. would like to
commemorate the 75th Anniversary
of Bloody Thursday and
the San Francisco General Strike*

Bay Area Longshoremen's Memorial Association

400 North Point Street, San Francisco, CA 94133,
(415) 441-5511, Fax: (415) 441-5309

LaborFest 2009

*We Commemorate
The 75th Anniversary of
San Francisco General Strike*



**International Longshore & Warehouse
Union Ship Clerks' Local 34**

We Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Bloody Thursday and San Francisco General Strike



*“Anybody want to know where to put your faith for the future,
for a good country and a good living?
Put it with the labor movement,
cause there ain’t no other place to put it.”*



International Longshore & Warehouse Union Local 10

400 Northpoint, San Francisco, CA 94133, www.ilwu10.org

International Music Night

July 6 (Monday) 7:30 PM (Free) *ILWU 34 Hall* - 801 Second St. Next to AT&T Park, SF



International Labor Music Night with singers from around the world and labor musicians Anne Feeney and Jack Chernos.

Join in on a night of labor music. We will have labor solidarity songs about workers' lives from Japan, Korea, Turkey, Italy and the Philippines. Bring your instruments, your tunes and music for an international music solidarity night.

<http://www.annefeeneey.com/>

Jobs for Artists! Building Momentum for a New Deal for the Arts in 21st Century America

July 7 (Tuesday) 7:00 PM (\$5-10 donation requested, no one turned away) *Women's Building - Audre Lorde Room* - 3543 18th Street, SF near Valencia St. SF

A panel discussion on the legacy of federal jobs programs for artists and writers, such as the Depression-era Works Progress Administration and the 1970s CETA program, and reports on current grassroots efforts to promote federal funding for arts jobs today. Featuring Gray Brechin, WPA historian from UC Berkeley, Jeff Chang, hip-hop historian and

arts activist, and Arlene Goldbard, organizer of a May 2009 White House briefing on federal funding for the arts. With short readings and performances honoring the great work of WPA-sponsored artists and writers.

Call 415-710-0187 for more information



The San Francisco and Monterey Bay Area's largest private sector union representing more than 25,000 members in retail, food processing, agriculture, hair and beauty care, health care and related industries.

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Blood Passion: The Ludlow Massacre and Class War in the American West

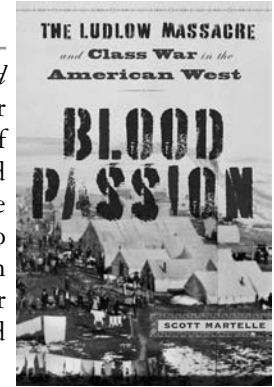
July 8 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM (Free) Modern Times Bookstore - 888 Valencia St., SF

Book presentation by Scott Martelle from his important work *Blood Passion: The Ludlow Massacre and Class War in the American West*. During the Colorado Ludlow massacre, seventy-five miners and their families were killed, showing the brutal face of Rockefeller and the early robber barons who used the national militia and US Army to destroy the power of working people. This massacre also led to open class warfare in Colorado between the state and the workers, and included Mother Jones, who came to the aid of these workers and their families.



Rockefeller and the early robber barons who used the national militia and US Army to destroy the power of working people. This massacre also led to open class warfare in Colorado between the state and the workers, and included Mother Jones, who came to the aid of these workers and their families.

http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/_Blood_Passion_1832.html



LaborFest Art Exhibition Opening Reception: Art and Labor Today

July 9 (Thursday) Reception - 5:00 PM (Free) SOMArts Cultural Center - 934 Brannan St. at 8th St. SF

In this multimedia show, curated by David Duckworth, contemporary artists from the United States and France provide provocative and compelling views on the effects of capitalism and the state of labor today. Artists include Sky-laar Amann, Philippe Barnoud, Joe Blum, Paul Bouchard, Lenny Bové, Sherri Cavan, Michael Chomick, Mike Connor, Slobodan Dimitrov, Chris Dunker, Tom Griscom, Trudi Hauptman, Véronique Held, Mike Kimball, Anthony Lazorko, Jr., Kyle Levinger and Holley Coley, Doug McGoldrick, Douglas Minkler, Mimi Plumb, Aubrey Rhodes, John Robinson, Rachel



Schreiber, Elizabeth Sibilias, elin o'Hara slavick, Angela Franks Wells, Marcia Weisbrot, Steve Zeltzer and Holly Wong. Margot Smith's documentary film, *WPA Murals in San Francisco / The WPA Murals of Bernard Zakheim / New Deal Public Art: The Works Progress Administration*, will be screened throughout the run of the show.

A reception will be held on Thursday, July 9th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A free screening follows of the Tim Robbins-directed *The Cradle Will Rock*, based on the story of the Federal Theatre Project's aborted 1937 production of Marc Blitzstein's labor musical. A host of characters include John Houseman, Diego Rivera, Nelson Rockefeller and Orson Welles.

Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 5:00 p.m. The show will continue through July 25th.



Grapes of Wrath - Film and Presentation

July 10 (Friday) 4:00 PM (Free) **Martin Luther King Library** - 150 E San Fernando St., SJ

Screening of *Grapes Of Wrath* and Presentation by SJSU Professor Susan Shillinglaw

This is the 70th anniversary of the publication of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes Of Wrath*. This book was so hated by some of the agricultural owners that there were burnings of it in San Jose and Monterey. The conditions of farmworkers are still

a critical issue today for the people of California and the United States and this hidden history of bookburning is part of the hysteria of that period.

<http://www.steinbeck.sjsu.edu/home/index.jsp3>



FilmWorks United International Working Class Film & Video Festival

July 10 (Friday) 5:30, 7:30 PM \$5.00 **Roxie Theatre** - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

5:30 PM Show

Bracero (57 min.) 2008 **By Patrick Mullins**

The Bracero Program, which operated in the US between 1942-1964 has relevance today as business and some unions are pushing this again. Otherwise known as the "Guest Worker" program, this allowed for workers to be brought into the US and to work under specific farm owners and others. Their ex-



plorative conditions were intensified as a result of this program. This film gives a real life look at the workers and how the program really worked. This documentary puts a human face on the lives of these "guest workers" and raises the issue of why unions should continue to support this type of program. pinallins@utep.edu www.cherrylaneproductions.com

La Huelga, The Struggle of UFW (18 m) 2009 **By Alex Ivany**

Alex Ivany as a high school student started this project for Santa Cruz High, fascinated by the achievements of Chavez and the early days of the United Farm Workers Movement. alexivany@baymoon.com www.reelwork.org/schedule.htm

7:30 PM Show

Iron eaters (85 min.) Bangladesh **by Shaheen Dill-Riaz**

The Iron eaters is a beautiful film about the workers in the ship dismantling industry. This industry, which now employs three million workers has replaced the jute textile industry which was destroyed by the IMF and World Bank in order to eliminate competition to the international chemical companies.

The workers in the *Iron eaters* face a brutal exploitation at 70 cents a day, and deadly health and safety conditions, which destroy their bodies and their lives. This non-union industry, with contractors pushing the workers to get the job done regardless of the costs, and they are deadly as they disfigure many of the workers. The systemic poverty used by the



US PREMIER

contractors drives these workers to desperation. This is the first film to show the workers in this industry and the work they do as "the rope carriers go home without a penny of wages."

info@lemmefilm.de
www.eisenfresser-film.de
www.lemmefilm.de



Silicosis (45 min.) 2009 Turkey **by Ethem Özgüven, Petra Holzer, Selçuk Erzurumlu**

At one end of the chain of distribution, there are the popular blue jeans. While on the other end are the unregistered workshops. The workers who make these jeans have contracted life threatening lung diseases. The expensive stone-washed jeans shine while the worker's lives fade away from their dangerous work.

petramh@gmail.com

US PREMIER

Carol Tarlen Lives! Celebrating A Rebel Worker Poet

July 10 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Free) **Modern Times Bookstore** - 888 Valencia St., SF

Family and friends of radical labor activist and poet Carol Tarlen (1943-2004) will swap stories, read poems, present a slide show, and sing songs to honor her work and spirit. Po-

ets, writers, filmmakers and performers include: Derek Dabkoski, Marcus Duskin, Sara Menefee, Louise Nayer, Kristy Rodgers, Julie Stein, Alicia Tarlen, and Nellie Wong.



We are proud to support LaborFest 2009

from

The Officers, Executive Board and Members of

ATU Local 1555
Oakland, CA

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Vice President

Christine Nicholas

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Kellie Bewley

Recording Secretary

Representing the Transportation Workers at the Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART)

July 10 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Donation) **Niebyl Proctor Library** -6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland

Tanaka-San Will Not Do Calisthenics (75 min.) 2008 Australia

by **Maree Delofski**

This striking film shows the struggle of Japanese Oki Electric Manufacturing worker and singer Tetsuro Tanaka. Tanaka refused to accept the militarization of his job through calisthenics and the mind control of the company. As result, he is harassed and fired by the company. Rather than giving up, he decides to sing every day in front of the factory. He has continued this battle for 28 years, and in the process, has exposed the nature of this corporate management system. Tanaka has been to LaborFest before, and his music contin-

ues to ring out. His words "Never import the corporate fascism of Japan!" continue to have meaning.
<http://www.tanakafilm.com> <http://www.din.or.jp/~okidentt/eigohome.htm>
<http://unionsong.com/u218.html>



Race To The Bottom (20 m) US 2008

By **Jonathan King, Michael Hamm**

This story is about the 2,000 independent truck drivers working at the Port of Oakland, The film gives us a look into the lives of the drivers and their struggles to earn a liv-

ing wage, support their families, and stay healthy as they do their jobs, transporting goods in and out of the port. It also shows their efforts to build a community coalition to protect their jobs and their health and make their voices heard.

jonathanrk@hotmail.com

Coit Tower Walk and 75th Anniversary of the Murals

July 11 (Saturday) 10:00 AM (Free) **Meet at Coit Tower entrance, SF**



With labor archivist Lincoln Cushing, historian Peter O'Driscoll and Tim Drescher.

Seventy-five years ago this month artists who were working with the Works Progress Administration (WPA) were working on the Coit Tower murals. These political artists were very much influenced by the general strike, and this is reflected in these historic murals.

A media hysteria was also whipped up against the art and the artists in an effort to censor them. Fortunately this failed and the murals remain a testament to the people of San Francisco and the labor movement.

For other historical walks in San Francisco, go to City Guides: <http://www.sfcityguides.org/index.html?date=21>



Living History: Henry George, Newspaperman

July 11(Saturday) 2:00 PM (\$5.00 Pier entry fee - good for one year) **Hyde Street Pier** - at SF Maritime National Historic Park , Hyde & Jefferson St. SF

By **David Giesen**

Living history: Henry George, Newspaperman, Floats Labor's Boat

Henry George, San Francisco's 1870s champion of workers' rights, used his newspaper to rein in the bully boss in 1873 in a celebrated maritime case. Come hear living history veteran David Giesen portray George telling his side of the "Sunrise" incident. Three sailors committed suicide rather than endure the tyranny of a brutal captain on a New York to San Francisco voyage in the Spring of 1873. George's *San Francisco Post* bucked the maritime bosses, pressing the case with its own special counsel, and challenging the absolute rule of ship captains. Are you ready to rock the boat? George will have you on your feet as he licks into everything that capsizes workers' rights.



July 11 (Saturday) 2:00, 5:00, 7:30 PM \$5.00 *Roxie Theatre* - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

2:00 PM Show

Heart of the Factory (129 min.) 2008
By *Virna Molina and Ernesto Ardito* Argentina

The Ceramic Zanon - Fasinpat workers work in one of the most important and largest ceramic factories of South America. As a result of the owners plan to close it, the workers occupied the factory and are now running the factory them-

selves under workers control without bosses or owners. New threats emerged as they struggle against a political and economic system that tries to crush them and their control of the factory.



5:00 PM Show

The Big Sell Out (94 min.) Germany
by *Florian Optiz*

This film exposes the role of the IMF and World Bank by showing the effect of their policies on the lives of working people from around the world. They include an UK RMT railroad activist fighting to protect the UK railroad system, a Bolivian community activists fighting water privatization and a South African activist fighting to keep the lights on in Soweto which leads to a fight against the ANC government. This international film draws the connection of the policies of global capitalism of privatization and deregulation to the destruction of public services and the ruination of the environment and the people of the world. flopitz@spring-productions.de
<http://www.thebigsellout.org>



Swiped? (6 min.) US by *Fivel Rothberg*

Through a New York City cab driver, this short documentary investigates how cabbies are faring under the TLC's "Technology Enhancement" program.
fivel.rothberg@gmail.com www.fivelrothberg.com

7:30 PM Show

Hello: Mr. Huh Dae-Soo (68 min.)
By *Jung Ho-jung and Seoul Labor News Production and Hyundai Workers Union* 2008 Korean

This dramatic film is about the Hyundai Motors workers and irregular workers in Kia Motors. As with Director Ken Loach, the workers are the stars of the film. Striking Central Cable workers in Ulsan also took part in the film as extras. The daily drama of workers who are stressed out from job insecurity, layoffs, and conflicts between regular and tempo-

rary workers makes this a searing piece of reality. Transformation and unity begins through their discussion and collaboration. Working on the assembly lines, playing football during break, having meetings at the union office and conference rooms and struggling to survive show the reality of life for Korean workers.
www.inp89.org

Workers Dreams (50 min.) 2007 Vietnam



by *Tran Phuong Thao* (With English subtitles)

Thousands of young women now work in foreign owned factories in Vietnam for approximately \$2 a day. This film shows the lives of these young rural women who end up in a Japanese Canon factory in the Saigon area. Hoping to make a new life with many consumer goods around them they are ground up in the capitalist system and their dreams and illusions about the new Vietnam are crushed.



WPA Bus Tour

July 12 (Sunday) 10:00 AM (\$15.00) Meet at front of Bill Graham Auditorium - 99 Grove St., SF

With Gray Brechin & Harvey Smith

Join Gray Brechin and Harvey Smith as they travel through history on a bus tour of historic sites built by unionized labor. You will learn about the major contribution workers made during the depression era of the New Deal program. They will discuss 75 years of the WPA. Please be aware that the tour will take about 5 hours depending on the traffic and the discussions. Co-sponsored by UTU Local 1740

Meet at the San Francisco Civic Center, between the Asian Art Museum and

the Main Library.

Reservation required: Call (415) 642-8066 or by e-mail: laborfest@laborfest.net and leave your name, # of reservations and phone number to get back to you in case of any changes. Make reservation, then send check to: LaborFest, P.O. Box 40983, SF, CA 94140

(Sandwiches and drinks will be available on the bus.) Bus will return to Civic Center. Tour lasts about 5 hours.



Labor Walk of Golden Gate Bridge

July 12 (Sunday) 12:00 Noon (Free) Meet at the Gift Shop ~ Visitors Center, San Francisco side of bridge

(Muni #28 or GG Transit, or bring 8 quarters for meter)

A walk led by Ironworkers 377 member Mike Daly, IFPTE Local 21 members and other building trades workers who will conduct the walk onto the Bridge. Hear explanations of the structural engineering and fabrication that led to steel

erection; see the arch over Fort Point, and then hear the stories about the crews who built the bridge. Also, hear an explanation of current projects, and meet some of the trades members who maintain the bridge today.



Mission Walk - Labor, Art & The Politics of The Mission Dist.

July 12 (Sunday) 2:00 PM (Free) The Redstone Building - 2940 16th St. at Capp St. SF

By Louis Prisco

This labor tour of the Mission by labor historian Louis Prisco will start at the old San Francisco Labor Temple where the San Francisco Labor Council voted for a general strike in 1934. Today the building is run by the Redstone Ten-



ants Association, which works to maintain it as a working space. It is also the site of important labor murals on the front two floors. These murals portray important parts of San Francisco labor history including the murder of San Francisco Painters Union leader Dow Wilson by contractors, and the Chinese Ladies Garment Workers Union Local 341's picket scene.

Please sign-up for this tour by calling Louis Prisco at 415-841-1254 or e-mail to: penguinflow@hotmail.com

http://www.creativeworkfund.org/modern/bios/aaron_noble.html



Poetry and Prose Reading

July 12 (Sunday) 5:00 PM (Free) **City Lights Bookstore** - 261 Columbus at Broadway, SF

Poetry and Prose Reading by Authors Sue Doro, Dee Allen, and Sally Anne Frye.

Join us for a Reading on working class, labor, social justice, and street themes. Sue Doro is the author of *Sugar String* and *Blue Collar Goodbyes* chronicling her working class childhood and years as a mother and a machinist. She is the editor of *Pride and a Paycheck News* magazine. Dee Allen is a local ac-

tivist for social and economic justice. He works with *POOR Magazine*, Coalition on Homelessness and has been published in *Street Sheet*. Sally Anne Frye has been recently published with the poetry group 23rd Street Poets. She has done office work, especially in medical settings. She lives in the Mission District. Her philosophy of social change is characterized by egalitarianism.

FilmWorks United International Working Class Film & Video Festival

July 12 (Sunday) 2:00, 5:00, 7:30 PM \$5.00 **Roxie Theatre** - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

2:00 PM Show

Greening of Southie (72 min.) 2008

By **Ian Cheney & Curt Ellis**

This film shows the role of skilled union labor in building an environmental friendly building in South Boston. Workers bring the building into being with the latest technologies and environmental friendly products. Contained in this construction process is making the most points for environmental stan-



dards required to get a top rating. For the workers and developers, the time and cost including ripping out new products that haven't worked is a letdown. At the same time union building trades workers lament that with their income they themselves can't afford to live in their own Boston neighborhood "Southie." www.greeningofsouthie.com

3 Minutes Videos (30 min.) 2008 Japan

This collection of 3 minutes videos gives a spice of the lives of Japanese working people. The Japan LaborFesta has brought together films about the lives of workers and their families as they fight the increasing exploitation and downsizing.

www.labornetjp.org (in Japanese)

5:00 PM Show

Porto Marghera-The Last Firebrands (52 min.) Italy 2004

By **Manuela Pellarin** (English subtitles)



A film about petrochemical workers who took matters into their own hands in the giant industrial zone engulfing Venice. The mass refusal of literally toxic work forced hours on the job down at

the same time as driving wages up. The labor hierarchy that sets white collar against blue, permanent against casual, was attacked by workers insisting on the maximum for everyone. The battle in the factory was linked to working-class life outside through direct appropriation. (To see more info - Page 26)

Tanaka-San Will Not Do Calisthenics (75 min.) 2008 Australia by **Maree Delofski**

(Please see details on page 10)

7:30 PM Show

Citizen McCaw (78 min.) 2008 US

By **Sam Tyler**

The film chronicles events from July 2006, when editor Jerry Roberts and five of his colleagues quit the Santa Barbara News-Press, citing owner and co-publisher Wendy McCaw's abandonment of journalistic ethics, which McCaw denied. Since then, McCaw and dozens of her former staffers have been engaged in a fierce clash of wills that raises important national questions of journalistic ethics and media ownership. McCaw's attorneys assert that she alone can decide how news is covered. The other side, represented by journalists and community leaders, says that journalism is a public trust, asserting that the publisher must keep out of the news operation. *Citizen McCaw* shows the struggle for reporters

and newspaper workers rights in an atmosphere of terror as a new newspaper owner seeks to clamp down the stories that must be told. This received national publicity when the owner McCaw fired and slandered the newspaper workers.

www.citizenmccaw.com



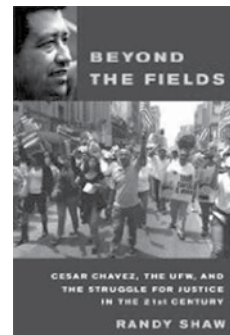
Beyond The Fields

July 13 (Monday) 7:00 PM (Free) **Modern Times Bookstore** - 888 Valencia St., SF

By Randy Shaw

Author Randy Shaw has written about the legacy of the thousands who worked for the farm workers and their role in the rest of the labor movement. Many of the UFWA activists later left the union and went to work in other unions becoming organizers and leaders. This important part of the

legacy of the farm workers is unknown to most but is a significant factor in the labor movement today. Many unions including those in the Bay Area are part of this history.



FilmWorks United International Working Class Film & Video Festival

July 13 (Monday) 5:30, 7:30 PM \$5.00 **Roxie Theatre** - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

5:30 PM Show

The Women of Brukman (88 min.)

By Ishak Isitan (2008) Argentina

This is an inspirational story of female workers who take over a Buenos Aires men's clothing factory during Argentina's financial collapse. The owners of the Brukman Clothing Company, facing bills, deficits and wages they can't possibly pay, ship all of the management out without mentioning a

word to the garment workers. Spurred on by devotion to their craft, families and each other, the workers of Brukman decide to keep the factory running themselves. Soon the former owners and the government come knocking, leading the workers to stage a grueling peaceful protest for the simple right to earn a decent living. Director Ishak Isitan takes us through all the stages of the workers' struggle, with footage right in the middle of the action.

www.kochlorberfilms.com

7:30 PM Show

Workers' Republic (60-min.) 2009

By Andrew Freund

Three weeks before Christmas 2008, in the depths of the economic crisis, Chicago company, Republic Windows and Doors, told their workforce that the factory was closing. Three days later, when the Republic employees came in to pick up their final checks, they were informed that they would not be paid for their final week or receive their accrued vacation pay. Their insurance benefits were cut immediately, and they

were denied the 60-day severance guaranteed under the federal WARN Act.

What those workers did next reverberated around the world, reminding the working class it possesses a power long forgotten. They occupied the doomed factory 24-hours a day for nearly a week, declaring they would not leave until they were given what their employer owed them.



The Murals and Art of Bernard Zakheim (27 m) 2009

By Margot Smith

Bernard Zakheim (1896 - 1985) was born in Poland and came to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1918. He was well known for his many murals and frescos financed in part by the Works Progress Administration under Franklin Delano Roosevelt's 1930s New Deal. Nathan and Masha Zakheim,



Bernard's son and daughter, tell of their father's work in Poland, the story of the Coit Tower murals, of his Holocaust paintings and his later work celebrating life.

Murals shown here include The Library at Coit Tower, The Jewish Wedding at the San Francisco Community Center, and The History of Medicine in California at Toland Hall, University of California, San Francisco.

offcentervideo@aol.com
www.offcentervideo.com



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Bricklayers, Tilelayers & Allied Craftworkers
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San Leandro, CA 94577
1-800-281-8781
www.bac3-ca.org

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Proudly supports LaborFest 2009
and joins with them in celebrating the
75th Anniversary of the
1934 San Francisco General Strike

July 14 (Tuesday) 5:30, 7:30 PM \$5.00 **Roxie Theatre** - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

5:30 PM Show

The World According To Monsanto (109 min.) 2008 French

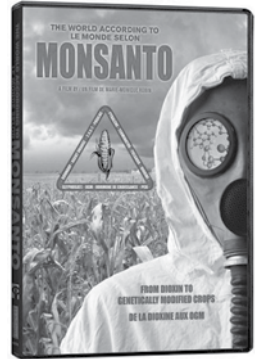
By Marie-Monique Robin

Marie-Monique Robin has produced a powerful and frightening film in understanding the danger on a global level of out of control genetic engineering and the food industry. Workers, farmers, consumers and the environmentalists are all threatened by the unregulated development and growth products from this industry. The US media have censored the role of Monsanto and other biotech companies in spread-

ing genetically engineered products that are harmful to workers in the laboratory, farmers and consumers around the world.

Injured biotech worker David Bell who worked in Davis at Agraquest, which was owned by a former Monsanto Pest Division molecular biologist Pam Marrone, is one of the victims of this unbridled development and cover-up by the biotech industry.

<http://wideeyecinema.com/?p=105>
www.MonsantoFilm.com



7:30 PM Show

H-2 Worker (90 min.) 1990 US

by Stephanie Black

Stephanie Black has a record of making films about the real costs of economic development including *Life and Debt* about the economic destruction in Jamaica because of IMF policies. In *H-2 worker*, we learn about the real labor conditions of agricultural workers who are brought to the US and then used virtually as slave labor in the H-2 program. These workers who are brought in to Florida's Lake Okeechobee area from Jamaica and the Caribbean are the "slave" workers of America providing great profits for the agricultural

owners and misery for the workers and their families. It also is connected with the efforts in California by some leading politicians to bring back the "guest workers" program.

<http://www.lifeanddebt.org/h2worker/>



LaborFest 2009

Honoring the 75th anniversary of the San Francisco General Strike

**Professional & Technical Engineers, Local 21
(IFPTE/AFL-CIO)**

1182 Market Street, Room 425 . San Francisco, CA
675 North First Street, Room 715 . San Jose, CA
www.ifpte21.org

Proudly representing professional, technical & administrative workers
around the San Francisco Bay

The Ballad of Polly Ann

July 14 (Tuesday) 8:00 PM \$20.00 advance, \$25 at the door (Show through 7/14 - 7/18, 7/21 - 7/25)
SOMArts Cultural Center - 934 Brannan St. at 8th St., SF

By Flyaway Productions

An evening of dance celebrating women who built the Bay Area's bridges.

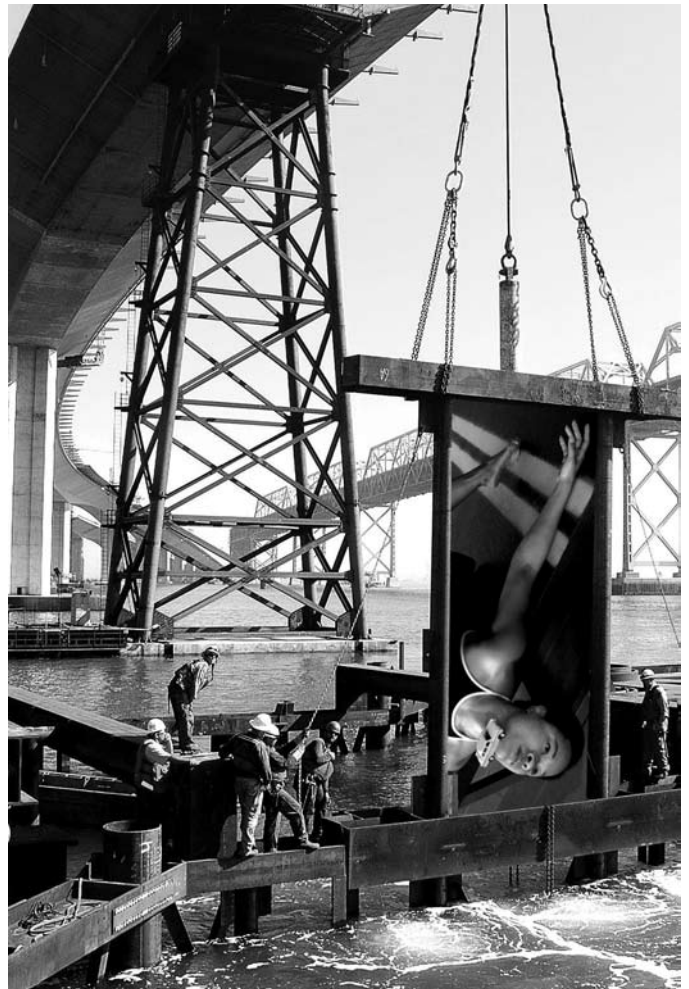
The project celebrates the women who contributed to the design and construction of Bay Area bridges. This performance shows their experience with physical work, tools, heights, and machinery as well as their cultural experience working in a male dominated labor force, and how that affects their sense of self, femininity, family, and self worth.

Flyaway Productions has built an international reputation of bringing the lives and struggle of working people to performance theater. One of their works on the Copra Crane in San Francisco helped move the community to defend this relic of labor history for the generation today. In this work using the oral interviews by labor historian Harvey Schwartz of women bridge workers, we get the real life experiences of construction women on the job. The artistic portrayal of the lives of working people is a critical element in helping to transform our understanding of reality.

Choreography: Jo Kreiter, in collaboration with the company, Music: Pamela Z, Dancers: Mary Ann Brooks, Melissa Caywood, Jennifer Chien, Britt Karhoff, Kelly Kemp, Raisa Simpson and Alayna Stroud

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/61076 or 1.800.838.3006

For more info: www.flyawayproductions.com



A Tribute To Archie Green

July 15 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM (Free)
Modern Times Bookstore - 888 Valencia St., SF

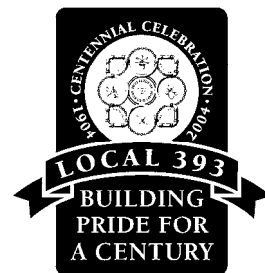
A Tribute to Archie Green and his last two books *The San Francisco Labor Landmarks Guide Book* and the *Big Red Song Book*. Book Presentation by labor archives director Catherine Powell and others.

Archie Green, one of the leading writers of labor culture and folklore in the US has passed on but his legacy remains. This



commemoration of his life will look at his last works including the San Francisco Labor Landmarks book which was a collaborative process with the Labor Archives at San Francisco State University and *The Big Red song Book*, also a collaborative work.

<http://www.library.sfsu.edu/about/depts/larc.php>



*The Members and Officers of
Plumbers, Steamfitters & Refrigeration Fitters
UA Local 393*

*Proudly sponsor LaborFest 2009 Appeal
75th Anniversary of the 1934 SF General Strike*

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Jim Johnston
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Warren Barry
Bus. Representative

Rudy Carrasco Jr.
Bus. Representative

William Guthrie
Bus. Representative

July 15 (Wednesday) 5:30, 7:30 PM \$5.00 *Roxie Theatre* - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, SF

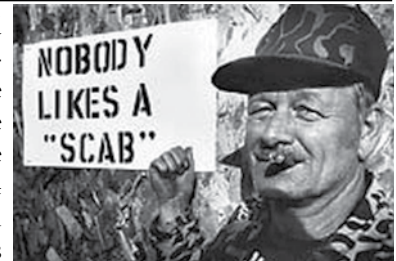
5:30 PM Show

Justice In The Coal Fields

by Anne Lewis (56 min.) USA 1995

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the 1989 United Miner Workers strike against the Pittston Coal Company. This film by labor videographer Anne Lewis documents this militant strike and occupation of the company's factory. Over 4,000 miners and their families were arrested in this struggle against union busting and the massive use of scabs to break the union and destroy the medical benefits of 1,500

pensioners, widows and disabled miners. Hundreds of state police were involved in escorting the scabs in this effort. The company also faced a \$64 million dollar fine from State and Federal judges that was used to weaken the union nationally and was supported by Clinton's NLRB Chair Bill Gould.



7:30 PM Show

Seeds of Peace (50 minutes) 2008

By André Kloer Holland

Seeds of Peace: workers' rights in a legal no-mans' land tells the story of Palestinians who work in the Israeli settlements on the West Bank. One of these settlements is Nizzane Ha Shalom (Seeds of Peace). Because of the questionable juridical sta-

tus of the Israeli settlements on the West Bank, it is unclear which laws apply to Palestinians who work there. There is also a weak enforcements of the few laws that do exist. The consequence of this juridical no-man's land is that Palestinians work in the settlements without minimum wage and legal protection. Despite of this, more and more Palestinians are turning for work to these settlements, because the Palestinian economy is unable to create enough jobs. Jawdat Talousy was one of these workers and defended his rights for all he was worth. He tried to unite the workers in order to demand better labour conditions and was fired by the boss.

www.march21.nl



Theatrical Stage Employees Local 16
240 Second Street
San Francisco, CA 94105



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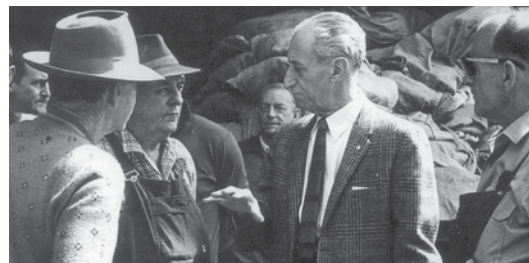
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The Men Along the Shore and the Legacy of 1934

July 16 (Thursday) Reception - 5:00 PM (Free) *SF Main library, 6th floor* - 100 Larkin St. SF

An Historical Exhibition and Reception: This historical exhibit by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union celebrating the 75th anniversary of the West Coast Maritime Strike and the San Francisco General Strike. The exhibit is 7 feet tall and 100 viewing feet long, comprised of historical images documenting the 1934 West Coast maritime strike that would change labor history. The exhibit was produced by Richard Bermack and Robin Walker working with ILWU Education Director & Archivist Gene Vrana. (Show from 7/11 through 8/31) www.ilwu.org



The Working Group (TWG) 20th Anniversary

July 16 (Thursday) 5:30 - 9:30 PM *Oakland School of the Arts Theater* - 530 18th St, Oakland

Join us to celebrate the accomplishments of a group of unionists, educators and journalists who created a grassroots movement that led to the longest running series of labor programs on PBS, including *Talking Union*, *California Working*, *We Do the Work*, and *Livelihood*. Also featured will be segments from other TWG productions including the Link TV series, *The*

Outsourcing Report and the *Not In Our Town* series.

5:30 – 6:30 *Test of Courage: The Making of a Firefighter* (No Charge)

7:00 – 9:30 Retrospective Screening and Reception (Suggested Donation \$25)

Please RSVP@theworkinggroup.org

FilmWorks United International Working Class Film & Video Festival

July 16 (Thursday) 5:30, 7:30 PM \$5.00 *Roxie Theatre* - 3117 16th St., at Valencia, San Francisco

5:30 PM Show

On Strike: The Winnipeg General Strike, 1919 (19 min.)

Canada 1991

By Joe Macdonald and Clair Johnstone Gilsig

This film provides the background about why the workers in Winnipeg were forced out and strike and the individuals on both sides of the struggle. The attack on the strikers on June 21, 1919 led to death and the defeat of the workers despite their bravery and just cause.

7:30 PM Show

Labor's Turning Point (59 min)

By John DeGraaf (1981) US

The 1934 Minneapolis truck drivers' strike was a pivotal struggle for working people of the mid-west. As a result of new tactics developed in the successful strike, it led to the organization of over the road truckers and the growth of the Teamsters nationally into one of the most important and powerful unions in the United States. The film shows how the strike was organized and how the union broke the back of the anti-union Citizen's Alliance and made Minneapolis a union town. It also includes the ground breaking role of the strik-



Harry Bridges, A Man And His Union (58 min.) 1992 US **By Bari Minnot**

Harry Bridges was a critical and central figure in the San Francisco General Strike and this documentary provides a vivid view of his life and response not only to the issues in the strike but also to the massive effort to deport Harry Bridges starting in 1939 for accused of being a member of the Communist Party. This film using footage of the strike and his role is indispensable in showing the wit, humor and character of the founder of the ILWU.

http://www.mw-prod.com/Film/film_harry.html

ers' wives in organizing for the strike and the establishment of a daily strike bulletin. These tactics are still relevant today in the struggle of labor to organize and survive.

Witness To Revolution, The Story of Anna Louise Strong

By Lucy Ostrander (27 minutes) 1984 US

This film contains the history of the 1919 general strike in the context of the life of Anna Louise Strong, a partisan and a journalist, who reported on the strike and also on the Everett, Washington Massacre, which also took place in the same year. The film provides a close up look at why the strike took place and how it affected the working people of Seattle and the world.

www.stourwater.com



July 17 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Donation) ILWU Local 6 Hall - 255 9th St., SF

Films of The San Francisco State Strike and Panel Discussion

Screening of *On Strike* (26 min.)(1969) shot and edited by Saul Rouda, David Dobkins and others in the Newsreel Collective, and *The Turning Point* (58 minutes), about the San Francisco State strike of 1968-1969. The San Francisco State strike, which lasted 6 months, was backed by the San Francisco Labor Council, ILWU and other unions. It was filmed by students at the school. We will screen the films and talk about the work of these film makers. Saul Rouda, a member of CWA NABET Local 51 and an associate of IATSE Local 16, will present his film and others will discuss the strike and the films.



LABOR VIDEO PROJECT

Recording Labor Struggles & Producing Labor Video Documentaries and Media Since 1983 for Workers

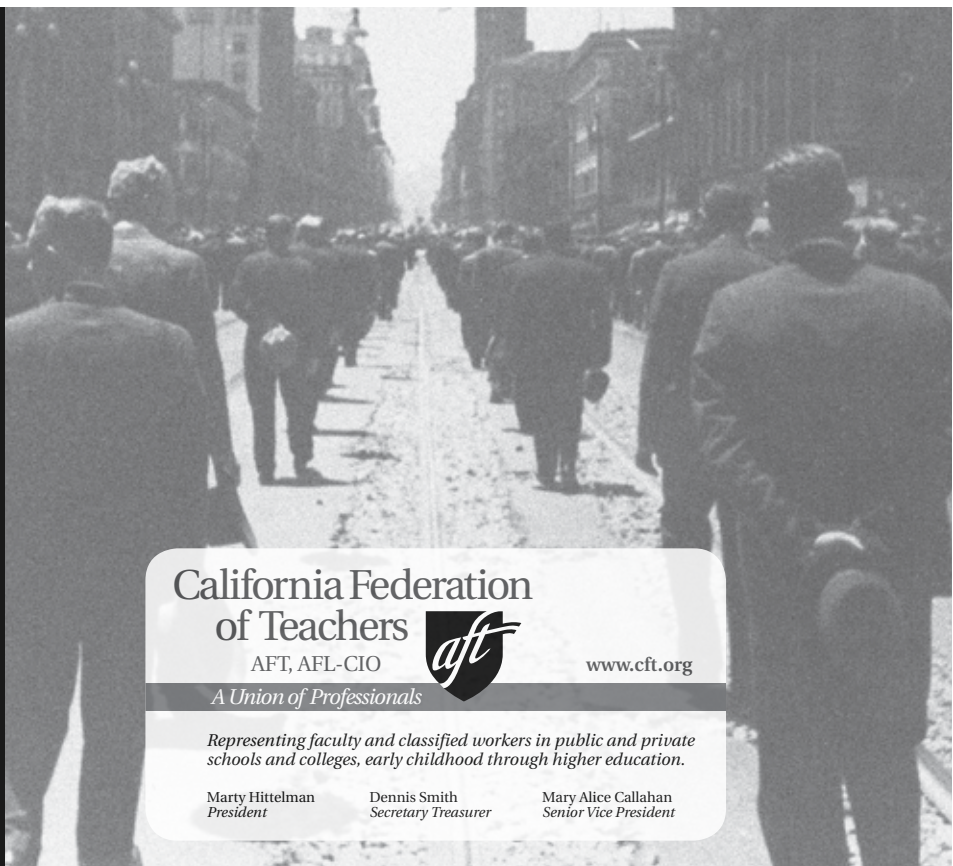
Labor Media Now!

P.O. Box 720027, San Francisco, CA 94172
(415) 282-1908, lvpsf@labornet.org, www.laborvideo.org

CFT salutes LaborFest and honors the memory of Howard Sperry and Nick Bordoise, who made the ultimate sacrifice for solidarity in 1934. Learn their story in CFT's documentary history of the California labor movement...

*Golden Lands,
Working Hands.*

Funeral march for Sperry and Bordoise on Market Street



California Federation
of Teachers

AFT, AFL-CIO



www.cft.org

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Class Struggle Against the Economic Meltdown: Lessons from History for Fighting Back Today

July 17 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Free) *Niebyl Proctor Library* -6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland



Economic meltdown? Recession? Depression? What are we to do? How will the working class fare? Where will the catalyst for change come from? What lessons can we learn from the past and what are people already doing to fight back and create solidarity where they live and work? Featuring working class historian Gifford Hartman, who will revisit the Great Depression and how the working class self-organized survival strategies such as eviction resistance, relief office occupations, mass strikes and other direct actions for providing for basic needs and community self-defense -- that were taking off well before the New Deal began. He will also survey the history of class struggle since then, as well as exploring possibilities of applying these ideas for resistance today. Robert Ovetz will guide a brainstorming session about how we can respond to and survive the brewing storm and build and expand projects from the bottom up that already envision the "future in the present."

65th Anniversary of the Port Chicago Explosion

July 18 (Saturday) 10:00 AM (Free) *Port Chicago National Memorial* (Near Concord) - Reservation required

On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion shook the naval weapons station at Port Chicago, near Concord California. Three hundred and twenty mostly Black sailors and civilian workers were killed and 390 were injured. As a result of the lack of proper health and safety rules, and overt racism against the Black sailors who were used as labor to move the weapons on the ships, a mutiny strike took place to demand health and safety regulations on the job. Fifty of these Black sailors were convicted of mutiny and sentenced to long terms in prison. They became known as the Port Chicago 50 and this case of mutiny exposed the racism and lack of training and health and safety protection for sailors and workers at Port Chicago. Professor Robert Allen, Ph.D, who has written about this incident and produced a film will also attend this memorial meeting.



To attend this free event, please RSVP with your name, phone number, the number of people in your party, and any special needs to: (925) 228-8860 x26. Please go to the following web sites for more info.

www.nps.gov/poch <http://www.portchicagomemorial.org/>
<http://www.usmm.org/portchicago.html>

San Francisco General Strike Walk

July 18 (Saturday) 10:00 AM (Free) Meet at *Harry Bridges Plaza* - Front of Ferry Building, SF

Join a walk with historian Luis Prisco, ILWU Local 10 longshoreman Jack Heyman and musician David Rovics. This walk and history talk will look at the causes of the '34 General Strike and why it was successful. How was the strike organized and why are the issues in that strike still relevant to working people today?

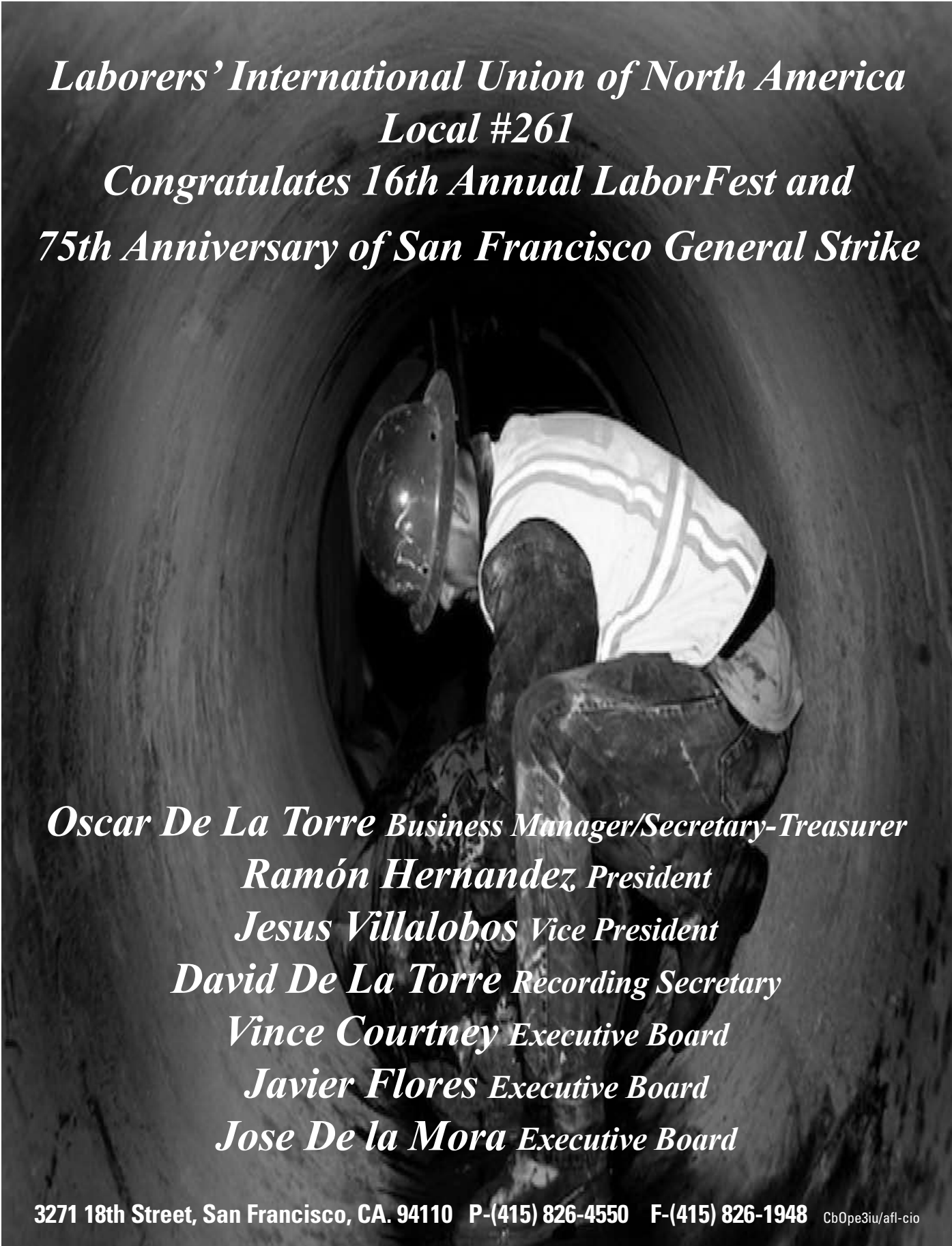
Also you will walk by the key historical sites in this important US labor struggle. Bring your lunch with you. Be prepared for a long walk.



David Rovics Concert

July 18 (Saturday) 3:00 PM (Doantion) *ILWU Local 10* - 400 North Point, SF

David Rovics has sung out for human and labor rights here in the Bay Area and around the world. He is a prolific writer and his voice and words have hit home about the rights of immigrants, the need to defend the environment and against the corporations that are destroying the earth. <http://www.davidrovics.com/>



*Laborers' International Union of North America
Local #261
Congratulates 16th Annual LaborFest and
75th Anniversary of San Francisco General Strike*

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70th Anniversary of Harry Bridges Immigration Trial

July 18 (Saturday) 1:00 PM *Angel Island Immigration Post* North East side of the island

In 1939, the Roosevelt administration sought to expel ILWU president Harry Bridges for being a member of the Communist party. These immigration trials took place five times and eventually as a result of the support committee and the backing of the membership this witch-hunt was defeated. This was a prelude to the witch-hunts in the late 1940's and 1950's.

Meet in front yard of the Immigration Post building.

You can bring your bike on the ferry for \$1.00 from Tiburon, and free from San Francisco.

Ferry from Tiburon leaves every hour. \$17.50

Tiburon - Angel Island Ferry (415-435-2131)

www.angelislandferry.com

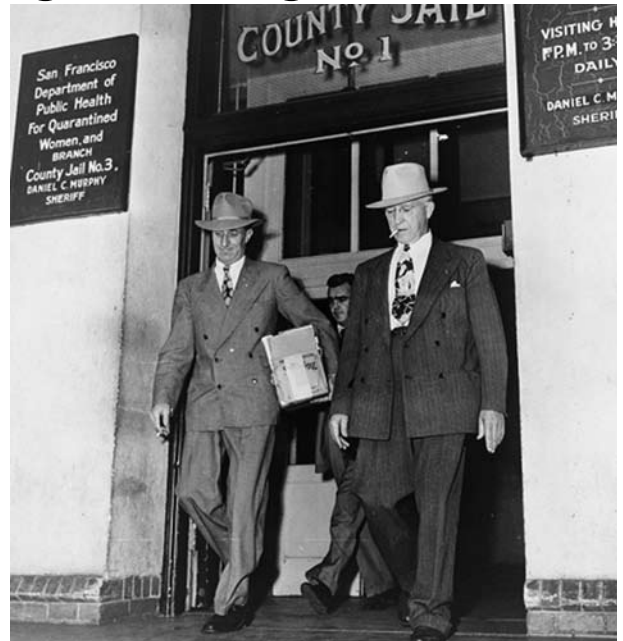
Ferry from San Francisco by Blue & Gold (415-773-1188)

From Ferry Building - 9:20, 11:20 AM

From Pier 41 - 9:40, 11:45 AM (Ticket at the booth west of Pier 39)

www.blueandgoldfleet.com

www.angelisland.com



Hobos to Street People: Artists' Responses to Homelessness from the New Deal to the Present

July 18 (Saturday) 2:00 PM (Free) *The California Historical Society* - 678 Mission St., SF

By Art Hazelwood, Tim Drescher and Jos Sances



Exhibition and mural tour

California Historical Society Exhibition with Art Hazelwood, followed by a tour of history sites. The exhibition focuses on the artwork created in response to the unprecedented poverty of the Great Depression and is mirrored by contemporary artwork that looks squarely at the economic wasteland that has resulted from the last thirty years of Reaganomics.

The mural tour will include the Rincon Annex murals by Anton Refregier, the IWW memorial nearby and the Arnett Watson mural in the Tenderloin. Transportation from the California Historical Society to other sites on your own.

<http://www.californiahistoricalsociety.org/exhibits/index.html>

Song and Poetry Swap

July 18 (Saturday) 8:00 PM (Free) *885 Clayton St., at Carl St., SF*

For over 20 years, the Freedom Song Network has been helping keep alive the spirit of labor and political song in the Bay Area, on picket lines, at rallies, on concert stages and at song

swaps. Bring songs or poems to share. Everyone is welcome, regardless of musical ability or training.

For info: (415) 648-3457

Emblem of an Emblem: The Arm & Hammer

July 19 (Sunday) 1:00 PM (Free) *Labor Archives and Research Center* - SFSU 480 Winston Dr. SF

Presentation by Kim Munson. How did the arm and hammer end up on all those baking soda boxes? Art Historian Kim Munson shares her investigation of the origins of the arm & hammer from Greco-Roman myth and its role as an early union labor icon to its current use



age as the Socialist Labor Party emblem and baking soda trademark.

Hosted by the Labor Archives and Research Center

Contact: larc@sfsu.edu Phone: 415-564-4010

Ten Years After the WTO, The North American Free Trade Zones

July 19 (Sunday) 10:00 - 1:00 PM (Free) *ILWU Local 6 Hall* - 255 9th St., SF

It has been ten years since the "Battle In Seattle" when tens of thousands of trade unionists, community activists and environmentalists joined together on the streets to protest and shut down the WTO conference. This meeting will commemorate that event with reports, speakers and a video *Labor Battles The WTO*. Speakers will include economist Richard Vogel who will present his document *The North American Free Trade Zones (FTZs): US and Canadian Workers Need Not apply--Independent Trade Unions Keep Out!*, labor historian and environmentalist Larry Shoup, Artist and activist David Solnit and other participants of WTO battle in Seattle.

<http://www.combatnglobalization.com/>



Living Wage Video Festival

July 19 (Sunday) 4:00 - 7:00 PM *522 Valencia St.* at 16th St., SF

Race To The Bottom (20 min.) by Jonathan King, Michael Hamm, and Daniela Rusnokova

Film about truck drivers working at the Port of Oakland, where over 2,000 independent truck drivers operate every day. The film gives us a look into the lives of the drivers, as told by three men. From inside of their cabs we learn about their struggles to earn a living wage, support their families,

and stay healthy as they do their jobs, transporting goods in and out of the Port. SF Living Wage Coalition Community Outreach Documentary (30 min)

Dinner and raffle

More info at: (415) 863-1225; sflivingwage@riseup.net

www.sflivingwage-sf.org



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Building Bridges and Labor Maritime History Boat Tour

July 19 (Sunday) 6:00 PM (\$35.00) Pier 41, West of Pier 39 near outside booth - Fisherman's Wharf, SF

5:45 PM Boarding, 6:00 PM Departure

Boat leaves promptly at 6:00 PM

Tour lasts 3 hours

A complimentary meal will be provided, however, if you are on a special diet please bring your own food.

Join us for this evening cruise on labor history and a close up look at the massive construction project of the eastern span of the San Francisco Bay Bridge. The skills of the ironworkers, operators, carpenters, laborers, electricians and maritime workers who are building this monument are creating a vital link and beautiful artifact of the Bay Area. Joseph Blum who is documenting the construction of this project will let us know what is being done and how they do it. Labor writers Gray Brechin, Tim Drescher, Iron workers Dick Zampa, Mike Daly and others. Music with Richard Taliafarro, Lee Anne Kruk, Carol Denney and Jack Chernos.



To make your reservation:

By E-mail: laborfest@laborfest.net or call: (415) 642-8066, and leave your name, phone number and number of people in your party.

You should send a check (\$35) to **LaborFest**, P.O.Box 40983, San Francisco, CA 94140.

We don't send you tickets, but we will either reply to your e-mail or call you back to let you know that we received your reservation, and as soon as we receive your check, your reservation will be confirmed.

You will get your ticket at the pier before you get on the boat.

We expect the tickets will be sold out quickly, so please make your reservation early.

We thank the **Blue & Gold Fleet** for providing the boat, and the members of MMP and ILWU-IBU for volunteering their labor.

Dust-Bowl Okies in US Culture - Reading and discussion

July 20 (Monday) 7:00 PM (Free) Modern Times Bookstore - 888 Valencia St., SF

By Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

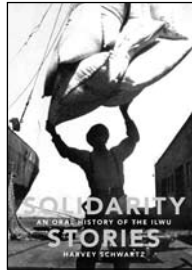
How did a people so filled with a populist and socialist tradition in Oklahoma, and in the early years as Dust Bowl migrants in California, come to form the most conservative constituencies in California bringing men like Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan to state and eventually national power? Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, author of *Red Dirt: Growing Up Okie*, will discuss and read from her own work and that of the late Wilma Elizabeth MacDaniel (the "Okie Bard" of the Central Valley), Woody Guthrie, Merle Haggard, and John Steinbeck. <http://www.reddirtsite.com/>



Solidarity Stories, An Oral History of The ILWU

July 21 (Tuesday) 7:00 PM (Free) *Modern Times Bookstore* - 888 Valencia St.

A book reading by Harvey Schwartz. Schwartz is one of the most important labor oral historians in the country and has published a new book on the 75th anniversary of the San Francisco General Strike, *Solidarity Stories, An Oral History of the ILWU*. Harvey has spent decades documenting the stories and lives of workers in the ILWU and other unions in Northern California. This book looks at the ILWU from the words of its rank and file members. The ILWU is one of the most democratic unions in the country and the foundation of this union is how through rank and file control this union survived and organized. The struggles and experiences of the membership are brought to life by this important work. His work on oral interviews of workers also has important meaning to the entire labor movement about the need to document the lives of working people and their victories and defeats. Harvey has also worked on histories of Carpenters Local 22 and other unions and the need to have histories of every union local has been taken forward by his continuing labor to tell our history. <http://www.washington.edu/uwpress/search/books/SCHSOL.html>



**SIGN DISPLAY
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Greater San Francisco Bay Area**



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District Council of Iron Workers of The State of California and Vicinity

Commemorates 75th Anniversary of 1934 San Francisco General Strike

Joe Standley, President
Bill Tweet, First Vice President
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Dan Hellevig, Third Vice President
John Rafter, Secretary
Steve Fox, Treasurer

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| 155 | Fresno, California | 433 | Los Angeles, California | 790 | Oakland, California |
| 229 | San Diego, California | 509 | Los Angeles, California | 803 | Honolulu, Hawaii |
| 377 | San Francisco, California | 624 | Fresno, California | 844 | Pinole, California |

LaborFest Writers Group Reading

July 22 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM (Free) *Bird & Beckett Bookstore* - 653 Chenery St., SF

The LaborFest Writing Group will present a Reading with memoirs, non-fiction, poetry, stories, and spoken word. This group evolved out of the 2005 LaborFest Writing Workshop with Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. This year's theme will be the future of labor as embodied in the stories and histories of our working people's past struggles. Members of the group are Phyllis Holliday, Keith Cooley, Margaret Cooley, Nellie Wong, Susan Ford, Jerry Path, Alice Rogoff, and Adele Kearney. The Reading will be followed by a writing workshop.

<http://laborfestwriters.googlepages.com/home>

Hetch Hetchy/ SFPUC Labor History Then & Now

July 23 (Thursday) Time, location to be announced later

For more information on this event, please call: 415-554-3222 or go to the LaborFest web site: www.laborfest.net for the latest schedule.

The Labor Temple: Past And Present

July 24 (Friday) 6:00 PM (Free) *Redstone Building* - 2940 16th St. & Capp St., SF

The tenants of the Redstone Building, the Redstone Labor Temple Association, invite you to an open house and evening of remembrance and entertainment at the historic San Francisco Labor Temple, 16th & Capp St. Built in 1914 by the San Francisco Labor Council, the Labor Temple housed numerous labor union offices and meeting halls through the years. It played a significant role in the 1917 United Railroads Streetcar Strike and the 1934 General Strike. It was in the auditorium of the Labor Temple where the strike vote of July 14, 1934 took place. Join us July 24, 2009 for an evening of live music, food and

memories, celebrating the building's history, murals, and tenants, past and present.



THE REDSTONE LABOR TEMPLE ASSOC. JOINS LaborFest 2009 to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the 1934 General Strike!

Come to a night of remembrance & entertainment at
"THE LABOR TEMPLE: PAST AND PRESENT"
Friday, July 24, 6 pm to 10 pm
@ The Redstone Building/Labor Temple,
2940 16th @ Capp St.

FilmWorks United International Working Class Film & Video Festival

July 24 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Donation) *Niebyl Proctor Library* - 6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland

Porto Marghera-The Last Firebrands (2004) 52 min. by Manuela Pellarin

40th Anniversary of Italy's "Hot Autumn."

A film about petrochemical workers who took matters into their own hands in the giant industrial zone engulfing Venice. Porto Marghera documents autonomous workers and their experiences from the point of view of the worker-activists themselves.

"The mass refusal of literally toxic work forced hours on the job down at the same time as driving wages up. The labour hierarchy that sets white collar against blue, permanent against casual, was attacked by workers insisting on the maximum for everyone. The battle in the factory was linked to working-class life outside through direct appropriation of basic social



needs (electricity, housing, food).

Unlike most more or less academic accounts of Italian Operaismo, which tend to focus on high-profile groups and individual leaders, Porto Marghera documents autonomous worker organization from the point of view of the worker-activists themselves, who talk about their experiences in the film. Many aspects and problems of this phase of class struggle are of immediate relevance today".

To be followed by a discussion of the strike wave in Italy, sparked by the strike at FIAT's Mirafiori plant in Turin, that set into motion the "Hot Autumn" and

which resulted in nearly a decade of heightened class struggle throughout Italy.

The Strike *By Tillie Olsen*

Excerpts from *The Partisan Review* (September-October, 1934)



Do not ask me to write of the strike and the terror. I am on a battlefield, and the increasing stench and smoke sting the eyes so it is impossible to turn them back into the past. You leave me only this night to drop the bloody garment of Today's, to cleave through the gigantic events that have crashed one upon the other, to the first beginning. If I could go away for a while, if there were time and quiet, perhaps I could do it. All that has happened might resolve into order and sequence, fall into neat patterns of words. I could stumble back into the past and slowly, painfully rear the structure in all its towering magnificence, so that the beauty and heroism, the terror and significance of those days, would enter your heart and sear it forever with the vision. ...

Law...and order...will...prevail. Do you hear? It's war, WAR—and up and down the street "A man clutched at his leg and fell to the sidewalk" "The loud shot like that of the tear gas bombs zoomed again, but no blue smoke this time, and when the men cleared, two bodies lay on the sidewalk, their blood trickling about them"—overhead an airplane lowered, dipped, and nausea gas swooned down in a cloud of torture, and where they ran from street to street, resisting stubbornly, massing again, falling back only to carry the wounded, the thought tore frenziedly through the mind, war, war, it's WAR—and the lists in the papers, the dead, the wounded by bullets, the wounded by other means—W-A-R.

LAW—you hear, Howard Sperry, ex-serviceman, striking stevedore, shot in the back and abdomen, said to be in dying condition, DEAD, LAW AND ORDER—you hear and remember this Ben Martella, shot in arm, face and chest, Joseph Beovich, stevedore, laceration of skull from clubbing and broken shoulder, Edwin Hodges, Jerry Hart, Leslie Steinhart, Steve Hamrock, Albert Simmons, marine engineer, striking seamen, scaler, innocent bystander, shot in leg, shot in shoulder, chest lacerated by tear gas shell, gassed in eyes, compound skull fracture by clubbing, you

hear—LAW AND ORDER MUST PREVAIL—it's all right Nick, clutching your leg and seeing through the fog of pain it is a police car has picked you up, snarling, let me out, I don't want any bastard bulls around, and flinging yourself out into the street, still lying there in the hospital today— ...

Somehow I am down on Stuart and Mission, somehow I am staring at flowers scattered in a border over a space of sidewalk, at stains that look like rust, at an unsteady chalking—"Police Murder. Two Shot in the Back," and looking up I see faces, seen before, but utterly changed, transformed by some inner emotion to faces of steel. "Nick Bordoise...and Sperry, on the way to punch his strike card, shot in the back by those bastard bulls...."

OUR BROTHERS

Howard S. Sperry, a longshoreman, a war vet, a real MAN. On strike since May 9th, 1934 for the right to earn a decent living under decent conditions....

Nickolas Bordoise, a member of Cooks & Waiters Union for ten years. Also a member of the International Labor Defense. Not a striker, but a worker looking to the welfare of his fellow workers on strike....

Some of what the leaflet said. But what can be said of Howard Sperry, ex-serviceman, struggling through the horrors of war for his country, remembering the dead men and the nearly dead men lashing about blindly on the battlefield, who came home to die in a new war, a war he had not known existed. What can be said of Nick Bordoise. Communist Party member, who without thanks or request came daily to the Embarcadero to sell his fellow workers hot soup to warm their bellies. There was a voice that gave the story of his life, there in the yellowness of the parched grass, with the gravestones icy and strange in the sun; quietly, as if it had risen up from the submerged hearts of the world, as if it had been forever and would be forever, the voice surged over our bowed heads. And the story was the story of any worker's life, of the thousand small deprivations and frustrations suf-

fered, of the courage forged out of the cold and darkness of poverty, of the determination welded out of the helpless anger scalding the heart, the plodding hours of labor and weariness, of the life, given simply, as it had lived, that the things which he had suffered should not be, must not be....

There were only a few hundred of us who heard that voice, but the thousands who watched the trucks in the funeral procession piled high with 50¢ and \$1.00 wreaths guessed, and understood. I saw the people, I saw the look on their faces. And it is the look that will be there the days of the revolution. I saw the fists clenched till knuckles were white, and people standing, staring, saying nothing, letting it clamp into their hearts, hurt them so the scar would be there forever—a swelling that would never let them lull.

There was a pregnant woman standing on a corner, outlined against the sky, and she might have been a marble, rigid, eternal, expressing some vast and nameless sorrow. But her face was a flame, and I heard her say after a while dispassionately, as if it had been said so many times no accent was needed, "We'll not forget that. We'll pay it back...someday." And on every square of sidewalk a man was saying, "We'll have it. We'll have a General Strike. And there won't be processions to bury their dead." "Murder—to save themselves paying a few pennies more wages, remember that Johnny... We'll get even. It won't be long. General Strike."

Listen, it is late, I am feverish and tired. Forgive me that the words are feverish and blurred. You see, If I had time, If I could go away. But I write this on a battlefield.

The rest, the General Strike, the terror, arrests and jail, the songs in the night, must be written some other time, must be written later....But there is so much happening now....

<http://newdeal.feri.org/voices/voce05.htm>

Oakland 1946 General Strike Walk

July 25 (Saturday) 10:30 AM (Free) Meet at the fountain in Latham Square - Telegraph and Broadway

With Karin Hart of the Labor Studies Program at Laney College and Gifford Hartman of the Flying Picket Historical Society. This walk will revisit the sites of Oakland's "Work Holiday" that began spontaneously with rank-and-file solidarity with the striking mostly women retail clerks at Kahn's and Hastings department store whose picket line was being broken by police scab herding. Within 24 hours, it involved over 100,000 workers and shut down nearly all commerce in the East Bay for 54 hours. In 1946 there were six general strikes across the U.S.; that year set the all-time record year for strikes and work stoppages. The Oakland

"Work Holiday" was the last general strike to ever occur in the U.S. and the walk and history talk will attempt to keep alive the memory of this tradition of community-wide working class solidarity.

Sponsored by Laney College Labor Studies (510-464-3210) and the Flying Picket Historical Society (SFBay@Flying-Picket.org).

Meet at the fountain in Latham Square, in the intersection where Telegraph and Broadway converge across from the Ronda Building (Oakland City Center/12th St. BART).



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in the

**1934 San Francisco General Strike
to the Labor Movement**

John J. Flynn
President



James Boland
Secretary - Treasurer

San Francisco Labor History Waterfront Walk

July 25 (Saturday) 10:30 AM (Free) **Meet at 75 Folsom St.** - Entrance of Hills Brothers Coffee Building, SF

With Peter O'Driscoll and Lawrence Shoup

There are many stories to be told about labor struggles in San Francisco. This story is about the maritime industry from 1835 until the burning of the blue book in 1934. The main points in history will include President Andrew Jackson's effort to acquire this peninsula from Mexico; Gold discovery and the urgent need to build the San Francisco Wharfs; The Gold Rush gave the



laboring man a value; San Francisco's port to the sailor was a corrupt and wicked place; Sailors life, boardinghouses for coast-wise and high-sea sailors; The secret society of crimps in 1865; Young men's fear of shanghaied; why the crimps; Labor supports the eight hour workday; The sailor who became a politician and rabble rouser for the workingman's party of 1877, and the party's influence at the state constitutional convention of 1878; The friction between Capital and Labor developed into a social question; Why business owners demanded Congress to increase the size of the army; Sailors union of 1885 and their violent strike in 1886; Why the ship owners association issued the grade book; The 1790 law provides for the arrest of seamen deserters; In 1892 Andrew Furuseth led the organizing of the Sailor's Union of the Pacific;

The Seaman's act of 1915 it is now known as the "Magna Carta" of the American Seamen; Ship owner Robert Dollar's resentment for union sailors in 1917; Dollar's straw bosses broke the 1919 dock strike and issues the Blue Book.

Also labor historian Larry Shoup will talk about the history of the 1901 transportation workers strike which included the Teamsters and was smashed by the San Francisco police. This strike in part led to the formation of the San Francisco Union Labor Party which in 1905 swept the election and took control of the city.



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Maritime Trades Department, AFL-CIO

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| American Maritime Officers | Laborer's International Union #886 |
| Auto Marine & Specialty Painters Union #1176 | Machinists Automotive District #190 (IAM) |
| Bay Cities Metal Trades Council | Marine Firemen's Union |
| California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO | Masters, Mates and Pilots |
| Cal.-Nev. Conf. of Operating Engineers | Marine Engineers Beneficial Assoc. #1 PCD |
| Carpenters Local 22 | Northern California Newspaper Guild #52 |
| Carpenters Local 2236 | Operating Engineers #3 |
| Carpet, Linoleum & Soft Tile Workers #12 | Peninsula Automotive Mech. #1414 (IAM) |
| Central Labor Council of Alameda County | Pile Drivers #34 (Carpenters) |
| Communications Workers of America #9410 | Sailors' Union of the Pacific |
| District Council of Iron Workers | San Francisco Bar Pilots |
| East Bay Automotive Machinists #1546 | San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council |
| Heat, Frost Insulators & Asbestos Workers #16 | San Francisco Fire Fighters #798 |
| Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific/ILWU | San Francisco Labor Council |
| Int'l. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees #16 | Seafarers' International Union-AGLIWD |
| Int'l. Brotherhood of Boilermakers #6 | Sheet Metal Workers' Int'l. Assoc. #104 |
| Int'l. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers #6 | Sign, Display & Allied Crafts #510 |
| Int'l. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers #1245 | SIU Government Services Division |
| Int'l. Federation of Prof. & Tech. Empl. #21 | United Assoc. of Plumbers and Pipefitters #38 |
| Int'l. Longshore & Warehouse Union #10 | United Assoc. of Plumbers, Sprinkler Fitters, & Apprentices #483 |
| Int'l. Longshore & Warehouse Union #34 Ships Clerks Association | United Food and Commercial Workers #5 |
| Int'l. Union of Elevator Constructors #8 | |
| Laborer's International Union #261 | |

Concert of the Choruses: A Tribute to Pete Seeger

July 25 (Saturday) 7:00 PM (\$5.00 - no one turned away) **ILWU Local 34 Hall** - 801 2nd St. Next to AT&T Park, SF



The concert features El Coro Jornalero, the Day Laborers Chorus directed by Ricardo Torres. The Bay Area Rockin' Solidarity Chorus directed by Pat Wynne will perform a piece entitled *Pete Seeger: a Musical Biography*. The narrative and songs will describe the life, activism, and music of Pete Seeger who recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Included will be sections on his work with the Almanac Singers, the Weavers, his trial during the McCarthy era, and his environmental efforts. Some of the songs will be *Turn, Turn, Turn*, *Talking Union*, *Waist Deep in the Big Muddy*, *Guantanamo*, and the *Ballad of Harry Bridges*.



Thank You LaborFest
For All That You Do for Labor Unions and
Working Families in San Francisco
With Best Wishes

Your Good Friends at
San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798

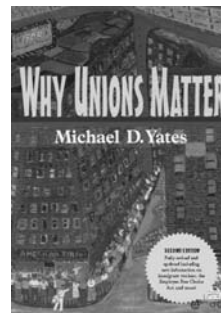
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 Michael D. Yates

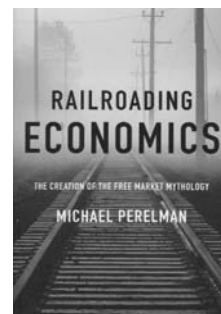
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Labor BookFair - 2nd Annual LaborFest BookFair & Poetry Reading

July 26 (Sunday) 9:30 - 4:00 PM (Free) *Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts* - 2868 Mission St., SF

Schedule is subject to change. Please check the web page for any changes)

SCHEDULE Main gallery

9:30 AM - Mark Evans speaks on *Stopping The Presses, The Murder Of Walter W. Liggett* by Marda Liggett Woodbury. One of the hidden stories of the 1930's was the murder of journalist and muckraker Walter W. Liggett.

10:30 AM - Jeanetta Calhoun Mish reads Elisabeth McDaniel's Poetry on *Woody Guthrie, Steinbeck, The Dustbowl Refugees And the Fate Of The Okies In California*. Mish is a founding member of the Woody Guthrie Poets at the Woody Guthrie Free Folk Festival in Okemah, Oklahoma.

1:00 PM Panel Discussion

The Struggle In The SEIU and The Crisis In Labor

With labor journalist Steve Early, SEIU 521 Vice President Wren Bradley, writer Michael Yates, writer Randy Shaw and Al Rojas.

The internecine crisis wracking the trade union movement including the trusteeship of SEIU UHW and the raid of UniteHERE by the SEIU is now tearing the labor movement apart. This forum will discuss what is taking place, why it is taking place and where it is going.

2:30 PM Panel Discussion

Women Organizers During the 1930s & 1940's

With Elisabeth Martinez, Julia Stein, Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, Jeanetta Calhoun Mish and others.

Women workers during the depression and the 1930's and 1940's were battling for justice and survival. This panel will discuss who some of these women workers were and what they did to build the labor movement.

Theater

9:30 AM - Michael Yates on *Why Unions Matter*.

Yates in this important book shows that the vehicle for fundamental change rests within the labor movement. He acknowledges the weaknesses of labor but proposes that labor must rebuild its power by building a broad working class movement that can confront the control of capital.

10:30 AM by Zeese Papanikolas

Buried Unsung: Louis Tikas and the Ludlow Massacre

Papanikolas work focuses on Louis Tikas, a Greek immigrant and union organizer killed in the Ludlow massacre in Colorado in 1914. The fight he led for justice and labor rights cost him and many other immigrants their lives, and

this work illuminates that part of hidden history.

12:00 Noon Video Screening

Labor Imperialism, Corporate Unionism And the SEIU (2008) (59 minutes) by the Labor Video Project

This video focuses on the June 2008 convention of the SEIU in San Juan Puerto Rico and the protests by Independistas, the Puerto Rican teachers union FMPR and the battle on the floor of the convention over union democracy and the merger agenda of the SEIU.

1:00 PM Poets and Musicians

Poets Avotcja, Julia Stein, Alice Rogoff, Jeanetta Calhoun Mish and others.

2:30 PM Panel Discussion

Death on The Job And The Workers of 9/11

By Daniel Berman, John Sferazo and Mike Daly.

Daniel Berman, author of *Death on the Job* will join with Iron Worker and IOUE member John Sferazo who was a first responder at the 9/11 attack and Ironworkers Local 377 member Mike Daly on the lessons for health and safety of 9/11 and the crisis in OSHA and workers compensation for injured workers.

Small Gallery

9:30 AM - Jack Rasmus on the *Epic Recession And Financial Crisis: Prelude To Global Depression*

His prescient perspective about where the economy has been and where it is going is a framework for understanding the nature of the attacks that working people are facing.

10:30 AM - Alicia Lutz-Rolow on *The Plane Truth*

AMR Airline Safety Compromised by Executive Greed: The Disturbing Firsthand Story of an American Airlines Flight Attendant

1:00 PM - Jeffrey B. Perry on *Hubert Harrison: The Voice of Harlem Radicalism, 1883-1918*

Hubert Harrison was an important figure in the Black working class in America and Perry's book influenced many including A. Philip Randolph and Marcus Garvey. He was "a freethinker and early proponent of birth control, a supporter of Black writers and artists..."

2:30 PM - Michael Perleman on *The Invisible Handcuffs of Capitalism: How Market Control Undermines the Economy by Stunting Workers*

Perleman has been exposing the contradictions in the system and the reason that capitalism is now destroying the lives of millions of working people and their families.

A War In Hollywood

July 26 (Sunday) 2:00 PM (Tickets \$10; seniors/ students \$8) **The Delancy Street Screening Room** - 600 Embarcadero, SF

A Film Screening

by Oriol Porta (89 min.) 2008

A War In Hollywood is an in-depth look at the impact that the Spanish Civil War and Franco's dictatorship had on the North American film industry. Hollywood used the Civil War as a subject in more than 50 films. The defeat of democracy in Spain left an "open wound" in the heart of liberal actors, directors and screenwriters in the US, who used affection towards democratic Spain as a symbolic feature to define the romantic spirit of their characters. This sympathy, however, was shaped according to the American political tendencies of each period. This evolution is narrated through the personal story of Alvah Bessie, a Hollywood screenwriter who fought as a member of the International Brigade. This meticulous documentary includes excerpts from *Casablanca*, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Way We Were* among others, and commentary by actress Susan Sarandon.

Sponsored by The Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives (ALBA) & LaborFest

For Information Contact 510-548-6521



AFT Local 2121 City College Faculty

SALUTES WITH HONOR

75th Anniversary

1934 S.F.

GENERAL

STRIKE

United We Stand

OPEIU248:3AFL-CIO

IBEW Local 6



Salutes San Francisco's Labor History and LaborFest 2009!

**John J. O'Rourke, Business Manager
Members, Officers and Staff**

Staged Action: An evening of labor theatre and music

July 26 (Sunday) 7:30 PM (\$10.00) **Community Music Center** - 544 Capp St., between 20th & 21st, SF

The Indelible Voices Project presents an evening of labor theatre and music from the 1920s and 1930s hosted by Lee Papa, Assistant Professor of Drama Studies at College of Staten Island/CUNY. Lee's anthology of labor plays, *Staged Action*, has just been released by Cornell University

Press.

The evening will feature staged readings from *Processional* by John Howard Lawson, *Mill Shadows* by Top Tippet, *Singing Jailbirds* by Upton Sinclair, and the ever popular *Pins and Needles* by Harold Rome. Music from *Singing Jailbirds* and *Pins and Needles* will also be performed.

For advance tickets call (415) 431-8485 or e-mail: marcusd@igc.org.



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The Members and Officers of OPEIU 29
Proudly sponsor LaborFest Celebrating the
75th Anniversary of the 1934 SF General Strike



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**Local 377 Salutes
LaborFest in
Commemorating
The 75th Anniversary
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gratefully wishes to recognize LaborFest
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Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union No. 104, the
progressive leader in the fields of Decorative &
Architectural Sheet Metal; Metal Roofs; Heating,
Ventilating, and Air Conditioning; and Indoor
Environmental Quality for over 106 years.

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Labor Jeopardy Contest with 2000 Questions at SF Labor Council

July 27 (Monday) 7:00 PM (Free) Plumbers' Hall - 1621 Market St. at Franklin St., SF

Who founded the American Federation of Labor? What year was the National Labor Relations Act passed? Come join us in the first ever LaborFest Jeopardy contest. Using a jeopardy format, labor organizations from throughout the Bay Area will compete for prizes and pride while answer-



ing questions covering all areas of labor history and practice. Come cheer on your favorite team and learn something new in this fun and friendly contest.

Stanislaus playwright and SSU Professor Edward Hernandez will be the master of ceremonies.

<http://www.hrmgt.com/play/main.htm>

53 Days Local 2 on Stage

July 28 (Tuesday) 7:00 PM City College Mission Campus - 1125 Valencia St. Rm 215 at 22nd St., SF

Free to members of Local 2 - Sliding donations from \$10-\$20 (no one turned away due to lack of funds)

53 Days: Local 2 On Stage, is a collaboration between the Labor and Community Studies Department of City College and the Unite Here Local 2. *53 Days* tells the story of Local 2's historic 53 day strike and lock-out of 2004, using the oral history testimonies of the Chinese, Latino, African American and Filipino hotel workers who were at the forefront of the fight. It is a very inspiring, educational and unique performance. Also screening of video of 1946 Hotel Workers Strike.

Sponsored by Labor Studies San Francisco Community College And Unite Here Local 2
[HTTP://sites.google.com/site/53daysonstage/Home](http://sites.google.com/site/53daysonstage/Home)

Dennis Kelly

President

Linda Plack

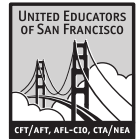
Executive Vice President

and

*the Members and Staff of
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Salute

LaborFest 2009



**The 100,000
 members of the
 San Francisco
 Labor Council**



**Send Best Wishes to the Participants
 of**

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 450 Harrison Street
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Labor Media & Labor Video in The Struggle

**July 29 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM (Free) ILWU
Local 6 Hall - 255 9th St., SF**

Panel discussion with labor videographers Margo Smith, Vivian Price, Judy Montell, Carl Bryant, Steve Zeltzer. The use of video and film by labor media workers can play a crucial role in educating and building support for working people and unions. These panelists are producing labor media and will talk about how they do it, who they do it for and how it can change the dynamics of the struggle.

**The Members and Officers of
UFCW Local 648
join with Labor in celebrating
the 75th Anniversary of the
SF General Strike.**

**Michael Sharpe
President**

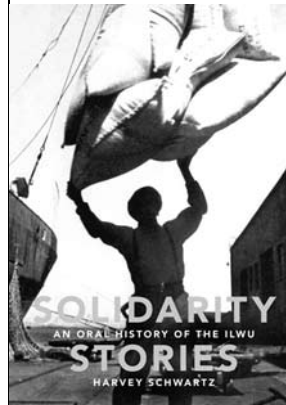
**Maggie Krug
Secretary/Treasurer**

SOLIDARITY STORIES

An Oral History of the ILWU

by Harvey Schwartz

The ILWU has been known from the start for its strong commitment to democracy, solidarity, and social justice. In this collection of firsthand narratives, union leaders and rank-and-file workers talk about their lives at work, on the picket line, and in the union.



“Solidarity Stories is right up there with the best of Terkel’s books, an inspiring account in their own words of how the men and women working the Pacific Coast docks and beyond built a great union and won dignity and fair play on the job.”

-David Brody, University of California, Davis

For more information, please see
www.washington.edu/uwpress

Pacific Coast Marine Firemen, Oilers, Watertenders and Wipers Association



MARINE FIREMENS UNION

240 Second Street

San Francisco, California 94105

www.mfoww.org

Historical Highlights

- 1883 - MFOU founded in San Francisco, California
- 1886 - Shipowners Association of the Pacific Coast Strike
- 1901 - San Francisco General Strike
- 1906 - Steam Schooner Strike
- 1921 - American Steamship Owners Association Strike
- 1934 - West Coast General Strike and Bloody Thursday
- 1935 - Modesto Boys: 4 MFOU members framed and jailed during Standard Oil Company Strike
- 1936 - West Coast Maritime Strike
- 1936 - King, Conner, Ramsay Case: MFOU officials and members framed and jailed on murder charges
- 1941 - SS LAHAINA: First of 138 ships manned by MFOU crews sunk or badly damaged by enemy action during WWII
- 1946 - Pacific American Shipowners Association Strike
- 1948 - Rolando Beef, second Pacific American Shipowners Association Strike
- 1953 - MFOU affiliated with the Seafarers International Union of North America (SIUNA)
- 1955 - MFOU, SUP and MC&S form the SIU Pacific District (SIU-PD)
- 1962 - Pacific Maritime Association Strike
- 1966 - 5 MFOU members killed in action aboard the SS BATON ROUGE VICTORY on the Saigon River
- 1975 - Pacific Far East Lines Beef
- 1983 - MFOU Centennial Anniversary
- 2002 - West Coast Lockout

The Bay Bridge and The Workers

July 30 (Thursday) 7:00 PM (Free)
IFPTE Local 21 Hall - 1182 Market Street, Rm 425, SF

Presentations and Slide Show: Politics, The Bay Bridge and the Workers

A report on the rebuilding of the San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge (SFOBB) with IFPTE Local 21 and iron worker presenters.

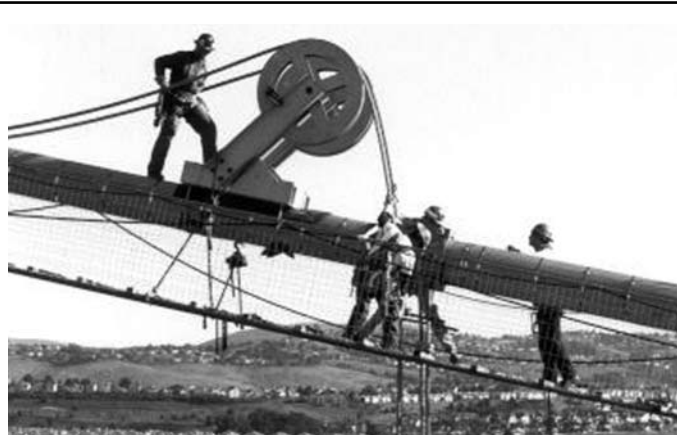
The massive reconstruction projects now going on the Eastern Span of the Bay Bridge is wrought in controversy and conflict. This panel will look at the conflict and also how the skilled union building trades workers are building a new monument honoring the talents and skills of working people. We will learn about the process of building a major bridge, what goes into it and how it is done. This is an exciting story of workers' creativity, organization and planning.



Closing Party (with food and music)

July 31 (Friday) 7:00 PM (Free) **Nap's - 3152 Mission St. at Precita, SF**

Please join us to celebrate the last day of the LaborFest with food and the music of the Angry Tired Teachers Band, AT&T and others.



Al Zampa Memorial Bridge photos by John Robinson



ALFRED ZAMPA MEMORIAL BRIDGE THE WORKING MAN'S BRIDGE

The only bridge in the USA named after a blue collar worker, an Iron Worker, and represents all the men and women of the Building & Construction Trades.

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900 Loring Avenue, Crockett, California
Open Wednesday & Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Big Strike: A Journalist Describes the 1934 San Francisco Strike

By Mike Quinn

Excerpt from Chapter I of *The Big Strike*, published by Olema Publishing Company (1949)

CHAPTER I "General Strike, A Camera-eye View"

In San Francisco, July 1934, the laboring population laid down its tools in a General Strike.

An uncanny quiet settled over the acres of buildings. For all practical purposes not a wheel moved nor a lever budged. The din of commercial activity gave way to a murmur of voices in the streets.

Along the Embarcadero and in front of the National Guard Armory self-conscious-looking schoolboys wearing steel helmets and ill-fitting khaki uniforms paced up and down fingering heavy automatic rifles.

Highways leading out of the city bore a continuous stream of expensive cars carrying well-to-do refugees to distant sanctuaries. They were fleeing from bombs and rioting mobs.

There were no bombs.

There were no rioting mobs.

These existed only in the pages of the daily press which characterized the event as a Bolshevik revolution, and conjured up visions of tempestuous throngs sweeping, torch in hand, through the city streets.

Telephone and telegraph wires burned like an inflamed nervous system.

Unconvinced pedestrians bought copies of newspapers whose headlines exceeded the signing of the Armistice. These papers declared that the city was in control of communists who were threatening bloodshed and ruin. In residential sections some uninformed citizens were frightened out of their wits; they barricaded their doors and trembled in expectation of chaos.

But the people, in general, were unimpressed by headlines that screamed of communist violence. They knew better. They could look around and see for themselves that the General Strike was disciplined and orderly. Mobs and bombs had no part in it.

True, the city during preceding days had been shaken by violent industrial warfare. Major battles had been fought in the streets and innocent spectators

as well as unarmed strikers had gone down before police gunfire. A general maritime strike had paralyzed all shipping up and down the Pacific Coast for more than two months; the merchant marine was tied up in the harbors like so many dead whales. The town bristled with bayonets and hospitals were jammed with the wounded. Clouds of tear and nausea gas had swept through business districts, penetrating windows and driving panic-stricken throngs from the buildings. Pedestrians running for shelter had been winged by stray bullets and crumpled to the pavement. The sounds of shout-



ing, running crowds, pistol shots, screams, breaking glass, and wailing sirens had filled the streets.

All these things had happened before the General Strike; and still more violence was to come in the form of vigilante and police raids—buildings were to be wrecked and skulls fractured. It is not surprising that sections of the population expected almost anything to happen.

As a matter of fact, the streets were orderly and unalarming. No streetcars were running. Gasoline stations were closed and few automobiles were abroad. Children and adults on roller skates swayed up and down Market Street. Workingmen were out in holiday clothes, with celluloid buttons glistening on every coat lapel. Here and there a truck was tipped over and its merchandise scattered on the streets when business houses sought to move their goods with scab driv-

ers; but these incidents were too few to make much impression on the population as a whole.

Saloons and liquor stores were closed "By order of the General Strike Committee."

Hastily scribbled signs and placards in the windows of most small shops and restaurants read: "CLOSED TILL THE BOYS WIN"; or "WE'RE WITH YOU FELLOWS.. STICK IT OUT"; or "CLOSED TILL THE LONG SHOREMEN GET THEIR HIRING HALL"; or "CLOSED. ILA SYMPATHIZER".

Larger establishments simply stripped their windows of merchandise and pulled down the shades. The big department stores remained open but unpatronized.

Nineteen restaurants were allowed to remain open "By permission of the General Strike Committee". Each had its long line of waiting customers.

Outside the Labor Temple the street swarmed with union men anxiously awaiting snatches of news from within, where the General Strike Committee was in session.

All was not perfect harmony inside. Behind those doors two opposing points of view were battling it out within the committee. The newer and more determined union elements viewed the strike with confidence; they wanted to organize essential public services under control of the strikers in order that undue hardships be spared the public, so that the strike could hold out till the unions won their demands.

The older, more conservative union elements viewed the strike with alarm and were making every effort to loosen its grip.

Every few hours the newspapers issued blazing extras announcing: **BIG STRIKE BROKEN!**

The strike was not over, and there was no reason to suppose it was. ...

(Excerpt from *The Big Strike*)

<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/124/>

Coit Tower at 75

by Mark Johnson, Professor of Art SFSU, member CFA

Coit Tower is an odd symbol. Originally commissioned by Lillie Hitchcock Coit as a memorial for fallen firemen, and sometimes likened to a fire hose nozzle or worse, it is widely recognized as an art deco tourist destination for the incredible view it proffers of the San Francisco Bay and its big bridges. But it is in the history of the progressive potential of art that Coit Tower finds its meaning as a true beacon of inspiration - not for the view it provides of the landscape - but for the murals the visitor finds inside its lobby and stairwell.

Coit Tower's murals were painted by a group of Bay Area artists in the early days of 1934, when the nation was grappling with the economic impact of the Great Depression, and the city was defining itself as a center for union organizing. The Longshoremen's effort to bring fair hiring practices led to a waterfront work stoppage, and marches along the Embarcadero. During the Police's ensuing crackdown, several protestors were shot and killed, and a huge funeral march of maybe 40,000 men down Market Street was followed by a General Strike. At virtually the same moment that this was fomenting, the murals in Coit Tower were being envisioned.

The proposal to create murals in Coit Tower was made by the artists themselves, initially suggested by an ad hoc group of artists that had organized to promote progressive agendas. The fledgling Artists and Writers Union included painters like Bernard Zakheim and poets like Kenneth Rexroth. Among their first actions, they cheekily telegraphed President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to propose that artists might play an important role in the developing New Deal. And they received a reply that is no less astonishing today than it likely was to them seventy-five years ago: President Roosevelt responded with a telegraph of agreement, commissioning murals for the new Coit Tower.

Roosevelt had already learned of the potential of art to play a public role from his friend, artist George Biddle, who had witnessed the contemporary murals covering many walls in Mexico City. Muralist Diego Rivera had already become an inspiring model in San Francisco following his 1930 visit there, where he created important works about agriculture and industry for the Pacific Stock Exchange and an image of the worker as a giant at the California School of Fine Arts (now the San Francisco Art Institute). Rivera also employed some local Bay Area artists as his assistants, introducing them to Renaissance fresco techniques involving painting into fresh plaster. Although Rivera did not contribute di-



rectly to the murals at Coit Tower, his inspiration can be felt as one first enters its lobby where the visitor is confronted by a mural by Ray Boynton of a pair of eyes that stare straight at you - often claimed to be Rivera's vision.

Among the most astonishing aspects of the murals is their medium; with the exception of Jose Moya Del Pino's oil canvases in the elevator lobby, most are buon fresco. Many of the artists had no experience with fresco before embarking on this project. Buon fresco is essentially a communal practice, requiring specialists in plastering as well as painting, and careful holistic planning for what can be accomplished every day. That so much space was covered in so few days is staggering, and sug-

gests the long sleepless hours that were involved (5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily, by one account). The murals represent a collective effort that parallel the organizing on the street, and prefigure contemporary public art involving community collaboration and partnership.

The murals at Coit Tower are a masterpiece of American Scene painting, a moment in American art where the depiction of common people and regional life was at center stage. The murals include images of individual workers by Clifford Wight, factory and agricultural scenes by Ralph Stackpole and Maxine Albro, depictions of sport and leisure on the second floor landing by Edward Terada and Jane Berlandia, and complicated

narratives by John Langley Howard, Victor Arnautoff and Lucien Labaudt. Many of these are breathtakingly brilliant. Labaudt's mural up the circular staircase, mirroring the steep incline of Powell Street, is a marvel of compositional sophistication; insider views of Eleanor Roosevelt and local artists are hidden in sidewalk crowds. Arnautoff's mural is similarly complicated with urban vignettes: it features a traffic accident, a pickpocketing, and a news-

paper stand offering leftist literature including the *New Masses* and *The Daily Worker*. The two most controversial of the murals were a small representation of symbols including a hammer and sickle by Wight that appeared above the west wall windows that was ultimately destroyed, and Zakheim's library - that fortunately was not. Zakheim's crowded library scene provided portraits of several of the artists, some reading newspapers of contemporaneous news events - home foreclosures, worker strikes, and the destruction of Rivera's own Rockefeller Center mural, posed before bookshelves offering provocative ideas including the obviously relevant writing of Karl Marx. But my personal favorite is the spectral mural of John Langley Howard. It is a study in contrasts that includes

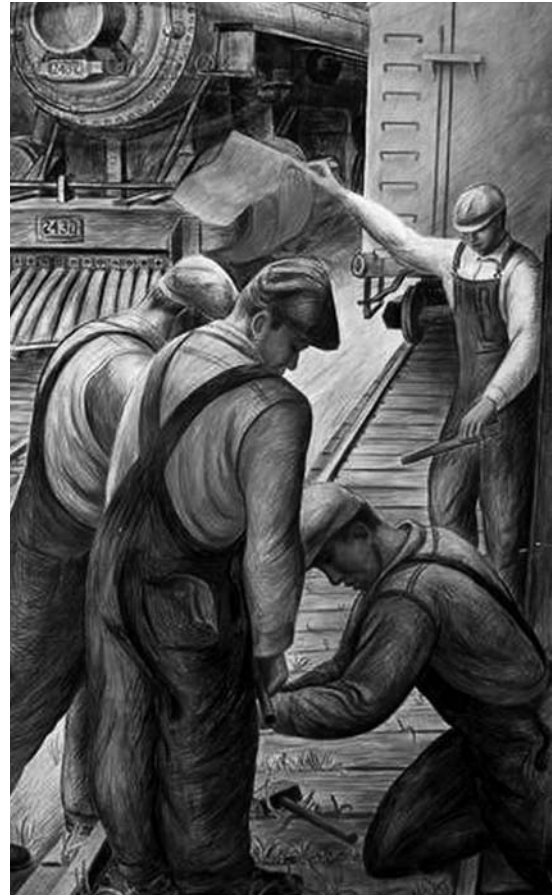
a broken down Model-T of a down-and-out family, that appears as the antithesis of the nearby luxury limousine of the visiting boss – whose pet poodle provides a stark contrast with the family’s starving pregnant bitch. The rising tide of workers standing together also shown here is nowhere more powerfully summoned in American art.

In spite of the contrived controversy surrounding the murals – Coit Tower was locked down with chains as word spread about its imagery, after it was first surrounded by the Artists and Writers Union for protection – it soon became the model for the new Federal Art Project of the WPA. Soon, murals and other public art were being commissioned for communities throughout the United States. San Francisco has an important cache of these, including the murals at The Mother’s House at the Zoo painted by Dorothy Pulcinelli and Helen Forbes, those at the Beach Chalet lobby by Lucien Labaudt, and Anton Refregier’s incredible suite for the Rincon Annex Post Office.

This last commission, even more controversial than the first at Coit Tower, brackets the WPA’s commitment to art – a legacy that has still not been matched in American cultural policy.

The great Bay Area writer Tillie Olsen noted that 1934 was a unique time, when artists were cheered by labor for their shared commitment to struggle. Today, these murals by diverse artists confirm for us that art is never really about money, even though the auction and gallery marketplace sometimes high-jacks notions about its value. Instead, art is about the best of our human spirit. And the murals at Coit Tower stand as a monument to a vision and experimental, collaborative process where art engages with society as a reflection of outrage and hope, struggle and successful intervention. The murals at Coit Tower remind us that art can show that tomorrow can be better and fairer than yesterday.

<http://www.docspopuli.org/articles/AtWork.html>



SEIU Local 521

**We Proudly Support
LaborFest 2009
and
Commemorate
The 1934
San Francisco General Strike**

From the Members, Officers and Staff of SEIU Local 521

Thank You!

LaborFest is endorsed and supported by the San Francisco Labor Council, ILWU International, ATU 1555, ILWU 10, Laborers' 261, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, District Council of Iron Workers, Port Maritime Council, UFCW Local 5, IFPTE 21, IATSE 16, Pacific Coast Marine Firemens Union, IBEW 6, California Federation of Teachers, Monthly Review, BALMA, Sailors' Union of the Pacific, ILWU 34, AFT 2121, Iron Workers 377, Operating Engineers 3, UA 393, Sheet Metal 104, Master Mate & Pilots, Alfred Zampa Memorial Bridge, Sign & Display 510, SF Firefighters 798, UFCW 648, UESF, BAC 3, AFTRA, OPEIU 29, ILWU 6, Members of Master Mates and Pilots, Members of ILWU Inland Boatman's Union, Labor Video Project, LaborNet.org, Transport Workers Solidarity Committee, UTU 1740 and others.

We thank the following for providing us use of their facilities: Modern Times Bookstore, City Lights Bookstore, Roxie Theatre, ILWU 6, ILWU 34, ILWU 10, IFPTE 21, Marine Firemen's Hall, Niebyl Proctor Library, Bird and Beckett Bookstore, Nap's on Mission Street. We also thak Sign & Display 510 for providing a banner and union operated Blue & Gold Fleet for providing the boat.

2009 LaborFest also remembers the lives of those labor and cultural activists who have left us the past year. They include labor folk lore writer and unionist Archie Green who has contributed much to the understanding of the culture of working people. Also this year, former California AFL-CIO Secretary Jack Henning has passed. Jack Henning played an important role in advancing not only gains for the workers of California but also for the need for international solidarity and collaboration with our brothers and sisters around the world. We also remember Local 2 Unite Here shop steward Bettye Mitchell who was injured on the job and fought for workers rights for your fellow brothers and sisters. We remember Local 2 and IBT 856 member and activist Jonathan L. Palewicz. Jonathan had decades of work building support for hotel and restaurant workers and Teamsters fighting for unionization in the tourist industry. We also remember SEIU 616 activist and supporter of LaborFest Shirley Lee. Shirley was a hospital worker at Highland Hospital in the East Bay and was an activist in supporting union education and solidarity. We also commemorate UBC 22 member and SF city worker Joyce Vanman. Joyce besides being a strong union member also used her skills to build solidarity with workers in Nicaragua and around the world.

The spirit of these brothers and sisters will live on.



Jack Henning



Bettye Mitchell



Jonathan L. Palewicz



Archie Green

The LaborFest Committee and the Advisory Committee are all volunteers. We believe that this festival will bring greater solidarity and labor consciousness for all working people. We thank those who have given their time, talent and financial contribution to make this festival a success. All donations are tax deductible.

In solidarity

LaborFest Planning Committee

LaborFest Advisory Committee: *Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Gray Brechin*

LaborFest Committee: *Alice Rogoff, Kazmi Torii, David Williams, Steve Zeltzer, Nancy Keiler, Gifford Hartman, Mike Daly, David Duckworth, Lois Scott*

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LaborFest booklet and web by *Kazmi Torii*



Photo by Ed Henderson, Local 10

Solidarity makes us strong: ILWU Local 10 "B" men joined the fight for good jobs at the Port of Stockton on May 4, 2009

**THE ILWU WAS BORN DURING
THE WATERFRONT STRIKE OF 1934.
LET'S HONOR THAT LEGACY BY REMAINING DEDICATED TO JUSTICE
AND ACTIVE IN OUR UNIONS AND COMMUNITIES.**

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