



The

RUSTY

HOOK

Seattle ILWU

PUBLISHED BY  
SEATTLE ILWU-PENSION CLUB



PACIFIC COAST PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

Summer 2024 - Volume #32 - No. 3



## The 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1934 West Coast Longshore Strike

By Curt Cunningham

Summer is finally here! The past 8 months have been unusually wet and soggy even by Northwest standards. I am sure every one of us is ready to get out and enjoy the sunshine and dry weather.

This year marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great 1934 West Coast Longshore Strike which ended the dreaded "Shape up" and "Fink Hall" and led to the eventual founding of the ILWU in 1937.

We should all take a moment to remember those who fought and gave their lives for the better working conditions, increased pay, and the other benefits which we enjoy today.

The 83 day strike began on May 9, 1934 which shut down the ports along the West Coast. The longshoremen wanted \$1 an hour, a 6 hour day, a 30 hour week, and union representation. But above all they demanded the abolition of the hated shape-up and replacement of the "fink hall" with a union run hiring hall.

Although July 5<sup>th</sup> is the official day of remembrance for all those who were killed and beaten during the strike we in Seattle need to remember two other important days. The first one is July 1<sup>st</sup> when Seattle Longshoreman Shelvy Daffron was killed by a company guard at the Standard Oil Co. (Chevron) terminal at Point Wells which is located a mile south of Edmonds, and the other day is June 20<sup>th</sup> when the "Battle of Smith Cove" took place and union sailor and Longshore supporter Olaf Helland was clubbed in the head which led to his death on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

The following paragraph is from the July 5, 1935 issue of the *Waterfront Worker*. "As we approach the first anniversary of July 5, 1934, known all up and down the coast as Bloody Thursday, it is well to pause for a moment and analyze the importance of this day not only to the maritime workers but all workers."

## The Murder of Shelvy Daffron

On June 1, 1934 the Standard Oil distributing plant at Point Wells had 100 employees on the regular payroll. There was also a large crew of extras. The company's tankers, the *R. J. Hanna* and the *Miller*, were idle and docked at their wharf; their crews had been pulled off by the Maritime Workers Industrial Union (MWIU). This had not seriously affected the operations as the huge storage tanks had millions of gallons of gasoline and fuel oils.

Suddenly this all changed when the company hired a crew of carpenters to build a large mess hall inside one of the warehouses. Cots and bedding were seen along side a wire fence. Barbed wire entanglements were added onto the ten foot fence which circled the yard and still do to this day.

The gates were then reinforced with steel and seven powerful searchlights were installed at strategic points. In addition to this twenty-one extra security guards were employed, working three shifts. It then became evident that the company was preparing for war.

On June 21st a company union was formed for the regular employees and on June 29th the manager gave each member a personal interview. The boss said they were getting ready to move the two ships docked there and asked if anyone objected to staying at the plant as there was sure to be trouble. He told them they would be fed and looked after in every way and the company was taking this precaution so that none of its employees would be injured while crossing the picket line while going to and from work.

On June 30th Shelvy Daffron, who had alerted the Strike Committee about unrest at Smith Cove, traveled that evening to Point Wells, after the union had heard that scab crews were about to take the two oil tankers out of the port. When the longshoremen tried to get past the dock's gates around 1:00am, they were ambushed by the guards and Daffron was shot in the back during the fight.

*Continued on page 2*

**Seattle ILWU Pension Club**

**Address:** 3440 East Marginal Way S.  
Seattle , WA 98134

**Phone:** 206.343.0504

**E-Mail:** pensioners@ilwu19.com

**Website:** ilwu19.com/cobwebs

<b>President</b>	Mary Fuller
<b>Vice President:</b>	Joe Toro
<b>Secretary Treasurer:</b>	Kathleen Brown
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Sally Roach
<b>Trustee:</b>	Lanny McGrew
<b>Trustee:</b>	John Fisher
<b>Trustee:</b>	Cyndi Kendall
<b>PSDC Delegate:</b>	Dan McKisson
<b>Convention Delegate:</b>	Joe Toro
<b>Historian:</b>	Cyndi Kendall
<b>Sick Committee:</b>	W. T. Lassiter
<b>Lunch Committee:</b>	Mary Fuller
<b>Rusty Hook:</b>	Curt Cunningham
<b>Final Dispatch</b>	Molly Gorski

**Next Meeting Dates**

July 1st—11:00am  
August 5th - 11:00am  
September 9th - 11:00am  
October 7th - 11:00am

**Seattle Pensioner Club Forms**

**Membership Renewal:** ilwu19.com/joinapp  
**Change of Address:** ilwu19.com/address

**The Rusty Hook**

**Online PDF Version:** ilwu19.com/rustyhook  
**Content Submission:** rustyhook@ilwu19.com  
**Subscriptions:** ilwu19.com/address

**ILWU-PMA Benefit Plan**

**Washington Area Director:** Andrea Stevenson  
**Address:** 21907 64th Ave West Suite 130  
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

**Website:** ilwu19.com/benefit\_plans  
**E-Mail:** washingtonawd@benefitplans.org  
**Office:** (206) 938-6720  
**Toll Free:** (877) 938-6720  
**Fax:** (206) 938-6726

**The Battle of Rincon Hill**

On Thursday July 5, 1934 at 8am the “Battle of Rincon Hill” began. Rincon Hill which overlooks the San Francisco waterfront was at the time home to many Frisco Longshoremen. It was from there that they first charged the police lines, only to be driven back by tear-gas and then live ammunition. They then built make-shift barricades and threw rocks, bottles, and bricks at the heavily armed police. When tear gas was shot into their ranks some who were wearing thick gloves returned the tear gas canisters. It was a short lived victory as charging mounted police overran their fortifications and drove them back up the hill. But the battle was not over and the fighting went on all morning long and by the afternoon it spread down to Market Street, where crowds of spectators assembled to watch the action. Then at three o’clock in the afternoon the strikers overran the police and surged down Mission Street, attempting to seize the waterfront to the south. After the battle ended two strikers were killed, Howard Sperry, a Longshoreman and war veteran, and Nick Bordouise, a culinary worker, and a member of the Cooks Union.

**The Battle of Smith Cove**

On July 18, 1934, the Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, and Bellingham ILA Locals formed “flying squads” composed of their most disciplined members. About 1,200 strikers had organized into these crack units and the next day they attacked the police who were stationed at Piers 40 and 41. (Now terminals 90 & 91) This was the beginning of the “Battle of Smith Cove.” When the longshoremen made that first advance against the police, they were stopped by tear gas. The strikers then made a second charge, this time covering their faces to mitigate the gas, and managed to break through police lines and took over the docks and then camped overnight by the railroad tracks which entered the terminals. Many of the workers in the area who were sympathetic toward the Longshoremen began pushing hard for a general strike, bringing forth their own demands while expressing their unity with the striking longshoremen, as the police terror and attempted “Red scare” intensified the struggle. While all this was going on the Central Federation of Labor officials continued their attempts to discourage the move for a general walk-out, but the rank and file workers were demanding that a vote be taken in their various unions. By the afternoon of July 19th 1,500 pickets had assembled at the gates of pier 41 (91), and they said “nothing moves in or out from now on!”

*Continued on Page 3*

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

Boilermakers', flour and cereal workers and machinists unions then returned majority votes for the walk outs.

The following day on July 20, 1934 in a pitched battle that lasted for 15 minutes, Mayor Smith led the police in a surprise attack that seriously injured 7 workers and 3 police and resulted in driving the pickets back from Piers 40 and 41. The police threw gas bombs in the faces of workers, burning them. They clubbed them unmercifully (This is when Olaf Helland was injured). Only then did they give up the ground that they had gained Wednesday the 18th. The gassing caused hundreds to suffer from nausea and headaches. Attempting to block trains from taking cargo on or off the docks, workers on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> constructed a barricade with ties and pieces of lumber across the tracks. Traffic was held for about an hour while cops gassed the workers again and tore down the ramparts.

To counter this move they all sat on the railroad tracks where the train was supposed to come in. The mounted police were able to move them off and opened the track, but as soon as the cops left, they went back and sat on the track again. The train engineer decided not to go on the track so he went onto another track trying to go out. Then someone threw a good-sized rock through the cab window and almost hit the engineer.

After the rock was thrown at the locomotive, Seattle longshoreman Wayne Moisio, hopped aboard that train and asked the engineers to stop. The engineer asked, "Why?" and he said, "Because it's unsafe." (Moisio was a big man and was a professional wrestler.) The engineer quickly got the message and stopped the train. After that Moisio was known as the "Train-Stopper."

### The Strike Ends

The Great Longshore Strike ended on October 12, 1934 after President Roosevelt's Arbitration Board decided to give the ILA control over hiring hall dispatching, among other concessions. The ability of the ILA to control dispatching ended up eliminating the discrimination union longshoremen had previously faced in the fink halls, and corrected the disparity of the waterfront's distribution of power in favor of organized labor.

### Remembrance of the Great Strike Begins to Fade

Thirty years later many were beginning to forget or lose interest in the struggle. In the July 16, 1964 issue of Local 19's newsletter *The Hook* is an article reminding the membership not to forget the past.

"*The Pensioner's express* and *The Hook* wholeheartedly agree, concerning the disappointment in the increasing lack of interest in Bloody Thursday.

Only a handful of members attended the annual ceremony at Shelvy Daffron's grave and there are probably only a few members left who knew the Brothers that were killed on that day in 1934. That makes no difference. These ceremonies are not for the old friends of these men, but are recognition of the fact, that out of the bloodshed, tear gas and lumped heads, the West Coast Longshoremen found unity which gave birth to the ILWU."

The editors of *The Hook* felt that it certainly wouldn't hurt anyone to take a little time out in remembrance. It probably would do us all a lot of good to remember that what we now enjoy today wasn't handed to us on a silver platter.

On April 10, 2024 retired member Joe Toro wrote the following statement expressing his concern that the memory of our past is being forgotten again. He writes;

"I see the atmosphere of our present world we live in, and it ain't lookin' good... Then I take a good look at the atmosphere of my world in the ILWU. It's not looking that good either. We just went through a long hard fight to keep our union together, keep us working, keep the world moving, take care of retired members and their spouses and survivors, preserve our jurisdiction and hold on to what we have established in the years of hard work and many changes.

It seems like our attitudes have changed, I don't see or feel appreciation from a lot of our members, especially over the last few years. We have so much, and yet never enough. We are never satisfied. Our leaders seem to get very little respect from the members, more so now than in previous times.

The new guys today must realize that without our leaders from the beginning until the present we would have no past or no future. We learn from the previous leaders, members, experiences and mistakes etc... That's how we set the table for us and our future new members!

What I see today makes me wonder if there is any way to repair some of our poor choices and bring together some of our thoughts and ways that will create more positive outcomes!!

From the day we finally became B registered and eventually A registered we won the lottery. We became a family member of the greatest union of all time!! Just in case you haven't noticed, many unions are gone. But yet, we are still standing. It's because of our past and present leaders and our members that stand together as one and have the backs of our Union Leaders and each other.

Never forget, that our leaders do not run this great union, the Rank & File does.

### March Pensioner's Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President MARY FULLER at 11:00 a.m.

ANDREA STEVENSON was the first speaker. She has information on how to register on the National Do Not Call list. The memo on the Death Benefit Receipt finally came out. She has forms in case you want to start the process over.

Chiropractic care continues to be a problem. She has long calls in regard to these, which take approximately 40 minutes each. Consequently, she's buried in paperwork and apologizes for being behind in getting back to members who call. She has handouts that she made up to help members navigate getting chiro care. The chiro office is not allowed to take money upfront. Our chiropractic benefit will never be the same as it was before. There are no more 40 visits per year. From 2002 up to current, due to all that went on, we almost lost our chiropractic benefit completely. There is no blame toward the International or the Coast. The blame is on our own members. This went to arbitration due to fraud, waste, and abuse by our members. This is what caused the problem.

Question was asked about osteopath. DONOVAN MCBRIDE recommended Jeff Hoff in Burien as he has been approved. Question was asked about a helper for ANDREA. She said that no one can be added to her staff without the union and employer agreement. She hopes to get the backlog cleaned up in six months. She is not allowed to help with chiropractic care. John Kagel is the arbitrator now.

Question was asked by MARK DOWNS regarding what's up with lifetime medical. ANDREA said we now have medical contract-to-contract; there is no longer lifetime medical.

Question was asked as to why ANDREA is not allowed to help with chiropractic bills. ANDEA said that we do not want responders or their boss to be involved in chiro any more. The union agreed to this in the contract; the employer demanded it. It was a decision that the union agreed to at the employer's request during the arbitration over chiropractic in 2022.

There was discussion about our medical plan being in jeopardy due to the abuse and fraud by some of our members.

The next speaker was MIA JACOBSEN from the Young Workers Committee. She ran for City Council this year. We need a resurgence of solidarity. The committee wants stories from the pensioners and will do interviews with anyone who is interested.

**President's Report** - was given by President MARY FULLER. She reminded members of the Pensioners Convention which will be held in Vancouver, BC,

September 16 - 18, 2024. The 39th International ILWU Convention will be held in Vancouver, BC, June 17 - 21, 2024. See her for more information on the Cuba event.

**Convention Delegate Report** - JOE TORO said the reason he did not go to the delegate caucus, which lasted four hours, was that the cost was going to be \$1,500-\$1,600, and he felt it was too expensive to go for that short amount of time. He is the delegate to the ILWU Convention in Vancouver in June, and it will also very expensive, to attend and he will not be going. He said the Pensioners Convention in September is the one we need to attend and he will be going to that one.

Report from the meeting in San Francisco on February 1, 2024 - The ILWU and ICTSI Oregon Inc. jointly announced that they reached a settlement of all legal claims. As a result of the settlement ICTSI will receive a payment of \$20.5 million.

The settlement arises from the party's participation in several days of mediation during the ILWU's bankruptcy case, which will be voluntarily dismissed as part of the terms of the settlement.

The irony of the bankruptcy; 1. This actually began over jurisdiction with 2 electrician jobs at a facility in Oregon. 2. A jury decided that the ILWU owed ICTSI \$93 million in damages. 3. In March 2020 an Oregon District Judge ruled the award was way too high and set damages at \$19.6 million - but ICTSI did not agree.

Then a new trial (which did not happen) was set with ICTSI seeking \$142 million. Above the millions ICTSI was seeking there were millions in legal fees.

**Trustees Report** - Trustee CYNDI KENDALL spoke about there needs to be more transparency in the records and that she should be able to access them. She then said the club needs to have a credit card so there is an accurate paper trail.

**New Business** - MARY said that in 2026 our club will be hosting the PCPA Convention here in Seattle. We need to start planning now. She is looking for volunteers.

JOHN FISHER moved that the club donate \$200 per month on an ongoing basis to the Local 19 Food Bank. This was approved. JOHN said that each month he goes to the Local 19 meeting and \$400 is collected on average. When the Raffle fund reaches \$1,000 it is donated to Local 19's Food Bank Fund. Discussion followed. Local 19 has designated six food banks in the area to which they donate, and they rotate the money to a different food bank each month. The 50/50 draw should be to a sub account which was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

**April Pensioner's Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by President MARY FULLER at 11:00 am.

President RICH AUSTIN was the first speaker and spoke about diversifying the cargo in our port. He then said that the Seaport Alliance isn't helping us. April 6 is when the first cruise ship arrives at Pier 91 and there may be more jobs at that terminal in the future. We have set the gold standard up and down the coast on cruise ships. Metro Cruise Services are coming in. We need to make sure everything sails on time. Discussions about the CFS at T-5 are on. The TIL Group and MSC talks are on regarding a more prominent role at T-18 and T-5 and that 50% of the occupation of those terminals will be with them. RICH said he really likes the new E-Board and the new people are fantastic with high energy. The April Local 19 membership meeting will have a talk about proper behavior on the cruise ship docks.

MARY asked if we can get on the pier to do the wreath ceremony for July 5th. RICH said we would, but access is limited this year due to the cruise ship situation. JOHN FISHER asked, what is our current relationship with the Seaport Alliance? RICH said that there was a meeting last week which started contentiously but ended on a better note and we feel they have a bias in favor of Tacoma.

JOE TORO asked about the attitudes of the new members in Local 19. RICH said that things are getting better. They are educating new members on why and how things work. TONY MORENO asked about the ICTSI issue and how much will each member need to pay. RICH said that is still under discussion and there will be a special meeting with the longshore division to discuss how much each member is going to pay. RICH said that we need to learn from this and not do it again. RICH then said that it's his opinion that we are drifting away from the labor movement. We need to put things in perspective regarding our objectives. There was then a discussion about the \$4 million loaned to us by Hawaii.

**Communications** – We received thanks you cards from SKIP MUNSON'S and ALEX BAROUMES' families.

We also received a thank you card from TERESA NEUFANG for the \$2,000 donated to the Food Bank. She said that \$1,000 went to Nourishing Network and \$1,000 to St. Mary's Food Bank in Seattle. MIA JACOBSEN and ALIA LIGHTER asked for information from pensioners on the video interview project they presented last month. They asked us

*Continued on Page 6*

*Final Dispatch*

PENSIONERS

Larry Dees 19  
 Stephen Lauritsen 52  
 Douglas Phelps 19  
 Phillip Curtis 52  
 Herbert Munson 19  
 Marland Sybouts 19  
 Kenneth Taylor 19

Virgil Lund 19  
 Robert Watson 19  
 William Styrk 19

SPOUSES

Catherine Cardnal 52  
 Dorothy Godfrey 98  
 Virginia Bakken 52

*Retirees*

Mike Scott 19  
 Patrick Sweeney 19

Barb Kizer 52

**Sick Committee**

Be sure to get plenty of exercise and take care of your heath. We want you to be healthy and enjoy your retirement. You have worked hard to earn it.

If you are in need of some socializing please come to one of the meetings. We'd love to see you.

If any of our Brothers and Sisters would like a call or visit instead; please give me a call at (206) 938-3207 cell; (206) 605-8479. W. T. LASSITER.

**Got an Alcohol or Drug problem?**

The ILWU has a way for you to seek help.

**ILWU/PMA Drug and Alcohol Program**

The program is available to all actives, retirees and their families. If you need help or someone to talk to,

Call; DONNIE SCHWENDEMAN our  
 Washington Area ADRP Representative

3600 Port of Tacoma Road Suite 503

Tacoma, WA 98104

Phone; (253) 922-8913 - Fax: (253) 922-8956

E-Mail: dschwendeman@benefitplans.org

**Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action**

psara.org

Working across generations for social justice, economic security, dignity, and a healthy planet for all of us.

Check out their newsletter;

**The Retiree Advocate**

psara.org/newsletter

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

about what we want the new generation to know about the ILWU/unions? MARY has her contact information if anyone is interested.

Cuba trip in 2025 information and application is available from MARY.

The 39th ILWU Convention call information for June 2024 in Vancouver is available and the PCPA Convention call for September 2024 in Vancouver is also available.

**Treasurer's Report** - It was approved that \$200 should be transferred to the Food Bank account of Local 19 on an ongoing monthly basis.

**New Business** - Motion was made by JOHN FISHER to move \$500 from the Pension Club Raffle Fund to Local 19's Food Bank Fund, which was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

### May Pensioner's Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President MARY FULLER at 11:00 am.

**Guest Speakers** – Conor Casey head of the Labor Archives at the UW. He said they have restored drop-in appointments although he said that it's better to make an appointment before you come. The Oral History Project interviews have been completed and are available online. Go to [ilwu19.com/cobwebs](http://ilwu19.com/cobwebs) for the link.

ANDREA STEVENSON was the next speaker. There are lots of cybersecurity attacks happening so be careful online. We all should register our phone numbers with the Do Not Call registry. On 4/23/2024, some personal information had been compromised; United Health Care and Kaiser had data breaches. Zenith was also hacked, and claims will be delayed for Washington and Oregon. California may also have been compromised. There is a notice on their website for more information.

Regarding Power of Attorney documentation information, you need two types, an Immediate POA and a Springing POA. You need to have a POA document; otherwise the State takes over. Get it done now while you are of sound mind! There are forms, but you should get an estate attorney. It needs to be current with Washington State law. There is a procedure to follow regarding forms that will be sent to your address that you will then need to send to your POA designee for them to sign and for them to return directly to the Benefits Plan. This is the ONLY way that your POA is valid. She is looking into why we have to do all of this. The Plan will not recognize your POA until these forms are sent in.

Question regarding a problem with a will in connection with a POA; a will is for when you die, and a POA is for when you are incapacitated. Statement was made that it would be helpful to have a document that lists all these requirements; ANDREA says that

she has one and will give copies out. Question whether a wife should fill out a POA as well; the answer is, not through the ILWU but do it through estate planning.

Local 19 President RICH AUSTIN, was the next speaker. He said work is slow and some shippers are leaving, but there may be good things about T-5 and MSC. T-18 is having ups and downs and SSA may consolidate T-30 and T-18. Local 19 sent three members to a breakbulk conference in New Orleans and they talked with potential customers.

JEFF VIGNA said that we need to deal with Seaport Alliance and the Port of Seattle; the Port of Seattle wants just the cruise ships and for Seaport Alliance to manage the rest. RICH said that we need a full-time Port of Seattle Commission, not part-time commissioners as we have now.

JOE TORO said he read his letter about our history being forgotten at the April E-Board meeting and got applause from about 50 members. RICH then urged the Pensioners to attend the Local 19 meetings. We should not be bickering with each other and that the fight is out there on the terminals and should NOT be within the union. Show up at the meetings and teach the new members.

BILL PROCTOR was the next speaker. He read a Resolution which demands an immediate ceasefire between Palestine and Israel and further requests that the ILWU investigate and divest the Pension Fund of any monies invested in any Israeli stocks, bonds, or securities if it has any. Motion was made to accept the resolution and after much discussion the motion was defeated.

**President's Report** - was given by President MARY FULLER. She asked that a motion be made to donate \$1,000 to Local 19 for the Bloody Thursday picnic. It was M/S/C, on the condition that Local 19 votes to have the picnic. (they approved the picnic it at the May Stop Work meeting.)

**Vice President's Report** - was given by JOE TORO. He will not going to the International ILWU Convention in June because it would be a waste of money, but he will be going to the International Pensioners Convention in September.

**Luncheon Committee Report** - was presented by MARY FULLER. A motion was made to allocate \$4,000 for the luncheon which was approved. She said JOHN FISHER had spent \$550 on wine.

**New Business** - A call was made to Kenny Carleton with the Teamsters, and that the Boeing Company had given approval to all Seattle Teamster drivers to stay away from Boeing property because of the Boeing Firemen's strike.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

### ILWU Seattle Local 19's 69th Annual Bloody Thursday Memorial Picnic

By Mary Fuller

The 5th of July, "Bloody Thursday" is almost upon us. This is a very busy day. The day begins with a meet up at the Local 19 hall at 6:00 am, from there we will be escorted to Pier 91 by the Local 19 motorcycle club. At Pier 91 we will lay a wreath into Elliott Bay to honor all the fallen longshoremen. Then we will be escorted to Lakeview Cemetery on 15th Avenue East where we will visit the grave site of Shelvy Daffron. This will happen at 8:00 am. We will clean up his grave site and put a wreath up to honor all the men we lost on Bloody Thursday.

Nicholas Bordoise, San Francisco

Alfred Sperry, San Francisco

Shelvy Daffron, Seattle, Point Wells

Richard Parket, Los Angeles

John Knudsen, Los Angeles

Olaf Helland, Seaman, Seattle

Bruce Lundberg, Seaman, Hong Kong

From the Lakeview Cemetery we will head to Lincoln Park for a fantastic Picnic. At 10:00 am the softball tournament begins. At 12:30 pm we will have the ringing of the bell and the names of our fallen comrades read. At 1:00 pm, let's eat!

The Picnic Committee may have a shuttle, for the old timers, to run between the Local 19 hall and Lincoln Park. Check with the Picnic Committee or the Pensioners office to make sure.

Hope to see you all there!



Earl George Photo

**SEATTLE MEMORIAL**—Seattle old timers gather on July 5 at the grave of Shelvy Daffron, a striking seaman killed on July 1, 1934, in the same wave of violence that produced Bloody Thursday in San Francisco. From left, Nettie Craycraft, Roscoe Craycraft, Esther Moisiso, Dode Goulet, Waino Mosio and Tom Richardson.

The 1976 Wreath Laying Ceremony.

The Dispatcher mistakenly said Daffron was a seaman instead of a Longshoreman.

### 55th Annual PCPA Convention Vancouver B. C.

September 15-18, 2024

Please join us for a convention filled with fellowship, fun, meeting new friends and old friends, a good hotel at a great location, delicious food and, of course, business meetings.

Holiday Inn Vancouver Center  
711 West Broadway Ave.  
Vancouver B. C. V5Z-3Y2  
Phone 604.879.0511

Ask for the ILWU/PCPA room rate  
If reserving online use code PCA

Room rates are \$229.00 cdn / \$167.23 us per night  
Parking \$15 a day cdn / \$10.95 us

Registration form, online room reservations and more information can be found at [ilwu19.com/cobwebs](http://ilwu19.com/cobwebs)

If you do not have an internet connection and need a registration form contact Mary Fuller at 206.380.5445 or Ted Grewcutt at 604.312.1744

### A Little History of the Bloody Thursday Remembrance Ceremonies and Picnic

The first ceremonies to our fallen brothers of the Great Strike were floral offerings on the street where Sperry and Bordoise were killed (which continue to this day) along with procession marches to the cemeteries where the two men were buried.

In 1948 1,500 Portland Longshoremen and other maritime workers along with their families gathered at the Everett Street seawall to toss the legendary wreath on the Willamette River and to hear the story of the workers struggle.

The wreath throwing ceremonies up and down the coast also continue to this day.

1954 marked the 20th anniversary of Bloody Thursday and on July 4th that year all the Puget Sound and Canadian locals held a picnic at the Peace Arch park in Blaine. That was also the first year July 5th became a stop work day. In Seattle only mail baggage and Army and Navy cargo was worked. The Military had agreed to keep the work to a minimum.

On July 5, 1955 was Local 19's first remembrance picnic. This is when the Seattle Pensioner's combined the commemoration of Bloody Thursday with a picnic which was held at Lincoln Park in West Seattle. From then on it became an annual event.

RUSTY HOOK / Summer 2024

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

### **Thank you to all who paid your dues and made donations to the Pensioner's Club and the ILWU Food Bank**

From SUZANNE HICKS, \$90.00 for 2024, 2025, & 2026 dues and \$10.00 donation to the Club.

From JOSH TURGEON, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From SALLY BJORNSON, \$25.00 donation to the ILWU Food Bank. We'd love to see you at the meeting.

From JODI ITMAN, \$90.00 for 2024, 2025, & 2026 dues and \$100.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From JIM WALDEAN, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$30.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From MIKE BLACK, \$90.00 for 2024, 2025, & 2026 dues.

From JIM MINIKEN, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 for donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From LARRY SAMPLES, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$170.00 donation in memory of his father "RED" SAMPLES, and some of his dad's closest pals on the waterfront, ART WALLACE, RICH MALETTA, & ED KAMPANOS. Thank you LARRY, for the trip down memory lane!

From DON REIDEL, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. You are right DON, It was very rewarding to be a longshoreman and it is wonderful to see the ILWU grow.

From KEVIN CASTLE, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From TERESA LEWIS, \$30.00 for 2024 dues, \$30.00 for the Annual Luncheon, and \$40.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From JOHN BEE, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$30.00 for the Annual Luncheon.

From CHARLIE WILBERT, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$30.00 for the Annual Luncheon.

From DAVE STAPLETON, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From SALLY ROACH, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From SAM MATULIC, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club.

From DONOVAN McBRIDE, \$30.00 for 2024 dues.

From JOHN HOBLET, \$30.00 for 2024 dues.

From BOB TAYLOR, \$100.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. BOB you are already paid up through 2024.

From BUTCH PETERSON, \$60.00 for 2023 & 2024 dues and \$90.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you BUTCH.

From GILBERT CASIAS, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$60.00 donation to the Club. Thank you GILBERT.

From LEO WALKER, \$90.00 for 2024, 2025, & 2026 dues and \$10.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks LEO.

From PAT HUNIUI, \$30.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks PAT.

From LORIE HUNIUI, \$30.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks LORIE.

From ROGER MURRAY, \$180.00 for 6 years of dues, \$30.00 for a luncheon ticket, and \$90.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks so much ROGER.

From BILL PROCTOR, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks BILL.

From KATALINA MONTERO, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks KATALINA.

From CURT & LEONA CUNNINGHAM, \$60.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks CURT & LEONA.

From COSETTE HILL, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$30.00 for a luncheon ticket. Thanks COSETTE.

From CHRIS ROMISCHER, \$60.00 for 2023 & 2024 dues and \$40.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you CHRIS.

From DAVID VIGIL, \$30.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks DAVID.

From LARRY MCNABB, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$15.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you LARRY.

From JEFFREY SHOSTAD, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$30.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you JEFF.

From SALLY BJORNSON, \$50.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you so much SALLY.

From MAX VEKICH, Jr., \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$50.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks so much MAX.

From PHIL & PAULA ACOSTA, \$60.00 for both their dues and \$40.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you PHIL & PAULA.

From JOANNE HOPPER, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you JOANNE.

From DALE HANKE, \$100.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you so much DALE.

From MATT PALMER, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$50.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you MATT.

From JOE SULLIVAN, \$30.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks JOE.

From BRIAN LAMBERT, \$30.00 for 2024 dues. Thanks BRIAN.

From RON MACLENNAN, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thanks RON.



## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

From GARRY SCRIBNER, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$100.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you GARRY.

From CHARLES KOLE, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you CHARLIE.

From DAVID WILLIAMS, \$150.00 for 2023 to 2027 dues and \$30.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you DAVID.

From STEVE RAMELS, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you STEVE.

From JACKIE SZIKSZOY, \$30.00 for 2024 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Pensioner's Club. Thank you JACKIE.

A nice note was sent from PAT SULLIVAN to notify us that his wife, BONNIE SULLIVAN, just passed away recently. So sorry PAT. Our hearts go out to you.

We also received a nice note from ELVALENE AARBAK HAYWARD, telling us a story about her father, ANDREW JENSEN AARBAK (HANK). "When my father, HANK, was working on the waterfront in 1957 there was to be a shipment of farm animals to Alaska. Among them was a cow that would not stand up. They thought she was sick. They sent for HANK since he knew about farm animals. He looked her over and said "she's not sick, she's going to have a calf." When the calf was born they had to wait a week until the calf was old enough to walk." Thank you so much for the story ELVALENE.

### Tales Tossed up by the Tide

The adventures of Steve Adore

Now that I got a good look at what longshoring was like in the 1890's, I decided this time to go to San Francisco and see what it was like down there in the 1860's. So I dialed in the date and place into my time machine and away I go.

I came out on the corner of Davis Street and Pacific Avenue. Back then this corner was right on the waterfront. I then left my machine in an alley and walked out onto the street.

I looked around and saw ships of all sizes anchored out on the bay with many docked at the various wharves along the front. I walked down onto the Pacific wharf which was at the end of Pacific Street now called Pacific Ave. and saw cargo being discharged from a large schooner. I noticed a double team of horses which were used to hoist the cargo out of the hold. I watched as the boss stevedore called out "go ahead" and off they went until the boss yelled "high" and the horses stopped. Then a third call by the boss and the load would be swung out over the dock and

the horses would then lower the cargo. The longshoremens would then take the cargo and the process would start all over again.

While I was watching, a man next to me said; "if only I could take one of these ships to Australia." I asked him why he wanted to go there. He replied; "Violette is there." He then smiled the melancholy smile of the forsaken lover and then told me she had sailed away about a month ago as a governess to a child of a rich Canadian and he would never see her again. I then asked him his name and he told me it was John Fisher but they call me "Calico John." He then asked me my name and I replied; "They call me Steve."

I then told him you can never tell what might happen and maybe someday you will see her again. He shot back; "it's too far away and it is too expensive to take the trip on one of these vessels to go after her." He then offered to buy me a drink and we walked back up to one of the many saloons along the waterfront.

We sat down at the bar and Calico John ordered us a couple of drinks and the woman behind the bar poured us some whiskey. "That's Cyndi Kendall," said Calico John, "she owns the place." She then asked me what I was doing in town. I answered that I was from Seattle and came to see how they were working the ships. She didn't seem very interested and went on to pour some more drinks.

After Calico John bought me a few more I began to feel a bit woozy and felt like I was about to drift off to sleep. The last thing I remembered was Calico John stamping his foot.

When I awoke I was on a ship heading out to sea. I didn't know it at the time but I was Shanghaied by Miss Cyndi and Calico John who was a crimp and worked for her. Cyndi Kendall was a ferocious woman and her bar was on the infamous "Barbary Coast" of San Francisco. Calico John would lure the mark into the saloon and maneuver him along until he was sitting on a stool above a trapdoor and the mark would fall onto a mattress below and then taken out to a waiting ship.

It is said that one day there was nobody to crimp and Miss Cyndi had Calico John go to the morgue and grab a body and he would tell the captain the mark was passed out drunk. The captain wouldn't realize he was dead until they were far out to sea.

My first thought was how am I going to get back to my own time as my machine was back on shore. I wasn't worried about it being discovered as it is equipped with a cloaking device, but I was now trapped on a ship sailing to some far off place and if I couldn't get back to San Francisco I would be trapped in this timeline for the rest of my life.

*Continued on Page 10*

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

Right then I was kicked in the side of the head by the first mate while he yelled; "get on your feet and get on deck!" I was still a bit drowsy but I got up as fast as I could so I didn't get kicked in the head again.

On deck I met the second mate who could tell I was mad from being kicked in the head. He said to me; "better to do what you're told as the ship's officers are almighty here. We can be brutish, hellish, and we will murder you if we wish. Were you to avenge this assault upon you right now with your fists, he might seize a belaying-pin and knock your brains out with it." I asked him the name of the first mate and he said it was Arnold Gunderson but he was known as "Gundy" the cruelest brute on two legs afloat. I then asked him his name and he said it was Joseph "Don Juan" Del Toro and that he was a descendant of the famous "Don Juan" the "Seducer of Seville." He then said that he had been a pirate on a Spanish Galleon and had plundered many English ships of their cargo before coming aboard this American vessel. He then said "I gotta go" and told me to shut my mouth before Gundy hits me again.

My first task at sea was helping three other men in "pulling the bear." This was an interesting process consisting of four disinterested men dragging about the main deck a cumbersome wooden box heavily laden, and on the bottom was either a layer of glass or sandpaper.

By this process the decks are kept scrupulously clean and the men kept from becoming fat. The work is non-exciting, except in heavy weather, when great green seas rush and tumble irresponsibly over the waist of the ship or forecastle. Then it is, necessary to drop the "tail" suddenly and tear madly towards the fife-rail, or to anything fixed in order to avoid one's life taking up a new address.

The next day I learned we were on a schooner called the *Flying Cloud* and its captain was Mary Fuller and we were sailing to Hong Kong for a cargo of tea, porcelain and rice.

I was told Captain Fuller was rescued from a sinking barque a year ago while they were sailing to Sydney, Australia.

She told them a harrowing tale of being sent to the penal colony from England and had escaped by stowing away on that ill-fated barque. The captain of the *Flying Cloud* at that time was an old salt named Lanny "Iron Fists" McGrew. He was a fearless man and a tyrannical leader. They said he once killed a man by punching him in the mouth because his breath smelled like pickled onions. Fuller convinced "Iron Fists" to become part of the crew as she was tough as nails and worked harder than most men. One day while at sea she got into a fight with "Iron Fists" and stabbed him

in the eye with her knife and killed him. She then took over as captain and none of the crew would dare contest it. They were glad to be rid of the tyrant.

After almost 2 months at sea we finally reached port and the loading of the cargo began. I wasn't allowed off the ship as shanghaied sailors never get shore leave so I was not able to watch the longshoremen load the ship. I was locked up in the brig below deck. After the ship was loaded within a gnat's eyebrow of her marks, she gallantly nosed into the dark immense open sea, as thousands of sailing vessels had done before.

As the shoreline faded from view I was allowed out of my confinement and I began to pace the deck wondering how I was going to get off this ship alive.

Second mate Del Toro joined me after his watch and told me about his time on shore getting into fights and seducing women like his ancestor did.

I soon found out we had a picked up a new crew member who was an experienced seaman. His name was William T. Lassiter and he had come from a long line of British naval sailors. He told the captain that he wanted to work the vessel for passage to Frisco and signed on to the *Flying Cloud*.

Later when we were having our dinner Lassiter asked me; "How did you come to be aboard here with these rat-eaters as I can tell you're no sailor?" I said I was shanghaied. Lassiter then shouted with a sonorous, bell-toned laughter; "shanghaied? Now, that is really good."

After about a month into our voyage back to Frisco the skies began to darken and the wind started to blow harder. Lassiter said to me; "ever been in a cyclone." With a worried voice I said no.

He then said; "the devil is about to pass the goods right along to us; straight off the belt end! It's coming direct from the center of Hell itself."

I was now scared the ship would break apart and we would be stuck on one of the life boats and would later have to draw straws to see who would be eaten when the food ran out.

At this moment a sudden green sea flopped mercilessly upon us from the starboard quarter, and knocked us clean over the hatchway. Fortunately we felt none the worse except for a bruise or two.

Scrambling to my feet, I looked up from rubbing my shin and saw Lassiter clearing the blood off a forehead wound from his eyes. He had been washed off his feet, and had struck a hatchway wedge.

For the first time in my life I learned what it means to be fixed eight points from the center path of a cyclone at sea! My God!

*Continued on page 11*

RUSTY HOOK / Summer 2024

## AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

So tightly against the ratlines the wind pressed against me that once I thought the breath had passed out of my lungs. Perhaps it had, temporarily; for one ratline pressed my throat. Only a short lull and a love of life enabled me to go on. Then I heard a sound, much like the sharp, crack sound from a pistol. Something had gone.

I found the roll and pitch of the ship terrifying. The masts swept through great arcs. But I had long since become used to all ship motions; it was all of the ship's parts and workings that I didn't really know anything about.

If it wasn't bad enough, the darkness, the frightful darkness which seemed almost like a substance out of which it belched roar upon roar. Then the screaming winds.... I was afraid.... But I held tight!

Standing as I was on the futtock plate at the top of the lower mast, I sometimes found the wind slack clean out of the lower top-sail. The cause for this I eventually learned was the sea running so high behind us! The waves were do high, perhaps a hundred feet or more, that they effectively blocked the wind from filling the sail, and the lower top-sails were at least seventy feet above the deck. The highest watery hills I have ever known.

Fortunately, the crew on deck had been ordered into the cabin by our far-sighted skipper, to protect their lives.

During all of the commotion I saw Gundy coming toward me with a belaying pin stuck in his pocket. The winds made it so you couldn't hear anything. I thought this could be my chance to get back at him for kicking me in the head. He never liked me and tormented me every day since I came aboard.

When he got close to my face he yelled; "I am going to send you to Hell!" With that I struck him in the face with all my might. I then expected to be hit with the belaying pin but it never came. I struck again and it landed in air. There was no more mate. I then felt along the rail for his hands thinking he was up to some trick.

Then I saw the captain come toward me and when she got close enough she was able to tell me that Gundy had let go of the rail which she thought was insane.

There, into the hideous howling darkness Gundy had forever disappeared, hurtling like a shot into the gigantic raging waters below.

"He went," concluded the captain, without remorse, "to where he belonged from his birth."

I believed her that he may have been insane. I was told later that as a rule, first mates are excellent, often super-excellent-sailors.

At last, running at the rate of two hundred and eighty six sea miles in twenty-four hours, we dodged out of the path of the cyclone, though the seas were still foamy and lumpy, and still paid sullen visits aboard occasionally. Our good barometer, steadily rising, betokened good things to come.

After sixty-four days the *Flying Cloud*, was now in the wake of the panting little tug, *Sioux Chief*, as she pushed her rusty nose through the green waters leading up to the world famed "Narrows of the Golden Gate."

Once we were in the bay the ship dropped anchor. Then the welcome home bottle came out and the captain and crew began to drink. I was wondering if they forgot to put me in the brig so I wouldn't escape. But for whatever reason they seemed to forget about me and it was time to plan my departure from this Hell on the high seas.

So I just hid away and waited until the liquor did its job. Later that evening the ship's lamps were trimmed for the last time, and I returned on deck with great determination to escape. I would go ashore tonight and forever free myself from the ship now that her crew had turned into drunken wild beasts.

I had watched the tide as it flowed out and when it started to come back, I would make my escape. It wasn't long before that happened and when nobody was watching me I jumped ship into the cold water of the bay below. I began to swim toward the shore and had to remove some of my clothes to make it easier to swim. I figured that once on shore I would go directly to my machine and get back to my time to end this nightmare of an adventure.

Before long I was back on shore and it was late at night. I was worried the crimps who were roaming the streets would see me and try to force me back into another journey at sea.

I was able to avoid any trouble and made it back to where I had left my machine. The relief of knowing I was finally free gave me a rush that ran through my body as I set my machine for home.



THE RUSTY HOOK  
3440 E. Marginal Way S.  
Seattle, WA 98134

---

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT NO. 1320

---

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Tear gas used by police during the Longshore Strike July, 1934 at Smith Cove  
Drawing by Ronald D. Ginther

### **Bloody Thursday**

By Kathleen Cronin  
Written in the 1940's

Labor haters challenge human rights and  
call us "Red."

Yes, on the splintered docks our blood was  
red.

It was red at Seattle, Pier Park and Pedro.  
And it was red when the Embarcadero ran,  
From curb to curb with blood on Mission,  
From sunrise to the San Francisco dark.  
Let cowards call us names-and die in bed;  
We are longshoremen gathered here today.  
Ship booms are still this hour,  
no winches turn.

And in the heart the bitter memories burn.  
In Bridges Stetsons and our Sunday ties,  
Remember now, beneath these gentler skies,  
The sling loads and the stooges and the pay.  
Men died because of them. They took the  
brunt,

The sons of struggle, who have made life  
good  
For living thousands on the waterfront.

The ILWU is a symbol of our brotherhood.  
We stand with bare heads bowed and banners  
furled,

Across the 'front our silent pledge is hurled;  
The Years Go By.

But We Shall Not Forget!

