

## Upcoming in August

### **Stewards Meeting**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – August 6:00

### **Membership meeting**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – August 6:00

### **Baseball game Aug 16.**

The above meetings are held at  
The Union Hall located at

3831 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE  
Suite # 100  
Salem, Oregon 97302

503- 370-2522

## **Political:**

By: Jack Tucker

We need to prepare “now” for the November State, County and City Elections! It will be important to all City Employees that we help get **Ted Kulongoski** elected as the next Governor of Oregon and **Linda Bierly** into the City Council position she currently holds. **Ted Kulongoski** was the Union Attorney for Council 75 prior to his political career. Ted wrote the Public Employees Collective-bargaining agreement for the State of Oregon, so he understands both sides of the issues when it relates to labor and public Employees benefits.

The political campaigns that will begin soon after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holidays will require our support and participation. We will be helping them by making phone calls, placing yard signs, knocking on doors, talking to friends and relatives and writing letters to the editor.

## **Union Picnic:**

August 31<sup>st</sup> 11:00

# Volcanoes Baseball game

The date for this years baseball game is Friday, August 16, 2002.

Because of the large number of “no” shows at last years game- a motion was put before the general membership on May 9<sup>th</sup> to pay in advance of the game (it passed unanimously), then get reimbursed. The advanced payment is \$7.00 per person. Local 2067 will return up to \$14.00 at the general membership meeting on July 11, the deadline for purchasing tickets is July 19<sup>th</sup>. Reservations will be reimbursed at the General Membership meetings in July. Fill out the entry form and submit it with payment to your Shop Steward by the July 19<sup>th</sup> deadline.

<b>Volcanoes Baseball Game</b>		August 16, 2002
Name _____	Number of tickets _____	
<small>Please PRINT</small>		
Amount Paid _____	Authorized Ticket Number/Agent _____	Ticket Purchased From _____
<small>Maximum Ticket reimbursement \$14.00 Must be paid in advance of deadline (July 19, 2002)</small>		

# Bargaining Update

By: Local 2067 President

# Social Security?

Political opinion submitted by: unknown E-mail Author

Perhaps we are asking the wrong questions during election years.

Our Senators and Congressmen do not pay into Social Security and, of course, they do not collect from it. Social Security benefits were not suitable for persons of their rare elevation in society.

They felt they should have a special plan for themselves. Many years ago they voted in their own benefit plan. In more recent years, no congress person has felt the need to change it. After all, it is a great plan.

For all practical purposes their plan works like this: When they retire, they continue to draw the same pay until they die, except it may increase from time to time for cost of living adjustments.

For example, former Senator Byrd and Congressman White and their wives may expect to draw \$7,800,000.00 (that's Seven Million, Eight-Hundred Thousand), with their wives drawing \$275,000.00 during the last years of their lives. This is calculated on an average life span for each. Their cost for this excellent plan is \$00.00. Nada. Zilch. This little perk they voted for themselves is free to them. You and I pick up the tab for this plan. The funds for this fine retirement plan come directly from the General Funds--our tax dollars at work!

From our own Social Security Plan, which you and I pay (or have paid) into--every payday until we retire (which amount is matched by our employer)--we can expect to get an average \$1,000 per month after retirement. Or, in other words, we would have to collect our average of \$1,000. monthly benefits for 68 years and one month to equal Bradley's benefits!

Social Security could be very good if only one small change were made. And that change would be to jerk the Golden Fleece Retirement Plan from under the Senators and Congressmen. Put them into the Social Security plan with the rest of us and then watch how fast they would fix it.

## **The 35<sup>th</sup> International Convention- Las Vegas**

By President and Delegate to the 2002 Convention: Jack Tucker

The 35<sup>th</sup> International Convention convened in Las Vegas, Nevada on Monday June 24<sup>th</sup> 2002.

The three thousand seven hundred (3,700) delegates that attended this convention represented 1,061,964 votes for 1,512 Locals and 42 Councils from across the United States including Puerto Rico.

The Delegates voted to amend 41 resolutions, adopt three (3) amendments to the International Constitution and defeated five (5) other amendments on the floor of the convention.

Some of the resolutions that were adopted were . . . Affordable Health Care for All, Transportation of Nuclear Waste, Labor Law Reform, meeting the challenges of the 2004 elections and a new political environment and AFSCME Stewards in Action Training Program.

The resolutions and amendments were not the only activities at the convention. There were guest speakers like- **Linda Sanchez** (Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives) and her sister **Loretta Sanchez** (a current member of the U.S. House of Representatives), **Harold A. Schaitberger**, (General President of International Association of Firefighters), Erin Brockovich (Environmental Crusader-PGE), **Ted Kulongoski** (Candidate for Governor of Oregon), **Ron Kirk** (Candidate for U.S Senate, Texas) and Actor / Activist **Martin Sheen**.

3,700 AFSCME members participated in a protest demonstration on Fremont Street under the famous lights. We were there supporting our Brothers and Sisters from Culinary Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165, both affiliates of HERE (Hotel, Entertainment and Restaurant Employees). Casino owners have refused to settle contracts with these two Locals, so we said we will give you some of that AFSCME Power! And that is exactly what 3,700 of us did. Enduring the 108-degree temperature of the afternoon, we marched up and down Fremont Street in front of the casinos that refused to settle their contracts. We also boycotted two other anti-union casinos while visiting Las Vegas, they were

the Venetian and the Aladdin Hotel and restaurants. With 3,700 visitors to Las Vegas not participating in their establishments for five days, that has to hurt!

## **Minute-By Minute General Membership Meeting – Local 2067 - June 13, 2002**

Call To Order: 06:00 PM

**Roll Call of Officers and Stewards:** Jack T. -Mike H. –Guido C. -Yoly S. -Ann B. -Steve B. -Roberta P.  
Absent: Lynn A. –Ben M. –Sonny M. –Larry F. –Steve K. –Dale M.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Correction: Minutes last month reflect the baseball game as being on August 18<sup>th</sup> and it should have read August 16<sup>th</sup>. The ticket for signing up for the baseball game that ran in the last newsletter is the correct date (August 16<sup>th</sup>).

### **Guests:**

**Greg Harr** is running for County Commissioner Position 2 in Marion County. Greg is running as an Independent this November and will be going door to door starting this weekend. He has been with the county for 12.5 years. Has spent a lot of time working on the county's employee contract and did not agree with what he saw the current commissioners do to that contract. Greg knows that the current commissioners are anti-union and sees that employees are going to be asked to pay for their benefits. He also noted that a ton of money was wasted on the Marion Square Building and the county is recouping their losses of this mistake by spreading it out all over the county.

Greg is very knowledgeable of the inner workings of the county. Additionally he worked in the mailroom and as a result actually knows a lot of the county employees. Greg is totally against the 50 million dollar county Park Bond that is being put in front of the voters on their ballots in November. Our local endorses only on a local level monetarily, however our local can endorse at the county level without donation funds.

### **Joe Baessler:** With the Oregon Bus Project

This group is using a bus to travel throughout the State of Oregon through a grass roots involvement/hands on type of approach of talking to voters. They are trying to engage people in grassroots civic action, educate participants about Oregon and its needs, and elect a more progressive government. Approximately only 6% of eligible voters actually get out and vote at each election. There are 6 trips planned for the summer and 6 trips planned for the fall. The group will work with local volunteers and go door-to-door to help local candidates deliver their message. After canvassing they will gather to discuss and support local and statewide efforts and offer other help to the community. They are asking for riders, gas money, etc. to help them out with this project. You do not need any political experience to get on the bus. This group offers training for those who want it. Please make checks payable to BusPac, P.O Box 15132, Portland, OR 97293. Email: [getonthebus@buspac.org](mailto:getonthebus@buspac.org). Telephone: 503-284-0531.

### **Reading of Correspondence:**

-Summer School for Union Women: Three days, June 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Women organizing women summer school registration from the Labor Education and Research Center. Registration deadline is June 10<sup>th</sup>. One member of the local may be reimbursed up to \$450.00 for expenses with a receipt.

-Oregon Taxpayers United:

### **Retirees:**

-John Nardini is retiring from PW/WLTP at the end of this month after 20 years service with the City Of Salem.

-Forrest Jennings has retired from PW/Streets after 38 years service with the City Of Salem.

-Leroy Weathers from PW/Water is retiring this coming week after 37 years of service with the City of Salem.

**Election Results:** We only had 98 people turn out to vote. Sue Ballard was elected to the E-Board position as the newest member. Thanks Yoly Solis for your service and hard work, and welcome to Sue Ballard!

Swearing in of all new officers. Elected officers are as follows:

President (Jack Tucker), Treasurer (Sonny Mauldin), Sargent at Arms (Tami Patterson), E-Board (Sue Ballard), and Ann Everett (Trustee).

**President's Report:** (Jack Tucker)

Jack misplaced the agenda this month and is forgoing his report until next month when he has the notes with him.  
-Delegates are going to the International Convention, leaving on June 23<sup>th</sup>. There are packets that Jack has to give to all members who will be going to the convention before they leave. By the middle of next week, information packets and per diem checks will be personally passed out to those attending the conference.

**Chief Steward:** (Mike Higgs)

-Thank you to the stewards who are working so hard with various departments and management. Mike feels that the stewards are doing a really good job and building a very good working relationship with their managers and that we are heading in the right direction. It takes time to find a comfortable level, but it gets better and better and you really do start to feel more comfortable with what you are doing. We are getting more local leaders involved in the interview/hiring process, which is because of the steward's hard work.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasure Report:** (Sonny Mauldin. Guido giving report tonight in Sonny's absence).

Checking: \$ 3,390.83

Savings: \$16,426.62

Interest Bearing CD: \$94,855.28

**Membership Services:** (Larry Frazier/Mike Higgs-Ballgame)

The baseball is coming up Friday night, August 16<sup>th</sup>. The committee will be meeting June 18<sup>th</sup> after they are finished with the handouts for the bargaining update. Last year, there were 200 people who signed up last year and only 98 actually showed up at the game. Deadlines will be set for buying tickets, and details on how the local is going to handle everything will ironed out at this meeting.

**Newsletter:** (Guido Coszalter)

Deadline for submitting articles is tomorrow June 14<sup>th</sup> for the July newsletter. Please submit articles or pictures you want included for your area.

**Good and Welfare:** (Yoly Solis)

-The Buck: Ann Everett has the Buck this month and Alice Norton will have it next month.

The group is meeting right after tonight's membership meeting.

-Dean Bartell was the President at the Pinnacle Theater. Yoly is going to contact the E-Board members after the meeting to check on getting a card sent and possible donation to the theater in Dean's name.

**PAC Committee:** (Yoly Solis)

-Signatures gathered on petitions needs to be returned to council 75 by the end of this month. Val is asking everyone that got petitions signed to please turn them into her as quickly as possible.

**Health Benefits:** (Sue Ballard)

-The local committee has not met, however there are several things happening between the joint committees.

-The new health benefits web site is now up and running via the City of Salem intranet.

-The group is working on healthcare and other cost options in that area.

-Looking to form softball teams for next year.

-The group has started up a walking at lunchtime exercise program.

**Council Report:** (Val Andreas)

-Signature Gathering: On June 20th, Council 75/SEIU is doing signature gathering in Salem. You will partner up at 5:30 PM at the SEIU office. Cornelia Murphy is the contact person for this project.

-AFL-CIO Summer School: To be held, August 2<sup>nd</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>, in Eugene at the University of Oregon. Starts on Friday evening.

There are several courses and workshops offered which include: Grievance handling, Contract Negotiations, Politics, etc. There are regulars who attend this every year. You stay in a dorm room and Val recommends taking a fan. You may receive a flyer in the mail at home but you can contact either Yoly, Val, or Jack as well.

-AFL-CIO received an award for the phone banking and it specifically mentioned Salem. AFSCME in Portland has the award up there in their office. Cornelia Murphy was the one who put the phone banking all together.

-Bargaining Update: We gave the city a proposal and they city came back with a counter proposal and talked about picking up the PERS in January this year. The biggest sticking issue is coming down to health care benefits. Unfortunately we are going to end up with cost sharing, but the local is trying to avoid large employee payments in the first year. We are loosing our HMO health coverage, and going to PPO health coverage starting in January. This is why the bargaining team is having such a hard hammering this issue out this year.

The Union proposed language for a joint Labor Management Benefit Group that would be working to look at alternative options of cost, other providers, etc. Our union wants to be involved in finding a solution and lowering our health care costs. The second year would provide for keeping the costs low and seeking other alternatives. The union's proposal is that the city would contribute 15% more towards our health care costs in the second year, as well as the third year. Any cost above that would be split 50%/50%. The city's proposal was a lot higher. At this point the city is bargaining for a three-year contract but this has changed back and forth from two years to three years and back again, several times. There are several language issues still remaining. See upcoming handouts on bargaining updates.

We are now going into mediation mainly over the health care issue, although there are other issues that still need to be settled. The mediation is occurring over the issue of \$6.24 for 200 family member's coverage and the prescription plan that the City is offering. The money issue is really small and it's kind of sad to have to go through mediation, but the offer was not enough to meet our members needs. The local still believes that the City manager and the council want this contract signed by the June 30<sup>th</sup> but this could still be bargaining posturing on the City's side.

- Bill Sizemore is soliciting money for two powerful pro-taxpayer measures going to the November ballot, which puts public employee unions on the rope. They have three weeks to raise \$60,000 to complete their signature drives. If they get this done, we will see these measures on the November ballot, which is very scary.

Special Council Meeting Scheduled for Monday night: We encourage our members to show up at the special City council meeting on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Please wear your new green T-shirts.

**Parks Bond:** (Mike Higgs)

Parks Department is asking for volunteers to man two hour increments in the booth. There is some literature to help you in what you need to say. Mike has volunteered to wear the squirrel suit and have someone walk him around. Volunteers will be attending the Art Fair as well as World Beat, etc. Please see Mike Higgs to sign up and volunteer your time.

**T-Shirts for Sale:**

Anyone interested in purchasing a T-shirt to wear to the City council meeting. You may purchase a local T-shirt when you attend the monthly meeting. Tuesday's are still wear your button to work days.

**Membership Committee:** (Mike Higgs)

This group has now had the opportunity to put membership packets together. If you are a contact person please contact this committee to get some packets for new hires in your area.

**Drawings:**

\$10                    Ann Everett/GS Printing

\$100                   Scott Wargnier

Vera Roby

No winners present. The pot goes to \$110 next month.

Good of the Order:

Date of next membership meeting is July 11th.

Adjourned: 07:45 PM

Lynn Amstutz

Local 2067 Secretary