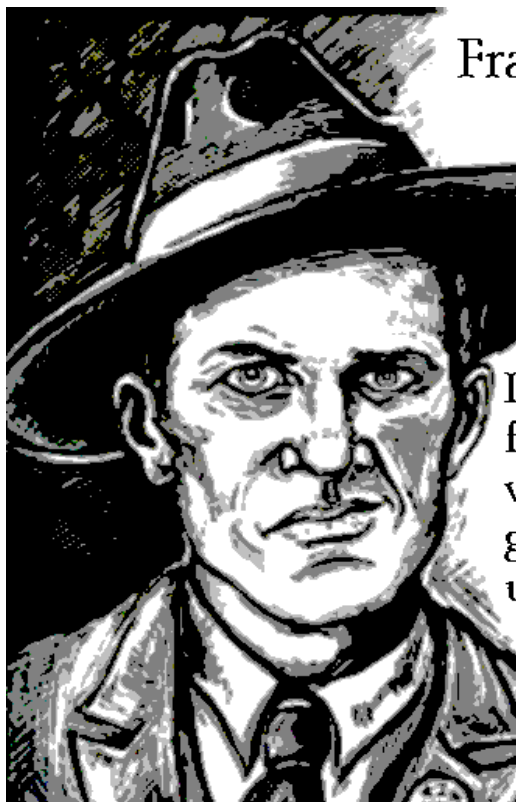


OUR UNION'S INTERNAL DISCUSSION FORUM

GOB #5 2007



GENERAL ORGANIZATION BULLETIN OF THE
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD



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The General Executive Board of the IWW is accessible to all members. You may write to Board members and request an explanation of their votes. You may also write to them and ask that they sponsor a motion on behalf of you, your group, or branch. Only the Board Chair's summary of motions and votes is reported in the GOB. If you would like to see a specific Board member's report, or receive a full set of all Board member's reports, please write to GHQ. We request that you include a few dollars for every month's reports you want. Members can subscribe to the General Administration e-mail list – write to:

richard@freegeek.org

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMISSION

Communicate with all ISC members at once by
e-mailing *solidarity@lists.iww.org*.

Lauren Anzaldo - *Chairperson*
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ORGANIZING DEPARTMENT

For information or support regarding organizing, e-mail:
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GENERAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE

Tom Kappas - *Secretary-Treasurer*
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Official Notices

What's a GOB?

For some of you, this is your first ever General Organization Bulletin — familiarly known to most members as the GOB.

The GOB comes out a minimum of eight times a year. It is the union's internal newsletter, an open forum for members to discuss issues of concern to the union. It also serves as a window into the General Administration. Through the GOB you can follow the actions of the IWW's General Executive Board (GEB), and read our monthly (and annual) financial reports. The GOB also publishes notices from delegates and branches; news of elections, and discussion of the issues; as well as news or reflections on IWW campaigns and projects.

Submissions can be sent by e-mail to **mingoslim21@aol.com** with "*For the GOB*" as the subject line, or by postal mail to:

General Headquarters - IWW
Post Office Box 23085
Cincinnati, OH 45223 - U.S.A.

By long-standing IWW policy, submissions may not include personal attacks against other members, (except that members shall have complete freedom to criticize the conduct of union officials without censorship, subject to the provisions of By-Laws Article III, Section 6a). Submissions in violation of this policy will be returned to their authors by the GST.

Remember, the GOB is our medium for union democracy — our way of making sure that all members have access to the information they need to decide IWW policy. The IWW is the only union that we know of to issue this sort of uncensored forum for its members. So welcome to the GOB, and to the community of Wobblies!

- Mark Damron, General Secretary-Treasurer

Literature Sales & Merchandise

The IWW's Literature Sales & Merchandising Department is maintained by the Philadelphia GMB.

Inquiries regarding orders or payments should be addressed and sent to:

Literature Department c/o IWW
4530 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Industrial Worker Deadlines

The Newspaper deadline is usually the second Friday of each month, with the paper mailed on the third Friday of each month.

Send submissions to:

The Industrial Worker
4530 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143

or to **iw@iww.org** as plain text within the e-mail message, **not** as an attachment.

Maintain Your Membership On-Line

If you visit <http://www.iww.org/dues.shtml>, you will find that you can pay your dues directly to GHQ via Paypal, an on-line secure transaction service. There's also an option to "subscribe" to your dues, so that every month the transaction is automatic. New members can also join through the internet.

iww-list@iww.org

The iww-list is an e-mail list for Wobblies. The list is not moderated, but it is filtered for spam. I'd like to encourage folks with e-mail to subscribe. You'll get an interesting mix of news, ideas, and calls for action.

To subscribe, point your web browser to:

<http://lists.iww.org/mailman/listinfo/iww-list/>

Good Standing

The address label on your envelope tells the last month for which GHQ has a record of your dues. If you believe you have paid for additional months, please check the list of delegates reporting (in this GOB) and with your delegate to make sure your dues have been forwarded to GHQ.

General Executive Board

GEB Chair's Report for May, 2006

June 15, 2007

Fellow Workers,

This has been a quiet month for the board, however things are picking up again as we head towards General Assembly in early September. This month we expect to formalize several motions, including our first fiscal year budget.

Yours for the OBU,
Richard Seymour
X355122
GEB Chair

Board Reports Received from May 1st through June 15th:

MB	- Mike Bell:	06/11/07
PB	- Patrick Brenner:	05/29/07
KF	- Kevin Farkas:	03/08/07*
AL	- Adam Lincoln:	04/25/07**
BR	- Bryan Roberts:	06/09/07
SS	- Scott Satterwhite:	06/08/07
RFS	- Richard Seymour:	06/11/07

* FW Farkas has failed to report, or to respond to requests for information, and as such will be replaced on the GEB by FW Matt White, who is First Alternate.

** FW Lincoln has been having computer problems, and I expect a report within the next day or so, but it has not yet arrived.

Motions & Votes:

Y = Yes; N = No; A = Abstain; X = No Vote Yet BIRT = abbreviation of "Be It Resolved That"

A date following a motion whose result is still pending indicates the date the motion expires.

The text of motions previously published in the GOB is not included. I am counting votes issued after motions officially passed, failed, or expired, for the purpose of members seeing how Board members vote.

KF-5: Requirements for Managing the Literature Department

Filed: 2007-04-05 Status: EXPIRED 2007-06-05

AL: Y — BR: N — KF: Y — MB: A — PB: Y — RFS: A — SS: N — 3-2-2

SS-2: Charter the Washington DC General Membership Branch

Filed: 2007-04-16 Status: PASSED 2007-04-25

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: X — MB: Y — PB: N — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 5-1-0

RFS-4: Special Referendum Amendment and Distribution of the March GOB

Filed: 2007-04-19

Status: PASSED 2007-04-23

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: X —

6-0-0

Rule 28 below states that the "GEB working rules shall be published in the GOB every six months."

Richard Seymour

GEB Chair

Working Rules of the General Executive Board

1. The General Executive Board shall elect its own chair with all the rights and responsibilities as provided in the constitution and in these working rules being assigned to that person. In the event there is no elected Board Chair, the duties of the Board chair shall temporarily be assumed by that member of the Broad who received the highest number of votes in the last election. In the event of a declination, the duties of temporary chair shall pass to the recipient of the next highest votes.
2. The majority of the GEB may recall and select another Chair at any time.
3. It will be the responsibility of the Chair to make a report of the business of the GEB to the membership in each issue of the General Organizing Bulletin. This report shall include all motions made since the previous report, their current status and how each member voted. The Chair shall record motions exactly as submitted, and refrain from using the report to express his or her personal opinions.
4. It shall be the responsibility of the Chair to alert any GEB member who is approaching non-compliance with the working rules, no less than five and no more than ten days before such non-compliance could lead to suspension.
5. It will be the responsibility of the Chair to notify alternates immediately when procedures dictate that they assume a seat on the Board.
6. It will be the responsibility of the Chair to prepare a report on the activities of the Board for the General Assembly.
7. The GEB List shall serve as an ongoing meeting of the Board. As such, it will be used specifically to address the business of the union in an open and constructive manner.
 - * GEB members are encouraged to refrain from responding to communications on this list which contain insults or threats, but rather to post this working rule on the list as the only response to such communications.
8. All Board members shall be expected to make a formal report to the Board and to the membership at least once a month (every 30 days). Each member shall be expected to supply copies of his or her report to each Board member, the next alternate, and the GST. At least one hard copy of each report must be filed with the GHQ via first-class post or international airmail. A synopsis of each report shall be supplied for the GOB.
 - * Board members shall also provide copies of their reports to any member of the union in good-standing who requests it at cost.
9. Any Board member who falls into bad standing, as defined by the constitution, is unable to fulfill his duties to the Board, or who through non-compliance to these working rules proves to be an obstruction to the efficient function of the union may be suspended by a majority vote of the remaining Board members pending the outcome of a recall election and replaced by the next alternate until such a time as the issue is settled.
10. All formal Board business shall be conducted through written correspondence, which may be first-class post, international airmail, electronic mail or fax.
11. Any board member who does not report, without compelling reasons such as sickness, imprisonment, or previous arrangement with the GEB chair, for more than 45 days as indicated by postmarks and headers shall be considered in non-compliance with these working rules and may be suspended by a majority vote of the remaining Board members pending the outcome of a recall election and replaced by the next alternate until such a time as the issue is settled.

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12. All GEB reports shall conform to the following format:
 - * Name of Member
 - * Date of Report
 - * GEB Reports Received
 - * New Motions
 - * Votes on Pending Motions
 - * Date of Last Report
 - * Branch Reports Received
 - * Votes on New Motions
 - * Discussion on Votes
13. In the event that a member of the Board realizes due to travel or temporary emergency that they will not be able to fulfill their duties for a brief period of time, they may petition the Chair, in advance, for a 30-day extension or a temporary waiver.
 - * Should a member of the Board be temporarily unable to fulfill their duties for reasons beyond their control, the Chair should grant an emergency waiver or temporary extension.
14. All formal business and resolutions placed before the Board will be made in the form of motions by individual members. Each motion will have a voting life of 60 days, or until such time that a majority of voting Board members has passed or defeated a motion. Vote changes will be allowed within the life of the motion.
15. It is strongly suggested that every motion be submitted to the Board for discussion at least 48 hours before it is formally proposed. Motions for discussion shall be initialed and numbered with an asterisk “*” by its sponsor.
16. It is required that all motions for messages of solidarity, support or condemnation, clearly state how these messages are to be carried out (i.e. published in the GOB, in the IW, or through correspondence.
 - * It is likewise strongly suggested that any motions requiring messages or correspondence on the part of the GEB Chair or the GST include addresses for where these messages are to be sent.
17. Each Board member shall be expected to record a vote of “Yes”, “No”, or “Abstain” on every motion proposed within the life of that motion. Votes may be reported directly to the Board and the Chair outside of the member’s regular report, so long as it is included in the next regular report.
18. A majority of existing GEB members vote in the affirmative to pass a motion. Should the board be reduced to below five members it will still require a minimum of three affirmative votes for passage.
19. A motion need not be seconded to be considered by the Board.
20. Each motion shall be initialed and numbered by its sponsor.
21. Amendments to motions are not allowed. Members wishing to change provisions on motions may vote “no” and offer a substitute motion.
22. If two or more board members make an identical motion, those motions will be consolidated by the Chair as one motion, the votes consolidated, and credit to all those making the motion.
23. A sponsor of a motion may withdraw that motion during its voting life.
24. Any Board member may make an explanation of any vote, and any IWW member in good-standing may request an explanation of any vote to be published in the GOB.
25. Whenever any official communication takes place between four or more members of the GEB outside the standard forum of GA list (geb@iww.org), a full report of that meeting should be published on the GEB list and in the GOB for the benefit of the membership.
26. Proposals from the GEB to General Referenda must be printed in the GOB immediately preceding the GOB in which the ballot is to be enclosed.
27. Proposals from the GEB to the General Assembly must be submitted 10 days before the Assembly, as is the case with all members.
28. GEB working rules shall be published in the GOB every six months.

Breaking The Chains That Bind Us.

GEB Branch Contacts

GEB members can assist your branch with projects you would like to do, help you navigate the administrative aspects of the union, and connect you with resources. This is a list which Board members are assigned to which branches. If your branch isn't listed, please call Headquarters.

Mike Bell: Amherst GMB, Atlanta Group, Boston GMB, LA GMB, Pittsburgh GMB, Providence GMB, Upstate NY GMB, Washington DC GMB.

Patrick Brenner: Chicago GMB, Detroit GMB, Central Illinois GMB, Iowa Group, Madison GMB, Milwaukee GMB, North New Jersey GMB, Twin Cities GMB.

Adam Lincoln: AusROC, BI-ROC, European IWW Groups.

Bryan Roberts: Edmonton GMB, Grand Rapids GMB, North Coast GMB, Ottawa GMB, Tacoma IWW Group, Toronto GMB, Vancouver GMB, Winnipeg GMB.

Scott Satterwhite: Austin GMB, Baltimore GMB, Dallas Group, Gainesville GMB, Central Jersey GMB, New York GMB, Pensacola GMB, Philadelphia GMB.

Richard Seymour: Bay Area GMB, Lane County (Eugene) GMB, Olympia GMB, Portland GMB, Salt Lake City GMB, Santa Cruz Group, Seattle GMB

Matt White: Albuquerque Group, Boulder GMB, Denver GMB, Kansas City GMB, Lancaster GMB, Ohio Valley GMB, Phoenix GMB, West Mass GMB.

Foodstuff Workers I.U.460 Organizing Voluntary Assessment Stamp Now Available from GHQ!

Simply mail \$10.00,
earmarked for the I.U. 460
campaign, to:

IWW
P. O. Box 23085
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223



Support your Fellow Workers in their Organizing efforts!

Organizing Department

Organizing Department Board Report

One Big Union:

April/May 2007

Anyone may contact the Organizing Department (OD) by emailing organizing@iww.org or mailing to:

IWW
P.O. BOX 841
Charleston, IL 61920

Several motions passed this past month which represent the first real organizational program the current ODB has come up with to address the many responsibilities covered in our charge. I believe they will help us get through the first year on a sound footing for the future. There are several problems that have persisted since we began: (1) how do we build the programs outlined in the Program and Procedures before the GEB for approval; (2) how can the ODB be accountable and transparent to the membership while ensuring some level of assurance the discussion will be available only to members in good standing; (3) how can we prioritize our efforts for building the programs necessary to continue to support organizing across the union; (4) how can we direct organizing along industrial lines to develop networks within industries rather than the One Big Union being limited to geographic based organizing into GMBs.

We all look forward to meeting up at the Training for Trainers, and avidly wait to see what comes from the regional gatherings for the Northeast and Midwest US.

To the extent that officers of groups are able to be disciplined with consistent and timely reporting the more effective we will be at understanding active organizing and which industries to focus on; however, through our contacts in various groups this is moving forward and the large amount of active campaigns continues to strain what resources we have.

After four full months of the ODB in operations one thing seems very clear to me: the One Big Union continues to not be able to follow up or address most of the contacts we receive in the US, and the ODB is still only scratching at the surface of what can be done to respond to inquiries to GHQ or support those received by IWW groups, at least in the US. The ODB continues to get several contacts a month as well as learning of many more organizing attempts from individual members in places that do not have IWW groups.

May/June 2007

This month there was much activity by the Organizing Department Board (ODB) focused on the Training for Trainers (T4T) in Madison and supporting several campaigns. At the T4T, three ODB members (Fellow Workers Elgin, Holdren, and Pilacinski) attended as well as three members of Organizing Department (OD) committees (Fellow Workers Crutchfield, Malchi, and Welch). There were 27 wobs in the room at the start comprising of members from across the U.S. and one from Canada.

A great deal was discussed during the weekend about how to train ourselves to be effective organizers and how to organize ourselves to be powerful in the workplace and across an industry. A highlight of the weekend was a role play of a captive meeting where T4T participants were subjected to some of the union busting strategies of management on the offensive.

In the past few months several campaigns have run into hardship resulting from becoming public too soon. In a few cases firings have been the result. ODB members have been trying to help with support and trying to find experienced members from around the union to help mentor in these cases and for campaigns that continue to remain under management's radar. I believe this suggests that the ODB is moving into it's second phase of development, where it has moved from getting contacts across our union who are organizing. It has also helped us get a picture of organizing throughout the union.

Now we are hopefully moving from basic networking to supporting organizing. These were two of the key wants identified by the membership during the development of the Organizing Department. There is, however, a long way to go. For example, in several cases members are finding they do not have the support to win back jobs or demands, and in the case of the 460 campaign in New York, several thousand dollars raised across the union has only put a dent in the funds that were required to keep our members with shelter during the mass firings earlier this year. Help is still needed desperately for that campaign.

Some other things that were identified at the T4T were that the Starbux campaigns continue to grow and spread, the new charter request in Iowa was actually submitted after more than one viable campaign was underway (rather than the more frequent in recent years, of a branch charter being submitted when ten members are collected in a geographic area). Also, in several cases our members are working longer and harder on campaign preparations before launching the full campaign.

This is leading to our members being in companies for 6 months or longer before risking an accidental tip-off to the boss. More effective campaigns may result and our ability to respond to workers contacting us with interest in improving their lot at work will hopefully improve.

On other OD Matters:

The Organizing Training Committee is continuing to develop the second training which will pick up where the first training leaves off: when the campaign becomes public (or is already public, as in the case of negotiating or defending or improving a contract).

The Survey and Research Committee is on the look out for every branch to return the surveys, due June 15. These surveys are critical for the whole organization to move forward in our efforts to develop our strength strategically and continues the efforts of every member having a better understanding of rolling the union on in every workplace where there is an IWW member. Please be sure your branch completes and submits these surveys if you have not done so already.

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The GEB has yet to adopt the Organizing Department Policies and Procedures that were approved by the General Assembly. If these are not adopted by the new year, it may cause problems for the newly elected Organizing Department Board. At this point it is not critical because the ODB members are not elected by the membership, but only appointed by the General Executive Board. However, at General Assembly this year it will be time to nominate the first group of wobblies to run to be elected by the One Big Union membership to the Organizing Department Board. I would like to ask that every member who has been active in organizing on their shop floor to consider running for the ODB, and if you conclude you are not, then perhaps consider helping with the following important roles in the Organizing Department.

The following two motions (summarized below) are designed to include the broader membership in the development of the Organizing Department. They passed last month and the ODB is beginning to implement them:

(1) ODB#07-DE-04: Branch Liaisons to the ODB

SUMMARY: All chartered branches may elect an Organizing Department Liaison (ODL) from its elected branch delegates to become a member of the ODB email list. Any ongoing campaigns or developing branches may elect a delegate to become a member of the ODB list subject to ODB approval. Every ODL will be responsible for reporting on OD activities to their respective branch and the ODB requests that every ODL give a summary report on organizing in their respective branch by the end of every month to the ODB list.

(2) ODB#07-TH-01: Industrial Contacts

SUMMARY: The ODB is developing Industrial Contacts (ICs) for each Industrial Union classification where we have active organizing. The IC will remain in contact with members of his/her IU monthly (phone preferred). The ICs from each IU will report on the progress (or lack thereof) to the OD once per month. All ICs will be appointed by a majority vote of the ODB. Any industrial body (job branch, IOC, IUB, IU, etc) will have the right to appoint or elect a member of that body to be an IC, in consultation with the ODB. The GEB will also have the right to appoint a member to be an IC.

Finally, we will be adding the newly elected OD Liaisons to the email list in the next few weeks and welcome more in the coming months. Our unofficial goal is to have an ODL elected by every chartered body of the IWW by July so that going into the General Assembly the OD is fully operational across the union. But it is dependent on the membership to make this happen and for at least one delegate in every branch to accept the responsibility. For the Industrial Contacts, this process will take a bit more time. The ODB continues to work on contacts received at GHQ.

For One Industrial Union Grand,
Dan Elgin
Organizing Department Board Chair

ghost@monkeywrenchbooks.org
(217) 549 - 1305
organizing@iww.org

Motions:

The text of motions previously published in the GOB are not included. I am counting votes issued after motions officially passed, failed, or expired, for the purpose of members seeing how OD Board members voted on particular motions.

ODB#07- DE-03: Letter for the Canadian Regional Assembly

Motion Made: 07Mar07

Motion Status: PASSED on 07Mar07

JB-X DE-Y TG-Y NH-Y JP-Y

4-0-1

ODB#07-DE-04: Branch Liaisons to the ODB

Motion Made: 11Apr07

Motion Status: PASSED on 12Apr07

JB-Y DE-Y TG-Y NH-Y JP-Y

5-0-0

Whereas the Organizing Department Board conducts discussion regarding union business, including such responsibilities as disbursement of union funds and evaluation of union organizing,

Whereas the Organizing Department Board must have reasonable confidence that all union members on the ODB email list are in good standing due to the nature of the business the ODB conducts,

Whereas the Organizing Department Board must remain accountable to the chartered bodies of the IWW and the membership of the union,

Therefore be it resolved that the ODB requests that all chartered branches of the IWW elect an Organizing Department Liaison (ODL) from its elected branch delegates to become a member of the ODB list. Or, any ongoing campaigns or developing branches may elect a delegate to become a member of the ODB list subject to ODB approval. Every ODL will be responsible for reporting on OD activities to their respective branch in the manner of their branch's choosing. Every ODL will be responsible for playing a role in cooperation between the OD and their respective branch. The ODB requests that every ODL give a summary report on organizing in their respective branch by the end of every month to the ODB list. And finally, a branch may place additional expectations on ODLs at the branch's discretion.

ODB#07-DE-05: Monthly Focus for ODB

Motion Made: 18Apr07

Motion Status: PASSED on 03May07

JB- DE-Y TG-Y NH-Y JP-A

3-0-1

Whereas the Organizing Department Board has five programs to found as described in the Policies and Procedures recommended for passage by the GEB at the General Assembly of 2006,

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Therefore let it be resolved that the ODB focus on the following tasks and projects for each month this year:

- January - Making contacts with all branches
 - February - Evaluate how contacts are going
 - March - Develop Industrial Contacts for industries and departments that have a concentration of union members
 - April - Establish planning committees for regional gatherings in North America and Europe
 - May - Work with branches who are interested in being a Wobbly Organizer Exchange host to develop a program and advertise the opportunity
 - June - Gather case studies from branches on recent organizing drives or attempts at drives
 - July - Set up the Sister Branch program
 - August - Develop contacts for the Literature Committee in the hopes of fostering industry and campaign specific literature for distribution across the union
 - September - Get active campaigns involved in mentoring nascent
-

Organizing Trainings Available

For several years, the Organizing Training Committee has facilitated trainings in English for IWW groups that want to improve their organizing skills. The two-day training focuses on developing organizing contacts, setting up meetings, doing education and agitation, forming democratic structures, and asking workers to join the union. The training also offers ideas for going public, a section on labor law and how to use, and not use, the law, and a way to develop a strategic organizing plan for IWW groups. In short, the organizing training provides workers with the knowledge needed to organize more effectively.

If you and your fellow workers have interest in a training, do get in touch with me. We also can offer the training in Spanish.

In Solidarity,
Adam Welch
Chair, OTC

(408) 892 - 8787
sjiww@yahoo.com

Contact organizing@iww.org
to start planning one near you.

International Solidarity Commission

International Solidarity Commission Report

April/May 2007

In April and May, the ISC appointed Wobblies to represent the union at a number of conferences around the world: namely, the Clean Clothes and Fair Food Conference in New York city, a conference on the Recovered Enterprises movement in Argentina, the Latin American Solidarity Conference in Chicago, and the International Syndicalist Conference in Paris. These delegates made face-to-face contact with members of other unions and grassroots organizations and helped to give the IWW a worldwide presence.

FW Rhiannon Edwards of the Edmonton GMB is serving as an ISC delegate in a semi-long-term capacity both before and after the Recovered Enterprises Conference in Argentina in July. She has also translated several solidarity letters into Spanish for the ISC. ISC delegate Jason Fults travels to Dhaka, Bangladesh, in June to meet with Secretary Amirul Haque Amin of the National Garment Workers Federation, an IWW ally and a key player in the anti-sweatshop movement.

Meanwhile, the ISC continues its effort to raise funds to help offset the costs to fellow workers participating in an IWW delegation to Northern Mexico this fall. Wobs will meet with members of militant rank-and-file unions and grassroots NGOs. The 8-day trip is being organized through the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras (CJM), a dedicated anti-sweatshop organization. All branches, individual members and supporters are asked to contribute to this delegation to solidify the IWW relationship with the Mexican labor movement.

The forthcoming ISC assessment stamps have been sent to the printer and will be ready for distribution soon. Proceeds from the stamps will help fund ISC activities such as the delegation to Mexico. Special thanks go to FW Ned Powell for creating artwork for the stamps.

To contact the ISC about these or any other matters, email solidarity@iww.org.

-Lauren Anzaldo, ISC Chair

Motions and Votes -

MP-05: Kenneth Miller as ISC Rep for SweatFree Communities Conference

The ISC authorizes FW Kenneth Miller to act as an official representative of the ISC while attending the SweatFree Communities "Clean Clothes and Fair Food" conference in New York City from April 27-29, 2007.

The ISC requests that FW Miller take notes at the conference, establish new contacts with relevant groups and individuals and extend our greetings to the various speakers and participants of the conference. Specifically, we ask that FW Miller meet with members of the National Garment Workers Federation (NGWF) at the conference, engage in substantial dialogue and further develop the important relationship between the IWW and the NGWF. FW Miller is asked to submit a report to the ISC after the conference. He is also encouraged to write an article about the conference for publication in the Industrial Worker and on iww.org. FW Miller has been provided with a copy of the ISC's policies on representatives.

FILED: 04/02/07 — PASSED: 04/03/07 — LA: Y — JK: A — MP:Y

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MP-06: Rhiannon Edwards as ISC Representative to Argentina

The ISC authorizes FW Rhiannon Edwards of the Edmonton GMB to act as an official representative of the ISC while conducting research in Argentina. The ISC encourages FW Edwards to gather contacts and extend the greetings of the IWW to unions, cooperatives and grassroots organizations in Argentina as she sees fit. In particular, FW Edwards is asked to represent the ISC at a July conference of the recovered enterprises movement. FW Edwards is also asked to submit a monthly report to the ISC about her activities, and whenever possible publish articles in the Industrial Worker, Solidaridad and iww.org. Finally, FW Edwards is encouraged to distribute IWW materials when appropriate, especially Solidaridad and other Spanish-language resources. FW Edwards has been provided with a copy of the ISC's policies on representatives.

FILED: 04/09/07 – PASSED: 04/09/07 — LA: Y –JK: A – MP: Y

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MP-07: Letter condemning police killing of striking teacher in Argentina

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World, an international democratic union, strongly condemns the April 5th police killing of striking teacher Carlos Fuentealba in the province of Neuquén. Mr. Fuentealba was sitting in a car that was being used as part of a peaceful blockade when 20 police officers attacked the car with rifle butts. Another officer then fired a tear gas grenade at very short distance into the car's rear window. The grenade struck Mr. Fuentealba in the neck, fatally wounding him.

The ISC joins with the people of Argentina in demanding a full investigation into the killing, that the findings of the investigation be made immediately available to the public, and that all police officers involved in the incident be held accountable for their actions.

The ISC puts its full support behind the general strike that has erupted in Argentina to protest Fuentealba's death. We demand that the right to strike and demonstrate be respected by authorities. We stand in solidarity with striking teachers in Tierra del Fuego, La Rioja and elsewhere. The ISC insists that the government immediately negotiate a just agreement with the teachers and their unions.

FILED: 04/11/07 – PASSED: 04/14/07 – LA-Y – JK: A – MP: Y

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MP-08: Patrick Dunn as Rep to LASC IV Conference in Chicago

The ISC authorizes FW Patrick Dunn of the Chicago GMB to act as an official representative of the ISC while attending the fourth annual Latin American Solidarity Conference in Chicago from April 13-15, 2007.

The ISC requests that FW Dunn take notes at the conference, establish new contacts with relevant groups and individuals and extend our greetings to the various speakers and participants of the conference. FW Dunn is asked to submit a report to the ISC after the conference. He is also encouraged to write an article about the conference for publication in the Industrial Worker and on iww.org. FW Dunn has been provided with a copy of the ISC's policies on representatives.

FILED: 04/11/07 – PASSED: 04/11/07 – LA: Y – JK: A – MP-Y

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JK-04: ICS Representatives at the 2007 International Syndicalist Conference in Paris

The ISC authorizes FWs Adam Lincoln, Heiner Stuhlfauth, and Michael Ashbrook to act as official representatives while attending the 2007 International Syndicalist Conference in Paris. The ISC encourages FWs Lincoln, Ashbrook, and Stuhlfauth to gather contacts and extend the greetings of the IWW to unions, labor and activist groups at the conference.

These representatives would also be encouraged to bring up the IWW themselves, to let folks know that we do indeed have a growing European presence and that we want to work more closely with like-minded organizations in Europe. The ISC reps would be encouraged to reaffirm existing relationships between the IWW and other unions and perhaps make some new ones. These fellow workers would also be encouraged to distribute IWW materials when appropriate, such as the IW and Solidaridad. One of the representatives would also have the task of submitting a brief report to the ISC about the conference and their activities in Paris.

FILED: 04/09/07 – PASSED: 04/11/07 – LA: Y – JK: Y – MP: Y

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LA-06 Send letter to Iran re: Mahmoud Salehi

As Iranian labor activist Mahmoud Salehi was recently sentenced to a year in prison in connection to his organizing activities, I propose that the ISC send the following letter to President Ahmadinejad on Salehi's behalf.

Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad,
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Email: dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir

Fax: + 98 21 649 58 80

Re: Free Mahmoud Salehi Now!

Dear Mr. Ahmadinejad:

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World hereby voices its outcry at the verdict passed against Mahmoud Salehi by the Kurdistan Court of Appeal. As we understand it, Mr. Salehi, former President of the Bakery Workers' Association of the city of Saez and a well-known labor activist in Iran, has been sentenced to one year in prison and a three-year suspended prison sentence. Mr. Salehi was arrested on April 9, 2007 without any prior notice and was immediately transferred to the city of Sanandaj. His family and lawyer had not received any written judgment. His arrest and sentence violate his fundamental human and civil rights.

Mr. Salehi is clearly being targeted because of his labor activism, especially since he was originally arrested and finally charged in connection with his attempts to participate in a May Day 2004 celebration in Saez. The Iranian government's response to labor organizing seems to be to lock up and harass activists in order to squelch unionist activity. This is unacceptable.

Iran must prove its commitment to workers' rights. The International Solidarity Commission insists that you intervene in Mr. Salehi's case, annul the sentences against him and release him immediately.

Lauren Anzaldo, John Kalwaic and Mike Pesa

International Solidarity Commission

Industrial Workers of the World

P.O. Box 23085

Cincinnati, OH 45223-3085, USA

solidarity@iww.org

FILED: 04/13/07 – PASSED: 04/13/07 – LA: Y – JK: Y – MP: Y

SOLIDA

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MP-09: Call to Investigate the Murder of FLOC Organizer in Monterrey, Mexico

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW: an international labor union headquartered in the U.S.) to urge the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to take on the murder of Santiago Rafael Cruz as an official case. Mr. Cruz was brutally murdered on April 9th, 2007, at the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (AFL-CIO) office in Monterrey, Mexico. Mr. Cruz had worked for years on both sides of the border to secure the human rights of immigrant workers who are extremely vulnerable to violence and exploitation. Hence, his murder represents a grave threat to human rights defenders both in Mexico and the United States. Union organizers and human rights workers in Monterrey and elsewhere will not be safe until a thorough investigation takes place and the responsible party is brought to justice. If this case is to be taken seriously, the Human Rights Commission must take a leadership role in the investigation. We are asking that you immediately do everything in your power to put an end to the violence and impunity. Santiago Rafael Cruz and his surviving fellow workers deserve nothing less.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Pesa
International Solidarity Commission
Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)
E-mail: solidarity@iww.org

To His Excellency Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan, The Ambassador of Mexico:

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

The International Solidarity Commission of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW: an international labor union headquartered in the U.S.) calls upon the government of Mexico to immediately begin a rapid, thorough, and professional investigation of the murder of Santiago Rafael Cruz. Mr. Cruz was brutally murdered on April 9th, 2007, at the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (AFL-CIO) office in Monterrey, Mexico. Mr. Cruz had worked for years on both sides of the border to secure the human rights of immigrant workers who are extremely vulnerable to violence and exploitation. Hence, his murder represents a grave threat to human rights defenders both in Mexico and the United States. Union organizers and human rights workers in Monterrey and elsewhere will not be safe until a thorough investigation takes place and the responsible party is brought to justice. If this case is to be taken seriously, the Mexican government must set an example by taking serious action against this shocking crime.

The ISC stands in solidarity with the Farm Labor Organizing Committee in demanding justice and an immediate end to the violence and impunity. Santiago Rafael Cruz and his surviving fellow workers deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,
Michael Pesa, Lauren Anzaldo, and John Kalwaic
International Solidarity Commission
Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)
E-mail: solidarity@iww.org

FILED: 04/15/07 – PASSED: 04/16/07 – LA: Y – JK: A – MP: Y

General Discussion

Follow-up on Supporting the Dues Increase, A Response to Comments in the previous GOB

Dear FWs,

Comments in the last GOB around the proposed dues increase items on the ballot raised some excellent issues around the finances of our union. While by the time FWs will read this the results of the election will already be finished, I feel it is still worthwhile to make several points. I think this can help lead to a better understanding of where the union's finances are going.

Important questions raised are: What has changed that we need a dues increase now and not before? And is the administration of the IWW increasing its expenses when we are in a deficit?

First off, it is very hard to make a comparison of finances between the current Cincinnati administration and the previous Philadelphia one. During the Philadelphia administration, from 2000 to 2005, the union was able to come out of near-debt and build up savings, increase literature sales and promote more organizing. These were all positives and examples of what talented and creative efforts can lead to the office of GST. But part of what allowed this on a financial level was GST Buss voluntarily not withdrawing a salary from the union for four out of five years of her administration, saving the union \$24,000 per year (or \$96,000 in total). Unlike our current administration, there were also no cell phone expenses prior to 2005 because to the best of my knowledge (as a GEB member at the time and as a friend of Buss and Bekken), GST Buss' cell phone was paid by FW Jon Bekken. While FW Bekken's willingness to go above and beyond to support the union is commendable, we can't expect this situation for every GST. Another difference between administrations is that the GEB has allocated between \$4-5,000 per year toward health benefits for the GST, as our current GST Mark Damron has a family with three children to support.

In regards to the \$4,000 expense toward GEB meetings, it should be noted that the 04/05 fiscal year expenses show that \$4,264 was spent toward GEB travel as well. So we can see that this is not a new phenomenon, but a reflection of increasing expectations over the last several years that our GEB members meet face-to-face for one weekend meeting at the beginning of the year and one day-long meeting before the General Assembly. Ensuring that all GEB members attend GA and are available to question or consult helps them to be more present and accountable to the membership. All this has drastically improved the working relationships between board members, their productivity and connections to branches.

Even a quick reading of past GOB financial reports would show that the two greatest changes to our expenses are increasing costs of daily operation (wages, postal rates, rent, etc) and increasing amounts spent toward supporting our organizing (Organizing Department and Organizer Training Committee) and helping our administration run better (requiring all GEB members to meet face-to-face for two and one day meetings).

A good example of increasing daily expenses is postal rates. As former Industrial Worker Editor Jon Bekken said in a recent email: "In mid-July [2007], periodicals rate postage is set to go up by an average of 35 percent." This would increase the cost of IW mailings. Also increasing over the years are standard first class and bulk mailing rates we use for the GOB. Given that the union spends over \$20,000 per year in postage costs between our newspaper, the Literature Department and GHQ mailings, even an increase in rates by only 5% will bump up our annual expenses by over \$1,000.

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Also affecting the union's finances is the income generated from literature sales, which increased dramatically during the Philadelphia administration, but has declined recently. During the 02/03 Fiscal Year after subtracting expenses we brought in about \$23,000, during 03/04 about \$15,000 and during 04/05 about \$18,000. But last year, during the 05/06 Fiscal Year, the income generated from literature sales fell to \$9,000.

Regarding the union's overall expenses, the board has been actively cutting expenses with the idea of narrowing the spending gap. For example in the 04/05 Fiscal Year actual total expenses were \$157,667; and in the 05/06 fiscal year actual expenses were \$156,451. The most recent proposed budget before the board (PB*) budgets the 07/08 expenses at \$146,000- a reduction in expenses. This is a balanced budget, aiming to spend what we estimate we will take in (though I would personally argue it's a bit too tight of a budget).

I think too often for many people (myself included sometimes) numbers and budgets are something that causes us to freak out (much like the feeling in your gut if someone told you that you had to repeat high school algebra or geometry). But I think with the IWW's organizing success and growth across the US and abroad, we need to put ourselves on a solid financial footing by planning ahead to the future. This will mean having to look closely at our budgets, make predictions and plan ahead.

OBU,
Adam Welch
Bay Area GMB

On Standardizing Spanish Translations . . .

Fellow Workers:

We need to come up with uniform Spanish translations for several of our distinctive terms, the Preamble, and the list of Industrial Unions. I submit the following proposals. If you know Spanish, or know native speakers of Spanish whose English is also good, please review the following, or have native speakers review them, and send me your criticism. Please also give your opinion on whether we should refer to "el IWW" or "la IWW"—I've seen it both ways. Thanks.

Yours for the OBU,
Jim Crutchfield

Please send responses by email to jdcrutch@mindspring.com
or by post to J. D. Crutchfield, 44-74 21st St., Apt. 12, Long Island City, NY 11101.

IWW Terms:

Branch	= Sucursal
<i>Sucursal</i> means a branch of a company, bank, post office, etc.; <i>ramo</i> means branch of science, philosophy, art, etc.; <i>rama</i> means branch of a tree . . .	
Job branch	= Sucursal de Trabajo
Industrial Union Branch	= Sucursal Industrial
General Membership Branch	= Sucursal de Membresía General (SMG)
Industrial Union	= Sindicato Industrial
Industrial Department	= Departamento Industrial
Regional Organizing Committee	= Comité Regional de Organización (COMRO)
General Executive Board	= Junta General Ejecutiva (JGE)
General Secretary-Treasurer	= Secretario-Tesorero General (STG)
One Big Union	= Un Sindicato Unico y Grande

Preamble:

Preámbulo de los Trabajadores Industriales del Mundo

La clase trabajadora y la clase patronal no tiene nada en común. No puede haber paz, mientras el hambre y la necesidad se encuentre entre millones de trabajadores en tanto que unos pocos, que componen la clase patronal, disfruten todas las delicias de la vida.

Entre estas dos clases habrá lucha hasta que los trabajadores del mundo se organicen como clase, tomen posesión de la tierra y la maquinaria de producción y anulen el sistema de salarios.

Encontramos que la centralización del manejo de las industrias imposibilita a los sindicatos de oficios los incapacita para luchar ventajosamente contra el creciente poder de la clase patronal. Porque los sindicatos de oficios han creado una situación tal que hace que un grupo de trabajadores luche contra otro grupo de trabajadores en la misma industria, ayudando así a ser derrotados en las luchas del salario. Más todavía esas agrupaciones ayudan la clase patronal engañando a los trabajadores haciéndoles creer a los trabajadores que sus intereses son los mismos que los de sus patrones.

Estas condiciones pueden ser cambiadas y el interés de la clase trabajadora sostenerse solamente por una organización formada de tal manera que todos sus miembros en una industria o en todas las industrias, si es necesario, gocen de trabajar, en todo tiempo que haya huelga o cierre en un departamento, haciendo así que un daño a uno es un daño a todos.

En lugar del lema conservador de “Un buen salario por un buen día de trabajo,” debemos inscribir en nuestra estandarte la divisa revolucionaria, “Abolición del sistema de salarios.”

Es la misión histórica de la clase trabajadora hacer desaparecer el capitalismo. El ejército de la producción debe ser organizado, no solamente para la lucha diaria contra el capitalismo, pero también para llevar a cabo la producción y distribución cuando el capitalismo haya sido derrocado. Organizándonos industrialmente estamos formando la estructura de la nueva sociedad dentro de la cascarón de la vieja.

Directory of Industrial Unions:

DIRECTORIO DE LOS SINDICATOS INDUSTRIALES

Departamento de Agricultura y Pesca No.100

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Agricultores, N°. 110: Todos los trabajadores de granjas, ranchos, huertas, fincas y plantaciones.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Forestales, N°. 120: Todos los trabajadores forestales. Todos los trabajadores que se ocupen en las labores de la silvicultura, en los aserraderos y en la preparación de leña como combustible y para la construcción.

Sindicato Industrial de Pescadores, N°. 130: Todos los trabajadores de la pesca en océanos, lagos y ríos. Trabajadores en granjas de ostras y almejas. Colectores de perlas, coral y esponjas. Trabajadores en criaderos de pescado.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Floricultores, N°. IU 140: Todos los trabajadores de invernaderos, semilleros, jardineros, los cultivadores de seda. Distribución de productos florales.

Departamento de Minería y Minerales No.200

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Metalúrgicos, N°. 210: Todos los trabajadores relacionados con minas de metales y minerales. Todos los trabajadores en refinerías, fundidoras, y plantas metalúrgicas. Todos los trabajadores de la piedra y canteras.

Sindicato Industrial de Minas de Carbón, N°. 220: Todos los trabajadores de las minas de carbón y de la producción de coque y briquetas.

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Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Petroleros, N°. 230: Todos los trabajadores del petróleo, gasolina y energía geotermal. Todos los trabajadores de las plataformas petrolíferas, la gasolina, y la energía geotérmica, las refinerías y las actividades de procesamiento. Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la distribución de tales productos.

Departamento de la Construcción General No.300

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Construcción General, N°. 310: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la construcción de diques, ferrocarriles, carreteras, calles, puentes, alcantarillados, túneles, canales, viaductos, canales de irrigación y cañerías.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de la Construcción de Barcos, N°. 320: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la construcción y/o reparación de barcos, buques y navíos. Todos los trabajadores del dique seco.

Sindicato Industrial de la Construcción de Edificios, N°. 330: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la construcción de edificios y casas así como la entrega de materiales de construcción.

Departamento de Manufactura y Producción General No.400

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Textiles y Vestidos, N°. 410: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la producción de ropa de fibra sintética o natural. Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la manufacturación de ropa.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Mueblerías, N°. 420: Todos los trabajadores de carpinterías y fábricas de muebles. Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de producir cajas de madera.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Química, N°. 430: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de producir medicamentos, drogas, pinturas, explosivos, plásticos, fibras sintéticas y productos químicos en general.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Metal y Maquinaria, N°. 440: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de los hornos de alta temperatura, las fundidoras de acero, las plantas de aluminio, etc. Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de fabricar maquinaria para agricultura, carros, locomotoras, motores, automóviles, bicicletas, aviones y sus respectivos accesorios; así como la elaboración de herramientas, joyería y relojes.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Imprenta y Publicación, N°. 450: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de la producción de impresos.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Comestibles, N°. 460: Todos los trabajadores, con excepción de los trabajadores de la agricultura y pesca, que se ocupan del procesamiento de alimentos, bebidas y productos de tabaco.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Cueros, N°. 470: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de peletería, así como aquellos que trabajan en fábricas de productos de piel, como maletas, botas y calzado en general.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Cristalería y Alfarería, N°. 480: Todos los cristaleros y alfareros. Todos los trabajadores del cristal, porcelana, barro, baldosa, y fabricantes de tejas y ladrillos.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores en Pulpa y Papel, N°. 490: Todos los trabajadores de pulpa y papel que se ocupan de pulpa, papel, contenedores y envases de papel.

Departamento de Transporte y Comunicación No.500

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores del Transporte Marítimo, N°. 510: Todos los trabajadores del transporte marítimo. Todos los trabajadores en diques y terminales.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Ferrocarrileros, N°. 520: Todos los trabajadores que se ocupan de ferrocarriles de carga de larga distancia y del transporte de pasajeros. Todos los trabajadores de locomotoras, vagones, y reparación de los mismos. Todos los trabajadores de los ferrocarriles de pasajeros.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores del Transporte a Motor, N°. 530: Todos los trabajadores ocupados en el transporte de cargo y pasajeros por camión, autobús y taxis. Todos los trabajadores de terminales de camiones y estaciones de autobús de pasajeros.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores del Transporte Municipal, N°. 540: Todos los trabajadores de la transportación municipal y a corta distancia.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores del Transporte Aéreo, N°. 550: Todos los trabajadores en el servicio y mantenimiento del transporte aéreo.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Comunicación, Telecomunicación, y Computación, N°. 560: Todos los trabajadores de teléfonos, telégrafos, radio, televisión, comunicaciones vía satélite y computadoras, incluyendo programadores y técnicos de redes de comunicación.

Departamento de Servicios Públicos No.600

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Sanidad, N°. 610: Todos los trabajadores empleados en los hospitales y servicios para la recuperación de la salud.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Educación, N°. 620: Todos los trabajadores en las instituciones de educación.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Recreación, N°. 630: Todos los trabajadores en patios de recreo y los lugares de diversión y recreo. Todos los actores o músicos profesionales.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Hoteles, Restaurantes, y Servicios de Edificación, N°. 640: Todos los trabajadores en las facilidades de acomodación. Todos los trabajadores de servicio para edificios.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Oficinas de Abogados, de Financieros, de los Intereses Públicos, y Generales, N°. 650: Todos los trabajadores que trabajan en las oficinas financieras, de interés público, legal y general, además de las instituciones que no se involucran directamente en las demás industrias.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores de Distribución en General, N°. 660: Todos los trabajadores en las facilidades de distribución general, a la venta mayor o venta al por menor.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Municipales y de los Utilidades Públicos, N°. 670: Todos los trabajadores de la transmisión, provisión, y mantenimiento de gas, electricidad, agua y los servicios de alcantarillas. Todos los trabajadores en la recolección y el refinamiento de las materias de desecho, reciclaje y salva.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Domésticos, N°. 680: Todos los trabajadores que proveen servicios en la casa.

Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Sexuales, N°. 690: Todos los trabajadores de baile, modelos, trabajadores telefónicos de sexo, actores y otros trabajadores que usan la sexualidad como elemento fundamental de comercio (excluyendo a todos los agentes del jefe que tienen el poder de emplear o despedir o poseen el poder equivalente de coerción o punitivo).

General Headquarters

Word from GHQ...

The ballots from the Special Referendum are coming in daily, and I suspect will continue to arrive right up to the June 30th deadline. The results of the referendum will be announced in the next GOB, but we all know that this referendum is about money . . . How are we to continue to function at our current capacity without an influx of funds?

Our expenses, no matter how much we try to watch them, are going up. Postal costs have recently taken a big jump for the Industrial Worker, the GOB, and shipping of supplies. The special referendum itself was not cheap with postage alone (at 75 per GOB in the U.S., over \$1. each to Canada, and over \$2 to Europe) close to \$1,000.

Meanwhile, we are also wrapping up Delegate Clearances at GHQ, and have are now gearing up for work in preparation of Assembly . . .

Branches:

We have recently welcomed a new GMB in Washington, DC. Welcome, Fellow Workers! We have also received applications for a Branch Charter from the Iowa Group of the IWW, and an IU Charter for IU460 Food and Allied Workers in New York City, as well as a request for a Shop Card from the Libra Cooperative in Toronto. And I am told that a petition is in the works from the Tacoma IWW Group as well.

Growth is always exciting . . . but even more exciting is the number of Branches that are actively involved in organizing on the job.

As for branch reporting, over all, it has improved this year, though we are far from having the kind of consistency that we need from the majority of our branches. All of our Branches still need to be pushed to perform . . . it is not only a constitutional requirement, but is also imperative to keeping membership “in the loop” as it were.

The GOB and Proposals for General Assembly:

According to our union’s constitution, proposals and agenda items for General Assembly need to be submitted at least 60 days prior to the Assembly, and thus need to be received at Headquarters no later than June 30th. This allows us time for them to be disseminated to the membership and for Branches to discuss them and prepare proposals and objections before Assembly. At this stage, the only item received has been a proposal to change the Charges process as it currently exists.

The next issue of the GOB will be mailed at the end of July, and will be an ideal forum for the discussion of the issues you (the membership) want to see addressed at Assembly. Deadline for submission for GOB #6 will be July 10th.

Also remember that reports from all standing and special committees, including the GEB, Organizing Department, ISC, GDC, Literature, Finance, etc. as well as any greetings or reports from Branches or ROCs must be received at GHQ by August 20th for inclusion in Delegate Packages at Assembly.



***Without our brain and muscle
not a single wheel can turn.***

Finances:

We will be wrapping up the finances for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 in the weeks ahead, as well as warpping up balancing the budget from the first half of 2006. The Board is moving to conform our union’s Budgetary Year with the Fiscal Year, and it is my hope that this process will improve our current budgetary system. It is also a goal for us here at GHQ to completely revamp our fiscal records in the coming year . . .

Account Balances as of May 1, 2007: Philadelphia Money Market: \$ 15,105.88
Cincinnati Money Market: \$ 31,505.33
Cincinnati Checking Account: \$ 9,200.67

Ideally, we should have a preliminary report on the Fiscal Year books in the July GOB . . .

Closing:

Anyone who is going to be traveling in the mid-west during the summer months is more than welcome to stop in and visit GHQ. Lora and I would be happy to put you up for a night . . . though be warned, if you stop by Headquarters I will probably put you to work.

As always, contact the office if you have any questions . . .

Peace Like a River,
In Solidarity,
Mark Damron

Delegate Clearance

Every year delegates must file a Delegate’s Clearance form in order to renew their delegate credentials. Those delegates who will no longer be serving in that capacity are **still** required to clear their credentials, and return any supplies to General Headquarters or to their Branch Secretary.

Forms were sent out to all delegates in February, and notice was given in the GOB. Those delegates who have not cleared their credentials by the established deadline are considered delinquent delegates. According to our Constitution (ARTICLE V, Section 2) delinquent delegates are members in bad standing.

Below is a list of those delegates who have not cleared their credentials for 2007. If you see your name on this list, please contact GHQ immediately about clearing your credentials. If you have cleared your credentials, and received a clearance stamp from GHQ, but your name still appears on this list, please contact us and inform us of our mistake.

Raven Adler
Greg AltJennifer Bame
Mike Bell
Holly Bobisuthi
Colin Booy
Mathieu Brule
Burrow
Matt Cassella
Alan Cerborino
Drew Chestnut

Clayton Conn
Bruce Crowley
Jim Crutchfield
Carolyn DeWolf
Nick Driedger
Patrick Edelbacher
Rhannon Edwards
Ray Elbourne
David Finet
Austin Fletcher

Liam Flynn
Erik Forman
Charles Fostrom
Steven Gallagher
Michael Garcia
Chris Garver
Samuel Goldman
Greg Good
Todd Goodenow

(Continued on page 33.)

Delegate Reports Received

This report shows which delegate reports have come in to General Headquarters since the last GOB was published. The date listed is the date the delegate put on his or her report, most usually the last day they collected dues on the report. The delegate number's prefix (the two-digit number) tells you the year the delegate last cleared his or her credentials.

It is a good idea to check your mailing label on this GOB, where you will find the last dues that Headquarters has recorded for you. If the label doesn't match your membership card, you can look and see if your delegate sent in his or her report. If the report is listed, but the date of the last dues paid on your label isn't correct, please contact Headquarters.

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
	03/06	Andrew Robertson	06-1761	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	03/12	Mike Bell	06-1742	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
	03/26	Seth Dietz	06-1822	2	0	2	1	2	2	0	1
	04/01	Clayton Beverly	07-1510	2	0	0	29	0	0	0	0
	04/01	Melissa Roberts	06-1635	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0
	04/04	Daniel Meltzer	07-1801	1	0	0	14	0	0	3	0
	04/08	Braden Cannon	06-1503	3	0	0	9	2	0	0	0
	04/09	Brian McAteer	06-1823	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
	04/15	Nate Smith	06-1783	6	7	10	11	2	2	2	0
	04/23	Matt McLaughlin	06-1782	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
	04/26	Andrew Robertson	07-1746	7	0	4	5	4	0	0	0
	04/27	Seth Dietz	06-1822	1	0	4	3	11	0	0	0
	04/30	Andrew Skaggs	06-1763	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
	05/01	Mark Damron	07-1221	5	0	1	4	0	0	0	0
	05/08	Bradford Bowen	06-1611	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	1
Amherst (IU650)	04/01	Brooks Ballenger	06-1811	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
Austin	03/18	J. Rogue	07-1838	1	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Austin	03/29	Joaquin Mariel	07-1731	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Baltimore	04/25	Clayton Conn	06-1658	0	6	31	4	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	04/05	Dean Dempsey	06-1806	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1
Bay Area	04/05	Steve Ongerth	06-1138	3	10	0	2	12	0	0	0
Bay Area	04/05	Slava Osowska	07-1778	2	0	2	5	0	2	0	0
Bay Area	04/05	Bruce Valde	06-1407	1	0	29	18	10	0	0	0
Bay Area	04/07	Brendan Kierans	06-1793	0	0	0	5	0	0	4	1
Bay Area	04/10	Heather Gardner	06-1791	3	2	5	1	0	1	0	0
Bay Area	04/11	Hannah Jukovsky	07-1805	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	04/12	Oliver Lanti	06-1790	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boston	02/28	Steve Kellerman	06-1008	0	13	6	3	1	0	0	0
Boston	03/01	Matthew Andrews	06-1719	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Boston	03/24	Justin Kelley	06-1781	2	5	11	20	6	4	6	0
Boston	04/15	Steve Kellerman	06-1008	0	1	3	2	0	2	1	0
Boulder	03/07	Rebecca Koffski	06-1770	2	29	0	21	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	03/10	David Johnson	06-1624	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	04/14	Dan Elgin	07-1301	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	04/15	David Johnson	06-1624	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Chicago	02/10	Penny Pixler	06-1682	2	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
Chicago	02/28	Raven Adler	05-1728	1	0	0	1	5	0	0	0
Chicago	03/02	Joe Tessone	06-1713	0	0	5	7	0	0	0	0
Chicago	03/02	Patrick Brenner	06-1776	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicago	03/06	Penny Pixler	06-1682	0	10	0	1	0	0	0	0
Chicago	03/10	Jason Krpan	06-1708	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1
Chicago	03/22	Al Urbanski	06-1712	3	0	2	11	0	2	0	0
Chicago	04/04	Joe Tessone	06-1713	0	2	2	20	9	0	0	0
Chicago	04/15	Jason Krpan	06-1708	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denver	03/31	Lowell May	07-1072	0	0	8	7	10	0	0	0
Detroit	02/28	Ellen Chase	06-1542	0	3	0	4	8	0	0	0
Detroit	03/30	Tom Walker	06-1799	5	0	0	5	8	0	0	0
Detroit	04/01	Ellen Chase	06-1542	0	1	3	28	6	0	0	0

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
Edmonton	03/01	Katherine McFatridge	07-1835	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	1
Edmonton	03/01	Jeff Musgrave	06-1786	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Edmonton	03/01	Bryan Roberts	06-1674	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Edmonton	03/08	Nick Driedger	06-1603	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	0
Edmonton	03/08	Alex McKie	07-1837	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Edmonton	03/08	Christian Stahl	07-1836	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
Edmonton	03/08	Gordie Thomas	06-1396	0	11	3	3	1	0	5	0
Edmonton	04/11	Katherine McFatridge	07-1835	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Edmonton	04/11	Christian Stahl	07-1386	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Edmonton	04/12	Alex McKie	07-1387	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	0
Edmonton	04/17	Nich Driedger	06-1603	0	1	7	5	2	0	0	0
Edmonton	04/17	Bryan Roberts	06-1674	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Gainesville	02/07	Jason Friedmutter	06-1784	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Grand Rapids	02/28	Gerard Akkerhuis	07-1843	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	0
Grand Rapids	03/26	Cole Dorsey	06-1686	2	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
Lancaster	03/09	Bruce Nevin	06-1061	1	5	0	2	19	0	0	3
Lancaster	04/06	Bruce Nevin	06-1061	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lancaster	05/02	Bruce Nevin	06-1061	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Lane County	03/27	Ed Gunderson	06-1795	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0
Milwaukee	03/15	Diane Reynolds	06-1621	3	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
New York City	10/01	J. D. Crutchfield	06-1406	0	6	2	2	0	0	0	0
New York City	11/03	Bert Picard	06-1796	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
New York City	12/03	Peter Montalbano	06-1702	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	0
New York City	12/03	Benjamin Ferguson	06-1388	0	14	12	1	0	0	0	0
New York City	12/12	Bert Picard	06-1796	13	0	0	8	0	0	0	0
New York City	12/12	Tomer Malchi	05-1700	6	0	0	26	8	0	0	0
New York City	01/08	Bert Picard	06-1796	5	0	0	12	0	0	0	0
New York City	01/14	A. Rubinschneider	06-1824	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
New York City	02/04	Benjamin Ferguson	06-1388	0	0	6	1	1	0	0	0
New York City	02/08	Peter Montalbano	06-1702	5	0	0	19	0	0	0	0
New York City	03/04	Benjamin Ferguson	06-1388	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
New York City	03/04	A. Rubinschneider	06-1824	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
New York City	03/22	Bert Picard	06-1796	2	0	0	4	8	0	0	0
North Coast	02/26	Angie Hart	06-1705	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
North Coast	02/26	Andrew Hamer	06-1704	2	0	0	2	3	0	0	0
North Coast	03/28	Angie Hart	06-1705	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	2
North Jersey	03/31	Chris Whalen	07-1842	2	4	9	7	0	0	0	0
Ohio Valley	03/04	Tom Kappas	06-1520	0	6	0	2	3	2	1	1
Ohio Valley	04/05	Chris Lytle	07-1771	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0
Ohio Valley	04/29	Tom Kappas	07-1520	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Ohio Valley	05/06	Chris Lytle	07-1771	1	0	5	5	1	2	0	0
Ohio Valley	05/06	J. Staples	07-1857	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
Ottawa	01/06	Mathieu Brule	06-1489	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Ottawa	01/07	Peter Timusk	06-1060	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Ottawa	02/28	Mathieu Brule	06-1489	1	2	0	6	4	0	0	0
Ottawa	03/05	Peter Timusk	06-1060	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0
Ottawa	03/29	Mathieu Brule	06-1489	0	2	2	6	0	0	0	0
Ottawa	04/07	Peter Timusk	06-1060	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olympia	02/01	Brendan Dunn	06-1819	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Pensacola	03/31	Scott Satterwhite	07-1390	0	0	1	2	1	9	4	5
Philadelphia	02/21	Matt White	06-1614	0	0	3	10	4	0	0	0
Philadelphia	02/28	Alexis Buss	06-1036	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Phoenix	03/17	Terry Hughes	07-1834	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
Phoenix	03/27	Bill Krist	06-1429	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	02/28	Nic Posey	06-1703	0	0	0	6	7	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	03/07	E.W. Wolfson	06-1546	2	0	0	2	7	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	03/11	James Maskew	06-1766	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	03/17	Lisa Stolarski	06-1754	1	0	1	0	6	0	0	0
Portland	03/31	Ryan Gaughan (ACH)	06-1789	0	3	14	8	0	0	0	0

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
Portland	04/01	Matt Jones	06-1716	4	0	1	6	0	0	0	0
Portland	04/06	Nick Neumann	07-1669	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Providence	02/20	Senia Barragan	06-1808	2	0	0	28	1	2	0	0
Toronto	02/06	Rachel Rosen	05-1722	1	3	12	0	5	0	0	0
Twin Cities	10/31	Jeff Pilacinski	05-1735	1	7	8	8	2	0	0	0
Twin Cities	11/05	Nate Holdren	06-1681	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	11/06	Stephan Holm	06-1756	4	1	3	8	1	0	0	0
Twin Cities	11/30	Jeff Pilacinski	05-1735	0	6	3	1	0	0	1	0
Twin Cities	12/01	Nate Holdren	06-1681	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	12/03	Phil Schrader	06-1817	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Twin Cities	12/05	Wil Olsen	06-1818	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	12/06	Stephan Holm	06-1756	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	12/18	Erik Foreman	06-1815	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	12/29	Phil Schrader	06-1817	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Twin Cities	12/30	Brian Janes	06-1816	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	01/02	Jeff Pilacinski	05-1735	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Twin Cities	01/02	Nate Holdren	06-1681	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/01	Nate Holdren	06-1681	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/04	Phil Schrader	06-1817	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/07	Wil Olsen	06-1818	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/09	Erik Foreman	06-1815	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/27	Wil Olsen	06-1818	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	02/28	Jeff Pilacinski	05-1735	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	03/15	Nate Holdren	06-1681	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	03/20	Brian Janes	06-1816	0	0	8	0	0	0	3	0
Twin Cities	03/31	Phil Schrader	06-1817	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Twin Cities	04/06	Erik Foreman	06-1815	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Upstate NY	03/27	Greg Georgio	06-1027	2	1	21	0	1	4	1	0
Upstate NY	03/31	Rochelle Semel	06-1059	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	05/06	Gordon Flett	06-1496	1	6	12	12	17	0	4	1
Vancouver	08/06	Gordon Flett	06-1496	2	2	0	0	12	0	0	0
Vancouver	09/06	Gordon Flett	06-1496	2	0	0	4	12	0	0	0
Vancouver	11/06	Gordon Flett	06-1496	0	12	0	4	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	12/06	Gordon Flett	06-1496	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	02/28	Gordon Flett	06-1496	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Western Mass	03/29	E. McCorkindale	07-1833	0	0	5	15	0	0	0	0
Winnipeg	01/09	Patrick McGuire	06-1128	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	0
Winnipeg	01/09	Garth Hardy	04-1592	0	3	0	3	2	2	0	0

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Or in your Branch.

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Notes From Delegates

Austin GMB: The last week of February and the month of March were busy for us here in Austin. We put together a benefit concert to raise money for our Fellow Workers in Brooklyn, and made more than \$600. We have also been actively organizing a local Austin grocery co-op, but that work is moving slowly. Currently we are signing up new members each month, and preparing those who are most active for a big push that should come in the next couple of weeks. (Joaquin Mariel, April 2007)

Bay Area GMB: Preparing for the Training for Trainers session to be held in Madison in May. As always, we are looking for folks who are leaders in their shops or campaigns, those speaking languages other than English, women and people of color. If you are interested or want to recommend someone, please drop me a line at sjiww@yahoo.com. (Adam Welch, March 2007) I have begun to talk to my co-workers about the IWW, and hopefully I will be able to report that we have an active organizing committee by the next meeting. (Oliver Lanti, March 2007) Shattuck Cinema workers held a rally on March 16th in front of the cinema . . . Contract talks begin via phone conference in two weeks. It has now been nine months since the union was certified. (Bruce Valde, April 2007) We did a lot of good work this month as a branch; from bookfair tabling, to an Organizer training. I think the branch is on its way to being prosperous and efficient, and ready to invest time and resources into helping workers to organize. (Heather Gardner, May 2007)

Boston GMB: One other local Wob and I are working at a local grocery store and are laying the groundwork for a campaign. With the support of the GMB we are initiating a series of Spanish classes to help us in organizing the largely immigrant workforce . . . our hope is that these classes will also be an outreach tool to introduce others to the IWW. (Matt Andrews, March 2007) My print shop now has three card-carrying IWW members, and we have formed an organizing committee to reach out to the rest of the shop. We also have a ape Cod Branch Formation Committee, which is starting to reach out to other workers on the Cape. (Justin Kelley, March 2007)

Central Illinois GMB: We are organizing the first ever May Day event in Champaign-Urbana for Saturday, April 28th. FW Anne Feeney will be performing along with several local musicians. We will also begin tabling at the Farmers' Market on Saturdays beginning May 12th in an effort to recruit new members, and to develop organizing targets. (David Johnson, April 2007)

Gainesville GMB: We are continuing to work with other local groups to organize a May Day celebration on the Gainesville Downtown Plaza, and kick-off our minimum wage campaign (James Schmidt, March 2007) Efforts to organize a local shop continue despite setbacks. (J. N. Richard, April 2007)

Grand Rapids GMB: We had a benefit show and a Starbucks Action with the Detroit Branch in March. Hope to bring our local SWU public soon. (Gerard Akkerhuis, March 2007) Inadvertently went public with the SWU when the Boss showed up at a benefit show that we organized . . . (we raised \$103). One other worker has signed up so far, but others are interested. (Cole Dorsey, March 2007)

New York City GMB: The Branch has experienced unprecedented growth in the past year. The 660 Starbucks workers are engaged in a blow for blow slugfest with the coffee giant, but have come out of it with new allies and a growing international support structure. (Peter Montalbano, December 2006)

We have served demands on Top City Produce, and are fighting the mass firings at EZ Supply and HandyFat. Workers are willing to fight for their rights. (Bert Picard, January 2007)

The Branch has been leafletting outside of restaurants in support of the IU 460 campaign and as a result, have successfully stopped some restaurants from doing business with EZ Supply. (Benjamin Ferguson, February 2007)

North Coast GMB: We recently had a Branch fundraiser, with local bands playing. We made over \$100, which will be split between the Branch and Starbucks Workers Union. (Angie Hart, March 2007) I've been organizing a reading group for our literature department which is open to members and supporters . . .

Meanwhile, we have had some meetings at my workplace, and workers there are up for trying to improve conditions, but are still a long way from joining the union. I also am working with a contact at a local coffee shop. (Andrew Hamer, March 2007)

Northern New Jersey GMB: This is my first report since being credentialed. My immediate focus has been to ensure that all Branch members are up-to-date with their dues. I have signed up two new members in IU650, and hope to reorganize our IU650 IDC in the next few months. I am also helping another GMB member in his efforts to organize his workplace, a local grocery. (Chris Whalen, March 2007)

Ohio Valley GMB: Things are getting steamy at The Underground, where I work . . . my boss recently threatened to fire me for bringing up a safety issue. Meanwhile, I am still working on the IU410 Committee and organizing locally. (Tom Kappas, April 2007) Working on signing up bands for a local benefit show, and dealing with the day to day as Branch Secretary. (J.J. Staples, May 2007)

Ottawa GMB: We are developing a Canadian newspaper, the *Industrious Beaver*. (Peter Timusk, January 2007) Recently returned to Ottawa from the UK . . . the GMB here is organizing a Canadian IWW gathering, which has energized local Wobblies who are looking forward to more organizing and communications with our Fellow Workers. (Peter Moore, March 2007) Some branch members are involved in a new worker-run book store, and the GMB is organizing a May Day event. Meanwhile we are engaged in discussions on how to build our membership and make our branch more efficient. (Mathieu Brule, March 2007)

Pensacola GMB: Workers at the End Of The Line Cafe asked the new owners for a raise and a clear job definition, since the cafe has been “de-collectivized” . . . all our demands were met, and everyone is happy with the way it went. Also working to raise funds for the NYC GMB to support their strike fund, and are discussing future work with the C.I.W. (Scott Satterwhite, March 2007)

Pittsburgh GMB: Several new delegates working on an IU220 lead and continuing efforts in IU650, but efforts are complicated by a USWA campaign in one shop and an OPEIU contract in the other.

Continuing with Starbucks’ organizing . . . a lot of disgruntled, former baristas in Pittsburgh. (Evan Wolfson, March 2007)

Twin Cities GMB: With so much activity and our steady growth, I’m relieved we opted not to host GA 2007. IU620 & 640 campaigns press on, and Work People’s College is growing in popularity. (Jeff Pilacinski, October 2006)

Exciting news may be on the horizon as recent conversations with coworkers have shown the possibility of a new organizing front. (Wil Olsen, December 2006)

Setting up orientations for new members at Starbucks. (Erik Foreman, December 2006)

Work People’s College is going well and we have plans for a one year anniversary event for the branch. (Stephan Holm, December 2006)

Branch has been very active with our organizing efforts at Landmark Cinema where we are regularly leafletting. (Brian Janes, December 2006)

The recent Organizer Training has reenergized me, and organizing at my shop is picking up; engaged in 2-on-1s with interested workers... Our branch newsletter resumed publication with a good mix of articles and a larger format. (Wil Olsen, January 2007)

Continuing to work with the Starbucks campaign . . . We have 5 members in our shop, and are trying to get others involved, as well as branching out to other shops. (Erik Forman, March 2007).

Upstate NY GMB: Signed up lapsed member Chris White, who signed up FW Poulos from our branch more than 30 years ago. Picketing one of the local Starbucks next month . . . (Greg Giorgio, March 2007)

Winnipeg GMB: Wobbly Wednesdays are back under way. We are tabling at a number of events, and looking at producing some new merchandise. (Garth Hardy, January 2007) Still in discussion with folks at a local campus radio station about organizing. Trying to get our books and paperwork in order. (Patrick McGuire, January 2007)

Delegates-At-Large

Albuquerque, New Mexico: In contact with tattoo artists, cooks and teachers, but mostly we are working on local admin as we will soon be applying for a Branch charter. We have recently begun a project designed to bring area workers' stories and their perspective on workers' struggles to local media attention using radio, video and print. We also hope to host an organizer training event soon. (Clayton Beverly, April 2007)

Fayetteville, Arkansas: Participated in a May Day Candlelight Vigil held by the Northwest Arkansas Worker Justice Center, and was invited to the local NW Ark Labor Council, where I was surprised to see IWW artwork framed in the board room. Gearing up for the annual Wal-Mart shareholders meeting protest in June. (Bradford Bowen, May 2007)

Eastern Iowa: Our branch remains active in the few campaigns we have going right now. At our last meeting we established a solidarity committee which will have 4 members on it with the goal of building solidarity across the region with other groups and unions. Our recent organizer training, while not being the best attended one, turned out really well for the branch members that were present. (Drew Robertson, June 2007)

Halifax, Nova Scotia: Trying to start a GMB in Halifax, and have arranged meetings to introduce the IWW to local workers . . . Efforts are paying off, with three new members this month bringing our total to five. I expect more workers to sign up in the coming weeks. (Braden Cannon, April 2007)

Poolesville, Maryland: Still trying to organize Starbucks baristas. Conditions in our shop are improving, with an increase in dignity and respect. Workers are also beginning to get the hours they want. Also trying to organize fast food workers and servers in the food service industry. (Seth Dietz, March 2007)

St. George, Utah: Have held two meetings with local teachers and have agreed upon a list of concerns to be addressed at the next staff meeting . . . (Andrew Skaggs, April 2007)

Washington, DC: Awaiting our official GMB Status . . . we recently co-sponsored a march with the local UFCW and Student Labor Action Project . . . Continuing to work on Starbucks' organizing, as well as external picketing. (Daniel Meltzer, April 2007)



Announcement from the IWW Organizer Training Program

The Portland IWW will be hosting an Organizer Training
July 14 & 15 from 11am to 5pm
at Liberty Hall, 311 N. Ivy St., Portland, Oregon..

Fellow workers from out of town are welcome to attend.
Please RSVP in advance.

The training will cover:

- ☐ How to talk about the IWW? What makes it unique?
- ☐ Setting up that first meeting to talk about organizing
- ☐ How to talk about organizing with other workers
- ☐ Assessments and Strategy

This training aims to provide the tools we need to carry out successful organizing. All IWW members in the Portland area or from other branches are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP if you plan on attending. This will help us coordinate childcare/food for the training.

RSVP to Matt J. (503)449-6874 or MGalesiu440@gmail.com

Organizing News

IWW Foodstuff Workers in NYC Need Your Support and Solidarity!

I'm an Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) member. I worked hard to start the union . . . we've grown and become strong. Because in union there is strength.

– Eliezer Maca Gallardo

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Warehouse workers in New York City need your help in their fight against employers who have stolen their wages, thumbed their noses at labor laws, and vigorously fought against unionization. These workers have built the IWW Food and Allied Workers Union - I.U.460/640 against incredible odds, and still stand strong in the face of mass firings. They've shown how immigrant workers can fight sweatshop conditions to build a better future.

The Story at HandyFat

In August of 2005, Pablo Montes and Carlos Hidalgo, workers from Handyfat Trading Corp., attended a meeting at the Bushwick, Brooklyn, community organization Make the Road by Walking. They told the group about terrible working conditions: they worked 60 or more hours for a mere 280 dollars per week (at most \$4.66 per hour with no overtime; in 2005, the New York State minimum wage was \$6.00/hour); they had no benefits or sick days, and they were called “dirty Mexicans” and worse by an abusive manager. At that meeting, they agreed with Bert Picard and Billy J Randel, two IWW organizers and Make the Road members, to meet with the Handyfat workers, nine of whom joined the union. On December 5, 2005, the Handyfat workers were joined by over 50 supporters in a march to declare their IWW membership and demand that the owner observe the wage and hour law. By the end of the winter, the owner was paying legal wages, and the union had won a minority contract, complete with wage increases, sick days, vacation time, and other perks. More importantly, the threat of worker action on the job silenced their abusive manager.

The Story at Sunrise Plus (formerly known as EZ-Supply)

During 2006, the IWW organized workers in four more warehouses, all with similar sweatshop conditions. Sunrise Plus Corp., originally called E-Z Supply, is the largest of the five warehouses. Workers at E-Z Supply forced their employer to pay the legal wage and won an NLRB-supervised election on February 9, 2006. In November 2006, over a dozen EZ-Supply workers and 460/640 negotiating committee members faced off against their boss and hammered out a tentative contract that would have given workers two weeks of vacation, paid breaks, sick days, and 60 cent raises every six months. Just after Christmas, before the contract was formalized, EZ-Supply changed its name to Sunrise Plus and fired all the union workers – fifteen workers total. The next week, Handyfat followed suit and fired all six union workers. The employers' excuse: that the union workers failed to produce working papers. Legally, an employer must request proper documentation within the first 72 hours of work, not after workers exert their right to unionize. Most of the fired workers had worked for their companies for years, several for over a decade. All were fired in crass retaliation for exercising their rights to organize a union and to regain unpaid wages.

The Story at Amersino

In March and April, IWW members at Amersino Marketing Corp. engaged in wildcat strikes to defend coworkers from managements' abuses.

The struggle reached a high point when Amersino's owner brought in a fictitious "night shift" to vote against the union in a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)-supervised election. The next day, he illegally fired several union leaders, two of whom the NLRB later ordered to be reinstated. The Amersino workers continue to organize and recently broke through the Chinese/Latino ethnic split common in these warehouses.

The Struggle Continues

The members of the IWW Food and Allied Workers Union remain strong. Nearly all of the fired workers have found new jobs while continuing their fight for reinstatement. José, 53, worked at Handyfat for 12 years, and despite his retaliatory firing, he takes pride in the union that he and his coworkers have built:

There was no one before us; we were the first ones. That's where [the union] grew from; and it makes me happy that it keeps growing, that there's more members so that there'll be more strength and unity, so that they won't keep on exploiting people because there's too much exploitation.

The NLRB and the US Department of Justice have launched investigations into the companies' illegal request for working papers and the subsequent firings. The NLRB has already issued complaints against Handyfat and Sunrise Plus (EZ-Supply). However, the union is not relying on the courts, where justice is denied through delay. The union organized two marches through Brooklyn, in which hundreds of participants demanded justice for the fired workers. A dozen restaurants have switched from Sunrise Plus to other suppliers. And the union continues to organize, make new contacts, and grow.

The workers from the IWW Food and Allied Workers Union ask for your solidarity. The union has financially supported twenty-one fired workers and another five whose hours were dramatically reduced. Our strike fund is in heavy debt and we are looking to you for additional resources to sustain our campaign.

We ask that all Wobblies who can afford it pledge \$5.00 per week for the next four months. With enough Fellow Workers participating, this small weekly amount will ensure that we can continue the fight to build a powerful rank-and-file union in the food industry.

Here's how your donation will be spent:

Relief Fund: rebuilding our workers defense fund. Our goal is to put 25,000 dollars from contributions into the fund over the next four months.

Organizing: helping to defray the costs of an organizing drive, i.e. transportation, literature and other campaign materials, and small stipends for worker-organizers when they take off from work on union business (the IWW Food and Allied Workers Union has no paid staff).

Overhead: rent for office space (\$50/month) and other related costs, such a phone line and internet service. No more than 5% of donations will be spent on overhead costs.

To make a weekly recurring contribution on-line, go to: <http://www.iww.org/en/node/3166>, and follow the instructions. Thank you in advance for your solidarity and generosity.

In Solidarity,
Alex van Schaick and Stephanie Basile
Solidarity Committee
IWW Food and Allied Workers Union, I.U. 460/640
P. O. Box 7430
J. A. F. Station
New York, NY 10116

General Assembly 2007

General Assembly Update

General Assembly will be held in Chicago, Labor Day Weekend (September 1st & 2nd).

The Chicago General Membership Branch is looking forward to hosting this year's General Assembly; Saturday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, Sept. 2 at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) campus.

The university is situated just outside of downtown Chicago, but is easily accessible from anywhere in the city. All delegates who register will be offered a 3 day, unlimited use, public transportation pass and will be provided with a map of the transit system.

The meeting rooms for the Assembly are on the 3rd floor of the Student Center East Facilities of UIC at 750 South Halsted Street. The rooms are handicapped accessible and clean. Check-in and on-site registration will take place Friday evening and Saturday morning. For Delegates traveling with children, childcare will be offered. The Assembly agenda, entertainment, and housing information will be made available at IWW.ORG very soon as will a downloadable version of the registration form.

All Delegates who will be attending the General Assembly are encouraged to register early. The registration form is found on page 33 of this issue of the GOB, and the next edition of the *Industrial Worker*, as well as being available from iww.org. Also, any Wob may email me at **Jkrpaniww@yahoo.com** for a copy. Pre-registration enables us to have a headcount of attendees as well as to work out housing arrangements for those who need them and ensure that enough food is provided for. By registering early, you ensure that the Chicago General Membership Branch can produce a well-run and accommodating General Assembly.

Housing may be limited. Those who register first will be set up with housing first. Those who cannot be provided with housing will have to arrange their own accommodations.

Housing will be available for Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. All Delegates to the General Assembly who are set up with housing will be put in contact with the Chicago Wobbly providing the housing.

We STRONGLY encourage you to pre-register. YOU WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED A SEAT OR HOUSING UNLESS YOU REGISTER IN ADVANCE.

Please note, the General Assembly will be held in Chicago, Illinois, but all registration forms need to be returned to the Waukegan PO Box at:

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
c/o Waukegan IWW
PO Box 274
Waukegan, IL 60079

All members who return a form will receive either a follow up email or phone call from me.

For more information, leave a voicemail for the Branch at 312.638.9155 or email **jkrpaniww@yahoo.com** and we will get back to you with more information when it is available.

Keep it Solid,

J. Krpan

Chair, GA Planning Committee

Contact Info:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State/Prov. _____

ZIP/Postal Code: Country: _____

Email: Telephone: _____ / _____

Branch: Industrial Union #: _____

Housing and Accommodation: *(housing will be on a "first-registered, first-served" basis)*☐ I will need Housing ☐ For ____ (#) in addition to myself (kids, spouse, etc.)☐ I will bring my own sleeping bag & pillow ☐ I can sleep on the floor if neededI am ☐ allergic to cats / dogs (circle) ☐ non-smoker ☐ other: _____

Special Needs (diet, allergies, hearing, sight, etc)

☐ I will need childcare for ____ children, age(s) _____**ARRIVAL DATE & TIME:** _____ **DEPARTURE DATE & TIME:** _____

Registration Fees, Etc:☐ I am enclosing \$ _____ (suggested \$25, more if you can, less if you can't).☐ I will make a contribution when I arrive in Chicago.

Delegates Clearances: *(continued from page 23.)*

Richard Griffin
 Jason Griffith
 Andrew Hamer
 Jay Hansen
 Matthew Hardcastle
 Angie Hart
 Chris Harvey
 Justin Hirsh
 Stephan Holm
 Tom Howard
 Sam Jackson
 Dhruv Jain
 Brian Janes
 Jeff Jones
 Annie Kaufman

Justin Kelly
 Wal Larkin
 Eric Larson
 Hawa Lassanah
 Frederic S. Lee
 Robert Lee
 Mike Long
 Ed Lytle
 Tomer Malchi
 Kelly Mangan
 Mike McGarry
 William McLaughlin
 Leanne Mead
 Keith Mercer
 Amy S. Mondloch

Peter Montalbano
 Augustine Montes
 Andrea Murphy
 Andrew Nellis
 Lars Ortegren
 Justin Parsons
 Jeff Perkins
 Jenny Peshut
 Nicolas Posey
 Reko Ravela
 Aaron Reichow
 Matthew Roth
 Amye Rubinschneider
 Sam Russell
 Desiree Schell

James Schmidt
 Phil Schrader
 Demian Schroeder
 Richard Seymour
 Lisa Stolarski
 David Temple
 Jason Tompkins
 Tom Walker
 Michael Welsey
 Stacie Wolfe
 Pavl Zachary
 Alexander Zimmerman



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