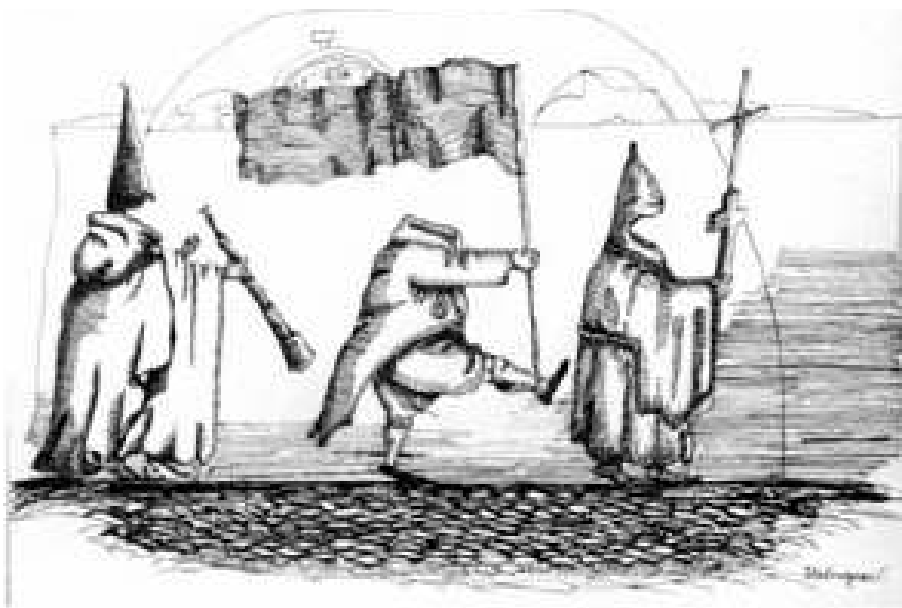


OUR UNION'S INTERNAL DISCUSSION FORUM

GOB #3 2007



GENERAL ORGANIZATION BULLETIN OF THE
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD



In This Issue:

SPECIAL REFERENDUM

Plus Reports, Financials, Discussion, Organizing News and More!

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

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GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD 2007

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First Alternate:

Matt White *primodudes@yahoo.com*

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*
309 N 6th Ave - Pensacola, FL 32501

compassiontothecore@hotmail.com
(850) 417-2766

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For information or support regarding organizing, e-mail:
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(217) 549-1305

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tacmota@aol.com (513) 591 - 1905

EDITORS

The Industrial Worker

Peter Moore *pmoore26@yahoo.com*

Mike Pesa *mike.pesa@gmail.com*

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 650, Atlanta Group, Boston GMB, LA GMB, Pittsburgh GMB, Providence GMB, Upstate NY GMB, Washington DC Group.

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

Kevin Farkas: Albuquerque Group, Boulder GMB, Denver GMB, Kansas City GMB, Lancaster GMB, Ohio Valley GMB, Phoenix GMB, West Mass 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

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 February 2007

March 12, 2007

Fellow and Sister Workers:

This month began with the GEB passing of motion AL-2 (CSR / F-ROC dialogue), which establishes a formal dialog between the IWW and a network of French workers who wish to become members of the IWW. later on we passed motion AL-3 (Approve Charter for the GLAMROC), establishing a Regional Organizing Committee in the German speaking countries of Europe. Taken together, we hope these actions put the second W back into the IWW.

Additionally this month we formalized our branch contact appointments, finishes and released the minutes to our winter meeting, agreed to official policies and procedures for the International Solidarity Commission, and have moved towards clearing up some of the confusion related to the Literature Department.

We have also passed budget for the first half of 2007, and have committed to a full fiscal year budget to start in July of 2007. This new budget schedule addresses a long time structural problem of the union, namely that budgets were developed by the incoming board (often unaware of the financial details needed for a proper budget) after the calendar year had started and so made in a very hasty manner. Starting future budgets mid year will give time to this and future GEBs enough time to properly plan for income and expenses and ensure for a financially solvent union.

You will also notice in this GOB several ballot items authorized by the passing of AL-4 (Special Referendum Ballot # 1 – Dues Structure and Nomenclature). Many of the items in this special referendum will undoubtedly seem familiar to many union members as nearly identical items appeared on the last general referendum ballot. However, there were several issues raised (spelled out in last year's EW-13 and AL-4 this year) that needed addressing, and the board felt the fairest solution would be to put the matters back to a vote of the whole membership. Speaking on behalf of the whole board, I encourage everyone to consider the motions carefully and to vote on them. A ballot will appear in the next GOB alongside arguments and opinions about the items.

Finally, I note that last year May Day came to the US accompanied by massive protests by the immigrant community. This year, in anticipation of a strong follow up to that, we have endorsed El Gran Paro American (in motion number BR-1) and encourage all branches to participate in whatever way they can.

Yours for the OBU,

Richard Seymour - X355122
GEB Chair

Board Reports Received from GEB Members:

MB	- Mike Bell:	02/06/07
PB	- Patrick Brenner:	03/10/07
KF	- Kevin Farkas:	03/08/07
AL	- Adam Lincoln:	02/12/07
BR	- Bryan Roberts:	03/10/07
SS	- Scott Satterwhite:	03/09/07
RFS	- Richard Seymour:	03/11/07

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.

SS-1: Industrial Worker Stipend and Message of Gratitude to Philadelphia GMB

Filed: 2007-01-12 Status: PASSED on 2007-02-06

AL: Y — BR: A — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: A — SS: Y — 5-0-2

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RFS-2: Disclose Edmonton Votes

Filed: 2007-02-07 Status: PASSED on 2007-02-10

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: N — MB: Y — PB: N — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 5-2-0

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RFS-3: De-Chartering of the Salt Lake City GMB

Filed: 2007-02-07 Status: PASSED on 2007-02-10

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 7-0-0

=====

AL-2: CSR / F-ROC Dialogue

Filed: 2007-02-12 Status: PASSED on 2007-02-20

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 7-0-0

=====

PB-1: Branch Contacts

Filed: 2007-02-13 Status: PASSED on 2007-02-19

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 7-0-0

The following list shall constitute the official branch contact assignments of the GEB:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Adam Lincoln: | AusROC, BIROC, German Groups, Greece and other European members |
| Bryan Roberts: | Edmonton GMB, Grand Rapids, GMB North Coast GMB, Ottawa GMB, Toronto GMB, Vancouver GMB, Winnipeg GMB, Tacoma Group |
| Kevin Farkas: | Albuquerque Group, Boulder GMB, Denver GMB, Kansas City GMB, Lancaster GMB, Ohio Valley GMB, Phoenix GMB, West Mass GMB |
| Mike Bell: | Amherst 650, Atlanta Group, Boston GMB, LA GMB, Pittsburgh GMB, Providence GMB, Upstate NY GMB, Washington DC Group |
| Patrick Brenner: | Chicago GMB, Detroit GMB, Central Illinois GMB, Iowa Group, Madison GMB, Milwaukee GMB, North New Jersey GMB, Twin Cities GMB |
| Richard Seymour: | Bay Area GMB, Lane County (Eugene) GMB, Olympia GMB, Portland GMB, Salt Lake City GMB, Santa Cruz Group, Seattle GMB |
| Scott Satterwhite: | Austin GMB, Baltimore GMB, Dallas Group, Gainesville GMB, Central Jersey GMB, New York GMB, Pensacola GMB, Philadelphia GMB |

(Continued from the previous page.)

MB-1: Policies and Procedures for the International Solidarity Commission of the IWW

Filed: 2007-02-17

Status: PASSED on 2007-02-19

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 7-0-0

(The text of the ISC Policies and Procedures is available on the GEB email list archives or from GHQ. If requesting a hard copy from GHQ, please enclose \$1 to help cover printing and postage.)

=====

BR-1: May 1, 2007: El Gran Paro American

Filed: 2007-02-27

Status: PASSED on 2007-02-28

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: Y — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 7-0-0

Whereas, the IWW has previously endorsed and worked in support of calls to respect the rights of immigrant workers, including endorsing the May 1, 2006 call for a general strike; and

Whereas, members of the IWW, including members at organized shops, participated in marches and job actions on this day; and

Whereas, calls are currently being put forward for a second “El Gran Paro Americano” on May 1, 2007 in support of the rights of immigrant workers;

Therefore, be it RESOLVED,

That the General Executive Board of the IWW endorses the call for a second “El Gran Paro Americano” on May 1, 2007 and encourages its branches and membership to become involved in and support this movement.

=====

PB-2: 2007 GEB Winter Minutes

Filed: 2007-02-28

Status: PASSED on 2007-03-03

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: X — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 6-0-0

(Minutes to the GEB meeting cannot be published in the GOB due to space restrictions. However, they are available in the archives of the GEB mailing list posted on March 3, and they are available from GHQ. If requesting a hard copy from GHQ, please include \$1 to help cover the cost of postage and printing.)

=====

AL-3: Approve Charter for the GLAMROC

Filed: 2007-03-02

Status: PASSED on 2007-03-03

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: X — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 6-0-0

Whereas the GEB has received an application to charter an ROC from the German Language Area Members; and

Whereas this application meets the requirements of Art I Sec. 8(a); and

Whereas the bylaws are comprehensive and detailed and attached to this motion;

Be it resolved:

That the General Executive Board hereby approves the charter for the GLAMROC and instructs the GST to issue a charter forthwith.

AL-4: Special Referendum Ballot # 1 – Dues Structure and Nomenclature

Filed: 2007-03-06

Status: PASSED on 2007-03-07

AL: Y — BR: Y — KF: Y — MB: X — PB: Y — RFS: Y — SS: Y — 6-0-0

Whereas the 2006 GEB considered the late notice of ballot items, minor ballot irregularities affecting the Edmonton GMB and other members, and the alleged unconstitutional language of parts of the Dues Structure and Nomenclature proposals in the 2006 general referendum; and

Whereas the 2006 GEB addressed this issue with the passing of EW-13: Ruling on Dues Referendum Items which ruled: the first dues referendum item was deemed to have an error in drafting as it may be in conflict with Art. VIII, Sec. 2(c) as well as not clearly stating that it was only replacing the dues schedule in Art. VIII Sec. 2(i) rather than the whole of Sec. 2(i); and the second dues referendum item was declared null and void due to the late notice of ballot items and minor ballot irregularities and the close vote at referendum, and the third dues referendum item was declared null and void as it appears to be in direct contradiction to current constitutional language, including Art. XII, Sec. 1; and

Whereas the 2006 GEB effectively postponed the implementation of the first dues referendum item (the new dues rates) until March 31 2007, to allow the 2007 GEB to determine a course of action consistent with constitutional requirements; and

Whereas the 2007 GEB addressed the issue of ballot irregularity involving the Edmonton GMB with the passing of RFS 02 Disclose Edmonton Votes; and

Whereas the 2007 GEB does not necessarily endorse the previous process under EW 13 but is working to obtain a solution that is democratic and constitutionally sound; and

Whereas this GEB intends that all members of this union shall have an opportunity to vote on the three dues structure referendum items (previously submitted) in a constitutionally valid manner; and

Whereas this GEB seeks to clarify the wording of Article VIII and include additional proposed wording; and

Whereas this GEB seeks to repeal Article XII and insert relevant wording into Article VIII; and

Whereas it is right and proper for the membership to decide whether or not any or all of these dues structure referendum items pass or fail rather than the GEB;

Be it resolved:

1. That in accordance with Article IX Sec. 2(a) the GEB sends the following 7 dues structure questions to special referendum ballot;
2. That the GST is instructed to make the necessary arrangements for this motion and the ballot notice, along with the wording of these ballot items to be included in the March 2007 GOB;
3. That the GST is instructed to place the ballot items and any letters and submissions received in the April GOB;
4. That the Chair of the GEB in consultation with the GST shall set the open and close dates of the ballot consistent with GOB scheduling and the constitutional requirements for ballots to be in the field between 30-45 days;
5. That the results if the ballot be published in the June GOB;
6. The GST shall ensure sufficient printed copies of the Constitution as amended January 1 2007 are available at GHQ and online at iww.org. Should any or all of these referendum items pass the GST shall ensure that a larger print run of copies of the Constitution as amended July 1 2007 is undertaken;

(Continued on the next page.)

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7. The results of the ballot shall take effect from January 1 2008;
8. Members are advised that Question 4 and Question 5 should be voted identically so that either yes or no is applied to both questions as both need to pass in order for Question 4 as a resolution to take effect;
9. Members are advised that Question 6 and Question 7 should be voted identically so that either yes or no is applied to both questions as both need to pass in order for Question 6 to make constitutional sense;
10. This motion AL 04 shall not preclude additional referendum items from being added to the special referendum ballot in accordance with Article IX Sec. 2(a);
11. The first dues referendum item (the new dues rates) from the 2006 General Referendum delayed until March 31 2007 by EW-13: Ruling on Dues Referendum Items is now declared null and void.

(Referendum appear on page 14 of this issue of the GOB.)

=====

KF-2: Lit. Dept. Financial Reconciliation Report (2006 calendar year)

Filed: 2007-03-08

Status: PASSED on 2007-03-11

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

Be it moved that the GEB hereby directs GST Damron and the Literature Department staff to work together to provide a report reconciling the Lit. Dept.'s income and expenses occurring through the Philadelphia and GHQ offices for the 2006 calendar year.

The GST shall be responsible for this report, and it shall be completed and presented to the Board no later than thirty days after the approval of this motion.

=====

PB-3: 2007 Budget

Filed: 2007-03-04

Status: PASSED on 2007-03-11

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

Be it moved that the GEB hereby adopts the following budget for the IWW for the months of January 2007 to June 2007.

Be it further moved that the GEB establish and adopt a working budget no later than May 31, 2007 that will cover the fiscal year from July 2007 to June 2008.

(Budget table included in supplemental report)



***Support your Fellow Workers
in their Organizing efforts!***

**Foodstuffs Workers I.U.460 Assessment Stamps
- Now Available from GHQ!**

Organizing Department

Organizing Department Board Report

March 2007

One Big Union:

Anyone may contact the Organizing Department (OD) by emailing - organizing@iww.org.

The ODB has begun following up unsolicited leads received at GHQ.

I think this month the members of the OD were recovering from the activity of the first month. A great deal of appreciation has been expressed by the NYC Wobs regarding the thousands of dollars they have received from branches across the union that have been fund raising and stepping up personally to help out.

The ODB has been working on how to open up the email list, get branches in better contact with each other, and establishing an Industrial Contact system. The BIROC already has an Industrial Contact system which could be used as a model, or at least, a resource for Industrial Contacts as that gets going. I expect motions on all of these issues to move from the proposed to the official motion status soon.

We continue to develop contacts throughout the union and ODB member Jeff Pilacinski will be attending the Canadian Regional Assembly this weekend. In the next month we hope to establish Industrial Contacts in some of the industries where there is the most activity

I continue to request that any members who would like to help with specific programs of the OD to contact us as soon as possible.

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

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

Committee Updates:

- OTC - FW Baranski will be serving on the ODB as the OTC person, rather than as the interim. Several trainings are in the works including a big "training-for-trainers" session for the Midwest.
- SRC - The SRC has an initial draft of a survey to send out to BSTs. We are revising the survey now and expect to begin sending out the revised version soon. Several Wobs have responded to the call for members who want to help with research. Other interested FWs are encouraged to contact the SRC at (773) 750 - 0715 or e-mail: nateholdren@gmail.com.



Organizer Training Committee

Note to OTP Trainers and Friends

Hello All,

Hope the New Years is finding you and your organizing efforts going well. I wanted to give a more public update on the Organizer Training Program and where things are headed for the coming year.

First the composition of the OTC has changed somewhat. Myself, Adam Welch, will take on the chair position; John Baranski will continue serving as a committee member; Ildi Sipos has stepped down because of personal commitments and will continue working with her local branch; and welcome a new addition to the committee, Tomer Malchi of New York, bringing his experience and energy from the Starbucks campaign.

For all OTP trainers, we wanted to let you know about several things. First, is that we are now asking trainers to fill out a report for each training they complete (mailed in or by email, though email is preferable). These will help us better figure out if the committee and the local branch are doing a good job in arranging the trainings and importantly will help us gather important info about organizing, the state of branches and recommended future trainers. We will be sharing some of this with the newly created Organizing Department to help them in their work of support on the ground organizers. It is included below and attached and we'll be asking some of you send them to us for recent trainings.

Next, we are hoping to plan the upcoming Training for Trainers on May 19-20 in Madison with people flying into Milwaukee. This is very tentative and if this date needs changing we will likely move it to sometime in the fall. But if people could begin the process of thinking whom they would recommend for attending and get in touch with the committee that would be great.

Other exciting news is that the Trainers Manual (with the eventual CD of all documents) is in the final editing stages and translation into Spanish has begun; the committee to have our first trainings in Spanish this year; and we are also slowly but surely developing an outline for 102 Training covering where the 101 Training leaves off, focusing towards existing public campaigns and shops.

The OTC received funding this year to arrange a "test run" of this training where we would invite members from existing campaigns and organized shops to give feedback on the curriculum developed. We will let you know more as soon things develop.

For workers power, freedom and democracy,

Adam Welch, OTC Chair
1138 Johnson Ave.
San Jose, CA 95129

sjiww@yahoo.com



Literature Department

Profit & Loss - January 2007 (reconciled)

Income

4810	Literature Shipping Charge	43.00
<u>4800</u>	<u>Literature Sales - Other</u>	<u>4,360.65</u>

Total Income 4,403.65

Expense

5320	Lit - New Inventory	1,851.79
<u>5390</u>	<u>Lit - Other*</u>	<u>668.92</u>

Total Expense 2,520.71

Net Income 1,882.94

* Mailing supplies, BrownCor - \$294.08 &

Pitney Bowes Postal Meter - \$374.84 (we are almost done with this contract)

Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2007

ASSETS

Current Assets - Checking/Savings	9,429.23
Accounts Receivable - Open Invoices	45,831.90
Other Current Assets - Undeposited Funds	710.00

LIABILITIES None

Transferred to GHQ this month: \$9,000.00

After receiving the draft audit report from FW Farkas and FW Wolfson, our branch elected three people to support Bill in the work of the Literature Dept: Walt Weber, Jon Bekken, and Alexis Buss. Bill will primarily focus on order fulfillment, customer contact and coordinating the overall work. Walt will primarily help with communications, Jon will help with order fulfillment and collections, Alexis will primarily help with bookkeeping and collections. Bill, Walt, Jon and Alexis met to review the draft audit and answer some remaining questions that Evan and Kevin wrote.

The Philadelphia GMB held a branch retreat on February 3. Part of the time of the retreat focused on improving the Literature Dept.

The branch decided to make a concerted effort this year to sell the remaindered books in the basement, as much in possible in bulk sales. We have scheduled four work days (more are needed) to organize the inventory by price point, and identify titles that we think could be marketed to various constituencies (academics, activist groups, other distributors, etc.). We want to retain the Lit Dept's marketing focus on IWW- and labor-related titles and products, but have a good number of titles that fall outside that spectrum which we would like to sell off (when GHQ and the Lit Dept were combined and there was more tabling going on, it worked well to have additional titles, but now the current IWW tabling operations are much fewer and don't support having tangential titles as much). When it is possible to buy IWW and labor-related titles remaindered we will, but we won't purchase bulk remainders of titles we don't want to market through the Lit Dept online or in the catalog.

(Continued on the next page.)

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Alexis has begun personally contacting branch treasurers and other accounts to try to collect some receivables. The Madison and Philly branches have totally paid off their balances. Portland promises a large check soon. New York and Chicago were sent copies of invoices and statements, and we clarified the whereabouts of orders sent to Gainesville and who the responsible party is now (our main contact there had moved to Providence). In March, Jon will take on collections work as well. Collecting receivables will help bolster the union's cash reserves, and we anticipate that the bulk of the payments made on due invoices will be able to be sent on to the general treasury.

Alexis has emailed and called Kerr publishers about money they claim we owe them, but has received no reply. We have begun receiving Kerr titles from AK Press because we have orders that need to be filled, but the discount from AK is not as good as direct from Kerr. Last year, Kerr also promised to send 200 copies of the newly-published "Big Red Songbook" to us for free, but this hasn't happened. Penny Pixler from Chicago has offered to pay Kerr a visit to try to figure out why they think we owe them money (Penny Rosemont wrote Evan that we owe them \$1,000, but last year they said we owed them \$4,000? Alexis sent them \$2,000 towards this last year but asking for documentation and we haven't received word since.) Since the year 2000, the IWW has paid Kerr \$14,575. Last year was the first time they identified a problem with payment. Typically we did two or three large orders per year with Kerr, so it is a little difficult to see how such a large arrears in accounts could be built up.

We produced a lit page for the Feb IW, but a technical problem prevented it from going in. The March lit page worked out fine.

It is soon going to be time to order t-shirts, a large order which typically runs \$4,000 or so.

Fellow Workers,

The following is an addendum to the Lit Department Audit which included our response to the report, as well as the answers to questions that were left unanswered at the time of the audit.

The Audit was performed in December, and a draft of the report was sent to us in January. We answered all outstanding questions, and in addition wrote notes on sections of the audit that were incorrect or needed clarification. We also wrote answers to all of the findings of the audit, describing our opinions on them as well as whether we felt that they were able to be implemented or not.

The final report, with our comments and answers, was released at the end of January, and was available for the in person meeting of the GEB in February. At the meeting and since that time, the Audit and our response has been discussed by the GEB on the GEB e-mail list, and on a phone conference.

In the last GOB, #2, a summary of the findings of the audit were included, however, none of our answers to questions, responses to the findings, corrections, or comments were included.

GST Damron contacted FW Farkas to summarize the audit for the GOB, since he was one of the people who performed the audit. Neither FW Farkas nor GST Damron contacted the Philadelphia Branch or the Lit Department Committee to solicit a summary of our contribution to the report.

After receiving GOB #2 and noticing the omissions, the Lit Department felt that it was very important that our contribution to the report, which was completed in January, be included in the next GOB, #3. Although I would encourage everyone to read the audit report in full, what follows is our responses that were written at that time.

Walt Weber, for the Lit Department Committee

Philadelphia GMB's Response to the Literature Department Audit

There are a number of errors and misunderstandings in the draft report. This response necessarily focuses only on the most significant ones.

Page 2, Item 7: The proposal to run the Department specified that the \$66/\$99 per week was tied to approximately six hours per week to staff the department, with additional staffing during the holiday season.

Page 3, line 1 is unclearly stated. While FW McLaughlin did say this in October, he took over the department in April 2006.

Paragraph #2 misunderstands the situation; while there have been some training issues, particularly affecting billing, FW McLaughlin has been prioritizing the fulfillment of orders in order to clear the backlog he inherited and handle the end-of-year rush over writing emails and making phone calls.

Could the report append something along these lines to the end of the last sentence under the audit heading: Alexis Buss, who formerly managed the literature department and has been helping with orders and billing. (As it stands, her name pops up throughout the report with no context.)

Page 3, Staffing: Jon Bekken also staffed the department during the holiday rush, and drives shipments to the post office and FedEx. Other members of the Branch are involved, but only occasionally. FW Buss does not only handle financials, but also orders literature and fills some orders. FW McLaughlin puts in closer to seven to eight hours a week.

Page 4, 2nd paragraph: The Literature Department shares the Philadelphia GMB telephone number. The number has never been shared with Bindlestiff Books, which has its own telephone number. However, if 1905 is busy the line will jump to the Bindlestiff number (something that will happen only rarely), and for three days the answering machine lines were inadvertently reversed. Early in the year we attempted to have Branch members who were staffing the store answer the Lit Dept line, but it proved to be a disaster, as there was confusion about which line was being answered, messages were often incomplete, and often went astray. As a result, we reorganized the phone lines so that 1905 rings directly to the answering machine.

3rd paragraph: Unlike email, PayPal orders and correspondence, telephone messages are not checked on a regular basis, but rather intermittently. We will change the outgoing message to encourage people to use email, but will begin checking the machine at least twice a week and maintaining a log of phone messages and the action taken on them.

4th paragraph: Books@iww.org is the primary account, where most correspondence is directed. FW McLaughlin has been keeping up with this account; he has not been regularly checking the store@iww.org account, which exists solely for PayPal transactions. Since the audit he has checked that account, and found that no substantive customer queries had gone unanswered.

6th paragraph, last sentence: Our concern arises because we believe GHQ is improperly ledgering such payments as income, corrupting the integrity of the book-keeping system. All invoices are ledgered as income as issued, any payments then reduce the Accounts Receivable and increase cash on hand (not affecting the overall income picture).

7th paragraph: FW Buss' statement was not in response to that concern. FW McLaughlin explained to the committee that he handles these concerns as they are raised; since FW Damron apparently prefers to be notified of routine transactions he will begin copying him on his responses.

Record Keeping, paragraph 1: The computer is shared for on a monthly basis.

(Continued on the next page.)

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Paragraphs 2 and 3: The checks, records and inventory are also in a union-only area, behind a locked door. The final sentence should rather state that we have experienced no problems with checks or records going astray. There is no evidence that a problem has ever existed with security in this regard.

Page 5, first paragraph: FW Buss does not handle all the financials, and did not speak to the issue of bank charges. This is one of several instances where the report improperly centers on her (one of a number of volunteers) rather than the department as a whole. The Lit Department believes that this account is comparable in charges and services to other financial institutions.

3rd paragraph: Several Philadelphia members have repeatedly brought this problem to the attention of the GST and GEB chair, including FWs Bekken and McLaughlin. New Industrial Worker subscriptions are no longer being paid into the Literature Department account (and indeed, can not presently be paid online; we have referred several complaints to the iww.org coordinator and to GHQ), but renewals do continue to be entered into the account. Dues continue to be paid into the account, and our efforts to get GHQ to address this problem, or even to process the dues payments, have been to no avail.

5th paragraph: The \$10,000 was not agreed to in December, but was proposed by the literature department in its January 2006 report. Having received no response from the Board or the GST, the department proceeded to implement this by transferring \$6,500 to the GHQ bank accounts.

Deposit Audit: Why seemed? There either were no problems, or the committee has reason to believe that problems exist.

Other Assets: The committee did not ask for such a listing, and there is no reason to maintain one. The sole such asset is the computer; leaving aside items such as packing supplies which the department does own and replenishes as needed.

Liabilities: The Branch pays well in excess of \$350 per month on rent and utilities. However, we do not understand how the issue of verification arises; it is an agreed-upon expense for operating the department. We have a query into the GST about the weekly payments, which appear to have been paid on a four week per month basis regardless of the actual number of weeks in the month.

Page 6, Orders and Shipping. Orders are also received by phone and email. The web site is the only venue in which a response time is presently specified.

Branch Invoices: This is a reference to statements, not to invoices. Invoices are sent with all orders, or shortly thereafter. Statements on unpaid invoices have not been systematically issued since June; this is an issue we need to address.

Inventory: PayPal provides no inventory information of any kind. It can only track outgoing shipments that come in through PayPal, but has no capacity to serve as an inventory system or to track orders received through other means. The staff believes that no purpose would be served by doing a monthly inventory of literature; the industry standard for bookstores and publishers is for an annual inventory.

We have not been able to identify suitable out-of-the-box software for inventory that would meet the department's needs. At this point, the only prospect we have within our budgetary constraint is to develop custom software.

The Bindlestiff inventory list is in a computer on site, and the department has a print-out. However, Quick Books is not set up to handle consignment well. All Bindlestiff staff are members of the Philadelphia GMB. All literature department inventory is kept behind the locked door separating the public space from the branch/department areas.

Page 7, paragraph 2: By his own admission makes no sense in this context. FW Buss never agreed to serve as literature department coordinator, and does not serve in this capacity. The branch elected FW McLaughlin to coordinate the literature department, although there may be a need to offer more systematic volunteer support.

Paragraph 4: We believe problems have arisen more from problems in coordination and communication than understaffing, and that the department does not need substantially more staff hours on a weekly basis. It is more a question of the adequacy of our systems, and our prioritization of filling orders; we need to be better able to delegate tasks and review systemic problems on an ongoing basis.

Paragraph 5: While some monthly reports and a fiscal year-end report have been made, there have not been regular monthly reports. The year-end report included all income and expenses for the fiscal year, and discussed efforts to improve operations.

There are also a number of instances where the report evidences a failure to understand the nature of the literature department.

Page 2, final sentence: It is of course inevitable that orders will be sent out incomplete, given that many orders are received for items that we no longer (or in some cases never) carry, or are temporarily out of stock. It is general practice to include invoices with orders where possible, except on international orders where they are sent separately to avoid difficulties with customs. The invoice lists the price we charge branches; they are free to charge what they wish, which might be more or less than the normal retail price. Every branch can be supplied with a catalog (which is also published in the Industrial Worker and online) listing our most common titles and the prices the department charges for them.

We have the following responses to the recommendations.

We are prepared to establish a branch committee, and to resume monthly reports.

We believe it makes more sense to develop staff with particular areas of expertise and responsibility rather than to have multiple people performing the same tasks. If the union believes it needs to require 18 hours a week, we would need to revisit the financial support presently offered for staffing. However, we do not believe this level of staffing is required in order to meet the regular work of the department. The tasks we are presently falling short in (reports and collections) are not ideally suited to being handled a couple of hours each week, but rather should be done on a monthly basis. We will delegate responsibilities for carrying out those tasks.

We presently keep a record of all email queries and responses, and will develop a telephone log tracking queries so we can track their resolution.

We will endeavor to respond to inquiries within three business days, although some inquiries do require research in order to develop a substantive reply.

We do not object to payments being received at headquarters (and in any event, this is outside of our and GHQ's control), if there is good communication alerting us to such receipts and they are properly accounted for.

We are not in a position to implement a comprehensive inventory system at this time. While we would ideally like to have a system that integrates with the website, we can not commit to any particular timeline. We could write up a description of what we need and make it available through the GOB for bids. FW Weber believes he might be able to develop such a system within the next several months, but substantial additional hours would be required to input inventory (amounting to hundreds of distinct titles). But this would be outside the course of his ordinary responsibilities with the literature department, and would require compensation.

(Continued on the next page.)

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The discussion of invoices confuses account statements and invoices. Every order should include either a packing slip or an invoice, and regular statements should be sent to branches. There is no reason to keep hard copies of invoices, as these are kept in Quickbooks. While branches are free to charge whatever they wish on literature, a master list of literature department retail prices will be provided.

Our new literature committee is developing a system to produce a report for our branch meeting, which is typically the second week of the month. We should be able to provide this report to GHQ by the 15th of each month. If appropriate, funds would be transferred with that report. However, it is not practical to produce reports on or before the 1st, as this would not allow adequate time for reconciling financial accounts for the prior month. The volume of checks coming in to the literature department is not sufficient to support weekly deposits, but we can commit to making deposits twice monthly.

Outstanding Questions:

1. GST Damron contends that “we have sent over \$6,000 this year, out of the general treasury, to the Literature Department for “expenses”, yet have received no inflow of cash for literature sales. Where is that income going?”

In May, we put \$6,500 in the money market account, funds which Mark later transferred to a Cincy account. (We noted this when it happened to Mark, and in the report to Assembly.)

GHQ has also received at least \$1,000 direct from branches which are payments on invoices — (it is possible these were incorrectly ledgered as new income on GHQ’s end.) Here’s a dump from our QuickBooks files of the payments we know about. We should compare this to Mark’s records and be sure we have records of all such payments because they affect our receivables. We know about these because Mark sent us emails about them.

Received by GHQ

07/19/2006	GHQ	East Bay GMB (Bay Area GMB)	437.85
07/19/2006	GHQ	General Headquarters	420.00
08/27/2006	GHQ	Andrew Hamer (North Coast)	100.00
12/13/2006	GHQ	David Brennan	50.00
01/15/2007	GHQ	Southern Illinois (Central IL)	53.00

On the way to GHQ is \$9,000, surplus funds on the literature account.

2. Does the union, Lit. Dept. or owner of the building carry enough property insurance to cover the value of the Lit. Dept. property?

Probably not for inventory — we need to increase it because of the added inventory from the bookstore (one policy for the commercial space of the building). We’ll look into that soon. We do meet legal requirements for liability.

3. What are the deposits made to GHQ (e.g., date, amount) for 2006?

We don’t directly make those deposits (except for that money market one, which happened on 5/18/06), but the answer to #2 should help.

4. Per the 2006 GEB budget, the Lit. Dept. gross income was projected to be \$57,000. Expenses were projected to be \$41,400. The estimated profit should be \$15,600. What are the actual figures for income, expenses, and profit?

Income: \$54,732.58

Lit Expense: \$19,782.66 (this doesn’t account for First 100 Years, which was paid through Cincy, or the payments to our branch by Cincy, or any payments that Cincy made on anything like songbooks or pins)

(Profit is a bit more complicated than Income minus Expense because of inventory .There isn't a quick way to calculate it at this point.) Much of the income was in the form of invoiced shipments (accounts receivable), for which we are awaiting payment. A significant portion of these receivables are for First 100, which shipped late in the year.

5. What was the balance of the Lit. Dept. bank account on 1/1/2006?

\$9,268.52

6. What will be the balance of the Lit. Dept. bank account on 1/1/2007?

The balance today (1/24/07) is \$11,949.44.

(This balance accounts for the \$9,000 on the way to Cincy.)

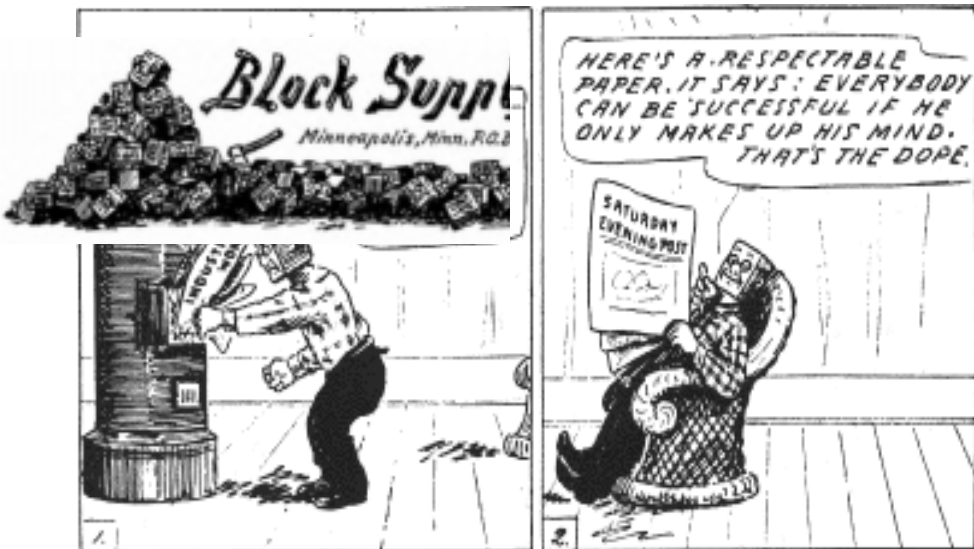
7. Who pays for the PO Box?

Literature Dept., which receives almost all of the mail that comes there. (Our branch uses the box as well because it was opened as a branch account and that address is on publications we've made in the past, but we don't tend to get a lot of mail there anymore.)

Submitted by the Philadelphia GMB Committee on the Literature Department

Jon Bekken, Alexis Buss, William McLaughlin, and Walter Weber

READ THE INDUSTRIAL WORKER



Special Referendum

Special Referendum Ballot # 1 – Dues Structure & Nomenclature

In accordance with GEB Motion AL-04 (see page 7 of this GOB), and Article IX Sec. 2(a) of the Constitution, the GEB sends the following 7 dues structure questions to special referendum ballot. Members seeking to place additional initiatives on the ballot by petition must have a signed petition, with a minimum of forty-six (46) signatures of members in good standing, into GHQ no later than April 10th for it to be properly vetted, and included in this special referendum.

Ballots must be returned to GHQ no later than June 15, 2007, at which time a Ballot Committee will convene, and a report, including all results, will be released in the June GOB.

There are two sections to the Constitution of the IWW, namely the Constitution and the General Bylaws. All of the questions put on the ballot by the GEB (except question 4) are constitutional amendments and are intended to modify the Constitution, not the General Bylaws. (Question 4 is a resolution and modifies neither.)

QUESTION 1- Constitutional Amendment: Industrial Union Dues Clarification

Shall the title purpose and meaning of Article VIII Sec. 2(a) - Sec. 2(h) be changed as follows?

Initiation Fees & Dues

Industrial Union Initiation Fees and Dues

Shall the wording “Industrial Union or Industrial Union Branch” be inserted into Article VIII Sec. 2(c) so that it reads as follows?

It is the policy of the IWW that no financial barrier shall prevent any worker from joining. Accordingly, Industrial Unions and Industrial Union Branches shall not set excessive initiation fees or dues. In no case shall Industrial Union or Industrial Union Branch initiation fees, or Industrial Union or Industrial Union Branch monthly dues exceed two times the straight time hourly wage of the member.

QUESTION 2 - Constitutional Amendment: New Dues Rates

Shall Article VIII Sec. 2(i) be changed to read as follows?

i) Dues for members not in ROCs, Industrial Unions or Industrial Union Branches

For members in Canada and the U.S. dues shall be set as follows:

- 1) Dues shall be ~~\$6—~~ \$7 per month for workers earning less than \$1000 per month.
- 2) ~~\$12~~ \$14 per month for workers earning between \$1000 and \$2000 per month.
- 3) ~~\$18~~ \$21 per month for workers earning more than \$2000 per month.

Sub-minimum dues of \$3 per month may be paid by members in poor economic circumstances. Dues of members in the sub-minimum category who belong to organized branches shall be apportioned as follows: \$2.50 to the General Administration, \$0.50 to the branch.

Initiation fees shall be equal to one month's dues. Each new member shall be provided with a copy of the One Big Union pamphlet.

QUESTION 3 - Constitutional Amendment: New Dues Category

Shall the following text regarding an additional dues category be added to Article VIII Sec. 2(i) of the IWW Constitution immediately below 3) and above sub-minimum dues?

4) \$28 per month for workers earning more than \$3000 per month. If the member in this dues category is a bona fide member of another trade union or industrial union than they shall have the option of paying the rate specified in Article VIII Sec. 2(i) 3).

Shall Article VIII Sec. 2(i) 3) be changed to read as follows from after?

...workers earning ~~more than \$2000 per month~~ between \$2000 and \$3000 per month

Members are advised that Question 4 and Question 5 should be voted identically so that either yes or no is applied to both questions as both need to pass in order for Question 4 as a resolution to take effect;

QUESTION 4 - Nomenclature Resolution

=====

Shall the following Resolution be adopted?

The categories currently being used for dues stamps will be renamed as follows.

“Sub-minimum” dues shall be called “A dues”; “Minimum dues” shall be called “B dues”; “Regular dues” shall be called “C dues”; “Maximum dues” shall be called “D dues”, and if Question 2 above is approved, this additional category be named “E dues”.

A dues stamp shall be used that includes a space in which delegates will mark the appropriate dues category letter. This new stamp will be phased in as the existing dues stamps in stock are used up.

QUESTION 5 - Constitutional Amendment: Nomenclature

=====

Shall a new Article VIII Sec. 2(l) be added as follows?

l) Dues Structure Nomenclature

A dues stamp of uniform design shall be used that includes a space in which the delegate or General Headquarters will mark the appropriate dues category letter.

All references to sub-minimum dues in the Constitution shall be taken as meaning “A” dues in accordance with Article IX Sec. 1(b). All references to minimum dues in the Constitution shall be taken as meaning “B” dues in accordance with Article IX Sec. 1(b).

Members are advised that Question 6 and Question 7 should be voted identically so that either yes or no is applied to both questions as both need to pass in order for Question 6 to make constitutional sense;

QUESTION 6 - Constitutional Amendment: Insert Relevant Wording From Article XII into Article VIII, Dropping Outdated References to Old Dues Schedule

=====

Shall the following wording be added to Article VIII Sec. 2(i) below the current text as follows?

Except where Industrial Unions provide otherwise, unemployed members shall pay sub minimum dues.

Members paying sub minimum dues are entitled to full voting rights and privileges; representation at Assemblies shall in no way discriminate between different dues categories; except as otherwise provided members paying sub minimum dues shall be required to pay all assessments due from employed members.

QUESTION 7 - Constitutional Amendment: Repeal Article XII

=====

Shall Article XII be repealed?

This serves as the ballot notice, as required by the Constitution, and any discussion or submissions concerning these initiatives must be sent to GHQ no later than April 20th for inclusion in the April GOB, which will include the Ballot and will be mailed no later than May1, 2007.

Discussion

An Open Letter to the General Executive Board:

Fellow Workers,

We voted a few months ago on a referendum concerning a possible formal alliance between the IWW and a Zapatista-sponsored group. It was voted down by the membership. But even if it had passed, it would not have been valid since it would have violated our own By-Laws.

One of the many purposes of the Zapatista group is to revise the constitution and basic laws of the Mexican republic. This is a political objective. An organization that has political objectives, i.e. the revision of a national constitution, etc., is by definition a political organization.

The By-Laws of the Industrial Workers of the World specifically forbid alliances with political organizations. In the recent referendum the membership was asked whether or not it wished to formally ally our union with a political sect - that is, whether or not it wished to violate the IWW constitution! Such an incoherent and invalid proposition could only be considered if the wobbly By-Laws themselves were to be rewritten to allow such alliances (hopefully never).

Therefore, for purposes of clarification on this issue, both for now and in the future, I request that the GEB openly acknowledge and explain the illegality of the recent referendum, and apologize to the membership for the error that was made.

Solidarity,
Martin Comack
X351621



On Dues and Branch Reporting

Fellow Workers,

On Tuesday, November 7, the treasurer and secretary of the GMB met to discuss the system in place for paying dues and adjourned after discussing many possible methods for a better system than what is currently used. Both agreed that if an idea was not mutually agreed upon, that it would be tabled for possible further discussion. Below is criticism of the current systems and discussion of 5 possible alternative methods.

Chicago's Current System

As it is now, 5 people are involved in the collection of dues. These are: the member paying dues, the delegate collecting the dues, the branch secretary who collects all delegate reports, the treasurer who is forwarded a report from the secretary along with all dues money, and finally, the General Secretary Treasurer.

This system has many pitfalls that have resulted in untimely reporting on all levels for all involved. The progression through each level of reporting furthers the time between when a member pays his or her dues to when the GST records the update in membership standing. We discussed the reasons for this lag in reporting and came up with possible solutions.

Level 1: Member to Delegate

Currently, most members pay dues to a delegate in person. There would be little that could lead to having a member's standing misrepresented if the member paid a few months of dues in advance. Those who pay one month at a time run the chance of falling into bad standing if there is poor reporting on the part of their delegate or if they cannot pay dues for a month for whatever reason.

We discussed how a member not in regular contact with a delegate can stay current on dues if a system of direct withdrawal was set up through the member's checking account. This system is already in place at the Madison Branch. Secretary Peck reported that this has allowed for better budgeting and has kept less involved members in good standing, although still less involved. (FW Peck also noted that this system is most effective when the treasurer is also a delegate.) The latter point was incongruent with the idea that automatic withdrawal only be for members who have shown a 6 month commitment to the Chicago GMB as adopted at the August, 2006 meeting of the GMB. It was agreed that for now the focus on how to fix dues payment reporting on this level should fall on the delegates.

Level 2: Delegate to Secretary

Delegate reports collected over the past 7 months show that the time from when a member pays dues to a delegate to when the delegate reports to the secretary has been anywhere between 5 days to 2 months. The average time in between reporting is 4 weeks. Both of us feel that delegates should open a new reporting form on the 1st of the month and close it on the last day of the month. If no dues had been collected, the delegate should notify the secretary. Too often delegates submit reports well within the month after the first dues were taken. No reports should be submitted at a GMB meeting. The secretary will start reminding delegates 1 week before reports should be closed.

Level 3: Secretary to Treasurer

After the secretary receives all delegate reports, no more that 2 days are needed to fill out the secretary's report. This report consists of figuring the dues share owed to GHQ and the amount retained by the GMB.

The previous system had the secretary handing his report to the treasurer at the GMB meeting. This led to delays up to 2 months from when a member paid dues to when the treasurer received the dues money, with all checks still not deposited.

We have decided that the secretary will mail the report to the treasurer no later than 3 days after all delegate reports have been received by the secretary.

The secretary strongly favored being cut blank checks made out to the IWW so that he can deposit the dues money and send GHQ's share, along with the delegate reports, to GHQ so that the membership can be updated without the extra delay of the secretary reporting to the treasurer. The treasurer felt it was bad banking procedure to have checks deposited out of sequence.

The secretary next suggested that a plan where the GMB would build credit at GHQ and have its dues share subtracted monthly, thus eliminating the delay when the secretary mails his report to the treasurer and from when the treasurer mails his report to GHQ. Neither of us pushed for this idea.

Level 4: Treasurer to General Headquarters

Since no radical change was made to any of the previous levels of reporting, the two of us made no suggestions for improvements in how the treasurer reports to GHQ.

Respectfully Submitted in Solidarity,

Jason Krpan
Branch Secretary

Raven Adler
Branch Treasurer

(Continued on the next page.)

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For an IWW Publishing House

Greetings All,

I have advocated that the IWW set up an IWW Publishing House, as we had in the old days, for many years. This idea should not be confused with the IWW Literature Department. Heck there are non-Wobblies out there making money off us. Many of the books don't get our history correct and most kill us off years ago. Why don't we publish our own history, Wobbly writers, art, songs, ideas, video, and CDs?

One GEB member likes the idea and asked a few questions. The first question is how do we go about setting up a publishing house? We could go the way of appointing official people to do everything, but I don't think that will work, though there would need to be a contact person for the project to report to the GEB and the organization.

I believe that our greatest resource is our membership. But we do not tap into that resource much. How I would go about this is the following:

1. The GEB appoint a contact person.
2. An e-mail list be set up.
3. The GEB issue an appeal to the organization by means of lists and the GOB for volunteers. The areas in which volunteers are needed, in my view, are:
 - A. People who know about printing or copying.
 - B. People who know about creating and organized structure for a publishing house.
 - C. Writers and artists
 - D. Knowledge of Video and CDs
 - E. Proofreaders and editors.
 - F. People with experience in layout.
 - G. People who can help create a distribution system
4. Create a publishing policy. By this I mean what do we publish and how do we decide on that? Official IWW literature, approved by the GEB, is the official statements of the organization. But everything we could publish would not be official statements of the organization.

So this is my idea of how to get an IWW Publishing House Project started.

Arthur J. Miller



WE ARE ALL LEADERS!

Proposed Resolution from the NYC GMB

Resolution to endorse and participate in the “Day To Shut Down The War Machine”

WHEREAS the wars being waged by the U.S. government in Iraq and Afghanistan break international law;

WHEREAS these wars are being waged in the interests of U.S. based corporations, and against the interests of the majority of the world’s population;

WHEREAS these wars have caused the deaths of countless thousands, and the destruction of homes, schools and vital infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the majority of the people in the United States, and around the world, oppose these illegal wars;

WE RESOLVE TO:

1. Endorse the proposed Day To Shut Down The War Machine on March 19, 2007;
2. Refuse to work or shop on March 19, 2007 in accordance with the methods and goals proposed on that day; and
3. Encourage others we come in contact with to do the same.

FURTHER, WE REQUEST the Branch Secretary to transmit a copy of this resolution to the General Headquarters of the IWW, and the Secretaries of near by branches.

(More info on the campaign mentioned is available at www.shutdownthewarmachine.com)



WORKERS OF THE WORLD!!!! TRANSLATORS NEEDED!

We’ve received several requests lately for Spanish speaking organizers and translators — especially requests for assistance with ongoing IU460 campaigns. There have also been recent requests for materials in French, Chinese, Polish, and Portugese . . .

The need is URGENT . . . if you are a bi-lingual member of the IWW, and can make some time available to your Fellow Workers, either to translate existing materials, or help create new materials, please get in touch with GHQ immediately.

You can send an e-mail with your name, languages in which you are proficient, e-mail, phone number and availability to mingoslim21@aol.com; or call GHQ at (513) 591 - 1905.

Headquarters will compile a list, and make it available to the ISC, Organizing Department, and branches with immediate needs . . .

Organizing

Madison Workers Corridor Campaign Still Very Much Alive!

Being actively involved in the Madison Downtown Workers Union (MDWU), I need to respond to a statement in the GEB Chair’s Nov. 2006 Report (G.O.B. #10 2006) implying that we have “called off” our campaign. This is not the case.

The Madison GMB did conduct an evaluation of the MDWU at our Nov. 8th meeting at which point it was decided to no longer retain two part-time organizers. But this is hardly the end of the campaign! In fact, the bulk of MDWU organizing since it began in late 2004 has always been done by volunteers, and Wobblies are already lining up to continue the effort into 2007.

One of the former paid MDWU organizers was just elected a delegate at our Jan. 11th branch meeting, which now gives us two downtown worker delegates (the other being a barista at Two Degrees Coffee Shop, an IWW job shop I.U. 660). The other former paid MDWU organizer - a recent immigrant from Oaxaca, Mexico - is now working on a bilingual ‘zine for downtown workers. Yet other Madison Wobblies are salting at various “target” businesses and are about to launch a fresh campaign against Starbucks in conjunction with other allies such as the Madison Fair Trade Action Alliance and Family Farm Defenders.

Granted, from the outset the MDWU has faced an uphill battle. State Street is a very dense retail district (300+ businesses with 5000+ workers in the space of ten blocks), notorious for high turnover, low wages, and nonexistent benefits. Other unions have largely ignored the downtown, SEIU’s Justice for Janitors campaign (which many Wobblies have supported) being the exception. The botched UFCW drive at Whole Foods in Madison a few years back taught us many lessons, and so we are not interested in pursuing token NLRB recognition or a drawn out contract negotiation. This is a much more radical community-based strategy, dependent upon creating a culture of worker empowerment that can not be bought off or taken away.

We appreciate what support and insight we have garnered from other non-majority corridor style campaigns in other cities - Montpelier, VT; New York City, Philadelphia, PA, among others - and look forward to future dialogue and solidarity as the MDWU shifts into its next phase. For a more detailed analysis and strategy discussion of the MDWU, stay tuned for our next issue of Prairie Fire due out in early Feb.

In Solidarity . . .

John Peck, Madison GMB Secretary

Starbucks Campaign Regional Contacts

The Starbucks Union has regional contact people that can help any branch interested in working on the campaign.

And we want to hear from you . . . Specifically we are looking to find out what YOUR branch do to help? What have they been doing, and what are they planning? Does your branch have a Starbucks organizing or solidarity committee?

The current contacts are:

Northeast	- Tomer M.	Tomer.iww@gmail.com	(646) 753-1167
Southeast	- Seth D.	ed_did_it@hotmail.com	(240) 246-5306
Midwest	- Erik F.	erriik@risueup.net	(608) 695-8705
Southwest	- Sarah B	bender.sarah@gmail.com	(260) 499-0441
Northwest	- Liz C.	liz.clarkson@gmail.com	(217) 714-3874
Canada	- Joanna B.	i_like_to_eat_a_lot@yahoo.com	(716) 903-7532

OBUS

Tomer Malchi

If You Build It . . . They Will Come . . .

One Big Union, That Is

Eastern Iowa IWW Report:

Here is my report for the last month or so and also the First Declaration of the Iowan Cornfields. Thanks for letting me get this in still.

We had a benefit show on January 27th in Iowa City. There were only 3 of us who put it on and over 100 people attended the show. The four bands that played were really good and we ended up making over \$400 hundred dollars by the end of the night, to help us get started. Our first real meeting took place on the 11th of February where we had a good turn out. Our next few goals are putting on a movie night in a few weeks, writing our own literature and having an organizer training soon. We also, wrote, edited and submitted The First Declaration of the Iowan Cornfields. This is our statement to the union as to what our goals are, how we will achieve them and what we will accomplish.

In Struggle and Solidarity,
Drew Robertson

The First Declaration of the Iowan Cornfields

We find that in the Industrial Workers of the World, a transformation is taking place within the Union to bring us, in many ways, back to the basics. We must focus on organizing, bringing workers power to workers themselves and actually following through with our aims and principles. This is what our declaration is all about, this is what we here in Iowa will work toward and eventually succeed at.

There are, at the very least, two goals within the IWW. The first one is very clear, to help workers wherever they stand and do everything in our power to support them. The second goal we have is to overthrow capitalism, create workers democracy, and run the economy, our community and our lives ourselves. The second goal seems very lofty to some, it seems very hard to attain let alone conceptualize at this point. We can however work towards that second goal today through strategic organizing. We here in Iowa will work towards both of the goals that have been stated. First of all, we will stand behind and help workers wherever they are. Secondly, we will organize the industries in our area that are essential to the economy.

Iowa is a land filled with small and large manufacturing, with endless corn, soy, wheat fields, with hog, cow and chicken farms, meatpacking plants, ethanol plants and vast distribution networks for all those goods. All of which are essential not only to capitalism, but in most cases, to the very well-being and lives we all hold. We are going to focus our organizing efforts towards all of those areas, regardless of how big or small they may be and regardless of difficult the road may be. We must, as Iowans, and as a Union, focus on organizing areas of the economy in which we not only can build workers strength, but where we can eventually challenge capitalism.

Even though we will start out with a General Membership Branch, we realize that true power can only be built, sustained and encouraged by Industrial Union Branches. We will seek to transform Job Shops, when they occur, into IUB's. We will strengthen our ties in the union with others in our Industrial Union (number), with those in the Midwest and across the world. We believe in that our officers and members should be accountable to each other and the union as a whole, we will regularly report to the union through the GOB and to the GEB. These are the founding goals of our future branch.

In our minds, gone are the days where we focus on small shops, where we are almost afraid of organizing medium and large workplaces, where we have internal hang-ups on our preamble or on our size. We are the Industrial Workers of the World, we are the union that transformed labor worldwide, we have always been able to effect change regardless of our size and we have always been able to improve the standards of living for all those we help.

In Struggle and Solidarity,
The Members of the (future) Eastern Iowa GMB

The Railroad Industry and the Need for One Big Union

By Rail Falcon - X341189

Since the mid 1990s, the major U.S. railroads have been steadily hiring new trainmen to staff the nation's freight trains. Passenger carriers such as Amtrak as well as various metropolitan commuter railroads in cities like New York, Boston, L.A. and Chicago are also regularly seeking employees. This offers an invaluable opportunity for young activists to hire out in an industrial setting and make some money, all the while:

- working under and understanding a union contract;
- learning the great history of – and participating in — the class struggle on the railway;
- joining with your fellow workers to build the One Big Union in a key sector of the economy.

The new hire usually begins work as a “brakeman” or “conductor trainee”. After a specified period of time and the requisite tests, the new hire is promoted to Conductor. Then at some point in the future, depending upon seniority and the “needs of the carrier”, the conductor will be selected to attend engine school. Following an extended (6 months- to-a-year) on-the-job training, s/he will be promoted to licensed locomotive engineer. (If “train and engine” is not your scene, the railroads are also hiring — although not as regularly — track maintainers, train dispatchers, signal maintainers, car inspectors, clerks, electricians and machinists).

All “train and engine” (T&E) jobs are union jobs, paying between \$30,000 and \$100,000 per year with full benefits. Union membership is obligatory upon successful completion of a probationary period of usually 60-90 days upon “marking up”. The T&E employee has a choice of joining the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (descendent of the oldest craft union in the U.S.) or the United Transportation Union (UTU), an amalgamation of four old craft unions that merged in 1969 – the Switchmen (SUNA), Trainmen (BRT), Conductors (OCA) and Firemen (BLF). Dues usually range between \$70 and \$120 per month. Most Locals (UTU) and Divisions (BLET) hold regular monthly membership meetings.

Railroad workers have a proud and militant tradition. National strikes have rocked the U.S. including: 1877 (the country's first nationwide and general strike); 1894 (the Pullman Strike and boycott led by Eugene V. Debs and the American Railway Union); 1924 (the National Shopmen's Strike); 1946 (the post WWII national strike, which together with the miners, briefly brought the nation to a standstill). In addition, countless other smaller strikes on a single carrier and/or by a single craft have taken place over the last hundred and fifty years.

In the 1860s and 1870s, the various crafts on the railroad began to organize into “brotherhoods”. These organizations came into existence initially to assist their members in time of hardship. Railroadng was – and of course still is — an extremely dangerous and difficult job, and the brotherhoods pooled the resources of their memberships to assist members and their widows in times of disaster. They quickly evolved into fighting organizations to defend their members' rights, safety and health, wages, benefits and conditions of employment. However, their fragmented nature and limited vision limited their effectiveness. Eugene V. Debs, a leader of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen (BLF) and other railroaders soon realized the shortcomings of the railroad craft unions, and proposed a new form of union – the “industrial union”. They set about the task of building the nation's first such union – one based upon inclusion of all members of all crafts into its ranks – the American Railway Union (ARU).

Through mergers and affiliations, the myriad craft unions on the railroad have now been pared down to “only” nine or ten. Some are affiliated with the AFL-CIO while others are now part of the Change-to-Win Coalition. The infighting and backstabbing, union scabbing and sweetheart deal making continues, alternating between periods of truce, merger or attempted merger of the various organizations. In this environment, it is extremely common to hear talk among rank-and-filers of the need for One Big Union; one union of all crafts . . . one union to represent all railroaders. Even the leadership will invoke such sentiment (between their name-calling, bashing, scabbery, and backstabbing) from time to time: the UTU's “Power of One” slogan during the attempted merger with the BLE in 2000-2001; the IBT's Jimmy Hoffa with the “Teamster Umbrella” notion, and the rhetoric of a “seamless union in transportation”

(Continued on page 35.)

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
	01/26	Brian Mcateer	06-1823	1	0	1	5	0	1	0	0
	01/26	Karl Howeth	06-1509	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
	01/01	Clayton Conn	06-1658	1	0	1	27	0	0	0	0
	01/31	Seth Dietz	06-1822	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	02/01	Bruce Mark Nevin	06-1061	1	0	3	30	0	0	0	0
	02/01	Gregory Lampark	06-1812	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
	02/01	Brendan Masl-Dunn	06-1819	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
	02/01	S. Carter McNeese	06-1800	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0
	02/04	Cullen Brown	06-1810	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	02/06	Paul Bocking	06-1517	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0
	02/07	Colin Bossen	06-1286	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	02/09	Diane Reynolds	06-1621	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0
	02/15	Skip Porter	06-1777	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austin	01/21	J. rogue	05-1731	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Austin	01/21	Gerry Bello	06-1656	4	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Austin	01/29	Jaocquin Mariel	07-1731	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Austin	01/29	Ryan Hastings	07-1656	5	3	9	10	0	0	0	0
Area	11/01	Holly Bobisuthi	06-1741	1	0	0	18	0	0	0	0
Area	01/02	Brendan Kierans	06-1793	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	01/04	Brendan Kierans	06-1793	0	0	14	3	0	11	3	5
Bay Area	01/01	Bruce Valde	06-1407	2	0	11	14	3	0	0	0
Bay Area	01/21	Jefferson Peirce	06-1494	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	01/22	Dirty Face	06-1402	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	02/01	Heather Gardener	06-1791	0	24	5	36	0	0	0	0
Bay Area	02/01	Slava Osowska	06-1778	1	5	9	2	0	2	0	1
Bay Area	02/01	Oliver Lanti	06-1790	0	0	0	5	4	0	0	0
Bay Area	02/01	Steve Ongerth	06-1138	0	18	22	8	3	0	0	0
Boston	01/31	Steve Kellerman	06-1008	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	0
Boston	01/31	JustinKelley	06-1781	2	2	2	7	1	4	2	0
Central Illinois	02/10	Dan Elgin	06-1301	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	02/11	Heidi Johnson	06-1803	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Illinois	02/11	David Johnson	06-1624	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Chicago	01/05	Raven Adler	06-1708	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0
Chicago	01/05	Joe Tessone	06-1703	1	0	0	8	0	1	0	0
Chicago	01/06	Penny Pixler	06-1682	0	7	1	6	9	0	0	0
Chicago	01/21	Jeff Perkins	06-1821	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0
Chicago	01/23	Matt Kellard	06-1570	0	24	1	6	0	0	0	0
Chicago	02/02	Matt Zito	06-1714	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0
Chicago	02/02	Joe Tessone	06-1713	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Chicago	02/03	Jason Krpan	06-1709	0	4	5	0	0	0	0	0
Detroit	01/01	Ellen J Chase	06-1542	0	3	9	5	3	0	0	0
Edmonton	01/01	Bryan Roberts	06-1674	0	2	0	0	6	0	0	0
Edmonton	01/10	Gordie Thomas	06-1396	0	7	5	5	8	2	2	0
Edmonton	01/11	Nick Driedger	06-1603	2	0	7	11	16	0	1	0

Branch	Date	Delegate	Del#	Init	Max	Reg	Min	Sub	Asst	IW	Org
Gainesville	01/28	James Schmidt	06-1829	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Gainesville	01/28	Jennifer Bame	06-1827	1	0	0	3	0	2	0	0
Gainesville	01/28	Joseph N. Richard	06-1765	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	2
Grand Rapids	01/28	Gerard Akkerhuis	06-1686	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0
Lane County	01/31	Ed Gundersen	06-1795	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Milwaukee	12/31	Skip Porter	06-1777	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Milwaukee	01/08	Diane Reynolds	06-1621	0	0	13	7	1	0	0	0
Milwaukee	02/09	CW Simonsen	06-1633	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
N. New Jersey	01/14	Alan Cerborino	06-1727	0	2	1	8	0	0	0	0
North Coast Cali	01/24	Andrew Hamer	06-1704	1	0	0	2	8	0	0	0
North Coast Cali	01/24	Angie Hart	06-1705	0	1	3	3	11	0	0	0
Ohio Valley	01/09	Tom Kappas	06-1520	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Ohio Valley	02/04	Chris Lytle	06-1771	0	0	4	4	3	5	2	0
Pensacola	02/10	Scott Satterwhite	06-1390	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	02/10	James Maskew	06-1766	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	12/19	Nicolas Posey	06-1703	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Pittsburgh	01/13	E.W. Wolfsen	06-1546	3	0	8	11	3	2	1	0
Phoenix	02/01	Terry Hughes	06-1834	0	0	1	2	4	0	0	0
Phoenix	02/02	Bill Krist	06-1429	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Portland	12/01	Ryan Gaughan	06-1789	0	12	4	0	0	0	0	0
Portland	12/22	Matt Jones	06-1716	2	0	9	1	0	0	0	0
Portland(ACH)	12/31	Ryan Gaughan	06-1789	0	3	11	7	0	0	0	0
Toronto	02/06	Rachel Rosen	05-1722	1	3	12	0	5	0	0	0
Upstate NY	01/17	Greg Giorgio	06-1027	0	2	5	0	2	2	0	0

Delegate Clearance

Every year delegates must file a Delegate's Clearance form in order to renew their delegate credentials. A mailing went out at the end of last month to every delegate on file with a 2007 clearance form to be filled out and returned to General Headquarters.

If you served as a delegate last year, you must turn in a clearance form . . . even if you are no longer serving as a delegate, you will still need to clear your credentials, and return any supplies you may have to General Headquarters. If you belong to an IWW Branch, you may turn over your supplies to your Branch Secretary, but you **MUST CLEAR YOUR CREDENTIALS** to remain in good standing.

If you did not receive a mailing, you can download a Delegate Clearance form off of iww.org, or you may contact GHQ by calling (513) 591 – 1905 . . . or e-mail me directly at mingoslim21@aol.com.

When you return the form, you'll receive new credentials and whatever supplies you require and a delegate clearance stamp for your Red Card. For those who file on time, we will try to have your new credentials and supplies in the mail by Mid-April, at the latest.

In May of 2007, a list of delinquent delegates (those who have not cleared their credentials) will be printed in the *General Organization Bulletin*. Please see to it that we have your filled-out form in hand by then.

Notes From Delegates

Austin GMB: Our two campaigns at Wheatsville food co-op and Telenetwork are still moving along. We are signing up new members every couple weeks. I have been busy organizing a benefit for New York Wobs.(Joaquin Mariel- January 2007)

Bay Area GMB: I'm involved with Starbucks San Francisco working group. The Santa Cruz branch is seeing an influx of members and I'm helping them get training and supplies. (Brenden Kierans- January 2007)

Contract talks continue at Shattuck Cinemas between Landmark and IWW. Yet the workers continue to go forward. The recycling yard continues to learn more about the union when a grievance was filed about an incident that required attention. (Bruce Valde- January 2007)

I'm working at a recycling shop where there is a lot of IWW potential but probably a long term target. Education Committee is holding steam with proposals for trainings, classes, study groups, discussions, etc. (Jefferson Pierce- January 2007)

Working on health and safety issues at StoneMountain and Daughter where there was an incident with mold in the shop. (Heather Gardener- January 2007)

Boston GMB: Branch formation committee has begun meeting with discussions on organizing at a local print shop and in the construction industry. (Justin Kelly- January 2007)

Central Illinois GMB: We are preparing for the James Connelly Irish Cultural event on March 17th, where we will have a table with worker information and IWW product. (David Johnson- February 2007)

Chicago GMB: At our January meeting a FW who is a trucker gave a short talk on the Chicago area trucking industry and discussed organizing possibilities. (Penny Pixler- January 2007)

I've been busy helping organize workers in another Starbucks location in Chicago, which now has three red card holders. (Joe Tessone- February 2007)

Gainesville GMB: As a delegate I recruited a co-worker as a new member and discussed the possibilities and strategies for recruiting others. We also participated in the MLK Jr. March displaying signs made by IWW members at a meeting. I am interested in planning a second organizing training.(Jennifer Bame- January 2007)

Grand Rapids GMB: We will hopefully be the next city to publicly announce a SWU job branch and working on Bean 2 Cup Campaign. We continue to table and have a new space for Sabo's soon. (Cole Dorsey- January, 2007)

Lancaster, PA: Monthly radical movie night continuing. Lancaster wobs joined thousands to protest the war in D.C. January 27th. We are just shy of job shop status at Rachels and look to the future with an eye to more organizing in the service industry. (Bruce Mark Nevin- February 2007)

North Coast GMB: We have brought our organizing campaign to the college of the Redwoods Cafeteria to a close. The drive fell apart when I got fired and was split between workers whether to organize or just negotiate without a union. Through this we learned how slow and unhelpful the public employees relations board is and will now engage in community groups to build a foundation for a community union campaign. (Andrew Hamer- January 2007)

Pensacola GMB: We are working on a benefit for a FW who has come down with MS. He has been out of work for 3 months and with little coming in its hard to pay bills and rent. If anyone would like to assist send contributions to:

IWW Pensacola
c/o Steve Winfrey MS Fund
309 N 6th Ave
Pensacola, FL 32501

(Scott Satterwhite- January 2007)



Ohio Valley GMB: I am interested in conditions in textile silkscreening and embroidery shops, or other types of textile shops either union or non-union. Let's talk about forming a IU 410 organizing committee to build the IWW for textile workers . . . Contact: Tom Kappas - PO Box 317741 - Cincinnati OH 45231 or e-mail tacmota@aol.com (Tom Kappas- January 2007)

We have a few events in the works including a screening of IRAQ FOR SALE and a benefit for March/April. (Chis Lytle- February 2007)

The branch received a returning member and recruited a new one, who immediately took on the task of helping to establish a branch Web presence. This increased local commitment allowed our monthly meeting to achieve a quorum for the first time in many months. In February, the branch presented the first of a planned monthly cultural/educational series: a video showing of the documentary, *Iraq for Sale*. We'll show *The Wobblies* at the end of this month. GDC Secretary Kappas helped Pittsburgh Wob, SunRise Above, book a show locally later in the month to benefit the Defense Fund. We are also planning another benefit for striking Wobs for late April. (J.J. Staples- March 2007)

PittsburghGMB: Busy times. Four Pickets held at Starbucks in the last month. We will be electing new officers at our FEB Meeting. There is some good and up and coming talent in the branch. (EW Wolfesen- January 2007)

Toronto GMB: We have two organizing campaigns underway and are planning for the Canadian regional organizing conference. We are also planning a fundraiser for the NYC GMB and our own legal defense fund. Meanwhile, I am also working on the Spanish IWW newsletter *SOLIDARIDAD!* (Rachel Rosen- February 2007)

Delegates At Large

Asheville, NC: After a busy holiday season, we are getting our act back together. In mid-February we are planning a meeting to discuss organizing options in the Asheville area. I personally look to 2007 as having great potential for the IWW in Western North Carolina. (S. Carter McNeese, February 2007)

Atlanta, GA: Working on a cultural event/organizing drive for April in near-by Athens, Georgia (Cullen Brown, February 2007)

Washington, D.C.: The DC Area Group has been active. We have continued to have irregular informational pickets at various Starbucks in the city, as well as a Landmark Cinema solidarity picket. We recently elected officers and are in the process of applying for a charter. (Brian McAteer, January 2007) I have been very busy organizing at Starbucks. Our shop went public on the 19th of January, and we are working with others in the area to form a GMB. (Seth Dietz, January 2007)

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General Headquarters

Word from GHQ...

We are keeping busy, as always, with the day to day operation of GHQ. Delegate Clearance letters went out to all active delegates at the end of last month, and clearance forms are due back at GHQ by March 31st. If you served as a delegate last year, you must turn in a clearance form. Even if you are no longer serving as a delegate, you will still need to clear your credentials, and return any supplies you may have to General Headquarters or your Branch Secretary. If you did not receive a mailing, you can download a Delegate Clearance form off of iww.org, or you may contact GHQ.

We are planning on making every attempt to follow up more closely with delegates this year, and try to assure that reporting is more regular, and timely.

We have also prepared an updated Constitution, which will be distributed to delegates and Branches when they clear their credentials, and is available to all members from GHQ for \$2.50 to cover shipping and printing costs.

Branch Reports and Communications:

In compliance with the wishes of the Board in 2006, we set out to review the status of all of our Branches last fall. That review showed a surprisingly large number of Branches, which are not reporting properly or fully, as required by the IWW Constitution. However, this year has seen a marked improvement... at least so far. 26 Branches have reported formally, 10 more have been in contact with GHQ, and are trying to improve their record keeping and reporting, with only 12 branches failing to report in the first months of 2007.

There is still information that is needed. Not all Branches responded fully to the mailing we sent out a couple of months ago, so we are issuing a follow-up mailing in April, with a formal worksheet and request each branch to provide information that we should have on file here at Headquarters, including such items as public contact info, officers, by-laws, and particularly a list of all Job Shops & Shop Committees currently functioning under the auspices of the Branch.

The GOB:

The GOB has been on schedule so far this year, and we will continue to set the monthly deadline of the 10th, with the goal of having each month's GOB in the mail by the end of the month. In the next (April) issue there will be an exception to this deadline made for letters and discussion on the Referendum issues. These will be accepted until April 20th... All other reports and submissions are still needed by April 10th.

Closing:

Sometimes we get backed up at Headquarters... there is simply no way around it. I have had days when I have received upwards of 300 e-mails a day. Answering e-mail requests could be a full-time job in and of itself. Please be patient with us, and, if you do not get an answer to your first request, don't get mad... ask again. We are all doing everything in our power to serve each and every member of this union. As for alternatives... we have a second e-mail account here at GHQ: ghqiww@gmail.com... Any general requests for supplies, rigging or information, or any general information that needs to be passed along to Headquarters, such as address changes, etc. can be sent to this account. Meanwhile, if you specifically wish to contact the GST, or if your requests are going unanswered, my personal e-mail address: mingoslim21@aol.com

Peace Like a River,

In Solidarity,

Mark Damron



Financial Report

Expenses have been up in January and February, but not out of line based upon expenses from previous years. Meanwhile income has been about the same as last year . . . which is not satisfactory if we are growing. Income needs to increase, if the union is going to grow. Some folks seem to think that the only way to increase income is to increase dues . . . But some have pointed out that a dues increase can hurt us as much as it might help us.

Our income over the last couple of months has averaged about \$10,000 a month. When you divide the proposed budget for 2007 evenly over 12 months, our expenses should average about \$12,200 each month; which means we need to produce an income of at least that much to break even . . . a shortfall of \$2,000 a month to start the year.

An increase in dues is not the only way to raise income of course. Every member has a page for Assessment stamps in his/her Red Card for each and every year . . . but I see many members with blank pages. Assessments are a dues increase without the coercion . . . and I highly recommend that every member pick up an assessment stamp each month when they pay their dues.

Of course, we also need to find a way to break out of this deficit spending. The easy answer is, “Spend less money,” but reality is not so simple . . . The union must maintain and expand its programs if we want to grow, and therefore cutting spending is not the most desirable option. Certainly this is a topic that every member needs to give some consideration.

February - 2007	★	★	★
Income		Expense	
Initiations	527.50	Admin Wages	2,791.52
Max Dues	3,186.00	Benefits	400.00
Reg Dues	3,096.00	Payroll Taxes	723.60
Min Dues	2,671.00	Payroll Expenses	166.85
Sub-min Dues	443.00	Rent	700.00
Misc. Assessments	171.50	Phone/Fax/Etc.	192.17
Total Dues Income	10,094.50	Cellular	67.99
		Alarm/Security	30.99
Organizing Fund Donations	295.00	Utilities	38.12
Other Admin. Income	136.50	Office Supplies	329.51
Total General Admin. Income	10,526.00	Equipment Leasing & Repairs	921.81
		Postage	654.55
IW Purchases	11.00	Total Admin. Expense	7,017.11
IW Subs	45.00	GEB Expense	2,388.80
IW Bundles	162.30	ISC Expense	200.00
IW Assessments & Donations	126.00	Total Committee Expense	2,588.80
Total IW Income	344.30	Total Literature Expense	614.00
Total Income	10,870.30	Total IW Expense	1,301.05
		Total Expense	11,520.96

Account Balances as of March 1, 2007:	Philadelphia Money Market:	\$ 15,105.88
	Cincinnati Money Market:	\$ 35,340.92
	Cincinnati Checking Account:	\$ 8,440.39

Budget

Contained herein is the proposed budget for calendar year 2007, as well as the approved budget for the first half of the year, as stipulated by the GEB in motion PB-03, approved March 11, 2007.

Income	Calendar 2007	Jan - Jun
Dues	\$80,000.00	\$40,000.00
IW Income	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00
Literature Income	\$50,000.00	\$25,000.00
Organizing Fund/Donations	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
Other Income (Internet, Assessments, Etc.)	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
Total	\$138,000.00	\$69,000.00

Expenses

Wages and Expenses	Final 2007	
Wages	\$35,000.00	\$17,500.00
Health Benefits	\$4,800.00	\$2,400.00
Payroll Taxes	\$3,500.00	\$1,750.00
Payroll Expenses (Paychex)	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
GST Travel Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
Volunteer Expenses	\$500.00	\$250.00
Total	\$46,300.00	\$23,150.00

Facilities

Rent	\$8,400.00	\$4,200.00
Phone/Internet	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Cellular	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Utilities	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00
Alarm System	\$600.00	\$300.00
Post Office Box	\$36.00	\$0.00
Total	\$15,536.00	\$7,750.00

Office Expense

Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
Membership Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00
Postage (General Admin)	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
Postage (GOB)	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
Copier Lease	\$8,500.00	\$4,250.00
Office Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Database/CASS Compliance	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Equipment Repairs	\$200.00	\$100.00
Printing	\$500.00	\$200.00
Professional Services	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc.	\$500.00	\$250.00
Total	\$25,200.00	\$12,800.00

Bank Charges

Services and Fees	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Canadian Conversion	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Total	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00

Internet

IWW.ORG	\$200.00	\$100.00
Retailworker.com	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$200.00	\$100.00

Organizing

OTC	\$3,500.00	\$1,750.00
ODFC/Organizing Department	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00
Organizing Drives, Grants, Etc.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Organizing Liability Account Payoff	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$6,000.00	\$3,000.00

Misc. Committee Expenses

Assembly Expense	\$2,000.00	\$500.00
GEB Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
ISC Expenses	\$400.00	\$200.00
CIC Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Committee Expenses (Audit, Etc.)	\$500.00	\$250.00
Total	\$6,900.00	\$2,950.00

Literature

Lit – Facilities Rental	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
Lit – Wages	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
Lit – Inventory Database	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lit – New Inventory	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00
Lit – Postage	\$6,500.00	\$3,250.00
Lit – Tabling Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lit – Other	\$650.00	\$325.00
Total	\$28,250.00	\$15,175.00

Industrial Worker

IW – Printing	\$8,600.00	\$4,300.00
IW – Postage	\$5,700.00	\$2,850.00
IW – Phone/Internet	\$300.00	\$150.00
IW – Office Supplies	\$400.00	\$200.00
IW - Philadelphia Mailing Stipend	\$1,200.00	\$600.00
IW - Editors' Stipend		\$0.00
IW – Other	\$50.00	\$25.00
Total	\$16,250.00	\$8,125.00

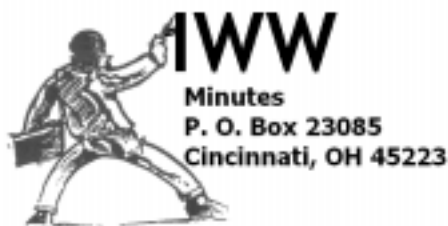
Income Total	\$138,000.00	\$69,000.00
Expense Total	\$146,636.00	\$74,050.00
Gain (Loss)	(\$8,636.00)	(\$5,050.00)

Notes and Notices

2006 General Assembly Minutes

Copies of the Minutes for the 2006 General Assembly are now available to Members of the IWW from GHQ.

If you would like a copy, please send \$10 to cover printing and postage to:



A SOON-TO-BE COLLECTOR'S ITEM!!!

The GHQ recently came across a cache of:

The 2005 Centenary Edition of The Little Red Songbook

Produced for distribution at the Centenary Celebration last summer, this edition of the Songbook was a very limited edition, and has never been offered for sale . . . until now.

While they last, we are offering them for sale to members and branches, direct from GHQ, for \$5.00 a piece.

Send your order to:

**IWW
P. O. Box 23085
Cincinnati, OH 45223**

Working On the Railroad *(Continued from page 26.)*

It is in this context – the long and militant tradition of railroaders; the experience of industrial unionism, Eugene Debs and the ARU; the colorful history of direct action; and the glaring shortcomings of craft unionism at its absolute worst – that the ideas of the IWW are more vital and relevant than ever on the railroad. The Wobblies shunning of electoral politics, reliance on self-help and direct action, the notion of the industrial union, the concept of “an injury to one is an injury to all”, the general strike – all this plays well among workers on the nation’s railroads. Railroaders today are looking for answers beyond the narrow confines of their own increasingly irrelevant craft union. They want an organization with strength and power, one capable of taking on the huge corporations, the modern day “robber barons”.

Corporate profits on the railroad today are at record levels. Yet the Carriers are pushing for expanded use of Remote Control Operations and single-employee operation of through freight. They are making outrageous concessionary demands at the bargaining table in wages and benefits. The craft unions are not able to effectively stand up to this bullying and harassment that the carriers are meting out, not just at the bargaining table, but on a day-to-day basis on the properties of the nation’s Class I carriers.

All members of the IWW who are looking for work should consider joining the struggle and hire out on the railroad. The major Class I carriers are hiring trainmen and others regularly at most rail terminals all across the country. To learn more about hiring out, check out the Railroad Retirement Board Website at <http://www.rrb.gov/>. Click on “Policies & Links”, then “Railroad Industry & Railroad Union websites click here” for a complete listing of all major Class I railroad websites where you can apply for a position. Current jobs are listed on each site with directions of how to submit your application and resume on-line.

For more information about the railroad, rail unions, the movement for rail labor unity, hiring out, training, or other questions, please write to [raifalcon @yahoo.com](mailto:raifalcon@yahoo.com).

The author is a certified locomotive engineer, currently a member of the BLET, and a long-time member of the IWW.



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