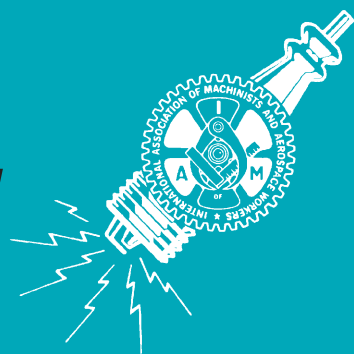


The IAM District 190 Sparkplug



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NORTHERN CALIF.

February/March 2013

Serving the Active and Retired Members of IAM District Lodge 190



Together, let's fight to fix the budget right

Dear Brother and Sister Machinists,

Back in 2011, when Congress couldn't agree on how to address the budget, they agreed to a last-ditch process called "sequestration," across-the-board automatic budget cuts to domestic programs, the defense department and all aspects of government.

March 1, 2013 is now the sequestration drop-dead date. The IAM believes these cuts will devastate the Aerospace and Defense industries to the extent that our fellow brothers and sisters may be unemployed by the end of this year. And, for those of us who do not work in these industries, our jobs may also be in jeopardy because our jobs depend on a growing economy. The state of California will be the hardest hit by sequestration. Estimates are that up to 150,000 jobs could be lost in California if sequestration goes into effect.

The most serious economic challenge facing us is the continuing jobs crisis, not the national debt or the deficit. We will not be able to stabilize the national debt over the long term unless we fix the economy first. An American with a job is an American who will pay their fair share of taxes, thus contributing to the stabilization of the national debt. The continuance of budget austerity (aka "sequestration") in the U.S. could keep us from ever fixing what is truly wrong with our economy—lack of employment opportunities for the American people. Our top priority must be creating jobs!

I ask all Machinists to call Senators Boxer and Feinstein and your Congressman at **888-659-9401** and tell them to cancel sequestration and avert the debt crisis by focusing on growing our economy and creating jobs.

In solidarity

Jim Beno

Directing Business Representative



IAM members help transport Shuttle to LA science museum

The four Local 1484 members who work for Rigging International-Sarens in Santa Fe Springs, participated in history in October, 2012 when they moved the Space Shuttle Endeavor through the streets of Los Angeles to its final home at the California Science Center.

The Endeavor was commissioned in 1986 following the Challenger explosion. The Shuttle debuted in 1992 and performed 25 missions, logging 123 million miles in space and 4,671 orbits around the earth.

Carrying a 150,000 pound vehicle that's 78 feet wide through the streets of Los Angeles is no easy task. In fact it took three days to make the 14.2 mile journey.

The crew transported the Shuttle on 20-lines of KAMAG self-propelled modular transporters (SPMTs) controlled by a single operator. During the transport, the configuration of the SPMTs needed to be altered several times to accommodate different road conditions, such as

medians, and to be able to navigate the many obstacles along the route. To meet CalTrans requirements, the Shuttle was shifted from SPMTs to a specially-designed dolly system to cross the 405 freeway

"This was not the biggest, heaviest or most complicated transport we have performed, but it certainly was the most historic," says Sarens spokesperson Jim Hennessy. "It's not often that you get to participate in the handling of a national treasure. We're told that well over a million people lined the transport route to see this once-in-a-lifetime event. For those of us from the Sarens team who participated in the project, it was truly the project of a lifetime."

The IAM members are journeyman mechanics who did maintenance and repair along the route, and made the final connections of the Shuttle to the transport trailer. "Our IAM members provided critical technical and other support during this very unique project," Hennessy adds.

The Sarens Group of companies has been providing specialized transport and heavy lift services for more than half a century, working under the motto "Nothing too heavy, nothing too high."

"This is the biggest thing I'll ever do in my career. It was a move of a lifetime," said Shop Steward Steve Leon.

The IAM members are now part of the team preparing the museum site to showcase the Shuttle in launch position.

Above: The crew walks ahead of the Shuttle on its 14 mile journey;

At left: wide shot shows just one of many tight spaces the Shuttle needed to navigate to get to its museum destination.



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SHOP TALK: What do you tell a non-union person about what you get out of



RAOUL CASTILLO
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—15 years

"Retirement, wages, and how the union backs you up if you have a problem with the employer. And, the BBQs at the monthly union meetings are awesome."



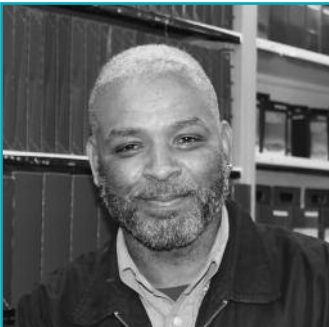
PAUL BAILEY
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—23 years

"Benefits, medical, dental. I'm not in a flat-rate shop. This is more of a team than at a non-union shop. I'd recommend it"



RAY DAVIESS
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—15 years

"Benefits, retirement pay, and the solidarity of us as a group or team. Our jobs are protected. I would recommend the union for sure."



MOLLO FORD
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—18-20 years

"Benefits. Retirement. Higher pay. Job security and solidarity. At my age, I'm starting to value retirement more...but they're all important."



ED MONTEITH
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—7 years

"The union allows for good negotiations, fair wages, and it's overall good protection for employees, especially in this economy."



AROUND THE LOCALS

Local 1173 honors Shop Steward of the Year



The techs at Hopkins Honda-Acura surround Dan Lind as he receives his plaque.

Local 1173 is proud to have selected Master Honda Technician, Dan Lind, from Hopkins Honda-Acura in Fairfield, to be its 2012 Shop Steward of the Year.

Hopkins Honda-Acura was first organized by Local 1173 in 2010. The technicians chose Lind to represent them at the bargaining table during negotiations. For more than 18 months, the employer fiercely fought the union's efforts to gain a first contract. Due to the employer's aggressive anti-union actions, the Labor Board issued multiple unfair labor practice charges and the employees went on strike for two weeks. Throughout the entire negotiations process, Lind fought continued attempts by the employer to divide the bargaining unit and to bully him into giving in on the employees' demands for improvements. None of the employer's tactics worked and, in November 2011, the bargaining unit ultimately won a contract of which they could be proud. After ratifying the contract, the technicians encouraged Lind to continue on as Shop Steward.

"I believe Dan did an outstanding job throughout negotiations," says Area Director Mark Hollibush. "His steadfast determination ensured that the technicians were treated fairly and a good contract was achieved. I personally credit Dan with keeping the shop together. For these reasons and many more, it was an easy choice for Local 1173 to select Dan Lind as Shop Steward of the Year."

Local 653-Fresno

Issues—we've got issues

The Local has been dealing with a variety of issues at JM Equipment, in Fresno. These include lawsuits about tool reimbursement, workers' comp discrimination, and a workers' comp claim. "We'd rather work with the company for a solution, but that requires cooperation," says Area Director Mark Martin. "Unfortunately it's a lot like dealing with Congress!"

Local 1101—San Jose

NLRB demands bargaining

When the techs at Stevens Creek Chrysler Jeep Dodge voted in 2006 to be represented by Local 1101, they fully expected to go into negotiations and get a contract. But the company engaged in so many unfair labor practices, including firing two union supporters, that the union has been battling them in court and before the labor board for these many years. Until now.

In January, the Labor Board finally ruled that the company's unfair labor practices were so egregious that the company must come to the bargaining table. The Board also ruled that the company must offer to re-hire, with back pay, the two techs they fired back in 2006.

Here are some of the violations noted:

- Requiring newly-hired employees to renounce their union membership;
- interrogating an applicant about whether he was a union member;
- telling another applicant that he was "blackballed" because of the union and would not be hired;
- granting wage increases to deter support for unionization; and
- threatening employees with job loss, wage reductions, and facility closure.

"This has been a six-year long battle for the Local and for the two individuals who were terminated, as well as for myself," says Business Rep Richard Breckenridge. "This was the first shop that I organized when I joined the District 190 staff. I came out of this shop, as did Area Director Jim Schwantz. We wanted it to be a union shop, and now that the NLRB is finally doing the right thing, it will be."

Local 1484-Wilmington

ConGlobal expands; union becoming dominant

When ConGlobal Industries acquired RCS, they agreed to voluntarily recognize the union as the representative of the new group of 28 workers.

As a result, these employees saw an average of 30% overall economic increase in wages and benefits. For some who paid \$48-98 out-of-pocket



STEVEN KILGORE
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—14 years

"I have a laundry list of good reasons to be in a union. #1 is the benefits and the fact that we have some job security and seniority. With a contract, our wages are secure and the employer can't just drop them down."



ANTONIO SALAZAR
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—13 years

"It's the way to get benefits and security on the job. And maybe one day you'll retire with a pension. When you work non-union, if at any time the employer tells you to go home, you're fired and there's nobody to protect you."



ED CANAVAN
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—32 years

"Job security, benefits, and for the most part, a decent wage. As long as I've been in the union, it's treated me well. I wouldn't want to work non-union, especially in these times of flat-rate."



RAUL MARTINEZ
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—20 years

"Without unions, the owners are in control. With unions, there's a balance and an even playing field. This is important, even with a great employer like we have."



MIKE MERRY
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—40 years

"I see what's on the outside—we get much better benefits than the non-union. Our benefits are written into the contract. In non-union, they can be changed daily. And we have a pension (at least, what's left of it!)"

being a union member?



JEFF CHRISTENSEN
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—5 years

“The benefits are good. Being able to negotiate your contract is a good thing. I know it’s a cliché, but I can’t think of anything bad.”



MAURICIO ROBAS
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—12 years

“You have someone to talk to about problems. The union pushes for you to get educated and get more certificates, which the company pays for.”



BRANDON SMITH
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—5 years

“Job security. You know what to expect, how things will be handled. It keeps everything uniform.”



JIM PASSMORE
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—28 years

“The benefits. You make more money in the union. I definitely recommend it.”



MIGUEL HINOJOSA
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—3 years

“The benefits for myself and my family are the best thing I can see.”

in health care co-pays, they have to pay zero.

“Twelve years ago, there was just 16% union density in the storage, container, refrigeration and chassis repair industry (off-dock),” says Business Rep Kevin Kucera. “Because of our organizing efforts, we’re now at 57% union density. We only have a few more depots to organize to get us to 100% union density. At that point, we won’t have to fight over nickels and dimes, it’ll be over dollars.”

Kucera says that the Local and the union members who work both on-dock and off-dock are putting together strategy meetings in order to accomplish the 100% goal this year.

Kucera wanted to especially acknowledge long-time, just-retired Business Rep Al Lopez for his dedication to organizing this industry.

Solidarity strike

In November, about 300 Local 1484 members who work at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach refused to cross picket lines of the Office and Clerical Union (OCU). This action affected 14 different terminals.

The OCU has been battling to get a contract for more than two years. The OCU arrived at an agreement and are all back to work.

“I really want to thank the guys for their solidarity,” says Kucera.

Local 1546 - Oakland

Central Concrete’s contract complete

The members who work at Central Concrete in Locals 1546 and 1101 have a new four-year contract. “Thanks to Jim Schwantz, who did most of the negotiating, there were no concessions and the members will see an increase of \$4.60 over the four years,” reports Area Director Don Crosatto. “It’s a fair package.”

It only took three years

After three long years of talks, the members at Pleasanton Auto Mall finally got an agreement they could ratify. “Among numerous changes were fixing the productivity language to take layoffs into account, and getting the employer to stop penalizing one mechanic for the time he spends repairing another mechanic’s come-backs,” says Crosatto.

Union benefits all workers

It was hard to find the money to get the members at Nelson’s Body Shop in San Leandro a raise until the union came up with a unique plan. “By moving the non-contract employees into the Plan C health plan, the company was able to save enough money to provide a respectable raise of \$1/hour,” says Crosatto. “Everybody wins.”

Local 1528 members distribute ponchos to homeless in Modesto park



Local 1528 stepped up and purchased 53 rain ponchos and on January 6, 2013 passed them out to the homeless. Rick Martinez and Diane Stewart went to the Church in the Park in Modesto where homeless people and families in need go for a great Sunday service and a hot meal. They were so grateful to have a poncho on such a rainy, stormy day. Many thanks to the members of IAM Local 1528.

Local 1596-Petaluma

Thank you, President Watson

After seven years of serving as President of Local 1596, Randy Watson resigned in January. “On behalf of the members of the Local, I want to thank Randy for his dedication and years of service,” said Area Director Tom Brandon.

Contract at Van Bebber Bros.

The members at Van Bebber Bros. in Petaluma have a new three-year contract that includes 50¢ increases to their IAM national pension contribution in year one, and health and welfare increases in years two and three.

Local 2182-Sacramento

Starting over with Sacramento

Members who work for the City of Sacramento are anxiously awaiting the results from a trial over whether the City unfairly gave IAM work to another union group. They’re also preparing for contract negotiations.

“Not one of the labor relations officers involved in the previous negotiations still work for the City,” says Mark Martin. “There’s no history. We’ve had to file a grievance over how the City is misinterpreting the wage step increase process. We may have to train the City’s bargaining team before this is over. Stay tuned!”



VINCE PISCIOOTTO
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—12 years

“Most people think benefits and pension is number one. I’d say the most important aspect of being a union member is bargaining power. I know people in non-union who never get raises. We work a group to get fair wages.”



D..J. (DON JOHNSON)
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—15 years

“For newcomers, the apprenticeship training is outstanding. The union really backs you up. The benefits are great for people with families. You get seniority. Retirement is the golden handshake at the end.”



ANDY OCHOA
Parker-Robb Collision
Local 1173—23 years

“The most important benefits are job security and fairness. The union makes sure the employer respects our seniority. Having a good union job has done so much for my family.”



SIOK ONG
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—20 years

“The union doesn’t just protect you; the job is secure and it helps make everybody part of a team. Our benefits are still good—much better than in non-union.”



ROBERT YARED
Lawrence Volvo
Local 1173—33 years

“Number one is security. The feeling of working with a contract. Knowing exactly what the employer needs to do to fulfill the contract and vice versa, what they expect of me. I could go on. . . .”

MOVING?

Or need to report a member recently deceased...

Send the mailing label on this newspaper to your local union office. Please note: If you send your notice to the Pension Fund or the Health and Welfare Trust, that won't change your address as the union has it. Be sure to contact your local union!

See calendar below for your local union's address.



ATPA is the administrator for the Automotive Industries Health & Welfare and Pension Trust Funds. **Contact us at 510-836-2484**

Claws for Dogs

A District 190 Benefit for Guide Dogs of America

Saturday, April 20, 2013

5:30 p.m. Cocktails

6:30 p.m. Lobster Feed

No Host Bar Live Music

Alameda Eagle Aerie

2305 Alameda Ave, Alameda, CA 94501

Call District Lodge 190 for tickets: 510-632-3661

or send your check for \$75 per ticket to:

District Lodge 190, 7717 Oakport St., Oakland, CA 94621

Tickets will be left for you at the door.

UNION MEETINGS			
District Lodge 190 7717 Oakport Street Oakland, CA 94621 510-632-3661	<i>Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of each month</i> February 26 • March 26 • April 23 Executive Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m. General Delegates' Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	Local 1484 1261 Avalon Blvd. Wilmington, CA 90744 310-835-6688	Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month February 21 • March 21 • April 18 General Membership Meeting: 6:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month February 5 • March 5 • April 2 Retirees' Club: 1:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month: February 20 • March 20 • April 17
Local 93 2102 Almaden Rd., #105 San Jose, CA 95125 408-723-4900	<i>Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month</i> February 12 • March 12 • April 9 Grievance Committee: 3:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting: 4:30 p.m. Membership Meeting: 5:00 p.m.	Local 1528 713 16th Street Modesto, CA 95354 209-529-9210	<i>Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month</i> February 6 • March 6 • April 3 Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Women's Committee Meeting: Please contact local 1528 for times and dates of monthly meetings Retiree's Club: 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month: February 20 • March 20 • April 17 Narcotics Anonymous: 5:30-6:30 p.m. every Tuesday
Local 653 544 West Olive Fresno, CA 93728 559-264-2815	<i>Meetings are the third Wednesday of the month</i> February 20 • March 20 • April 17 Executive Board Meeting: 5:00 p.m. Membership Meeting: 5:30 p.m.	Local 1546 10260 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94605 510-638-6705	<i>Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month</i> February 5 • March 5 • April 2 General Membership Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Member Education Meeting: 5:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m. on the Thursday preceding membership meeting January 31 • February 28 • March 28 Retiree Club Pot Luck Luncheon: 12 noon on the first Wednesday of each month February 6 • March 6 • April 3 Alcoholics Anonymous: 9 a.m. every Saturday
Local 801 7717 Oakport Street, Oakland, CA 94621 800-655-2182	<i>Meetings are the third Thursday of the month</i> February 21 • March 21 • April 18 Membership Meeting: 4:00 p.m. <i>Meetings are held at the Carpenters' Hall, in Reno.</i>	Local 1584 8130 Baldwin Street Oakland, CA 94621 510-635-2064	<i>Meetings are the third Thursday of the month</i> February 21 • March 21 • April 18 Membership Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. Retirees' Club: 12:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month: February 5 • March 5 • April 2
Local 1101 2102 Almaden Rd., #105 San Jose, CA 95125 408-723-4900	<i>Meetings are the second Thursday of the month</i> February 14 • March 14 • April 11 Executive Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m. General Membership Meeting: 6:30 p.m.	Local 1596 4210 Petaluma Blvd. No. Petaluma, CA 94952 707-795-0086	<i>Meetings are the third Tuesday of the month</i> February 19 • March 19 • April 16 Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. Membership Meeting: 6:30 p.m.
Local 1173 1900 Bates Ave., # H Concord, CA 94520 925-687-6421	Executive Board Meeting: 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month February 14 • March 14 • April 11 Membership/Shop Stewards' Meeting: 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month February 21 • March 21 • April 18	Local 2005 416 Main Street Livingston, CA 95334 209-394-7822	<i>Meetings are held the third Sunday of each month at the Veterans Memorial Hall: 1605 7th Street, Livingston, CA 95334.</i> February 17 • March 17 • April 21 Executive Board Meetings: 11 a.m. at Union Hall General Membership Meetings: 1:00 p.m. (all languages)
Local 1414 150 South Boulevard San Mateo, CA 94402 650-341-2689	Shop Stewards' Meeting: 5:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month February 21 • March 21 • April 18 Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month February 14 • March 14 • April 11 General Membership Meeting: 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month February 21 • March 21 • April 18 Retirees' Club: 11:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of March, June, Sept., Dec. All are welcome! March 6 • June 5 • September 4 • December 4	Local 2182 967 Venture Court, Sacramento, CA 95825 800-458-9200	<i>Meetings are the second Tuesday of the month</i> February 12 • March 12 • April 9 Executive Board Meeting: 6:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Retirees' VISTA CLUB: 11:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month: February 20 • March 20 • April 17