

# LOADLINE

A UNION BUILT ON PRIDE, SKILL AND SAFETY



The Official Publication of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302 — Third Quarter 2014



**Summer Construction in Full Steam**  
**OSO Mudslide and Elections Update**



**Daren Konopaski**

Business Manager

Brothers and Sisters:

I hope your summer has been busy! We have seen a great deal of projects in both states and the reports from the districts is that the hiring hall is showing very low numbers. That's good news as it means our members are working. Although summer seemed to kick off a little slow it seems to now be in full steam. Don't forget your responsibility to check into the hall once you are done on a job. This makes dispatching faster, easier and more effective in getting people to work. Also, I look forward to seeing you retirees at the lunches in the upcoming weeks.

Hopefully as you will be able to see in the ensuing year it is my directive to staff to assure that you are informed more frequently via the Loadline.

We have developed a schedule ensuring that these are on the street on a quarterly basis. In that same vein, we are also making several improvements to our technology applications. Whether it is our outward facing web services or our ability to notify and mobilize members faster. In addition, we have recently integrated the two states into utilizing a single dispatch system. While this may seem to be a simple thing, I can assure you it was not. The two states have been utilizing separate systems for decades. This did work until newer systems began to replace some of our older technology. A special thanks to our team that pulled this effort together.

On the political front and upcoming election we are currently reviewing our endorsements and contributions to politicians and ballot measures that are important to the membership. You will see a few endorsements in this issue only because we are still vetting several candidates and with so many candidates in several races it is typically more prudent to see the results from the primaries. In our next issue you will see more endorsements as we will have a fuller picture of the upcoming general elections in both states. On other political matters we continue to fight with certain interest groups and elected officials over land-use rights, water rights, and other environmental permitting and regulatory issues. As many of you know, these are the areas that I am very passionate about as they directly affect the work that we do. As always, I recommend that you register to vote and vote for those that will forward our interests.

First, let me say that we are adamant about protecting our natural resources and that construction can be done without a detrimental impact to these areas. Unfortunately, the political winds are blowing in the direction of zero development and that just doesn't work for construction and our future. Second, in Washington our Governor has not been friendly or active in forwarding our efforts on the Gateway Pacific Terminal project in Bellingham. The issue on the terminal shouldn't be about coal, instead it should be about having a viable port for commerce to utilize and flourish in the north of Washington. However, coal will be distributed through the terminal and I suspect China will be the primary recipient. What many seem to forget is that the next option is to move this terminal 40 miles to the north in Canada so that they can garner this work and commerce.

As I attempted to predict in the last issue of the Loadline that I had: "extremely high hopes for this ensuing year." My hopes were realized and as I mentioned earlier this is turning out to be a busy construction season for our membership. Whether its work on the North Slope or a Project Labor Agreement on the Bangor Naval Base we are putting a lot of members to work. This is great news for Local 302 and we continue to see more and more long-term construction projects on the horizon.

Given the significant number of projects and members working it is imperative that you are safe out there. Whether it is a massive construction project or a 3-day job all it takes is a split second to get hurt or be killed on the job. It is my hope that every worker out there returns home safe each and every day to his or her family.

In Solidarity,

Daren Konopaski  
International Vice President and Business Manager

**LOADLINE**  
IN THIS EDITION...

**REPORTS**

Business Manager ..... 2  
Financial Secretary ..... 4  
Government Affairs ..... 6

**AT WORK IN ALASKA**

(Districts 6, 7 and 8) ..... 8

**AT WORK IN WASHINGTON**

(Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) ..... 22  
Apprenticeship & Training ..... 40

OSO Mudslide Disaster ..... 34

Good of the Order ..... 52  
Moment of Silence ..... 38  
Retirees ..... 36  
Scholarship Winners ..... 48  
Member Spotlight ..... 58



*Walton Lofts - Turner Construction*

**COVER PHOTO:**

New Construction in Ellensburg WA



**Kyle Brees**  
Financial Secretary

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Health care always seems to be at the front of my line lately and I thought I would take this opportunity to touch briefly on some of the things that make getting your claims paid a little easier for you and maybe a few ideas to keep you from having to have claims to begin with.

First of all very, very important when you go to the doctor, dentist, or optometrist be sure that you have your medical card with you and that the doctors' office has your current information. Along with that be sure that WPAS has your current information as well. If you change any of your personal information at the union hall be sure to contact WPAS and update your information with them as well, our offices are not connected to the same computer systems.

Check your mail regularly, if you haven't received an explanation of benefits within thirty days of seeing your physician call WPAS Claims Dept immediately and find out what's going on, or give me a call and I will check for you. Don't wait until your doctor or somebody else is knocking on your door asking for their money, thirty days! When you receive an information request from WPAS you need to fill it out and get it back to WPAS as soon as you can. I know that the forms seem redundant and you've answered the questions a million times but the folks at WPAS are trying to get your claims paid, and even though you know that nothing has changed in your world WPAS can not assume that is the case. I can not stress this enough if you want your claims paid in a timely fashion you need to get this information back to WPAS. If WPAS does not receive the requested information from you within forty five days of the forms being mailed out the claim will be denied for lack of response.

If for some reason a claim has been denied, stay calm with every denial should be a letter explaining why the claim was denied and an explanation of the appeals process. Read it. The appeals process is not a guarantee that your claim will be paid but is an opportunity for you to submit further information that may have been missed, and a way for you to voice your concerns to the trustees that sit on the appeals committee for their consideration.

Express Scripts has been hired as your Prescription Benefit Manager. They are tasked with keeping our drug costs down and supplying you with the drugs your physician says you need. They have done a great job saving the trust money which in turn helps keep your health care costs down. One of the ways they do this is by suggesting to you and your doctor the use generic drugs instead of brand name, this is a considerable cost savings to the plan, and Express Scripts also has an auto fill mail refill program for what are considered maintenance type drugs. Something new at Express Scripts is an app for your cell phone or tablet that you can help manage your prescriptions. There is an information page included in this issue.

So how can you really save some money on health care costs for you and your family?

First off if you are a smoker plain and simple just quit!!!! Think about what's really important, your wife, your husband, and those wonderful children. I know you can do it, just believe in yourself.

Exercise. That's right get up off of that couch. Start small and work up, never dive in head first and over exert yourself right out of the box. Just walking around the block is a good place to start keep adding a little bit every day and before you know it you're walking a mile then two. As you see yourself getting healthier and stronger you will find that you will get more and more into it when you realize how simple it is and how quickly your body adapts to exercise.

Third start eating healthy once you get past all of the junk and are eating healthy foods in the correct portion size the junk really does become junk you wont miss it. Not only will it help to keep you from going to the doctor it will even save you money on your grocery bill.

Last your health plan allows for a Physical exam for active members, retirees and dependents age 14 and older, once each calendar year, including necessary x-ray and laboratory tests. No deductible is required and the Plan pays for an exam and any related x-ray and laboratory tests as follows: If the exam is received in Washington or other areas, 100% of the PPO Allowed Amount or UCR Amount, up to \$500 per calendar year.

If the exam is received in Alaska, 100% of the PPO Allowed Amount or UCR Amount, up to \$600 per calendar year.

I can only hope that you would take advantage of this benefit, far better to catch something early.

I hope this helps with your understanding of the health care plan and as always if you are having a issue with a claim or your prescription and need some help figuring out what's going on don't hesitate to give me a call.

In Solidarity,

Kyle Brees  
Financial and Recording Secretary



## LOCAL 302

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Josh Swanson**  
Government Affairs

Brothers and Sisters:

I hope all is well with you and your families and the summer is treating you well. On the political front there is still much discussion about a transportation package. The challenge, of course, is how to fund it and who has the political wherewithal to entertain a revenue/tax increase necessary to pay for the work.

While there have been some discussions on a package being considered in December of 2014 the likelihood is minimal. I would expect that the conversations will be on the fact that there needs to be work done on maintenance, operations, and preservation as a starting point on getting transportation funding rolling. These are discussions that will be occurring in the upcoming months as the Legislature begins to prepare to continue conversations on a transportation package.

We are hopeful that there will be a multi-year increase in gas tax funding to pay for a large scale transportation package. However, that is highly unlikely so we will continue to press for any and all transportation related activities to ensure that our members continue to go to work.

Now on to the political front, as many of you know we have a primary election that is currently underway. You will see some of our early endorsements for the ensuing primary for candidates that we believe are viable and that embrace the issues that are important to Local 302, primarily jobs. This list is by no means complete and will be updated in the next issue as the politics play themselves out and these folks progress through the primary. If you have any questions about any of these candidates please do not hesitate to contact us. Our political strategy is to see how the primary plays out prior to engaging more aggressively in some of these key races. For candidates that we identify as competitive and supportive of our interests we will certainly entertain more endorsements and contributions to ensure that those that deserve our endorsement are successful in the General Election.

As always, we appreciate your feedback in candidates that you know that would be good for the Operating Engineers. It should go without saying that we are ever vigilant in ensuring that any candidate endorsed by Local 302 has our interests in mind. Obviously, our key concerns are: jobs, transportation improvements, protecting prevailing wage and worker rights, and workplace safety. Any candidate that doesn't adhere to this way of thinking typically does not receive a great deal of consideration from us. If you know of such an individual please let us know. Also, we always welcome your feedback and so that we are better able to ensure that the candidates that we endorse embrace our way of thinking.

**LOCAL 302**

Bothell office  
425-806-0302

Aside from all of that I just want to say thank you for the opportunity to represent you and we look forward do a successful political season on the horizon. Given the lack of interest in jobs and transportation last session we are hopeful that this next legislative session will better ensure for more and continuous employment for our membership. Have a great and fruitful summer and always feel free to call me with any political or legislative questions or concerns at (206) 293-8350. Thank you.

In Solidarity,

Josh Swanson  
Political and Communications Representative



**Washington Primary Election Endorsements**

<b>Suzann Delbene</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Rick Larsen</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Derek Kilmer</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Jim McDermott</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Dave Reichert</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Adam Smith</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Dennis Heck</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Shari Song</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Tami Green</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Seth Fleetwood</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Matthew Isenhower</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Steve Hobbs</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Rich Cowan</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Seth Fleetwood</b>	<b>State Senate</b>
<b>Kathy Haigh</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Hans Dunshee</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Mike Wilson</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Monica Stonier</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Nathan Schlicher</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Larry Seaquist</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Greg Baruso</b>	<b>State Representative</b>
<b>Roger Goodman</b>	<b>State Representative</b>

## DISTRICT 7

Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131



**Rob Peterson**  
Vice President &  
District Representative  
Executive Board

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I am often confronted by members who are frustrated with their employers, seemingly endless negotiations, and feeling disrespected as employees and union members. So what's the answer? Get involved in your union and try to make a difference. As an employee of the City of Fairbanks, I started participating in the union process. I went to union meetings and volunteered when union leadership needed assistance. Gradually, I gained experience and became a shop steward. I listened to the issues of others in the union and realized that we all had similar wants and needs: Decent wages and working conditions, respect and equality on the job. It took several years and a lot of focus, energy and effort on the part of our union members, and other unions, but we managed to bring about change. Employee's banded together working in unison toward mutual goals of making their conditions of employment better. What I realized during that time was that on an individual basis, I didn't have much power, but by bringing together my union brothers and sisters and devoting our collective energy to shared principles, goals and actions, we had the ability to change the working conditions for all of our coworkers. So often I hear individuals say, "My one vote won't make a difference. But you can make a difference and your one vote does matter. The union is most effective when everyone participates at some level. What can you do to make a difference?"

### In the Alaska News

The Alaska LNG (Large Diameter Pipe Line) and the ASAP (Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline) Natural Gas Projects have combined forces. Escalating energy costs in rural and Interior Alaska and heavy reliance on diesel fuel, and an uncertain long-term supply of natural gas for Southcentral Alaska have intensified demand for access to natural gas for home heating and power generation. The combined project includes a North Slope gas conditioning facility, a liquefaction plant to be located in Southcentral Alaska, storage and loading terminal, and an 800-mile large diameter pipeline. Estimated man power needs will require a construction workforce of between 9,000 and 15,000 craft workers and an operations workforce of approximately 1,000. Current estimates to develop the project are \$45 to \$65 billion. The project consortium comprised of the State of Alaska, ExxonMobil, BP, ConocoPhillips, and TransCanada Company, recently announced it has narrowed down the site for the liquefaction plant and export terminal to Nikiski as well as three or four other sites on the Kenai Peninsula.

### Steward Training

This year we have restarted our union steward and union membership classes here in Fairbanks. We know the need is there and your union representatives are willing to dedicate the time and effort if you are willing to come. There is a signup sheet in the dispatcher's office and as we get enough members signed up we will put on more classes. Evenings or weekends whatever works best for you, the member. Please sign up.



## FAIRBANKS DISPATCH

Brothers & Sisters:

As the extremely busy and successful winter season on the North Slope ends, we are preparing for extensive summer of construction here in Fairbanks. The outlook for this year is as positive as ever with multiple projects in the area underway. Projects such as the resurfacing of multiple local streets and adding much needed passing lanes on the Parks highway are in progress.

With the increase in workload, the demand for qualified personnel will continue to rise. We are seeing a strong demand for experienced pavers. Contractors will require personnel with experience in all aspects of paving. Personnel with experience on topside, screed and shuttlebuggy should have excellent opportunities this season to get involved. The summer construction should bring in a strong demand for experienced crusher operators as well. Crusher operation is a key factor for most jobs and our contractors will be looking for experienced crusher hands to help with all aspects of operation.

Out on the spread, finish blade and finish dozer hands that are familiar with new grade control technologies will continue to be in demand for the foreseeable future. Learning the new technology by enrolling in a grade checking class or any equipment enhancement course is a great way to keep your career advancing. For future training schedules, visit the Alaska Apprenticeship and Training website at [www.aoeett.com](http://www.aoeett.com).

To the members that have not worked on the North Slope and are interested in the opportunity, please check out the informative North Slope Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the 302 website. In addition to the clothing and working conditions, there are policies that are strictly enforced, as an example one of them is a prohibition of taking pictures and posting them on social media websites. For many project areas this is a direct violation and can be cause for termination. Please respect the working environment on the North Slope and obey all company policies and directives, help keep the Union reputation held in the highest regard.

In Solidarity,

Mark LaFon  
District 7 Dispatcher

## DISTRICT 7

Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131



**Mark LaFon**  
Dispatcher

## DISTRICT 7

Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131



**Shawn Lowry**  
Field Representative

### Brothers & Sisters:

As we have wrapped up a successful winter season and move into the summer work I would like to congratulate all of you who took part in the North Slope work this winter on a job well done. Over 700 members took dispatches for the 2013-14 North Slope winter season. I know I did not have face time with each and every one of you during the jobsite visits made this season, but I appreciate the time given by those who I was able to speak with.

I am happy to report that in most cases I found happy people contributing in a professional manner to the success of each project. In some cases I found questions, comments and concerns. Thank you for your candid discussion. When a member opens up about things that are not right on a job it gives us the opportunity to address the issue. When people keep quiet the issue is not addressed. As a result of some of these conversations we were able to find a few people working without a dispatch and we are moving them towards membership. I would like to remind each of you that this is your union and a union is only as strong as its membership. Thank you for being proactive.

Doyon Associated had another good year at Point Thomson for ExxonMobil building pipeline from central pad to tie in at Badami. This is an awesome project that is helping set the stage for instate natural gas development and pipeline construction.

Price Gregory was busy with a seawater injection line in Kuparuk for Conoco Phillips. This was another successful project that was performed with true professionalism.

Ruskin and PCL were both engaged in the substructure construction of the first two bridges that will cross the Coleville River delta accessing CD-5 and opening access to the National Petroleum Reserve. Even though this project faced several challenges, the contractors were able to complete this phase on schedule.

Nanuq/AFC employed over 300 Operating Engineers in the 2013-14 North Slope season. The amount of civil work that has occurred, and is still occurring, has kept hundreds of our members working all over the oil field. From Point Thomson and the civil work being done there to constructing the roads and pads for that project to the opposite side of the oil patch at CD-5 and the construction of the second two bridges crossing channels of the Coleville River as well as all the civil work involved in this project, it is safe to say Nanuq/AFC had a very busy year.

AIC constructed the new first pad in several years in Kuparuk. The Sharkstooth project employed several members, as did the other projects AIC had this year. AIC will shortly be back on the Dalton Highway just north of Pump Station 4, so be ready.

Houston Contraction had busy season on TAPS and there appears to be a busy summer coming up for them with projects on the line.

QAP will once again be working on the Top of the World Highway North East of Chicken by Boundary as well as projects on the Parks Highway.

I look forward to meeting with you on the job as I am out and about. If for some reason our paths do not cross, please feel free to drop me a line.

In Solidarity,  
Shawn D. Lowry  
Field Representative

Brothers & Sisters:

As you all may know and have seen, our past few work seasons have been very busy. Throughout the winter and continuing into the summer our hiring hall has seen many new faces walk through the door. It is nice to see graduating apprentices transferring over to journeyman and all the younger generation picking up where the retirees are leaving off. That being said, I encourage everyone out there that may know of a future operators to stop by any union hall and pay us a visit. Someone once told me “You can’t take it with you,” looking back now, that person couldn’t have sent a better message. Now more than ever we need to reach out to the younger generation and inform them of the opportunities that are available to each and everyone of them.

This past winter we had work all over the state from downtown Fairbanks to remote areas such as Kotzebue, Galena, Nenana, Delta, and Denali National Park. Brice, Inc. continued road work down in the Nenana Basin with the local native corporations and the City of Nenana. They also finished up a three mile road project in Galena and will continue work on the Kotzebue Airport. HC Contractors have started the work on the new bridge across the Nenana River which will open up thousands of acres of new development. They are also looking forward to a very busy summer season with projects in and around Fairbanks. Ghemm Company along with Precision Cranes and Great Northwest Inc. worked a majority of the winter on an employee housing relocation and water facilities project in Denali National Park. That project was very successful and should be completed before the May tourist season kicks off.

The forecast for our summer work season is also very full. We have a few of our local contractors including HC and Exclusive doing major repairs on three of our mainstream roads and expressways in town. Precision Cranes, Inc. will have work at our recently shut-down North Pole refinery along with some repairs on the Trans Alaska Pipeline. The University of Alaska Fairbanks is in full swing with the addition to the science building, and currently we have four Local 302 contractors working up on campus. Kiewit will be wrapping up the last of the dirt work on the Northern Rail Extension bridge project late this summer in Salcha. Quality Asphalt and Great Northwest, Inc. both have projects on the Parks Highway this summer which include another Railroad overpass. Quality is also working on the Nome Airport and road work up on the Taylor Highway.

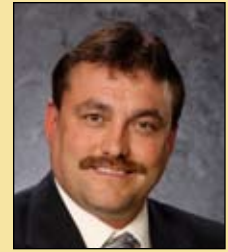
Looking into our near future, the workload is very promising. There have been quite a few smaller bids that our contractors have picked up that will keep our members busy for the entire summer. The upcoming winter season looks to be another extremely busy and prosperous year for everyone. I wish everyone a great year at work, home, or wherever your adventures take you.

In Solidarity,

Avery Thomas  
District 7 Representative

### DISTRICT 7

Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131



**Avery Thomas**  
Field Representative

**DISTRICT 7**

Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131



**Lake Williams**  
Business Relations

Brothers & Sisters:

In 2012, candidates and groups spent over seven-billion dollars trying to influence the election outcomes. The bulk of the money came from a small group of super-wealthy political contributors. For example, 61 people who gave an average of \$4.7 million dollars each, which combined matched the total amount of money raised through small dollar donations by both major party presidential candidates. As a result, our government looks less and less like a democracy -- rule by the people -- and more like a plutocracy -- rule by the wealthy.

By now most folks know that the U.S. Supreme Court did something that changed how money can be spent in elections and by whom, but what happened and why should you care? Have you heard of *McCutcheon v. FEC*, *Citizens United v. FEC*, or possibly *Buckley v. Valeo*? All three are U.S. Supreme Court decisions that are threatening to destroy Unions and American democracy. In *Buckley v. Valeo* (1976) the Court struck down several provisions in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1974, a law that limited campaign expenditures, independent expenditures by individuals and groups, and expenditures by a candidate from personal funds. Basically, it said that political campaign spending is a form of “free speech” so therefore it cannot be limited by law. The court decision did uphold provisions in the law that limited individuals’ campaign contributions. The case is considered significant because it opened a chain of decisions, including *Citizens United*, which basically allows people to purchase political influence.

The 5-4 high court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) remains one of the most controversial widely talked about outcomes in recent history that revealed a court divided along political ideology. In the decision the Court declared that corporations have the same constitutional rights as people and tossed out corporate and special interest bans on making independent expenditures and financing electioneering communications. The decision allows corporations and unions to spend unlimited anonymous sums of money on ads and other political tools in support or defeat of individual candidates. Senator John McCain described the ruling as “the worst decision ever;” and President Obama decried the decision as “a major victory for big oil, Wall Street banks, health insurance companies and the other powerful interests that marshal their power every day in Washington to drown out the voices of everyday Americans.”

In *McCutcheon v. FEC* (2014) the high court made another controversial 5-4 ruling which removed biennial aggregated limits on individual contributions to the national party and candidate committees on grounds that it violates an

**DISTRICT 7**Fairbanks office  
907-452-8131

individual's First Amendments rights. In summary, the deeper your pockets are the more important you are to an individual candidate or a national party, and therefore the greater your ability to influence outcomes that favor your opinion. Unfortunately, GOP congressional leaders have embraced the decisions with open arms. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, hailed the Court's decision with an announcement that "freedom of speech is being upheld;" and Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell—who Kentucky media noted "filed an amicus brief on the McCutcheon v. FEC case as a part of his continued crusade against campaign finance reform."

Our inability to regulate money in politics to prevent conflicts of interest and promote political equality makes the United States unique when compared to the rest of the democratic world. Other countries have laws that limit spending in elections. If we want to change the government and return power to the people, we have to change the way campaigns are financed. Public financing has to be on the table because the status quo is dominated by deep-pocketed special interests, and that's simply unacceptable to the American people. The good news is 16 states and more than 500 communities have called for amendments to the Constitution. Across the country, at the grassroots level, Republicans have formed alliances with Democrats to demand that the influence of money in our politics be reduced. As the reform group 'Free Speech for People' noted last year, dozens of Republican legislators have backed calls by states for a Constitutional amendment to overturn, not just the Citizens United ruling, but other barriers to the regulation of money in politics. With backing from third-party and independent legislators, as well as the passage of the state resolutions, highlights what the group refers to as "a growing trans-partisan movement...calling for the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions to be overturned, through one or more amendments to the U.S. Constitution." In the end, every dollar spent by Unions comes from their members which means Unions will never be able to compete monetarily with large corporations. Taking money out of politics literally translates into money in your pockets, so join the cause and tell your federal, state, and local officials that you won't vote for them unless they support overturning Citizens United and restoring our democracy.

## Related Links:

[www.democracyisforpeople.org](http://www.democracyisforpeople.org)      [freespeechforpeople.org](http://freespeechforpeople.org)  
[www.commoncause.org](http://www.commoncause.org)

In Solidarity,

Lake Williams  
Business Relations

**DISTRICT 8**

Juneau office  
907-586-3850



**Corey Baxter**  
District Representative  
Executive Board

# Alaska Legislative News

## Alaska LNG Project

On May 8, 2014 Governor Sean Parnell signed [Senate Bill 138](#) which is a bill that aims to facilitate the construction of a natural gas pipeline and put the state in co-ownership of the project.

Parnell's signature moves the project to the preliminary engineering and design phase. Construction of the project could begin in 2019.

The pipeline project is lead by BP, Exxon Mobil, ConocoPhillips and pipeline company TransCanada Corp. The 800-mile pipeline would be largely used to send North Slope gas to the world market, but agreements guarantee at least five take-off points for in-state gas, including one in Fairbanks.

## Minimum Wage Was Passed By The House But Not The Senate!

The House Labor and Commerce Committee allowed [House Bill 384](#) to pass on to a floor vote. What HB 384 does is cut voters out of the process (If the Legislature passes a bill "substantially similar" to an initiative, the initiative is no longer on the ballot). While it may seem like an easy solution, this has an ugly past and will not fare well for low-wage earning Alaskans or businesses that count on money from their customers.

In 2002, this exact scenario played out in Juneau. Then the initiative, like now, included language about inflation, covering workers if prices of goods went up. After they voted to raise the wage and it was taken off the ballot, they removed the inflation language! So the people did not get a say nor did they get a raise. If they had left it alone, Alaska's minimum wage today would be \$9.53 per hour! We are STILL trying to catch up to that.

## Education Reform Bill Becomes Law

Governor Sean Parnell signed into law Alaska's Education Opportunity Act, [House Bill 278](#). The plan focuses on providing more choices for parents, giving more resources to teachers and creating more opportunities for students. The Legislature pledged \$300 million of additional support for education to be distributed over the next three years.

Roughly, \$150 million will go into the Base Student Allocation (BSA) and \$150 million will go towards incentivizing innovation and opportunities in schools. The breakdown for the increase in the BSA is \$150.00, per person, in the first year, with a \$50.00 a year increase each year for the following two years.

**DISTRICT 8**

Juneau office  
907-586-3850

**Capital Budget SB119**

The \$2.2 billion capital budget was approved by House and Senate and is awaiting Governor Parnell’s signature. Some of the projects that will be funded in District 8 for FY 2015 construction season are.

SLAM State Library, Archives, Museum	\$37 Million
Juneau Access	\$35 Million
Petersburg Airport Apron	\$3 Million
Yakutat Airport	\$10 Million
Juneau Egan Drive Pavement	\$17 Million
Ketchikan South Tongass	\$7.5 Million

# Alaska State Elections

Yes it’s that time of year again. State elections are right around the corner and it is real important to get involved and ask questions about which candidates Local 302 is endorsing for state office.

The Primary elections will be held August 19th and the General elections will be held November 4th. We will have candidate endorsement lists in this issue of the Loadline and an updated list in October’s issue of the Loadline as well. I hope everybody had a good start to the construction season and don’t forget to get out and vote.

In Solidarity,  
Corey Baxter  
District 8 Representative



### Alaska Primary Election Endorsements

Don Young	US Congress
Mark Begich	US Senate
Hollis French	Lt Governor
Click Bishop	State Senate (Local 302 Member)
Jim Colver	State Representative
Les Gara	State Representative

### DISTRICT 6

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288



**Jason Alward**  
Treasurer &  
District Representative  
Executive Board

Brothers and Sisters:

The work in South Central Alaska will be extremely abundant this year, but today I would like to spend a few minutes talking to you about issues pertaining to the Good of the Union.

With the average age of Local 302's members being 46 years old, there are several things you can do to help with this lopsided dynamic. Pay attention for a possible future candidate for the Union or someone that is already part of our organization. If you find a good candidate in a young man or woman, encourage them to get involved in the Union or the apprenticeship program. If the contractor you work for does not utilize apprentices, explain to them the benefit of it, the cost savings, and that you might be willing to help train them. Remember, these are the people who will carry on the torch as well as support our pension into the future. Take some time, give them a break, and teach them what you can.

In a year like this, we also really need the help of the contractors by giving some of these younger operators a chance at some of the higher skilled positions. If you see one of these folks that has the potential, put in a good word for them. This is especially important if we expect to recover from the amount of "highly skilled" retirees we will see in the next ten years. Although we have the apprenticeship language to help fill the membership gap, it is the experienced journeymen that we will be lacking. However, there are things that we can be doing to be proactive. First of all, the journeymen should be offering up advice and assistance. Additionally important, the younger hands need to pay attention to everything these "veteran hands" are doing. It is really amazing how much you can learn by watching. Most of the time it isn't how to operate the machine, it is all about what to do in a particular situation and thinking ahead. How will I attack this particular scenario? Show up early and really look at the cut and fill stakes. Ask the grade checker questions. Experience is the key and that does not always have to be from the operator's seat. I enjoy watching people operate heavy equipment because it is amazing how much you can learn by watching. Not only can you learn what to do, but you can also learn vicariously by watching what not to do.

Instead of racing home at the end of the day, stick around and watch one of the veteran hands that might be getting a little bit of overtime. Ask a question when you see them do something that may not have made any sense. A job foreman might see your interest to learn and it could payoff. Remember to pick up a current book on theories pertaining to the specific equipment that you operate or would like to operate. Lastly, consider taking a class at the training center.

Remember that our team, which is the Union, is only as good as our weakest link. We need both our members and contractors to be successful. So, be sure to do everything in your power to make that possible. After all, our future depends on it. Have a safe and prosperous season.

In Solidarity,  
Jason Alward  
Treasurer and District 6 Representative



Brothers & Sisters:

This summer has started steady and should continue strong into late fall. With several large scale projects and a multitude of midsize projects starting this year, construction in District 6 is healthy and the carryover to subsequent years should continue to keep our members busy. Here are some of the highlights:

In Anchorage, Granite Construction began work on West Dowling Road this spring. West Dowling will be expanded to five lanes from C Street to Minnesota Drive. This \$36,000,000 project will include a new bridge over the Alaska Railroad lines and Arctic Avenue. New traffic signals and separated trails along both sides will also be addressed.

The Anchorage International Airport Runway 7L-25R Rehabilitation was awarded to Granite Construction for \$48,000,000. The work will include rehabilitation of runway pavement, lighting, signage, marking, grooving and under drain system improvements.

The Kodiak Airport RSA Extension and Culvert Rehabilitation project was awarded to Kiewit Infrastructure. The \$58,000,000 project will begin in mid July and is slated to finish before the end of 2015. The work will include construction of runway safety area for Runways 7/25 and 18/36, airfield lighting, signing, striping, FAA Navaid relocation, and access roads as necessary. The Devil's Creek Culvert Rehabilitation project was initially a separate bid, but a decision from the state linked the two projects because of their close proximity.

The Parks Highway Mile 194 Railroad Crossing was awarded to Quality Asphalt and Paving for \$20,000,000. One mile of the road will be reconstructed including a new bridge and railroad overpass to cross the middle fork of the Chulitna River.

Although outside of District 6, Anchorage area contractor Quality Asphalt and Paving was also awarded the Parks Highway Rehabilitation from mile 239-252 for \$28,000,000. The rehabilitation will add passing lanes at two locations and include culvert, guardrail, bridge, and signing work.

At the time of this article, the Glenn Highway Lane Expansion from Hiland Road to Artillery Road had not been awarded. Estimated at \$30,000,000 - 40,000,000, this project would add an additional traffic lane in each direction to the Glenn Highway from Hiland Road to Artillery Road. This would include widening or replacing the two bridges crossing the Eagle River. In addition, the interchanges with Hiland Road and Artillery Road would be evaluated and new ramps installed, if determined to be beneficial.

With the upcoming election season, remember that your votes can significantly impact the amount of work in the years to come. Please support candidates or ballot measures that help fund these projects and provide jobs for our Brothers and Sisters.

In Solidarity,

Kyle Virgin  
Field Representative

### DISTRICT 6

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288



**Kyle Virgin**  
Field Representative

**DISTRICT 6**

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288



**Shane Linse**  
Field Representative

**Brothers & Sisters:**

The construction season has started and it appears to be a busy one! By now things are in full swing, but it is important to be mindful about the contract you work under. Talking specifically about construction agreements, Alaska has a few different types of agreements a member can work under. While there are not major differences, it is important to know what type of agreement you work under.

**Alaska Construction Agreement (currently “the little red book”)**

– By far this is what a majority of our membership works under. This agreement is the standard we use for our hiring hall procedures, for all agreements, and it is used as a template for many others we have. There are a couple different ways an employer can sign onto the Construction Agreement:

**Project Only** – The employer signs one agreement and covers ONLY that specific project. This type of agreement is typically used for new contractors and gives us the ability to start the conversation about full compliance agreements. The downfall, an agreement must be signed for every project and requires a new dispatch every time the member goes to a different project, even if it is the same employer. This can be a paperwork nightmare for the employer, member, and dispatch. However please be mindful for this, and help us remind the contractor that you will need a new agreement and different dispatch when changing projects.

**Full Compliance** – When an employer signs a full compliance contract, they sign one agreement and it covers all of their projects. This is what most contractors have with us. Signing a full compliance agreement alleviates the paperwork nightmare, and helps keep the contractor out of trouble with the trusts. Also, we offer full compliance contractors the ability to have an “associates account” which allows management and non represented employees to participate in our health and/or pension plans.

**Stand Alone Agreement** – We have a couple employers who have their own construction agreement. They are, for the most part, identical to the Alaska Construction Agreement, but do have some slight variations. If you work under a standalone agreement you should be aware and ask for a copy of the agreement.

**PLA (Project Labor Agreement)** – PLA’s haven’t been that common in Alaska; however they are growing in popularity. PLA’s are usually for large scale projects where the local Building Trades Council collectively negotiates specific terms and working conditions for all the crafts. Typically they will address all the job specific items, but refer back to each respective crafts construction agreement for hiring and wage/benefit packages. This allows all crafts to work harmonious and help alleviate potential jurisdictional issues or work stoppages. In South Central, most of the new power plants had PLA’s and of course the largest PLA in the state was the construction of

the Trans Alaska Pipeline. Recently, there has been discussion in the Alaska State Legislature about the gas line, specifically AGIA, having mandatory PLA language. We of course strongly support PLA's!

Be mindful of which type of agreement you work under. As you can see they are not all the same. While they are not drastically different, they could have different rules that apply to both you and the contractor. If anytime you have questions or concerns about your agreement, please call the Hall and someone will assist you.

Have a safe Season!

In Solidarity,

Shane Linse  
Field Representative

**DISTRICT 6**

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288

**ANCHORAGE DISPATCH**

Brothers & Sisters:

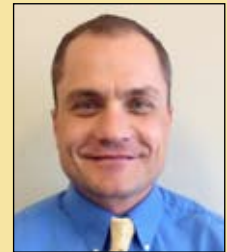
First, I would like to congratulate the previous dispatcher, Mark Charlton on his recent retirement from Local 302. Additionally, I would like to thank him for the knowledge, training, and guidance he provided to me to ensure for a smooth transition and that proper service continued to be provided to the membership. Each day, I further my education as dispatcher to learn the rules and dynamics of the hiring hall. The dispatch seat offers exciting new experiences which further my knowledge and commitment to members and contractors.

Summer is upon us, the weight restrictions have been lifted, and the construction season is in full swing. As a reminder, please make sure all of your contact information and qualifications are current in our office. This helps to ensure you do not miss an opportunity for employment. Additionally, it is imperative that your dues are current to keep in good standing. Lastly, dues are increasing by \$0.25 effective July 1, 2014.

I look forward to meeting each member as time progresses. Furthermore, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the membership as the new District 6 dispatcher. Enjoy the busy summer work season which has arrived.

In Solidarity,

Jamie Mack  
District 6 Dispatcher



**Jamie Mack**  
Dispatcher

### DISTRICT 6

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288



**Bill Sims**  
Field Representative

#### Brothers & Sisters:

Once again the construction season is upon us. The outlook for this summer is looking like another busy one, just like last summer, if not busier.

Kiewit Building Group has about another 10 months before completing the \$25 million barracks. Aside from that, not much federal dollars have been allocated for any new projects on JBER. Over the past 3 years, work on JBER has been very limited.

On another note, two of our project only (“job-only”) contractors in the South Central area have been converted to full compliance status. Several years ago Ankor Inc. and Southcentral Construction Inc. came to us wanting to try us out and started to do work under project only agreements. This year we agreed that it would be a benefit to become fully compliant contractors. This was a mutual goal that we and the contractor have been working towards and we look forward to doing business with them for many more years to come.

Every year the Associated General Contractors of Alaska and the Construction Industry Progress Fund produce an annual report in regards to the 2014 forecast for Alaska’s construction spending.

#### Overview:

The total values of construction spending in Alaska in 2014 will be \$9.2 billion, which is up 18 percent from 2013. Oil and gas will account for most of the growth this year at \$4.3 billion, up 33% from \$3.2 billion last year.

Spending by the mining industry on exploration and development as well as maintaining and upgrading existing mines will be down 34 percent from 2013 due to the drop in the price of gold.

Investments in facilities to support tourism, the seafood and timber industries and other natural resources industries will be about \$76 million, down 280 percent from 2013.

Spending for new and upgraded electric generating plants will drive utility spending higher this year. Two new large plants will be under construction this year – the MEA plant at Eklutna and the ML & P replacement plant in Anchorage along with other smaller utilities involving hydroelectric projects, and other upgrades to systems financed partially through programs like the Renewable Energy and Energy Projects appropriations in the state capital budget. All of these are projected at an increase in spending of 17 percent at about \$851 million.

Hospitals and health care spending will be about even with last year at about \$230 million. Commercial spending will be up about 13 percent at about \$170 million. Residential spending will be up about 7 percent at about \$480 million. Defense spending which had been falling and was projected to continue to shrink as the federal budget tightens, will take a big jump this year.

## DISTRICT 6

Anchorage office  
907-561-5288

Spending on highways and roads will be marginally lower this year because the road funding from state sources is marginally lower. However, federal funding for highways will be at an all-time high, because the state was able to re-obligate about \$100 million of unexpended federal dollars it had received in years past. There should be more than \$500 million available this year for highways funded through federal programs. However some of the projects are not yet “shovel ready” so it will take some time before this money hits the street. Also, many of the projects will need additional appropriations by the Legislature to be fully funded and put out to bid. Spending will be at about \$765 million, about 5 percent lower than last year.

Airports, Ports, and Harbors spending will be at about \$425 million which is about a 4 percent decrease from 2013.

### Conclusion:

What does all this mean? Basically Alaska Construction Spending (excluding Oil & Gas) will be about \$9.2 billion at an increase of about 18 percent from last year. These figures are merely estimates and there are a lot of factors to consider, however the AGC and the CIPF are confident in the overall pattern of the forecast.

In Solidarity,

Bill Sims  
Field Representative



City of Unalaska Power Plant getting a new engine

### DISTRICT 3

Silverdale office  
360-307-0557



**George Garten**  
District Representative

We are looking forward to a busy 2014 construction season in District 3. Work is picking up as contracts get let and the weather continues to improve.

#### **Mason County:**

Both Roglins and Skanska have picked up work at Lake Cushman. There are a few other jobs that we hope will begin to gain traction so that we are able to put more members to work.

#### **Grays Harbor:**

Kiewit-General is still working on the SR 520 bridge pontoons/floats and things appear to be going well. They just floated out six pontoons in April with another float out of pontoons in the fall.

#### **Kitsap County:**

EHW Constructors, Inc. is still working out at Naval Sub-Base Bangor. The work seems to be progressing well with a scheduled completion date of December 2016.

We also have a few larger projects that unfortunately went to non-union companies in this area. We believe that these contractors habitually evade certain Prevailing Wage laws relating to overtime and benefit contributions. We are watching these companies closely and we will ensure that they comply with all of the required laws or face penalties and sanctions from the state.

There is another project that the U.S. Navy is considering to replace Marginal Wharf at the Naval Sub-Base Bangor. We are working with representatives from the U.S. Congress and Senate to potentially utilize a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for this work. While PLAs may sometimes be difficult to navigate, the positive impact they provide is to ensure for union labor and that we have a voice and a seat at the table.

The City of Poulsbo is letting three bids out this spring in the \$500,000 range for some small-medium road projects. Kitsap Transit is also putting out a bid to build a new park-and-ride. Finally, the new Granite Asphalt Plant in Belfair is up and running and getting busier by the day.

#### **Jefferson County:**

The Jefferson County Commissioners are discussing and potentially planning for a new sewer system and service lines in Port Hadlock. This project is expected to cost upward of \$33 million.

#### **Clallam County:**

Scarsella Brothers returned to work on the Highway 101 project and they are still working on the Deer Park Overpass. They are also just completing another bridge project in Port Angeles and are gearing up to start a new project at the Port Angeles Airport.

Lakeside has also picked up quite a bit of work this year in both Clallam and Jefferson counties.

As a reminder please make sure you get a proper dispatch and if you receive any training and/or certifications please be sure to provide copies of these and any renewals with the hall. Also, we are getting great attendance at our Aberdeen and Silverdale meetings and we are hoping to see more members turn-out for all of the District 3 meetings.

In Solidarity,  
George Garten  
District 3 Representative

Brothers & Sisters:

It has been an extremely busy construction season in Snohomish County. However, for this particular Loadline we wanted to focus on the tragedy that occurred at the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River. Many of you may have heard about it on the national news referred to as the Oso Mudslide Disaster. The site was visited by the local Congressional Delegation, state legislators, the Governor, the Lt. Governor, and even the President.

It has been a media and political hot button issue as to who should be held responsible for why this disaster occurred. For purposes of the article, we are going to focus on the facts that we know so that you can get unbiased picture of what occurred. I'm sure there will be a great deal of time in determining liability and responsibility as well as healing for those drastically affected by this disaster. Our hearts go out to those individuals affected whether directly or indirectly. In addition, our appreciation goes out to all of those that aided in both the recovery efforts and are now working on the clean-up effort. Business Manager Konopaski and the Executive Board approved a generous donation to one of the lending institutions that forgave all of the mortgages for those that lost their homes.

As always, I am available to any members that have questions about Oso or work occurring in Snohomish County.

In Solidarity,

***More on OSO Landslide - Page 34***

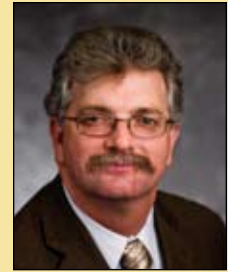
Rick Cunningham  
Field Representative

OSO Mudslide Site



**DISTRICT I**

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Rick Cunningham**  
Field Representative

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Eric Bellamy**  
Field Representative  
Executive Board

#### Brothers & Sisters:

Work continues at an astounding pace in the downtown Seattle area. The higher zoning changes in the South Lake Union district at 400 feet for commercial structures and up to 240 feet for residential structures has attracted developers to the area. Seven 40 story buildings are being built now with several others planned for the near future. Omni Group has finalized plans for the 2 blocks it bought last year from the Seattle Times for \$62.5 million. The former Seattle Times headquarters is considered a city landmark and will be preserved.

Four towers will be built on the two blocks bordered by Thomas Street, Denny Way, Boren and Fairview. Two will be 40 stories residential and two will be 24-story residential towers. Nineteen hundred underground parking stalls will be created as well as the 44,000 square feet of retail space. John Street, which is in between the two blocks, will be turned into a pedestrian plaza and park. There will also be a 33,000 square foot food amenity space along Denny Way. Amazon is still building in the area with plans for 3.3 million square feet expansion for the future.

The West Mercer project continues to make driving to work an adventure. With ever changing detours and closures, you never know what you are going to get when you turn on to Mercer. Atkinson is the contractor and has taken the challenge in stride. Atkinson also has the State Route 99 north approach project with ties into Mercer. The north approach project will provide on and off ramps for the Deep Bore Tunnel project. There is at least a year left before completion.

Mid-Mountain continues on the Lake Washington 480,000 sewage overflow tank and underground facility vault, flow diversion structure and forcemain in an environmentally critical area on Lake Washington Boulevard.

PCI / Democon is working on the demo of 60 year old Terry Hall on the UW Campus. Terry Hall will be replaced with Maple and Terry residence halls. The Colman Ferry dock will be given a \$260 million facelift with all buildings being rebuilt and aging pilings replaced.

The Seattle Convention Center bought 2 acres downtown which they paid \$56.5 million for the planned \$650 million expansion. This expansion will provide the Convention Center with another 1 million square feet of convention space, making Seattle more attractive to convention business.

The State Transportation Commission approved a State Rout 520 bridge toll increase of 2.5 percent which in dollars means an increase to \$3.80 with a Good to Go pass and \$5.40 for a drive by during peak commuting times.

Seattle City Light has plans for a new Lake Union substation to provide more power for the increased building in the area.

WSDOT is using 800 pound bolts to link the first two sections of pontoons on the State Route 520 bridge project on Lake Washington. Eighty bolts attach pontoon "V" to pontoon "W" witch is connected to the land at Medina. The bolts are 16 to 20 feet long. These pontoons are the first of 21 longitudinal pontoons that will be joined. Each pontoon is 360 feet long, 75 feet wide, three stories high and weigh 11,000 tons each.

All and all it is looking like another great year to be an Operating Engineer. Keep up the good work and I'll see you in the field soon.

In Solidarity,  
Eric Bellamy  
Field Representative



Brothers & Sisters:

I hope all is going well with you and your family during this construction season. I decided to devote my article to the topic of “Living within your means.” Over the years I have observed many different financial habits, both good and bad, of my friends and acquaintances in the Operating Engineers Union. Although I personally have not mastered all the good habits, I have to say I have gotten better over the years.

Let me point out my own belief on where we are going as a society. Briefly stated, it doesn't look exceptionally good. Our government, no matter which party is in power, does not have the stomach to balance our national budget. My own definition of government is simply stated as the collective irresponsibility of the people. Needless to say, maybe we haven't been entirely responsible as a whole. The theme seems to be that we keep voting and hope for the best. I believe that despite the governing authority, what you do have total control over is your own finances. Too many of us work for years and have little to show for it. I'm sure you have heard the phrase: “living paycheck to paycheck.” How often have we seen the new vehicles in the construction parking lot, then next winter the same purchasers sitting in the dispatch line on the Out-of-Work list wondering when the finance company will arrive with the tow truck? Maybe, and I'm hoping, I can help with a few suggestions.

First, define to yourself what it means to be truly financially comfortable. Isn't it really being able to meet your family's basic needs, some self wants, and being able to give some away to others? Don't be ashamed to borrow and share some needed items, such as a pressure washer; maybe your brother has one. Second, remember that going to the mall is not entertainment; you will get enticed into buying something that you don't absolutely need. If you need clothes shop sales or go on the Internet. Always shop at reputable stores and buy union made or American made when possible. Try not to pay retail. When watching TV and reading try to avoid advertisements, they are designed to make you feel incomplete. Learn to curb your commercialism, you won't feel better long by buying more stuff. Third, always try to pay with Cash if you can, it's too easy to buy with credit only to realize later you spent way too much. Fourth, if you have investment capital adhere to long term strategies after thorough research. And finally, do your very best to stay healthy. Medical problems, even with our great insurance benefits, can drain your bank account. An older person that has taken care of their cardiovascular system is better off than a young individual that is inactive.

I try to stay home more and save money. Your home is one of your largest investments so enjoy it. This ensures that you are able to save for those things that you really want and need. Always prepare for those rainy days, do not think that work and opportunity is always there. If you are living above your means you will be unable to adapt in bad times. There is no need to compete with others, becoming wealthy doesn't always reflect in being happy. Remember also that time is money, focus on simplifying, reducing, and eliminating. Well, I have given probably way to much advice, but I know as Operating Engineers how hard you work and how much you care for loved ones. My hope is for you to have the best lives you possibly can. Being patient and frugal has helped me and will help you along the way. When you observe others wasting their income feel good in knowing that your kid's college money is still in your bank and feel good about it. As a staff member I can bargain a great contract but if you have bad habits does it really matter? Thanks for the opportunity to represent you.

In Solidarity,  
Bob Franssen  
Field Representative

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Bob Franssen**  
Field Representative

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Larry Gregory**  
Field Representative

Brothers & Sisters:

I hope your summer is going great. Work has definitely picked up this year and we have a lot of prevailed and private work picking up so far. Frankly, I haven't seen this much private work in several years. I hope the workload is keeping all of you very busy. Please remember that even though the work has picked up, that we all must remain vigilant in protecting our jobs and our contract.

It is not okay for other trades to run our equipment just because the job you are on is... "Too busy and the foreman doesn't have time to call for more operators..." You would be surprised at some of the reasons we get from our own brothers and sisters as to why it is okay for another trade to be on our equipment. I'll have to compile a list and put it in a future Loadline as its own separate article. Almost none of the reasons are even close to being valid, such as the one above. Always remember that we are self-insured and self funded on our pension. An hour worked by another trade that is rightfully our work takes funding out of our pockets and decreases our power when we negotiate new contracts. Remember that our fringe benefits are negotiated along with our wages.

If more money needs to go toward our medical contributions then less may go on your check. You may think that it only happens a few hours a day, or one day a week on your site then what is the big deal? It wouldn't be if you were the only site this happens on in our jurisdiction. There are hundreds of jobs going on, so it is potentially hundreds, and possibly thousands of hours a week. Putting that into perspective you can see that even a few hours can make an exponential difference.

Following our contract is another important subject. We live in a democratic society where we have the right to vote on our contract. Nobody necessarily likes everything in the contract. If we all did, there would be no need for changes during negotiations. Remember that this is your contract and your Union. Be a part of it and help us with changes. Fill out the questionnaires you get about upcoming negotiations. And of course, most importantly, VOTE!! It doesn't cost you anything but a few minutes of your time to make sure your voice is heard.

Please follow your contract, and make sure you know what contract you are working under for any given job. If in doubt, or you move to a new job location, contact your agent in that area to make sure what agreement you are required to follow. Here are a few more things to think about as well: violating your contract by doing things such as agreeing to work through lunch to leave early is a violation of your contract as well as your By Laws. If a contractor is allowing you to violate your contract and negotiate on your own for different conditions, you can bet that it may be in the contractor's favor and not your own. What advantage is it for them and not for you? What if you decided to put down for holiday pay and it is not in your contract? Do you think the contractor would agree to that? You know the answer to that question. However, they may let you work through lunch, or let another trade (at lower wages) relieve you of your duties. It should be easy to see which side is gaining and which side is losing when this happens. We ARE the Union and members of this fine Local so do the right thing and stand up for your rights under your contract.

In Solidarity,

Larry Gregory  
Field Representative

Brothers & Sisters:

As another season gets under way it's time to get something off my chest. As dispatchers we can only get you the job - you are the ones who have to keep it. That entails showing up to work on time, not having drug or alcohol problems, working well with others, working safe, being qualified and doing the job that is asked of you. I know that a lot of us believe that we know the best way to do a task is our way. I get it -- but there is something to be said about holding a job for several years and putting a lot of money into your pension fund so we can retire and live comfortably.

The bottom line as I see it is that if you are a team player who is always working and/or helping others finish the job at hand and not having several accidents you will probably have a job for a long time. I understand that there are contractual issues on different sites, but your ability to solve problems and not create them will go along way. I always try to remember all of the members who came before me and try to do as they did to leave something behind for the generations to follow. I will always remember a foreman I had years ago who said I pay you from the neck down. His point was to do your job with a smile and everything else usually works out the way it is supposed too contractually or otherwise.

We have a big season ahead of us and I know you have all the safety cards you need and everything is recertified so you are ready to go to work. This winter and spring saw a steady flow of members going back to work and it will pick up even more when all this work gets rolling. Make sure if you go back to a contractor you worked for in the past that you call and get off the list. This ensures that new, open calls in dispatch run smoother and we are able to get your brothers and sisters to work faster and more efficiently. Remember, unemployment is checking to make sure our members are using our full referral hiring hall approved by the state (no job search calling requirements).

Tony Zempel  
District 1 Dispatcher

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As Tony mentioned the Bothell dispatch season is underway. We have seen an increase in members getting rehired back to the contractors they worked for last season as well as new orders from the contractors. The list is definitely moving in the right direction.

I know we have mentioned it before but we are still running into a lot of disconnected phone numbers when calling members on orders. Please take a minute to call dispatch and update your phone numbers, qualifications and certifications.

I was recently asked by a member what they could do to keep jobs longer and get more hours in a season. I mentioned more training, qualifications, and certifications which is pretty obvious. As I thought about it more, I think the question is what are the contractors looking for in an operating engineer? We know they are looking for the best operators with training, qualifications and certifications to perform jobs safely and efficiently. I think when the contractor is paying for the best they expect a dependable professional that makes good decisions, works well with others, is able to solve problems and resolve jobsite conflicts. The bottom line is if you make the contractor money while maintaining union integrity and jobsite harmony you should have success.

In closing I wanted to remind our younger members that our benefits and wages were earned with the blood, sweat, tears, and sometimes the lives of those in unions and the labor movement who proudly fought for them. That being said and to support this movement, buy union made and made in America. The job you save may be your own.

Denny McKinney  
District 1 Dispatcher

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Tony Zempel**  
Dispatcher



**Denny McKinney**  
Dispatcher

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Marge Newgent**  
Field Representative

#### Brothers & Sisters:

It took many years and lots of bloodshed for us to have the conditions we have today. The 8-hour workday, meal periods, safety conditions, health benefits for your entire family, and an awesome pension. Unions have fought for these conditions and many more for our benefit. It took several years, hard fought battles, and the loss of lives for many of our ancestors to ensure for these worker rights and protections. It has only taken a mere 25 years to erode many of these conditions. We can sit back and point the finger at any target we choose whether it be politicians, union leaders, non-union contractors, employers, even other unions. However, we are responsible for our decline and our future.

Remember these thoughts when you:

- “Cut your own deal”
- Work through lunch daily without penalty pay so you can leave a half hour early (“eight and skate”)
- Allow other trades to run our gear (silence is consent)
- Continue to put down other members or bad mouth their union
- Choose to NEVER attend a union meeting, or vote on your contract

We have one of the best healthcare and pension plans. If we continue to allow our rights and working conditions to be broken down then expect our membership and conditions to decline. One day we will wake up from our stupor and look around and there may not be many union members left to pay into our pension, or stand up for our conditions. More and more non-union contractors are coming to our area. We need to maintain our high level of skills and efficiency. We need to be the best in the industry. We need ALL contractors to say “we want union operators because they make us the most money and are the safest in the business.” We need to stand together.

We don't have to break bread with each other, or share each others views, but on the jobsite we need to be a family. Stick together; stand up for one another and our work. The laborer you carpool with is your carpool buddy not your brother operator. At the very least treat your brother and sister operators as well as your carpool buddy. Teach the new apprentices how to be a good operator and a good union member. After all they are our future. Without them we won't be around in 25 years!!

Now for the good news. There is a lot of work around the Puget Sound area. We have several PLA's in existence and more to come.

- Sound Transit - JCM has begun tunneling from Maple Leaf to UW. This is a twin bore 3.5 mile transit tunnel. The tunnel push should take approximately 19 months. The last half mile from Maple Leaf to Northgate will be an elevated structure. It will bid later this year. There are two other stops along the way to UW. One at 65th and Roosevelt and the other at Brooklyn St.
- PCL - has the SouthLink Project. This is an elevated structure leaving the airport and dropping down to grade at S. 200th Street.
- Harbor Pacific/Graham - Awarded the contract for the station just south of 200th Street. Work is set to begin in August.
- Turner - Still working on the Capital Hill Station.
- Hoffman - Is about 95 percent complete on the UW Station.
- Absher - Will turn over the Tukwila Commuter Station in early July.

- Stacey & Witbeck - Continues work inside the U Link tunnel. They are installing the permanent rail from Pine Street to UW.
- Deep Bore Tunnel - Bertha will be down until March of 2015. Malcolm Drilling is onsite drilling the shaft so Seattle Tunnel Partners can pull the cutter-head and replace the bearing and seals. Work continues on the north and south portal and topside.
- Seawall - Mortenson/Manson Joint Venture our continuing on the Seawall for the city of Seattle. A portion of this project has to stop work for the summer tourist season. However, Mortenson will be able to work in another area along with Hayward Baker. Manson plans on gearing up again in the fall.

I have been involved with the city on their Construction Career Advisory Committee (CCAC) for the past six months. There is a big push from the women and minority business enterprises and contractors for the city to draft an ordinance to hire more minority contractors. The National Construction Alliance along with the Seattle Building & Construction Trades Council worked hard to have the ordinance include a PLA. The community is pushing for a “local target hire” and are in support of a PLA. There is a movement around the country where cities have passed an ordinance similar to what was being pushed by local contractors. At the end of the day, we were able to recommend projects funded by the city in excess of \$5 million will be covered under a PLA. This has to go before the City Council and be approved by the Mayor. At the end of the day, a PLA with target hire language beats an ordinance without a PLA. At least all contractors will have to utilize the unions and their hiring halls.

We have several other PLAs in the area with smaller projects. King County has the Murray Pump Station in West Seattle. Shimmick is the general and Malcolm Drilling are onsite drilling and installing the secant piles. This project is a million galloon sewage overflow storage tank. PCL was awarded and is set to begin the Factoria Transfer and Recycle Station in September. SHA- Walsh is set to begin work on the Yestler Terrace project. Rhine is already onsite doing demolition work. The Tahoma School District came up with a hybrid PLA that the unions aren't interested in. Skanska is the general so the operators are good either way. PLAs can be a good thing for unions if they are done right and, more importantly, they are administered right.

In closing, I want to remind our newer members, apprentices as well as journeyman - A DAY OFF IS A LAYOFF and LAYOFF IS PAYOFF. Make sure you check in with the hall, and call in your unemployment if you're off work. I have seen several people, especially apprentices, who are “standing by” waiting for the company to call them back to work. This is not a problem if you choose to stay with a contractor but at least get on the list just in case. You can always call the hall and tell them you're returning to work.

Have a safe and productive summer. Protect our work and above all have pride in your union!!!

In Solidarity,  
Marge Newgent  
PLA and Field Representative

## DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Gabriel Chavez**  
Field Representative

Brothers & Sisters:

I hope all of you are getting busier as it is starting to get busy in east King County. There is a great deal of construction around the region with several projects getting underway.

In Bellevue, Leese Crutcher Lewis recently picked up a large job. GLY Construction picked up a large building in Belle Square with Northwest Construction as a subcontractor doing the dirt work. Skanska also picked up a large building with CTI as a subcontractor. Walsh Pacific is also picking up work and there are several other buildings that are currently going out for bid all around Bellevue.

In Kirkland, Johansen Excavation picked up a \$7.5 million road (public works) job. And in Redmond, Skanska was awarded a Microsoft contract and will begin work very soon. I am hopeful that we will begin to see a lot more work in Kirkland and Redmond as the weather continues to improve.

The State Route 520 job is almost complete on the eastside of the lake. Eastside Corridor Constructors is the prime contractor on this job and has been great to deal with on this project. Kiewit General Manson recently began installing the pontoons on this bridge. Unfortunately, progress was slowed because of issues with the pontoons. These pontoons were shipped to a few different facilities to make the necessary corrections for installation.

We are seeing jobs popping up all over the eastside and I'm hopeful that it will be a very busy construction season. On another note, I want to say a special thanks to all of our stewards. As you know, stewards are critical on projects to ensure that the agents have additional eyes and ears on the ground in case issues arise.

I want to thank Dan Gobble who recently retired from Lakeside. I wish him well in his future endeavors.

All and all things are looking good for this summer and I look forward to seeing you in the field.

In Solidarity,

Gabriel Chavez  
Field Representative



Brothers & Sisters:

I'm doing something a bit different for this edition of the Loadline. I wanted to share a little story with you that resonated with me some years ago as to why we should always have a better understanding as to how certain behavior and actions come to be. Be clear, this story is by no means intended to compare anyone with an animal, but it instead is intended to give you an interesting example of how the animal kingdom, in some instances, represents human behavior – specifically including governmental and political operations.

The Story:

If you start with a cage containing five monkeys and inside the cage, hang a banana on a string from the top and then you place a set of stairs under the banana, before long a monkey will go to the stairs and climb toward the banana.

As soon as he touches the stairs, you spray all the other monkeys with cold water.

After a while another monkey makes an attempt with same result... all the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. Pretty soon when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys will try to prevent it.

Now, put the cold water away. Remove one monkey from the cage and replace it with a new one.

The new monkey sees the banana and attempts to climb the stairs. To his shock, all of the other monkeys beat the crud out of him. After another attempt and attack, he knows that if he tries to climb the stairs he will be assaulted.

Next, remove another of the original five monkeys, replacing it with a new one.

The newcomer goes to the stairs and is attacked. The previous newcomer takes part in the punishment..... with enthusiasm, because he is now part of the “team”.

Then, replace a third original monkey with a new one, followed by the fourth, then the fifth. Every time the newest monkey takes to the stairs, he is attacked.

Now, the monkeys that are beating him up have no idea why they were not permitted to climb the stairs. Neither do they know why they are participating in the beating of the newest monkey.

Finally, having replaced all of the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys will have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, not one of the monkeys will try to climb the stairway for the banana.

Why, you ask? Because in their minds...that is the way it has always been!

This, my friends, is how politics operates... and this is why, from time to time:

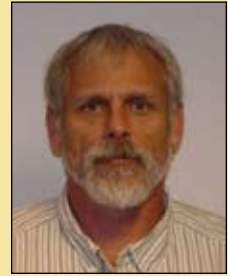
You need to replace all of those elected and replace with a new batch...

I hope you enjoyed the story and my glib on the current political environment. Certainly food for thought as to why we need elect political champions that will dare to change the status quo to benefit the working class in this country. And remember, you can't be part of any political changes unless you are registered to vote and get to the ballot box.

In Solidarity,  
Ron Dahl  
Business Relations Representative

### DISTRICT I

Bothell office  
425-806-0302



**Ron Dahl**  
Business Relations

### DISTRICT 4 & 5

Ellensburg office  
509-933-3020



**Sean Jeffries**  
President &  
District Representative  
Executive Board

#### Brothers & Sisters:

In an effort to come up with a topic for my article again, I was reviewing some of my past articles. One previous article I wrote was from the spring of 2006 about how much work we had and the belief the work was going to continue, but not forever. Here is a piece of that article:

This last winter we had less people on the out of work list than I have ever seen for that time of year. People that have been around the hall a lot longer than I, also expressed they had never seen so few people on the list. That is great because it means people are staying busy or know they are going back to work soon. The work forecast for the next few years suggest there will be lots of work opportunities. Something everyone should keep in mind is construction work has always run in cycles meaning an abundance of work for a few years is usually followed by a couple years of very little work. So try to live within your means and just because you're making good money and getting lots of hours don't go further into debt based on your current income save some money for the lean years to come.

Not all of the predictions in my article held true since we all know the abundance of work came crashing down in 2008 when we thought there was a few more years of good work. Surprising to me, when I went back and read this was the timing and advice of construction running in cycles. I thought it was a good reminder to all of us since it is looking like hours are coming back and good work opportunities are upon us again. Especially since we are bringing in another large class of new apprentices again this year which may not have experienced the cycles of construction along with the urge to go buy things based on their new income. Not realizing that construction is seasonal and fluctuates from season to season.

So now for the current times we are lower on the out of work list then we normally are this time of year and see a labor shortage for certain positions in the very near future.

Some of the projects in the area currently are both private development and public projects which when you have both going at the same time usually means a fair amount of work out there. Although it is not as busy as it was in the 2006 construction boom (which we may never see again) it continues to get better. I hope everyone has a good prosperous and safe work season.

In Solidarity,

Sean Jeffries  
President and District 4 & 5 Representative



Brothers & Sisters:

Its looking like 2014 is going to be a decent construction season for District 2. The season has started off a little slow, but it is projected to pick up and keep everyone working through the end of the year. We have quite a bit of road work starting up this year and hopefully another crude unloading facility down at the Shell refinery.

Scarsella Brothers Construction has began work on the Potter Road Bridge project which should keep a few members working close to home this summer. This project is expected to take about a year to complete. Granite Construction has picked up a substantial amount of work inside and outside of the refineries. Granite has been awarded the border widening in Lynden as well as the chip-sealing and paving of Highway 9 from the Mt. Baker highway down into Snohomish County. Interwest Construction, Inc. has picked up work across the area as well. We also have had some recent pipeline work out at Phillips 76 that's been keeping a few operators busy.

There isn't a lot of large turnaround work scheduled this year, but a few smaller projects. The large project we are hoping to see is the crude oil project down at Shell refinery, which hopefully will start towards the end of the year. It is a substantial dirt job along with many other facets that will keep our operators working in the north end.

On the organizing front, I have been continually having discussions with local contractors and the future looks bright for operating engineers in District 2. With the continued support from our members and contractors we are starting to increase our numbers. It's always a good sign when the people that live here in the area can work here in the area for a decent wage and provide good benefits for their families.

With the season starting I would like to remind our Brothers and Sisters of the importance of working and supporting your union. This is YOUR union and it is only as strong as the members that support it.

In Solidarity,

Brett Holley  
District 2 Representative

### DISTRICT 2

Bellingham office  
360-336-2615



**Brett Holley**  
District Representative

# OSO MUDSLIDE DISASTER HITS SNOHOMISH COUNTY WASHINGTON

Snohomish County was recently hit with the Oso Mudslide Disaster. On Saturday, March 22, 2014, at 10:37 a.m. local time, a major mudslide occurred 4 miles east of the small town of Oso, Washington. This natural disaster occurred when the side of an unstable rain soaked mountain collapsed, sending mud, trees and debris roaring down and into the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River that flows along the valley at the base of the mountains. It literally wiped out a rural neighborhood covering an area across the valley floor of approximately one square mile up to 30 to 70 feet deep. The flow of the landslide was extreme because of the mixing of mud and debris with the river. A firefighter at the scene stated, "When the slide hit the river, it was like a 100 mile per hour tsunami." The soupy fast flowing mud engulfed 49 homes and other structures in a neighborhood known as "Steelhead Haven Drive." It also dammed the river, causing extensive flooding upstream as well as blocking State Route 530, the main route to the town of Darrington (population 1,347), approximately 15 miles east of Oso. The swift moving slide killed 42 people; 1 more still remains missing and left few survivors. Excluding landslides caused by volcanic eruptions, earthquakes or dam collapses, the Oso slide is said to be the deadliest single landslide event in United States history.

More than 100 first responders from Snohomish County and other surrounding counties were dispatched to assist with emergency medical and search-and-rescue efforts, including the Navy's search and rescue unit stationed at nearby Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. The day of the slide, eight people were rescued and taken to regional hospitals. Over 600 personnel, including more than 160 local volunteers, worked on landslide recovery operations. Snohomish County Emergency Operations Center called on Local 302's dispatch to help run some of the equipment. There were several Local 302 members that were able to help and be a part of the search-and-rescue and recovery operations.

Late in the evening of March 22, 2014, Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen declared a state of emergency in Snohomish County. Governor Jay Inslee toured the area by air the following day before joining county officials at a news conference keeping everyone informed of the desperate search-and-recovery efforts.

On April 3, the mudslide was declared a major disaster by President Barack Obama. The declaration was requested on April 1 by Governor Inslee, who stated approximately 30 families needed help with housing and other needs. Inslee further stated that financial loss estimates had reached \$10 million. Snohomish County Emergency Management Director, John Pennington advised residents to register with FEMA. Four days later, during the passing of the Green Mountain Lookout Heritage Protection Act, the landslide was publicly mentioned by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), saying the bill would "provide a glimmer of hope for the long-term recovery of this area."

On April 22, President Obama visited the west side of slide area. After arriving in Air Force One at Paine Field in Everett, he met with officials and boarded Marine One helicopter. There, he was joined by Governor Inslee and Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell as well as Congresswoman Suzan DelBene for a flyover of the slide and debris field. After viewing the site, the President met privately with survivors, families of the victims, and some of the scenes first responders and rescuers at a chapel and fire hall in Oso.

State Route 530 was closed indefinitely after the slide by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) with an alternative local route opened the following week on a power line access road that skirted the slide area up on the foothills on the opposite side of the valley.

After the Recovery operations were declared over, the WSDOT response was very quick. They put out three fast track bids. Granite Construction was awarded the Oso Slide Site management and access road and security. The second one for cleanup and debris removal from the State Route 530 is complete and the road was reopened for one way traffic. The \$25 million design/build bid for the State Route 530 roadway rebuild was awarded to Guy F. Atkinson and KLB.

The local community, state and federal response has been outstanding, swift and generous. Our hearts go out to those folks who have lost so much. We are OSO Strong! We are Union Proud to play a part in the rebuilding process.



## RETIREES

*Daren Konopaski, Business Manager, and the staff of Local 302 congratulate the following members on the next phase of their careers; a well-earned retirement.*

VANCE ALLRED  
GREG ANDAL  
ALLEN ANDERSON  
DANIEL ANDREAS  
RICHARD BACON  
EDWARD BAILEY  
BOB BASHAM  
DUANE BAUER  
GARY BAXLEY  
JOHN BEAL  
JOHN BEBA  
ROBERT BELL  
THOMAS BOUTA  
RUSSELL BRAZEAU  
JERRY BREESE  
TERRY BRESSLER  
STEVE BRICE  
JERRY BRUCE  
RONNIE BURLESON  
MICHAEL CARPENTER  
WILLIAM CHAPPELL  
MARK CHARLTON  
LARRY CLARK  
PAUL COATES  
PENNY COCHRAN  
JAMES CRAWFORD  
ARNOLD DADE  
KAREN DAVIS  
FRANK DIETZ  
KARL DORMAN  
DALE EDIE  
TERRY EKSTRAND  
DONALD ESTILL  
WILLIAM EVANS  
MICHAEL FRANK  
ROBERT GAMMELL  
DON GOBLE  
ROBERT HALES  
KENNETH HALL  
WILLIAM HAMM  
CHRIS HAWKINS  
CARY HAYDEN  
GARY HAYDEN  
WAYNE HETLAND  
DANNY HICKS  
CARL HIGH

MARK HITE  
JANE HOLEMAN  
GORDON HOLMES  
CLEMENT HOWELL  
RICK JANSEN  
JAMES JEWETT  
DANNY JOHNSON  
KEITH JOHNSON  
LARRY JOHNSON  
MICHAEL JOHNSON  
RANDAL JOHNSON  
TONY JONES  
MERLE KEIM  
GUY KEITH  
JIM KEYS  
WILLIAM KING  
CW KINION  
WILLIAM KNORR  
DAN KOWAL  
RANDY KRIEG  
LAWRENCE LASHER  
GREGORY LAYMANCE  
STEVEN LEE  
WILLIAM LEVANDUSKY  
MARK LONG  
RAFAEL LOPEZ  
ROCKY LOUDERBACK  
ALLEN LUND  
RICHARD LUND  
MICHAEL MADLIN  
LISA MALLANT  
EDWARD MASI  
WILLIS MAXWELL  
RONALD MCGILLIVRAY  
HAROLD MCGRADY  
TIM MCKAY  
LAWRENCE MCMULLEN  
JEFFERY MILLER  
PERRY MITCHELL  
WILLIAM MITCHELL  
MICHAEL MOLLIER  
JOSEPH MONGEAU  
ROBERT MOORE  
HOWARD MORKERT  
JEROME MORRIS  
JON NIDERMAYER

RAYMOND OCHOA  
DENNIS OCONNOR  
JAMES PALATINUS  
RAY PARSONS  
GARY PERCHYNSKI  
DANIEL PHILLIPS  
GERALD POWELL  
CLINT PRICE  
JEFF PRUITT  
ROBERT RANDALL  
GEORGE REED  
JANELLE RIVERA  
LAWRENCE ROBERTS  
LEE RUBLE  
ROBERT SANDERSON  
ELDEN SAVILLE  
TRACY SCHATZ  
WESLEY SCHUETTKE  
MAX SCOTT  
DOUG SELLERS  
ELEAZAR SEVILLA  
WILLARD SHROFE  
RAYMOND SHULL  
FLOYD SIBLEY  
DOUGLAS SMAKER  
BILL SOUTH  
JACQUE STAMAND  
TERRY STUBBS  
THEODORE SUCKLING  
DOUGLAS TERRY  
JOHN THOMPSON  
WILLIAM TONSGARD  
FAAMANATUGA VALAVALA  
LOREN WADE  
DEAN WALDO  
RICKY WALKER  
BARBARA WALTERICK  
BOBBY WARD  
ARTHUR WATKINS  
DANNY WEBB  
STEPHEN WEINING  
WAYNE WEIS  
ROD WHEELS  
SUSAN WILLIAMS  
TONY WYATT  
GORDON ZIEGLER  
DOUGLAS ZWEIFEL

# Retiree Luncheon Schedule

## ALASKA

### DISTRICT 6

Thursday, August 28, 2014 – Union Hall, 4001 Denali Street, Anchorage – 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Please RSVP to the Anchorage office at (907) 561-5288 by Monday, August 11th.

### DISTRICT 7

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 – Westmark Hotel Gold Room, 813 Noble Street, Fairbanks - 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Please RSVP to the Fairbanks office at (907) 452-8131 by Wednesday, August 13th.

### DISTRICT 8

Friday, August 29, 2014 – Juneau Travelodge Hotel, 9200 Glacier Highway, Juneau – 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Please RSVP to the Juneau office at (907) 586-3850 by Monday, August 11th.



Pictures from this years District 1 Retiree Luncheon in Bothell WA



**Operating Engineers Local 302 mourns the passage  
of the following Brothers and Sisters:**

GERALD ALBIN	CHARLES LINJA
GLENDON ARMSTRONG	BOYD LOCKWOOD
JAY AUNE	DALE LONBORG
RICHARD BARR	NORMAN LORENTZEN
JOHN BARYS	JAN LUCAS
BRENT BECKGREN	ROBERT MARKEE
GORDON BENEDICT	KEITH MARTIN
JOE BILLINGSLEA	EDDIE MC MILLIN
ELMER BLACKWELL	BILLY MEREDITH
MELVIN BROMELS	JOHN MULLINS
CHARLES CHEETHAM	WARREN NYBORG
KRISTOPHER CHRISTOFFERSEN	CHARLES OLANDER
DOUGLAS CLARK	RAYMOND PAIGE
GARRY COLLINS	STANLEY PERRY
JOSEPH COOLEY	CAROL PETERSEN
JACK CRABTREE	DENNIS PETERSON
GAIL CULVER	JOSEPH PHILLIPS
CHARLES DAVID III	ROBERT PLUMB
ROBERT DAWSON	ARTHUR POWELL
HAROLD ESTABROOKS	JAMES QUINLAN
GEORGE GIFFORD	ALAN RASMUSSEN
DANIEL GRIFFIN	FREDREDFORD
LAWRENCE GRIFFIN	D RIDDLE
KEVIN HAINES	ROBERT RILEY
ROBERT HEMPHILL	RODNEY RITTHALER
DALE HILLMER	BOBBY ROBERTS
LOUIS HURST	RICHARD ROBINSON
JACOB JACOBSEN	CHARLES ROGERS
ALLAN JACOBSON	NEAL SCHOENING
PAUL JARRETT	MELVIN SHAFFER
DONALD JENNINGS	CLARK SIMPSON
DONALD JEPSON	JERRY SPADE
ARTHUR JESS JR	PHILIP STEEG
MAYNARD JOHNSON	RICHARD STEVENS
ROBERT JOHNSON	HARRY STJERN
ROGER JOHNSON	EUGENE SVETC
WILLIAM JOHNSON	ROGER TERRY
BOBBY JONES	CLIFF TESSEM
STEPHAN JONES	DONALD TRIVETT
KYLE KLEPINGER	RICHARD VORAN
JON KOLBECK	LOWELL WALL
FRED LA COUNT	S. M. WILEY JR
ALBERT LAYMAN	MARVIN WRIGHT
THOMAS LE CLAIR	PHILLIP ZACHARIAS
JOSEPH LEWANDOWSKI	

Mount Baker Tunnel Construction 1939/1940



Courtesy of Seattle Municipal Archives

The Mount Baker Tunnel carries Interstate 90 (US Highway 10 at the time) under the Mount Baker neighborhood of Seattle, Washington just west of the floating bridge.



**Operating  
Engineers  
Regional  
Training Center**  
Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752



**Tami St. Paul**  
Training Coordinator

Brothers and Sisters,

We hope the work season is going well for you. We had a busy and productive training season and are ready to finish it up with the last of the entry level training for new apprentices headed out to the job sites this summer in June and July. Our Top Hand competition is right around the corner as of the writing of this article and we hope to have seen you there. We should be getting ready to do the scheduling meeting for the remainder of 2014 and the 2015 training seasons right directly. So, please let us know if there are courses you would like us to add to the curriculum that have not previously been offered.

We are in the process of getting approval to train for CESCL (Certified Erosion Sediment Control Lead) courses. We have our proposed curriculum submitted to the department of ecology so cross your fingers that they are happy with what we plan to offer and we can get that going this coming year. Throughout the training season, we have been offering weekend and evening class opportunities for many of the safety courses and crane and forklift courses and fitting in class B CDL training as needed wherever we can. We are doing everything we can think of to make training available and meaningful for our members. You can help out by making sure that if you need to cancel a class, you let us know with as much advance notice as you can manage. We will fill seats whenever possible, its such a waste to have them go empty because we didn't have enough notice to re-fill them with someone from the waiting lists.

We had a busy spring, we graduated 37 apprentices and met with them at various meetings throughout the districts to get them their certificates of completion and jackets in May and June. Please help us congratulate them and wish them well on the next phase of their careers as Journey Level Operating Engineers.

- |                  |                 |                        |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Anthony Ayala    | Tyler Brusklund | Brent Clarke           |
| Brent Cochran    | BJ Engelbrecht  | Tiffany English        |
| Andrew Fairbanks | Josh Garber     | Benjamin Granger       |
| Daniel Haesig    | Brandon Harkins | Michael Huffman        |
| Shayne Kirby     | Dillon Lewis    | CJ Litras              |
| Mitchell Moore   | Casey O'Day     | Sherri Pierog          |
| Travis Pooley    | Theresa Price   | Joseph Quinn           |
| Adam Ramer       | Angela Rennaker | Christopher Reynoldson |
| Ryan Ringhouse   | William Scarfe  | Suzanne Schuyleman     |
| Eric Seldal      | Nick Shearer    | Karla Simms            |
| Damon Sleister   | Ryan Stabnow    | James Tindall          |
| Shawn Ward       | Frank Warren    | Jace Winn              |
|                  | Matthew Young   |                        |



## APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINING

**Operating  
Engineers  
Regional  
Training Center**  
Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752

**Pictured below Left:** Ellensburg District 4&5 meeting Graduating apprentices Anthony Ayala and Dillon Lewis with Apprenticeship Coordinator Tami St. Paul  
**Below Right:** Graduated Apprentice Michael Huffman at the District 3 meeting at the new office and meeting building in Silverdale.



**Pictured above left to right are:** Training Program Manager - Ole Fjellstad, Safety instructor - Jerry Bennett, Graduated Apprentice- Daniel Haessig, Grade instructor and Apprenticeship Coordinator - Corrie Eikanger, Graduated apprentices - Tiffany English and Shayne Kirby and IUOE Local 302 Business Manager and International Vice President Daren Konopaski.

**Operating  
Engineers  
Regional  
Training Center**  
Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752



We completed the selection process for this year with interviews in February and Safety and Orientation in March and selected a good sized group of entry level apprentices to train in May and June.

**Pictured left:** District 3 meeting in Aberdeen - Graduated apprentices Frank Warren and Sherri Pierog with Apprenticeship Coordinator – Tami St. Paul



**Pictured Right Tacoma Graduation right to left are:** Mechanic Instructor – Ken Pagel, Graduated apprentices – James Tindall, William Scarfe, Karla Simms, Travis Pooley, Theresa Price, Eric Seldal, Brent Clarke, Apprentice coordinator – Tami St. Paul and IUOE Local 612 Business Manager and Chariman of the Training Trust Ernie Evans

We are trying something different this year. We are doing some entry level training for an additional group of successful candidates from the pool of eligible applicants in the last week of June and first part of July. In the past, we have only done one set of entry level training. It has been limited in size due to the equipment and staff we have on hand to train them. For the past couple of seasons, the number of folks we trained in the spring, fell considerably short of the need for apprentices in the field. We did as we have always done and brought folks in from the pool of eligible applicants and sent them out to work with no entry level training. When we have done that, it is possible they could have nothing more than the great attitude and work ethics we observed at Safety and Orientation week. In doing things this way, it has been difficult for both the contractor and the new apprentices to meet the needs of the industry. It is hard to have everyone being safe and productive having received no training prior to hitting the job site. It seemed to be such a disservice to our contractors and the entry level apprentices to send them to the job sites “green as the grass”, that we are doing an abbreviated training with additional

candidates who did well in our selection process so we can better meet the needs of the industry. We hope this will make a better introduction to the work place for the new apprentices and have better results for the contractors as well so that everyone can be more successful as they work together with our seasoned journey level workers on the job sites. We hope you will welcome them and help them become active members of our unions and professional Operating Engineers in every sense.

We have continued to do outreach to keep a steady stream of qualified applicants coming into the apprenticeship programs. We have been everywhere from the Peninsula and Tumwater to Burlington and Ferndale. With a stop or two in between as well. The events we participate in are well planned and give us quite a bit of return on our investment. They are hands on, interactive and engaging with the participants and we are grateful to all the volunteers who assist us in these outreach events.



**Pictured above are** Apprenticeship Coordinators Tami St. Paul and Corrie Eikanger with some apprentice volunteers at the 35th annual Washington Women in the Trades career fair. Thanks to: Nique Wicks, Jetta Porter, Jake Smith, Nikki Ford, Frank Stickles, Mercedes Toro, Kim Portra and Patrice Johnson. They were a great crew of helpers and we talked to hundreds of people about the opportunities available through our Operating Engineer Apprenticeships

We did some paving training with the entry level apprentices. There appears to be a need for skilled pavers so we are working to get some folks trained in the basics so we can begin to fill the demand. We were very lucky that we had the opportunity to do some actual paving with hot mix (instead of just running sand through the paver at the training center) in our local community of Kittitas. The town of Kittitas got a grant that paid for the mix and the trucking costs and we were able to provide the labor and paving machines. The apprentices did a fantastic job and the town is so appreciative of the work they did. It is a good feeling to be able to help out in our community near the training center and a bonus to get to work with hot mix instead of pretending to pave with sand. It gives a whole new dimension to the project and feels much more like a real job where they got something actually accomplished.

**Operating  
Engineers  
Regional  
Training Center**  
Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752

## APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINING

### Operating Engineers Regional Training Center

Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752

**Below:** Pictures of the paving project in Kittitas with Bryant Bullock's paving class and Corrie Eikanger's grade class and Entry level apprentices doing the paving.



We held our annual Top Hand Competition at the training center in Ellensburg June 21st, the Saturday after Father's day. If you weren't there, you missed out on all the fun. Make sure to check out the web site [www.oetraining.com](http://www.oetraining.com) or [iuoe302.org](http://iuoe302.org) and the next Loadline to see who won this year's top honors and bragging rights.

Please remember to help the entry level apprentices as they work hard to learn to be professional Operating Engineers of the future. It is a given fact that without the journey level craft workers, there is no apprenticeship, they depend on you for 90% of their training so please take a minute to help them out where you can.

We hope you have a safe and productive summer and remember if you have any time off in the fall or winter, a day off is best spent looking for work and/or improving your skills at the training center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tami St. Paul – for the Western Washington Training Program Staff

**Operating  
Engineers  
Regional  
Training Center**  
Ellensburg, WA  
1-800-333-9752



### The 2014 Top Hands

**Pictured here Left to Right are:** Lattice Crane winner - Glenn Allen - retired crane instructor for the Operating Engineers Regional Training Program, CDL winner - Chris Tarte, The Hydraulic Crane competition winner is graduated apprentice Zach Zinn and the history making winner of four different equipment categories foreman for Scarsella Brothers, Graduated Apprentice Greg Qualls winning the backhoe, dozer, excavator and blade competitions.

(Not pictured are the Forklift winner - Randy Marmes and Loader winner Matt Moser)

## IUOE Regional Training Center

Palmer, AK  
1-877-746-3117



**Mike Holcomb**  
Administrator



**Chad Hutchinson**  
Apprentice Coordinator



**Adam Ferguson**  
Apprentice Coordinator

### Brothers & Sisters:

Here we are, entering summer.....always an exciting time of year! The weight restrictions will soon be lifted, the ground will be ready for sculpting, and this year's group of apprentices will be put to the test. As the summer season unfolds before us, it offers an opportunity to reflect on some of the training changes that have recently taken place in Alaska.

Several noteworthy alterations in our curriculum have occurred in the past few months. One of those changes has been the introduction of a hybrid grade-checking/ equipment operator apprenticeship. The industry demand for grade-checkers is exceptional and meeting that demand has proven challenging. In an effort to ease the difficult task of staffing the available positions, The Operating Engineers Apprenticeship Standard was re-written with the help of the Alaska Department of Labor. The standard now allows for grade-checking to serve as a primary discipline during one's apprenticeship. Max Wilke (Grade Instructor), developed curriculum for an intensive, ten-week program that focuses on the basic skill-set required of entry level grade checkers. Five positions were offered to a group of this year's applicants for the new program. The students were selected based on interviews, math, and verbal comprehension scores. There is a lot of excitement about this new program and optimism for what it may lead to in the future.

There have been recent changes in our mechanic's program as well. Several of this year's apprentices were selected (in part), based on their previous vocational school backgrounds. Linkage agreements were utilized to recruit these students into our program. The extent of their initial training at the Palmer Training Facility was based on their previous education from the accredited institution they had attended. This accelerated process allowed the opportunity for several of the students to be placed to work in Prudhoe during the tail-end of the pipe-line season. This year's group of students proved to be up to their extremely challenging schedules. In 13 weeks (and in some cases quicker), they completed CDL and ASE training, in addition to power-train, drive-train, hydraulic, electrical, welding and crusher classes. All in all, the performance, attitude and commitment of this year's mechanics class proved to be exceptional.

In addition to the new grade-checking discipline and the changes to the mechanic's program, there have recently been a number of other training opportunities in both Palmer and Fairbanks. An overhead crane class recently concluded that had been offered to a group of new (and existing) members. The course was a result of a contract recently signed with MEA for its new Eklutna power-plant site.

### IUOE Regional Training Center

Palmer, AK  
1-877-746-3117

Outreach training is one way that the Training Trust recruits new members. Fairbanks has been the site for several outreach classes over the last few months. The structured training allows fellow Alaskans to learn more about our trade and opportunities within our organization. Additional outreach classes are scheduled to take place in Delta Junction within the next month. We have actively participated in the Partners for Progress training in Delta Junction for several years now.

We brought onboard a large group of apprentices this year and are hopeful to see them all placed to work soon. They are the future of our organization and mentoring them in the field is not only valuable but much appreciated. Please take an active role in helping them out when you are afforded the opportunity! Have a safe and productive summer work season!

In Solidarity,  
Adam Ferguson  
Apprenticeship and Training Representative



## 2014 JACK McDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

We are pleased to announce the winners of the 2014 Jack McDonald Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship awards will be sent directly to the schools of their choice.

### **\$1,500 Scholarship Awards**

Two scholarships of \$1,500 each were awarded to students planning to attend an accredited college or university. This year's winners are **Caitlyn Elgin** of North Pole, Alaska and **Brandon Henke** of Wilkeson, Washington. Caitlyn is the daughter of Local 302 member Donald Elgin. Caitlyn plans to pursue a degree in business and accounting at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Caitlyn attended North Pole High School, where she has played varsity volleyball for four years, participated in the Ignition Program (aiding incoming freshmen) and has been a member of the National Honor Society and held the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Brandon is the son of Local 302 member Craig Henke. Brandon plans to pursue a degree in a challenging and high demand field at Central Washington University. Brandon attended White River High School, where he was a three year letter athlete in baseball and a member of the FFA & TSA clubs.

### **\$1,000 Scholarship Awards**

Two scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to students planning to attend an accredited college or university. This year's winners are **Tucker Garcia** of Lynden, Washington and **Hannah Ivie** of Valdez, Alaska. Tucker is the son of Local 302 member John Garcia. Tucker plans to pursue a degree in Civil Engineering within the construction field at Washington Engineering Institute of Bellingham. Tucker attended Meridian High School where he was on the varsity football team for four years and captain during his senior year; he was also on the varsity track team for two years. For five semesters Tucker was on the honor roll. Hannah is the daughter of Local 302 member Kenneth Ivie. Hannah plans to pursue a mathematics degree at Western Washington University. Hannah attended Valdez High School, where she played volleyball and participated in student council her freshman and sophomore years and during her junior year she was in National Honor Society and Early Honors.



**JACK McDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



Caitlyn Elgin - Scholarship Winner



Brandon Henke - Scholarship Winner



Tucker Garcia - Scholarship Winner



Hannah Ivie - Scholarship Winner

**Please register / re-register me on the out-of-work list in your office.**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Four #'s  
Of your SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If your phone number(s) and or address(s) have changed please updated the information below.**

Phone Numbers: 1<sup>st</sup> ( ) 2<sup>nd</sup> ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**The hiring halls in Alaska do not call out of state phone numbers for referrals. You MUST have an Alaska (907 area code) phone number to be called for job referrals in Alaska.**

Anchorage IUOE Local 302 4001 Denali St. Suite A Anchorage, AK 99503 Ph (907) 561-5288 Fax (907) 563-4571	Fairbanks IUOE Local 302 3002 Lathrop Street Fairbanks, AK 99701 Ph (907) 452-8131 Fax (907) 452-1434	Juneau IUOE Local 302 9309 Glacier Hwy Suite A105 Juneau, AK 99801 Ph (907) 586-3850 Fax (907) 463-5464
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**The hiring halls in Washington call out of state for Group I registrants only; all other groups require a Washington State phone number.**

**To register on Washington Out of Work List you MUST pay the Strike Fund.**

Bothell IUOE Local 302 18701 120 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE Bothell, WA 98011 Ph (425) 806-0302 Fax (425) 806-0901	Ellensburg IUOE Local 302 403 S Water Street Ellensburg, WA 98926 Ph (509) 933-3020 Fax (509) 933-3028	Silverdale IUOE Local 302 3525 NW Anderson Hill Rd Silverdale, WA 98383 Ph (888) 882-0557 Fax (360) 613-0216
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**It is your responsibility to fax or mail this registration request to the appropriate dispatch office(s) and to call and confirm receipt.**



**50/60/65  
YEAR MEMBERS**

**June 5, 2014  
Bothell Hall**





Jerry Bennett at Haz-Mat Training Class in Bothell

Haz-Mat Training Class in Bothell



Glenn Selan Running Man Lift at 4th and Denny for Howard S. Wright



**GOOD OF THE ORDER**



Shem Sooter working for North Pacific Erectors

Paul Roemer working hard on Secon's crusher



Vickie Brown  
Finish roller for Secon Construction



Ralph's Concrete Pumping



James Parrish QAP, Ted Stevens International Airport



Brother Hood Bridge project in Juneau



Left to Right: Klonie Flemmig(Service Oiler), Ken Longley(HDM), Henry Madroe (Apprentice HDM), QAP-Top of the World HWY.

Will Wright with Pacific Rim Construction



Ryan Harrison working for KLB on Mercer West project

# Top Hand 2014







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\* The Express Scripts mobile app is available to members using the following mobile devices:

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BlackBerry® – Bold/Tour (OS 4.5 & later), Curve/Curve 2 (OS 4.5 & later) and Storm/Storm 2 (OS 4.7 & later)

† Available if these features are turned on for your group on Express-Scripts.com

## Local 302 - Member Spotlight

In this edition of the Loadline we wanted to bring your attention to Brother Dan Toepper. Brother Toepper is a retired 302 member and is currently running for County Commissioner in Jefferson County, Washington. Dan is a family man and as a proud husband, father, and grandfather he made his career as an Operating Engineer. He has been married to his wife, Robin for 30 years and they have four adult children and four grandchildren.

Dan started operating equipment on his grandfather's farm and timberland when he was just ten years old. The Boy Scouts and 4H were also a big influence on him while growing up in rural Jefferson County on the Peninsula. In his teens he worked weekends, holidays and summers for his father's logging company operating equipment. To further his work ethic and experience he also spent some time in the commercial fishing industry. Upon graduating from high school he went to work full-time in the logging industry. In 1990, he welcomed the opportunity to join Local 302 at a local rock quarry and later went on to marine construction work. Eventually, with Haz-Mat training he received through the local he went to work for an environmental contractor who performed a lot of work on Naval installations all over Puget Sound. Along the way, he utilized union and employer instruction and training to improve his skills and knowledge.



Dan has been an avid volunteer over the past 20 years, including spending several years coaching little league baseball. Two years ago Dan retired to spend more time with his family and to try new things. Having an interest in local issues and politics Dan decided to hang up retirement and make a run for Jefferson County Commissioner. Dan understands that in order to make a difference you need to get involved.

Local 302 is happy to support Brother Toepper in his political aspirations as he is a shining example of the fact that with valuable training, a good work ethic, dedication, and the will to want to improve the situation that anything is possible.

If you know of member that you think should be featured on the member spotlight please do not hesitate to email us at [loadline@iuoe302.org](mailto:loadline@iuoe302.org)



Hedley Parsons and his 65 Year Plaque

## PLEASE NOTE:

All correspondence to union offices must include:  
 The last four digits of your Social Security Number  
 – or – Your International Registration Number

## INSURANCE CLAIMS:

Claims information and forms are now available on the new benefits web site: [www.engineerstrust.com](http://www.engineerstrust.com)

Or access it via our web site: [www.iuoe302.org](http://www.iuoe302.org)

Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust  
 P.O. Box 34684, Seattle, WA 98124-1684  
 Phone: (206) 441-7574  
 206 441-7314 or 877 441-1212



## LOCAL 302 REPRESENTATIVES

### DISTRICT 1 - BOTHELL

Daren Konopaski, Business Manager  
 Kyle Brees, Recording/Corresponding and  
 Financial Secretary  
 Josh Swanson, Government Affairs  
 Eric Bellamy, Field Representative  
 Bob Franssen, Field Representative  
 Larry Gregory, Field Representative  
 Marge Newgent, Field Representative  
 Rick Cunningham, Field Representative  
 Gabriel Chavez, Field Representative  
 Ron Dahl, Business Representative  
 Tony Zempel, Dispatcher  
 Denny McKinney, Dispatcher

### DISTRICT 2 - BELLINGHAM

Brett Holley, District Representative

### DISTRICT 3 - PENINSULA

George Garten, District Representative

### DISTRICT 4 & 5 - WENATCHEE/ELLENSBURG

Sean Jeffries, President & District Representative

### DISTRICT 6 - ANCHORAGE

Jason Alward, Treasurer & District Representative  
 Carl Gamble, Field Representative  
 Shane Linse, Field Representative  
 Bill Sims, Business Representative  
 Jamie Mack, Dispatcher

### DISTRICT 7 - FAIRBANKS

Rob Peterson, Vice President & District Representative  
 Shawn Lowry, Field Representative  
 Lake Williams, Business Representative  
 Avery Thomas, Field Representative  
 Mark LaFon, Dispatcher

### DISTRICT 8 - JUNEAU

Corey Baxter, District Representative

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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 Kyle Brees, Recording/Corresponding and  
 Financial Secretary  
 Sean Jeffries, President  
 Rob Peterson, Vice President  
 Jason Alward, Treasurer  
 Eric Bellamy, Executive Board Member  
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 Corey Baxter, Executive Board Member

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Daren Konopaski, Business Manager

18701 120th Avenue NE  
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## DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

### **DISTRICT 1 - BOTHELL**

First Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 18701 – 120th Ave. NE.

### **DISTRICT 2 - BELLINGHAM**

Third Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
1700 North State St.

### **DISTRICT 3 - ABERDEEN**

Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Eagles Hall, 200 W. Market St.

### **DISTRICT 3 - SILVERDALE**

Third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 3525 NW Anderson Hill Road

### **DISTRICT 3 - PORT ANGELES**

Third Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Eagles Hall Aerie No. 483, 110 S. Penn St.

### **DISTRICT 4 - WENATCHEE**

Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel,  
201 N. Wenatchee Ave.

### **DISTRICT 5 - ELLENSBURG**

Second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 403 S. Water St.

### **DISTRICT 6 - ANCHORAGE**

Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 4001 Denali St.

### **DISTRICT 7 - FAIRBANKS**

Fourth Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 3002 Lathrop St.

### **DISTRICT 8 - JUNEAU**

Fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.  
Union Hall, 9309 Glacier Hwy., Bldg. A-105.

