

INTERNATIONAL
LONGSHORE &
WAREHOUSE UNION



MARINE CLERKS ASSOCIATION
LOCAL 63 LOS ANGELES and LONG BEACH HARBORS

350 WEST 5TH STREET, SUITE 200

SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA 90731



JAMES C. SPINOSA
PRESIDENT

BULLETIN – DECEMBER 2009

MEETINGS – December 3, 2009 – 6:00 p.m. – 2nd Shift Stop Work Meeting

December 9, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. – District Council Meeting

December 10, 2009 – 6:30 p.m. – Grievance Committee Meeting

December 16, 2009 – 12 Noon – Promotions Committee Meeting

December 17, 2009 – 5:30 p.m. – Executive Board Meeting



SPECIAL BALLOT MEASURE – Please note that on the reverse side of the enclosed ballot is an important measure calling for a special one-time assessment for the 2010 Longshore Caucus, which is a non-budgeted item. Authorization for the assessment of \$50 per member is derived from Local 63 Constitution, Article X, Section 3, Executive Board action of September 17th, and Membership Meeting action of October 1, 2009. The Officers strongly urge the members to vote “YES” on this important ballot measure.

SUPERCARGO JOBS ARBITRATION – The PMA took the Union to arbitration twice in November for alleged failure to fill Supercargo jobs in a timely manner. At an interim hearing held on November 4, 2009, Area Arbitrator Miller found Local 63 guilty of not filling Supercargo jobs in a timely fashion thereby leading to a Section 11 work stoppage. At the formal hearing on November 10, 2009, the Union provided strong evidence that other factors existed for late shift starts, including, but not limited to, safety talks at the beginning of the shift. The Union also proved that in most cases, the vessels started on time. At the November 10th formal hearing, Area Arbitrator Miller made a bench ruling that if the Union is unable to fill Supercargo jobs on time, the Union cannot hold those jobs while attempting to fill them because Section 9.3 of the PCCCD dictates that any unfilled Marine Clerk jobs must be made available to Local 13 longshoremen and casuals without delay. Based on this ruling, a Special Executive Board meeting was called on November 11, 2009. At that meeting, the Executive Board set in place temporary procedures for filling all 30% jobs, subject to review at the December Membership Meeting. The temporary procedures are being carried out by the Dispatchers and copies of the procedures are available at the Local 63 Business Office and posted in the Dispatch Hall window.

SUPERCARGO BOARD – At the November 19th Executive Board meeting, a motion was passed to open the Supercargo Board for new applicants. For now, the procedure for qualifying will be in the same manner as in the past, prior to the Supercargo school. That is, eligible members who are Key qualified can apply to get on the Board, pick up their packet from the Business Office and then check-in on the Supercargo Board and complete the required letters. Clerks must be working out of the Hall while qualifying. This issue will be discussed in more detail at the December 3rd Stop Work meeting.

BUSINESS OFFICE SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS – The Business Office will be closed on the following dates: Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday; Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th in observance of the Christmas holidays; and Thursday, December 31st and Friday, January 1st in observance of the New Year’s holidays.

***The Business office will also be closed for two (2) hours on Friday, December 4th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 pm. to allow for the office staff to attend the annual Pensioners’ appreciation luncheon.*

PAYROLL CHECKS – Please be aware that PMA has notified Local 63 that effective December 1st, payroll checks will no longer be available for pick up at the Local 63 Hall on Fridays. Members who still pick up their paychecks in person will have to pick their checks up at the PMA pay office located at 627 North Fries Avenue in Wilmington. Their telephone number is (310) 847-1618. **Checks may only be picked up during the following days and times:** Fridays from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Mondays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Union has not agreed on this change in procedure and will continue to investigate the legality of this change. Until a final resolve has been reached, the new location will remain in effect.

TALKING TO MANAGEMENT – Our members are increasingly finding themselves called into meetings with Management to discuss personnel issues. If you find yourself in this situation **do not meet with Management alone**. Let Management know that you must have the Business Agent present prior to any such meeting and then call the Business Agent.

ILLEGAL PARKING – Any member parking in the Dispatch or Business Agent spots may be found guilty of disruption of dispatch and fined under the Marine Clerks Association Constitution and Rules of Order as per Appendix, Section 3 - Specific Offenses: item 3 - 1st offense = \$25/2nd offense = \$50/3rd offense = \$100 or risk ultimately having the vehicle towed at a greater expense.

LAST PAYROLL/VACATION DATE – The last day for payroll and 2009 vacation is Friday, December 25th. All vacations must be completed by this date for credit to be applied to 2009. It is **extremely important** that members remember to post their vacation hours on **the front and the inside** of their work cards to be assured of receiving accurate vacation credit. Vacation may be taken as either 5 or 7 days and may only be applied for credit in increments of 40 hours (i.e. 40 hrs = 1 week, 80 hrs = 2 weeks, etc.).

PAID HOLIDAYS – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH – CHRISTMAS EVE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH – CHRISTMAS DAY

To be eligible for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holiday pay, you must be available for work at least two (2) of the three (3) days, December 21st, 22nd, or 23rd, exclusive of the holiday dates. If you are on vacation, you must notify the Records Clerk no later December 24th for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST – NEW YEAR'S EVE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST – NEW YEAR'S DAY

To be eligible for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day holiday pay, you must be available for two (2) of the three (3) days, December 28th, 29th, or 30th, exclusive of the holiday dates. If you are on disability for either or both of these sets of holidays, please submit written medical documentation to the Business Office covering you for the appropriate time. If you are on vacation you must notify the Records Clerk no later than December 31st for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. To be eligible for any of these holidays, you must have worked at least 800 hours (700 if age 60 or over) in 2008.

AFL-CIO COMMUNITY SERVICES/UNITED WAY "TURKEYS AND TOYS" PROGRAM – Please consider making a donation to this worthy cause this holiday season for the families who will not be able to purchase toys for their children or food for a holiday meal due to these difficult economic times. Checks in **any** amount may be made payable to "Labor Community Services" and mailed to Labor Community Services Food and Emergency Program, 2130 W. James M. Wood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90006. The telephone number is (213) 985-2000. All donations are tax deductible.

JIM SPINOSA RETIREMENT PARTY – Please join us on Friday, December 11th at the San Pedro Doubletree Hotel from 6:00 p.m. to Midnight to honor our retiring International President Emeritus and current Local 63 President, Jim Spinosa. The party will include a cocktail hour, dinner, dancing, and a video highlighting Jim's accomplishments throughout his career in the industry. Tickets are available in the Business Office for \$65.00 each and/or consider purchasing an ad in the program booklet to send him your best wishes. For more information, see the Local's website www.ilwu63.net. Do not miss the opportunity to share in a great send-off to our leader.