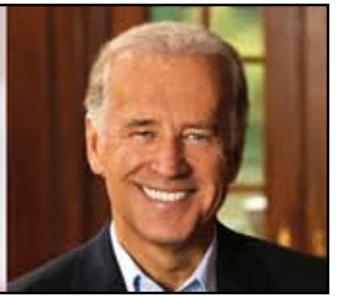




Labor's Choice in 2008

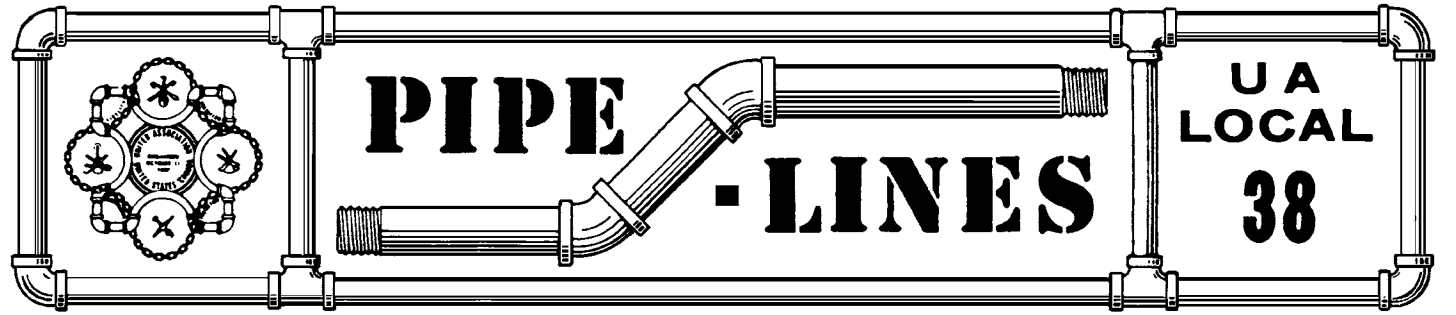
**BAMA-BIDEN**



## Memo to Members



by Larry Mazzola  
Business Manager



SAN FRANCISCO, CA

© 850

SEPTEMBER 2008

**A**s you can tell from the front page of this Pipe-lines, I just returned from the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado and I'm excited about the upcoming election.

### GREAT CANDIDATES

First, I believe Barack Obama and Joe Biden are great candidates.

### BARACK OBAMA

Senator Obama's experience as a community organizer working with displaced steelworkers in Chicago gives him a unique insight into the troubles facing working men and women throughout the country. This is not a wealthy oilman looking to line the pockets of his corporate cronies. This is a man who has worked with middle class families facing tough times and tough choices.

His plan to institute a windfall profit tax on excessive oil company profits will mean long term tax relief for middle income families, not for millionaires. He supports healthcare reform, the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA), a ban on permanent replacement workers, and overturning the anti-worker decisions made by the Bush Administration's National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). This is a man on the side of working people and their unions!

### JOE BIDEN

Senator Biden has an even longer history of working for American families. In 2007 he had a 100% correct labor voting record (according to the AFL-CIO), and his lifetime voting record is 87 percent correct, one of the highest lifetime records in the Senate. He is a co-sponsor of the EFCA, and has spent much of his career fighting for issues such as equal pay for women, medical and family leave, healthcare reform, and greater access to quality education. He has fought for collective bargaining rights for public employees, and has even gone to bat for individual employees who have been denied their right to organize.

Just as importantly, as the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, his experience, knowledge and dedication have won him the respect not only of other Senators, but of leaders from around the world. And he has been a vocal opponent of trade agreements that allow for the exploitation of foreign workers, circumvent our environmental laws, and don't provide adequate protection for American workers and jobs.

Continued on Page 6



Labor and political leaders were united and excited by the Democratic National Convention which nominated Barack Obama and Joe Biden for President and Vice-President last month. Pictured above speaking to the convention are AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, Senator Hillary Robham Clinton and the presidential nominee, Barack Obama.

## Labor United, Invigorated Following Democratic Convention

**W**orking men and women across America are prepared to mobilize to elect Barack Obama and Joe Biden President and Vice President of the United States in November.

That was the message from union leaders and members throughout the country last week, during a rousing Democratic Party convention in Denver, Colorado.

More than 25 percent of the 4,200 delegates to the Democratic National Convention are current or retired union members. And that didn't include numerous union leaders from throughout the country, including Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr., who attended the convention.

### THE CHANGE AMERICA NEEDS

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney addressed the Democratic Convention on Tuesday, telling an appreciative audience that 28 million active and retired union members will mobilize this fall to elect the Obama/Biden ticket, and "bring about the change America needs."

Sweeney was flanked by three workers, Annette Lewis, a single mother whose son, Marcus, is starting 6th grade this fall; Steve Skvara, a retired steelworker, who lost his health care and saw his pension cut when his former company went bankrupt; and Dan Luevano, an electrical worker, who was fired for trying to form a union and bargain. All three have suffered because of the policies of George W. Bush, and



Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr., who attended the Democratic National Convention last month in Denver, is pictured above with California Labor Federation President Connie Leyva and Executive Secretary-Treasurer Art Pulaski.

his supporter John McCain.

### A BETTER

*"Barack Obama believes in an America where workers have a voice on the job and their hard work is valued and rewarded."*

### AMERICA

"These are good people, strong people," Sweeney said. "They work hard and believe in their country, their faith and the future. They can't afford four more years like the last eight. They need change, and that's why they all support Barack Obama for president of the United States.

"They deserve a better America—an America where every work-

er can count on a good job, where every family has health care, where every senior enjoys a decent retirement, he continued. "They deserve an America that works for everyone, where all workers have a free choice to join unions, to collectively bargain, to lift up their communities and our economy and build a better life for their children."

### CHANGE TO WIN

The same theme was emphasized in a speech to the convention by Anna Burger, the Chair of Change to Win, the coalition of unions that separated from the AFL-CIO several years ago.

"Barack Obama believes in an America where workers have a voice on the job and their hard work is valued and

Continued on Page 4



The session ending water show is a highlight for parents and campers alike. Each session closes with a show as parents show up to pack up their gear and enjoy another successful year at Camp Konocti.



## Camp Konocti Provides Another Summer of Outdoor Fun and Education

**D**espite an interruption in second session, Local 38's Camp Konocti completed another successful season on the shores of Clear Lake.

More than 250 sons and daughters, as well as grandsons and granddaughters of Local 38 members enjoyed swimming, hiking, sailing and a host of other activities during the camp's latest season, which ended in August.

### FIRE DANGER

Like much of Northern California, Camp Konocti was effected by the devastating grass and forest fires that burned throughout the state during the month of July. Smoke from the more than 300 fires burning in Lake and Mendocino counties was so severe that camp was actually closed for part of second session.

### A BLIP ON THE RADAR

But the excitement was only a blip on the radar for campers and staffers, who once again rejoiced in what they described as a "great summer" and "spectacular camp."

"Camp Konocti is one of the proudest achievements of Local 38," said Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr. "When we travel around the country, or meet

with union leaders from other areas, we hear about the kid's summer camp. This is not only a proud tradition for our local, it shows that when union men and women work together they really can build a better life and a better future for their families.

"We have hundreds of Local 38 journeymen who fondly remember growing up at Camp Konocti," Mazzola continued. "Those summers at camp provided experiences, education and memories that people cherish for the rest of their lives, experiences that are simply out of reach for most working families."

### A GREAT STAFF

While the camp's swimming pools, kitchens, recreation room and tent cabins are first class facilities, it is the outstanding Camp Konocti staff which is the heart and soul of the program.

Led by Camp Director Bill Olinger, a life-long Konocti camper, counselor-in-training, counselor and now Director, the staff provides extensive one-on-one attention for campers, making sure they get the most fun and education out of their outdoor recreation experience. Since many of the campers come from families living in the urban Bay Area, Camp Konocti often provides their primary experience with outdoor activities such as

swimming, hiking and boating—not to mention a connection with lizards, snakes and deer.

Programs include swimming, boating and arts and crafts during the day, and special events such as campfires, dances, contests, and Konocti's famous Kangaroo Court in the evenings.

### SPECIAL THANKS

"I want to say a special thank you to Bill Olinger and the staff of Camp Konocti," said Mazzola, as the camp prepared to draw the curtain on another successful season. "Much of the reason Camp

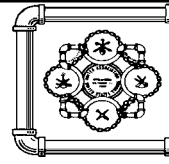
Konocti is so successful is the hard work and dedication of Bill Olinger and the entire staff. They have a great relationship with both campers and parents, which continues to make Camp Konocti a special experience.

I also want to thank Konocti Harbor Resort and Spa General Manager Greg Bennett and the staff at Konocti for the hard work they put in to support the camp program. While the camp is separate, it is located on the resort grounds, and their support is key to our successful program.



Local 38 officers join Camp staffers at the front gate of Camp Konocti. Pictured are (from left to right) Executive Board member Jim Giambruno, Business Agent Frank Reardon, Camp Director Bill Olinger, Union President Bill Olinger, Assistant Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Jr., Business Agent Bill Blackwell, Recording Secretary R.J. Ferrari, and Business Agent John Chiarenza.







# PIPE - LINES

U.A.  
LOCAL  
38

Pipelines is the official publication of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, Local Union 38. U.A. Local 38 holds general membership meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 1621 Market St., San Francisco CA 94103, (415) 626-2000. Lawrence J. Mazzola, Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer. Assistant Business Manager, Larry Mazzola, Jr.; Business Agents: Bill Blackwell, John Chiarenza, Steve Jennings, Frank Reardon. Field Organizer: Tony Guzzetta. President: Bill Olinger; Recording Secretary: R.J. Ferrari. Pipelines Editor: Rob Weinstein.



website: [www.ualocal38.org](http://www.ualocal38.org)





More than 150 Local 38 members and supporters gathered at the Adobe Creek Golf Course in Petaluma for the 19th Annual Local 38 Charity Golf Tournament. Thanks to the generosity of players, hole sponsors and donors the tournament raised \$20,000 for the National Brain Tumor Foundation.

## Local 38 Golf Tournament

# \$20,000 Raised for Brain Tumor Fight

**I**t was another spectacular day in Petaluma, when more than 150 Local 38 members and friends turned out at the Adobe Creek Golf Course to enjoy a day on the links, and to contribute to the fight against brain tumors.

The 19th Annual UA Local 38 Charity Golf Tournament, held on June 28, meant not only fun on the golf course, but a \$20,000 donation to the National Brain Tumor Foundation, this year's designated charity.

### A GREAT EVENT

"Once again I am every excited about the success of our golf tournament," said Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola. "This has become one of the most important annual events for Local 38. It gives us a chance to have some fun while at the same time make a valuable contribution to our community. It signifies everything that is best about Local 38 and the labor movement in general."

The National Brain Tumor Foundation (NBTF) guides and supports patients and families when their lives are touched by a brain tumor. The NBTF has awarded over \$5 million to brain tumor research since its founding in 1981.

### CHECK PRESENTATION

Representatives of the Foundation, which has since changed its name to the National Brain Tumor Society (NBTS) were on hand at the Local 38 union hall last month to accept a check for \$20,000, the proceeds of the tournament. Accepting the check were Chairman Emeritus Walter Newman and Director of Special Events Nealika Caden. Representing Local 38 were Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr., Assistant Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Jr., Business Agents Steve Jennings, Bill Blackwell and John Chiarenza, Field Organizer Tony Guzzetta, Training Director Steve Mazzola and Local 38 Trust Fund Administrator Peter Machi.

"We are very proud to be able to make this kind of donation to the Brain Tumor Society," said Mazzola, in presenting the check.

### A FULL DAY

As always the tournament included a host of activities, providing a full day of fun and entertainment for members and supporters who attended the event.

The day kicked off at the registration table, where players received their foursome assignments, lunch and drink tickets, and their tee prizes.

Following the barbecue lunch



One of the most popular events of the day is the putting contest, in which contestants put up \$5 for a chance to win \$5,000. Players must first make a short putt (about 10-12 feet). Those who make that putt must then make a medium putt (about 20-22 feet). Finally, anyone who gets to the final level must make a long putt (51-52 feet). While several players made it to the second level, nobody claimed the grand prize.



Local 38 officers and representatives of the Brain Tumor Foundation met at the Local 38 union hall to celebrate the donation of \$20,000, the proceeds raised in the recent Local 38 Charity Golf Tournament. Pictured above are NBTF Chairman Emeritus Walter Newman, Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Trust Fund Administrator Pete Machi, Training Director Steve Mazzola, Field Organizer Tony Guzzetta, Business Agents Steve Jennings and Bill Blackwell, Assistant Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Jr., NBTF Director of Special Events Nealika Caden and Business Agent John Chiarenza.

came the putting contest, in which entrants paid \$5 for a shot at winning \$5,000. Players must make three putts, short medium and long to win the prize—which once again remained unclaimed.

Following the tournament, the day concluded with dinner and a fundraising raffle, held at the Adobe Creek clubhouse.

### MANY CONTRIBUTIONS

Local 38 members and supporters have three ways they can contribute to the charitable fundraiser. They can play in the tournament, they can purchase hole sponsorships or they can directly donate

money, tee or raffle prizes. This year saw more than 150 players, 90 hole sponsors and donors of raffle prizes.

### THANKS TO ALL

"There are a lot of people who work very hard to make this a successful tournament and charity fundraiser," said Mazzola. "I want to say a special thank you to each of them. In particular, I want to thank Pete Machi, Larry Mazzola, Jr., and the members of the Local 38 Golf Committee. I want to also thank Adobe Creek Head Professional Spencer Curren, and everyone at the Adobe Creek Golf Course for their hard work and support."

**Board of Directors**  
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Chair: Allison Jones Thomson  
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Patient Services: 800-934-CLURE (2877)  
Email: nbtf@braintumor.org  
www.braintumor.org

Larry Mazzola, Sr.  
UA Local 38  
1621 Market St.,  
San Francisco CA 94103

Dear Mr. Mazzola,

Thank you for your \$20,000 gift to the National Brain Tumor Foundation, the proceeds of the 2008 U.A. Local 38 Golf Tournament. Your efforts will allow us to continue our mission to fund research and to provide support and education to brain tumor patients and their families.

I want to take this opportunity to offer my profound appreciation to you, Larry Mazzola, Jr., Pete Machi and all of the UA Local 38 members for joining the National Brain Tumor Foundation family in its fight against brain tumors.

It is my hope that you feel a strong sense of pride and ownership in the continued success of NBTS. The support you have raised through this event allows myself, my colleagues, and the entire brain tumor community to work incrementally towards a common goal of a world without brain tumors. Until we realize a cure, your generosity will allow us to offer the unparalleled support patients and families so desperately need.

Our sincere thanks to all.

Allison Jones Thomson  
Co-Chair, Board of Directors  
National Brain Tumor Society

<p><b>LOW NET</b> 1st Place - Bob Jackson 2nd Place - Tom Avila 3rd Place Greg Gomes</p> <p><b>LOW GROSS</b> 1st Place - Mike Guida 2nd Place - Wesley McClenahan 3rd Place - Sean Jackson</p> <p><b>CLOSEST TO THE PIN HOLE 8</b> 1st Place - Dana Buoni, 1'9"</p>	<p>2nd Place - Greg Gomes, 4'10" 3rd Place - Jason Feilmoser, 10'5"</p> <p><b>CLOSEST TO THE PIN HOLE 12</b> 1st Place - Hugh Hamilton, 1'6" 2nd Place - Gary Aquilina, 6'2" 3rd Place - Tom Heath, 8'10"</p> <p><b>LONGEST DRIVE</b> 1st Place - Ryan Griffith, 290 yards 2nd Place - Devin Dimic 3rd Place - Dan Kennedy</p>
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Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr. spent much of his time at the recent Democratic National Convention talking with members of the California contingent about the issues facing labor and working men and women. Mazzola is pictured here with (clockwise from top left) Former Bill Clinton Chief-of-Staff Leon Panetta, former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, Mayor Gavin Newsom and the Chairman of the California Democratic Party Art Torres



## Convention...

Continued from Page 1

rewarded," Burger told the convention. "Where health care is affordable and accessible, where corporations pay their fair share and workers are free to join a union without being harassed or intimidated. Barack Obama believes in an America where we work with each other, take care of each other and where our kids do even better than we do. Barack Obama will bring the change we need."

# S.F. Labor Council Seeking Election Volunteers

The San Francisco Labor Council is preparing for an all out mobilization of union members for the November election, and is looking for volunteers to do phone banking and precinct walking.

### San Francisco Labor Council

#### November 2008 election Volunteer Calendar

SEPTEMBER					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
8 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	9 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	10 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm		13 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	
15 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	16 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	17 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm		20 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	
22 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	23 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	24 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	25 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	27 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	
29 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	30 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm				
OCTOBER					
		1 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	2 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	4 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	5 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm
6 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	7 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	8 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	9 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	11 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	12 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm
13 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	14 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	15 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	16 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	18 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	19 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm
20 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	21 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	22 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	23 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	25 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm	26 Precinct Walk 10 am-3 pm
27 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	28 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	29 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm	30 Phone Bank 5:30-8:30 pm		

"This may be the most important election we have ever faced," said Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, about the mobilization effort. "I want to personally urge anyone who can to volunteer their time and energy to helping elect the Obama-Biden ticket, as well as other labor backed candidates. It is vital to our future."

The Labor Council will be holding phone banks on Monday through Thursday nights from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) hall at 1338 Mission St. (at 9th) in San Francisco. Precinct walks will be held on Saturdays in September, and on both Saturdays and Sundays in October, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., beginning at the SEIU 1021, 350 Rhode Island (entrance on Kansas between 16th and 17th).

If you are able to volunteer, please fill out the accompanying form and fax it to the San Francisco Labor Council at (415) 440-9297. For general information or questions call (415) 440-4809.



## Longtime Local 38 Instructor Retires

Longtime Local 38 Apprentice Instructor Joe Shasky retired from teaching recently, after 11 years.

Shasky, a 54 year member of Local 38, taught Math, Applied Science, and a number of other subjects during his tenure with the Apprentice Training Department. A graduate of the Local 38 apprentice program, Shasky retired as a plumber in 2004, but continued to teach until last year.

Pictured above are Local 38 Training Director Steve Mazzola, Instructor Joe Shasky and Assistant Training Director Liam Devlin, at the Instructor's end-of-the-semester dinner, held in June.

#### I will volunteer for phone banking

From 5:30-8:30 pm

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9/8	9/9	9/10	
9/15	9/16	9/17	
9/22	9/23	9/24	9/25
9/29	9/30		
10/6	10/7	10/8	10/2
10/13	10/14	10/15	10/16
10/20	10/21	10/22	10/19
10/27	10/28	10/29	10/26

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Union: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Eve): \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE BANKS AT 1338 MISSION ST. (@ 9th) at 5:30 PM  
PRECINCT WALKS AT 350 RHODE ISLAND  
(ent on Kansas btwn 16th & 17th) at 10:00 AM

PLEASE fax these forms to 415-440-9297, San Francisco Labor Council. Questions: 415-440-4809

#### I will volunteer for precinct walking

Starting at 10am

Saturday	Sunday
9/6 (Kickoff)	
9/13	
9/20	
9/27	
10/4	10/5
10/11	10/12
10/18	10/19
10/25	10/26

# Labor Day - A Special Celebration

**F**or most Americans, Labor Day has a specific meaning ...it's the end of summer vacation. School is starting, fall is coming (along with football season), and the holiday itself is the occasion for the last big barbecue of the summer.

But for union members Labor Day is something else all together. Labor Day is a celebration of the struggle and solidarity that has meant better wages, benefits and working conditions for union and non-union workers throughout the country.

## 100 YEARS AGO

It was just over 100 years ago, in 1900, that plumbers in San Francisco were working 48 hour a week and earning \$4.00 a day, and that was the high end of the scale. There were no health and welfare benefits, no pensions, no vacations, and no job safety and health regulations.

We've come a long way since then, thanks to the hard work and sacra-

rice of thousands of union members who worked, fought, demonstrated, struck and stuck together over the years. Not just plumbers, but teamsters, carpenters, electricians, grocery clerks, butchers, teachers, nurses and the millions of other union members who have bought union products, patronized union stores, and refused to cross union picketlines.

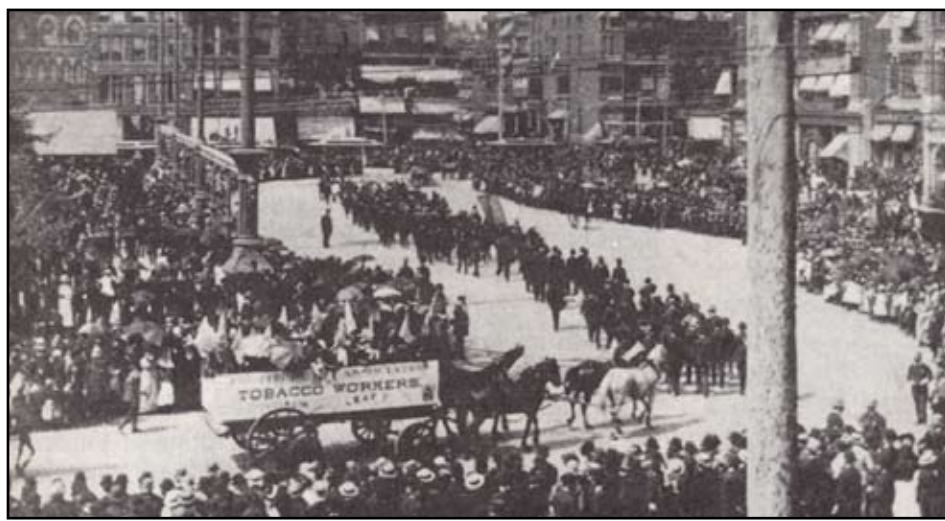
## THE FIRST LABOR DAY

The first labor day celebration took place on September 5, 1882 when an estimated 10,000 working men marched around Manhattan's Union Square carrying signs bearing the slogans "Labor Creates All Wealth," "The True Remedy is Unionization and the Ballot," and "8 Hours of Work, 6 Hours of Rest, 8 Hours of What We Will."

The first state to adopt Labor Day as an official holiday was Oregon. President Grover Cleveland made Labor Day a national holiday in 1894.

## A CELEBRATION

Labor Day has always been a combination party and political statement. A description of the La-



This early Labor Day celebration in New York City included a major procession by working men.

bor Day festivities in Muncie, Indiana in 1891 said that almost everyone in town turned out for the holiday. Festivities began around 4 a.m. with an "artillery signal of 44 rounds" and proceeded throughout a crowded day with parading, band music, orations, greased pole climbing, bicycle races, pie-eating contests, reading of the Declaration of Independence, baseball games, and an evening of dancing and fireworks.

Labor Day 2008 finds labor gearing up for the November election, and making the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) the centerpiece of our political strategy. The EFCA would allow for card check recognition of unions, and ease restrictions for organizing unions.

The idea terrifies anti-union employers. Why? Because union membership means better wages, benefits and working conditions.

Not surprisingly Presidential candidate Barack Obama and Vice Presidential candidate Joe Biden have both endorsed the EFCA. In fact 233 members of the House of Representatives, including virtually all of the Northern California delegation, are co-sponsors of the legislation.

Republican Presidential candidate John McCain, on the other hand, opposes the EFCA, along with the National Right to Work Committee and U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

## California State Softball Tournament

# Back-to-Back Championships For Local 38

**O**n strong hitting and sound pitching, Local 38 defeated Local 250 from Los Angeles, 21-6 to win their fourth statewide championship in the 22nd Annual UA Softball Tournament played last month in Stockton.

Local 38 actually fielded two teams, with team 1 winning the title, while team 2 made it to the final day of the competition before a tough loss dropped them to eighth place.

"I am very proud of both our teams," said Local 38 Assistant Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Jr., who coached the championship squad. "This is a great tournament with a lot of intense competition from around the state, and both teams did an outstanding job of representing Local 38."

## 17 TEAMS PARTICIPATED

The Tournament was hosted by Local 442, and included teams from UA locals throughout the state. This year 17 teams competed in the tournament, with Local 38 winning its fourth statewide title and second championship in a row.

## GREAT PERFORMANCES

Local 38 players dominated not only in the win-loss column, but also in individual statistics. Marcus Sanfilippo batted .762 for the tournament to win the "Batting Champion" title, while Steve Venturi had an outstanding tournament both on the mound—he pitched every game for the victorious squad—and at the plate, batting .700 to with the "Most Valuable Player" title for the tournament. Among the highlights of the tournament was a walk-off grand slam for Venturi, giving Local 38 a victory over Local 467.

Tom McGee harassed Local 38's opponents with a host of home runs and Runs Batted In (RBIs), Pat Bell,

who was solid on both offense and defense, Paco Parks, who's high average kept him on base and driving in runs, and Jason Hagemann, who had a unbelievable tournament at short stop.

## TEAM 2

Despite a quick loss on their first Saturday game, Team 2 of Local 38 fought hard and managed to make it to Sunday morning before their elimination loss. The team fought hard, including a come from behind win in a game that included a 3-run walk-off home run by player/coach Bill Blackwell. R.J. Ferrari also served as a player/coach for Team 2.

Key Team 2 players included Tony Lem and Joe Mattucci, both of whom hit over .750, Rich Spadaro who was solid on both offense and defense, and Matt Shasky, who had a good tournament both on defense and at the plate.

"I want to say a special thank you to Local 442 Business Manager Bill Taylor and the Local 442 staff for the outstanding job they did hosting the tournament. I also want to thank all the other Locals that fielded teams in the tournament. The competition was great, and the players were super. It's really fun to get together with UA members from all over the state at an event like this. It was another rousing success!"



Batting Champ Marcus Sanfilippo and Offensive MVP Steve Venturi both played key roles in Local 38 repeating as the Champions of the California UA Softball Tournament, held in Stockton last month.



Local 38's Team 1 repeated as statewide softball tournament champions last month in Stockton. Pictured above, from left to right, are Steve Venturi, Marcus Sanfilippo, Coach Larry Mazzola, Jr., Dennis Pintarelli, Mike Wetteland, Paco Parks, Jason Hagemann, Tom McGee, Shaun Wetteland, and Ken West. Kneeling are Pat Bell and Dennis Devis



Team 2, Local 38's second entry in the tournament, fought valiantly to get to the final day, before losing an elimination game that dropped them to eighth place. On the team were (above, back row from left to right): Coach Steve Hutchinson, Tony Lem, Jeff Spano, Joe Taliva'a Ryan Blyschak, Los Tuimavave, Rich Spadaro; kneeling from left to right Matt Shasky, player/coach R.J. Ferrari, player/coach Bill Blackwell, Joe Matteucci, Niutao Tuimavave, Jimmy Kazarian, and bat boy and girl Geno and Megan Hutchinson

# Memo...

Continued from Page 1

## OVERCOMING EIGHT YEARS

But just as important is the fact that we can't stand four more years of Republican policies. The administration of George W. Bush has been a disaster, not only for unions but for families all across the country.

We were deceived into a seemingly endless and senseless war. He ruined our credibility throughout the world, squandering what goodwill we had. We are paying more for food, medical care, gas, oil and the other necessities of day-to-day life. Thousands of families are losing their homes to foreclosure, while others find themselves buried in mountains of debt. Corporations continue to take American jobs overseas to low wage countries, leaving hundreds of thousands of Americans either unemployed or so badly under-employed that they can't support their families. When George W. Bush took office there was a federal budget surplus of \$127 billion. Today there is a deficit of \$319 billion.

There is no measure by which we are better off than we were eight years ago. And if John McCain gets the chance to continue Bush's economic policies, it is only going to get progressively worse.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need to make sure that the Obama-Biden ticket is elected to the White House in November. But to do that, we need your help. This is not going to be an easy fight. Polls show the candidates neck-and-neck. That means we can make a difference. I urge everyone to volunteer what time and energy they can to walk precincts or work phone banks. And not just for Obama and Biden, but for the scores of local candidates to important to the future of Local 38 and its members. On page 4 you will find a schedule of upcoming phone banks and precinct walks scheduled by the San Francisco Central Labor Council. Please bring your families and friends help where and when you can.

If you live outside of San Francisco, your county's Central Labor Council will be scheduling election volunteer activities for the next two months. If you have any time or energy to contribute, please give them a call and find out what they need.

McCain and Palin may have the wealthy corporate resources, but we have the bodies. If we go to work we can win in November, and can change the future for working men and women in Local 38 and across the country.

### A FEW NOTES

Before closing I want to take the time for a few more notes. First, congratulations to the Local 38 softball teams for their outstanding effort and performance in the recent statewide Softball Tournament. Back-to-back titles are quite an accomplishment. Next year it's a three-peat.

I also want to thank everyone for their generosity in the recent Local 38 Golf Tournament. We were able to raise \$20,000 for the National Brain Tumor Foundation, quite an accomplishment. Thanks to all the players, sponsors and donors, as well as the Local 38 Golf Tournament Committee.

Finally, I want to congratulate Art Pulaski and Connie Layva on their re-election to the leadership of the California Labor Federation, and to thank those delegates who re-elected myself and the entire unity slate. We have a great leadership team, and I am proud to serve with each and every one of them.

# Mazzola Re-elected as State Fed Vice President

**L**ocal 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola was re-elected to the position of Vice President (District 10D) of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, (CLF) at the Federation's 27th Biennial Convention, held in Oakland in July.

More than 600 delegates attended the convention, which includes labor unions throughout the state affiliated with the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

Also re-elected were Executive Secretary Treasurer Art Pulaski, President Connie Leyva, and 46 regional and at-large vice presidents.

## PROUD TO SERVE

"I am very proud to continue serving as a Vice President of the California Labor Federation," said Mazzola, in announcing the re-election. "Local 38 and labor

in general face a lot of challenges, and it is important that we work together to build our future. The state federation has been instrumental in fights for the preservation of prevailing wage, the struggle for minimum wage, and the battle for health and safety regulations, to name just a few of our recent battles.

"As union members we understand the importance of solidarity," he continued. "In the same way workers can do more together than alone, unions can do more when they work together than when they work alone. The California Federation of Labor is key to that solidarity.

"I also want to congratulate Art Pulaski, Connie Leyva and the rest of the 2008 Unite Slate on their re-election," he continued. "We have an outstanding leadership team in place, and they are ready for the challenges facing labor."

*David Sirota*

# Six Little Words

**H**istory books teem with six-word phrases, from the comforting ("Nothing to fear but fear itself") to the inspiring ("Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall") to the embarrassing ("Read my lips, no new taxes"). But the six words, "on the basis of union membership" could be more momentous than any of them. Though hardly Franklin D. Roosevelt's rhetoric, Ronald Reagan's bluster or George H. W. Bush's clumsiness, the clause could solve America's wage crisis.

Of course, when Tom Geoghegan told me this in a Chicago park two weeks ago, I almost snarfed my coffee through my nose. Solving major social problems typically demands more than six words. But as the longtime labor lawyer and author explained his idea to me on a muggy afternoon, it started making sense.

Geoghegan reminded me that data shows the more union members in an economy, the better workers' pay. The problem, he said, is that weakened labor laws are allowing companies to bully and fire union-sympathetic workers, thus driving down union membership and wages.

Enter Geoghegan's six words. If the Civil Rights Act was amended to prevent discrimination "on the basis of union membership," it would curtail corporations' anti-labor assault by making the right to join a union an official civil right.

"Hang on," I interrupted. "Joining a union isn't a civil right?"

Correct.

Under current law, if you are fired for union activity, you can only take your grievance to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)—a byzantine agency deliberately made more Kafkaesque by right-wing appointees and budget cuts. Today, the NLRB takes years to rule on labor law violations, often granting victims only their back pay—a tiny cost of doing business.

Union leaders are now focused on reforming the NLRB—an admirable goal—but Geoghegan's plan implies that workers are harmed by being legally leashed to Washington in the first place. His proposal says rather than being forced to rely on an unreliable bureaucracy for protection, workers should be empowered to defend themselves.

The six words would do just that. Regardless of whether the NLRB is strengthened or further weakened, persecuted workers would be able to haul union-busting thugs into court. There—unlike at the NLRB—plaintiffs can subpoena company records and win costly punitive damages.

Bolstering his argument, Geoghegan told me to consider variations in corporate behavior.

For example, because the Civil Rights Act bars racial discrimination, businesses are motivated to try to prevent bigotry: They want to avoid being sued. This is why no company brags about being racist.

But when it comes to unions, there is no such deterrent. The lack of civil rights protection effectively encourages businesses to punish pro-union employees—and publicize the abuse to intimidate their

workforce. By making the six words law, the dynamic would shift. Companies would have a reason—fear of litigation—to respect workers' rights.

When Geoghegan and I finished chatting, I remembered why I believe he is America's most talented writer and thinker on labor issues. His relative anonymity is a tragicomic commentary on the media and the American Left. The Milton Friedmans are celebrated by pundits and cast in bronze by conservative think tanks, while the Geoghegans are dismissed by the chattering class and ignored by a progressive movement that regularly venerates Hollywood celebrities as its heroes.

Perhaps, though, this proposal will change things. In developing a way to shift incentives, Geoghegan has discovered a solution that both unionists and economists can love. It cribbs the best from liberals' pro-union sympathies and conservatives' distrust of Big Government, and should make him famous (or at least a Cabinet secretary). After all, anyone who can bring such disparate ideologies and adversaries together is worthy of serious consideration—as is his six-word stroke of genius.

*This article originally appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle of July 25, 2008. David Sirota is a bestselling author whose newest book, "The Up-rising," was released in June. He is a fellow at the Campaign for America's Future and a board member of the Progressive States Network—both non-partisan organizations. His blog is at [www.credoaction.com/sirota](http://www.credoaction.com/sirota).*

# Send Us Your E-mail Address

**I**t's a new world out there, and we at Local 38 are determined to become part of the electronic age, whether we like it or not. For years we have communicated with our members through regular mail. When it came time to announce a meeting or inform the members about a special issue, we always sent a letter.

Not that there's anything wrong with the mail. We continue to do the vast bulk of our business by mail. But in some cases it is quicker, easier, and far less expensive, to be able to send an e-mail to members.

At least it would be easier, quicker and cheaper if we had e-mail

addresses for members, which we don't. That's where you come in. Please fill out the form and return it to UA Local 38, 1621 Market St.,

San Francisco CA 94103, or you can e-mail your information to Lisa in the union office at [landrini@ualocal38.org](mailto:landrini@ualocal38.org).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
UA NO.: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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