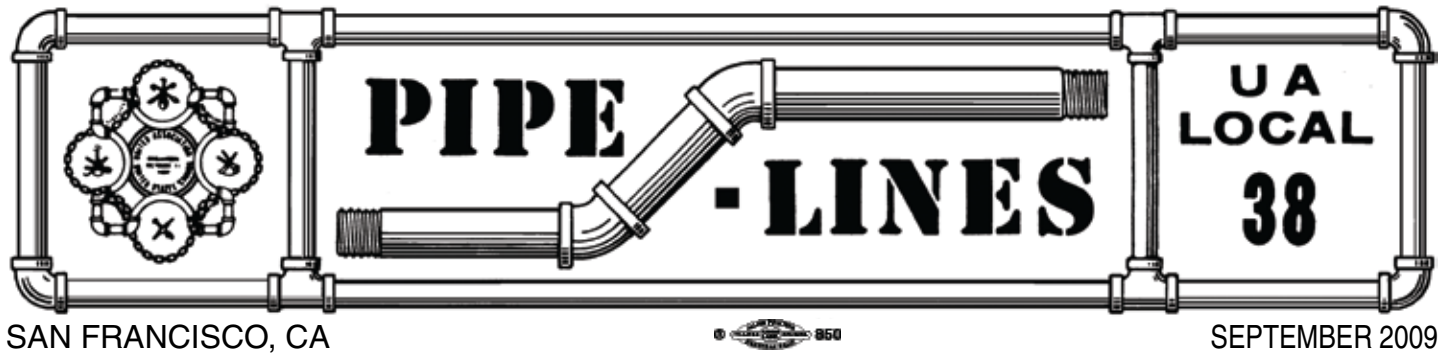


Memo to Members



by Larry Mazzola
Business Manager



Let's begin with the subject that has been in the news for the past several months, health care reform. Let me be clear--reforming our broken health care system is vital to the future of Local 38, and to each and every one of our members.

It is clear to me that President Barack Obama's reform plan addresses the most important issues that face union and working families, while putting the brakes on skyrocketing health care costs, and protecting the health care benefits we have fought so hard for over the years.

KEY POINTS

As you can see from the accompanying articles, there are several important areas that need to be addressed in any health care reform plan. The two most important are containing the rising costs of health insurance, and the need for universal coverage. Everyone needs to have affordable, quality health care. Why is that important to us, who are already covered by a great health and welfare program?

Well, there are a couple of reasons. First, it's the right thing to do. We all know what it is like trying to raise a family without health insurance. That's one of the reasons we decided to join a union. And as union members our fights have always led the way for all working men and women. We support jobs, education, housing and health care for everyone, union and non union both.

But we also need to fight for reform because it's in our own best interest. So far, our Trustees and our insurance providers have managed to maintain our health benefits with only minimal increases in co-pays. Local 38's health care premiums have increased over 25 percent over the past four years. That means money that could have gone on the check, instead went to cover the rising costs of health care. Without reform those costs will continue to escalate. We will not be able to maintain our benefits in the future without finding a way to limit health care cost increases.

Universal coverage is also important, because we are paying for people without insurance. The AFL-CIO estimates that as much as 25 percent of health insurance premiums go to paying for coverage for the uninsured. People without insurance use emergency rooms and other facilities as their primary care physicians, and that cost is carried by the premiums of those who pay for insurance. We cannot curb rising health care costs without a fair distribution of health care costs.

And speaking of fair, what's fair about union employers paying for health care for non-union companies bidding the same jobs? Our contractors bid jobs based on our total package, including health and

Continued on Page 6

Health Care Reform Now!

Health Care reform.

These three words have dominated political life for the past several months. We have all watched, amazed, amused, astonished, as one of the most bitter political battles in recent memory has played out across the country. "Death panels", "massive government bureaucracies" and emotional outbursts of "You lie!" have filled the news, not to mention much of our conversation.

"Health care is one of the most confusing and most important issues we have ever faced," says Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola. "We have heard the debate, argued the merits of different proposals, and now it's time to get behind President Barack Obama and push through his reform proposals. We need speak up and push the President and Congress to actually enact this legislation."

THE KEY ISSUES

Unions throughout the country have taken various positions on what is needed in any health care reform package. But they have all agreed on one thing—reform, itself, is essential. For the Local 38 Committee on Political Education (COPE), there are a number of issues key to any health care reform package, including:

- **Containing rising health care costs.** President Obama's health care plan includes a strong public option that will force insurance providers to compete for premium dollars. It is important to realize that nobody is going to be required to use the public option, but its very existence, and its competitive coverage, will require private insurers to modernize, eliminate waste, and improve service.
- **Universal Coverage.** Currently there are more than 46 million Americans without health insurance. It is vital that those individuals and families get covered, and at costs that are both fair and fairly distributed. As union members we understand the importance of affordable health insurance for those

Health care is one of the most confusing and most important issues we have ever faced

working and raising families. But we also need to understand the impact of the uninsured on our own health plan. Estimates are that as much as 25 percent of the cost of current insurance premiums pays for health care for the uninsured. Uninsured families are forced to use emergency rooms

and other public facilities required to provide care, while we foot much of the bill.

The AFL-CIO estimates that as many as 80% of uninsured adults are people who are actually working but receive no health benefits.

This means that many non-union, low wage employers rely on the rest of us to pay for their employees' health care. How are good union contractors and employers supposed to compete when they are paying for health care for non-union employees?

Continued on page 4



President Barack Obama received an enthusiastic reception when he appeared before the AFL-CIO Convention in Pittsburgh, earlier this month. Photo courtesy of Bill Burkel/Page One

Obama Fires Up AFL-CIO Convention

When labor succeeds that's when our middle class succeeds. And when our middle class succeeds, that's when the United States of America succeeds."

That was the message from President Barack Obama, when he became the first President since the Clinton administration to address an AFL-CIO convention.

"The White House is pretty nice," Obama told the cheering crowd, when he addressed the convention held in Pittsburgh earlier this month, "but there's nothing like being back in the house of labor."

"The White House is pretty nice, but there's nothing like being back in the house of labor."

The President emphasized the importance of labor to the country, saying that he is committed to the same goals as the union movement, restoring the economy, getting health care for everyone, and passing the Employee Free Choice Act.

"These are the reforms I'm proposing. These are the reforms labor has been championing. These are the reforms the American people need. And these are the reforms I intend to sign into law," he said. "Quality, affordable health insurance. A world-class education. Good jobs that pay well and can't be outsourced. A strong labor movement. That's how we'll lift up hard-working families. That's how we'll grow our middle

Continued on Page 4

AFL-CIO Convention Adopts Health Care Reform Resolution

The AFL-CIO, the nation's largest affiliation of labor unions, unanimously adopted a resolution supporting President Barack Obama's health care reform plan at their convention in Pittsburgh this month.

The resolution praised the President's plan for addressing the organization's three health care priorities, lowering costs, improving care, and covering everyone.

"The AFL-CIO applauds the work of the president and congressional leaders in putting forward legislation with a strong, effective, comprehensive plan for guaranteeing quality, affordable health care for all," the resolution concludes. "We believe the legislation would go a long way toward stabilizing the employer-based health insurance system by simultaneously achieving the goals of lowering costs, covering everyone and improving quality. We stand ready to do everything we can to enact reform that achieves these goals and we will fight to strengthen the legislation as it moves through Congress. America's working families can wait no longer."



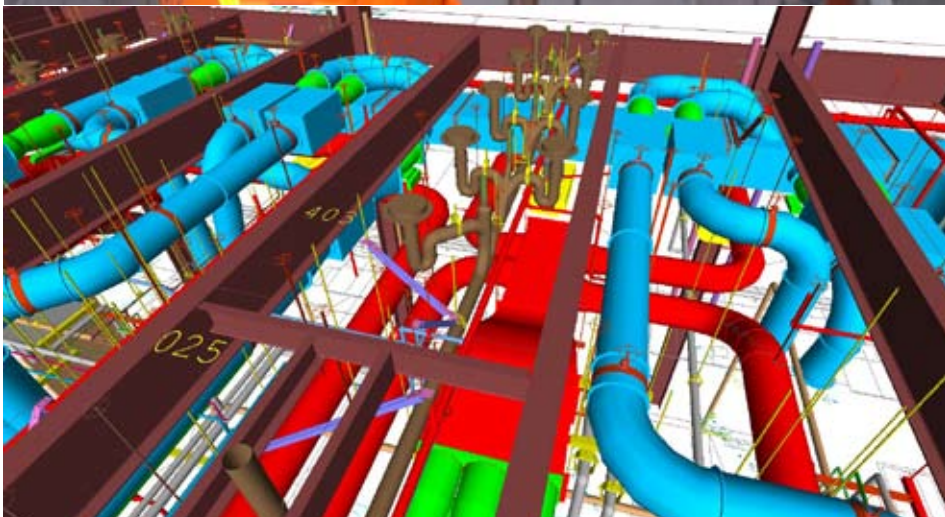
Local 38 officers took a quick walk-through of the UCSF CVRI facility. Pictured at left are (from left to right) Foremen Joe Lewkowitz and Anthony Valdez, Business Agent Bill Blackwell, Field Organizer Tony Guzzetta, and Piping Superintendent Robert Rochell and Construction Superintendent Ben Revera.

UCSF in Mission Bay

More than 50 Local 38 members have spent the better part of the last year in Mission Bay, working on the new UCSF Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI) facility, slated to open in 2011.

The new \$254 million building and program will focus on both research and clinical care. CVRI's new facility UCSF Mission Bay will provide state-of-the-art laboratories for current scientists and allow for the recruitment of 25 additional investigators. In addition to research, it will house an outpatient clinic for patients with cardiovascular disease.

Local 38 signatory contractor Southland Industries did all three phases of the job, the plumbing, comfort heating and cooling, and the medical gas piping



Local 38 member Jeff Fredericks worked with AutoCad and the Navis System to create 3D renderings of the building plans. The Navis software allows for coordination with other trades for clash detection and mitigation.



Local 38 Loses Two Pioneers

Local 38 lost two long-time members and dedicated union men over the past two months, with the passing of Executive Board member Bob Dunn, and signatory contractor and former Trustee Bob Buckley, Sr.

"It is a sad time for Local 38, and for me personally, to lose both Bob Dunn and Bob Buckley," said Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr. "It's not just that both were 50 year members, but both were dedicated to Local 38 and its members. They devoted a lot of their time and energy to the union, their trade, and to bettering the lives of Local 38 members. I am proud to have worked with each of them over the years, and will miss both of them deeply."

BOB DUNN

Brother Dunn was well known to Local 38 members, having served for more than 20 years on the Local 38 Executive Committee. A graduate of the Local 38 apprentice program, Bob was initiated

into the Local in 1958, and had a long career as a steamfitter, including working on the BART project, and at the San Francisco Housing Authority. Brother Dunn retired from the SF Housing Authority in 1999.

BOB BUCKLEY

Bob Buckley was also a familiar face to Local 38 members, both because of his more than 35 years on the Board of Trustees, and as one of the owners of Anderson, Rowe & Buckley (AR&B). Brother Buckley graduated from St. Mary's College in 1952, before joining Local 38 in 1953. Bob and his brother Dick owned and operated AR&B, one of Local 38's long time signatory contractors.

"Bob Buckley and Bob Dunn are two of the pioneers who made Local 38 what it is today," said Mazzola. "We all owe them a debt of gratitude for their hard work and dedication to the union and to all its members."

21st Mazzola Memorial Set For Thanksgiving

Former Local 38 Business Manager Joe Mazzola's love of horse racing will be celebrated once again this Thanksgiving at Golden Gate Fields.

The 21st Annual Joseph P. Mazzola Memorial Horse Race will be held on Thanksgiving day, beginning at noon, and including a full Thanksgiving turkey luncheon.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year," said Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr. "It's a great chance to spend time with my family and friends while enjoying one of my father's favorite activities. Joe loved going to the track. It's great to have a chance to celebrate all the enjoyment he got throughout his life."

A CITY BOY WHO LOVED THE COUNTRY

Joe Mazzola, the Local 38 Business Manager from 1952 until his untimely death in 1989, was raised in New York, but developed a strong affinity with horses and the outdoors early in life. Raised in an orphanage, Joe was often "farmed out," sent to neighboring farms to work for the day to help earn money for the orphanage. It was doing that work that Brother Mazzola developed a deep love for the country, the land, and for horses.

In later life when he was busy leading one of the premiere building trades unions in the country that love led him to found—along with his union brothers and sisters—the Konocti Harbor Resort and Spa, and for the sons and daughters of Local 38, Camp Konocti. And when he had time it led him to the track.

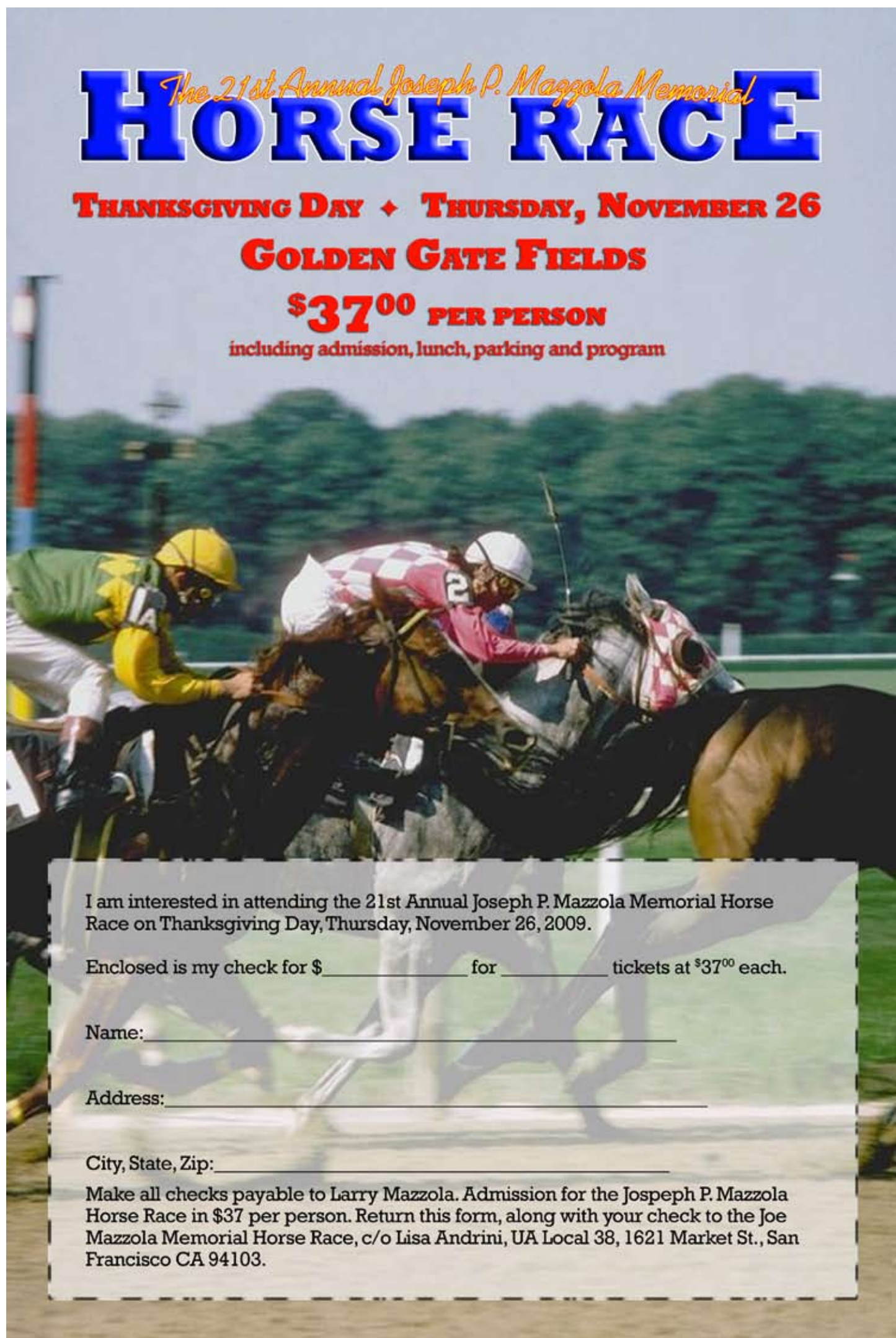
21ST ANNUAL MEMORIAL RACE

This year marks the 21st Annual Memorial Horse Race. Over the years it has become a popular event, attracting members of the Mazzola family as well as old family friends and long-time Local 38 members.

Admission for the event is \$37 per person, and includes parking, a turkey lunch, a program and admission to the track. If you are interested in attending the race, please fill out the accompanying form and return it to the Joe Mazzola Memorial Horse Race, c/o Lisa Andriani, 1621 Market St., San Francisco CA 94103, along with a check payable to Larry Mazzola for your tickets. Your tickets will be mailed to you prior to the race date.

"I want to personally invite ev-

eryone who enjoys racing, or just wants to join us in celebrating one of the great joys of Joe's life," said Mazzola. "It's always a fun day, and a unique way to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday."



The 21st Annual Joseph P. Mazzola Memorial
HORSE RACE
THANKSGIVING DAY ♦ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
GOLDEN GATE FIELDS
\$37⁰⁰ PER PERSON
 including admission, lunch, parking and program

I am interested in attending the 21st Annual Joseph P. Mazzola Memorial Horse Race on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26, 2009.

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ tickets at \$37⁰⁰ each.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Make all checks payable to Larry Mazzola. Admission for the Joseph P. Mazzola Horse Race in \$37 per person. Return this form, along with your check to the Joe Mazzola Memorial Horse Race, c/o Lisa Andriani, UA Local 38, 1621 Market St., San Francisco CA 94103.

New AFL-CIO Leadership Team Elected

Former United Mine Workers (UMWA) President Richard Trumka was unanimously elected the new President of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) at their convention this month.

Trumka succeeds AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, who retired after 14 years as the head of the country's largest group of labor unions.

"I am very excited to have Brother Trumka as the new President of the AFL-CIO," Local 38 Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Sr., said, upon hearing of the election. "He is a dynamic, vibrant leader. He was an outstanding leader for the miners, and has done a great job for the last 14 years as the Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO. He will be a strong voice for all of us."

HISTORIC LEADERSHIP

The slate of officers elected at the AFL-CIO convention was historic, as it included Liz Schuler, the new Secretary-Treasurer, and Arlene Holt Baker, the new Executive Vice President. Schuler was the first



AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka

woman elected to the post of Secretary-Treasurer, while the ticket was the first with women elected to two of the top three offices.

Before being elected AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer in 1995, the same year Sweeney took the helm of the AFL-CIO, Trumka served as president of the Mine Workers (UMWA) from 1982 to 1995. He is a third-generation coal miner and graduate of Pennsylvania State University and holds a law degree from Villanova University Law School.

Shuler is the highest-ranking woman in the IBEW and has served as Hill's top assistant since 2004. In 1993, she joined IBEW Local 125 in Portland, Ore., where she worked as an organizer and state legislative and political director. In 1998, she was part of the IBEW's international staff in Washington, D.C., as a legislative and political representative.

Holt Baker has served as AFL-CIO executive vice president since

September 2007. The longtime AFSCME member and leader came to the federation in 1995 as executive assistant to Executive Vice President Linda Chavez-Thompson, who was the first woman to become a top AFL-CIO officer. Holt Baker was AFSCME's international union area director in California from the late 1980s to 1995 and also worked as an organizer and international representative.

Obama...

Continued from Page 1

class. That's how we'll put opportunity within reach in the United States of America."

President Obama pledged his continued support for the Employee Free Choice Act, receiving a standing ovation with the line "when workers want a union, they should get a union."

He also thanked union workers for their support of health care reform.

"Few have fought for this cause harder, and few have championed it longer than you" he said. "You know why this is so important. You know this isn't just about the millions of Americans who don't have

health insurance, it's about the hundreds of millions more who do: Americans who worry that they'll lose their insurance if they lose their job, who fear their coverage will be denied because of a pre-existing condition, who know that one accident or illness could mean financial ruin.

"When are we going to stop this?" he asked. "When are we going to say enough is enough? How many more workers have to lose their coverage? How many more families have to go into the red for a sick loved one? We have talked this issue to death year after year, decade after decade... Now is the time for action."

Health Care Reform...

Continued from Page 1

The President's health care reform plan will help to level the playing field.

- **No denial of coverage.** President Obama's plan stops insurance providers from denying coverage because of pre-existing conditions, or when the cost of treating your illness exceeds your coverage limits. It requires insurers to pay for preventative care, such as mammograms, well baby checkups, and regular preventative checkups. Studies have consistently shown that it is far cheaper to prevent medical problems than to treat them after they occur.

- **No taxing of health care benefits.** Many proposals include taxing individual benefits, or in some cases entire multi-employer plans. Health coverage has been a key part of contract negotiations for the past 50 years. And because unions have fought for and won these benefits, millions of workers, union and non-union alike, are now covered under employer provided health care plans.

Taxing these benefits would take money directly out of their pay checks. Since 1980 labor productivity in the US has increased 80%, but median real wages have gone up 13%. In a time of less work, growing income gaps between the wealthy and those who work for a living, and financial insecurity, the last thing American workers need is a cut in pay.

When talking about Local 38 members specifically, we have health and welfare benefits because we fought for them. In many cases members have sacrificed real dollar increases on their checks to maintain their health coverage. Any "excess benefits" tax will result in lower

wages, higher benefit premiums, increased co-pays or decreased coverage, precisely what we need health care reform to avoid.

VITAL TO FUTURE

"Every time we enter into a contract negotiation," says Mazzola, "we are faced with a choice between wages or health care. In Local 38 we have managed to hold the line, but that won't last. Unless we get a handle on rising health care

costs, we are going to face serious problems in the future.

"We need a plan that provides fair coverage for everyone who needs it, and a fair distribution of costs, including ways to stem the skyrocketing costs of coverage," he continues. "We need to level the playing field between union employers, who include the cost of health care in their overhead, and their non-union competitors who

"President Obama's health care reform package does all of this and more," he concluded. "I want to urge everyone to voice their support for the plan. Write or call your legislators. Write or call the White House. Our leaders in Washington need to know that health care reform is our number one priority, for union and non-union workers alike."

Health Care Lies!

Nothing is as troubling about health care reform as the lies told by its opponents. While South Carolina Senator Joe Wilson claims to have been so overwhelmed by emotion that he couldn't keep himself from shouting "you lie" at President Barack Obama during his speech to Congress, it is not the President or health care reform supporters who have been guilty of telling tall tales. The lies from opponents, led by right-wing talk show hosts Glen Beck and Rush Limbaugh, have been the tallest tales of all.

What exactly are the lies? Here's a few:

The President's Plan will mean governmental "death panels" deciding who should be provided care and who should be euthanized. This is one of the more egregious lies put forward by reform opponents. One of the key aims of health care reform is to remove private insurance companies from the care decision process. President Obama's plan means treatment decisions will be made by directly by patients and their doctors, without a corporate bureaucracy interfering.

One important ingredient of the reform package is the availability of "end of life" counseling. This doesn't mean physician assisted (or government directed) suicide. It does mean that patients facing tough decisions about medical treatment, quality of life, family impacts and emotional trauma can receive professional help in dealing with difficult issues.

The Plan would force people into a government run health care bureaucracy. There are no provisions in the plan that would force anyone into a government run health care program. The "public option" is just that, an option. People already covered by health insurance—like Local 38 members—can continue to receive their existing coverage. People

who don't have coverage will have the option to buy coverage through private insurers, negotiate for lower cost group plans through "insurance exchanges" or purchase public administered insurance. Having a public library doesn't mean you can't go to a private bookstore.

Any public involvement in health care, including a public option, equals poor health care. The best example of this argument related to noted physicist Stephen Hawking, who suffers from a disease that has caused almost complete paralysis. "The controlling of medical costs in countries such as Britain through rationing, and the health consequences thereof, are legendary," the Investor's Daily News wrote in a recent editorial. "The stories of people dying on a waiting list or being denied altogether real like a horror script... People such as scientist Stephen Hawking wouldn't have a chance in the UK, where the National Health Service would say the life of this brilliant man, because of his physical handicaps, is essentially worthless." The report came as something of a surprise to Hawking, who is British. "I wouldn't be here today if it weren't for the NHS," responded Hawking, who is a professor at Cambridge. "I have received a large amount of high quality treatment without which I would not have survived."

Health care reform is aimed at providing care for illegal immigrants. Currently there are an estimated 46 million Americans without health care, and that figure continues to grow as more people lose their jobs and their accompanying health care. Estimates are that 80 percent of the adults without health insurance are working citizens, and that another 15 percent are immigrants in this country legally. Studies show undocumented workers are far less willing to go to hospitals or health care providers, because they are worried about their undocumented status.



More than 150 people were on hand at the Local 38 union hall last month to celebrate the graduation of Local 38's apprentice class of 2008-09. Pictured here with Local 38 officers, are the apprentices who were on-hand for the dinner. Included are, standing (from left to right) Business Agents Steve Jennings and Bill Blackwell, Jeremy Meyer, Greg Mitschenko, Erik Rennenkampf, Michael Sexton, Michael Wilhite, John Furtado, Ryan Hunt-Bieganski, William Lyons, Joe Matteucci, Robert Lyons, Randy Salas, Assistant Training Director Liam Devlin, Training Director Steve Mazzola, Assistant Business Manager Larry

Mazzola Jr.; and sitting (From Left to Right): Graham Major, Sam Liang, Kim Anderson, Anthony Baeza, Joe Baggetta, Tony Cisneros, Michael Costanzo, Derek Dolan, Paul Garcia, Bob Glennon, Mike Kavanuagh, Ho-Yin Ko and Rich Partin. Apprentice who turned out but are not included in the picture include: Christine Cosentino, Tim Dunlap, Mike Ford, Nick Gillis, Frank Gonzalez, Martin Grimsrud, Jaquan Johnson, Owen Likens, Nick Macreadie, Dermot Robinson, John Scarpulla, Gordon Schaeffer, William Snider, Troy Stitt, Raymond Tantarelli, Ronnie Victor, John Wiseman, Brent Wong.

Union Hall Transformed For Celebration Dinner

The Local 38 Union Hall saw another in a long series of historic events last month, when it became the site for a sit-down dinner honoring the union apprentices who turned out during the 2008-09 fall and spring semesters, as

well as the UA Instructors who trained them.

Traditionally the Local 38 Training Department held two dinners, one for the graduates, and one for the instructors, both at restaurants.

But this year it was decided to combine the two, and to hold the

gala at the union's historic hall.

"I want to congratulate all of the apprentices who turned out," said Training Director Steve Mazzola, "and to thank all of our instructors for their hard work.

"I am particularly proud to hold this event in our union hall," he continued. "There is a long tradition of union events in this hall, from the founding of our Local to countless important labor and political gatherings over the years. It's great to see banners from Local 38 proud history decorating the walls at an event welcoming our newest generation of journeymen.

"It really does represent the passing on of our trade and our union," Mazzola concluded.



Assistant Business Manager Larry Mazzola, Jr., served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening gala.



The Local 38 Union Hall took on a festive atmosphere last month when the Local 38 Apprentice Graduation and Instructors Dinner was held in the historic venue. "I like the setting a lot," said Local 38 Training Director Steve Mazzola. "Our hall represents the proud history of Local 38. The banners for the unions who merged to create Local 38, as well as the many events that have taken place there over the years, brought a special sense of history and solidarity to the dinner. More than 150 people attended the dinner, included the graduation ceremony for the Local 38 apprentices who turned out in the 2008-09 semester.



U.A. STAR Examinations to be offered in December

Including two new examinations for HVAC/R Technicians:

- UA STAR Commercial Refrigeration Exam
- UA STAR Residential-Light Commercial HVACR Certification Exam

U.A. STAR Certification Tests for Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and HVAC/R

Again, we are pleased to offer our members the opportunity to become U.A. STAR Certified in their trade respectively including the two new exams listed above. Successful completion of the examination allows members to receive 32 college credits through Washtenaw Community College. From here, you are able to pursue an Associate Degree from Washtenaw Community College and a Bachelor Degree from the National Labor College. HVACR Service Technicians may also pursue a Bachelor Degree from Ferris State University or the new HVACR Technology AAS Degree. For more information on the degree programs please contact the training department or visit www.uauniversity.org

Local 38 Journeymen and Apprentices completing their 5-year apprenticeship program are eligible to take this exam.

The examination will be held in San Francisco on a date to be determined in December 2009.

This exam is held in a proctored setting and is administered and graded by National ITC, Inc.

Local 38 will assist you with this examination by paying the test registration fee. Local 38 will also provide you with a STAR study guide free of charge.

We do recommend that if you are interested in taking the exam that you pick up a study guide and begin your review right away. At this time no review classes are scheduled however, if there is enough interest we can hold classes.

To register please contact the Training Department at 415-626-2000.



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 

Memo...

Continued from Page 1

welfare benefits. They can't compete fairly with contractors who provide limited or no health coverage. But we still wind up paying when uncovered non-union plumbers show up in emergency rooms for treatment.

This simply can't continue. Our good union contractors cannot continue to subsidize our non-union competition.

There are a number of other reasons to support the President's plan which are talked about in the accompanying article. Please read it carefully, and do whatever you can to support President Obama in this fight. This is the single most important long term issue facing our contractors and our members, and we need your support.

AFL-CIO CONVENTION

In this issue you will also find coverage of the AFL-CIO convention held earlier this month in Pittsburgh. I'm encouraged that President Obama went out of this way to be on-hand to address the convention personally.

For the past eight years we were told that labor was one of the problems facing the country. President Bush refused to even speak to labor. Now we have a President who believes labor is part of the solution. What a difference!

President Obama was clear about his support of the Employee Free Choice Act, one of the most important pieces of legislation currently in Congress.

I also want to congratulate President Richard Trumka and the new AFL-CIO officers. John Sweeney, who stepped down as AFL-CIO President, deserves our thanks for his outstanding job for the past 14 years. Now I'm really looking forward to Brother Trumka's dynamic leadership.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS

While I'm busy with congratulations, how about lifting a glass to the 42 Local 38 apprentices who turned out during the 2008-09 school year.

Five years is a long time, and our apprentices work hard, both on the job and in the classroom. Turning out is a great accomplishment, and one you should be proud of. Our education and experience are what set us apart from others in the trade. Congratulations on a job well done!

I also want to congratulate Training Director Steve Mazzola and Assistant Training Director Liam Devlin on putting together an outstanding apprentice graduation and instructors dinner. This was the first time the dinner was held in the Local 38 hall, and I thought it worked out great. I look forward to many more.

ANOTHER CHAMPIONSHIP

Of course, it is sweet to three-peat. Congratulations to the Local 38 softball team for their third championship in a row, and thanks to everyone involved in this great tournament, players and organizers, alike.

Finally, don't forget to sign up for the Joe Mazzola Memorial Horse Race set for Thanksgiving. It will be another great day at the track. I look forward to seeing you there.

U.A. Softball Tournament

Local 38 Three-Peat!

Local 38's softball team went 8-1, including a 13-3 championship game win over the Local 447 team from Sacramento, to win it's third straight title in the statewide UA Softball Tournament held in Stockton in August.

"This is a great tournament," said Local 38 Assistant Business Manager and coach Larry Mazzola Jr., "And its really exciting to win our third championship in a row. I'm proud of both our teams because the competition in the tournament is so tough."

TWO TEAMS

Local 38 fielded 2 teams, with Team 2 also having an outstanding tournament, posting a 4-1 record before being eliminated on the morning of the second day of the double elimination tournament.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOLADES

Local 38 Team 1 members also took home individual awards from the tournament, with Shaun Wetteland winning Defensive Most Valuable Player honors, and Tom McGee winning the tournament Batting Championship with a .725 average.

"Shaun handled an awful lot of plays in left field," said Mazzola, who served as the coach for Team 1. "He did an outstanding job on defense, as well as at the plate. Tom hit the cover off the ball. He had 12 home runs in our 9 games. He was amazing."

While they took home the awards, Wetteland and McGee were far from the only standout performers for Local 38. Steve Venturi had an excellent tournament on the mound, earning accolades as the "tournament's best pitcher by far." Venturi also had a great tournament at the plate. "Basically, everyone in our lineup hit the ball, and played great defense," said Mazzola. "I can't say enough about our team."

A TOUGH DAY TWO

The championship was particularly satisfying because it came at the end of a grueling day two of the tournament. Team 1 had its only loss to Local 467 on Saturday, the tournament's opening day. That meant they would be eliminated if they lost another game.

But Sunday saw the team reel off six victories in a row, including beating undefeated Local 447 from Sacramento twice in a row to win the title. In the first game Local 38 found itself down 5 runs before scoring six in the bottom of the seventh (the final) inning, including a game-winning hit by Ken West, to continue on to a second game. In the finale, Local 38 beat Local 447 by a final of 13-3.

Team 2, led by player-coaches Bill Blackwell and Steve Hutchinson, also had an outstanding tournament, going 3-1 on Saturday, and then winning their first game on Sunday against San Jose. Team 2 lost to Local 342 in their second game on Sunday, eliminating them from the tournament. Among the Team 2 standouts were John Snead's great defensive plays at third base, several big home runs by Los Tuimavave, solid play by Joe Mattucci, and some outstanding pitching by Blackwell.



Local 38's Team 1 finished with an 8-1 record, to take the statewide tournament championship for the third year in a row. Pictured here are kneeling left to right: Mike Wetteland, RJ Ferrari, Larry Mazzola, Jr., Dennis Devis, John Aspilleria; standing (left to right): Jason Hagemann, Paco Parks, Steve Venturi, Marcus Sanfilippo, Tom McGee, Shaun Wetteland and Ken West

"We really want to thank Local 442 Business Manager Bill Taylor and his local for hosting this tournament," said Mazzola. "This is the best tournament around. Everything is first class. I also want to thank everyone who competed in the tournament. Teams came from as far away as Los Angeles.

"This is really a fun weekend, and a great way to build brotherhood and solidarity throughout the UA Locals in California."



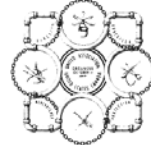
Local 38 Assistant Business Manager and Team 1 coach Larry Mazzola, Jr., is pictured here with defensive MVP Shaun Wetteland and batting champion Tom McGee.



Local 38's Team 2 fought their way to a 4-1 record before being eliminated by Local 342 on Sunday Morning. Pictured here are kneeling (left to right) Matt Shasky, Joe Matteucci, Joe Baggetta, John Snead, T. Tuimavave, Bill Blackwell; standing (left to right) Jeff Spano, James Alysworth, Tony Lem, Joe Taliva'a, Steve Hutchinson, Los Tuimavave.

TELEPHONE (415) 626-2000

FACSIMILE (415) 626-2009
EMAIL: UALOCAL38@UALOCAL38.ORG



UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES
OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY

LOCAL UNION NO. 38

1621 MARKET STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

September 2, 2009

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol

Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing you as the Business Manager and Financial Secretary of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 38--the Chief Executive Officer of our Union--in support of SB 186 (DeSaulnier). This measure maintains the right of injured workers to predesignate their treating physicians and see their own doctors should they get injured on the job.

At the present time, only workers covered by an employer-provided group health insurance plan can exercise their right to predesignate their regular physicians. These physicians must be the workers regular physician, maintain their medical records, and agreed to be predesignated.

This right to see your own doctor if you get injured on the job is a fundamental and indispensable right. It is due to expire on December 31, 2009 unless action is taken. If this right is eliminated workers won't have this choice but will be forced to seek treatment from the Company doctor.

Previous studies indicate that employers' costs are no higher when workers see a doctor of their own choosing, one with whom they have had a prior relationship. The employee satisfaction with his/her medical treatment eliminates conflict and litigations cost in the system. Permitting an injured worker from seeing his own doctor does not increase costs in the workers compensation system. Doctors who treat a work place injury are paid under a set workers' compensation fee schedule.

I urge you to support SB 186.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

LARRY MAZZOLA, SR.
Bus.Mgr. & Fin.Secty-Treas.