



Seattle Worker

April-May 2019 | Vol. 2, Iss. 3

POWER WITHIN OUR GRASP

IF WE WANT THE STARS, WE NEED TO TAKE THE SHIPS.

ORGANIZE!



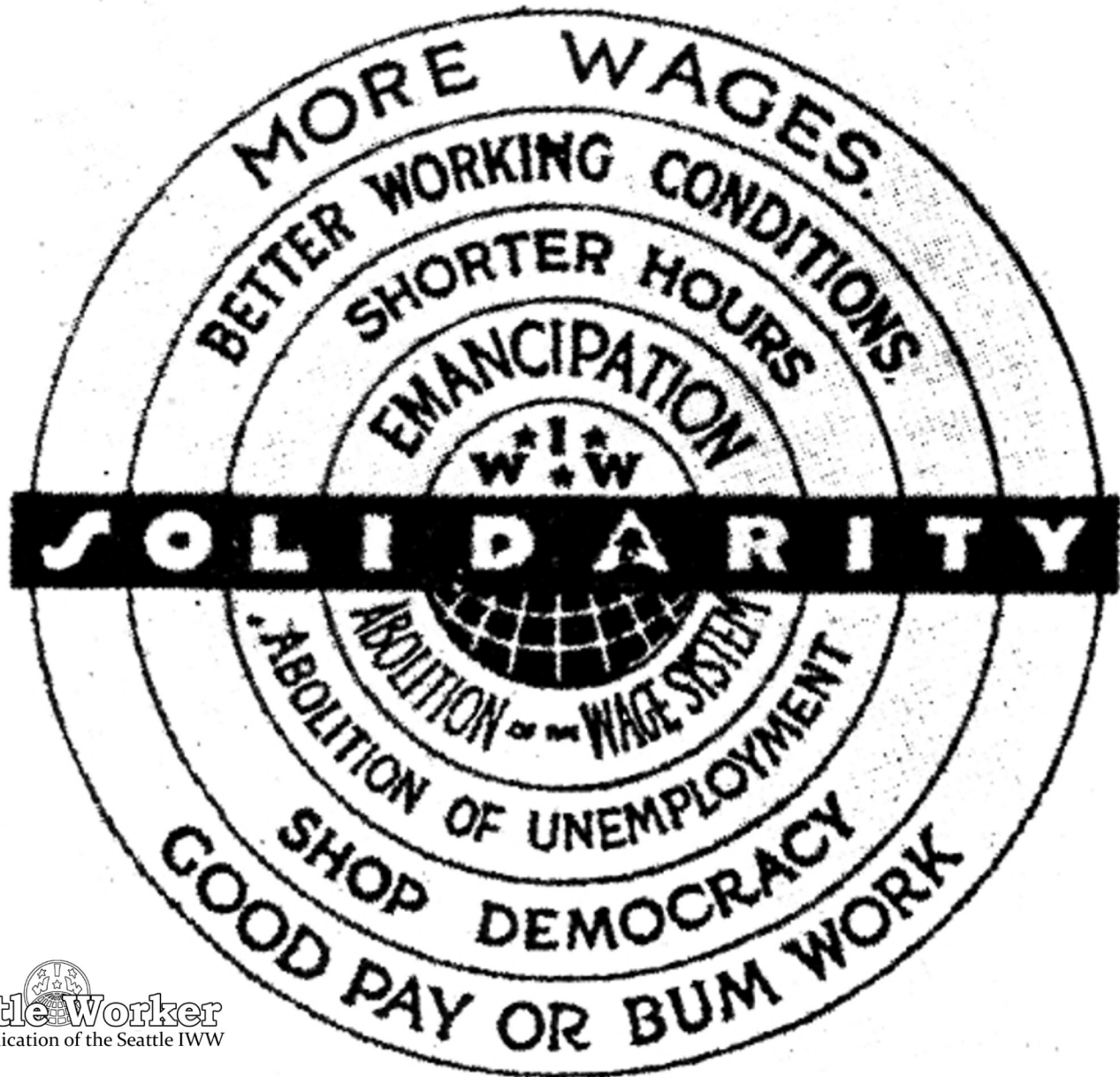
CONTENTS

IN THE NEWS - JAMES SMITH, 2

RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY TREASURER OF THE AFL-CIO - FRANK TONSI, 4

THE MOVEMENT STARTS WITH US - X388133, 5

A WORKER-CENTRIC APPROACH TO UNION PRACTICE - LEXI OWENS, 7




Seattle Worker
Official Publication of the Seattle IWW

Editorial Committee
FW Lindsay Mimir
FW James Smith
FW Hannah Hopkins

Seattle IWW Branch Secretary
FW Lindsay Mimir

Email: seattleiww@gmail.com
Social: facebook.com/seattleiww
twitter.com/seattleiww
Phone: 206.429.5285
Mail: 1122 E. Pike Street, #1142
Seattle, WA 98122
Website: seattleiww.org

Published bimonthly.

Press Date: March 15, 2019

I.W.W.
WHAT WE STAND FOR

THINK IT OVER
JOIN THE
ONE BIG UNION
FIGHT FOR THE FULL PRODUCT
OF YOUR LABOR

In support of revolutionary industrial unionism, this publication is written and printed by union members.

Produced and edited by the Seattle IWW. Articles not so designated do not reflect the IWW's official position.

Submissions welcome!
Email articles, editorials, artwork, and photographs to seattleiww@gmail.com.

In the News

Notes from around the Northwest

By James Smith

The employees of Portland's Providence Medical Center have been arguing for quite some time that the hospital spends too much money on mergers, acquisitions, and executive compensation, and not nearly enough on patient care and employee compensation. It's a pretty easy argument to make once one discovers the CEO of the "non-profit" takes home over \$10 million in compensation every year. The employees, who are composed of workers performing over 60 different functions from housekeeping to nurse assisting, have finally had enough. Over 800 of them voted to unionize with SEIU Local 49.

Boeing has announced the appointment of former United Nations ambassador Nikki Haley to their board of directors. Boeing plans to pay her over \$300,000 annually, and all she has to do is attend up to four meetings a year. Haley doesn't know anything about aerospace. She does, however, know how to fight unions, which she demonstrated when she helped prevent Boeing's South Carolina plant from getting organized during her time as governor of that state. So be wary, Boeing workers. And demand a raise. If they can pay that hack \$300k a year for nothing, surely they can pass you fine folks a few extra dollars.

Swanson Bark and Wood Products in Longview, WA has hired union busting firm CRS Labor Relations Solutions. CRS is apparently tasked with convincing Swanson Bark's employees that the company doesn't have the money to give them a good deal because they spent it on CRS. Thanks to unionbusteralerts.com for keeping us up-to-date on the union busting low lives.

You wouldn't know it from reading the corporate media, but workers' movements everywhere are on the rise. Over 70,000 workers in Mexico, mostly in auto parts plants along the Texas border, struck recently. The largest strike in human history concluded in India, which involved between 150 million and 200 million people. And in the US nearly 500,000

workers participated in large-scale strikes (those involving 1,000 people or more) in 2018, the highest number since 1986. Keep up the good work everyone! And keep organizing! One of these days we'll shut the bosses down for good.

Scabby the Rat, a giant inflatable rat with an unfortunate skin condition, has been used by labor unions for 30 years to call attention to employers using nonunion contractors as scabs. Recently, Operating Engineers Local 150 put up Scabby at multiple Donegal jobsites in Illinois after Donegal hired rat contractors. In response, Donegal filed a complaint with the NLRB stating that Scabby (who has neither brains nor muscles) has "threatened, coerced, or restrained" their customers. The NLRB promptly threw out the complaint because, well, it's stupid. Not too stupid for Trump NLRB appointee Peter Robb, however. Robb ordered them to reopen the complaint and seek an injunction. We doubt Peter Robb reads the *Seattle Worker*, but just in case (and because he hates Scabby so much) we have decided to attach a picture for his displeasure.



Real (inflation adjusted) GDP grew 2.9% in 2018. At the same time, the corporate tax rate was lowered 40%, which means not only were corporations taking in a lot more money, they were paying a lot less in taxes. The bosses couldn't have hoped for a better year, but even with that windfall of money at their disposal, they couldn't bring themselves to share more than a pittance with the rest of us. They grudgingly decided to increase real wages and salaries about 1.7% for the year. The rest of the money, not surprisingly, the bosses kept for themselves.

During the course of the recent government shutdown, unions representing federal workers filed a lawsuit which rightly claimed forcing people to work for free is slavery which has been illegal for over 150 years. Surprisingly, US District Judge Richard Leon is apparently unaware of the Thirteenth Amendment, which outlawed slavery in the US. He decided the employees had to return to work whether they were paid or not. Adding insult to injury, the Justice Department argued that not only were the employees rights not being violated, but they weren't even really being harmed, saying, "interim economic injury is not irreparable harm." One wonders if anyone at the Justice Department has ever had to repay a loan of any type.

The Capitalist Overlord Power Consolidation Summit (also known by its marketing name, The World Economic Forum) invited Nobel Prize winning economist Robert Shiller to speak in Davos. In his talk, Professor Shiller declared that if we in the US subject the oligarchs to a wealth tax they will simply leave the country and take their wealth with them. This would presumably leave the rest of us to govern ourselves, and free us from having to worry about them buying our politicians, controlling our media, paying us low wages, denying us healthcare, polluting our environment, or locking us in their private prisons when we disobey their edicts. With that in mind, we should probably take up Shiller's sage advice, and tax the shit out of the wealthy. Apologies in advance to whichever country they end up in.

Since the West Virginia teachers' strike last year, lots and lots of teachers across the country have gone on strike, including 123,000 in North Carolina, 81,000 in Arizona, 63,000 in Colorado, 45,000 in Oklahoma, 35,000 in West Virginia, 26,000 in Kentucky, 3,000 in Oakland, and 2,400 in Tacoma alone. With their actions, teachers nationwide have not only increased their pay, improved their working conditions, and created environments more conducive to learning, they have even managed to bring crappy politicians to heel. Their actions show that a well-organized workforce doesn't just have power over their workplaces, they have power over the government and our whole society. This is undoubtedly why their largely successful efforts have received so little media coverage: The last thing the oligarchs

want to publicize is the obvious power of a well-organized workforce.

The numbers are in. In 2018 union membership was up slightly, though down as a percentage of the workforce. And workers that were members of labor unions made on average nearly 22% more than workers that were not members of labor unions.

Want a raise? Organize. It's that simple.



RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY TREASURER OF THE AFL-CIO

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT ORGANIZING IN OUR INDUSTRY, WE MUST MEAN THE ENTIRE INDUSTRY, NOT JUST GAME DEVELOPERS BUT ALL GAME WORKERS FROM PROGRAMMERS TO QA TO CLEANING STAFF. BY FRANK TONSI

Editor's Note: The following article is a response to a Kotaku guest editorial that was written by Liz Shuler of the AFL-CIO. In the article, Shuler encouraged people working in the games industry to unionize.

To Liz Shuler, Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO,

I speak as a member of the IWW since Fall 2018, as a member of Game Workers Unite since Spring 2018 (though I do not necessarily speak for GWU as a whole), and most of all as a Game Worker since 2015. The excitement generated by your editorial in Kotaku is palpable because game workers do in fact need a union.

If we game workers are going to have a union, we must answer important strategic questions. The first is whether to organize by craft or by industry. The answer lies in who was primarily affected by a recent rash of high profile layoffs in our industry: people working in departments such as Quality Assurance, whose valuable work is often seen as 'unskilled' by bosses. If we organize by craft, we will leave the most underpaid and precarious workers in our industry vulnerable. Employers will exploit that vulnerability to divide us. It would be bad for the work of game development too; all roles require talking to programmers, designers, artists, QA, and producers every day. We have to be able to rely on and trust the people we work with. This would be undermined by the divisions of organizing by craft, the model under which the AFL generally organizes. Thus, when we talk about organizing in our industry, we must mean the entire industry, not just game developers but all game workers from programmers to QA to cleaning staff.

Organizing by industry instead of craft is also paramount for fighting forms of oppression beyond just capitalism. Anecdotally, if the studios I've worked in had been organized by craft, they would also have been organized along lines of gender, race, and national origin. As programming became highly paid and professionalized, women were pushed out of a trade they formerly dominated, and indeed invented. Now, programming is overwhelmingly done by mostly white men and therefore any union made up solely of programmers would mostly serve the interests of white men. That is no way to build institutions that ought to be fighting every kind of oppression workers face. For this reason, game workers ought to have a union that has not had to learn through trial and error that the primary beneficiaries of white supremacy, misogyny, and xenophobia are the few, not the many. In an

industry whose workers deal with racist, sexist, queerphobic, and xenophobic harassment, we need a union that will fight every form of oppression they face.

Finally, what should the ultimate goal of a games labor movement be? Equilibrium with the bosses whose greed forced us to organize in the first place? The last 50 years have taught us that the capitalist class won't accept such an arrangement. Instead of asking for a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, we must be willing to build a new industry run by the workers themselves. Motion Twin, an indie game studio run as a workers cooperative, has shown us what we can achieve without bosses: success, as defined by critics, audiences, and most of all as defined by the people who make and play games. Their game "Dead Cells" was a financial and critical success in a field dominated by multi-billion dollar game studios, dramatic boom-or-bust releases, worker burnout, and massive layoffs. We are the ones who make these games and we know best how to organize ourselves and create a more democratic game industry.

Game Workers of the World Unite to beat The Boss!

You can find Shuler's full article here: <https://bit.ly/2X6hYUr>
And a Follow Up Q&A here: <https://bit.ly/2SNLYB2>



ARE YOU A WORKER INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR WORKPLACE STORY?

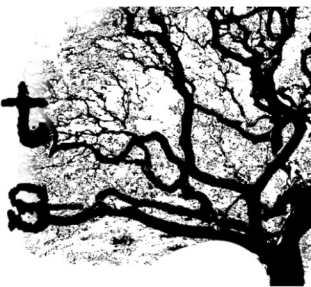
We want to hear from you. The Seattle Worker is gathering interviews with workers about your life and conditions on the job.

Contact us:
seattleiww@gmail.com
[facebook.com/seattleiww](https://www.facebook.com/seattleiww)
twitter.com/seattleiww

Seattle Worker

RAIN CITY SEATTLE WASHINGTON WOBBLES

The Movement Starts with Us



Today's workplaces are tremendously alienating and our lives have been designed to isolate us from genuine human contact. Think of an office worker's average day: wake up at 6am in a single family home in the suburbs, drive alone for an hour to an office, spend all day in a cubicle, then drive an hour or more back for a lonely dinner. Every day lonelier than the next.

The only interactions many of us have with other workers is when we're buying stuff at stores and restaurants, attempting to fill relationship gaps with capitalist exchange. We swim through the muddy waters of settler-colonialism, racism, patriarchy, and other forms of hierarchy and domination in the workplace and society at large. The employer class, along with their cronies in the state, have successfully reduced almost all socializing into transactions and hierarchical power relations, and, of course, they sit at the very top.

The outcome is that our human relationships have been crushed. It is a horrible state of affairs. The IWW is committed to changing it.

The Preamble to the IWW Constitution says it is the historic mission of the working class to abolish capitalism, and by organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old. When we organize our fellow workers and job branches into the IWW and carry on the class struggle, we aren't just winning gains on the shop floor, we are forming the structure of that new society. The innumerable utopias of tomorrow are being born in our

organizing efforts every day, win or lose on the shop floor—as long as we go about it right.

The core of socialism (or communism, choose any of

those loaded terms) is this: completely changing society to focus on and facilitate deep, egalitarian, non-hierarchical relationship building. Forming a new society in the shell of the old is a strategy. It means we must prefigure that new society in our relationships with fellow workers while engaging in the class struggle. Switching between modes of production isn't sufficient.

Building those genuine human relationships must be at the center of any anti-capitalist organizing strategy. This is precisely because our lives have been entirely reduced to hierarchical power relations by capitalism while human emotion and sociability have been completely erased. We have plenty of historical evidence that shows replacing one

rigidly hierarchical social structure with another can just as easily lead to different forms of intense exploitation and violence.

So, I'd like to propose an addition to our labor organizing toolbox: focus on building healthy relationships. What does this approach mean for organizing in the One Big Union?

First off, remember that we are organizing the workers, not just the shop. A Wobbly that has positive experiences and training from a shop campaign will take that knowledge elsewhere—along with their relationships. The more Wobblies we are connected to, the more our collective knowledge and experience can help workers' struggles succeed.

Second, it's imperative that our union culture, from job branches up through the General Administration, helps facilitate those healthy worker bonds. Building strong internal relationships in the union is the ultimate virtuous cycle because it allows us to get more union work done and makes us more appealing to new members. If we are to grow sustainably and become a formidable force in the class struggle, we must attract and retain members from all walks of life and from all oppressed classes. People are much more likely to take out and retain their IWW membership when union spaces are liberated, anti-oppressive, and contain positive atmospheres. As a practical first step, building up solid Good & Welfare and Social Committees that engage members in more relaxed social events can go a long way.

Third, we must ensure we have effective conflict mediation and accountability processes in place. There will inevitably be interpersonal tension and disagreements in our union—which is totally normal and healthy!—but it's probably in our best interest to stay as united as possible against our oppressors. We can even come out of disagreements with stronger relationships than before, if the conversations are done carefully. Bosses and capitalists are little more than petty bullies, after all, and we must strive to not replicate the structures and behaviors of capitalism if we seek to abolish it.

Fourth, practice, preach, and spread solidarity. This may seem tautological, but our workplaces and communities are incredibly atomized. People hardly know their neighbors or fellow workers, much less experience solidarity with them. I'd bet most don't even know what solidarity is. Practicing solidarity in our job branches, General Membership Branches, and Industrial Union Branches is revolutionary because it interrupts the social cycles put in place by capitalists and introduces a factor that has been missing from labor for decades.

WE MUST STRIVE TO NOT REPLICATE THE STRUCTURES AND BEHAVIORS OF CAPITALISM IF WE SEEK TO ABOLISH IT.



Building Relationships for Collective Struggle

x388133

We must always remember that labor is a process of social cooperation. The twisted thing about capitalism is that the bosses threaten and manipulate people into abusive social forms, and force us to do work that is harmful to each other and the planet. They see us as disposable pieces of a machine. If we are to prefigure a new social system, we can't fall into the same trap. We must recognize people as far more than just their labor, but as human beings with complex emotions, skills and enormous potential. Our new forms of cooperation—and the work we choose to take on—must be humane, egalitarian, and democratic. Otherwise, the brave new world is not going to be better than the old.

This focus on relationship building is not just about treating each other nicely; it is an essential strategy for growing the One Big Union and combating capitalism at all levels. Capitalism relies on the reproduction of the social dynamics it thrives in: isolation, poverty, hierarchy, despondency, and abuse, among others. It is a vicious cycle that recreates itself. If we interrupt that cycle of social reproduction and replace it with one based in community, cooperation, democracy, hope, and solidarity, we essentially stop reproducing capitalism and start reproducing a revolution.

Even more importantly, an organization where members' relationships are based in those principles and that promotes a positive politics of hope will attract new members far more easily than one based in negativity. Like the old adage says, "know the union, hear the union, see the union." When people know about, hear about, and see an organization building a better world, they are far more likely to join up and fight for change.

So far I've mostly described a proposed social form. But the content of those relationships is just as important. If we build the right core content—regardless of individual behaviors and attitudes—we can flourish. The fundamentals of that core should be solidarity, trust, and anti-oppression.

Solidarity is the most important part—which is why I mention it twice in this essay. As a concept solidarity may seem simple, but it can be tricky to implement because folks often confuse "solidarity" with "friendship," especially in the context of active struggle. Friendship is a way to treat others who we already know; it's built on a history of relationship (however short or long). Solidarity, however, is primarily a way of treating people we don't know. It is reflexively empathizing and aiding others in their struggles, regardless of our history of relationship with them. Not all friendships have solidarity (some friendships can be quite abusive), and

not all solidarity contains friendship (but solidarity does preclude abuse). Walking into a space where everyone will go far out of their way to help in a struggle is a powerful, infectious feeling. That's solidarity; it's a foundational relationship that only strengthens all others.

Trust is the tree growing out of solidarity's fertile soil. It is built upon a history of working together and caring for each others' needs, but can be a bit difficult. This is especially true when personality differences come into play. However, trusting relationships are critical for group accountability and getting union work done. Organizing committee members must trust each other to accomplish tasks like building the social map and doing one-on-ones. On the shop floor, workers must trust that they'll have each others backs when confronting the boss or executing a direct action. Our branches must trust our officers to do the administrative work we have asked them to do, and trust each other to remove people from office if need be. The tree both receives and gives nutrients to the soil; trust and solidarity act the same.

Finally, anti-oppressive relationships are like the leaves on our tree and the sub-surface root networks tying the forest together. I mentioned earlier that capitalism is essentially reproduced by petty abuse and oppression. That oppression doesn't just fall on class lines, but also on gender, race, and others. Perpetuating these patterns in our relationships keeps our fellow workers who are women, people of color, trans and/or non-binary, or other oppressed people from participating in our union. Moreover, it breeds resentment and personal issues that often go long unaddressed. But when our relationships are based in anti-oppressive principles, we have more energy and unity to take the fight to our common enemies. Without that energy, we have nothing.

WE MUST RECOGNIZE PEOPLE AS FAR MORE THAN JUST THEIR LABOR, BUT AS HUMAN BEINGS WITH COMPLEX EMOTIONS, SKILLS AND ENORMOUS POTENTIAL.

We must put these kinds of activities at the forefront of our organizing if we are to reshape society. What this looks like for the IWW varies from branch to branch, but socials and training sessions are indispensable tools to grow the union and reinvigorate the labor movement. We have a long way to go to organize the working class and prefigure a new society. We must build up to the virtuous cycle of sustained growth of the union, and the only way to do that is by focusing on our relationships.

Building to Win: A Worker-Centric Approach to Union Practice

By Lexi Owens

The worker is the center of our social and economic reality. Therefore, for us to achieve our aims, we must be the creators of our own liberation. The way we achieve that goal must be based on worker organization that empowers workers to become the instruments of their own liberation.

THEORY AND PRAXIS

In the IWW, we are guided by a central theory: the working class must organize itself so that we can build the power necessary to overthrow capitalism and establish a new just and equitable society. Our theory is based on the knowledge that workers are the true creators. They are members of the class that creates not only products and commodities, but also wealth, knowledge, culture, infrastructure, and all the necessities of life. *Wage labor*—where the worker sells their time and energy to an employer in exchange for money—and *unwaged labor*—where the worker does labor that allows them and their family to live, such as childcare or food preparation—form the fundamental underpinnings of our existence in society. Labor is an essential part of the relationships formed between the working class and the employing class, between workers, between members of families and neighborhoods and communities. The worker is the center of our social and economic reality.

Therefore, for us to achieve our aims, we must be the creators of our own liberation. Our power comes from our ability to withhold our labor and cause a crisis for the employer. They need us to work because without our labor, nothing can be created. We believe that workers must control their own workplaces, which are the sites of our interaction with capitalists and the basis of our power.

This is what separates the IWW from business unions. At their core, business unions sell the labor of their members for the highest price. They are in the business of unionism; they are willing participants in capitalism. Labor organizations like the American Federation of Labor (AFL) pose no challenge to capitalism because they collaborate with the capitalists, they make deals to ensure there is peace between the workers and their bosses, and they push for change only insofar as workers see a marginal improvement in their daily lives. The IWW is revolutionary. We want to change the balance of power in industry. So while we will always work

towards winning better working conditions in the short term, our long-term goal is the destruction of capitalism. The way we achieve that goal must be based on worker organization that empowers workers to become the instruments of their own liberation.

PRACTICAL RULES TO LIVE BY

1 Form bonds with fellow workers. We are in struggle together. Only together can we fight and win. Your union is only as powerful as the willingness to stand together to achieve shared goals.

Individually, we have little or no power against the bosses. One worker asking for a raise will rarely be successful. But many workers, who take action together, can win whatever change they want in the workplace. This can only be achieved by bringing workers together in shared struggle, using the bonds they already share with each other or creating new ones. Trust, solidarity, friendship, camaraderie, whatever it is called, it must be built, which will take time and effort.

2 The workers are the union, you must believe it and you must behave appropriately. The struggle belongs to every participant. They won't believe it if you don't.

If every worker doesn't buy in to the struggle, then they won't be working towards change. The organizer's job is to show workers how they can be part of the union because it is both for them and from them. The union can only function if the

workers believe it is working in their interests. And it can only work in their interests if they are active participants. Don't stand in their way, don't let undemocratic decisions or leaders set bad precedents. Ensure all participants are equal in the struggle.

3 All workers are capable of doing tasks for the union. Find the appropriate tasks that grow their confidence and organizing capacity, and get them involved early and often. They must build the union.

The organizer can't and will never build the union on their own. Workers will lead the way by completing the tasks needed to push the campaign forward, everything from gathering phone numbers to recruiting new members to holding a walkout. The best way to get workers involved is to ask them to take on tasks and make sure they complete them. This will build their confidence, help the campaign, and get them committed to winning. It also shows achievable goals that can be met so winning becomes achievable and not completely abstract. They then become the leaders of their own organization.

4 Struggle leads to change. Workers who take actions will grow as instruments of their own liberation.

As workers gain the confidence they need to complete tasks, they will also gain the confidence they need to confront their bosses. Overcoming adversity, winning small demands, solving problems, and growing as organizers will help workers realize their own potential. As they grow, they will get stronger and more rebellious.

5 Leaders lead, recruit them and their followers will join too. Develop the leadership capabilities of both existing leaders and future leaders. Hold leaders accountable.

A leader is anyone with followers. They are respected by their fellow workers for myriad reasons. Their opinions matter. If they turn against the union, the people who respect them will also turn on the union. Turn these organic leaders

into assets of the union, people who will continue to lead, help the campaign, recruit, and build up others to be leaders.

6 Model democracy. Do not tell the workers what to do, help them find the solution they want to take on. You are only one part of the democratic whole.

We can't win by dictating to workers how they must act, how they must organize, and how they must behave. Worker power is built by individuals acting in concert together, deciding democratically how to act. Democracy means each participant is part of the decision-making process, having equal ability to raise concerns, discuss action, vote, and participate in the outcome. If you want workers to feel as though they are part of the union, then you must show them how to act democratically by being a part of the democratic process yourself.

7 Your ability to take decisive action is contingent upon the willingness of your fellow workers to fight. We have been conditioned for centuries to yield to authority and become complacent. A good organizer finds the issues people are ready to fight for and develops the workers' skills for that fight.

If we do not fight, we will never win. For most workers, fighting the bosses feels wrong. They are used to capitulating because they have been taught that will help their careers, and they are all aware of the consequences of rebelling. But all workers want something better in their workplaces, you need to find those things and help workers unite around those issues until they are ready to fight. Build up the workers until they can fight and until they can withstand being knocked down. Not every action will be successful. This is class warfare being waged across millions of battlefields. One of those battlefields is the workers' minds. Help them discover their own skills, build those skills, and make sure that when they go to war, they know how to win.

This article is heavily indebted to the insights and lessons from Jane McAlevey's excellent book, *No Shortcuts: Organizing for Power in the New Gilded Age* (2016).

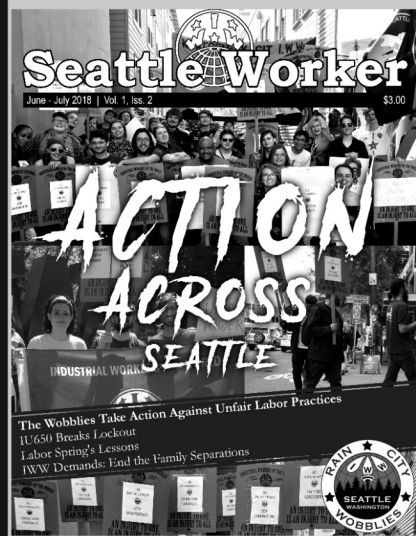
These Wobblies are in full rebellion...

Just tell me what you want!
I'll do anything! If you don't
get back to work, this whole
place will fall apart!



X390433 - Rain City Wobblies - 3/19

Smart revolutionaries don't need guns and bombs.
They join the IWW, get organized, and take control!



Support the *Seattle Worker*

You can support the *Seattle Worker* and the Rain City Wobblies by supporting our official publication on Patreon. All proceeds are kept by the branch and are used to pay for printing and shipping the magazine. Each patron on Patreon is guaranteed to receive every new issue.

Subscription pricing rates

For as little as \$3 per month, you'll receive every printing of the *Seattle Worker*.

All prices include shipping and handling.

To subscribe, visit: patreon.com/seattleworker



LABOR IS ENTITLED TO ALL IT PRODUCES.

Established July 7th 1905

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD CHARTER

To Whom it May Concern, A petition for Charter having been received by us from a group of *Wage Workers* located *Seattle, Wash.*, we, acting under authority from the Industrial Workers of the World, do grant this Charter to

General Recruiting Union Branch No. 1

To be held by them or their successors, and the aforesaid Branch Union being duly installed, is authorized and empowered to initiate *Wage Workers* into membership and to transact business in accordance with the constitution, laws and regulations prescribed by the Industrial Workers of the World.

It is understood and agreed by persons installed by virtue of this Charter that each and all of them are bound to perform the duties prescribed by the laws and usages of the Industrial Workers of the World, and that the general organization reserves the right to recall this Charter and to annul the privileges conferred herewith for refusal or failure to perform the duties or comply with the laws and usages of the Industrial Workers of the World.

In consideration of the due and faithful performance of the above requirements, the Industrial Workers of the World is hereby bound to sustain and support the said organization in the exercise of all rights, privileges and benefits as a chartered organization.

In Witness whereof, we have subscribed our names and affixed the Seal of the Industrial Workers of the World this *Fourth* day of *April* 1926

John D. Terrell
General Secretary and Treasurer

Edw. E. Anderson
Chairman of the General Executive Board

W. A. Brown
Helio Madsen
John Briskman
Ed. Haggold
Samuel Werlask
Ed. Mincoff

General Executive Board

Seattle General Recruiting Union Charter, 1926. Before General Membership Branches, GRUs brought together workers from multiple industries to foster organizing. Source: Labor Archives of Washington

Want to become a member? Fill out this form and send it to us:
 1122 E. Pike St. #1142
 Seattle WA 98122

Application for Membership Aplicación para Membresía

I affirm that I am a worker and that I am not an employer. [Afirmo que soy trabajador/a y no soy empleador.]

I agree to abide by the constitution and regulations of this organization, and will study its principles and acquaint myself with its purposes. [Pacto de obedecer a la constitución y las reglas de esta organización, y estudiaré sus principios, y me informaré de sus objetivos.]

Name/Nombre: _____

Address/Dirección: _____

City/Ciudad: _____ State/Estado: _____

ZIP: _____ Country/ País : _____

Email: _____

Telephone/Teléfono: _____

Employer/Empleador: _____

Occupation/Ocupación: _____

I would prefer to receive copies of the IWW's General Organization Bulletin in paper form, by mail (Default is electronic, by email).

[Prefiero recibir copias del Boletín General por correo. (No sobre e-mail)]

I would like information about the IWW's General Defense Committee. [Me gustaría recibir más información sobre el Comité de Defensa General.]

Dues Rate Based on Monthly Income

Cuota Dependiente de Paga Mensual

Under \$2,000 = \$11 per month	Menos que \$2,000 = \$11 por mes
\$2,000 – 3,500 = \$22 per month	\$2,000 a 3,500 = \$22 por mes
Over \$3,500 = \$33 per month	Mas que \$3,500 = \$33 por mes

Initiation fee is equal to one month's dues. Iniciación = cuota de un mes

TO BE FILLED IN BY DELEGATE (PARA LLENAR POR DELEGADOS)

Date/Fecha:
month /mes day/día year/año

Member No. / Número de Miembro/a: X

Industrial Union No. / Número de Sindicato Industrial:

Delegate/ Delegado/a: _____

Delegate No. / Número de Delegado/a: -

Initiation/Iniciación: \$ _____ + Dues/Cuota: \$ _____ + Ass'ts/Tasa: \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

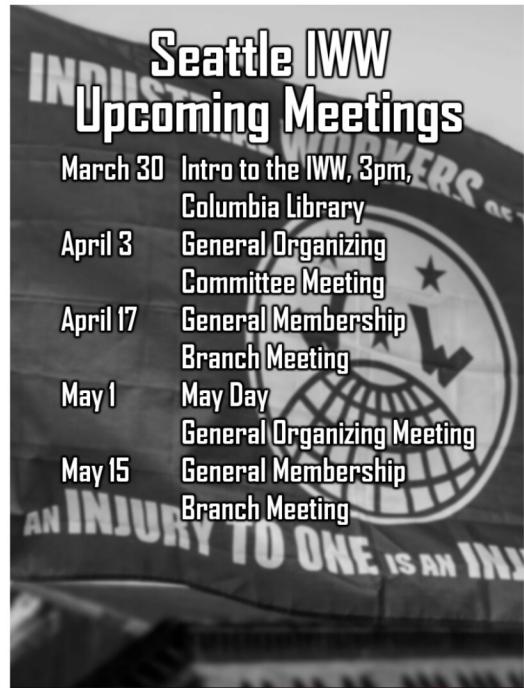
Please Return this Page to General Headquarters

What is the I.W.W.?

The **Industrial Workers of the World** is a radical, democratic, member-run labor union. We are committed to the liberation of the working class from the tyranny of capitalism. We believe that in our current economic system, wages are determined by a small number of elites who belong to the ownership class and we can no longer allow these people to determine our standard of living.

The IWW began in 1905 in Chicago, making it one of the oldest unions in the US. Seattle has a long history with the IWW, going all the way back to 1905. Wobblies--as members of the IWW are known--helped organize the Seattle General Strike of 1919.

We must unite together as workers into a single movement. Only through unity can we hope to revolutionize the economic system which strips away our freedom, our wealth, and our lives. Together, we can fight for what we deserve. But only if we act as one.



Subscribe to the *Seattle Worker*

You can support the *Seattle Worker* and the Rain City Wobblies by supporting our official publication on Patreon. All proceeds are kept by the branch and are used to pay for printing and shipping the magazine. Each patron on Patreon is guaranteed to receive every new issue. We publish a new issue every two months.

To subscribe, visit: patreon.com/seattleworker

Thank you to all our \$5+ patrons:
 Tracy K., Hannah H., Ty U., Eric, and Iain D.