



FOREMEN'S UNION

411 North Harbor Blvd., Ste. 303, San Pedro, California 90731

(310) 832-1109 • (310) 832-1079 • FAX (310) 832-2142

Next Union Meeting; Wednesday March 3 @7:00 pm at the cruise terminal S.P. 92

Nominations for office; Nomination Forms are available in the business office immediately following the January meeting and shall remain available until thirty-six (36) hours following the March membership meeting. Elections shall be held for all officers and committees following close of nominations in March. To apply for an elective position, you must have been a member of Local 94 and in good standing in the previous year and any fines and/or assessments owed must be paid prior to close of nominations or you shall be removed from the ballot.

"As the bylaws prohibit a Trustee from holding another elective office, a nominee may only run for the office of Trustee or for another elective office, but may not run for both. If a member is nominated for both the office of Trustee and for another elective office, the nominee will be required to decline one of the nominations."

Absentee Ballots; Sick and injured Members or on Vacation may apply for an absentee ballot from the Secretary-Treasurer no later than **March, 5 2011**. Absentee Ballots will be mailed out on **March 7** and must be received by **3:00 pm March 11, 2011** at our P.O. Box 1128 San Pedro, CA 90733-1128, Located at 839 S. Beacon Street.

Voting; Will be held on **Friday March, 11 2011** at the Marine Clerks Hall Local 63 from **6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.** in the event that a run-off election is needed, it will take place on **March, 18 2011** at the same location. All active members are required to vote, failure to do so will result in a **\$50.00 fine**.

Vacation Checks; If you have a claim or shortage, please notify the office. The distribution of the Adjusted Vacation claim checks will be **March, 11 2011** if filed by **February 11** or **June, 10 2011** if filed by **May, 20 2011**. If you wish part or all of your vacation check may be contributed to your 401 (K). Contact the Fidelity office @ 1-800-761-4598

Attention Members; Any time additional Labor is required it is the responsibility of All Foremen to make sure management places that order thru the Joint dispatch hall. When the tape say's to elevate this is for original orders that were not filled at initial Dispatch. Please make sure they are doing so "the job you create may be you own."

Social Security now seen to run permanent deficits; Washington (AP)- Sick and getting sicker, Social Security will run at a deficit this year and keep on running in the red until its trust funds are drained by about 2037, congressional budget experts state. The massive retirement program has been suffering from the effects of the struggling economy for several years. It first went into deficit last year but had been projected to post surpluses for a few more years before

permanently slipping into the red in 2016. This year alone, Social Security will pay out \$45 billion more in retirement, disability and survivors' benefits than it collects in payroll taxes. That figure nearly triples to \$130 billion when the new one-year cut in payroll taxes is included. Congress has promised to replenish any lost revenue, the congressional office said government red ink this year will increase to \$1.5 trillion, the most in U.S. history. More than 54 million Americans receive Social Security benefits, averaging \$1,076 per month. The outlook for the program has grown more sour as the nation has struggled to recover from the worst economic crisis since Social Security was enacted, during the Great Depression. In short term President Obama has stated he wanted "a bipartisan solution to strengthen Social Security for future generations. The President however has not embraced recommendations from a debt commission he appointed last year, including one that would gradually increase the full retirement age, from 67 to 69, over the next 65 years. The President did lay down some markers for making Social Security closer to solvent. He stated we must do it without putting at risk current retirees, the most vulnerable, or people with disabilities, without slashing benefits for future generations and without subjecting Americans' guaranteed retirement income to the whims of the stock market. The program has been supported by a 6.2 percent payroll tax, paid by both workers and employers. In December, Congress passed a one-year tax cut for workers, to 4.2 percent. The lost revenue is to be repaid to Social Security from general revenue funds, meaning it will add to the growing national debt. Social Security has built up a \$2.5 trillion surplus since the retirement program was last overhauled in the 1980s. Benefits will be safe until money runs out. That is projected to happen in 2037 unless Congress acts in the meantime. At that point, Social Security would collect enough in payroll taxes to pay out about 78 percent of benefits, according to the Social Security Administration. The \$2.5 trillion surplus, however, has been borrowed over the years by the federal government and spent on other programs. In return The Treasury Department has issued bonds to Social Security, guaranteeing repayment, with interest. "Social Security taxes are not going to pay for the spending, so it's got to come from somewhere else." We can go through long arguments about whether it's owed money by the trust funds or not, but that doesn't alleviate the simple fact that it's got to come from somewhere. Social Security supporters are adamant that the program will be repaid, just as the U.S. government repays others who invest in U.S. Treasury bonds. It's an IOU that is backed by Treasury bonds and the faith and credit of the United States government. As you well know, in the history of this country, the United States has never defaulted on one penny owed to a creditor. **We all must stay abreast of this very important issue it effects us all.**

"The owners have only one objective: The destruction of labor unions...If we can't control the hiring hall, then the right of longshoremens to organize is just a farce... The unions will be destroyed by discrimination and blacklisting." --- Harry Bridges

In Solidarity;

Daniel G. Miranda
President

Edward Alexander
Vice-President

Mike Trudeau
Secretary-Treasurer