



THE EAGLE



LOCAL 1103

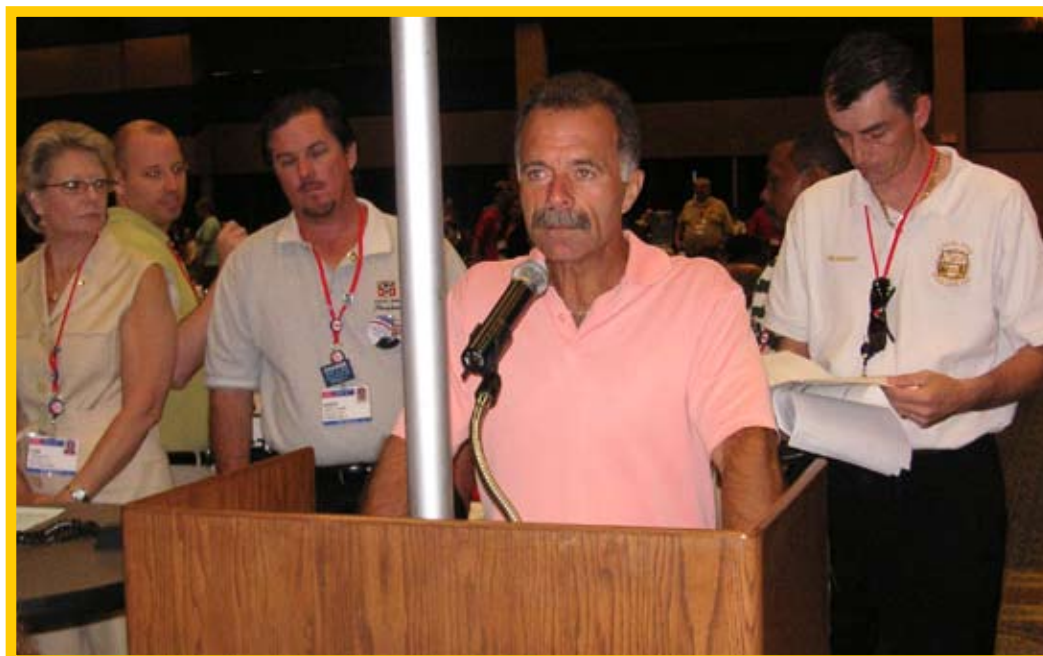
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August 2008

70th Annual CWA Convention

*President
Joey Barca
addresses the
CWA Convention
as he introduces
the 1103 resolution
to increase
the Members'
Relief Fund*



The theme of this year's CWA convention was "This Is Our Time" and CWA President Larry Cohen kicked off the convention by calling on the 2,500 delegates, alternates and guests to return to their Locals and help get Senator Barack Obama elected as our next president. When the convention convened, President Cohen told us to imagine that a year from now we would have the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) signed into

law and affordable, universal health care within reach. Senator Obama, in a live teleconference, confirmed to a roaring crowd that the EFCA would be the law of the land when he is elected and would install a government that once again values workers and worker's rights. He pointed out that, "It's not just that this administration hasn't been fighting for you – they've actually tried to stop you from fighting for yourselves."

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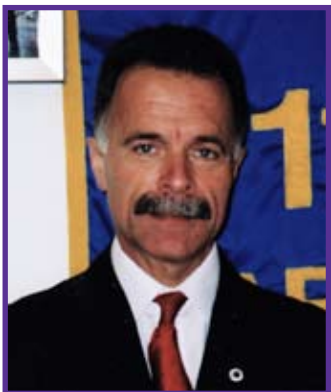
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Golf
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In My View . . .



As I speak to CWA Members, most understand the need the elect Barack Obama to be the next president of the United States; but there are still some Members who continue to have an issue with this today. I feel that it is too important not to address this as

this election will directly affect you, your job, your family and the entire Labor movement.

If Obama is elected, we will be in the best position ever to have the Employee Free Choice Act signed into law and hundreds of thousands of Americans will then be able to freely join or form a union. He has committed to sign this legislation while John McCain has committed not to sign this if elected. Another extremely important issue is guaranteed, affordable healthcare for all. CWA has pushed for this for a long time and Barack Obama is committed to reforming our health care system. If this comes into being, it will take health benefits off of the bargaining table, make the playing field level and stop this potential strike issue from rearing its ugly head, not just for CWA, but for the entire American labor movement. John McCain disagrees with this and even wants you to pay taxes on your current tax free health benefits.

You should also know that Obama is committed to fixing the National Labor Relations Board by having them be what they are supposed to be – advocates for workers, not employers – the very reason they were originally founded. Because of the lack of NLRB support for Labor, the U.S. is now only 12% organized. This is the lowest percentage in the world. Japan is 24%, Canada is 32%, South Africa is 42% and Sweden is 92%. We are the biggest industrialized nation in the world, yet we rank last in being unionized. More than ever we need the NLRB to put the word Labor back in it.

If we do not vote to put Barack Obama in the White House and effect positive changes for

America's working men and women, our way of life will change for the worse. John McCain is likening himself to Ronald Reagan – and even bragging about it saying he will emulate him when he becomes president. Let me remind everyone that it was Ronald Reagan who went out of his way to hurt every unionized worker in California and overturn pro-labor legislation when he was Governor and then fired all the Air Traffic Controllers who went on strike when he was President. Don't let this opportunity to "kick ass on behalf of the working class" go by.



JOSEPH A. BARCA, Jr.
President



THE EAGLE

Proud To Be 1103

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OFFICERS / STEWARDS

Joseph A. Barca, Jr. President
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Mark Crumm John Gentile
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STAFF

Christopher Cutter Assistant to the President
Fran Gottron Organizer
Anthony Masini Office Administrator

Union Hall: 914-939-8203 Tape: 914-939-8205
website: www.cwa1103.org

EDITOR: Chris Cutter

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The 1103 Political Page



by Chris Cutter, Assistant to the President

If you think that the campaign trail to pursue America's votes kicked into high gear last June when the dust settled and only two candidates were left standing, just wait one more month. The Democrats hold their convention the end of this month, and the Republicans start theirs on Labor Day. There are a lot of things that have to be addressed and not skirted around with a bunch of political sound bites.

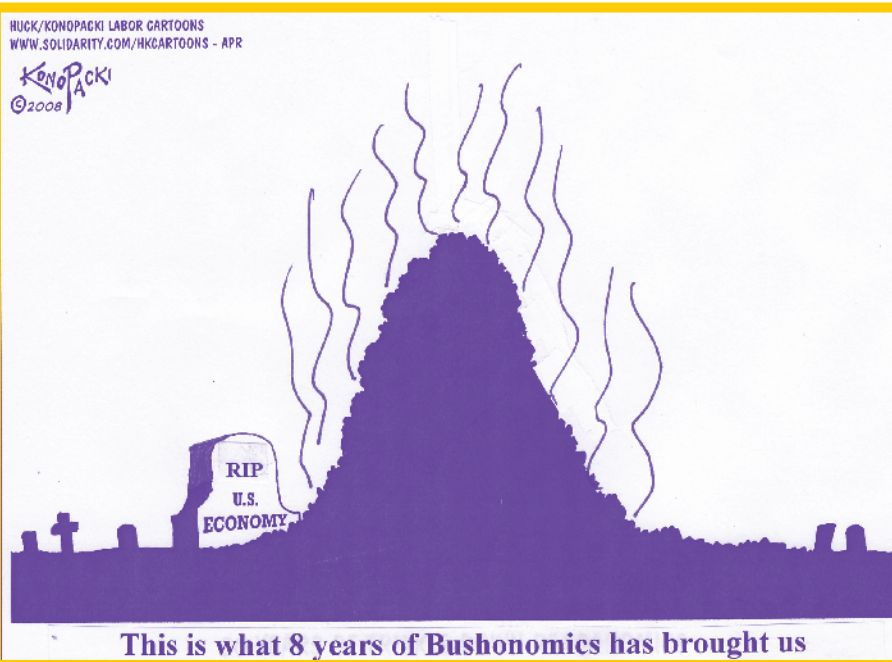
The destruction of the defined pension plan, where guaranteed payments from old-style pensions received through companies whose workers stayed a long time, have been replaced by 401K's. The same destruction is occurring in health care coverage as the risk continues to shift from companies and government to workers and their families, while our current administration has been standing by and doing nothing for the last eight years. Next issue is not

the destruction of the American worker, but the government's abandonment of them. A record number of businesses are going out of business and the American jobs left with them, not to mention the ones that never were created because of all the

tion is the highest it's been in 17 years (Bureau of Labor Statistics), yet John McCain is touting that "we have low inflation." (January 2008) Am I the only one paying nearly \$5 a gallon for gas? Is it only my heating oil that has skyrocketed? Are other people getting hit with increases in every federal, state, county, local and school tax imaginable as I am?

It is obvious the candidates have to be clear on their economic policies. John McCain is not afraid to talk about immigration or the war, but every time he's been confronted about his economic

policy, he shies away from the topic. Why? Maybe it's because he admits that, "Economics is something that I've never really understood." (December 2007) Here's some statistics that show his plan is just more Bushonomics. He wants to make the Bush tax cuts (for the rich) permanent. Price tag: \$2 trillion over 10 years. He wants to repeal the alternative minimum tax.



This is what 8 years of Bushonomics has brought us

Free Trade Agreements reached (1.8 million more unemployed – Bureau of Labor Statistics 3/08). And while this is happening, tax incentives are given to companies that set up shop overseas. Liars figure and figures lie. We keep hearing that the economy has grown since 1990; but they forget to add that the benefits have only gone to the few at the top. For everyone else it's been an economic catastrophe. Infla-

Continued on back page

2008 Local Scholarship Winners

It is with a great deal of pride that we announce the winners of our 32nd Annual Local 1103 Scholarship program. These grants are intended to give the first year college student an extra helping hand during those crucial first months in a new academic world. There are no restrictions on what the scholarship money can be spent on. The money may be applied towards tuition, books, clothing or whatever else best helps the student to embark upon his or her new scholastic life.

The random drawing was held at the General Membership meeting at the County Center on June 10th, with members of Team Cleary drawing the winning applicants. The following sons and daughters of Local 1103 Members were chosen.

E. Gerald Horgan Award

The recipient of the E. Gerald Horgan Memorial Scholarship for \$2,000 was **Vanessa Brembs**, daughter of 999 Nepperhan Ave. TTA **John Brembs**.

Daniel L. Keenan Award

The Daniel L. Keenan Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 was won by **Brian Amato**, the son of New Rochelle Field Tech **Angelo Amato Jr**.

Eugene J. Mays Award

The Eugene J. Mays Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 was won by **Marisa McCauley**, the daughter of retired Arlo Lane Field Tech **Robert McCauley**.

Howard T. Miles Award

The recipient of the Howie Miles Memorial Scholarship for \$1,500 was **Robert Kliegl**, the son of **Shari Kliegl**, a Paraprofessional at the Berry School in Bethel, Conn.



Executive Board Awards

The recipients of the two Executive Board Scholarships of \$1,000 each were **Kevin Scrobola Jr**, the son of Rock Cut Field Tech **Kevin Scrobola**; and **Douglas Sheahan**, son of 1103's Secretary/Treasurer **Doug Sheahan**.

Thomas J. Wonsor Awards

The eighth Annual Life Members Club Scholarship Awards of \$500 each, which were renamed in honor of the LMC's first President, were awarded to students who are currently in college and will be continuing on.

The winners of the Thomas J. Wonsor Memorial Scholarships were **Caitlin Modelson**, daughter of Croton Falls TTA **Andy Modelson**, and **Christopher Berquist**, the son of Yonkers Central Office Tech **Mike Berquist**.

Presentation Of Awards

The presentation of the 1103 Scholarship Awards to the winners were made at the Local 1103 Annual Picnic on July 27th. Since the Local 1103 Scholarship Program was initiated 32 years ago, \$190,751 in scholarships have been awarded to the children of Members in good standing of the Local.

The Executive Board of Local 1103 wish these, and all the sons and daughters of Local 1103 Members, much success in their scholastic endeavors.

KEVIN SHEIL,
Vice President

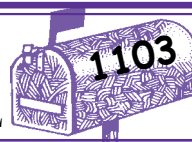
Dear Christopher,

I wanted to personally thank you for everything you have done for me these past 16 months, and now I am asking you to do one more thing and join me in supporting Senator Obama. This has been a long and hard-fought campaign, but as I have said throughout the campaign, I will strongly support Senator Obama if he is the Democratic Party's nominee.

As I continue my lifelong work for a stronger America and a better world,

LETTERS

TO THE LOCAL



I hope I can continue to count on you for the support and strength you have always shown. I can never possibly express my gratitude for your thoughtfulness and kindness, so let me simply say, Thank You.

Sincerely,
/s/ **HILLARY**
Hillary Rodham Clinton

To the 1103 Retirement Appreciation Committee,

On behalf of Team Cleary, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the retirement committee and to the 1103 President Joey Barca and the Executive Board for their tireless and continued support for our injured Brother, Kevin Cleary. As you know, the monies raised are desperately needed and put to good use. Speaking for Kevin and Team Cleary, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

In solidarity,
/s/ **PAUL RAO**

GOLF BENEFIT

18th Annual CWA Local 1103

Gerry Horgan & Ray Borella Memorial Open

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

\$150 per person

Shotgun Start @ 9:30 A.M. - Scramble Style

Registration & Breakfast @ 8 A.M.

Lunch on the Links

Buffet Dinner

Hole-in-One Contest (2008 Automobile & other prizes) Gifts

Raffle

Prizes



BEEKMAN COUNTRY CLUB

Hopewell Junction, New York

(845) 226-7700

No money will be accepted at the door. All reservations must be paid in advance

CALL THE UNION HALL AT (914) 939-8200 FOR RESERVATIONS

Please Note: The Beekman C.C.'s golf shoe policy is no metal spikes allowed.

ALSO - NO COOLERS ALLOWED ON THE COURSE & COLLARED SHIRTS ONLY

Mobile beverage carts will be available all day during the outing

All Proceeds Go To The

Ray Borella & Gerry Horgan Families

RAIN DATE AVAILABLE IF NEEDED

**IN MEMORY OF
Our
Union Brother**

**GERRY
HORGAN**

**Who was killed on a
picket line in August
1989, striking with
his Brothers and
Sisters against the
greed of a wealthy
NYNEX Corporation**



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA - LOCAL 1103

(AFFILIATED WITH A.F.L.-C.I.O.-C.L.C.)

345 WESTCHESTER AVENUE • PORT CHESTER, NY 10573



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Political Page.. continued from page 3

Price tag: up to \$2 trillion according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. He wants to keep the war going ad infinitum. Price tag: approximately \$150 billion per year (on top of the \$760 billion already spent - Daily News 6/19). Then there's his health-care plan that ends the employer tax exemption. Price tag: it will use the proceeds to subsidize the purchase of health care coverage in the private market and "will require huge subsidies he's not talking about," according to economist

Jon Gruber. And finally, he wants to cut the corporate tax rate by 10% and allow business to fully write off capitol investments as soon as they make them. How is all this going to happen you ask? By cutting the size and obligations of the federal government to its citizens in order to pay for these tax cuts and the war.

Barack Obama has not shied away from what he wants to implement as his economic policy. It's the exact opposite of McCain's and every working

man and woman in America should know this before they go to the polls this November. I've heard too many pro-Clinton/anti-Obama supporters say they will never vote for Obama and are going to vote for McCain or not at all. Are you better off now than 8 years ago? Do you have more in your pocket at the end of the week than 8 years ago? These Robin Hood in reverse policies have to go and there's only one way to do it - and that's to vote for Barack Obama.