



CWA National Convention, 2010 Washington D.C.

Our National Convention and Legislative Conference this year was attended by me, Executive Vice President Doug Thomas, Secretary/Treasurer Letty Gutierrez, and Vice-President Brandon Bouchard, Yvonne Melton your other elected delegate chose to remain as acting president in our absence caring for the issues that arose. We joined other locals from around the country, Puerto Rico, and Canada in deciding the course we must take going forward in strength as well as resolving disputes brought to the body for finale resolution. While guests and speakers were kept at a minimum to allow for more debate on very significant proposals for change there where some notable friends of Labor there to share with us including: Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Julius Genachowski Chairman FCC, Mark Gaston Pearce Member National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), Jon Soltz Chairman Vote Vets, and Members of Congress Luis Gutierrez, Sander M. Levin and Barney Frank.

The are three main areas or forms that changes to decisions and directions take are Resolutions, Appeals, and Constitution changes all of which have corresponding committees that evaluate submissions received and make recommendations to the convention Delegates who ultimately make the final decisions.

Ten appeals made it to the convention floor and concerned refusals to arbitrate cases, decisions made by locals, districts, and our national Executive Board. The three involving member grievances were all overturned by the body and will be arbitrated. The other appeals are available in full at the local for those interested. Twelve resolutions were presented at our 72nd annual Convention which were as follows:

- 1) CWA Supports “ One Nation” Movement
- 2) Building Sustainable Communities
- 3) Ready for the Future-Combining Districts 2 and 13
- 4) Renewing Support for Constituency Groups
- 5) Renegotiate South Korea Trade Agreement
- 6) Senate Procedural Changes Needed to End Legislative Gridlock
- 7) Support T-Mobile Workers
- 8) Support Iraqi Labor Rights
- 9) Support the Troops, Bring Them Home
- 10) Public Employee Pension Protection: Stop the Race to the Bottom
- 11) Tear Down the Wall at Verizon
- 12) American Red Cross: Labor Disputes and Blood Safety Problems

All passed and are available at the local for review

From the Constitutional Committee seven lengthy proposed constitutional changes were presented with some being recommended and others not. One of the Major changes was the passage of Bi-Annual conventions beginning after the 2011 Convention to be held in Las Vegas which includes language for appeals to be handled in non-convention years by a presidents meeting called by our National.

Following convention CWA’ers from across the country converged on the Hill meeting with Legislators and letting your voices be heard in a big way. Going forward we all came away knowing more clearly than ever the need to more effectively and equally embrace every side of the CWA Triangle.