Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you all had a pleasant Labor Day and for those that attended Local 377’s Annual Picnic, I trust you enjoyed the day with family and friends. My thanks to all who helped make it a successful event. As the end of the year approaches, we are once again in a general election cycle. This special edition of the 377 Bridgeman will provide you with information that will hopefully assist you in making informed choices when you go to the polls.

On November 2nd, we will have the opportunity to shape our future by voting for candidates who support working families and the union’s efforts to secure better wages, safer worksites, and improved benefits.

Every vote will count in this election. Whether it’s a local bond measure to build more schools, or a city council or state legislature race between a pro-labor and anti-labor candidate, this election is critical for workers.

Most importantly, who we choose for governor could impact prevailing wage requirements and our ability to negotiate project labor agreements. There is a clear choice in this election between pro-union candidate Jerry Brown, and anti-union candidate Meg Whitman. Billionaire Whitman, who is endorsed by the non-union contractor association ABC, has spent millions of her own money in an attempt to buy the election, even though by her own admission, she never voted in 28 years and has no government experience! On the other hand, I believe Jerry Brown understands how to fix the state. Jerry supports high speed rail, and, as governor, he created over 1.9 million jobs. He has made California a leader in green energy, and has a plan to create 500,000 new green jobs. And Jerry knows that to fix the economy, we have to invest more in schools, transportation, and job training. He will return California to a state that values workers, good wages, and above all else, jobs.

Local 377 is working hard to make sure our members are registered to vote, are educated about the issues and the candidates, and make it to the voting booth on November 2nd – and we could use your help making sure we “get out the vote” for candidates who support working people. Between now and November 2nd, Local 377 would appreciate your help with phone banking and precinct walking. You can contact the Local or visit our website at www.ironworkers377.com for more information.

Vote, volunteer, and let’s make sure we put candidates in office who will stand up for working people.
I would like to wish a nice Indian summer to all the members of Local #377!

Conco Reinforcing has about 10-15 hands working at U.C.S.F Neuro-Science building at Block 19A, off of 3rd & 16th St in San Francisco. Conco also has a job starting up at the Buck Center New Edition in Novato. Cahill/Otto Joint Venture is the General Contractor on this project which is worth about $40 million.

Cal Erectors will be in later this year to erect the structural and miscellaneous steel on this project.

Harris Salinas will return in the first week of October to the Doyle Drive Project. They will have another big project coming up in November for the Roadway connecting the new bridge to the Treasure Island Tunnel.

CMC Rebar also has work coming up on Phase II of the Doyle Drive Project. CMC will also be starting a new project for UCSF children’s hospital in late December. CMC still has a few hands working on the Chinatown Community College at Kearny Street.

PCS has work going on at the new SFPUC Building at Golden Gate & Polk. SME will have most of the miscellaneous steel on this Project starting up in late November.

PCS is also working on block 10 for developer BOSA out of Vancouver British Columbia, just down the street from the ballpark; this will be two twin 17 story condominiums and a 10 story main building.

Alamillo Rebar has work at two locations in San Francisco: North Beach and the Lowe’s home Improvement center near the hall that is finishing up. They still have about 6-8 hands working there.

AB/Fluor hired a few hands a number of weeks ago and may put on three more hands in the near future.

We are in the final leg of the Mid-term Elections and we have some very important races on the line. We strongly urge our members to participate and volunteer for this monumental task. Please help out with precinct walk, phone banks if you can.

Thank you

John Rocha  Business Representative

Greetings Brothers, Sisters, and Retirees,

In San Francisco, we currently have 205 Journeyman and 30 Apprentices on the out of work list. There are signs that reinforcing work will pick up soon, which indicates that the other facets of our trade will follow suit.

At SFIA Terminal #2, Lee’s Imperial Welding has a crew of 10 working on the miscellaneous package, Olson Steel has 5 hands doing Ornamental work, and Florian has 3-4 hands doing finish work. Also, BEI Steel will have 5-6 hands working on the Jet Way Bridges late October or early November. Down at Stanford University, Turner is the General Contractor for the Bing Concert Hall, Harris Salinas has 7-8 men on the rods, and Olson has the structural and miscellaneous for this truss job. Pacific Erectors will do the decking.

Also at Stanford, Vance Brown is the General Contractor for the East Campus Dining Hall. Nor-Cal Steel has the Rods, Summit Steelworks has the structural and miscellaneous packages, and Walters and Wolf will have the panels.

The upcoming election is critical to working people. We must vote for candidates who have our best interest in mind: Jerry Brown for Governor and Barbara Boxer for Senator. These are candidates who will protect prevailing wage. Now more than ever we must exercise our right to vote, and we must vote for candidates who will help us, not hurt us!

Please fill out Steward Cards and attend your union meeting the 2nd Friday of each month at 7 PM.

Work Safe!

Terrence Dunnigan  Business Representative
The work in the South Bay over the past few months has been sporadic and generally slow. Even so, there have been some very good projects that have employed many of our members.

Despite the fact that we are down in reported hours by over 30%, solar projects and data centers have kept a number of people employed in rebar, structural and miscellaneous work.

Solyndra, Western Digital and Equinox are some of the larger projects recently completed with the Ironworkers.

The data center on Reed Street in San Jose is another large project that is currently being erected by Schuff Steel. Schuff will employ close to 30 Ironworkers for another 4-5 weeks of erection. Anning & Johnson is onsite installing the metal deck on this 300 ft. by 1,100 ft. building. American Steel & Stair will be ramping up their manpower for the stairs and miscellaneous package. J.J. Albanese has been onsite placing rebar, averaging a dozen hands.

Work is underway on solar projects at Kaiser Hospital on Lawrence Expressway with Schuff Steel, East Side Union High School District (6) schools with Delta Steel, and Morgan Hill (2) schools with C.E. Toland installing solar with Baja Construction. As more of this work becomes available these and many more of our companies will be bidding to get this work.

Cal Erectors is currently erecting at Network Appliance in Sunnyvale. This is a four story building that has been on hold for over a year. Anning & Johnson is on the decking. Olson Steel has the stairs and miscellaneous and Walters and Wolf will be installing the precast panels.

Although Cal Erectors has been slow in recent months, they will begin to get busy in October and November. First they will start a Kaiser Hospital project in Oakland with reportedly more than one year of erection. Then in November they are scheduled to start the Bed Building Replacement at Valley Specialties Hospital in San Jose.

This project will also kick off work for B.T. Mancini on the metal deck, Olson Steel on the stairs and miscellaneous, and Pacific Erectors on the architectural panels. The project will provide a number of jobs for our members.

Westco Ironworkers also have some new projects lined up in October and November. The first project, a data center at Scott Avenue and Central Expressway in San Jose will put some hands back to work. The next two will be in Gilroy at Christopher High School and the Gilroy Library, which will require additional manpower.

Although in 2010 we have had some slow times, work should increase moving into 2011.

Some of the consequences of this downturn are becoming very apparent. Companies must be much more competitive on their bidding of projects, bidding against dozens of contractors both union and non-union for a single project. Once awarded a project the margin for error becomes very small (these are “hard money” projects). Production must be at its best, paying close attention to quality, efficiency and safety.

Only workers that are the most qualified, productive, and responsible will remain to make a project successful. Companies cannot afford a loss on any project during these hard times.

We have seen a number of companies both union and non-union close their doors during this recession.

The political races that are now taking place are crucial to the amount of union jobs and benefits that we will see or not see in the next few years. Participate by volunteering at phone banks and precinct walks and be sure to vote in November.

As always, work safe!
Californians now know the choice for California’s next Governor comes down to Meg Whitman or Jerry Brown. Now it’s up to us to make clear that the choice isn’t just between two people or two styles of leadership, but about the kind of California we want in the decades to come.

We’ve had enough of the Wall Street way, but that’s the kind of thinking Meg Whitman wants to bring to the Governor’s office. We’ve seen what happens when Wall Street controls our mortgages, our retirement savings, and our economy. We can’t let Wall Street Whitman get her grip on our schools, our healthcare, and our jobs.

Everywhere Whitman’s gone throughout her career two things happened: workers lost jobs and she got richer. That’s because Whitman believes to her core that what’s good for Wall Street must be good for everyone. If a CEO has a fatter bonus at the end of the year, it justifies job cuts and slashed benefits. We know all too well just how wrong she is. When the economy collapsed, Whitman and her corporate friends made off with millions. We paid the price with job loss, home foreclosures and other hardships.

But there is a better way: Jerry Brown represents the Main Street values of good jobs, quality schools and public services and a stronger California. In his time as Governor from 1975-1983, he created nearly 2 million jobs. He’s spent a lifetime fighting for us at all levels of government. That’s the kind of proven leadership we need to emerge from this recession. But before we can work with Jerry to get our economy back on track, we’ve got to stop Whitman’s “Wall Street Express” in its tracks.

Wall Street Whitman has already shelled out more than $90 million on her hostile corporate takeover of California and she’s on track to more than double that before the November general election. Defeating her corporate agenda will take more than money; it will require an army of passionate volunteers and activists.

That’s where we come in. Union members hold the key to this election. If we mobilize, we’ll prevail in November. We can’t let Meg and her Wall Street agenda take the express jet to the Governor’s office.

Neither can we allow another drum major for Wall Street, Carly Fiorina, to win in her bid against one of the great leaders of the US Senate, Barbara Boxer. Fiorina’s economic plan spells more unemployment: As CEO of Hewlett Packard, she laid off over 30,000 American workers and shipped jobs overseas. Fiorina has opposed every major job creation bill since the recession began, including the Recovery Act and the HIRE act.

On the other hand, no one has fought harder for jobs, and been more effective, than Barbara Boxer, whose loyalty to the Building Trades is well known. Her efforts to secure Federal grants for shovel ready construction projects has already resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars for jobs in our own jurisdiction, and billions throughout the state. As Chair of the Senate’s Environment and Public Works Committee, she battled for federal investments in projects such as the Transbay Transit Center in San Francisco, whose groundbreaking she attended in August. The future hub of California’s high-speed rail line is only the first phase of a project that will put 48,000 Californians to work.

Labor’s 2010 Campaign needs to be powered with the passion of tens of thousands of workers like us who are determined to build better lives for themselves and their children. Our army of volunteers will expose Wall Street’s plan to take over California and ensure the election of candidates whose only agenda is to represent the working families of our state.

For a full list of Labor’s Endorsements visit our website at www.ironworkers377.com, click on the Political Action page, and follow the link to Labor Endorsements 2010. To volunteer, sign in to Members Only from the Political Action page and follow the link to our Activism and Advocacy Calendar.

For more information call Christi Suchil, 377 Activist, at 415-374-1518
Statewide Recommendations
State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, AFL-CIO

Proposition 19, Legalizes and regulates marijuana: NEUTRAL
Proposition 20, Redistricting congressional districts: OPPOSE
Proposition 21, Vehicle license fee for state parks: SUPPORT
Proposition 22, Prohibits state from taking local funds: SUPPORT
Proposition 23, Suspends air pollution law: NEUTRAL
Proposition 24, Repeals corporate tax loopholes: SUPPORT
Proposition 25, Majority vote budget: SUPPORT
Proposition 26, Two-thirds requirement for fee increases: OPPOSE
Proposition 27, Eliminates state commission on redistricting: SUPPORT

Statewide constitutional offices: Governor, Jerry Brown; Lt. Gov, Gavin Newsom; Controller, John Chiang; Treasurer, Bill Lockyer; Attorney General, Kamala Harris; Insurance Commissioner, Dave Jones; Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson; Board of Equalization, Dist. 1, Betty Yee; Dist. 2, Chris Parker; Dist. 4, Jerome Horton.

Malia Cohen (foreground) at her Campaign Kick-Off on August 28th at Ironworkers Local 377. Malia is endorsed by the SF Building Trades and SF Labor Council for Board of Supervisors, District 10.

Ironworkers sign in for a Building Trades Precinct Walk for San Mateo COPE endorsed candidates in June.
Greetings Brother and Sister Ironworkers.

There has been an addition to the prerequisite courses required in order to take the Qualified Rigger class. This change was at the direction of the International in Washington D.C. and it will take effect immediately. All Ironworkers will have to have completed the 40 hour Rigging course and the 40 hour Cranes/Structural II course in order to attend the Qualified Rigger course. The cost of the books for the Rigging and Cranes courses, which are the courses all apprentices attend, will be covered by the apprenticeship. Journeymen will be given the books on the first day of class and asked to complete the workbooks by the end of the week long class in order to have a reasonable chance to pass the test on Friday. Please contact the Apprenticeship Office to register for these classes. The number for the office is (707) 746-7667. The schedule for the upcoming Rigging and Cranes courses are as follows:

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Fraternally,
Brian Colombo
Apprenticeship Coordinator